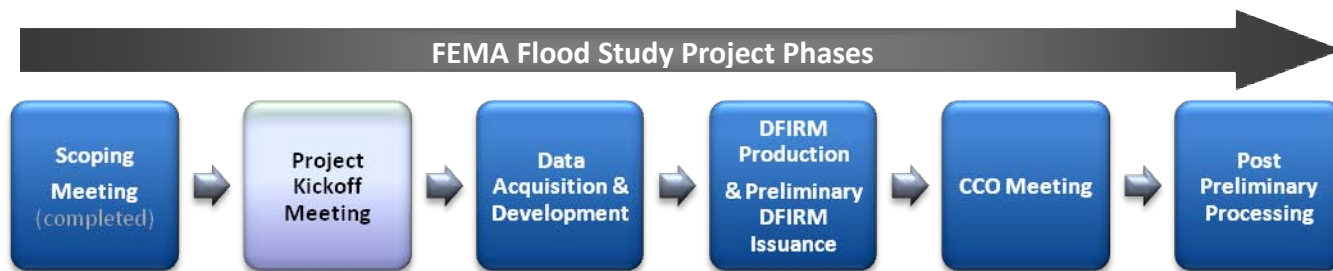


Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Project Kickoff Newsletter



FEMA
Region VI
800 N. Loop 288
Denton, Texas 76209

BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS



Risk MAP Overview

FEMA's Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) program will assist communities nationwide, to assess flood risks, and encourage mitigation planning to avoid or minimize damage in the face of future disasters.

Flood Study Overview

FEMA periodically updates the flood hazard maps to better define potential risks due to flooding. FEMA intends to proactively combine quality engineering with state-of-the-art flood hazard data, and increase public awareness of the risks associated with living in flood prone areas. This awareness will lead to actions that reduce risk and impacts to life and property. The flood hazard maps will be issued to you in the form of a Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM).

Community participation is important at every step of the flood study process including:

- Scoping Phase
- Project Kickoff
- Data Acquisition
- Engineering Analysis
- Floodplain Mapping
- DFIRM Production and Preliminary DFIRM Issuance
- Community Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting
- Post Preliminary Processing

The following is a brief overview of the flood study process:

Data Acquisition: During the Data Acquisition phase Geographic Information System (GIS) and engineering data is collected from communities and other sources to develop the topographic, base map, and engineering data for use in the flood study.

Engineering Analysis: During this step new modeling will be produced to create an Enhanced Product study for each stream. Engineering Analysis provides an elevation at periodic locations along a stream. These elevations will be shown on Enhanced Product streams.

Enhanced Product studies result in a flood zone delineation of "AE", labeled on the DFIRM as "Zone AE", with Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) published on the Preliminary DFIRMs. This product type may include field surveys, mapping of floodways, hydraulic structures, modeling calibration, and multiple flood frequency profiles published in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report that are provided when Preliminary DFIRMs are issued.

Floodplain Mapping: New floodplain boundaries for streams selected for study will be generated based on the elevations determined during the engineering analysis step. These new floodplain boundaries will be drawn on updated topographic (ground elevation) data. The resultant floodplain boundary will describe the extent of flooding and identify the risk. The

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floodplain boundary task also transfers Letters of Map Revision (LOMR) processed since the last map panel update.

Please refer to the attached map to determine which flooding sources in your community are being studied by Enhanced methodology. See Table 1 for the final scope of the project. To view the schedule of deliverables, see Table 2.

DFIRM Production and Preliminary DFIRM Issuance

In addition to a hardcopy printout of your new maps, your community will receive a revised standard DFIRM Database which is a digital version of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map that is designed for use with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software. The DFIRM Database is designed to provide the user with the ability to determine the flood zone, base flood elevation and the floodway status for a particular location (if applicable). It also has NFIP community information, map panel information, cross section and hydraulic structure information and base map information like road, stream, and public land survey data (if applicable).

In addition to the revised DFIRMs you'll be receiving, there will also be an updated Flood Insurance Study (FIS) produced for your county.

Other meetings will be scheduled with you regarding the Flood Study Project for your community. These include: "Over the Shoulder" reviews for Modeling/Draft Mapping and reviewing the draft DFIRMs & FIS. Once the maps are issued Preliminary, a Community Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting may be scheduled.

Next Step: The next step in the study process will be Data Acquisition and Development. A newsletter will follow outlining the different data sources which will be used.

Would you like more information? If you have questions or concerns or would like to discuss any of the steps of preparing the DFIRMs, please contact the DFIRM Production Lead for additional information.

Important Contacts:

DFIRM Production Lead

Stephanie Routh
602-943-1585 x110
srouth@dewberry.com

FEMA Project Monitor

Guy Lowes
940-898-5270
guy.lowes@dhs.gov

Arkansas NFIP Coordinator

Michael Borengasser
501-682-3969

FEMA Mitigation Planning Contact

Patricia Schaffer
940-898-5136

Arkansas Planning Contact

Terry Gray, SHMO
501-683-6700

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Table 1. As a result of the scoping meeting and additional coordination with the communities, the following table summarizes the final scope of the flood study project.

Benton County	
Total length of streams to be studied during this task order	Approximately 14.5 miles
Length of streams studied by enhanced method (Zone AE)	Approximately 14.5 miles
Length of new streams studied by base method (Automated Hydrology & Hydraulics, Zone A)	0 miles
Length of streams being redelineated based on profiles and digital topography (no model update)	0 miles
Length of Floodplain Boundary Standard compliant mileage	Approximately 14.5 miles
Number of panels to be produced with this task order (not including index)	RAMPP Restudy: 6 panels City of Rogers CTP: 6 panels
Scale of panels to be produced with this task order	1" = 1,000'
Hydrologic methodology for streams to be studied in this task order	Effective FIS / Gage Analysis / Regression
Hydraulic methodology for streams to be studied in this task order	HEC-RAS
Topographic sources readily available	2-ft contour data provided by Benton County and Communities

Table 2. The schedule presented in Table 2 is subject to change as necessary. Notification of a schedule change will be sent to all required parties in a timely manner.

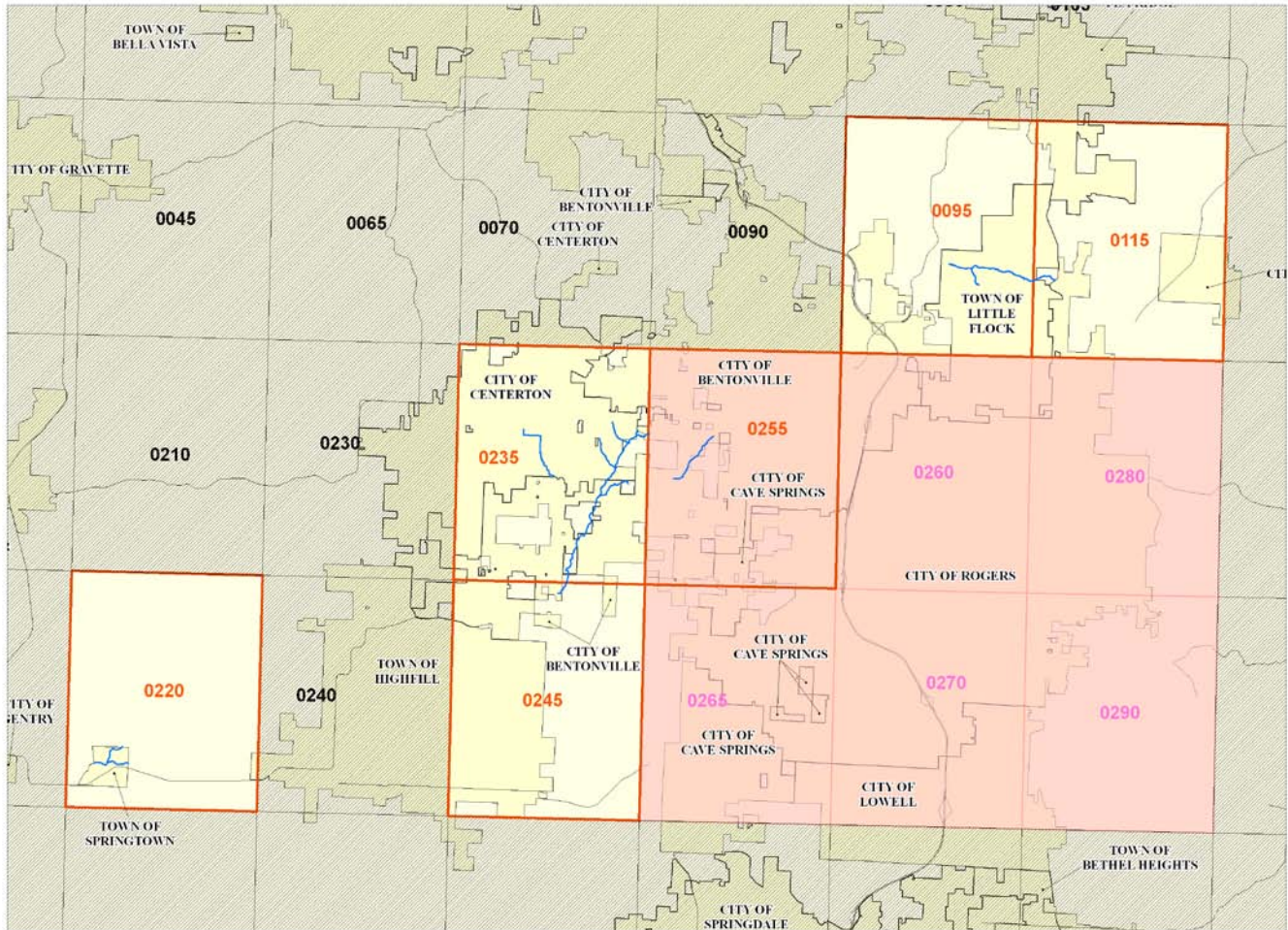
Project Task	Completed by
Base Mapping, Topographic Data Development, and Field Survey	08/30/10
Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis	08/30/10
Floodplain Mapping	09/30/10
Preliminary DFIRM Issuance	11/12/10

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PROPOSED TYPE OF STUDY
Detailed

Legend

- COUNTY
- CITY LIMITS
- MAJOR ROADS

PANEL SCHEME

- Panel Revised by RAMPP Detailed Study
- Panel Revised by City of Rogers CTP Study
- Unrevised Panel