



FEMA

# Providing Credible Flood Risk Data to Help Communities Implement Higher Floodplain Management Standards

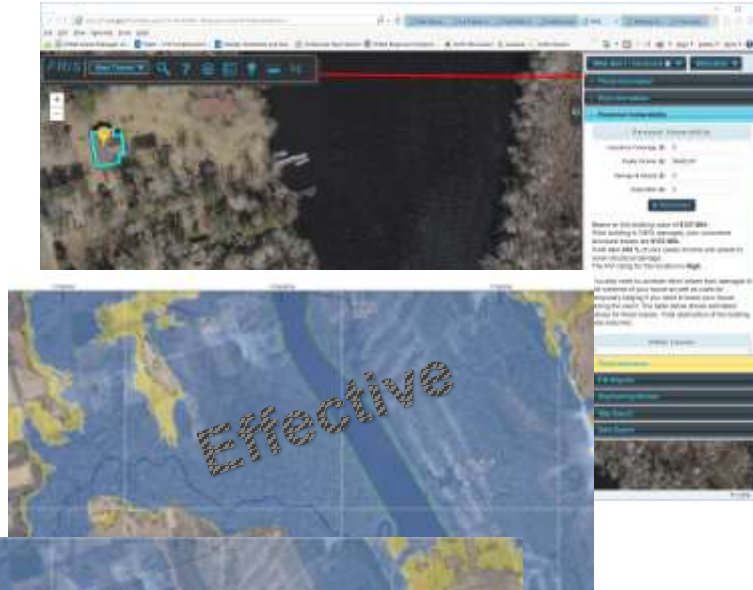
**RiskMAP**  
Increasing Resilience Together



# Why do we need Credible Data or Higher Standards?



Why?



How?

Mitigation

This table shows mitigation options that reduce your risk from this hazard. Estimated costs for each option were used to calculate cost effectiveness (CE).

To recalculate the CE, click the calculator to the left of each option and revise the costs based on local conditions.

For more information on options and calculations, click the ?.

Building Value

\$66843470

Square Footage

7186

There are no cost effective mitigation options to reduce building damage from a tornado. Safe rooms, however, can save lives.

Risk Reduction Option	Cost	Cost Effectiveness
Elevation	\$208,394	1.75
Relocation	\$481,462	2.66
Dry Floodproofing	N/A	N/A
Wet Floodproofing	\$20,839	12.88
Levees & Floodwalls	N/A	N/A
Mitigation Reconstruction	\$855,134	0.43
Utility Elevation	\$12,000	15.18

Print

What?

# What can better flood hazard data do for us?



Communicate  
risk effectively



Raise risk awareness via a  
well – informed public



Improve local acceptance



Reduce vulnerability via  
mitigation actions



Improve flood insurance  
rating methods

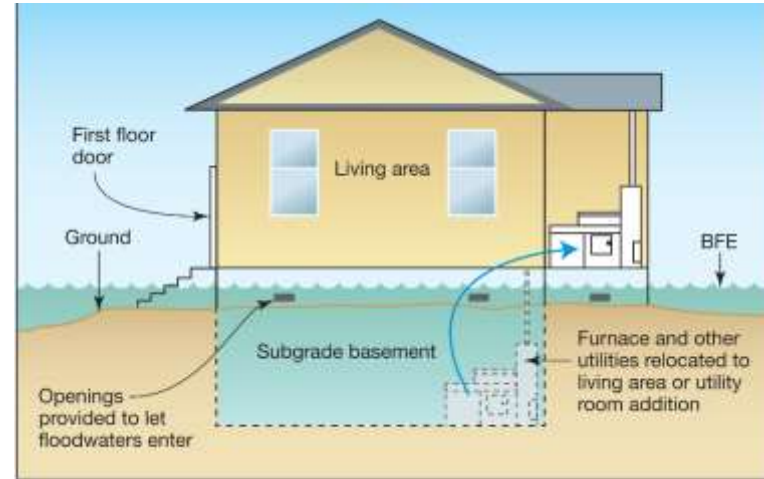


Increase trust in products



# What are Higher Standards\*?

- Examples of Non structural
  - Freeboard
  - Critical development protection
  - Fill Standards
  - Setbacks
  - Future conditions hydrologic mapping
  - Regulating areas not mapped on FIRM
  - Stormwater Management



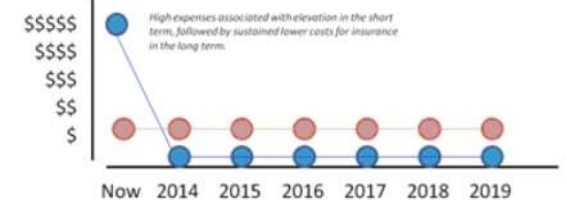
## Elevation Lowers Premiums

Under the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, You Could Save More than \$90,000 over 10 Years if You Build 3 Feet above Base Flood Elevation\*

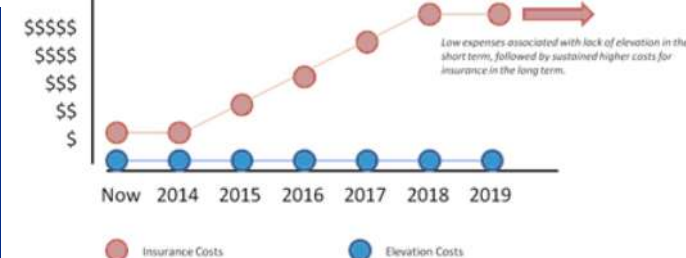


\*\$250,000 building coverage only (does not include contents), AE (high to moderate risk) zone, single-family, one-story structure without a basement at: 4 feet below Base Flood Elevation (BFE); at BFE; and at 3 feet above BFE. (Rating per FEMA flood insurance manual, October 1, 2012). The illustration above is based on a standard National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) deductible.

### Long term costs with elevation



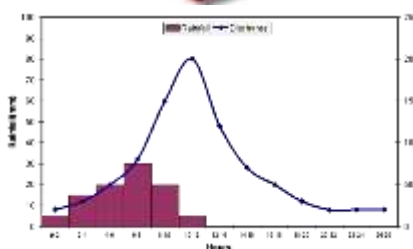
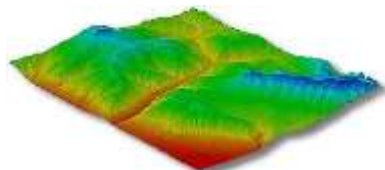
### Long term costs without elevation



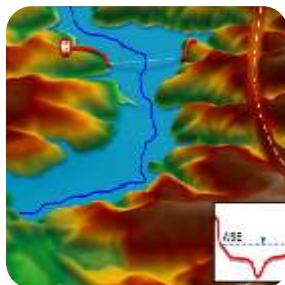
\* Based on ASFPM's guide dated March 2013

# Higher Standard Support to Communities

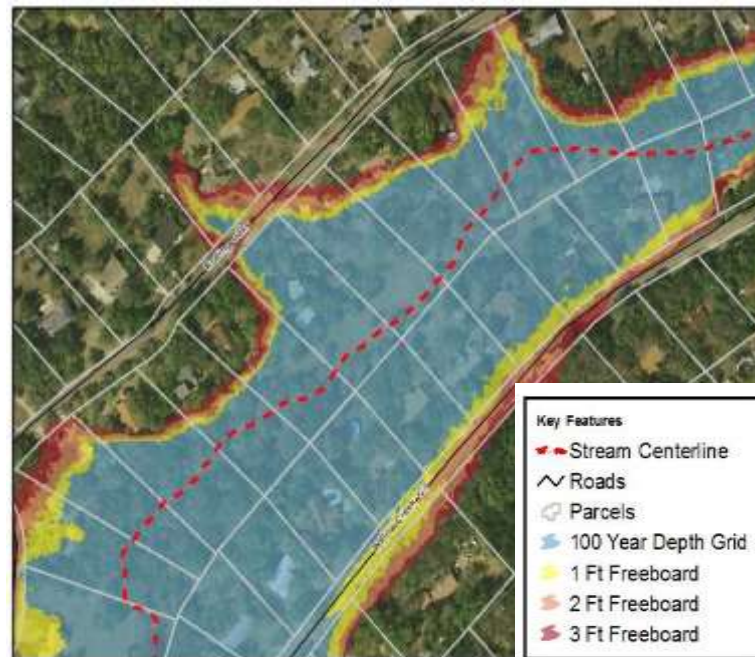
Terrain



Hydrology



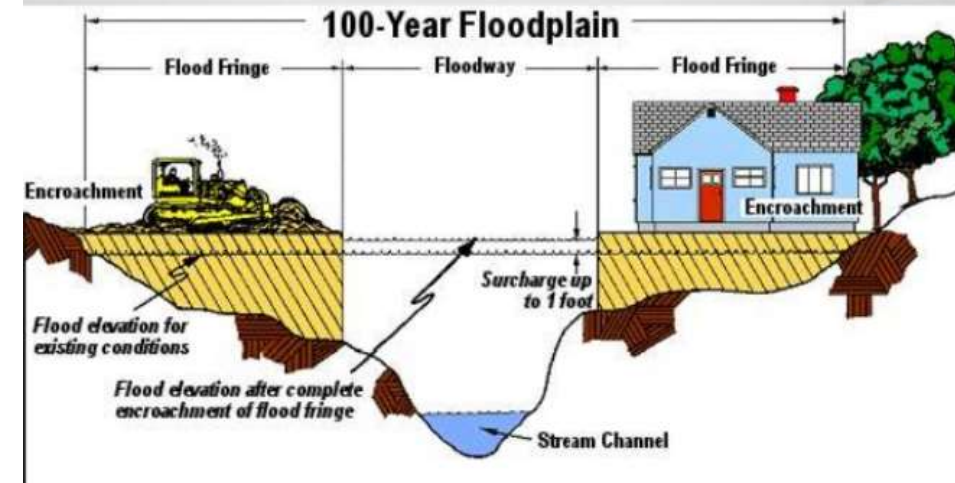
Hydraulics



Credible Engineering Models

Flood Risk Products derived from Model Results

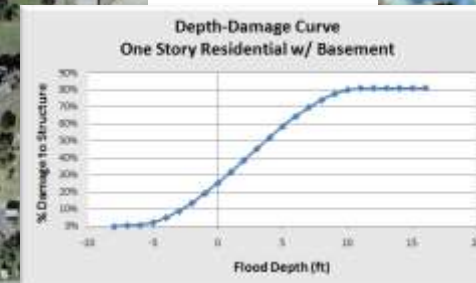
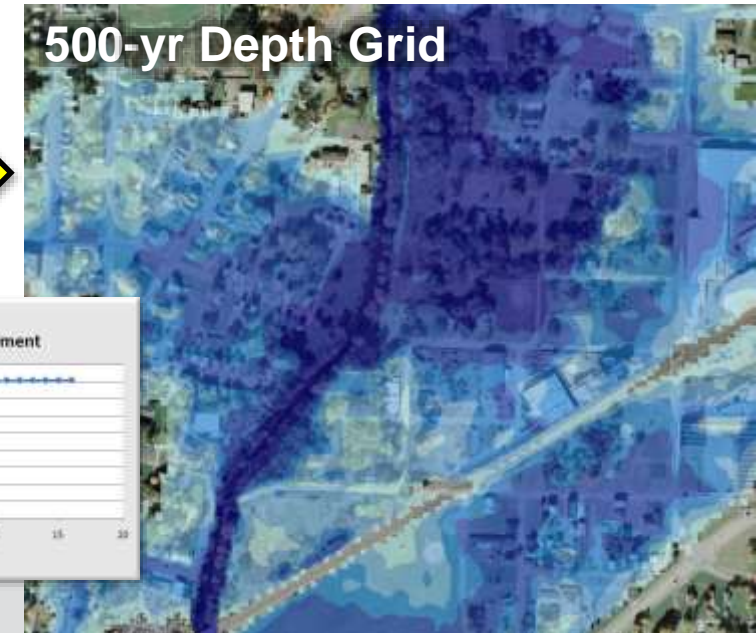
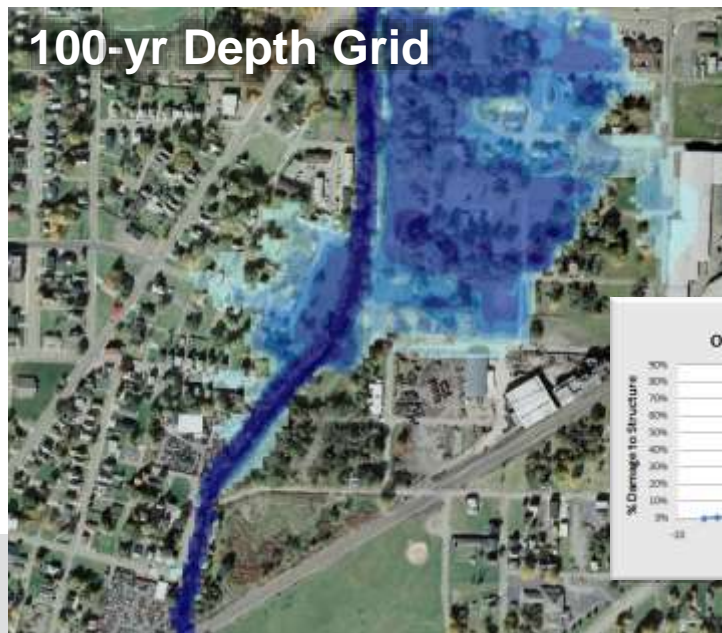
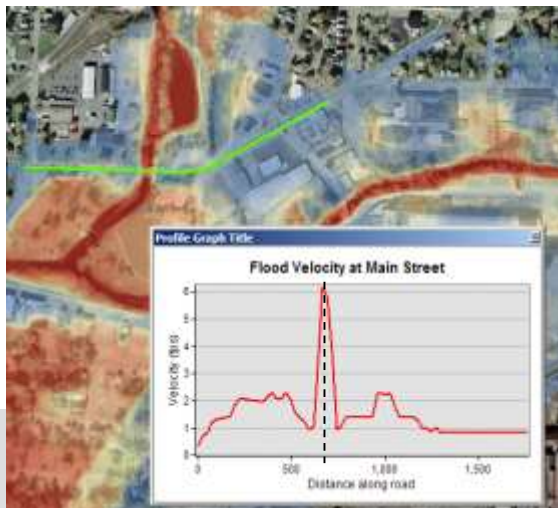
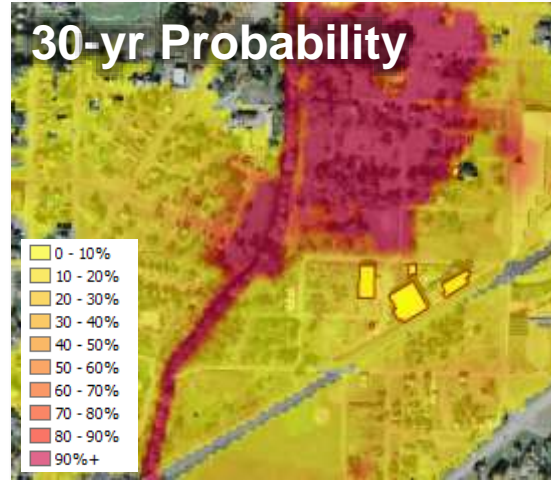
## Floodplain Cross-Section



Ordinance support for better floodplain management



# What types of data can we get from newer modeling?





# New Engineering Processes

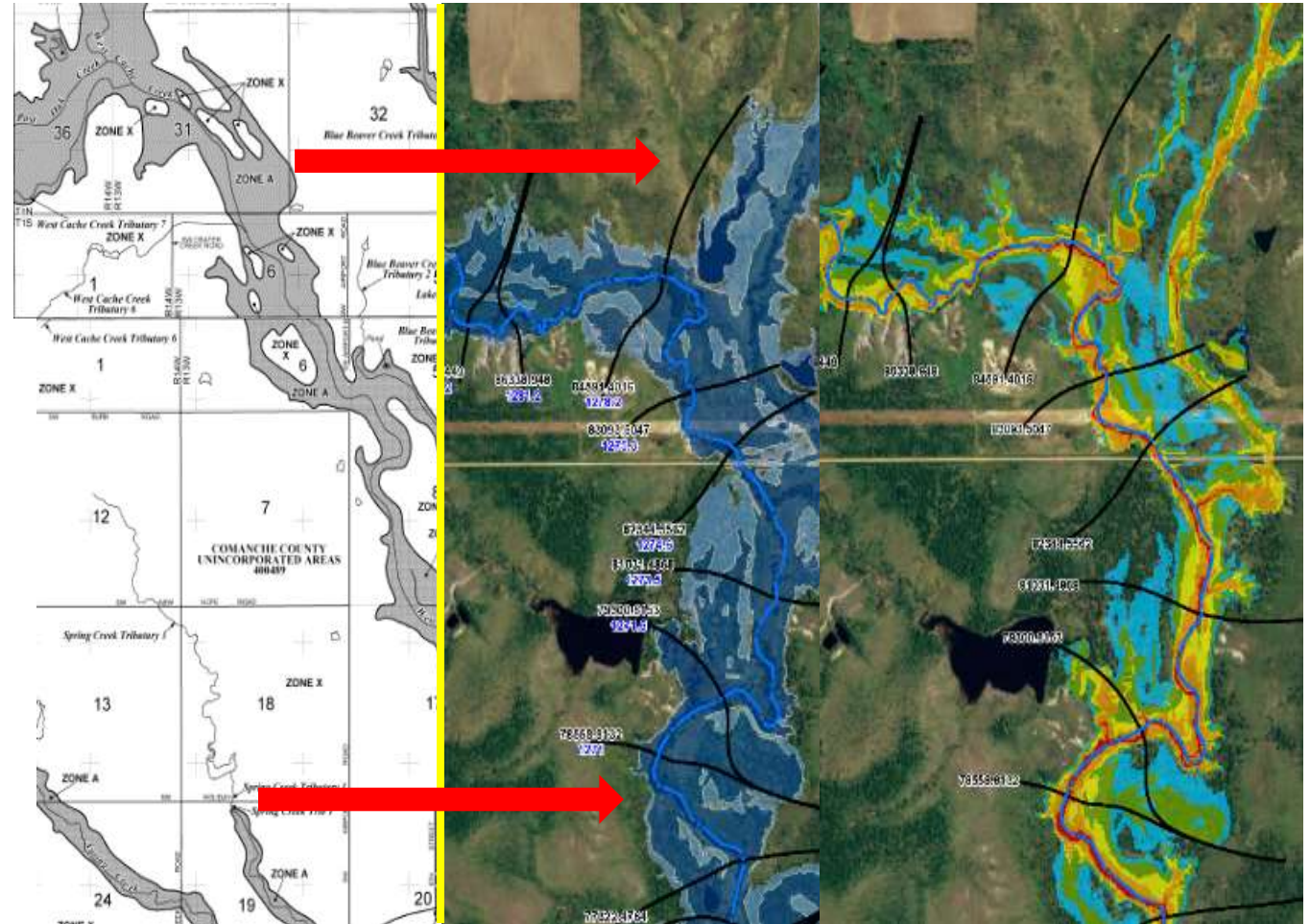
## Base Level Engineering (BLE) Introduction

### ■ Definition

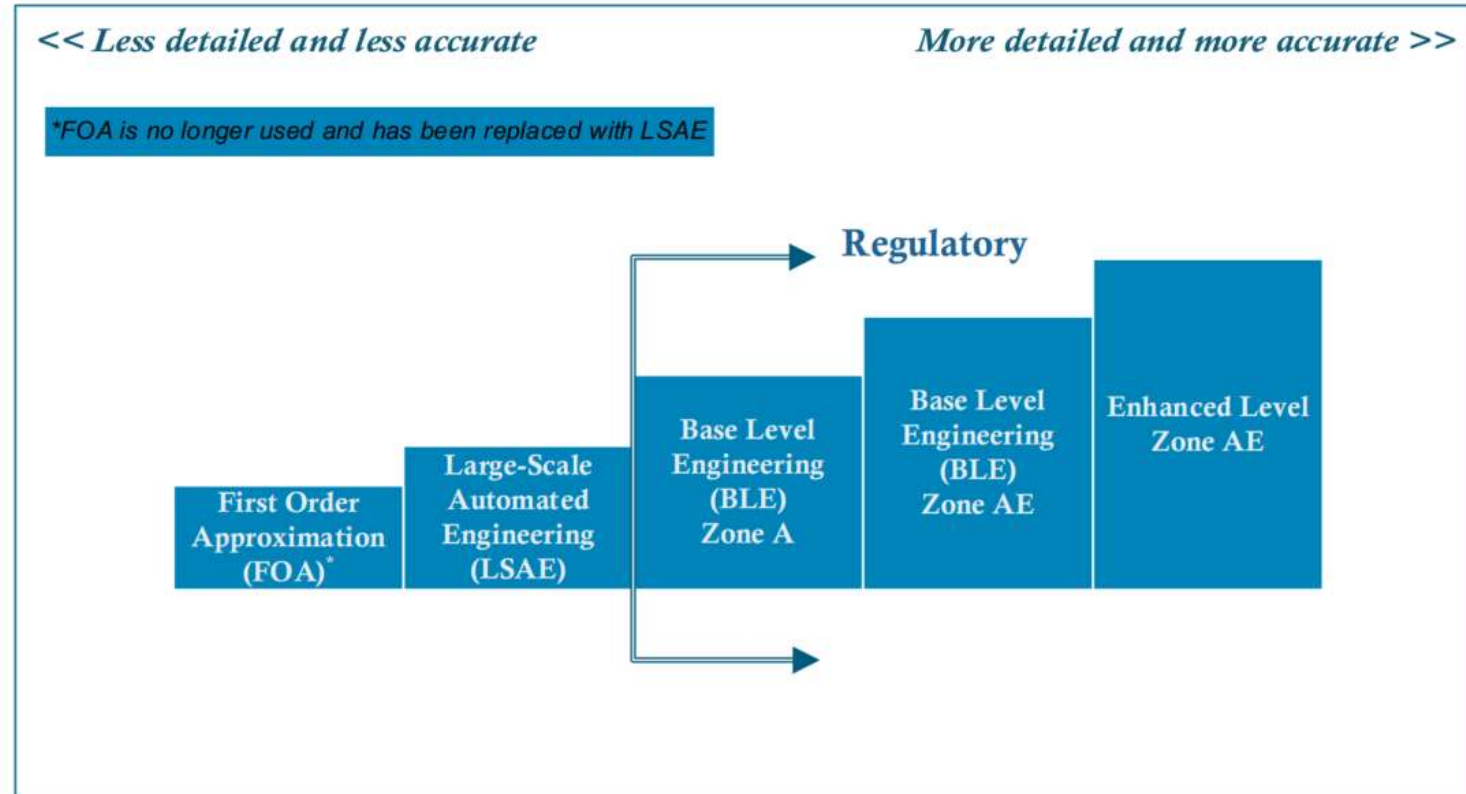
- An automated riverine hydrologic and hydraulic modeling approach;
- Built on lessons learned to produce a base line understanding of Flood Risk; and
- To maintenance of the national flood hazard inventory.

### ■ Builds upon:

- Large Scale Automated Engineering (LSAE)
- First Order Approximation (FOA)



# What is BLE?





# Data Production

Option	Cross Sections	Flow Paths (Left, Right and Channel)	Manning's "n" Values	Structures	Flood Zone
A	Auto-placed; may be unnaturally straight with computerized look to them adjusted or auto-placed by "intelligent" methods.	Reach lengths are assumed equal.	Single value for each cross section.	Not included; cross sections placed as if structures don't exist or cross sections placed appropriately for structure modeling.	A
B	Auto-placed and hand adjusted or auto-placed by "intelligent" methods.	Reach lengths computed by offsetting stream centerline.	Overbanks from Land Use Land Cover (LULC) data, channel value estimated separately.	Not included; but cross sections placed appropriately for structure modeling.	A
C	Each section reviewed by engineers.	Reach lengths adjusted based on draft floodplain.	Overbanks LULC data, channel value estimated separately.	Included; structure data from national, state or other data source. Estimated base on topography and aerial photos for those not available.	A
D	Each section reviewed by engineers.	Reach lengths adjusted based on draft floodplain.	Overbanks from LULC data, channel value estimated separately and calibrated where possible.	Included; structure data from as-builts, design plans, "measured" in the field, or other community datasets with opening information.	A or AE
E	Each section reviewed by engineers, Channel bathymetry included in sections.	Reach lengths adjusted based on draft floodplain.	Overbanks from LULC data and field data, channel value estimated separately from field data and calibrated where possible.	Included; structure data from field survey, as-builts, design plans, "measured" in the field.	AE

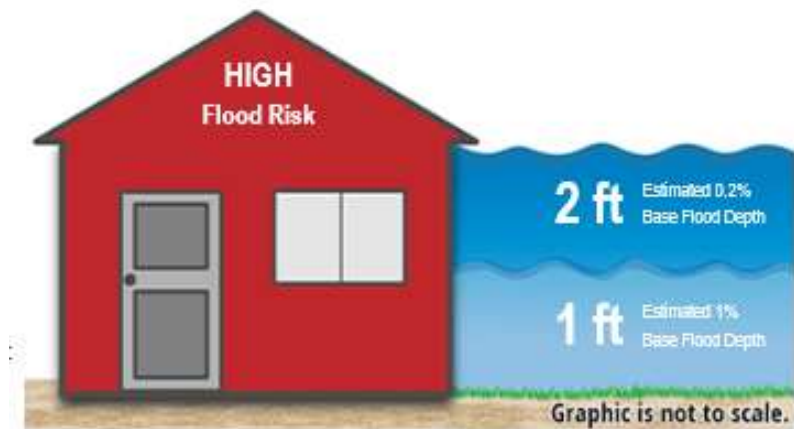
- **BLE Guidance is available – November 2017**
  - Provides flexibility to Regions to Scale-up
- **Available for various Technical Mapping Partners**

## Minimum Requirements

- **Hydraulic Modeling (10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+, 1%-, and 0.2%)**
- **1% and 0.2% Floodplains**
- **1% and 0.2% Water Surface Grids**
- **1% and 0.2% Flood Depth Grids**

# BLE Benefits and Usability

- **Provides Base Level of Data**
- **Step up from the current datasets**
- **Increase in Flood Risk data coverage**
  - Additional datasets
- **Promotes**
  - Informed Decisions - land use, construction, and investment decisions
  - Higher Standards for Floodplain Management
  - Stakeholder Collaboration
  - NVUE Validation and Discovery Discussions
  - LOMC (Amendment or Revision) BFE determination
- **Best Available Information**
  - Elevation Certificates
  - Floodproofing Certificates



# Best Available Information

## Definition:

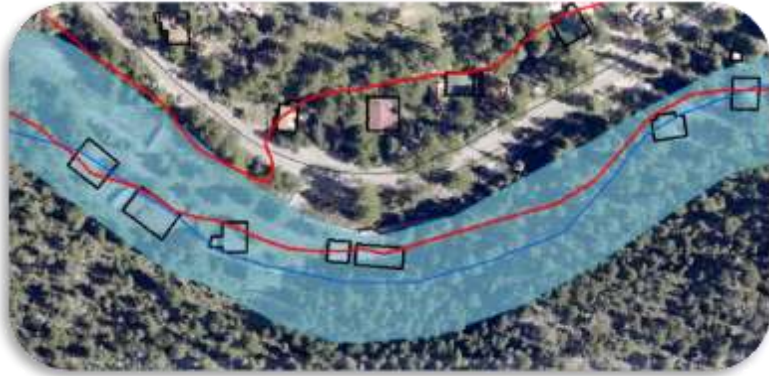
- (a) Existing flood hazard information adopted by a community**
- (b) Draft or preliminary flood hazard information supplied by FEMA**
- (c) Another source and reasonably used by the community**

## Uses

- (a) Zoning District Updates**
- (b) Land use code / Ordinance Updates**
- (c) Community Rating System Points**
- (d) Grant Applications**
- (e) Storm water Management and Design**
- (f) Capital Improvement Project Planning**
- (g) Flood Evacuation Route Planning**



# Flood Risk Products Support



Risk  
Identification

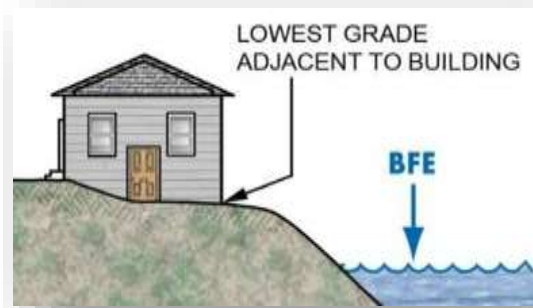


Mitigation  
Planning

Risk  
Communication



Insurance Rating



LOMAs

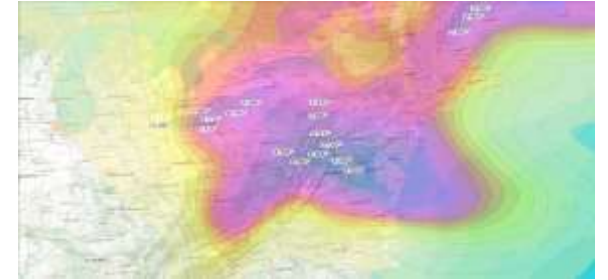


Permitting

Rainfall

Frequency

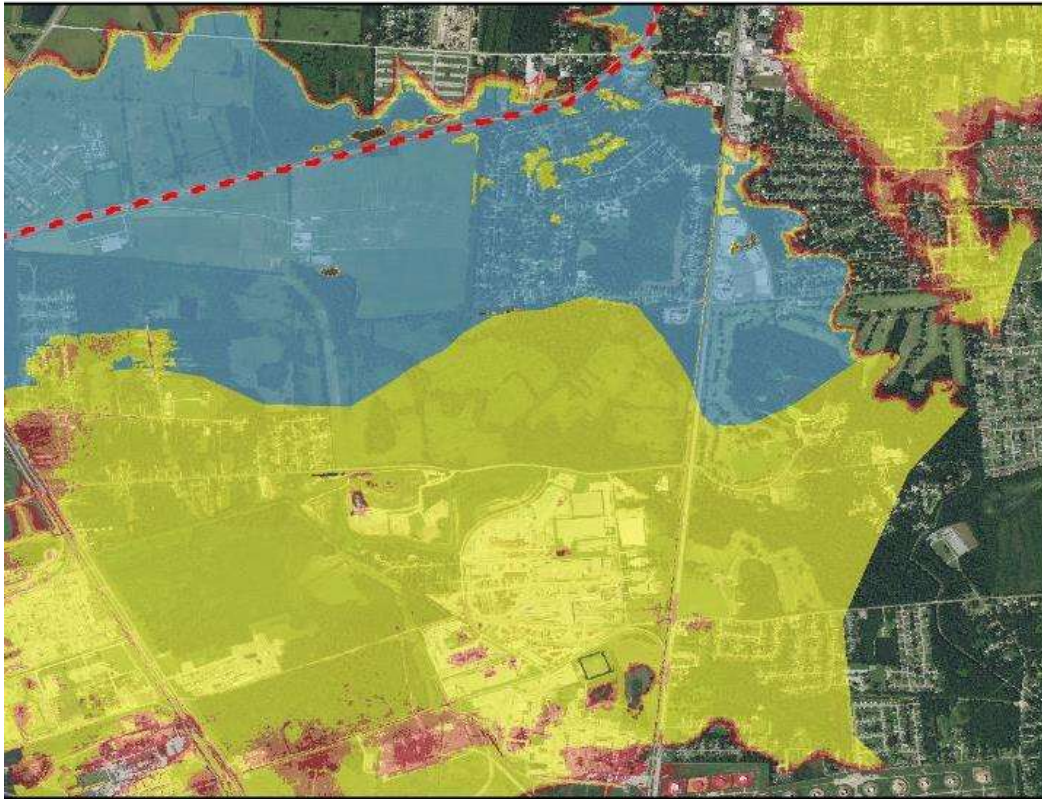
Flooding



Disaster Response  
Disaster Recovery



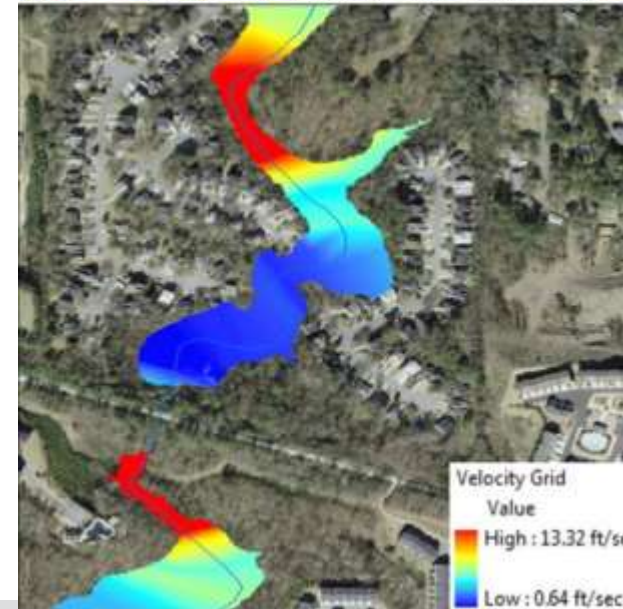
# BLE Production – Higher Standards



Freeboard grids



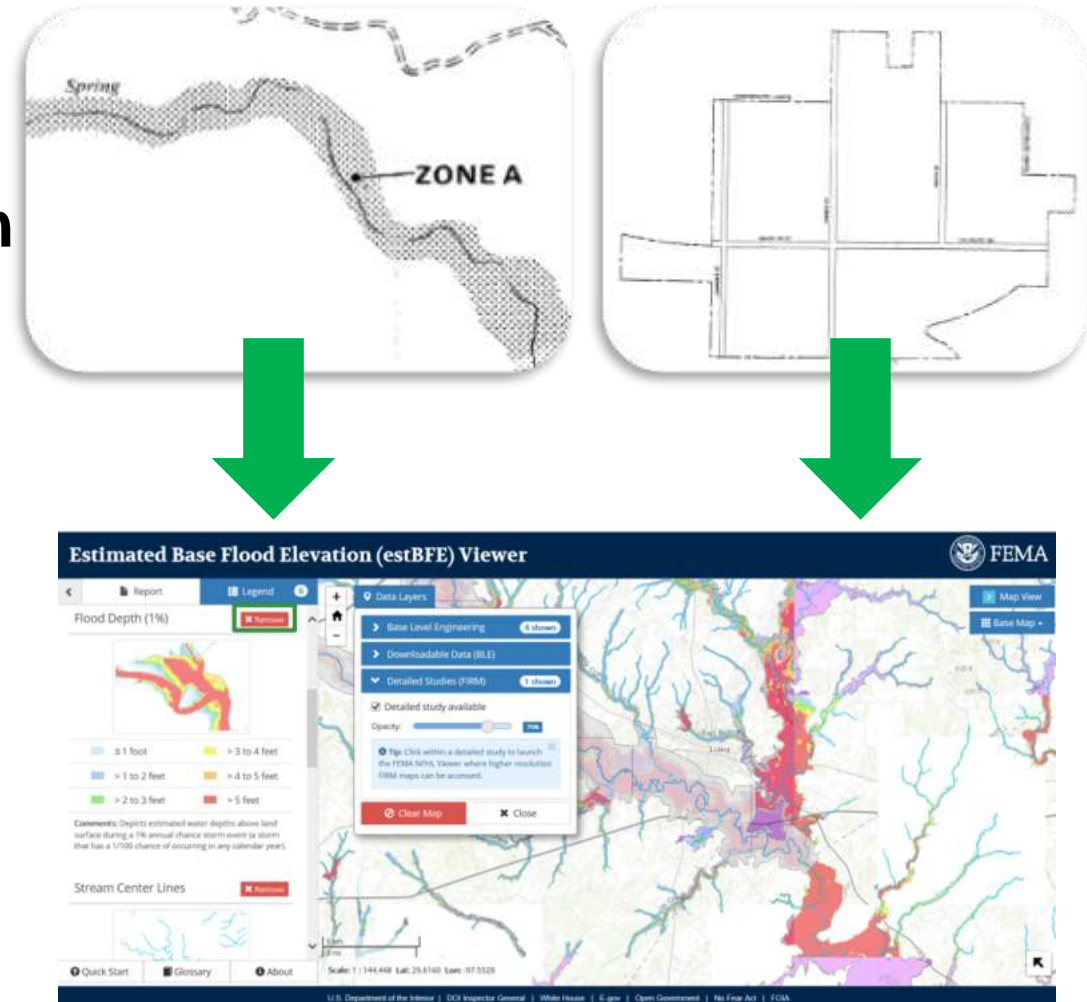
100 +/-  
Floodplains



Velocity Grids

# Data sharing

- Provide Easy access to Data
- Data visualization opens the conversation
- Quick delivery of more recent flood data
- No burden on communities for special software to use the datasets
- Data can be used in the field with no paper maps





# Data Sharing Region 6 – Estimated Base Flood Elevation Viewer

**Region 6 Version 2.0 Viewer has NEW functionality!**



**LOCATE**



**SITE-SPECIFIC  
REPORTING**



**SIDE-by-SIDE  
VIEWING**



**POINT-CLICK-  
DOWNLOAD**



**SHARE**



**VIEW EFFECTIVE  
FLOOD DATA**

**[www.InFRM.us/estBFE](http://www.InFRM.us/estBFE)**

# Data Sharing Region 6 - Estimated Base Flood Elevation Viewer



1% and 0.2%  
Estimated Flood Extent

1%  
Estimated Flood Depth

# Data Sharing Region 6 – Users & Usage

- **FEMA** – Project Worksheet review, Temporary Housing placement
- **FEMA** - MT1 (LOMAs) and MT2 (LOMRs)
- **Oklahoma** - Informing State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
- **Roger Mills County, OK** - Permitting (+2ft) against BLE data for Oil/Gas
- **City of Waxahachie, TX**-
  - Capital Improvement Project identification, assessment and prioritization
  - Letter of Map Revision
- **Johnson City, AR** – Community use of BLE data for LOMA submittal, use of site specific report for estimated BFE

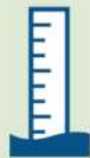
**State/Regional/Local CTPs, State NFIP Coordinators & Technical Staff, State Floodplain Management Associations** are all supportive of the approach we have built and the resultant datasets created.



# Data Sharing Region 8 – South Dakota Map Journal

USE NEW DATA TO REDUCE YOUR FLOOD RISK!  
**<http://bit.ly/SDakotaMapJournal>**

Follow this link to your South Dakota Map Journal! Request your community's initial flood risk assessment results along with hydrology and hydraulic models. Use the Best Available Information (BAI) guide there to help manage local floodplain issue now by:



Determining elevations  
or flood depths for  
properties in Zone A.



Filing grant  
applications.



Applying for map  
revisions or amendments.

Preventing  
potential  
seasonal  
flooding issues.



## QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

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TOM BIRNEY  
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303-235-4802

Have you downloaded  
your initial flood risk data?

YES! I want to keep  
my community safer.



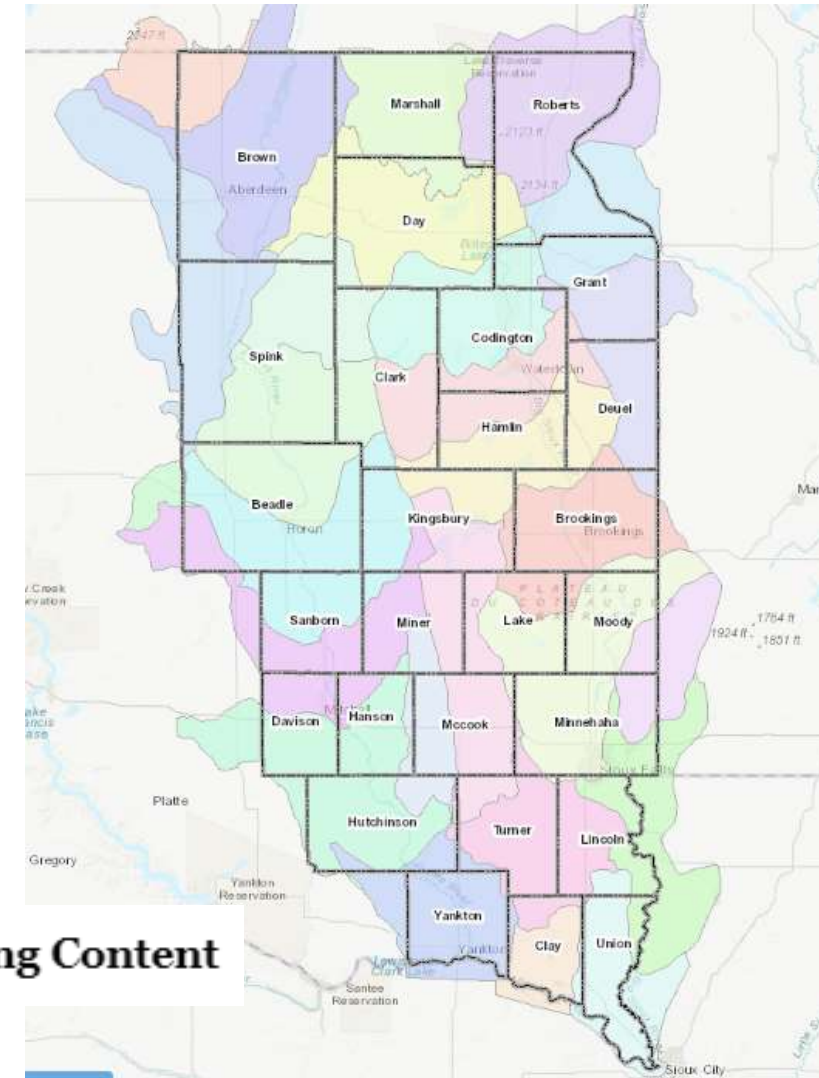
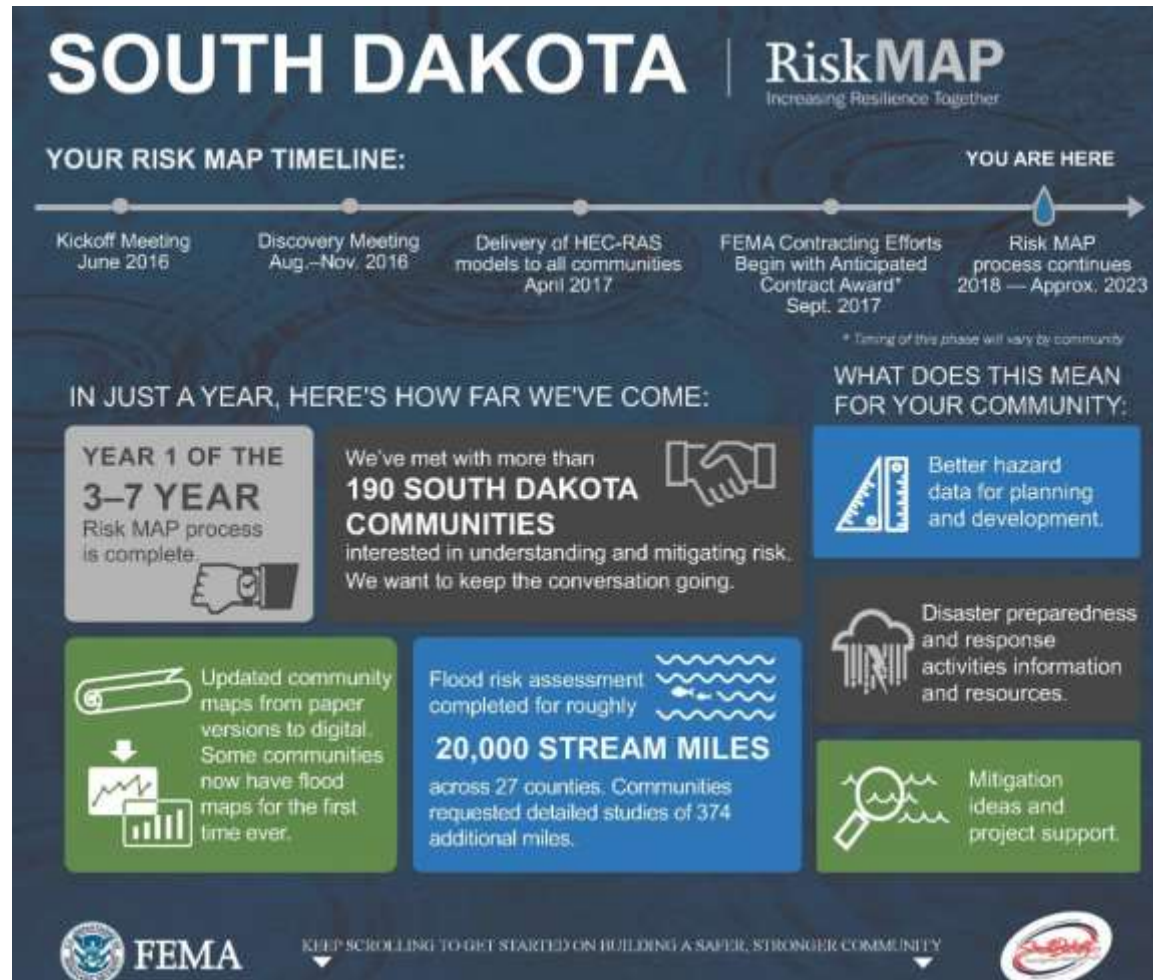
FEMA



**RiskMAP**  
Increasing Resilience Together



# Data Sharing Region 8 – South Dakota Map Journal



[Download Engineering Content](#)

# Data Sharing Region 8 – Base Level Engineering

## Best Available Information A Tool for Your Community to Reduce Flood Risk

FEMA and the South Dakota Office of Emergency Management

[What's in it for me?](#)

[How can this data be used - LOMC](#)

[How can this data be used - Permitting](#)

[How can this data be used - Grants](#)

[How can this data be used - Building Codes](#)

[How can this data be used - Operational and Mitigation Planning](#)

### Session 1

[NFIP Overview](#)

[What is required for Permitting in the SFHA](#)

[HMA and What it can do for your Community](#)

### Session 2

[Risk Assessment and Emergency Response](#)

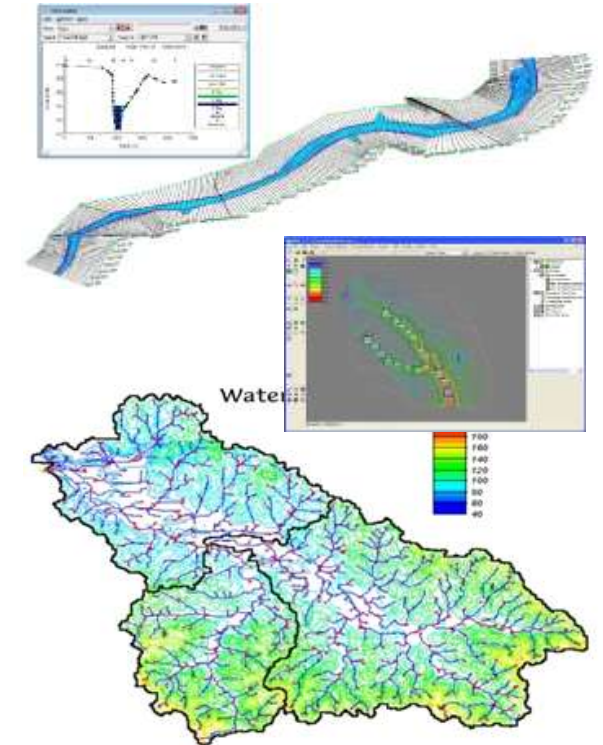
[Taking LSAE and Plus Up for Detailed Study](#)

[Using LSAE for LOMRs](#)



# Credible Data – Takeaways

- Protection of public and private infrastructure
- Improving Public Flood Risk Awareness
- Reduction in Rescue and Relief Efforts
- Protect of Life, Health and Property



Credible engineering analysis and modeling for local communities and developers.

# Questions?



FEMA