

# Understanding FEMA's Flood Maps Slide Deck Content

## DCR Flood Hazard Management Program

### Slide 2: Welcome

- This course is an introduction to FEMA's flood maps.
- Great for those new to floodplain management or as a refresher.
- Please stay muted during the presentation.
- A PDF copy of the slides will be provided.
- Please no AI notetaking or similar applications.
- 1.5 CECs available for CFMs
- 1.5 hours CEUs available for Building Officials
- Please put any questions in the chat!

### Slide 3: Course Content

- **What** are FEMA's flood maps and what do they show?
- **Why** do these maps (and their connection to the NFIP) exist?
- **When** are the flood maps updated?
- **Who** uses the maps?
- **Where** can the maps be accessed?

### Slide 4: NFIP Overview

- Enacted by Congress in 1968.
- Communities implement regulations and flood insurance is made available to the community.
- **FEMA develops and publishes flood maps and accompanying flood insurance studies.**
- 338 communities in MA participate.



Figure 1: NFIP Logo



### Slide 9: Key Terms

- Base flood
  - 1% annual chance storm
  - Also known as “100-year-flood”
- Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
  - 1% annual floodplain
  - A + V zones
  - Regulations apply
- Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
  - Expected height of flood waters in 1% annual chance storm
- “FIRMette”
  - an official piece of the FEMA map, containing the location of a specific property.

### Slide 10: What are FEMA’s Flood Maps?

- FEMA’s flood maps are called “Flood Insurance Rate Maps” or FIRMs.
- Created and released by FEMA.
- Available across all of Massachusetts- though the age of the maps differ.
- Shows FEMA’s regulatory floodplain and floodway.

### Slide 11: How are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps used?

- Used to determine floodplain boundaries
- Identify flood zone of property
- Determine BFEs
- Locating regulatory floodways Inland only
- Locating Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA) *Coastal only*
- Identify coastal areas where flood insurance is not available (Coastal Barrier Resources System) *Coastal only*

### Slide 12: Does my community have flood maps?

- Most communities have FIRMs:
  - Shows 1% annual chance flood
  - Shows 0.2% annual chance flood
  - Shows regulatory floodway (newer FIRMs)
- SOME communities with older FIRMs also have Flood Boundary & Floodway Maps (FBFM) (*typically 1987 & prior*):
  - Shows regulatory floodway
- Few communities with VERY OLD maps have Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBM) (*typically prior to 1980*). In most cases this has been converted to a FIRM but will still say FHBM.

### Slide 13: Learning Check #2

What is the base flood?

- a) 0.2% annual chance flood
- b) 1% annual chance flood
- c) 2% annual chance flood
- d) 10% annual chance flood

### Slide 14: Learning Check #2 Answer

Answer: b) 1% annual chance flood

### Slide 15: Learning Check #3:

What does BFE stand for?

### Slide 16: Learning Check #3 Answer:

Answer: Base Flood Elevation

## Slide 17: Paper vs. PDFs vs. GIS-Based Maps

- Paper
  - Have more information (cross sections, transect lines, elevation marks, LiMWA line)
  - Mailed to communities when maps became effective
- PDFs
  - Digital versions of paper maps- contain all the same info
  - Can easily make printout for residents
  - Available to everyone
- GIS-Based *available from FEMA for communities with newer maps (starting in mid-2000s)*
  - GIS data of maps
  - Included in all FEMA GIS online viewers
  - Available to everyone

## Slide 18, 19 & 20: FIRM Features (Slide 1 of 3, 2 of 3, and 3 of 3)

- Title block
- Map revision/effective date – revised panels have new suffix letter
- Legend
- Scale and north arrow
- Street names, watercourse names
- Zone and elevation reference marks
- Floodway and cross sections

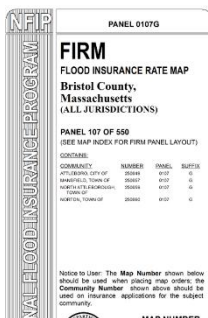


Figure 4: Title Block from FIRM 25005C0107G



Figure 5: Legend from FIRM 25005C0107G



Figure 6: Screenshot from FIRM 25005C0107G

## Slide 21: Learning Check #4

What is one thing you can find on a FEMA flood map?

Possible answers: title block, legend, map effective date, scale and north arrow, street names, watercourse names, zone and elevation marks, and floodway and cross sections.

## Slide 23: Understanding the Riverine Floodplain

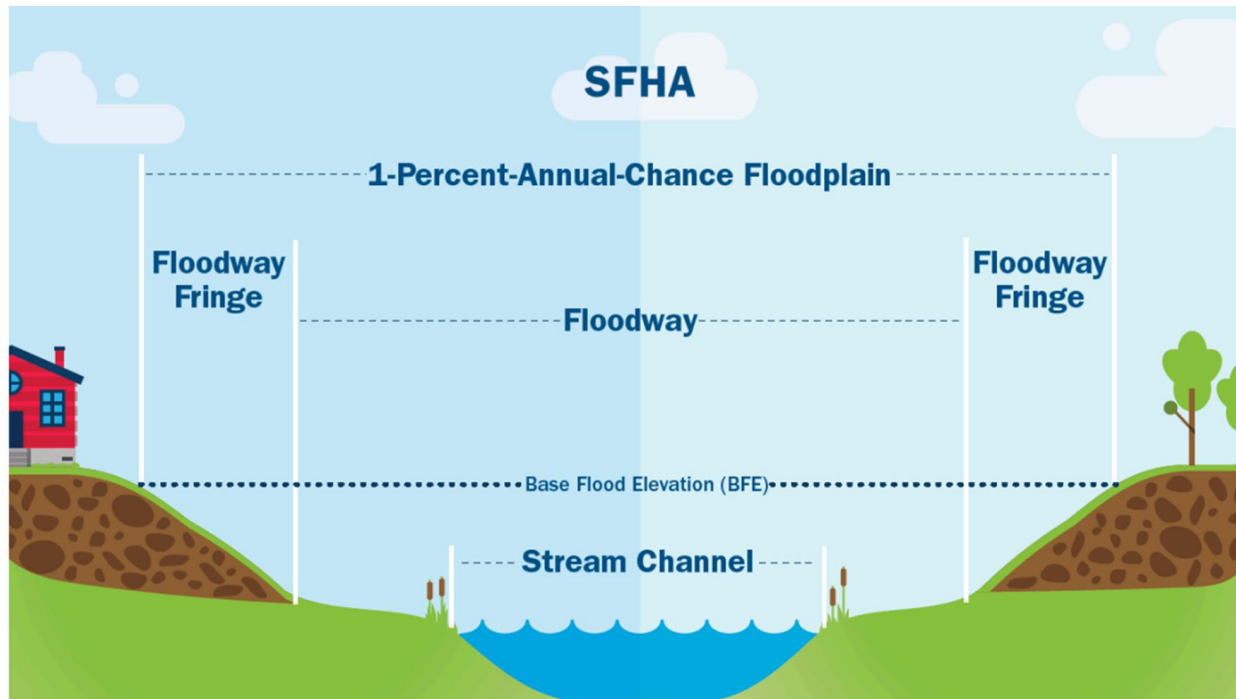


Figure 7: Informational graphic showing a profile of a riverine floodplain, including the 1% Annual Chance Floodplain, Floodway Fringe, Floodway, and Stream Channel.

## Slide 24: Understanding the Coastal Floodplain

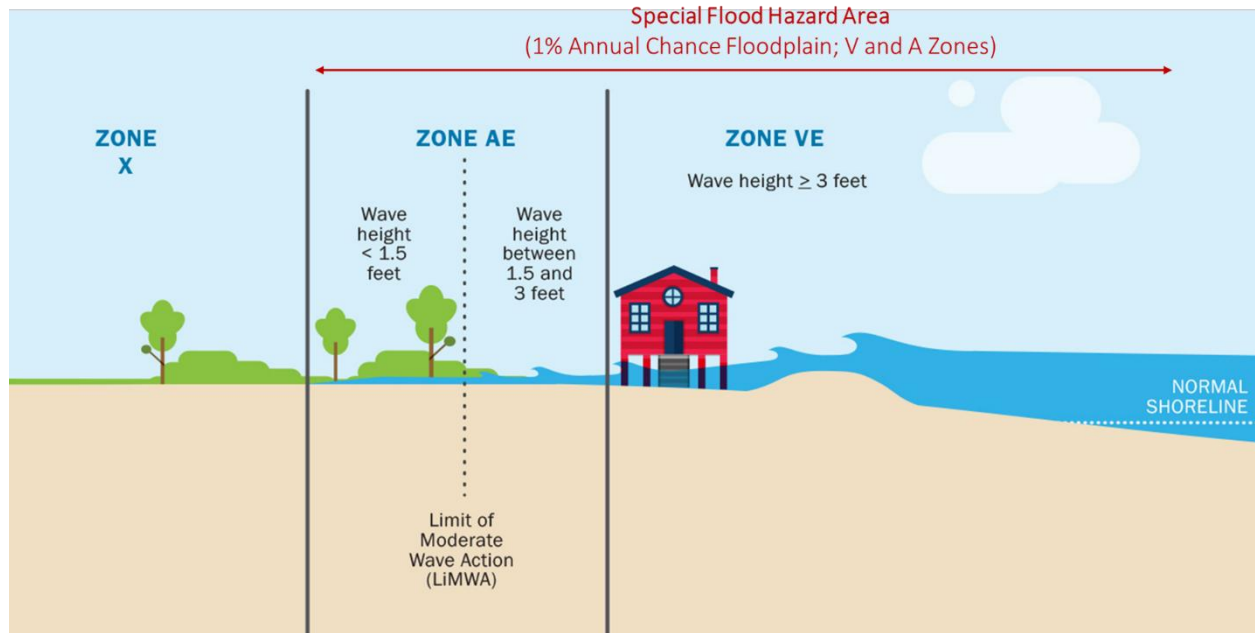


Figure 8: Informational graphic showing a profile of a coastal floodplain, including the 1% Annual Chance Floodplain, Zone VE, Zone AE, and the LiMWA

## Slide 25: Special flood Hazard Areas – Flood Zones

- **Zone A:** 1% annual chance flood without base flood elevations
- **Zone A1-30 and Zone AE:** 1% annual chance flood with base flood elevations
- **Zone AH:** 1% annual chance flood, usually in form of a pond (average depth between 1-3 ft)
- **Zone AO:** 1% annual chance flood, usually in form of sheet flow (average depth between 1-3 ft)
- **Zone VE:** 1% annual chance flood with base flood elevations including storm waves

Remember...Regulatory zones start with letters A or V

### Slide 26: Non-Special Flood Hazard Areas – Flood Zones

- **Zone B and X (shaded):** Moderate-risk of flooding. Usually between the limits of 1% and 0.2% chance floods. Shown as orange on new maps.
- **Zone C and X (unshaded):** Low-risk of flooding, above the 0.2% annual chance flood. Can also be area protected by a levee from 1% annual chance flood.

**Remember: Low Risk Doesn't Mean No Risk!**

### Slide 27: Learning Check #5

True or False: Base flood elevations (BFE) are published for Zone AE.

### Slide 28: Learning Check #5 Answer

Answer: True

### Slide 31: Maps can look different depending on age...

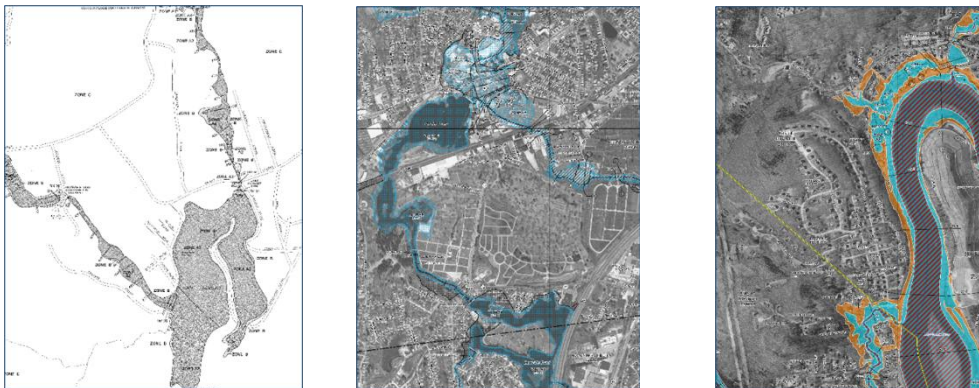


Figure 9: Screenshot of FIRMs released in varying years

### Slide 32: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (older) (Slide 1 of 3)

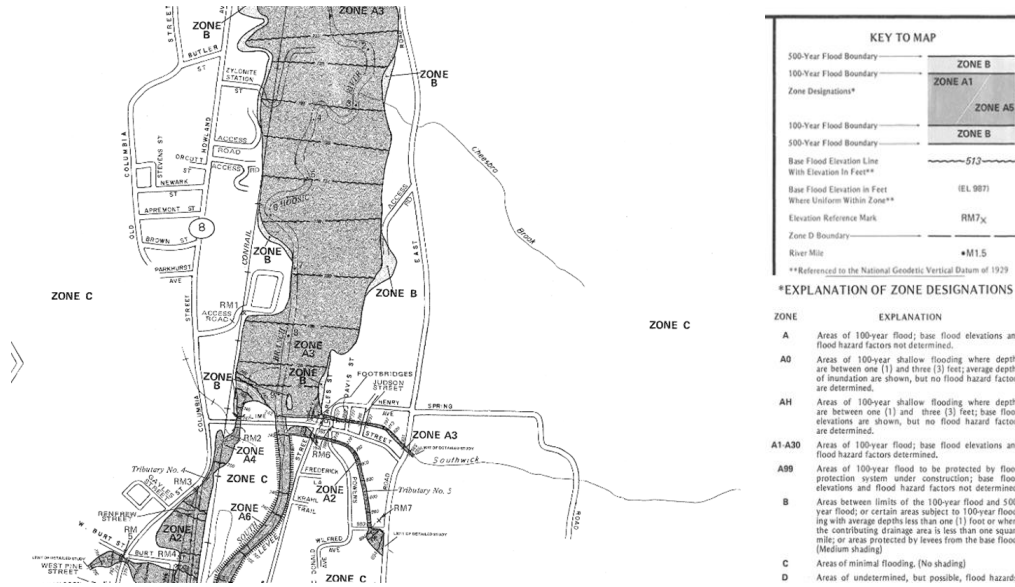


Figure 10: Screenshot of the FIRM 250016005B and the legend

### Slide 33: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (older) (Slide 2 of 3)

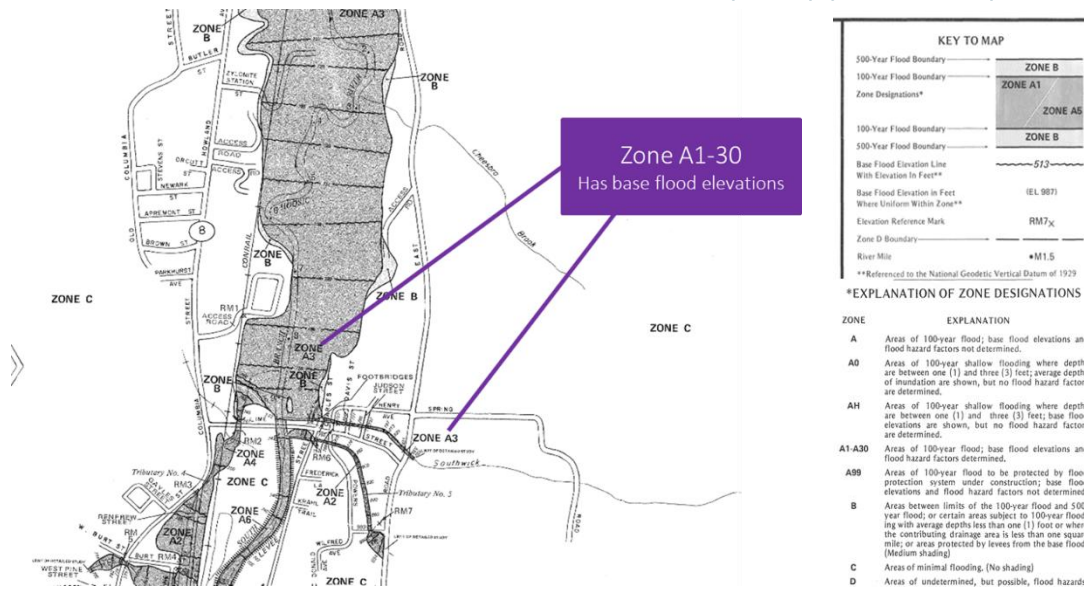


Figure 11: Screenshot of the FIRM 250016005B and the legend.

Slide 34: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (older) (Slide 3 of 3)

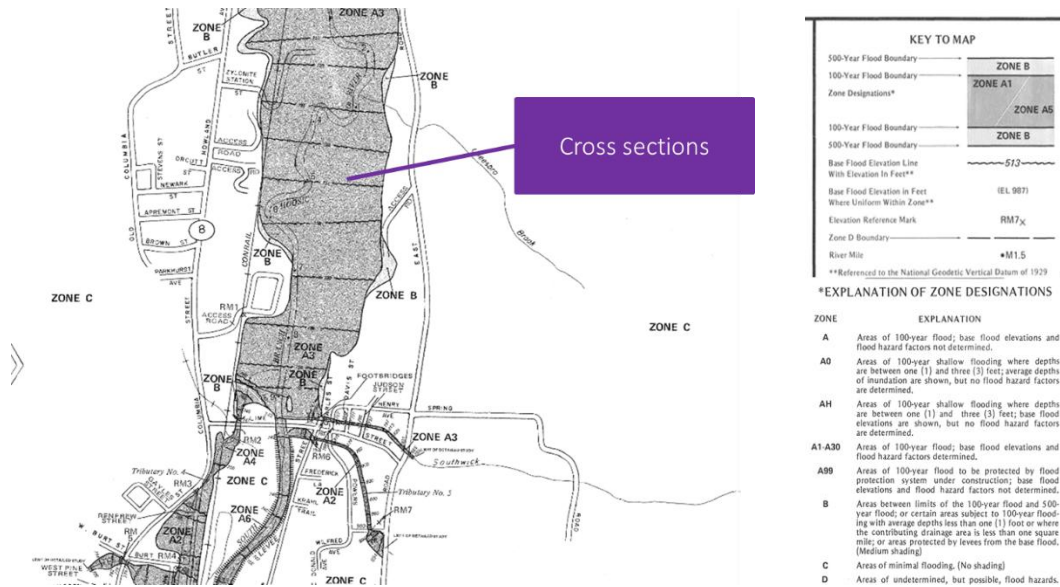


Figure 12: Screenshot of the FIRM 250016005B and the legend

Slide 35: Inland Non-Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (older) (Slide 1 of 2)

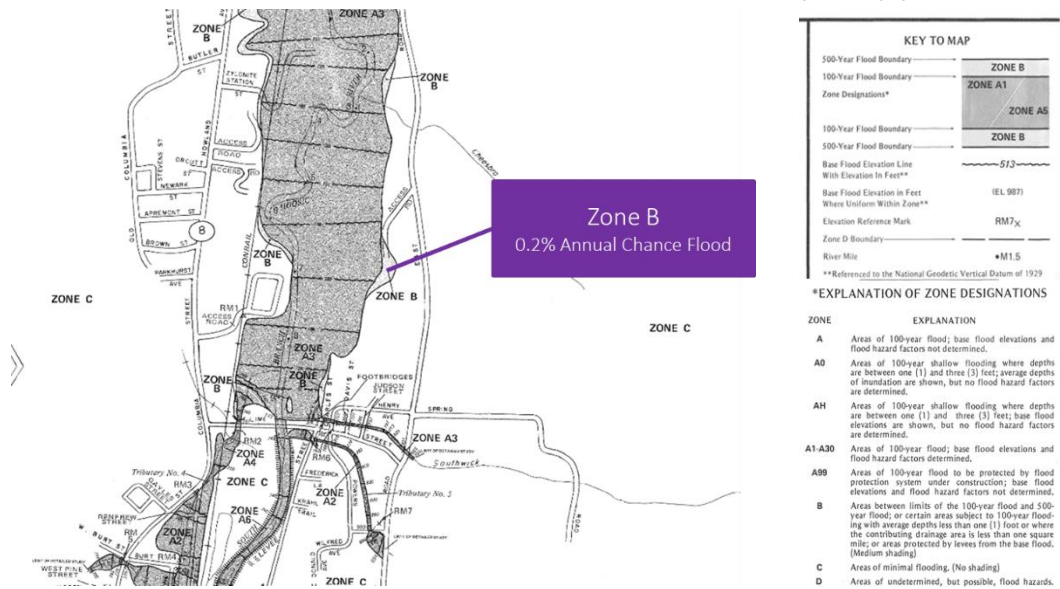


Figure 13: Screenshot of the FIRM 250016005B and the legend

### Slide 36: Inland Non-Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (older) (Slide 2 of 2)

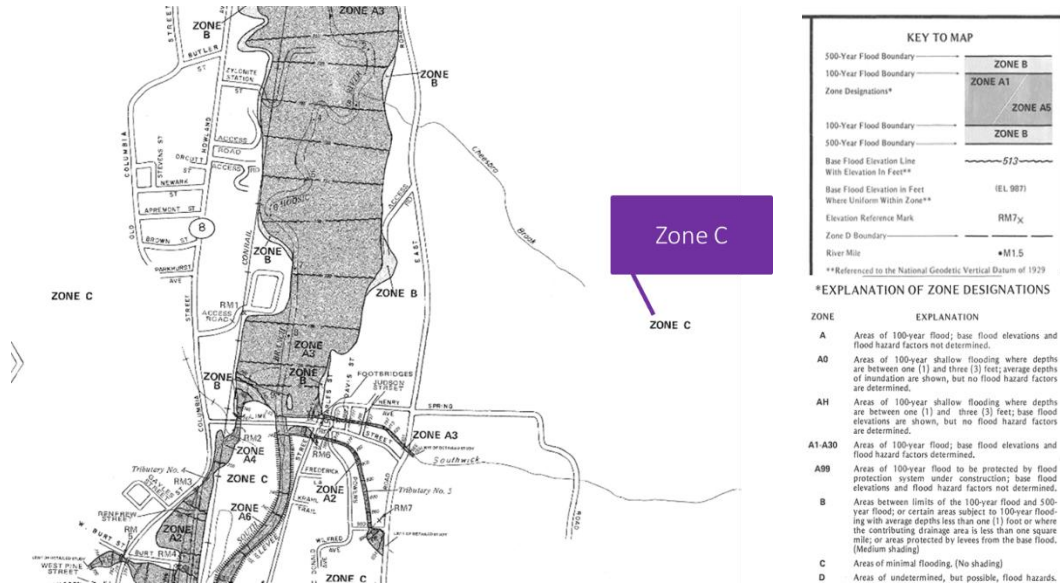


Figure 14: Screenshot of the FIRM 250016005B and the legend

### Slide 37: Flood Boundary and Floodway Map – FBFM (Slide 1 of 2)

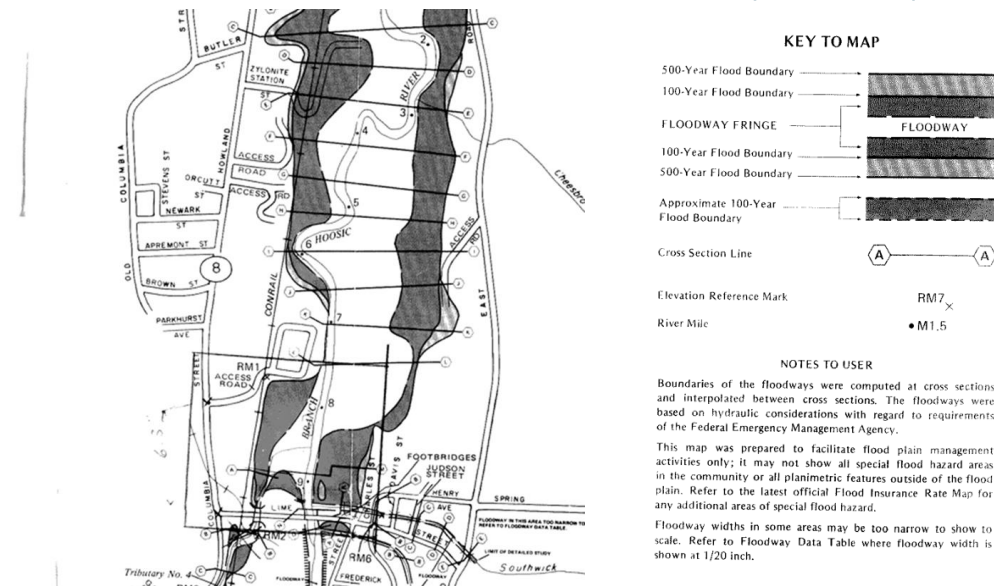


Figure 15: Screenshot of the FBFM 250016005 and the legend.

### Slide 38: Flood Boundary and Floodway Map – FBFM (Slide 2 of 2)

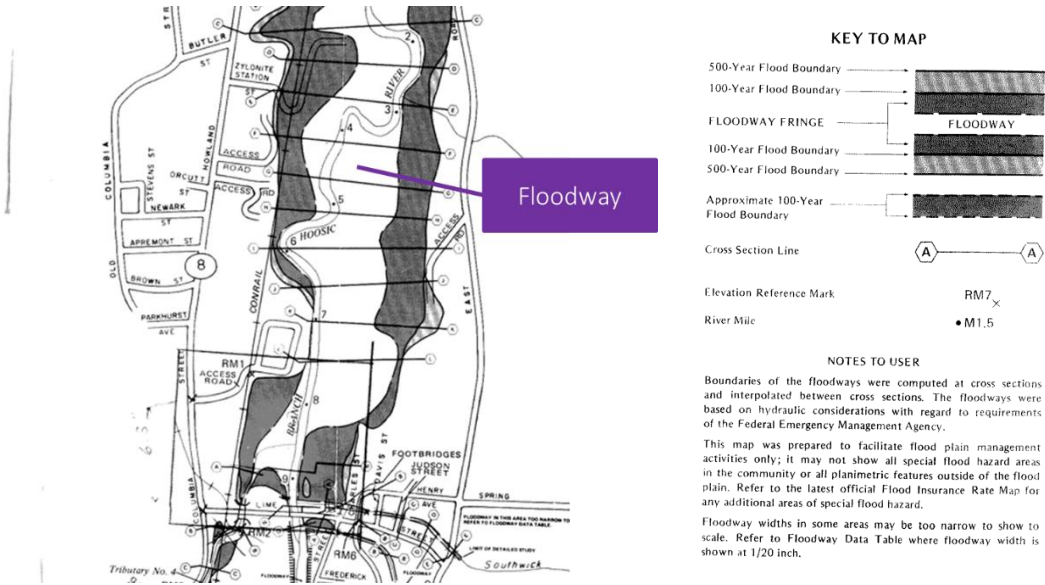


Figure 16: Screenshot of the FBFM 250016005 and the legend.

### Slide 39: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 1 of 5)

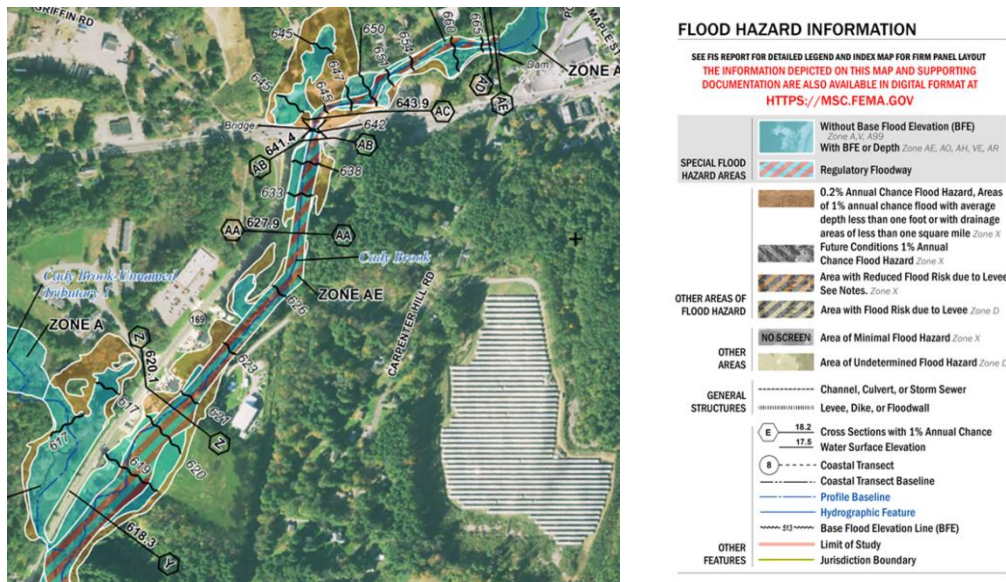


Figure 17: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend

## Slide 40: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 2 of 5)



### FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT  
 THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS MAP AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT AT [HTTPS://MSC.FEMA.GOV](https://MSC.FEMA.GOV)

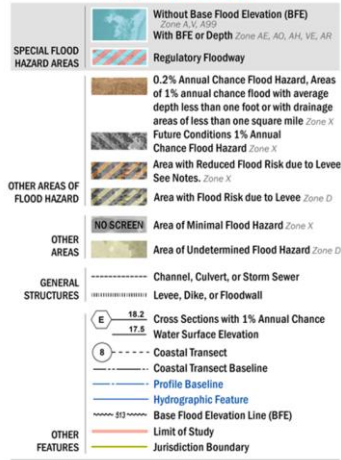
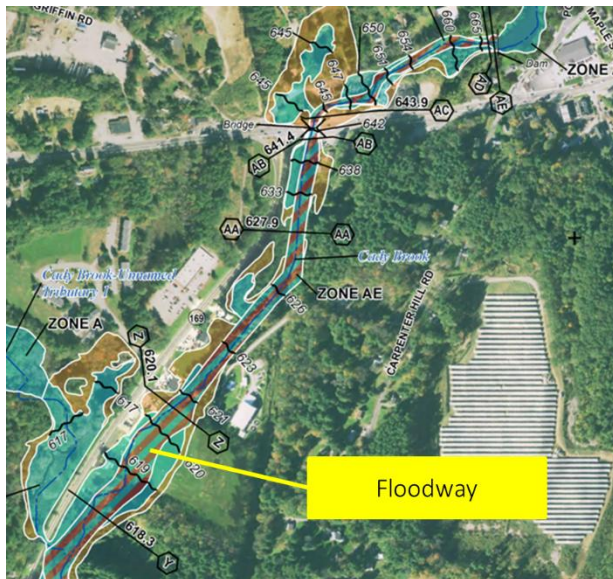


Figure 18: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend

## Slide 41: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 3 of 5)



### FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT  
 THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS MAP AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT AT [HTTPS://MSC.FEMA.GOV](https://MSC.FEMA.GOV)

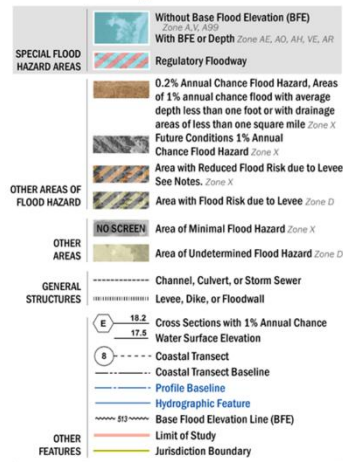


Figure 19: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend

## Slide 42: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 4 of 5)

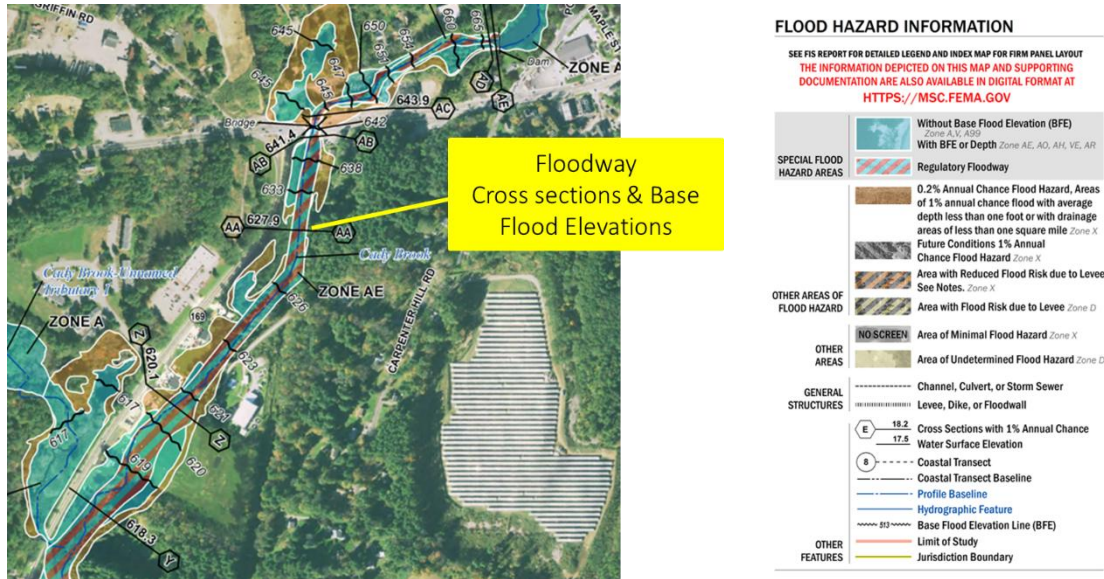


Figure 20: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend.

## Slide 43: Inland Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 5 of 5)

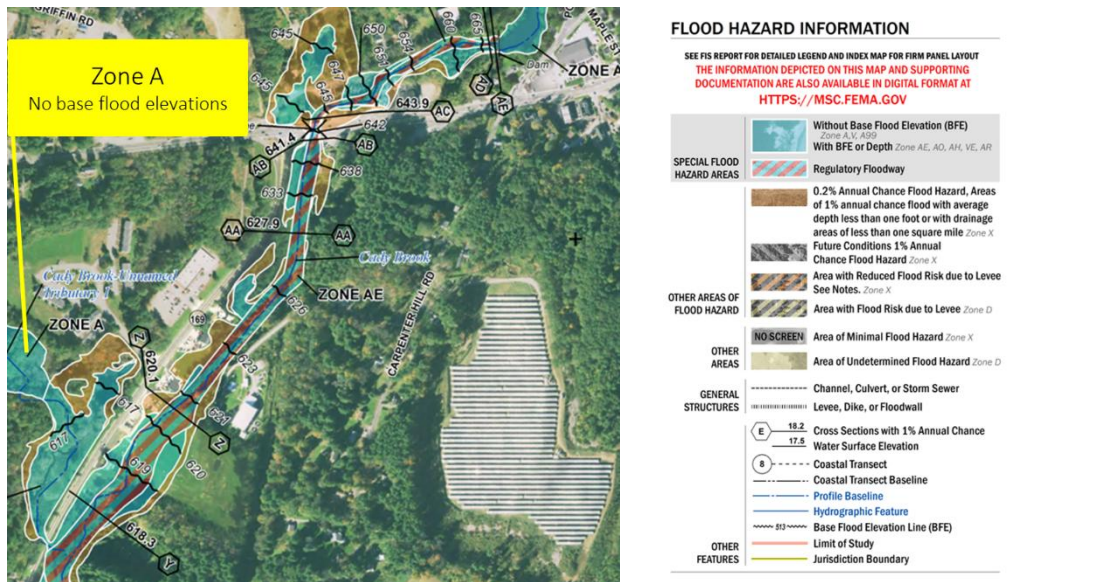


Figure 21: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend.

Slide 44: Inland Non-Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 1 of 2)

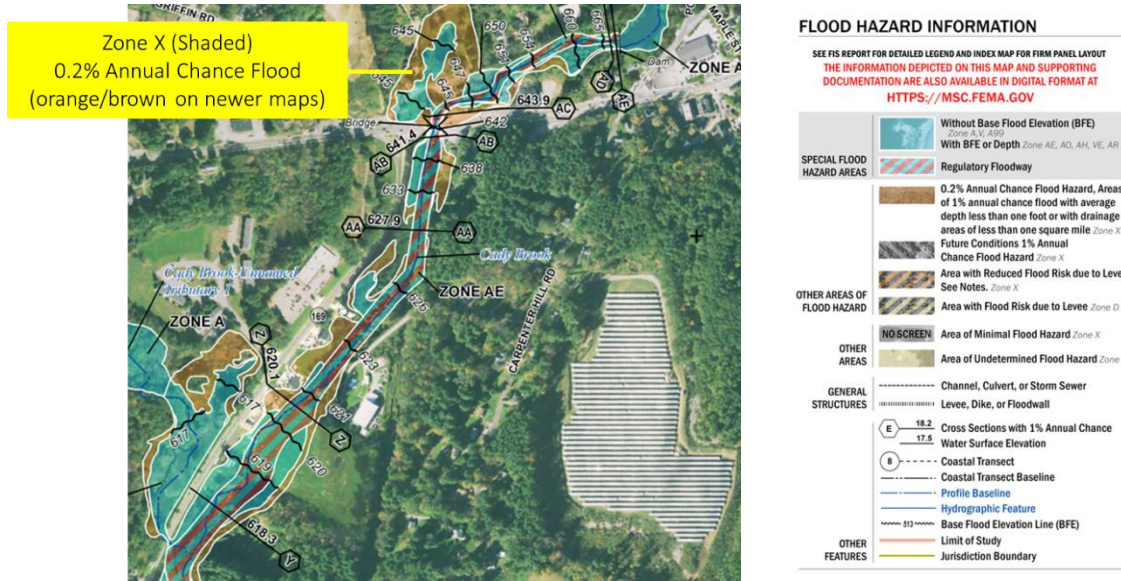


Figure 22: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend

Slide 45: Inland Non-Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 2 of 2)

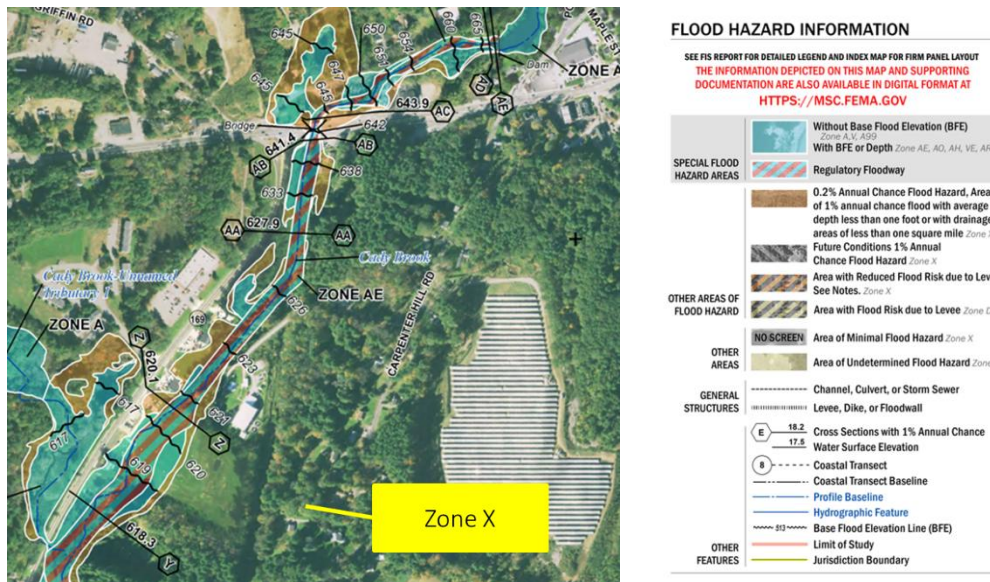


Figure 23: Screenshot of FIRM 25027C0788F and the legend

# Slide 46: Coastal Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 1 of 5)



Figure 24: Screenshot of FIRM 25023C0017J and the legend

# Slide 47: Coastal Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 2 of 5)

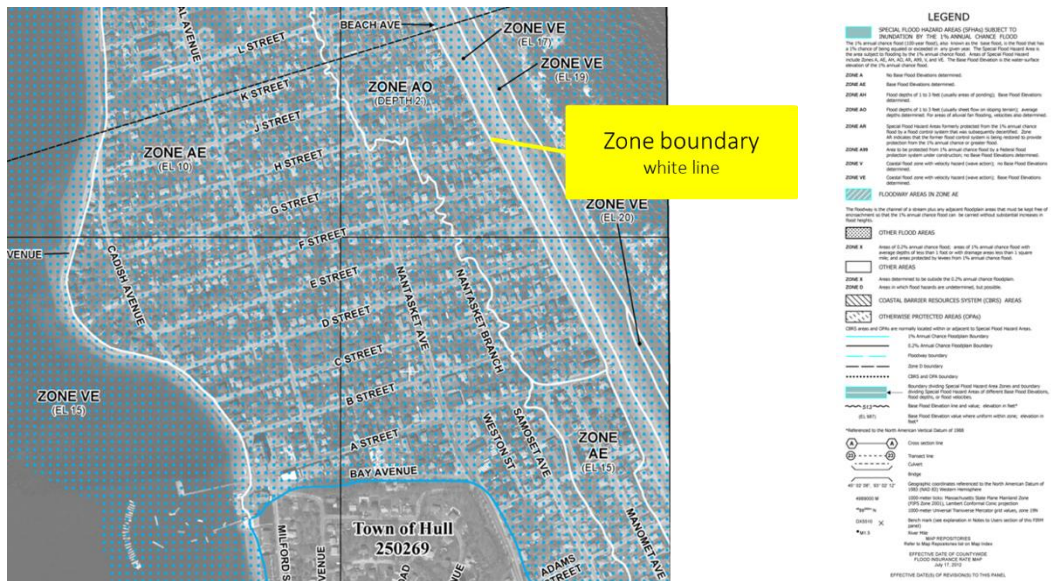


Figure 25: Screenshot of FIRM 25023C0017J and the legend.

### Slide 48: Coastal Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 3 of 5)



Figure 26: Screenshot of FIRM 25023C0017J and the legend

### Slide 49: Coastal Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 4 of 5)

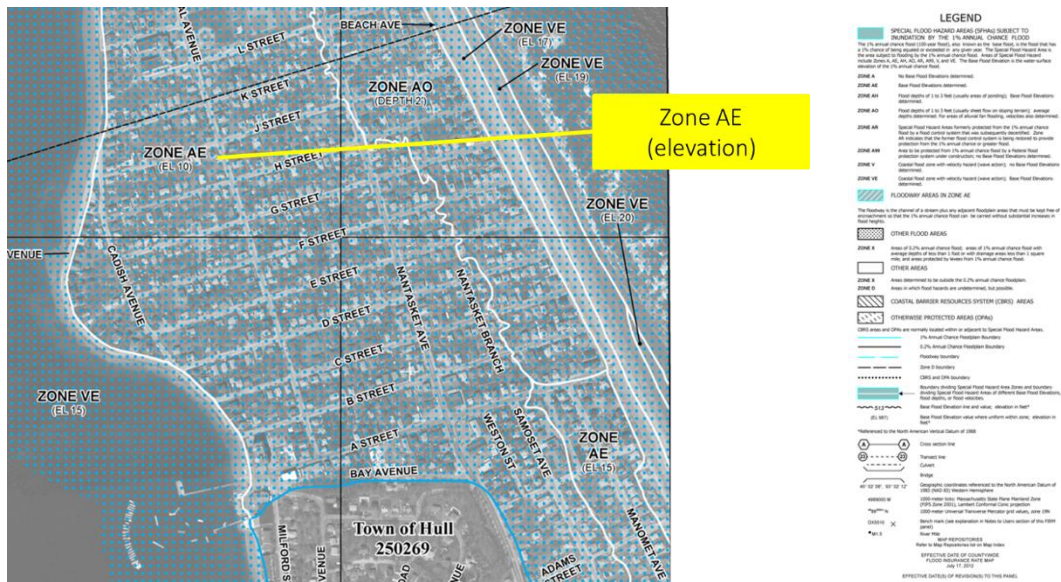


Figure 27: Screenshot of FIRM 25023C0017J and the legend

# Slide 50: Coastal Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 5 of 5)



Figure 28: Screenshot of FIRM 25023C0017J and the legend

# Slide 51: Coastal Non- Special Flood Hazard Areas – FIRM (Slide 5 of 5)



Figure 29: Screenshot of FIRM 25023C0017J and the legend.

### Slide 52: What about Coastal A Zones?

- Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA): landward limit of 1.5' breaking waves.
  - Shown on the FIRM, may be on zone boundary or within AE zone
  - Indicates “Coastal A Zone” between 1.5’ and 3’ breaking waves.

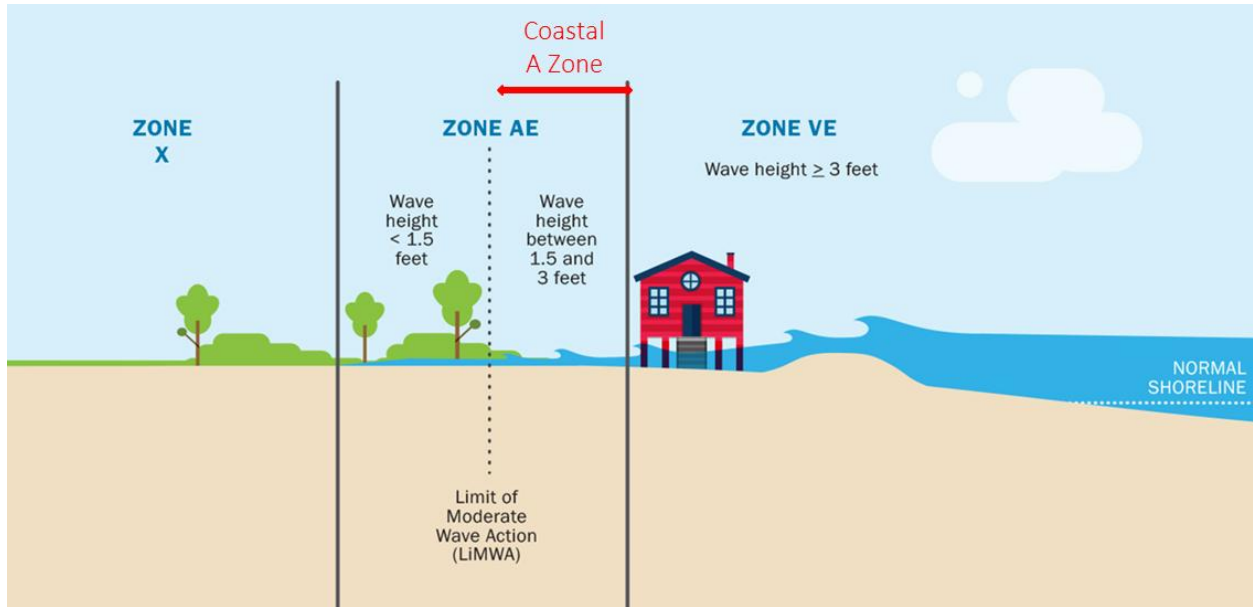


Figure 30: Profile of a Coastal Floodplain. Arrow showing the Coastal A Zone

### Slide 53: Identifying the LiMWA (slide 1 of 3)

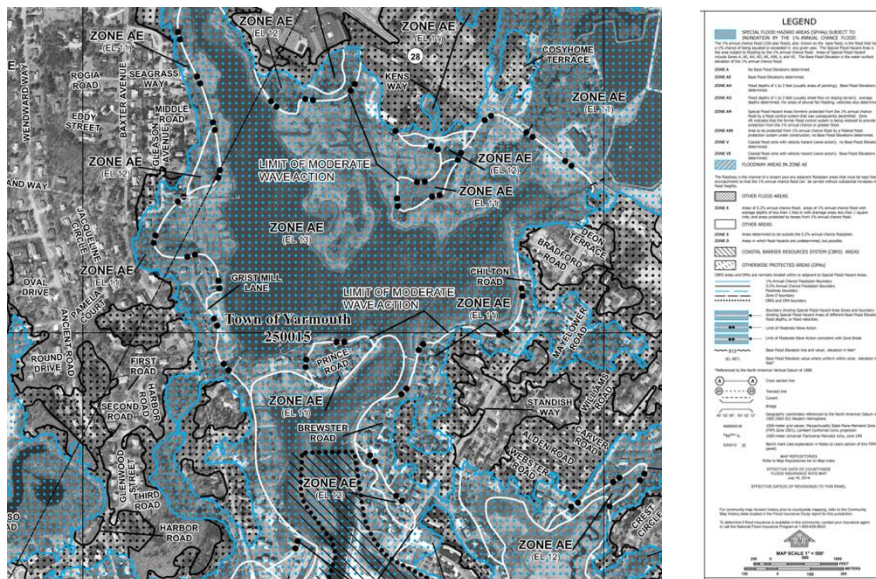


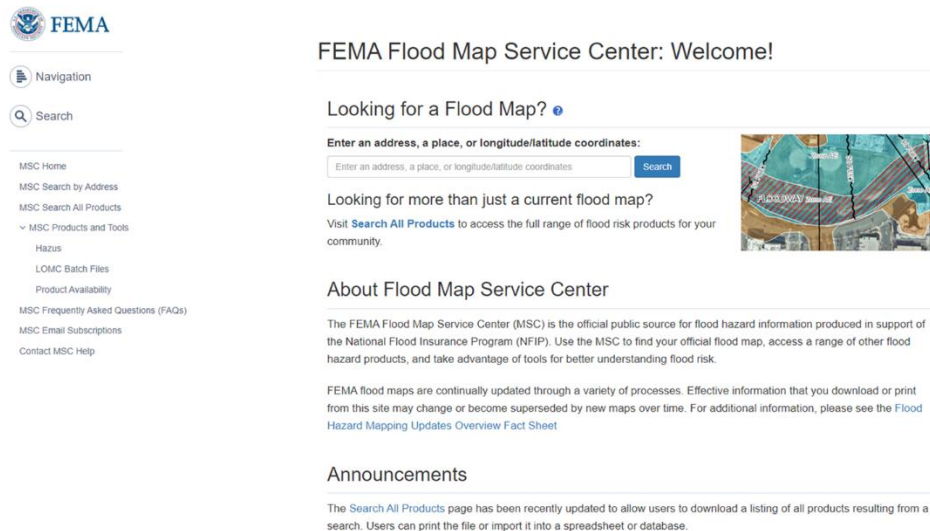
Figure 31: Screenshot of FIRM 25001C0569J and the legend.



## Slide 58: How to access the FIRMs and FIS Report?

- Can be viewed or downloaded from FEMA’s Map Service Center.
  - Look up by address
  - Download FIRM in PDF or GIS files
  - Easily make printouts of FIRM for residents
  - Download FIS report as PDF
  - Available to everyone
- Towns may have their own GIS layer
- FEMA Flood Data layer on MassMapper.

## Slide 59: Using FEMA’s Map Service Center (slide 1 of 16)



The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) home page. On the left is a navigation menu with the FEMA logo at the top, followed by 'Navigation' and 'Search' icons. Below these are links for 'MSC Home', 'MSC Search by Address', 'MSC Search All Products', 'MSC Products and Tools' (with sub-links for 'Hazus', 'LOMC Batch Files', and 'Product Availability'), 'MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)', 'MSC Email Subscriptions', and 'Contact MSC Help'. The main content area has a heading 'FEMA Flood Map Service Center: Welcome!' and a section 'Looking for a Flood Map?' with a search input field and a 'Search' button. Below this is a section 'Looking for more than just a current flood map?' with a link to 'Search All Products'. To the right of the search field is a small map thumbnail. Further down is an 'About Flood Map Service Center' section with a paragraph describing the MSC as the official public source for flood hazard information. At the bottom is an 'Announcements' section with a short notice about updates to the 'Search All Products' page.

Figure 34: Screenshot of FEMA’s Map Service Center Home Page

## Slide 60: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 2 of 16)

The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) Home Page. On the left is a navigation menu with the FEMA logo at the top, followed by 'Navigation' and 'Search'. Below these are links for 'MSC Home', 'MSC Search by Address', 'MSC Search All Products', 'MSC Products and Tools', 'Hazard', 'LOMC Batch Files', 'Product Availability', 'MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)', 'MSC Email Subscriptions', and 'Contact MSC Help'. The main content area is titled 'FEMA Flood Map Service Center: Welcome!'. Below the title is a section 'Looking for a Flood Map?' with a sub-header 'Enter an address, a place, or longitude/latitude coordinates:'. A search input field contains the placeholder text 'Enter an address, a place, or longitude/latitude coordinates' and a 'Search' button. A red arrow points to this input field with the text 'Type in address to see map and get FIRM'. Below the search bar is a section 'Looking for more than just a current flood map?' with a link to 'Search All Products' and a sub-header 'To view other products in addition to the FIRM'. To the right of the search bar is a small map showing a flood hazard area. Below the search bar is a section 'About Flood Map Service Center' with a paragraph of text: 'The FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Use the MSC to find your official flood map, access a range of other flood hazard products, and take advantage of tools for better understanding flood risk.' Below this is another paragraph: 'FEMA flood maps are continually updated through a variety of processes. Effective information that you download or print from this site may change or become superseded by new maps over time. For additional information, please see the Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet'. At the bottom is a section 'Announcements' with a paragraph: 'The Search All Products page has been recently updated to allow users to download a listing of all products resulting from a search. Users can print the file or import it into a spreadsheet or database.'

Figure 35: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Home Page. Users can enter a address or use the search all products button.

## Slide 61: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 3 of 16)

The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) Home Page, similar to Figure 35. The search input field now contains the address '164 Elizabeth Street, Pittsfield MA'. The rest of the page content, including the navigation menu, 'About Flood Map Service Center' section, and 'Announcements' section, remains the same as in Figure 35.

Figure 36: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Home Page. Example of entering a address into the search feature.


## Slide 62: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 4 of 16)

Search Results—Products for **PITTSFIELD,CTY / BERKSHIRE CO** Show ALL Products >

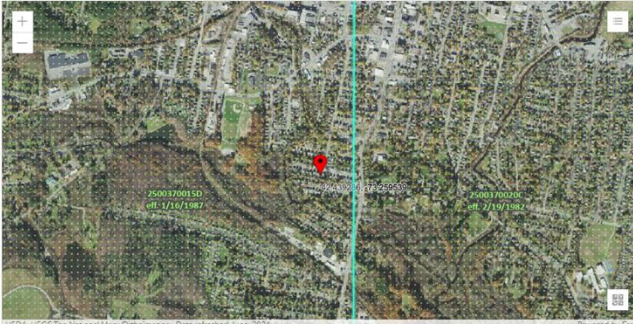
The flood map for the selected area is number **2500370015D** effective on **1/16/1987**

To get a FIRMette 

**MAP IMAGE**  
VIEW FIRM | DOWNLOAD FIRM IMAGE

Changes to this FIRM   
Revisions (0)  
Amendments (29)  
Revalidations (0)

You can choose a new flood map or move the location pin by selecting a different location on the locator map below or by entering a new location in the search field above. It may take a minute or more during peak hours to generate a dynamic FIRMette.



USDA, USGS The National Map, Orthoimagery, Data refreshed June, 2024. Powered by Esri.

Approximate location based on user input and does not represent an authoritative project location.

**SPECIAL FLOOD**  
SPECIAL FLOOD (SPECIAL APPLICABLE)

**Without Water Flood Elevation (WFE)**  
Color as WFE  
With WFE or Depth  
Regulatory Exclusions: Flood, Wet, Dry, Ice, etc.

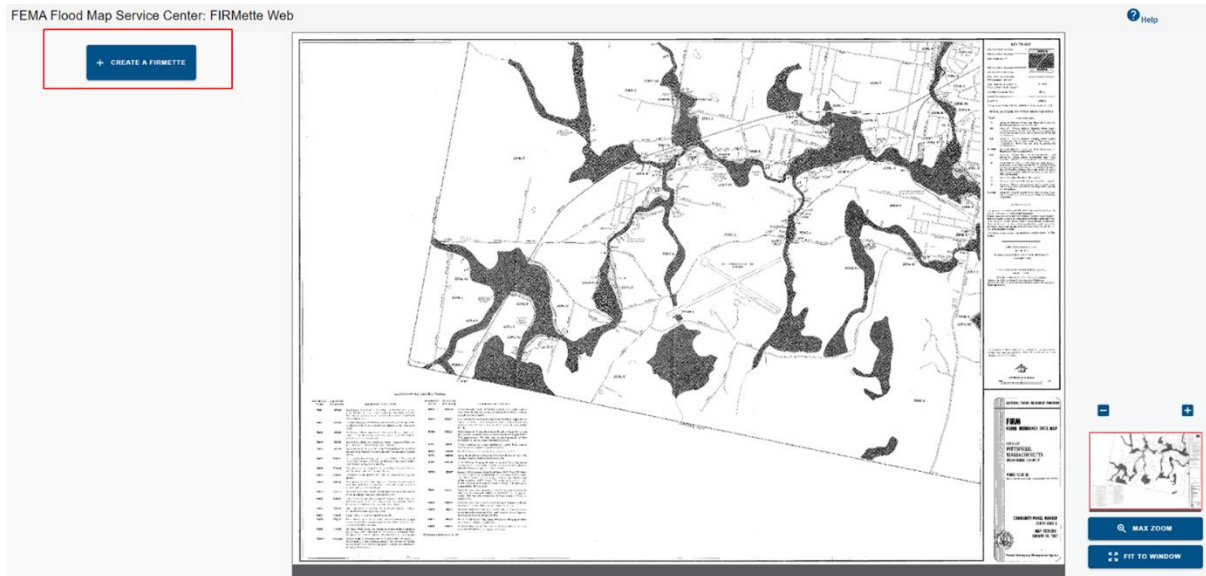
**1% A** Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance  
**1% A** Water Surface Elevation  
Cross Section

Figure 37: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center search results when an address is entered. An arrow shows where to view the FIRM.

## Slide 63: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 5 of 16)

FEMA Flood Map Service Center: FIRMette Web Help

**+ CREATE A FIRMETTE**



The interface displays a detailed flood map with various zones and features. A legend on the right side provides information about the map's data and symbols. Below the map, there is a table with columns for 'FIRM NUMBER', 'EFFECTIVE DATE', and 'FIRM TITLE'. The table lists several FIRM numbers and their corresponding effective dates and titles.

**FIRM**  
FIRM NUMBER  
EFFECTIVE DATE  
FIRM TITLE

**CREATE FIRM NUMBER**  
FIRM NUMBER  
EFFECTIVE DATE  
FIRM TITLE

**MAX ZOOM**  
**FIT TO WINDOW**

Figure 38: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center 'Create a FIRMette'. An arrow shows where to create the FIRMette.

## Slide 64: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 6 of 16)

FEMA Flood Map Service Center: FIRMette Web

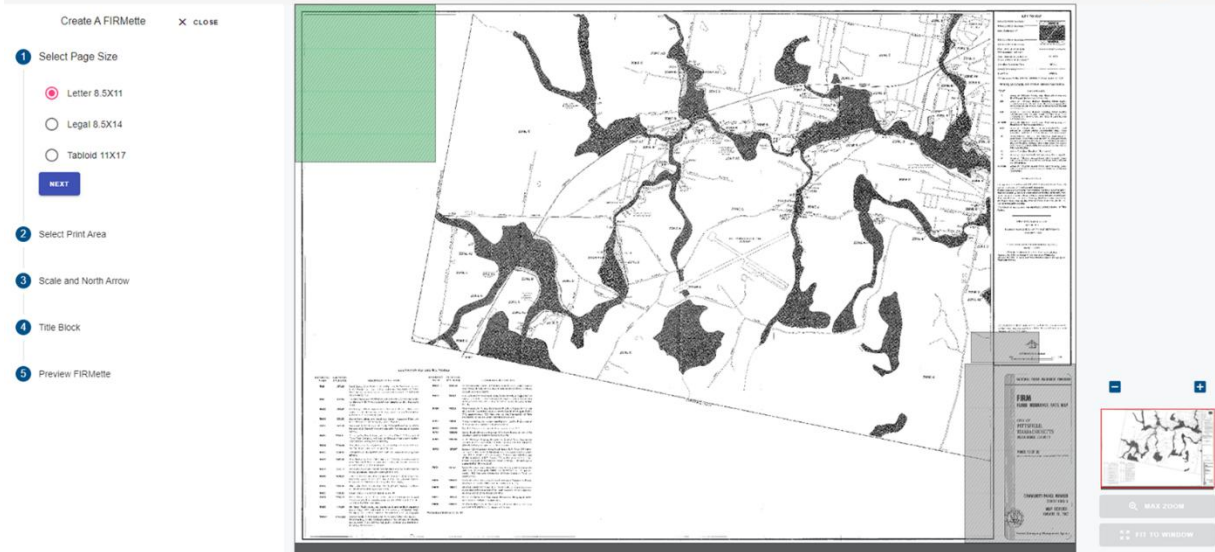


Figure 39: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center 'Create a FIRMette'.

## Slide 65: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 7 of 16)

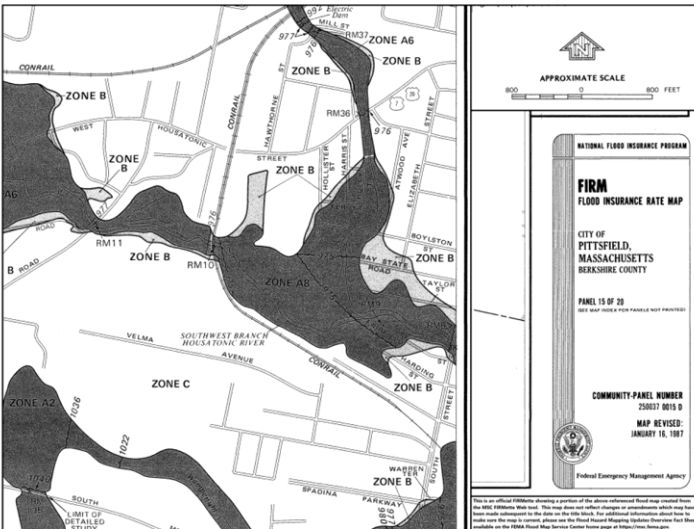


Figure 40: Example of a FIRMette created from the Map Service Center.

Slide 66: Using FEMA’s Map Service Center (slide 8 of 16)  
Using Google Maps can help locate a property.

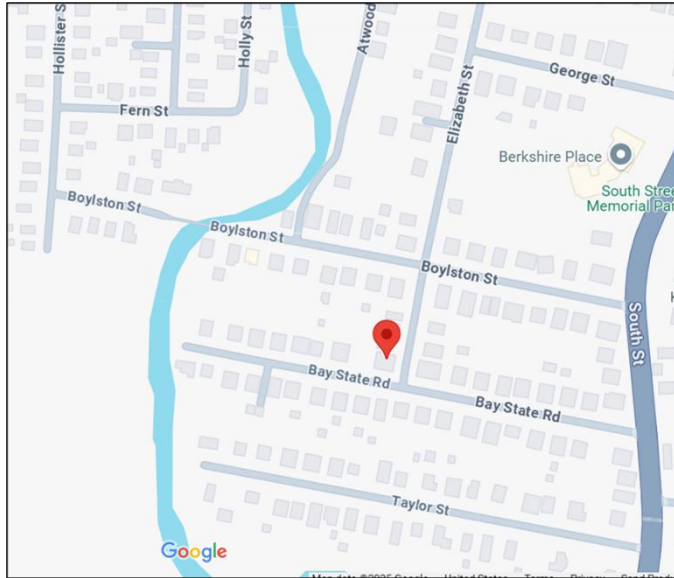
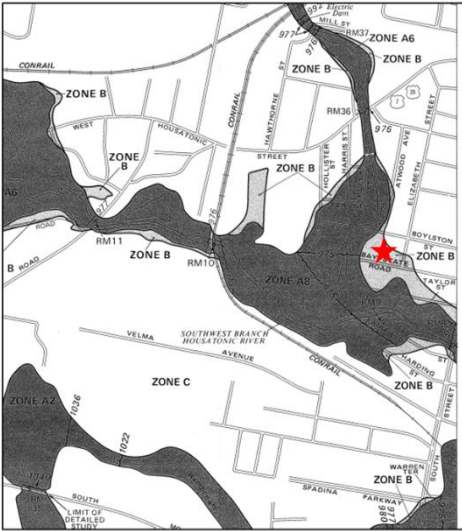


Figure 41: Example of using Google Maps to help locate a property on a FIRM.

Slide 67: Using FEMA’s Map Service Center (slide 9 of 16)


Figure 42: Screenshot of FEMA’s Map Service Center Home Page. Example of entering a address into the search feature.

## Slide 68: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 10 of 16)


The flood map for the selected area is number **25009C0203F**, effective on **7/3/2012**

To get a FIRMette **→**

**DYNAMIC MAP**



**MAP IMAGE**



**Changes to this FIRM**

- Revisions (0)
- Amendments (5)
- Revalidations (1)

**Go to NFHL Viewer** **←**

You can choose a new flood map or move the location pin by selecting a different location on the locator map below or by entering a new location in the search field above. It may take a minute or more during peak hours to generate a dynamic FIRMette.

**Go To NFHL Viewer** **←**

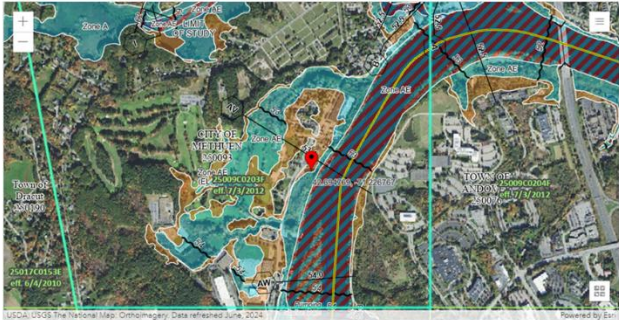



Figure 43: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Home Page. Example of entering an address into the search feature.

## Slide 69: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 11 of 16)

**National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette**

FEMA



**Legend**

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

**SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARDOUS AREAS**

- Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
  - With BFE or Depth (Zone AE, AH, VE, AF)
  - Regulatory Floodway
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard: Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with average area of less than one square mile (Zone F)
- Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard (Zone F)
- Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levees: See Notes (Zone F)
- Area with Flood Risk due to Levees (Zone F)

**OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD**

- no screen: Area of Minimal Flood Hazard (Zone X)
- Effective LOMs
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard (Zone X)

**OTHER AREAS**

- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Flood Wall

**GENERAL STRUCTURES**

- Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
- Coastal Transect
- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

**OTHER FEATURES**

- Digital Data Available
- No Digital Data Available
- Unmapped

**MAP PANELS**

- Approximate location based on user input and does not represent an authoritative property location

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

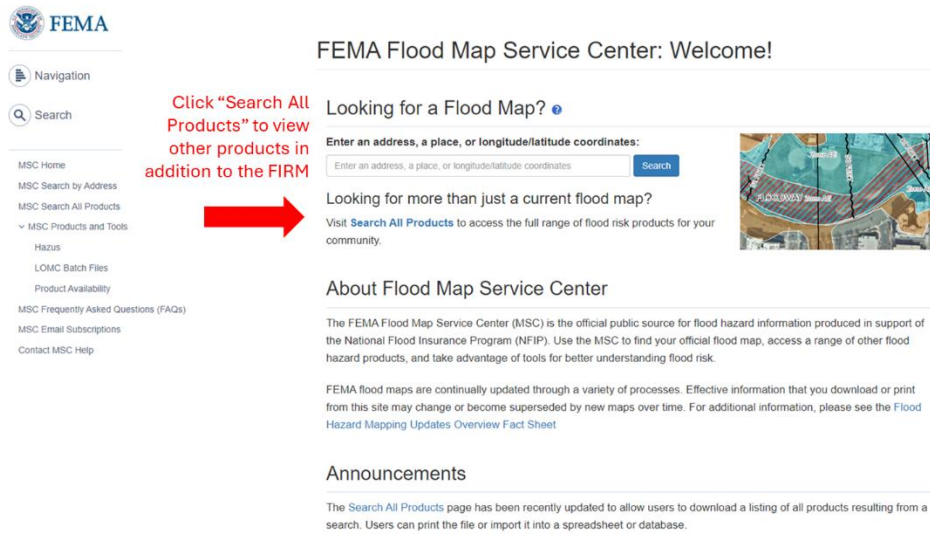
This map complies with FEMA standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap, however, complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL, with services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 7/10/2024 at 1:52 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood panel labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel numbers, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodeled areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

Figure 44: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Home Page. Example of creating a FIRMette.

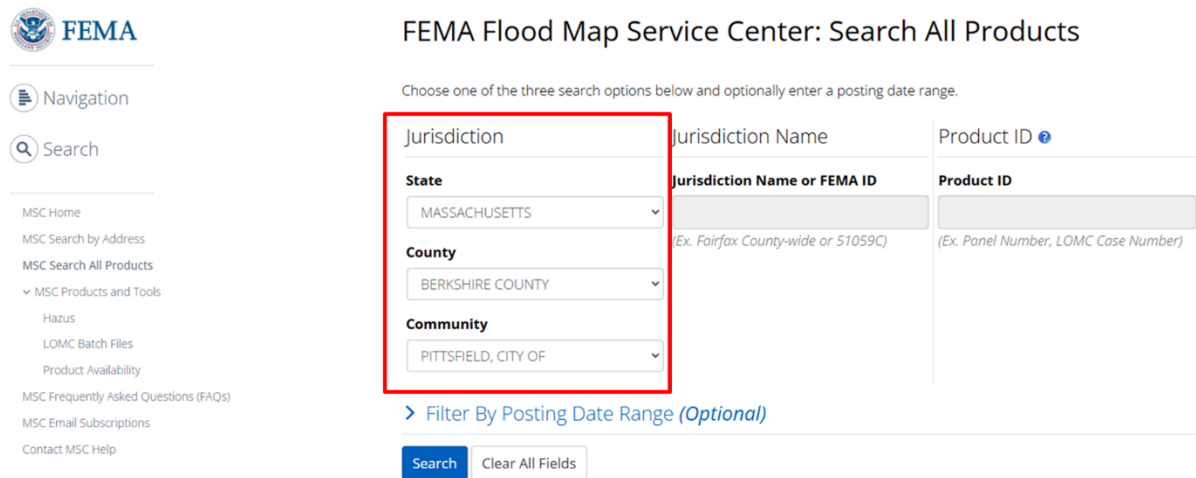
## Slide 70: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 12 of 16)



The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) home page. On the left is a navigation menu with the FEMA logo at the top, followed by 'Navigation', 'Search', and a list of links including 'MSC Home', 'MSC Search by Address', 'MSC Search All Products', 'MSC Products and Tools', 'Hazus', 'LOMC Batch Files', 'Product Availability', 'MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)', 'MSC Email Subscriptions', and 'Contact MSC Help'. A red arrow points from the text 'Click "Search All Products" to view other products in addition to the FIRM' to the 'MSC Search All Products' link in the menu. The main content area has the heading 'FEMA Flood Map Service Center: Welcome!' and a section titled 'Looking for a Flood Map?' with a search input field and a 'Search' button. Below this is a section 'Looking for more than just a current flood map?' with a link to 'Search All Products'. Further down is an 'About Flood Map Service Center' section with descriptive text and an 'Announcements' section with a note about the 'Search All Products' page update.

Figure 45: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Home Page. Arrow points to the search all products button.

## Slide 71: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 13 of 16)



The screenshot shows the 'Search All Products' page on the FEMA Flood Map Service Center. The navigation menu on the left is identical to the previous slide, but the 'MSC Search All Products' link is highlighted. The main content area has the heading 'FEMA Flood Map Service Center: Search All Products' and a sub-heading 'Choose one of the three search options below and optionally enter a posting date range.' Below this is a form with three columns: 'Jurisdiction', 'Jurisdiction Name', and 'Product ID'. The 'Jurisdiction' column has three dropdown menus: 'State' (selected: MASSACHUSETTS), 'County' (selected: BERKSHIRE COUNTY), and 'Community' (selected: PITTSFIELD, CITY OF). The 'Jurisdiction Name' column has a text input field with a placeholder '(Ex. Fairfax County-wide or 51059C)'. The 'Product ID' column has a text input field with a placeholder '(Ex. Panel Number, LOMC Case Number)'. Below the form is a link '> Filter By Posting Date Range (Optional)' and two buttons: 'Search' and 'Clear All Fields'.

Figure 46: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Search all products page. Box highlights where to select jurisdiction criteria.

## Slide 72: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 14 of 16)

MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)  
 MSC Email Subscriptions  
 Contact MSC Help

> Filter By Posting Date Range (Optional)

Search Clear All Fields

### Search Results for PITTSFIELD, CITY OF

Click [subscribe](#) to receive email notifications when products are updated.

Click to [download a listing](#) of all products.

If you are a person with a disability, are blind, or have low vision, and need assistance, please contact a [map specialist](#).

Expand All

- Effective Products (139)
  - FIRM Panels (10) DL ALL
  - FIS Reports (1) DL ALL
  - LOMC (127)
  - NFHL Data-State (1)
  - NFHL Data-County (0)
- Preliminary Products (0)
- Pending Product (0)
- Historic Products (8)
- Flood Risk Products (0)

To view/download effective products →

To view/download preliminary products →

To view/download historic products →

Figure 47: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Search Results page. Arrows point to where to view effective, preliminary, and historic products.

## Slide 73: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 15 of 16)

Effective Products (139)

- FIRM Panels (10) DL ALL

Please note: Searches often result in many map files listed under a given section. You can determine the Product ID for the individual map panel needed by looking at the Map Index file. The index map files have "IND" within the Product ID and appear at the start of the list. These index files show an overview of a jurisdiction and how it is subdivided into map panels with the Product ID for each panel shown.

Show 100 entries

Showing 1 to 10 of 10 entries

Product ID	Effective Date	LOMC	Size	Download	View
2500370005	02/19/1982		4MB	DL	VIEW
2500370005C	02/19/1982	LOMC	3MB	DL	VIEW
2500370010	02/19/1982		3MB	DL	VIEW
2500370010C	02/19/1982	LOMC	3MB	DL	VIEW
2500370015	01/16/1987		4MB	DL	VIEW
2500370015D	01/16/1987	LOMC	3MB	DL	VIEW
2500370020	02/19/1982		6MB	DL	VIEW
2500370020C	02/19/1982	LOMC	7MB	DL	VIEW
250037FND0	01/16/1987		1MB	DL	VIEW
250037IND0	01/16/1987		1MB	DL	VIEW

Select effective product to view or download →

FIRM and FHBM Index →

- FIS Reports (1) DL ALL
- LOMC (127)
- NFHL Data-State (1)
- NFHL Data-County (0)
- Preliminary Products (0)
- Pending Product (0)
- Historic Products (8)

Figure 48: Screenshot of FEMA's Map Service Center Search Results page. Arrows point to where to view the FIRM Map Indexes.

## Slide 74: Using FEMA's Map Service Center (slide 16 of 16)

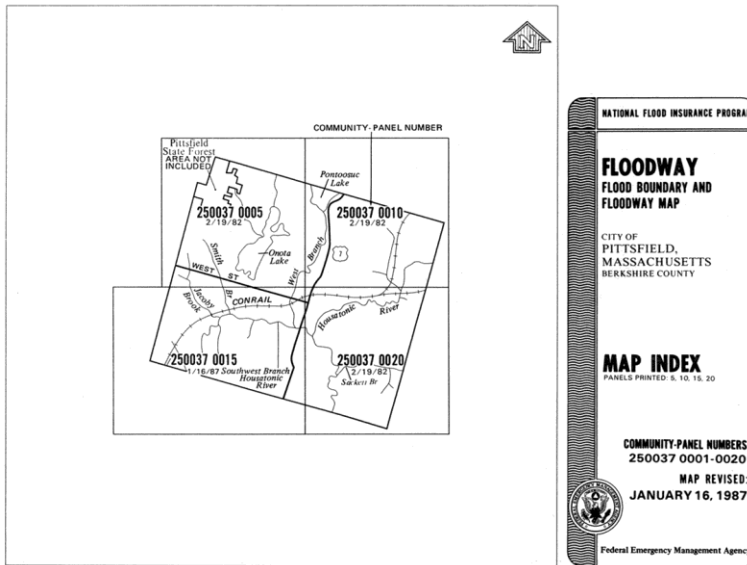


Figure 49: Screenshot of FBFM Map Index for Pittsfield, MA.

## Slide 75: MassMapper (slide 1 of 3)

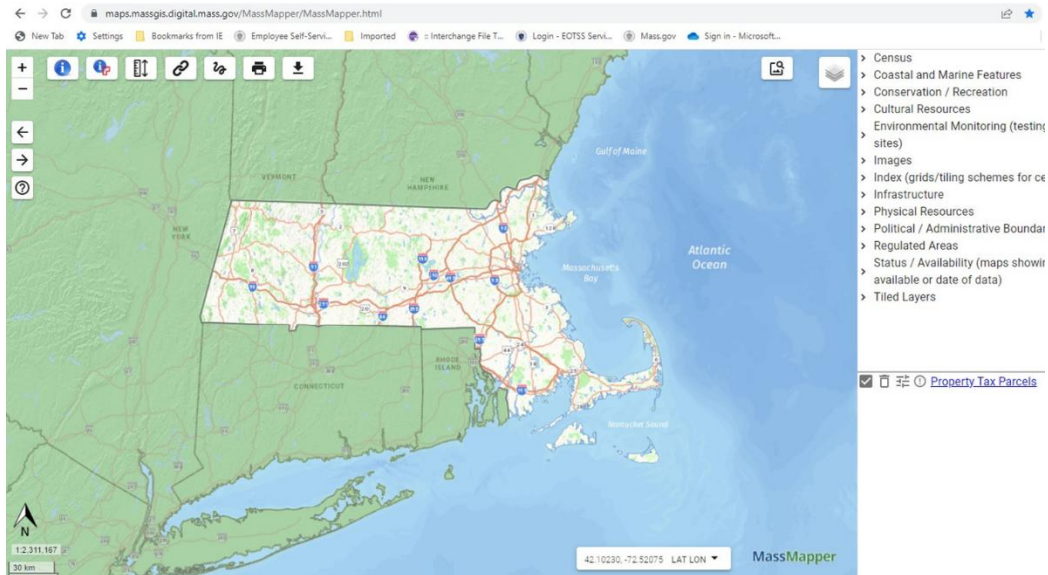


Figure 50: Screenshot of MassMapper.

### Slide 76: MassMapper (slide 2 of 3)

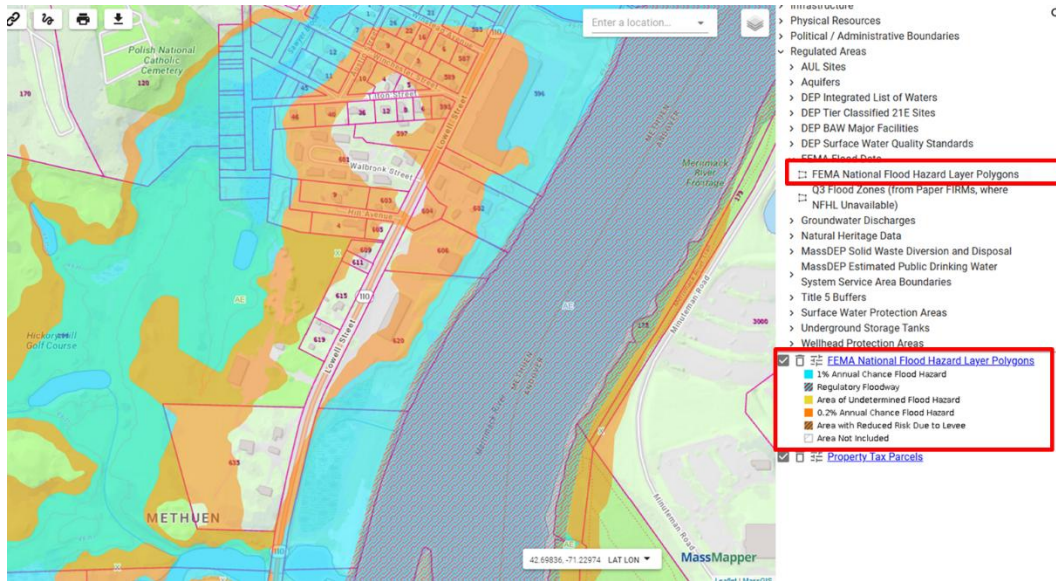


Figure 51: Screenshot of MassMapper. Boxes show the NFHL in the layer menu.

### Slide 77: MassMapper (slide 3 of 3)

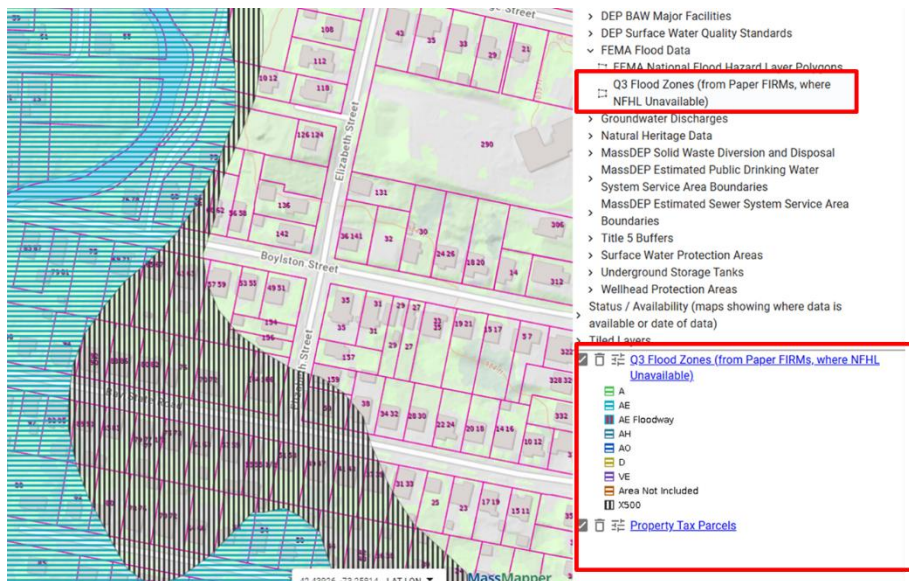


Figure 52: Screenshot of MassMapper. Boxes show the FEMA Q3 data in the layer menu.

### Slide 78: Helpful tips for finding a location

- Identify location on Google Maps or through local GIS database
- Look for nearby landmarks
- FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer does identify addresses, but they're not always accurate!



Figure 53: Screenshot from FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer

### Slide 79: When all else fails...

- FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX)
  - 1-877-336-2627
  - [FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov)
  - Also have live chat feature.
- Flood Hazard Management Program
  - Contact information on our website

### Slide 81: When are the maps updated?

- FEMA Mapping Projects:
  - Completed by FEMA for a Watershed or County
  - Entire process can take several years
  - Most of Massachusetts in some phase of a mapping project
  - Reach out to our office if you're unsure about your community