



Floodplain Management Updates

FY 2018 HQ Priorities and 2017 Response Highlights



FEMA

FY 18 FPMD HQ Priorities

- ☐ ESA Record of Decision
- ☐ FPM Strategic Vision
- ☐ CAP-SSSE Program Changes
- ☐ CIS modernization
- ☐ Training Initiative

FY 18 FPMD HQ Priorities

- ☐ Multi-family Homes Guidance Documents
- ☐ Agricultural Structures Policy
- ☐ CRS Updates
- ☐ Policy Compendium

Hurricane Harvey – Mitigation Messages

- ▶ Refer folks to www.fema.gov/Texas-disaster-mitigation
 - Has had over 15,000 hits
- ▶ Message of the Week
- ▶ Work with External Affairs, ongoing efforts for pre-approval of messages
- ▶ Work with the Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSAT) Teams using Mitigation Message Cards

Hurricane Harvey

– Mitigation Message Cards

Claim # _____

What To Do Next

- 1) File a claim with your insurance company
- 2) Call 1-800-621-3362, Option 2 to talk with a FEMA Flood Insurance Specialist
- 3) Visit www.fema.gov/Texas-Disaster-Mitigation
For contact information for your Floodplain Administrator & Repair/Rebuilding Information



FEMA

**To find publications and reference materials on
Repairing and Rebuilding visit:**

www.fema.gov/Texas-Disaster-Mitigation

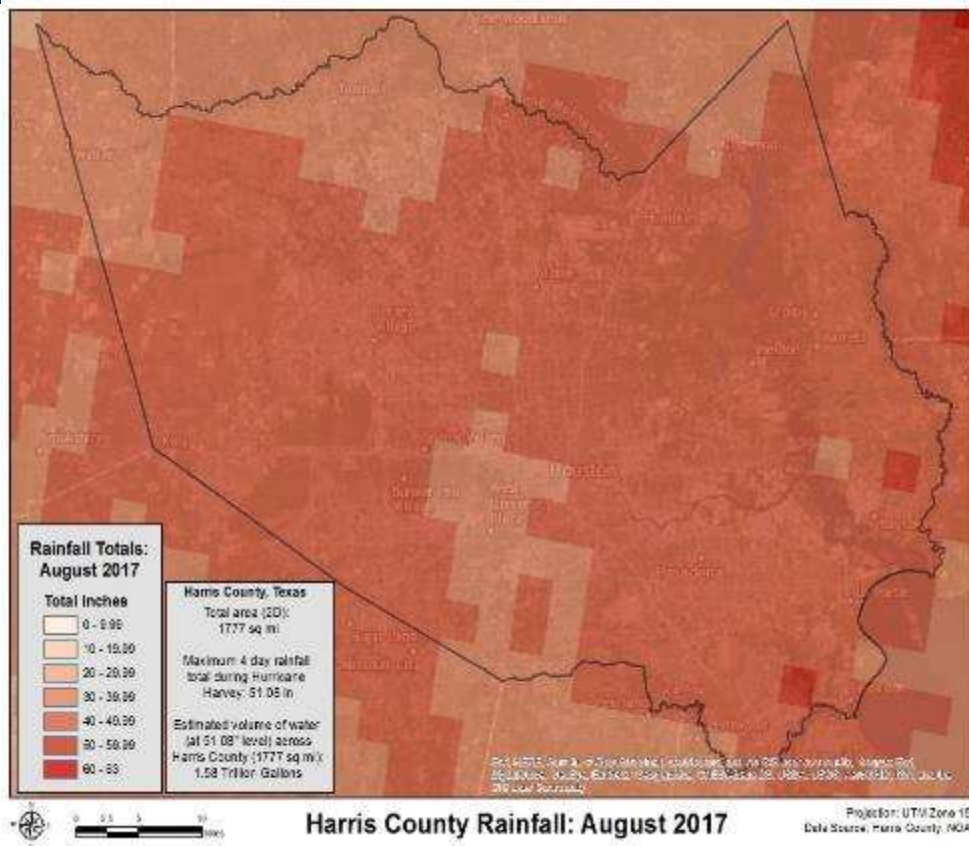
- **Take pictures to document damages before beginning clean up**
- **Keep swatches of carpet, furniture, etc. to show to adjuster before throwing items away**
- **Dry out your home before beginning repairs**



FEMA

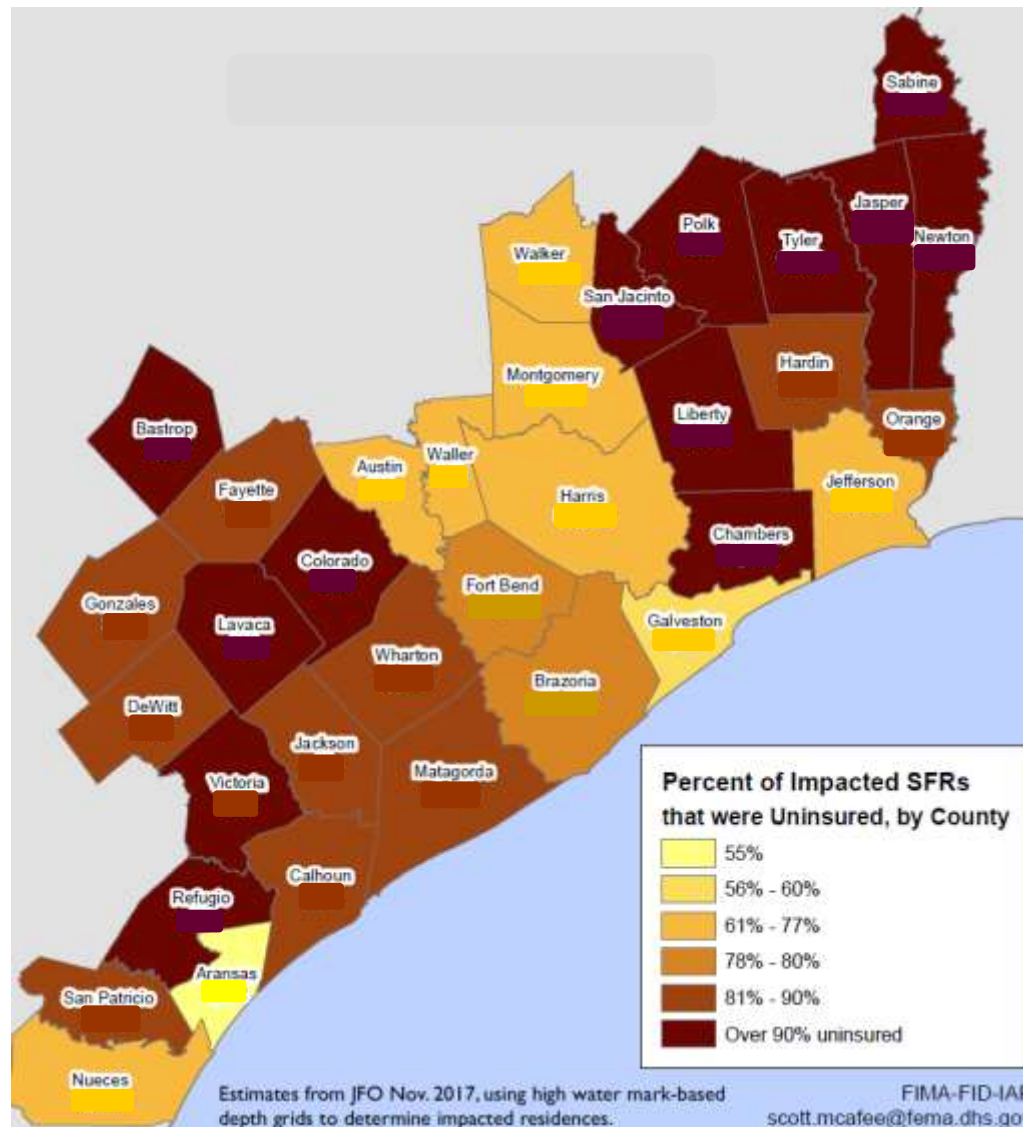
For FEMA assistance, call 1-800-621-3362 or (TTY) 800-462-7585.

Hurricane Harvey – The Flood



- “500 Year” flood in many locales
- Houston has experienced 500-year storms in each of the last three years
- Roughly 65% of flooding was in Zone X
- Roughly 55% of damage was in Zone X
- Received 46-52 inches of rain throughout the area
 - FIRMS’s are mapped to the **1% annual chance flood- 13 inches of rain in 24 hrs**
- NOAA is revising the Atlas 14
- Roughly a third of structures were built to 1 ft. above BFE
- Required 1 ft. freeboard above BFE
- 84% of homes are below 2 ft. freeboard

Hurricane Harvey – Where was the Flood Insurance?



FEMA

Houston – Improved Higher Standards

Chron

Local

US & World

Sports

Business

Entertainment

Life

City Council adopts stricter development rules for Houston's floodplains

By [Rebecca Elliott](#) Updated 8:18 am, Thursday, April 5, 2018



Photo: Brett Coomer, Staff / Houston Chronicle



IMAGE 1 OF 17

Floodwaters from the Addicks Reservoir inundate a neighborhood off N. Eldridge Parkway in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Harvey on Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2017, in Houston. (Brett Coomer / Houston Chronicle)



FEMA

Houston – New Floodplain Definition

Houston Approves New Post-Harvey Flood Construction Rule

[Associated Press](#), April 4, 2018

Houston officials on Wednesday approved a rule for new homes and other buildings in the city's flood plains that will require them to be elevated higher off the ground to avoid floodwaters. The regulation comes more than seven months after Hurricane Harvey flooded thousands of homes in the nation's fourth-largest city, which has long had a culture that's resistant to regulation and remains the only major U.S. city without zoning. The City Council approved the rule 9-7 during a sometimes contentious meeting. City officials say that of the homes in Houston's flood plains that were damaged by Harvey, more than 80 percent could have been protected had they been built at the height required in the new regulation. Such homes would typically be built on pier and beam foundations that put them above ground. Mayor Sylvester Turner, who championed the effort, called changing the rule a "defining moment" for the city, parts of which got nearly 50 inches (127 centimeters) during Harvey last August. "Can we undo what was done with Harvey? No. Can we build looking forward? Yes," Turner said. "If it has the probability of letting people know in our city and those who are looking to come that we are taking measures to be stronger, to be more resilient, then that's positive for the city of Houston." Critics of the regulation, including several council members and many home builders, argued it will drive up home prices and stifle economic development. "It will hurt the city as a whole," said Councilman Greg Travis. "We have not taken the time to find out what the ramifications will be."

Under the rule, new structures in the 100-year and 500-year flood plains must be constructed 2 feet (0.61 meter) above the ground or above the projected water level in a 500-year flood, an event in which 17 to 19 inches (32 to 48 centimeters) of rain falls in 24 hours. There's a 0.2 percent chance of such an event happening in any given year. The city's previous rule required buildings to be constructed 1 foot (0.3 meter) above the water level in a 100-year flood, an event in which 13 to 14 inches (33 to 36 centimeters) of rain falls in a 24 hour period. It also applied only to property in the 100-year flood plain.



Created HSFHA

- .2% flood + 2 ft.
- No LOMAs

BTW... New Orleans requires 3' above grade in Zone X

Florida – Sustained Engagement



Phase 1

Substantial
Damage
Determinations



Phase 2

?



Phase 3

Mitigated/
Resilient/
Compliant
Building

Floodplain Management and Insurance Strategy for California Wildfires

DR-4344-CA

DR-4353-CA



FEMA

FLOOD AFTER FIRE

Did you know that wildfires dramatically alter the terrain and increase the risk of floods?

**Reduce your risk.
The time to buy flood insurance is now.**

Contact your local Insurance agent for more information or visit the National Flood Insurance Program at www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program



During normal conditions, vegetation helps absorb rainwater.



But after an intense wildfire, burned vegetation and charred soil form a water repellent layer, blocking water absorption.



During the next rainfall, water bounces off of the soil.



And as a result, properties located below or downstream of the burn areas are at an increased risk for flooding.



Heavy Rains

Excessive amounts of rainfall can happen throughout the year. Properties directly affected by fires and those located below or downstream of burn areas are most at risk for flooding.



Degree of Land Slope

Higher degrees of land slope speed up water flow and increase flood risk.



Flash Floods

Intense rainfall can flood low lying areas in less than six hours. Flash floods roll boulders, tear out trees and destroy buildings and bridges.



Mudflows

Rivers of liquid and flowing mud are caused by a combination of brush loss and subsequent heavy rains. Rapid snowmelt can also trigger mudflows.



NFIP Policy Counts, changes by county

County	Sep-17	Mar-18	Difference
Butte County	2,715	2,423	-292
Los Angeles County	21,275	19,351	-1,924
Marin County	5,459	8,204	2,745+
Mendocino County	531	633	102+
Napa County	1,951	1,354	-597
Santa Barbara County	4,272	4,757	485+
Sonoma County	3,754	3,581	-173
Sutter County	7,750	5,558	-2,192
Ventura County	7,313	7,381	68+
Yuba County	4,166	3,492	-674

PIFs shed	5,852
PIFs added	3,400
Net change	2,452





QUESTIONS?



FEMA