

Discovery Report Appendix F

Discovery Flyers

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



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

North Country Watersheds Risk MAP Discovery Project

Join us in capturing a more complete picture of flood risk in your community and watershed.

The FEMA Risk MAP Program

Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) is the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program that provides communities with quality flood maps and other tools they can use to enhance their mitigation plans and take action to reduce flood risk. As part of the Risk MAP program, FEMA, in partnership with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), has started a Risk MAP Discovery project for the North Country watersheds.

North Country Discovery Project

The Discovery process of FEMA's Risk MAP program is about the "discovery" of flood hazards and flood risk in a particular watershed. As part of the North Country watersheds Discovery project, FEMA and NYSDEC will work closely with local communities and organizations to collect information about flooding issues and flood mitigation activities; flood mapping needs; recent development; and other issues related to flood risk. The Discovery process helps communities identify areas at risk for flooding and solutions for reducing that risk.

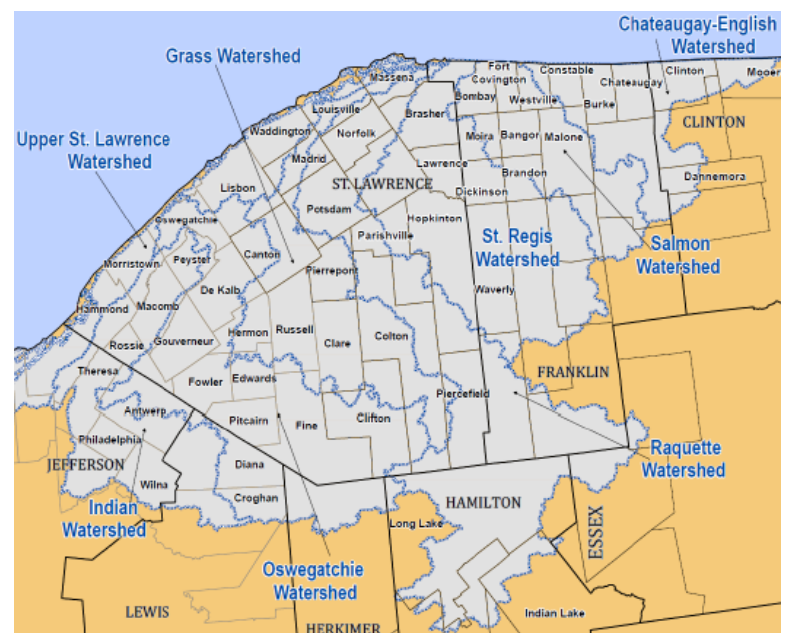
The project team is currently collecting watershed-wide data and will coordinate with local stakeholders to obtain additional data about flood risk. The information collected during this Discovery process will be used to develop recommendations for a future Risk MAP project that may be initiated if funding is available. Such a follow up project could include the creation of digital flood maps, risk assessment, and/or mitigation planning assistance. The Discovery process does not necessarily mean that a new Risk MAP project will take place – instead, it is the process through which FEMA and NYSDEC learn about local flooding issues and prioritize the need for new studies.

Upcoming Discovery Meeting!

FEMA and NYSDEC are hosting 4 Discovery Meetings in these watersheds soon – **see details on next page**. During the meetings, we will review the flood risk data collected, discuss your community's floodplains, mitigation plans, flood risk concerns, and the vision of the watershed's future. Attendees will be able to meet one-on-one with project team members to discuss local flooding issues, provide feedback on their community's existing floodplain maps and learn more about programs and activities that may help reduce flood risk.

Attend an Upcoming Discovery Meeting - See Details on Next Page

This is your opportunity to ensure that FEMA and NYSDEC are aware of local flooding issues and flood mapping needs. Make sure your community's voice is heard!



Discovery Meetings - RSVP Today!

RSVP for any of the North Country Watersheds Discovery Meetings listed below by contacting Phil Hipley of the project team by email at phibley@dewberry.com or by phone at (703) 849-0477.

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019

9 am – 11:45 am

*Gouverneur Community Center
4673 State Highway 58, Gouverneur*

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019

2:15 pm - 5 pm

*Potsdam Town Hall
18 Elm Street, Potsdam*

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019

9 am – 11:45 am

*Massena Town Hall
60 Main Street, Massena*

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019

2:15 pm - 5 pm

*Franklin County Emergency Services Building
55 Bare Hill Road, Malone*

Discovery Data Collection: You Can Help!

FEMA and NYSDEC are currently gathering information from local communities and organizations in the watershed such as yours as part of the Discovery data collection process. Some of the types of information that you can help with are listed in the box to the right. We would appreciate your participation in the data collection process by completing the Discovery Stakeholder Survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/72P89CR> *before the Discovery Meetings* if possible.

If you'd prefer to complete and send in the survey by standard mail or email, contact Phil Hipley of the project team by email at phibley@dewberry.com or by phone at (703) 849-0477 to request a fillable PDF copy of the survey.

How can this project help your community and your watershed?

Input from local communities and organizations is very important because it will ensure that FEMA and NYSDEC are aware of flooding problems, flood mapping needs, and other related issues that communities in the watershed are facing. Your input will be used to prioritize needs for a future Risk MAP project (e.g., to develop revised flood analysis, mapping, or other tools) that may be initiated if funding permits.

Because flood hazards change over time, this project provides an opportunity for community officials and other stakeholders to take a comprehensive look at the activities and factors that contribute to your community's and your watershed's flood risk. In addition to providing another perspective, participating in this process will increase your understanding of your flood risk and help you identify proactive steps you can take to protect your community from losses to life and property that often accompany flooding.

Examples of Information You Can Help Us With ...

- *Current / Historical flooding problems*
- *Flood map inaccuracies / Other mapping needs*
- *High water marks*
- *Recent flood mitigation activities*
- *Planning / Development activities*
- *Infrastructure information, especially for new bridges, culverts, and dams*
- *Availability of GIS data*
- *Training needs*
- *Other people / organizations to involve*

About NYSDEC

NYSDEC partners with FEMA as a Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP), to maintain the state's flood maps and assist in the development of related flood risk information. The CTP program creates partnerships between FEMA, communities, and regional and state agencies to become more active participants in FEMA's Risk MAP program. For questions about this project or the state's Floodplain Management program, contact the NYSDEC team at (518) 402-8185 or Floodplain@dec.ny.gov.

Flood Maps Matter!

FEMA and NYSDEC are currently gathering information to create and/or update digital flood maps, if funding is available.

Flood Maps Issued Per Year

2007 – Clinton (Town), Ellenburg (Town), Mooers (Town)

1998 – Canton (Town)

1997 – Gouverneur (Village)

1996 – Potsdam (Village)

1994 – Canton (Village)

1993 – Philadelphia (Village)

1989 – Fowler (Town), Philadelphia (Town)

1987 – Tupper Lake (Village)

1986 – Antwerp (Town), Brasher (Town), Brushton (Village), Burke (Town), Clifton (Town), Dickinson (Town), Massena (Town), Moira (Town), Norfolk (Town), Norwood (Village), Potsdam (Town), Stockholm (Town), Waddington (Town)

1985 – Colton (Town), Croghan (Town), Fine (Town), Indian Lake (Town), Malone (Town), Oswegatchie (Town), Parishville (Town), Theresa (Town), Theresa (Village), Waverly (Town), Westville (Town)

1984 – Diana (Town), Harrisville (Village), Long Lake (Town), Piercefield (Town), Rensselaer Falls (Village), Richville (Village)

1983 – Fort Covington (Town)

1982 – Clare (Town), De Peyster (Town), Edwards (Town), Rossie (Town), Gouverneur (Town), Morristown (Town), Pitcairn (Town), Hopkinton (Town)

1980 – Massena (Village), Ogdensburg (City)

1979 – Waddington (Village)

1978 – Malone (Village)

1976 – Antwerp (Village)

Status of Your Hazard Mitigation Plan

FEMA requires state, tribal, and local governments to develop and adopt Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMP) as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. Jurisdictions must update their HMPs and re-submit them for FEMA approval every 5 years to maintain eligibility. FEMA offers planning grants that support state, tribal, and local governments in developing and updating mitigation plans.

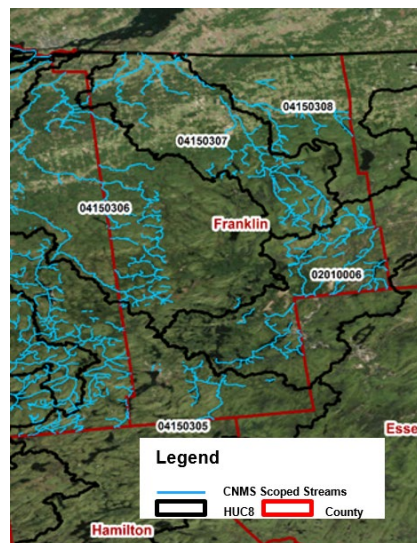
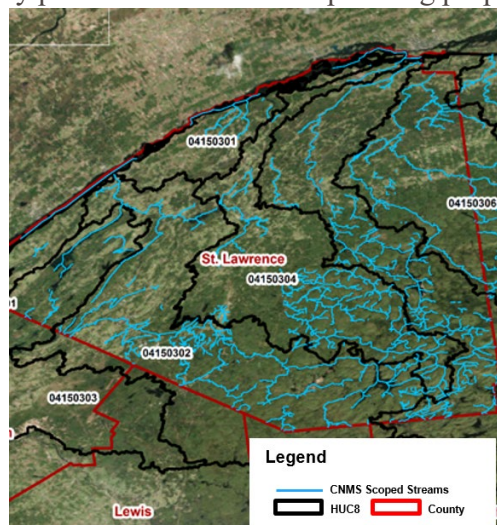
Hazard Mitigation Plan Date

- Clinton County – March 2014*
- Franklin County – 2015
- Hamilton County – none
- Jefferson County – January 2011*
- Lewis County – November 2010*
- St. Lawrence County – November 2015

* Updated draft not yet submitted

Base Level Engineering for St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties

Base Level Engineering (BLE) is a key component of Discovery projects. The availability of BLE information provides FEMA a data-based starting point for conversations with the local communities about existing risk and mitigation strategies. The BLE datasets provide tangible datasets for more effective interaction with local communities to identify and understand areas where the current flood map does not adequately identify flood risk. Communities are provided the BLE datasets during the Discovery phase for local use and planning purposes.



YOUR COMMUNITY YOUR VOICE

FEMA and NYSDEC are hosting Discovery Meetings as an initial step in the **Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP)** process in your area on September 18th and 19th

This is **your opportunity** to have your voice heard about flood hazard and flood risk issues facing your community. You will have the chance to voice your questions and concerns about:

- Risk MAP and the Risk MAP process
- FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)
- Floodplain boundaries
- Flood insurance
- Hydrologic studies
- Seasonal flooding hazards
- Disaster event-based flooding
- Flood-impacted infrastructure (overtopped bridges, undersized culverts, washed out roads, etc.)
- Community mapping needs

Consider this a hazard mitigation brain storming session—come prepared with any and all ideas and concerns to improve your community's hazard resiliency

What to Expect

- FEMA and NYSDEC representatives and flooding and mapping experts will host Discovery Meetings for multiple communities within the North Country watersheds
- A brief presentation will be given about the Risk MAP process and the Discovery project
- Individual questions and concerns will be discussed in small break-out groups. This is your opportunity to address what you would like to see for your community and learn about what FEMA products, processes, and funding can be used to best help your community's specific needs
- Your input will be summarized, prioritized, and considered in planning future North Country Risk MAP projects

Who Should Attend

- Community officials, Code Enforcement Officers, and Floodplain Administrators
- Planners and GIS Technicians
- EMS Coordinators
- Local hazard mitigation experts
- Anyone familiar with local flooding issues and hazard mitigation needs
- Anyone with questions or concerns about the Risk MAP process and outcomes
- Anyone who wants their voice heard regarding future hazard mitigation efforts in the North Country

Your participation is vital for us to understand your mapping and mitigation needs!

Please plan to attend, and respond to the survey here in advance of the meetings:

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

Contact Phil Hipley at phipley@dewberry.com with any further questions