

Flood Hazard Mapping

TRANSITION TO HOMELAND SECURITY



In Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, the President proposed funding to allow the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to update and transform the Nation's flood maps through Map Modernization. This effort is critical to protecting the Nation through preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery from multiple hazards. These funds will also allow the Department of Homeland Security to develop and maintain effective partnerships and leverage resources that are fundamental to the success of Map Modernization.

CURRENT STATUS OF FLOOD MAP PROGRAM

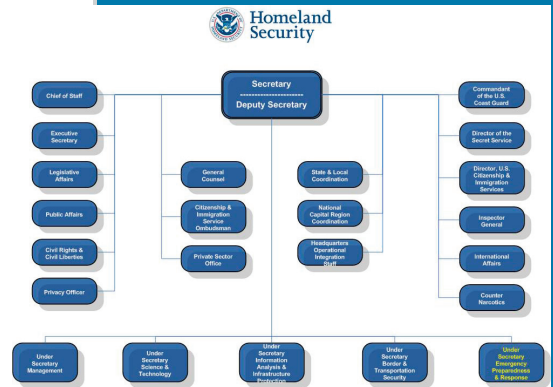
Because of limited funding, the Nation's flood maps, an essential tool for flood hazard mitigation in the United States, have not been fully maintained with up-to-date information. For years, the flood hazard mapping program was funded through very limited flood insurance policy "fees" that totaled approximately \$35-50 million per year. As time passed, new development and other factors changed local flood hazards, and the limited funding resulted in a backlog of outdated maps.

Recognizing the importance of updating and modernizing the flood maps, the President authorized additional funding to supplement the fee-generated funding in FY 2000 through FY 2004. These additional funds helped to launch

Map Modernization through activities such as developing new standards and procedures, expanding the Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program, developing digital flood maps, and initiating a "best practices" effort nationwide. FY 2003 funding is being used to initiate flood map updates for priority communities, further develop State and local flood mapping capability, establish a system for exchange of flood hazard data through the Internet, and retool program management to a performance-based system. The President's budget included \$200 million in funding for flood hazard mapping in FY 2004.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Developing and maintaining effective partnerships and leveraging resources are fundamental to the success of Map Modernization, and a key element is the CTP Program. Fostering collaboration with Federal, State, and local partners, Map Modernization will help improve and maintain the quality and reliability of flood hazard data. The Department of Homeland Security will also be able to coordinate more closely with other Federal agencies in hazard data development and distribution using advanced technology.



DHS Organizational Chart showing Emergency Preparedness & Response in yellow.



FEMA

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TRANSITION FROM FEMA TO HOMELAND SECURITY



Digital Flood Hazard Data

MULTI-HAZARD FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

After the flood hazard mapping program moved to the Department of Homeland Security, Map Modernization expanded to Multi-Hazard Flood Map Modernization, which will provide the capability to broaden the scope of risk management from a single-hazard (flood) focus to a multihazard focus. This will permit more expansive use of the geospatial base data needed to develop the flood maps. As flood hazard data is updated, the current flood map inventory will change from a paper map system to a digital system. New technology will enhance the usefulness and availability of flood data to all customers. The new system will also support the development and distribution of geospatial data of multiple hazards.

IMPLEMENTATION OF MULTI-HAZARD FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

A two-pronged approach for updating the Nation's flood hazard data inventory has been implemented. First, with buy-in from our State and local partners, we have developed an approach that focuses on high-risk areas, where progress toward our goal of reducing the loss of life and property can be maximized. As a result, areas with high growth, high population, and a history of significant flood losses will be targeted. To take advantage of economies of scale in these areas, we are investigating the feasibility of

basin-wide studies. The second prong of our approach involves capitalizing on areas that have existing data that can be quickly and efficiently leveraged to produce flood hazard information that supports the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). We will also leverage resources with State, local, and regional partners to produce flood hazard data that supports the NFIP. This approach provides a framework for prioritizing projects and is scalable to accommodate available funding.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR FLOOD HAZARD MAPPING AND MAP MODERNIZATION

For information on Map Modernization:
hazards.fema.gov

For more information regarding these issues: www.fema.gov/fhm

For information on the Cooperating Technical Partners Program:
www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp_main.shtm

To purchase or order current Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Insurance Study reports: store.msc.fema.gov

For Frequently Asked Questions and Answers:
www.fema.gov/fhm/fq_main.shtm

