

Checklist for Effective State Floodplain Management

Authority for State & Local Floodplain Management

Program Leadership

- State Coordination of the NFIP
- Interagency Coordination

Statutory Authority

- Full Authority Granted to Communities
- Partial Authority Granted to Communities
- Shared State and Community Authority
- Authority for Land Use Planning and Zoning

Regulatory Program Elements

- Permit Mechanisms
- Program Performance
- Enforcement Mechanisms
- Program Variables

Comprehensive, Integrated State Floodplain Management

State Projects, State Funding, and State Buildings

- State Construction Projects
- State-funded Activities
- Inventory of State Buildings in Flood Hazard Areas

Related State Programs and Functions

- State Planning Agency
- Environmental or Water Resources Agency
- State Building Code
- Insurance Agency and Flood Insurance
- Emergency Management
- State Transportation and Road Construction
- State Health Department
- State Dam Safety
- Housing, Community, and Economic Development
- Agriculture & Food Safety
- Parks and Recreation
- Forestry
- State Geographic Information System Coordination
- Public Service Commission
- Mining of Aggregates

Flood Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment

Flood Hazard Map Coordination

- NFIP Map Study Process and Priorities
- Inventory or Periodic Review of Map Needs
- Technical Assistance to Communities
- Cooperating Technical Partners

State Hazard Identification Program

- Establish Mapping Standards
- Perform Studies
- Review and Approve Studies by Others
- Special Flood-Related Hazards
- Funding

Map Tools

- Geographic Information Systems
- Base Mapping

Risk Assessment

- Hazards U.S.

Respect for Floodplain Functions & Resources

- Identifying and Mapping Floodplain Functions and Resources

Floodplain Management Program Elements

- Zero-rise Floodway
- Watershed-based Approach
- Assessment of Impacts on Natural Resources & Functions
- Tax Breaks
- Sustainability Initiatives
- Multi-objective Management
- Greenlining
- Buffers and Setbacks

Coordinating other Program Elements

- Sediment and Erosion Control
- Water Quality
- Stormwater Management
- Wetlands Protection
- Open Space Protection
- Coastal/Shoreline Management
- Growth Management
- Aquifer Recharge Protection
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Programs

- Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species
- Forestry
- Cultural Resources
- Agricultural Preservation
- Public Recreational Uses

Technical Assistance

Public Awareness and Education

Guiding Development & Managing its Impacts

Planning

- Comprehensive Plans
- Land Use
- Interjurisdictional Watershed Plans
- Mitigation Plans

Zoning

- Development Density
- Conservation Zoning
- Bonus or Incentive Zoning

Growth Management/Sustainable Development

Other Land Management Tools

- Alternative Site Analyses
- Tax Incentives
- Land Trusts
- Land Swap
- Purchase or Transfer of Development Rights
- Setbacks and Buffers
- Deed Restrictions
- Open Space Dedication
- Conservation Easements

Building and Floodplain Permits

- Variance Requests
- Inspection and Enforcement

Higher Standards

- Freeboard
- Foundation Protection
- Lower Substantial Improvement/Damage Threshold
- Mapping All Waterways
- Coastal A Zones
- No Rise Floodway

- Protection of Floodplain Storage Capacity and/or Compensatory Storage
- Dry Land Access
- Floodway Development Prohibition
- Enclosure Limitations
- Restrictions of Land Uses and/or Density Based on Zone
- Protection of Critical Facilities
- Underground Utilities
- Setbacks and Set-Ups
- Manufactured Housing Requirements
- Cumulative Substantial Improvement
- Electric Service to Buildings
- Minimum Height above Grade
- Safety-based Decision Factors
- Flood Hazard Areas Not Mapped by FEMA

Special Flood-Related Hazards

- Flash Flood Areas
- Erosion-Prone Coastal Areas
- Moveable Bed Streams and Riverine Erosion
- Dam Inundation Zones
- Levee- and Floodwall-Protected Areas
- Flood Hazard Areas Affected by Subsidence
- Ice Jam Areas
- Closed Basin Lakes
- Alluvial Fan Hazards
- Debris Flows (Mud Flood, Mudslide, Mudflow)
- Tsunami Hazards
- Wildfire Affected Areas
- Volcanic Hazards

Subdivision Regulations

- Lot Layout
- Open Space and “Green-Lining”
- Additional Requirements for Subdivision Development

Impact Analyses Required

- Hydrologic and Hydraulic Impacts
- Environmental Impacts
- Emergency Services Impacts
- Socio-economic Impacts
- Coastal Impacts

Flood Mitigation & Recovery

- Authority
- State Staff and Funding
- Coordination Mechanisms
- Mitigation Grant Programs
- Mitigation of Damage to Public Facilities and Infrastructure
- Authority for Post-Disaster Moratoria
- Post-Flood Mobilization
 - Substantial Damage Determinations
 - Increased Cost of Compliance
 - Permit Reviews and Variances
 - Public Awareness and Information
 - Cooperative Agreements with Others
 - Flood Audits and Floodproofing

Public Awareness

Initiatives for Outreach and Education

- Using Internet Web Pages
- Using Printed Matter
- Using the Media
- Using Flood Warning Systems
- Reaching out to Local Elected Officials
- Reaching out to Government Employees
- Involving the Private Sector and Organizations
- Using Other Initiatives

Requirements for Public Notice of Flood Risk

- Real Estate Disclosure
- Flood Hazard Area Delineation on Plat
- Deed-Recorded Restrictions
- Licensing for Allied Professions

Training & Technical Assistance

- Manual for Administering Local Programs
- Workshops and Training
- Certification of Floodplain Managers
- Technical Assistance
- Community Rating System
- State Associations
- Newsletters and Web Pages

Funding & Staffing

- Staff Levels and Capabilities
- Funding Levels

Evaluation & Documentation

Measuring Outcomes of Floodplain Management

- Identifying Losses and Costs
- Identifying Benefits and Successes

Evaluating Program Operations

- Monitoring Local Program Administration

Documentation

- Inventory of Flood-prone Areas
- Gathering Information After Floods
- Tracking Mitigation Plans and Projects
- Measurement