

Discovery Report Appendix B

Pre-Discovery Meeting Presentation

North Country Watersheds

HUCs 04150301-04150308

Report Number 01
March 2020



FEMA

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of Homeland Security
26 Federal Plaza
New York, NY



FEMA

North Country Watersheds Risk MAP Discovery Project

**Pre-Discovery Webinar for Watershed
Stakeholders
July 29, 2019 – August 1, 2019**



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

RiskMAP

Increasing Resilience Together

Agenda

- **Who's Involved & Project Area**
- **FEMA's Risk MAP Program & Discovery process**
 - Results and Products (reports and maps)
 - Base Level Engineering
 - Data Collection
 - Stakeholder Survey form
- **The North Country Watersheds Discovery project**
 - Community participation in the process
 - Identifying additional stakeholders
- **Project Schedule & Next steps**
- **Q&A**



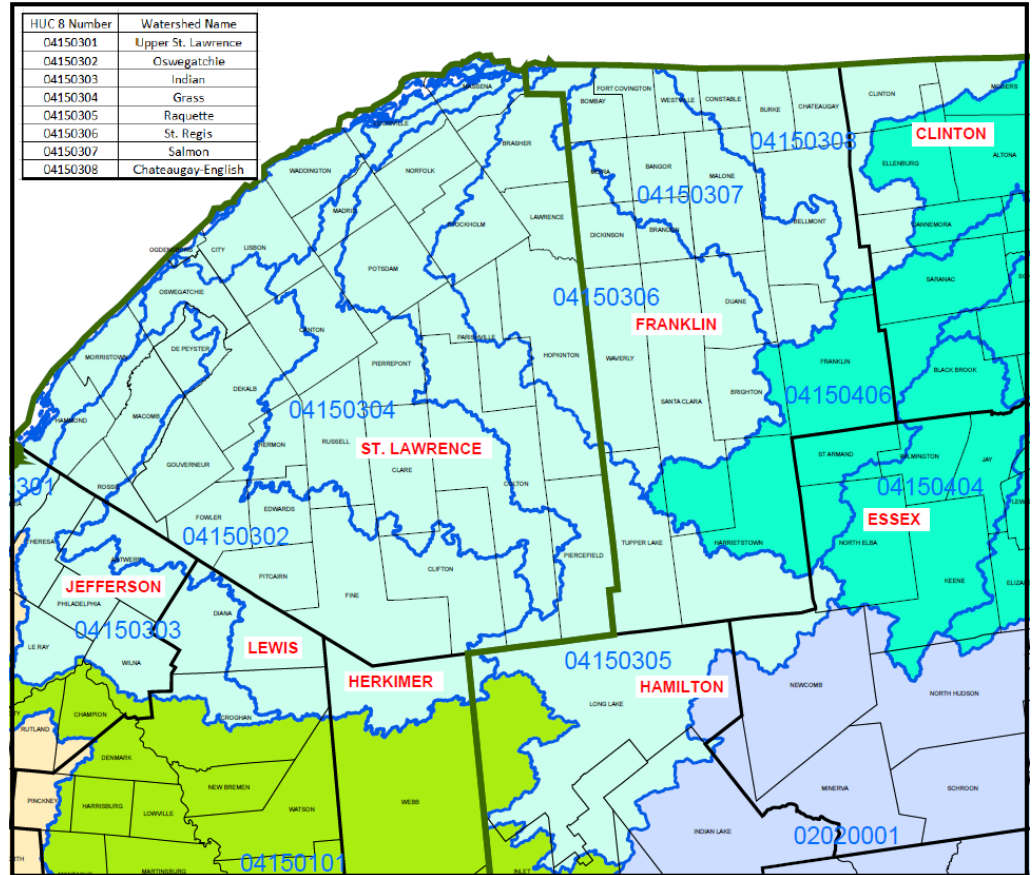
Who's Involved

■ Project Team

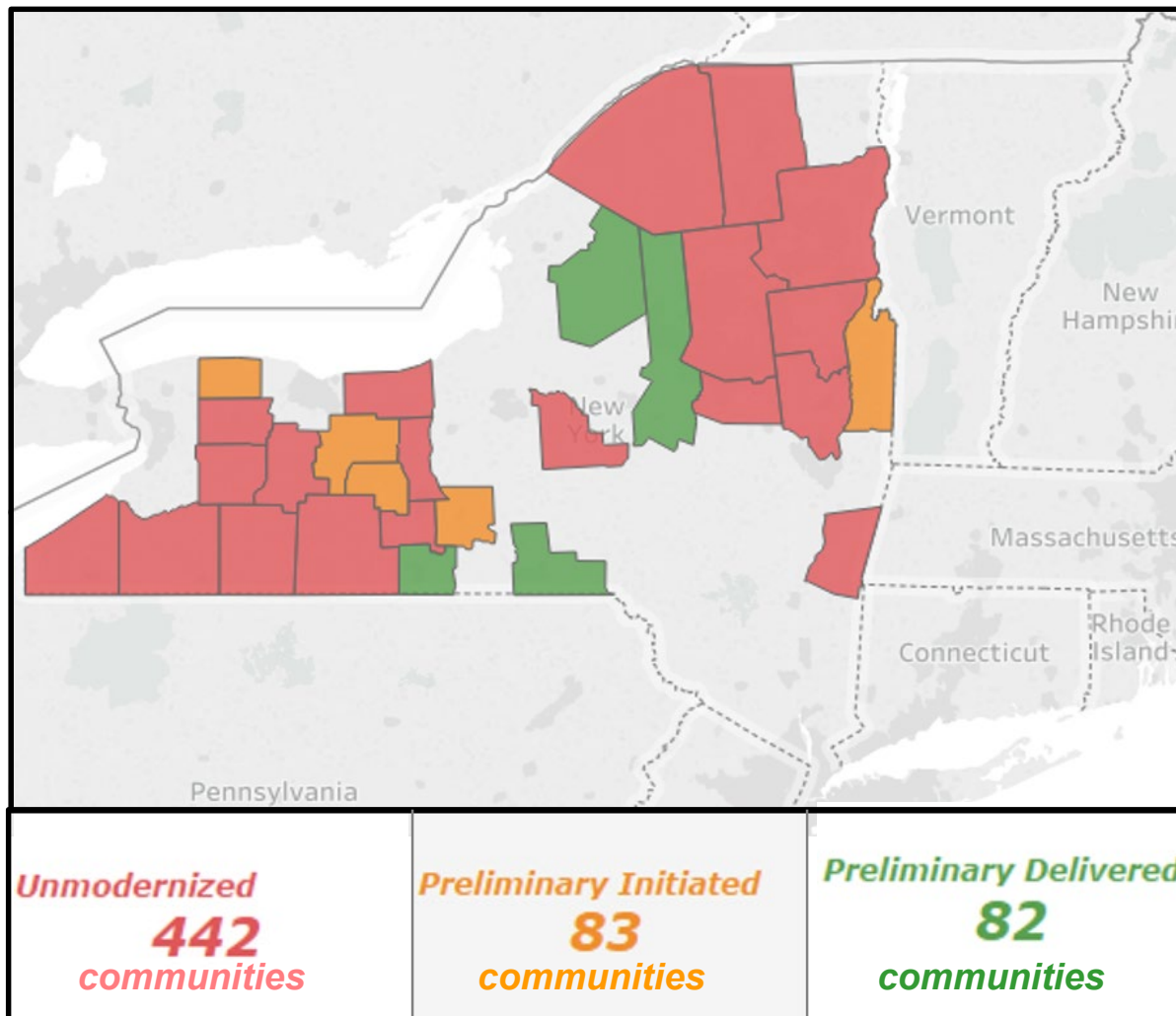
- FEMA
- NYS DEC
- Dewberry

- **Federal, State, Tribal, and Local partners**

- USACE, USGS, NRCS
- ***Communities***
- ***Counties***
- ***Local universities***
- ***Other local and regional organizations/stakeholders***



North Country Watersheds Discovery Project Area



- **5 counties**

- Clinton, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence

- **75 communities**

- Including towns, cities, and villages
 - Town of Indian Lake and Town of Long Lake in neighboring Hamilton County are also included



FEMA's Risk MAP Program

■ Risk MAP

- Mapping – Flood hazard and risk identification
- Assessment – Risk assessment tools
- Planning – Hazard mitigation planning

■ Risk MAP Vision

- Deliver quality data
- Increase public awareness of flood risk
- Encourage local/regional actions that reduce risk



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Risk MAP Discovery Process

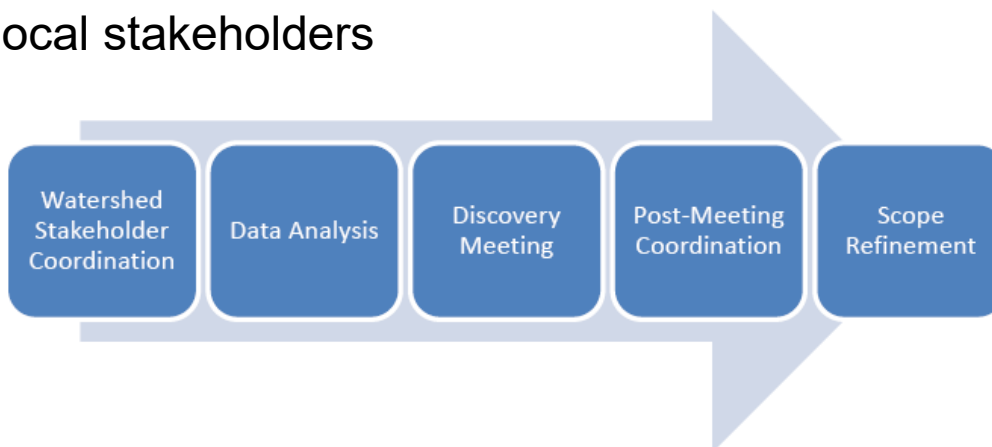
A collaborative process for data collection and analysis with the goal of initiating discussion about local flood risk and prioritizing flood mapping and other needs in a watershed.

Collaboration between:

- Communities/Counties
- State agencies
- Universities
- FEMA/other Federal agencies
- Other local stakeholders

Data collected:

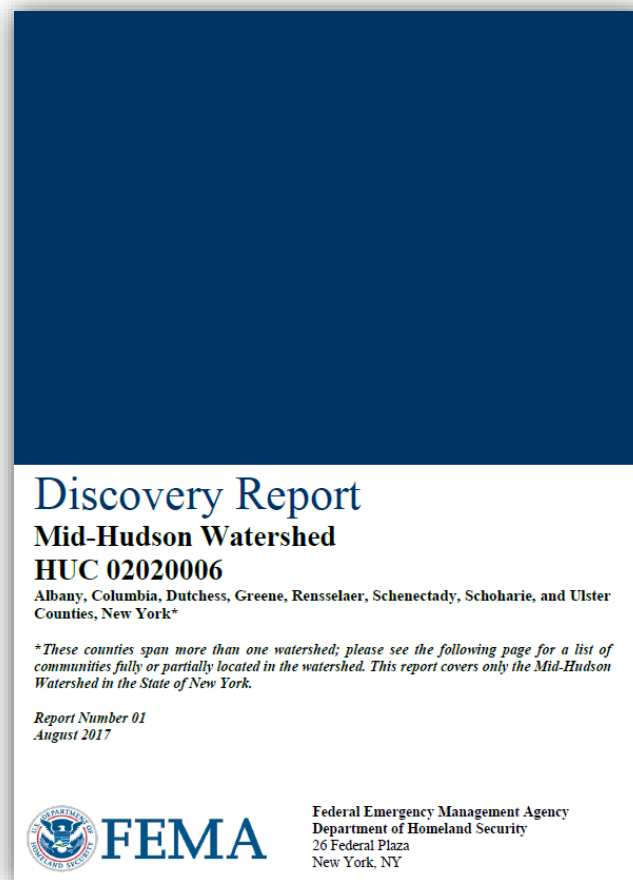
- Historical flooding information
- Existing flood hazard risk assessment
- Mitigation activities and strategies
- Mapping/training needs



Discovery Results and Products

■ Discovery Report

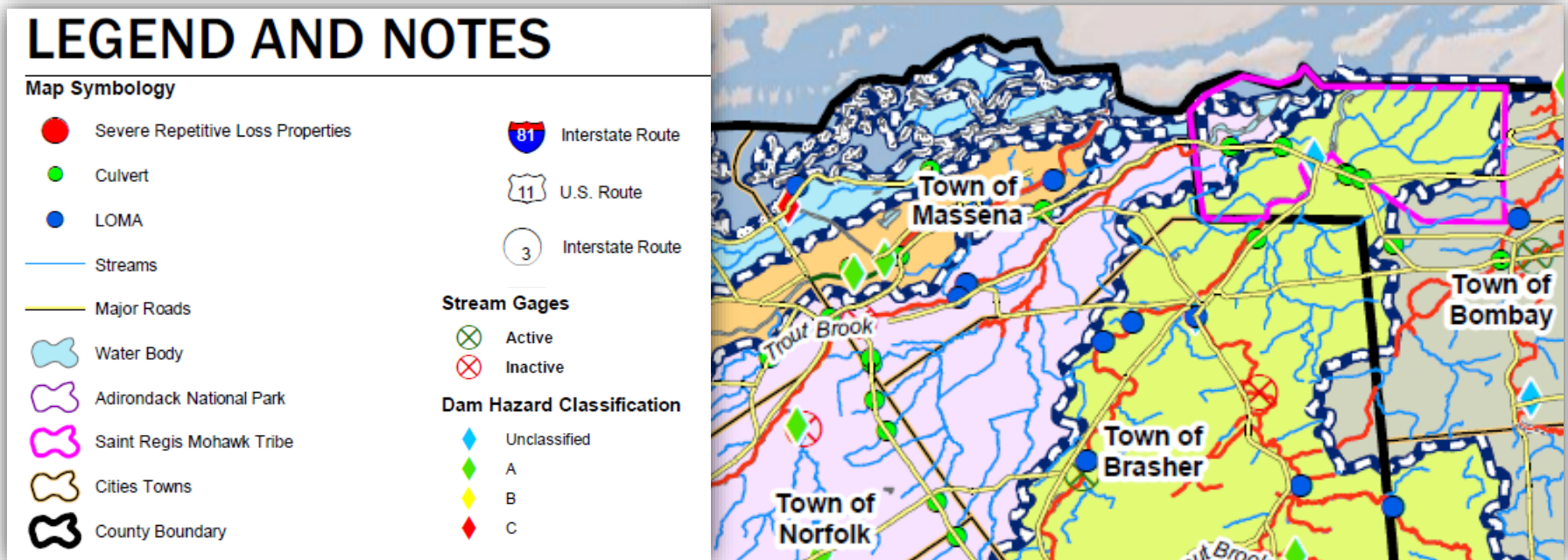
- Comprehensive report that documents Discovery process
- Includes background information and data analysis, meeting agenda, sign-in sheets, discussion topics, decisions made, etc.



Discovery Results and Products

■ Discovery Maps

- Final version includes feedback from participants
- Visual representation of meeting outcomes



Discovery Results and Products

- **With your involvement, this project will ensure that FEMA/NYS DEC are aware of:**
 - Local flooding problems
 - Flood mapping needs
 - Other related issues your community may be facing
- **Input will be used to prioritize needs in the watershed for a Risk MAP project, including updated digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), that may be initiated in the future.**



What is Base Level Engineering?



An investment approach allowing creation of flood hazard data. This approach expands the availability of information to communities currently unmapped and unmodernized.



Engineering analysis across land areas, using high-tech modeling software and high resolution ground data to produce credible engineering analysis for thousands of miles of stream at a time.



Data informing FEMA's continuing assessment of the flood information shown on the nation's FIRMs.



Expedient data delivery, providing useable flood information to communities far ahead of regulatory map updates.



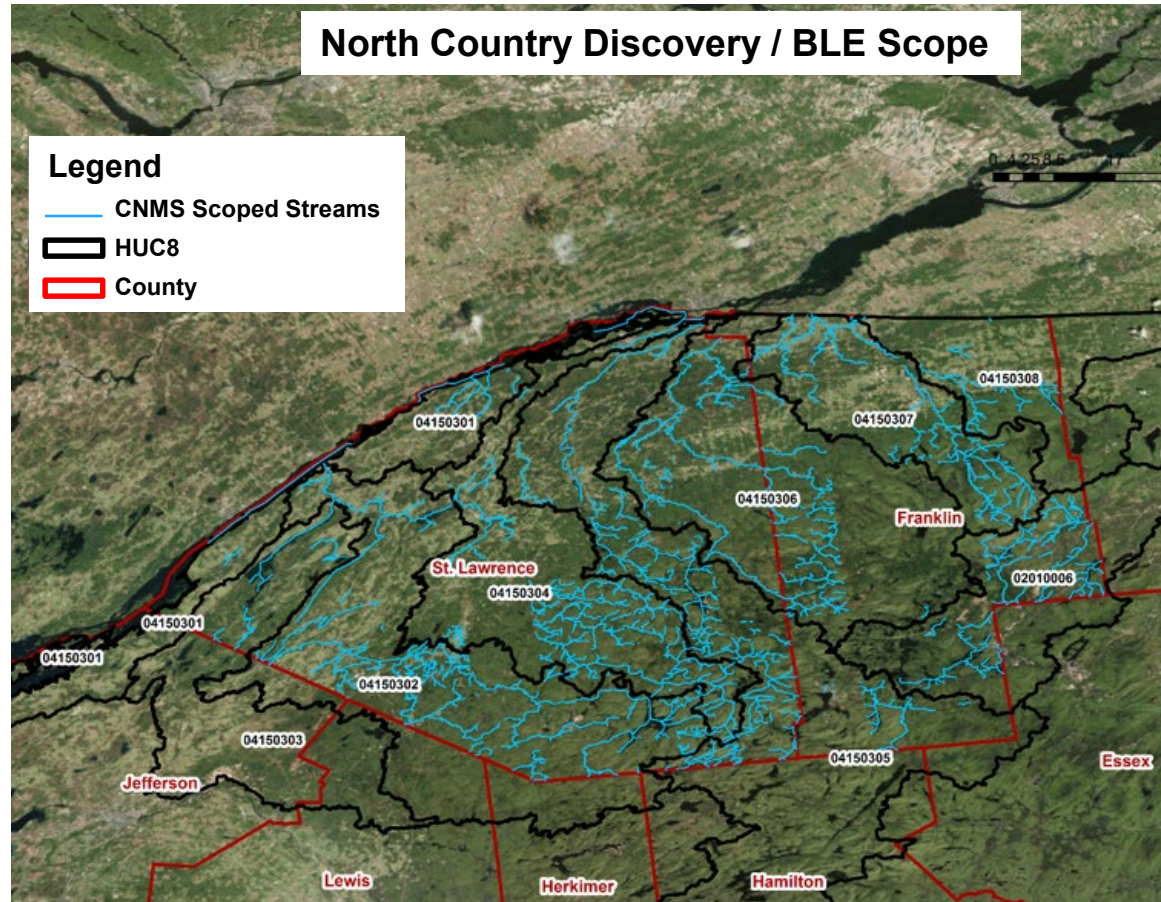
Skeleton engineering models that can be further refined by engineering and development industry professionals working with both FEMA and local communities.



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Base Level Engineering

- St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties
- Population (2010) 163,538
- Housing Units (2010) 77,437



Base Level Engineering

- BLE for portions of nine HUC-8 watersheds: Indian, Chateaugay-English, Upper St. Lawrence, Oswegatchie, Grass, Raquette, St. Regis, Salmon, and Great Chazy-Saranac
- Hydraulic modeling and floodplain mapping :
 - Over 2,000 miles
 - 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+, 1%-, and 0.2% events

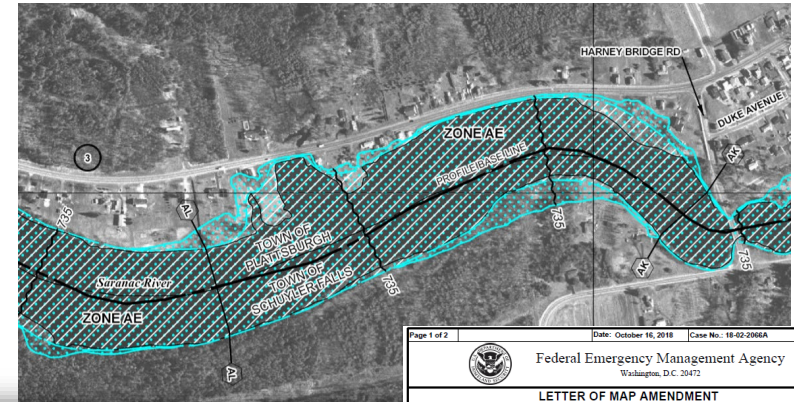
- Hydrologic analysis using USGS Stream Stats

HUC – 04150303 (Indian) - 46 miles
HUC – 04150308 (Chateaugay-English) - 60 miles
HUC – 04150301 (Upper St. Lawrence) - 83 miles
HUC – 04150302 (Oswegatchie) - 420 miles
HUC – 04150304 (Grass) - 336 miles
HUC – 04150305 (Raquette) - 369 miles
HUC – 04150306 (St. Regis) - 290 miles
HUC – 04150307 (Salmon) - 246 miles
HUC – 02010006 (Great Chazy-Saranac) - 177 miles



Discovery Data Collection Process

- NYS DEC is currently gathering background data to prepare draft Discovery Report and Maps
- Your community's /organization's input will be collected through
 - Stakeholder Survey Form
 - Can be mailed/emailed back or completed via Survey Monkey at this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/72P89CR>
 - Upcoming In-Person Discovery Meetings



FEMA

North Country Watersheds: Risk MAP Discovery Project Stakeholder Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete this Discovery Data survey. The Discovery process is designed to provide important information to help the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) better understand flood risk issues and mapping needs in the North Country watersheds, and to help you increase your community's resilience to flooding through implementation of the Risk MAP (Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning) program. Please answer any and all questions to the best of your ability and/or knowledge. Any response can help us assess the risks for your community.

A map of the North Country watersheds can be found at the end of this survey. The map shows the North Country watersheds area and the jurisdictional areas included in the watersheds.

Background
Discovery is the initial phase of a Risk MAP project, in which FEMA and NYSDEC work with local stakeholders to collect data and learn about unique issues in a watershed. This includes gathering information about current flood risk, historical flooding, flood mapping and analysis needs, and local mitigation activities. All information collected will be considered when developing recommendations for future Risk MAP projects. These projects may include the creation of revised flood analyses, maps, or other products that can be used to reduce local flood risk. The Discovery process does not necessarily mean that a new Risk MAP project will take place - rather it is a process by which FEMA and NYSDEC learn about the issues in a watershed and prioritize the need for new studies.

Discovery Meeting
After completion and evaluation of survey responses, a series of in-person Discovery meetings will be held within the North Country watersheds in the late summer or early fall of 2019 to present and discuss the preliminary results, as well as provide an additional opportunity for input.

Completing and Sharing This Survey
We respectfully request that you complete the survey by July 12, 2019 in order for the North Country Discovery team to develop preliminary materials to be reviewed during the in-person Discovery meetings with affected stakeholders. If you have any questions about FEMA's Discovery process or about completing this survey, please contact the North Country Discovery team at NYSDiscovery@dec.state.ny.us. If you believe there are other stakeholders that should receive this survey, please provide their contact information to us and we will send them a copy.

Sending us the Completed Survey
You may complete the survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NorthCountry> or you may mail / e-mail your completed survey form to:
 Philip Hopley
 Dewberry
 8401 Arlington Boulevard, Mail Stop 26
 Fairfax, VA 22031
phopley@dewberry.com (e-mail)

Page 1 of 2 Date: October 16, 2018 Case No.: 18-02-2966A COMM

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Washington, D.C. 20472

**LETTER OF MAP AMENDMENT
DETERMINATION DOCUMENT (REMOVAL)**

COMMUNITY AND MAP PANEL INFORMATION				LEGAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION			
COMMUNITY TOWN OF CANTON, ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY, NEW YORK				A parcel of land, as described in the Deed recorded as instrument No. R-2017-00018623, in the Office of the County Clerk, St. Lawrence County, New York.			
COMMUNITY NO.: 361172							
AFFECTED MAP PANEL NUMBER: 361172B04B DATE: 8/17/1998							
FLOODING SOURCE: GRASS RIVER				APPROXIMATE LATITUDE & LONGITUDE OF PROPERTY: 44.880181, -75.176283 SOURCE OF LAT & LONG: COMA LOGIC OUTLINE: NAD 83			
DETERMINATION							
LOT	BLOCK/SECTION	SUBDIVISION	STREET	OUTCOME WHAT IS REMOVED FROM THE SFHA	FLOOD ZONE	1% ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD ELEVATION (NGVD 29)	LOWEST ADJACENT GRADE ELEVATION (NGVD 29)
---	---	---	85 Riverside Drive	Structure	X (unshaded)	---	325.9 feet

Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) - The SFHA is an area that would be inundated by the flood having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (base flood).

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS (Please refer to the appropriate section in Attachment 1 for the additional considerations listed below.)
PORTIONS REMAIN IN THE FLOODWAY

This document provides the Federal Emergency Management Agency's determination regarding a request for a Letter of Map Amendment for the property described above. Using the information submitted and the effective National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) map, we have determined that the structure(s) on the property(ies) above is/are located in the SFHA, an area inundated by the flood having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (base flood). This document provides the effective NFIP map to remove the subject property from the SFHA located on the effective NFIP map; therefore, the Federal mandatory flood insurance requirement does not apply - however, the owner has the option to continue the flood insurance requirement to protect its financial well-being in the risk. A preferred risk rating (PRR) is available for buildings located outside the SFHA. Information about the PRR and how one can apply is enclosed.

This determination is based on the flood data presently available. The enclosed documents provide additional information regarding this determination. If you have any questions about this document, please contact the FEMA Map Information eXchange (PMI), toll free at (877) 335-2627 (877-FEMA MAP) or by letter addressed to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Engineering Library, 3601 Eisenhower Ave. PM 502, Alexandria, VA 22304-4426.

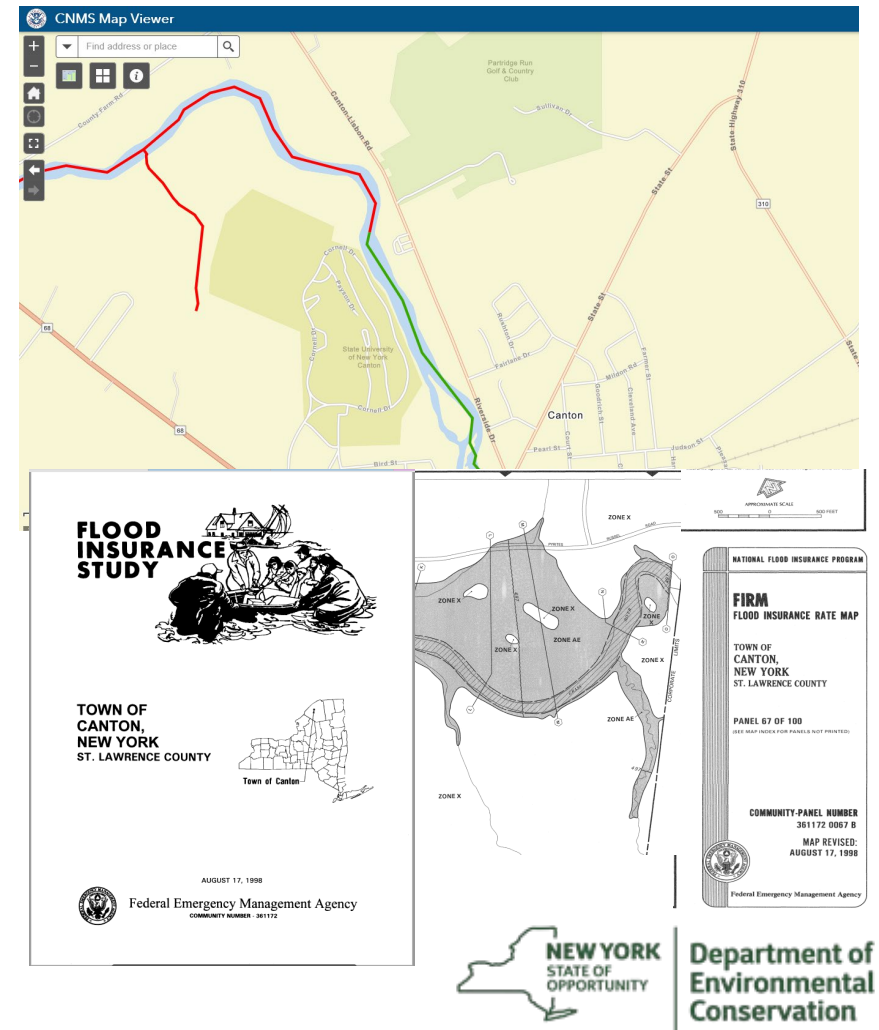
Lisa M. Rodriguez, P.E., Director
Engineering and Modeling Division
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration



Data Collection: Background Data

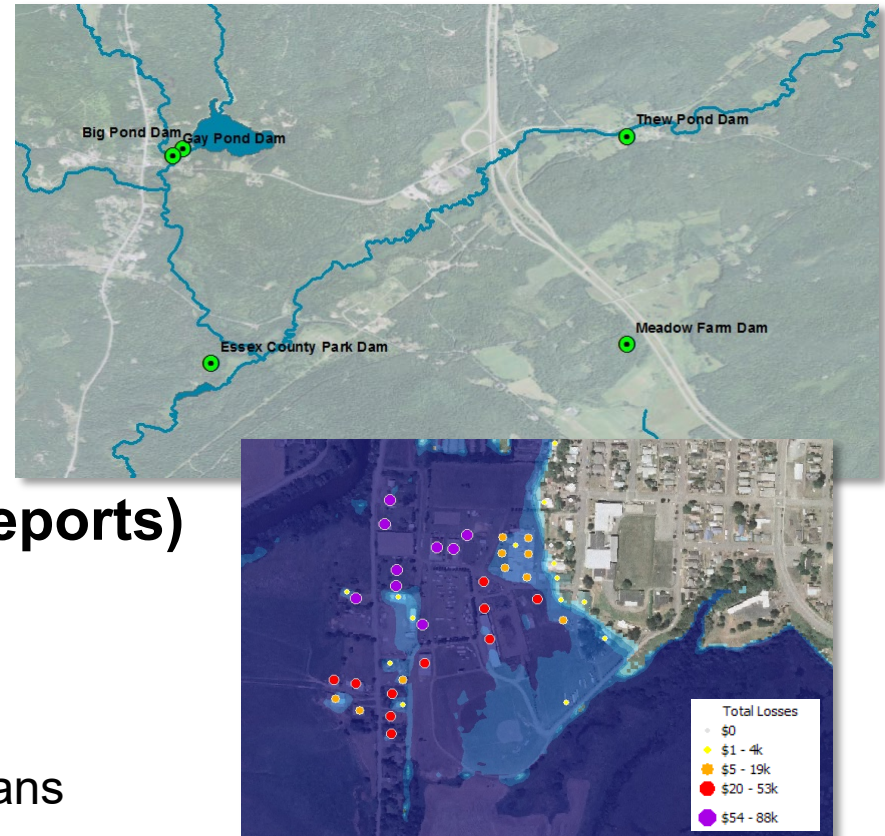
■ Flood Data

- FIRMs/DFIRMS and Flood Insurance Study reports
- Community Rating System class
- Stream/lake locations
- Repetitive loss data
- Flood insurance policies and claim information
- Letters of Map Amendment and Letters of Map Revision
- Clusters of Letters of Map Change
- Coordinated Needs Management Strategy information



Data Collection: Background Data

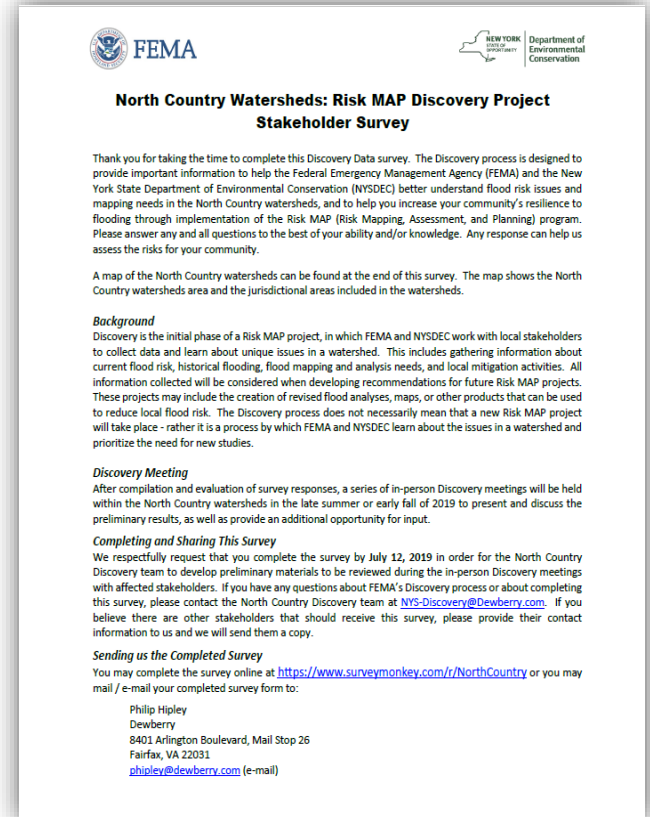
- **Census information**
- **Transportation features**
- **State & Federal lands**
- **Stream Gages**
- **Topography & Bathymetry**
- **Dams (GIS and Dam Specific Reports)**
- **Federal and State Disasters**
- **Additional Studies:**
 - FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plans
 - Community Ordinances



Stakeholder Survey: What information do we need from you?

- **FIRM inconsistencies**
- **Historical flooding problems**
- **Recent/ongoing mitigation projects/activities**
- **Planning and development activities**
- **Availability of GIS and other data**
- **Training needs**
- **Other people/organizations you think should be involved in project**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/72P89CR>



Flood Mapping Needs / Historical Flood Problems

The more detail, the better!

■ Inaccurate FIRMs:

- Are there areas within your community where the FEMA FIRMs are not accurate or where significant change has impacted maps (e.g., culvert replacements)?

■ Historical Flooding Problems

- When have areas within your community flooded? What streams/areas were affected?

Question

Describe any inaccuracies related to the Special Flood Hazard Areas shown on your community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM):

Include the names of streams / reaches that need to be studied or restudied (*including starting and ending locations*), and the type of location (*e.g., rural, urban, suburban, commercial development area, residential area, development pressures*).

Please also rank how you would prioritize any updates needed.

Describe your community's experience with past flood disasters and flood disaster recovery:

When have areas within your community flooded?

What streams / areas were affected?

Community Planning, Ongoing Projects, and Mitigation Activities

- **How has the floodplain changed?**
- **Community development and future development pressure**
 - DOT projects (e.g., bridge and culvert replacements)
 - Commercial or industrial development
- **Mitigation Activities**
 - Property buyouts
 - Stream restoration activities
 - Flood control projects

Question
Are there any recent ongoing or proposed projects, such as DOT, USACE, NRCS or privately funded projects (including bridge and culvert replacements) since the last FIRM revision for your community? ☐ Yes ☐ No <i>If yes, what is the type of project? Where is it located? Who is the Point of Contact for additional information?</i>
Are there areas where there has been recent residential, commercial, or industrial development or that is likely to have future development pressures? ☐ Yes ☐ No <i>If yes, please describe, including the nature and location of the development, the total project size in acres and, if appropriate, the number and size of lots.</i>

Community Data

Data Type	Availability / Format
<u>Political boundaries:</u>	☐ Not Available ☐ Paper/Hard Copy ☐ GIS Format (e.g. shapefile) ☐ Other Digital Format
<u>Transportation features:</u>	☐ Not Available ☐ Paper/Hard Copy ☐ GIS Format (e.g. shapefile) ☐ Other Digital Format
<u>Parcel and zoning data:</u>	☐ Not Available ☐ Paper/Hard Copy ☐ GIS Format (e.g. shapefile) ☐ Other Digital Format
<u>Building footprints:</u>	☐ Not Available ☐ Paper/Hard Copy ☐ GIS Format (e.g. shapefile) ☐ Other Digital Format

■ GIS and technical data

- Base map data
- Engineering data
- Risk assessment data

North Country Watersheds Discovery Meeting Invitees

- **Compiled list of community and county officials, including:**

- Chief Executive Officers (i.e., Mayor, Supervisor)
- Code Enforcement Officers
- Building Inspectors, Zoning Officials
- Local Floodplain Administrators
- City and County Engineers
- Conservation Districts
- Other Local/Regional Organizations



North Country Watersheds Discovery Meeting Invitees

- **Need your help to identify others who should be invited to Discovery Meetings**

- Watershed associations
- Conservation groups
- Real Estate agents
- Insurance agents
- Chambers of commerce
- Others



Project Schedule & Next Steps

■ July 8-23, 2019

- Webinar invites (and reminders) sent

■ Today (August 1, 2019)

- Pre-Discovery and Risk MAP Program Overview

■ Through August and into September

- Complete the Stakeholders Survey form
- Verify and identify community contacts to attend in-person Discovery Meetings
- Determine locations and dates for in-person Discovery Meetings

■ September 17-19, 2019

- In-Person Discovery Meetings (look for invites in the upcoming weeks)

■ Late Fall 2019

- Final Discovery Report and Maps



Contacts

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202.702.4273

- Stephanie Gootman

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202.802.3137



- Katie Zajic

kzajic@dewberry.com

703.208.1749

Thank you for your participation!

Your involvement in this project is critical to ensure we are aware of local flooding problems and needs and prioritize future Risk MAP projects appropriately.





FEMA

Questions?



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