



# Flood Risk Project

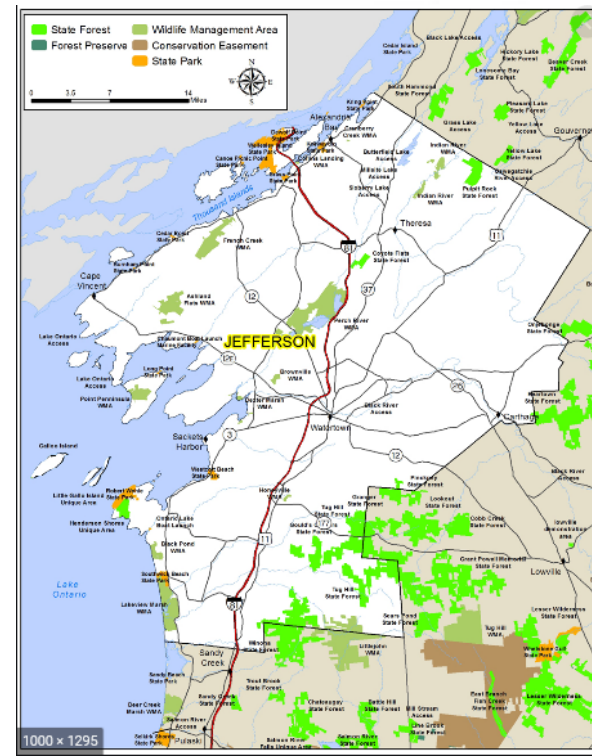
## Jefferson County, NY

### Project Kick Off Meeting

February 9, 2021



# FEMA



# Please Introduce Yourself (...in the chat!)



- ▶ **Name**
- ▶ **Role**
- ▶ **Organization**

*As partners with FEMA, it's important we create dialogue about your needs for flood risk information.*

**Also, what do Jefferson communities aspire to accomplish using today's meeting?**



**FEMA**

# Today's Goals

1

The value of updated flood hazard information

2

Recap of Flood Risk Study history, including Discovery and Great Lakes Coastal Study

3

Review county-wide study scope, products and outreach process

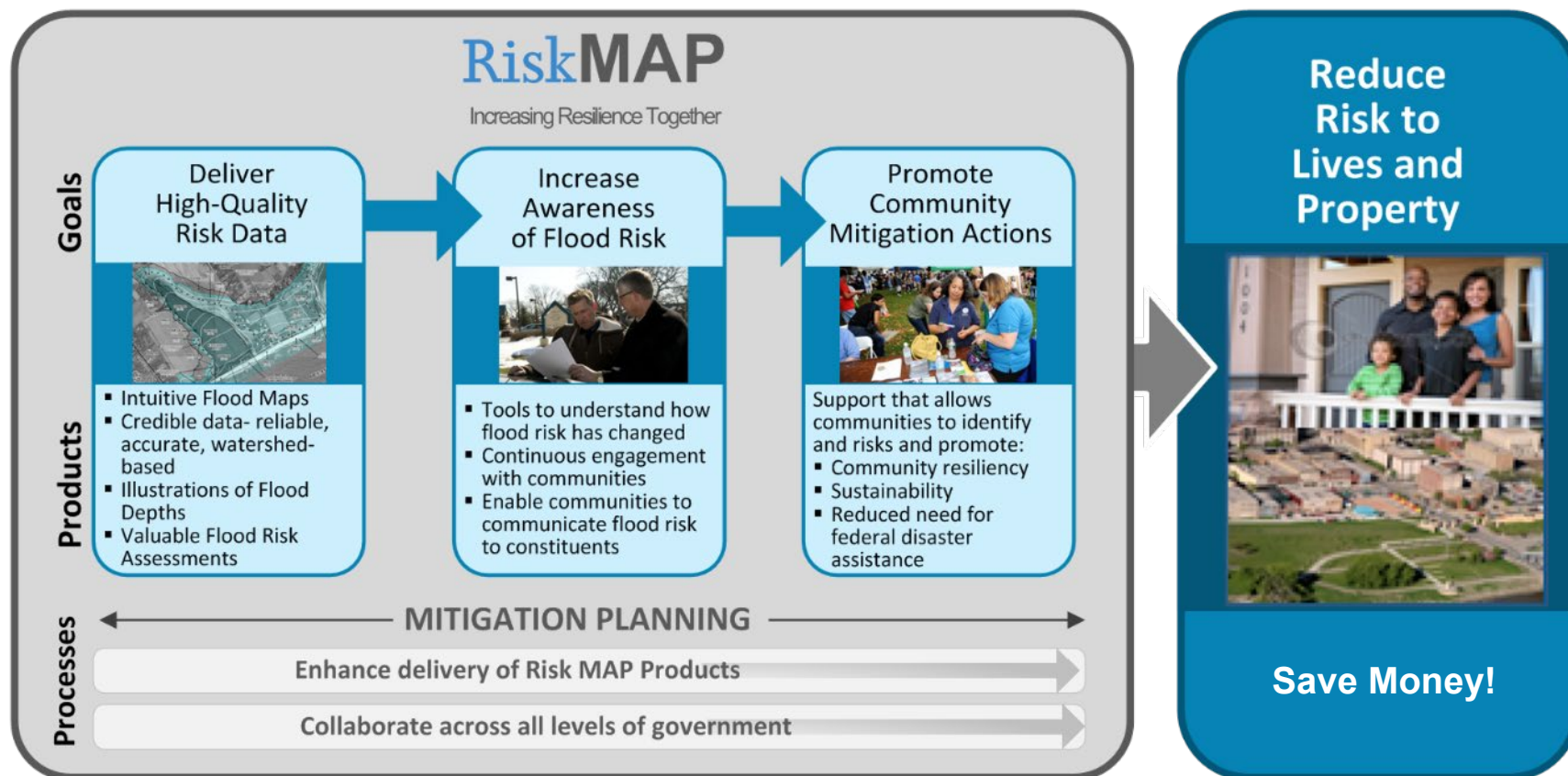


FEMA

# FEMA Mitigation Division

## Risk Analysis Branch

Goal: Stronger and Safer Communities



FEMA





# The Value of Updated Flood Maps for Local Communities

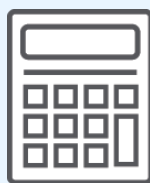


**FEMA**

# Flood Maps Promote Progress By:



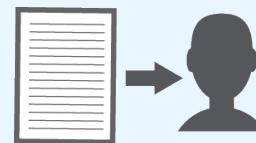
**Identifying  
and  
Assessing  
Flood Risk**



**Informing  
Flood  
Insurance  
Rates**



**Advising  
Local Land  
Use**



**Guiding  
Engineers  
and  
Developers**



**Equipping  
Emergency  
Managers**



**FEMA**

# Why we are here

We want to help communities understand flood risk and take action to reduce it because...

## Risk changes over time

- All floods are different. Nature and communities change.

## Flooding happens

- Communities may face flooding. Is your community proactive or reactive to flood risk?

## Mitigation is Possible

- Proactive communities plan to reduce flood impacts and other hazards.

# Why Update Flood Maps?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) manages the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

NFIP Policies for Jefferson communities	NFIP Claims for affected communities	FEMA Insurance Claims Paid in affected communities	Hazard Mitigation Plan Status
381	283 since 1978	\$2,401,258	Expired



FEMA





# How Did We Get Here?

## Review past activities

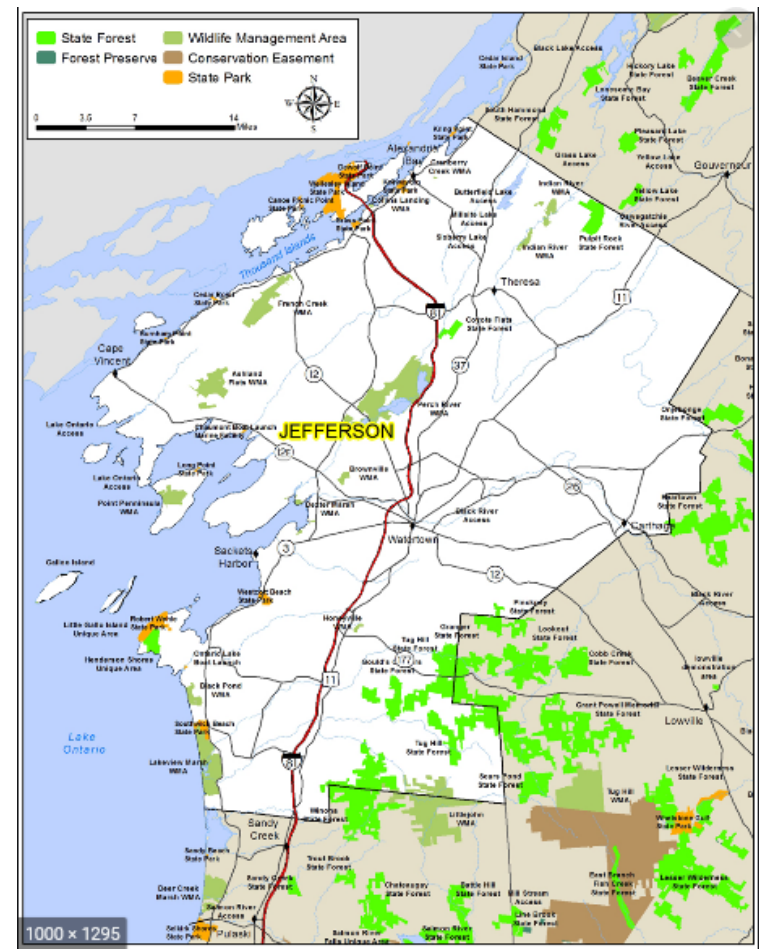


FEMA

# Discovery / Post-Discovery Progress Recap

## North Country Watersheds

- ▶ Meetings held in September 2019
- ▶ Discovery project completed in March 2020
- ▶ Community input guided FEMA priorities
- ▶ Jefferson County's Highest Priorities included:
  - Indian River – 3 separate approximate study reaches totaling 10.70 miles (overstated SFHAs; some include areas elevated 50' above the river)
  - Indian River – 1 detailed study reach, 1.5 miles long (SFHA inaccuracies near village office, lift stations, wastewater treatment plant, and Sand Street / railroad area)



FEMA

# Discovery / Post-Discovery Progress Recap

## Lake Ontario Watersheds

- ▶ Meetings held in November 2013
- ▶ Discovery project completed in July 2016
- ▶ Community input guided FEMA priorities
- ▶ Jefferson County's Highest Priorities included:
  - Black Creek
  - Black River
  - Chaumont River
  - French Creek
  - Mullet Creek
  - Perch River
  - Sandy Creek
  - Stony Creek



## Discovery Report

**Lake Ontario – Headwaters to the  
St. Lawrence River Watershed  
HUC 04150309**

Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties, New York\*

*\*These counties span more than one watershed; please see the following page for a list of communities fully or partially located in the watershed. This report covers only the Headwaters to the St. Lawrence River Watershed in the State of New York.*

Report Number 01  
July 2016



**FEMA**

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



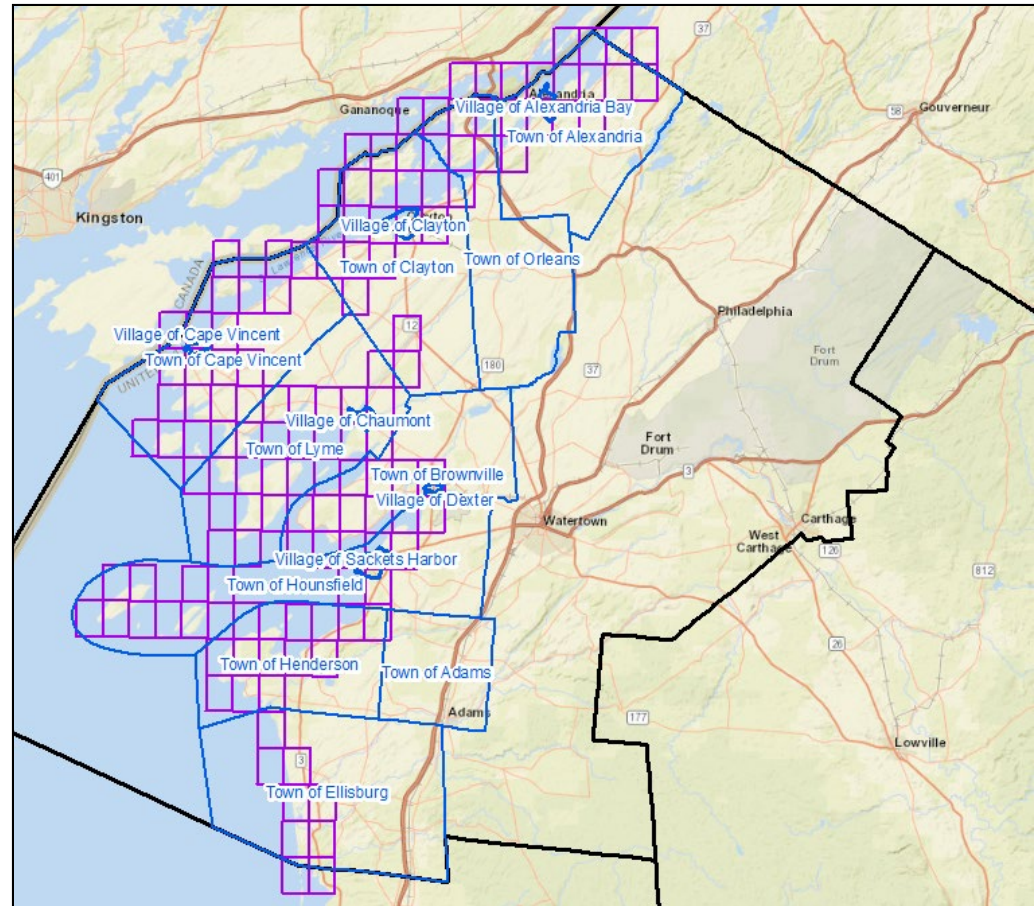
**FEMA**



# Leveraged Mapping

## Recap – Great Lakes Coastal Study

- ▶ Flood Risk Review meetings held in July 2017
  - 16 Coastal Jefferson County Communities
  - 315 miles of shoreline (Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River)
  - Coastal Storm Flooding update
  - 2015 USGS NY Great Lakes LiDAR
  - [Draft Data Viewer](#)
- ▶ Any local data FEMA could leverage?
  - Culvert/Bridge data
  - Topographic/elevation
  - Local Dam/levee (operation plans and EAPs)
  - Local flood/drainage studies done for development planning



FEMA



# **What Is Being Studied Now?**

Discuss scope of new study

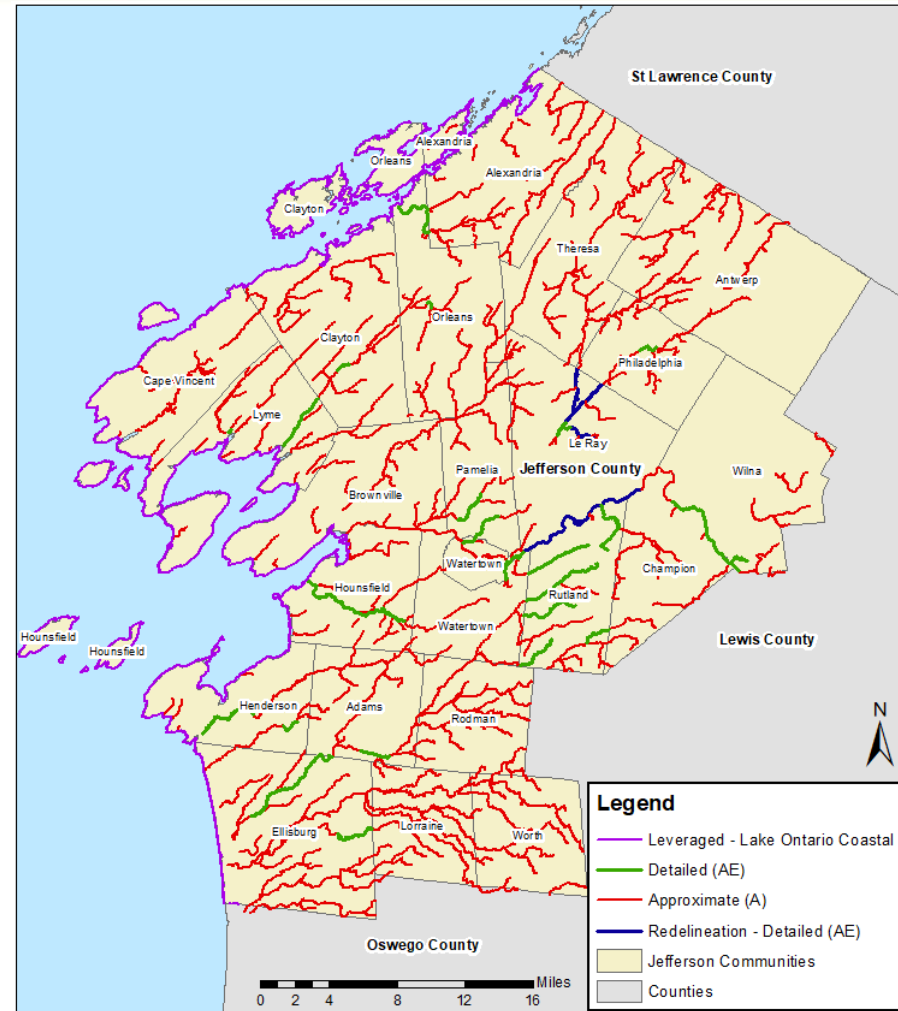


**FEMA**



# Jefferson County, Countywide Flood Risk Study Scope

- ▶ **First time digital maps**
- ▶ **Additional flooding sources analyzed**
  - Detailed studies (AE Zone) - 23 streams (76.2 miles), 1 lake (1.3 miles)
  - Approximate (A) studies – multiple streams, 860 miles
  - Leveraged Lake Ontario Coastal Mapping – 315 shoreline miles
  - Redelineation (AE) – 4 streams, 20 miles
- ▶ **40 updated communities**
- ▶ **255 map panels**
- ▶ **Review meetings**
  - Hydrology Meeting
  - Hydraulics Meeting
  - Flood Risk Review Meeting

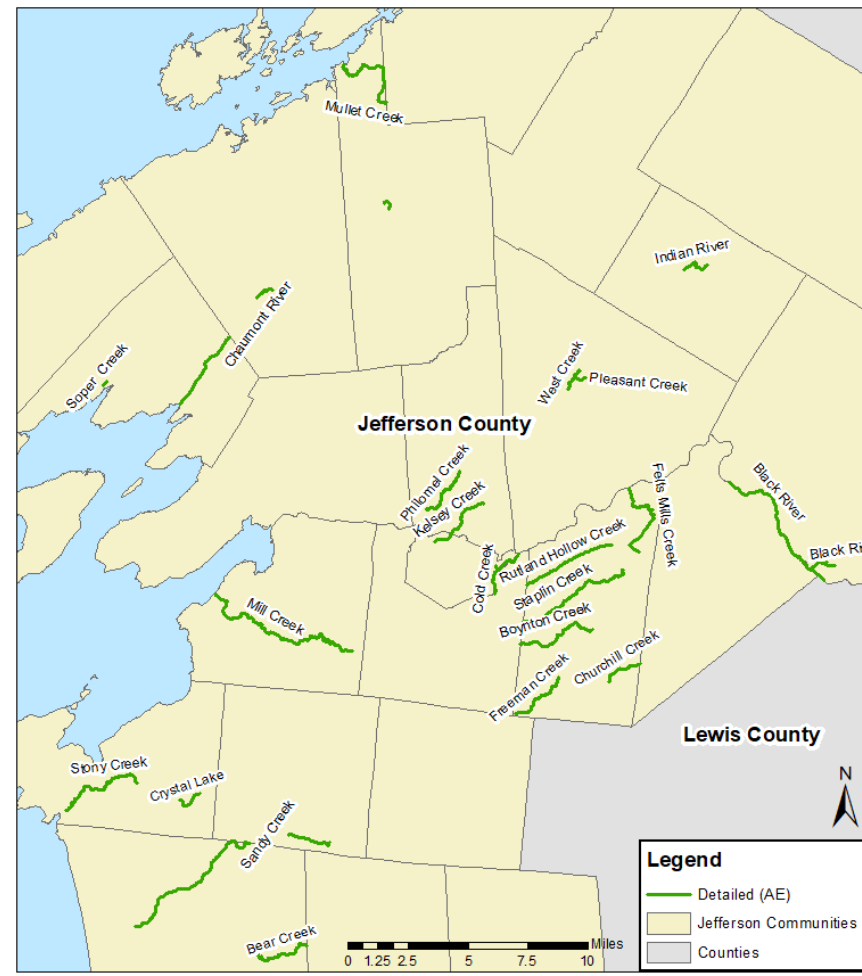


FEMA

# Detailed (AE Zone) Study Scope

## ► 24 Studied Streams/Lakes – 77.5 miles total

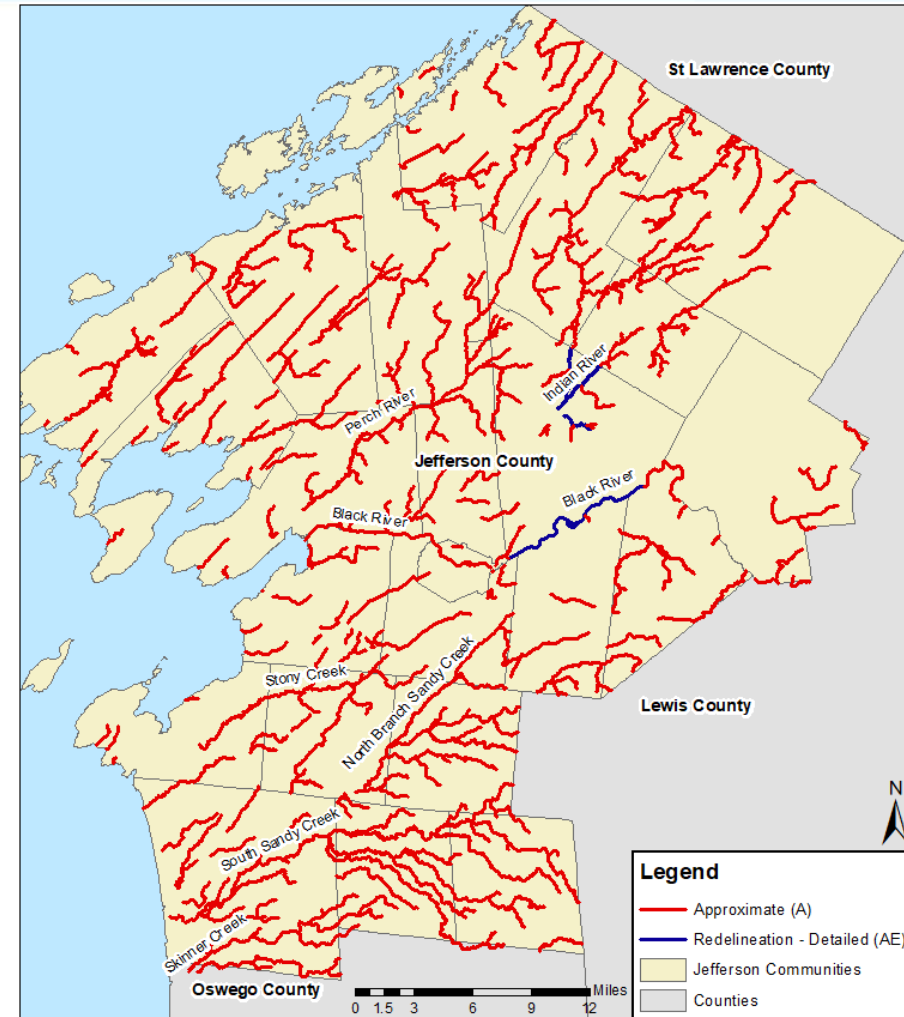
- Bear Creek – 3.0 miles
- Black River – 8.1 miles
- Black River Tributaries – 1.4 miles
- Boynton Creek – 3.8 miles
- Chaumont River – 5.2 miles
- Churchill Creek – 1.8 miles
- Cold Creek – 1.2 miles
- Felts Mills Creek – 4.5 miles
- Freeman Creek – 2.8 miles
- Indian River – 1.5 miles
- Kelsey Creek 3.0 miles
- Mill Creek – 8.7 miles
- Mullet Creek – 4.5 miles
- Philomel Creek – 2.5 miles
- Pleasant Creek – 0.6 miles
- Rutland Hollow Creek – 4.0 miles
- Sandy Creek – 9.1 miles
- Soper Creek – 0.3 miles
- Staplin creek – 5.3 miles
- Stony Creek – 4.3 miles
- West Creek – 1.0 miles
- Crystal Lake – 1.3 miles



FEMA

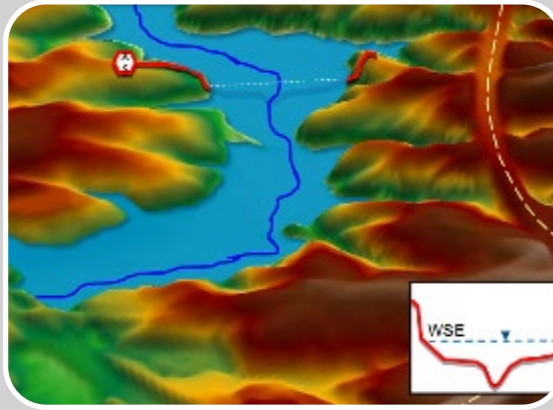
# Approximate (A Zone) Study and Redelineation Scope

- ▶ **Completes countywide stream coverage**
- ▶ **Approximate Streams – 860 miles**
  - Notable streams include:
    - Black River
    - Indian River
    - North Branch Sandy Creek
    - Perch River
    - Skinner Creek
    - South Sandy Creek
    - Stony Creek
- ▶ **Redelineated Streams – 20 miles**
  - Notable streams include:
    - Black River
    - Indian River



FEMA

# Flood Hazard Analysis



## Hydrology

Volume of water?  
Peak Flows?

When will storm  
water or runoff make  
it to the stream?

## Hydraulics

Will the stream in  
question be able to  
convey all storm  
water or runoff that  
arrives?

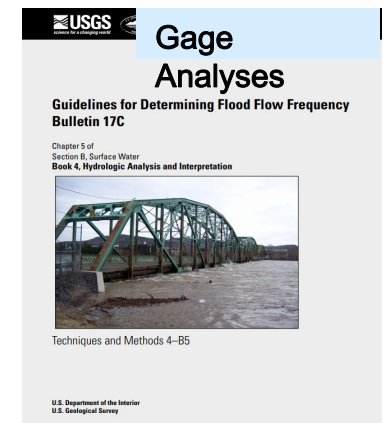
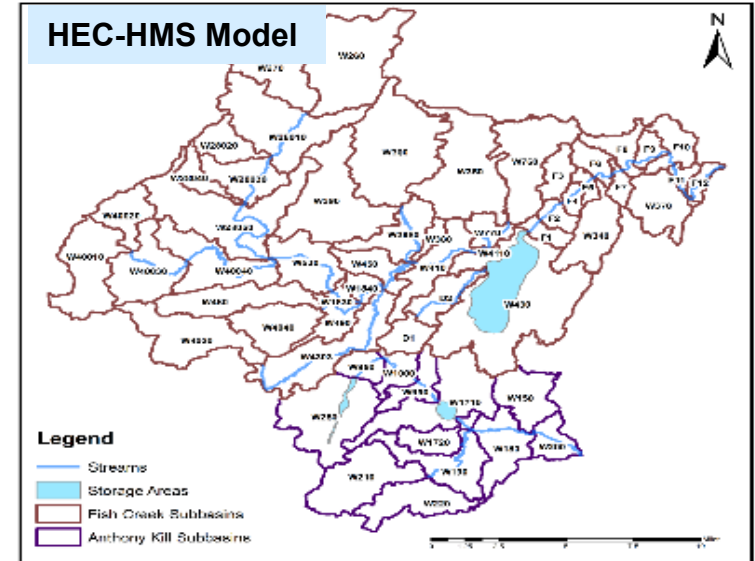
## Floodplain Mapping

What areas of a  
community will be  
inundated based on  
engineering analysis?



# Engineering Methods - Hydrologic Analysis

- ▶ **Typical Methods FEMA utilizes**
  - Statistical Gage Analyses
  - Regression Analyses
  - Rainfall Runoff Modeling
- ▶ **Gage/Regression are based on availability stream gage data**
- ▶ **Rainfall-Runoff physical modeling chosen due to limited gage data**
- ▶ **Discharges developed for**
  - 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+, 1%-, 0.2%
  - Inputs for hydraulic analyses





# Engineering Methods - Hydraulic Analysis

## ► Modeling developed using USACE's HEC-RAS Program

- One Dimensional (1D) Steady State
- One Dimensional (1D) Unsteady State

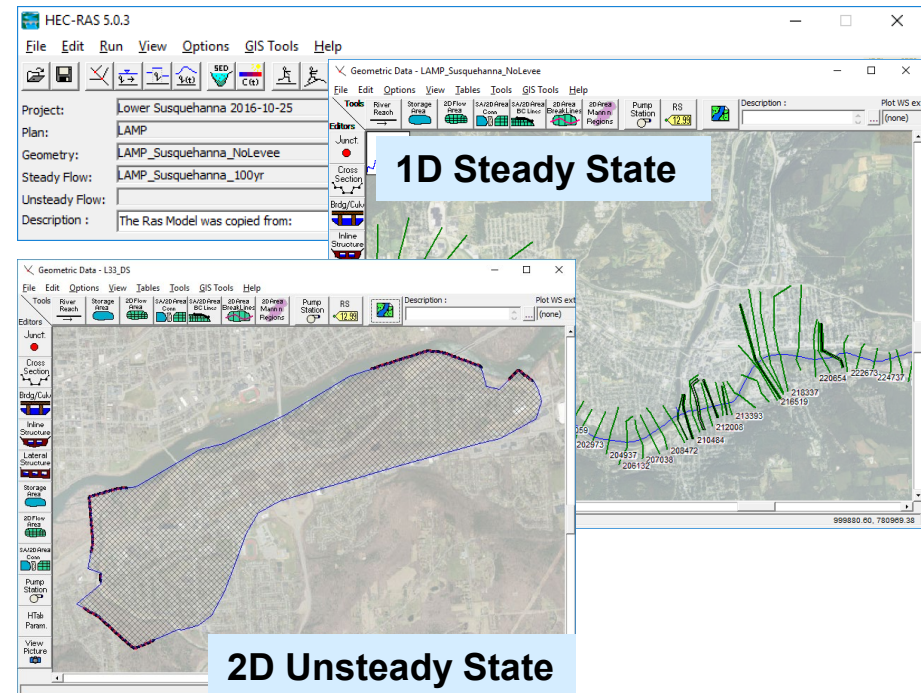
## ► Terrain Data

- Provides topographic elevation information
- Supplemented by field survey
- Data Sources:
  - 2014 FEMA Bare Earth DEM (1 meter)
  - 2010 NYS Bare Earth DEM (2 meter)

## ► Field Survey for Detailed only

- Collection underway: 157 structures and 786 under water channel sections

## HEC-RAS Models



## ► Flood Hazard Data Generated

- Elevations: 10%, 4%, 2%, 1%, 1%+, 1%-, 0.2%
- Floodplain extents: 10%, 1%, 0.2%, Floodway

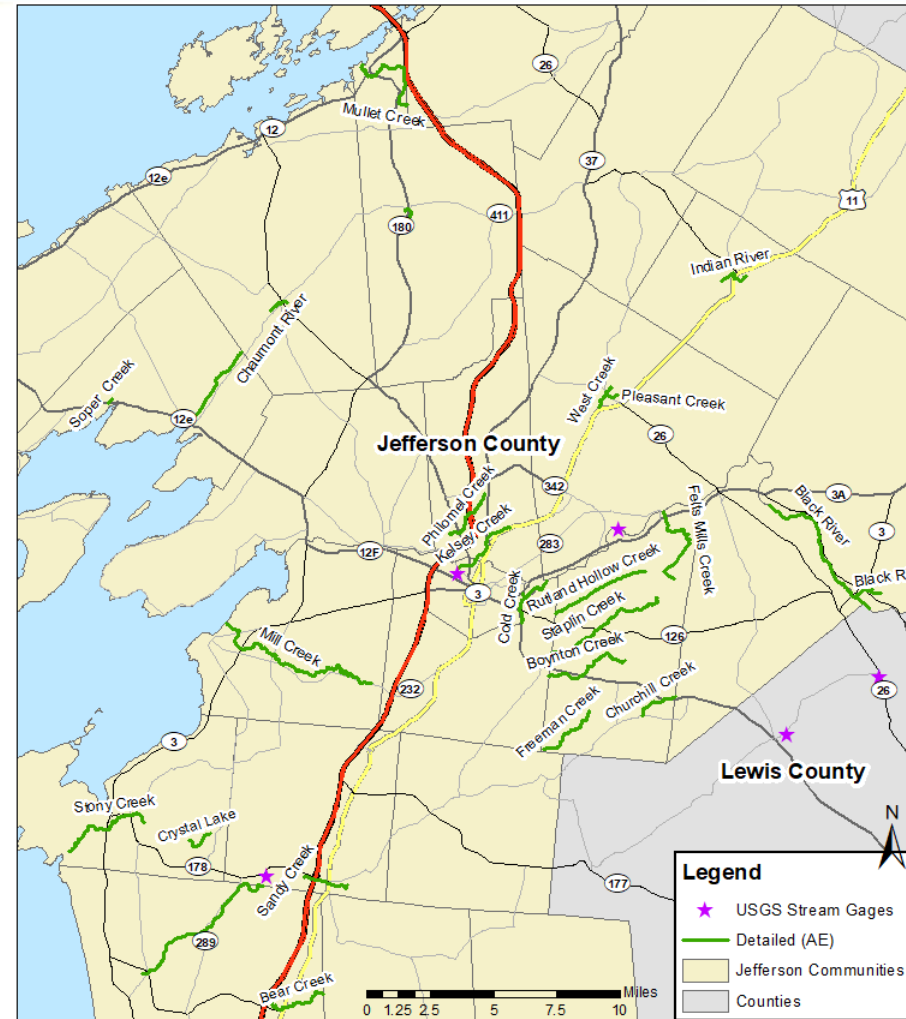
# Engineering Methods - Detailed Streams

## ► Hydrologic Method: Gage Analysis/USGS Regression Equations

- Bear Creek
- Black River
- Black River Tributaries
- Boynton Creek
- Chaumont River
- Churchill Creek
- Cold Creek
- Felts Mills Creek
- Freeman Creek
- Indian River
- Kelsey Creek
- Mill Creek
- Mullet Creek
- Philomel Creek
- Pleasant Creek
- Rutland Hollow Creek
- Sandy Creek
- Soper Creek
- Staplin creek
- Stony Creek
- West Creek

## ► Hydrologic Method: Stage-Frequency Analysis using HEC-HMS

- Crystal Lake



FEMA

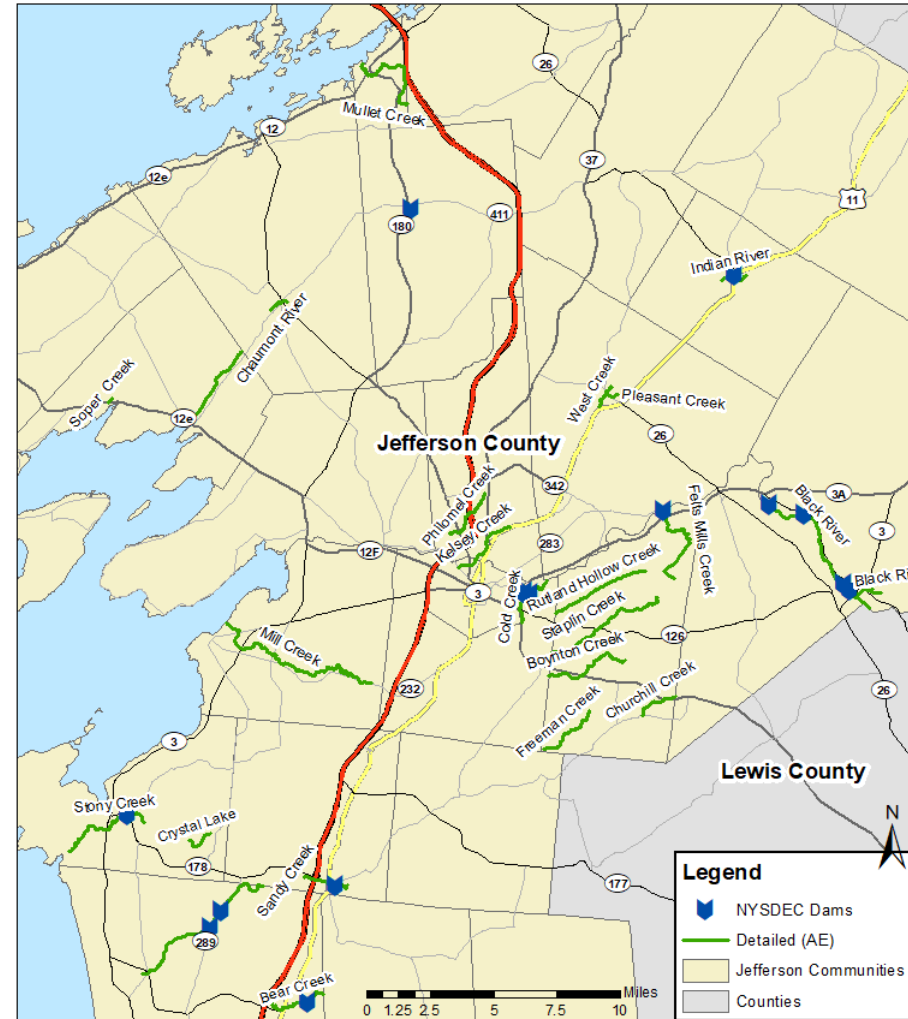
# Engineering Methods - Detailed Streams

## ► Hydraulic Method: HEC-RAS, 1D steady state hydraulic model

- Bear Creek
- Black River
- Black River Tributaries
- Boynton Creek
- Chaumont River
- Churchill Creek
- Cold Creek
- Felts Mills Creek
- Freeman Creek
- Indian River
- Kelsey Creek
- Mill Creek
- Mullet Creek
- Philomel Creek
- Pleasant Creek
- Rutland Hollow Creek
- Sandy Creek
- Soper Creek
- Staplin creek
- Stony Creek
- West Creek

## ► Hydraulic Method: Lake Stage-Frequency Analysis

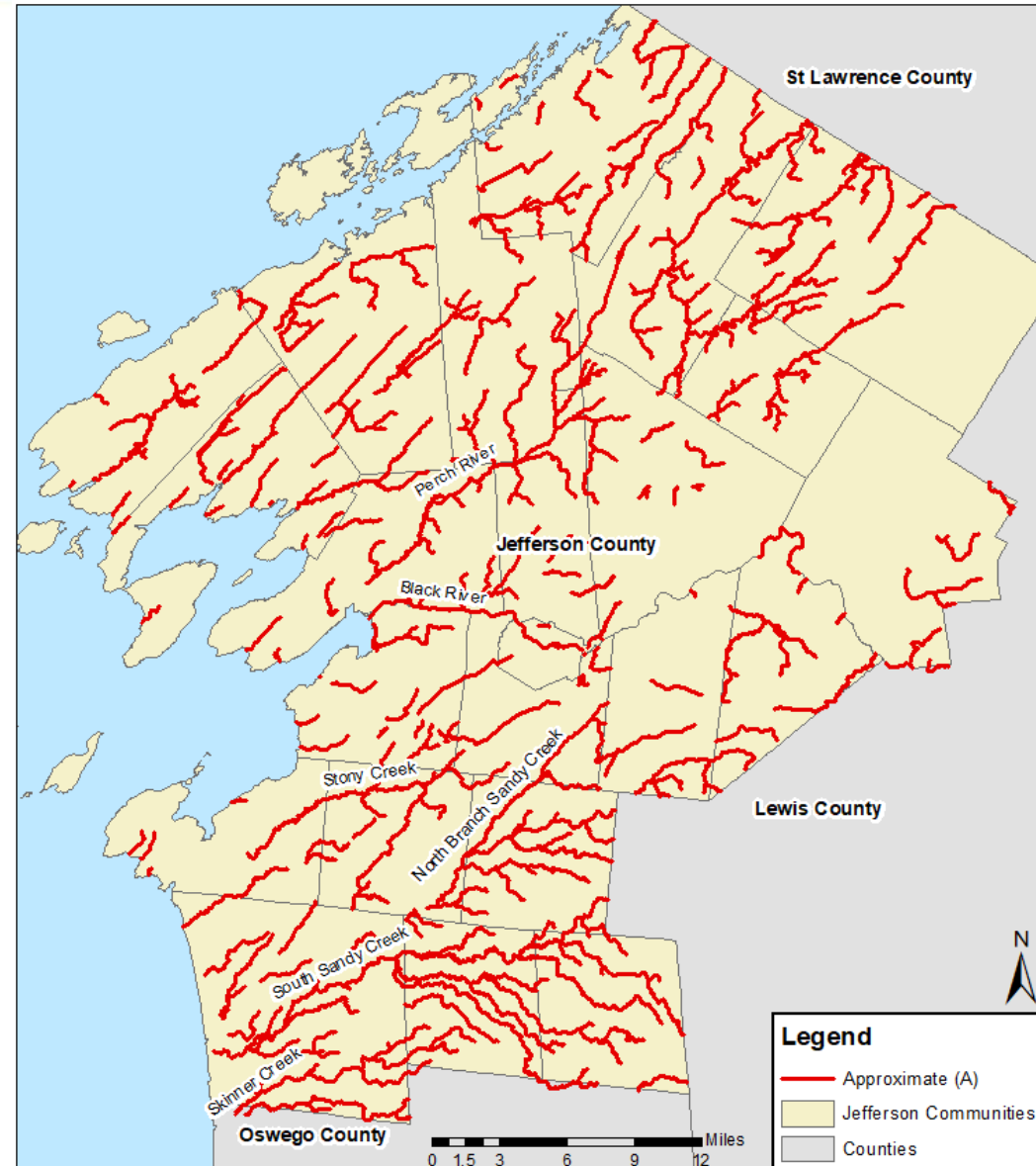
- Crystal Lake



FEMA

# Engineering Methods - Approximate Streams

- ▶ **Approximate Streams – 860 miles**
  - Hydrologic Method: USGS Regression Equations
  - Hydraulic Method: HEC-RAS, 1D steady state hydraulic model
- ▶ **Floodplain extents for 10%, 1%, and 0.2%**



FEMA



# Redelineated Streams

- ▶ **Redelineated Streams (AE) – 19 miles**
  - Streams include:
    - Black River
    - Indian River
    - Pleasant Creek
    - West Creek
- ▶ **No hydrology or hydraulic analyses conducted**
- ▶ **Flood extents are redelineated using the latest LiDAR topographic data**
- ▶ **Vertical Datum Conversion conducted**
- ▶ **Existing flood elevations converted from NGVD29 to NAVD88 datum**



FEMA





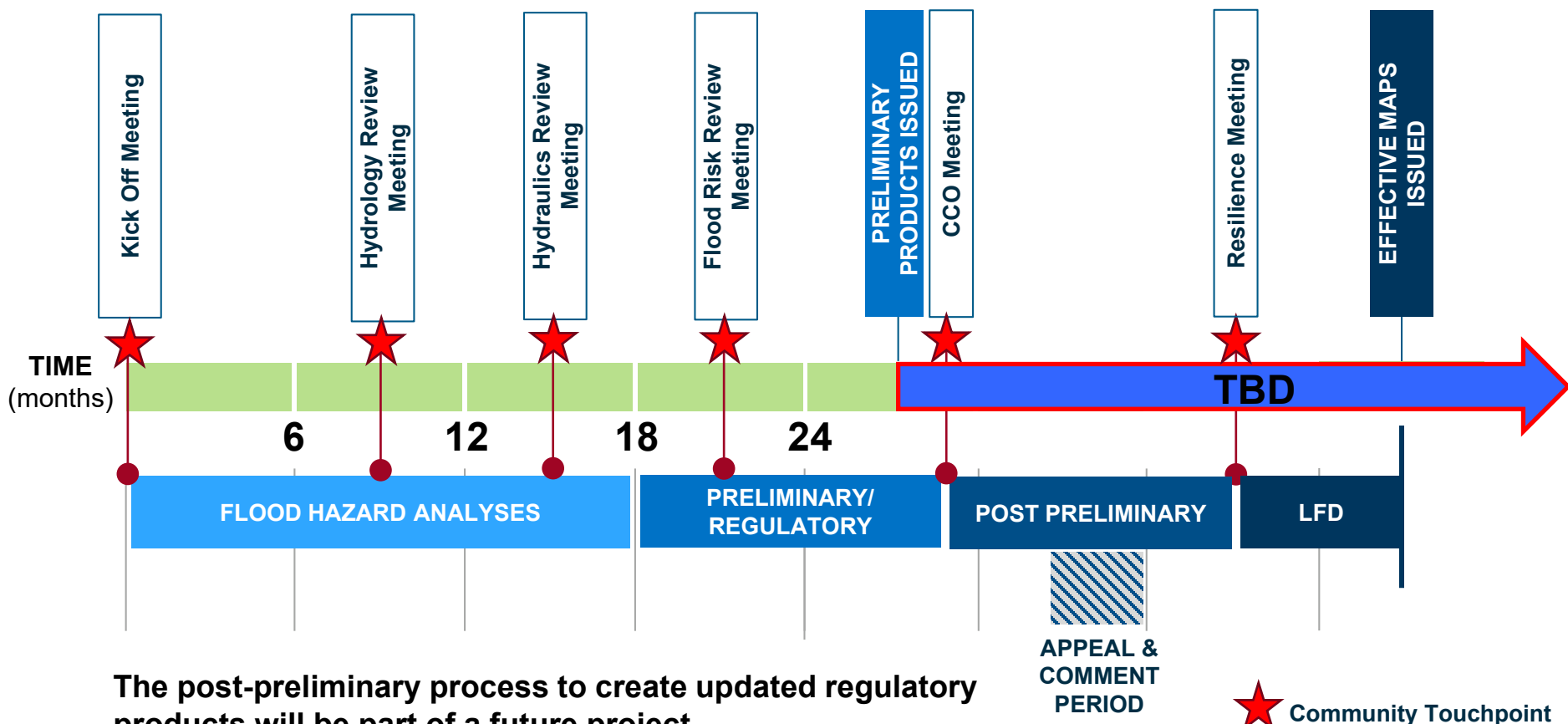
# **Where Are We Now; What Is Next?**

Discuss next steps



**FEMA**

# Overall Flood Risk Project Timeline



The post-preliminary process to create updated regulatory products will be part of a future project.



FEMA

# Major Study Milestones

## ► **Data Development (June 2022)**

- Terrain processing
- Engineering Methods Concurrence (620 letters)
- Field reconnaissance and survey
- Hydrologic modeling
- Hydraulic modeling
- Floodplain mapping (workmaps)

## ► **Flood Risk Review Meeting (December 2022)**

- Review work map products with communities

## ► **Preliminary Products Update (FIRM & FIS)**

- Preliminary Maps Issued (June 2023)



# **What Will Communities Receive?**

## **Preliminary and Planning Products**



**FEMA**

# Work Maps

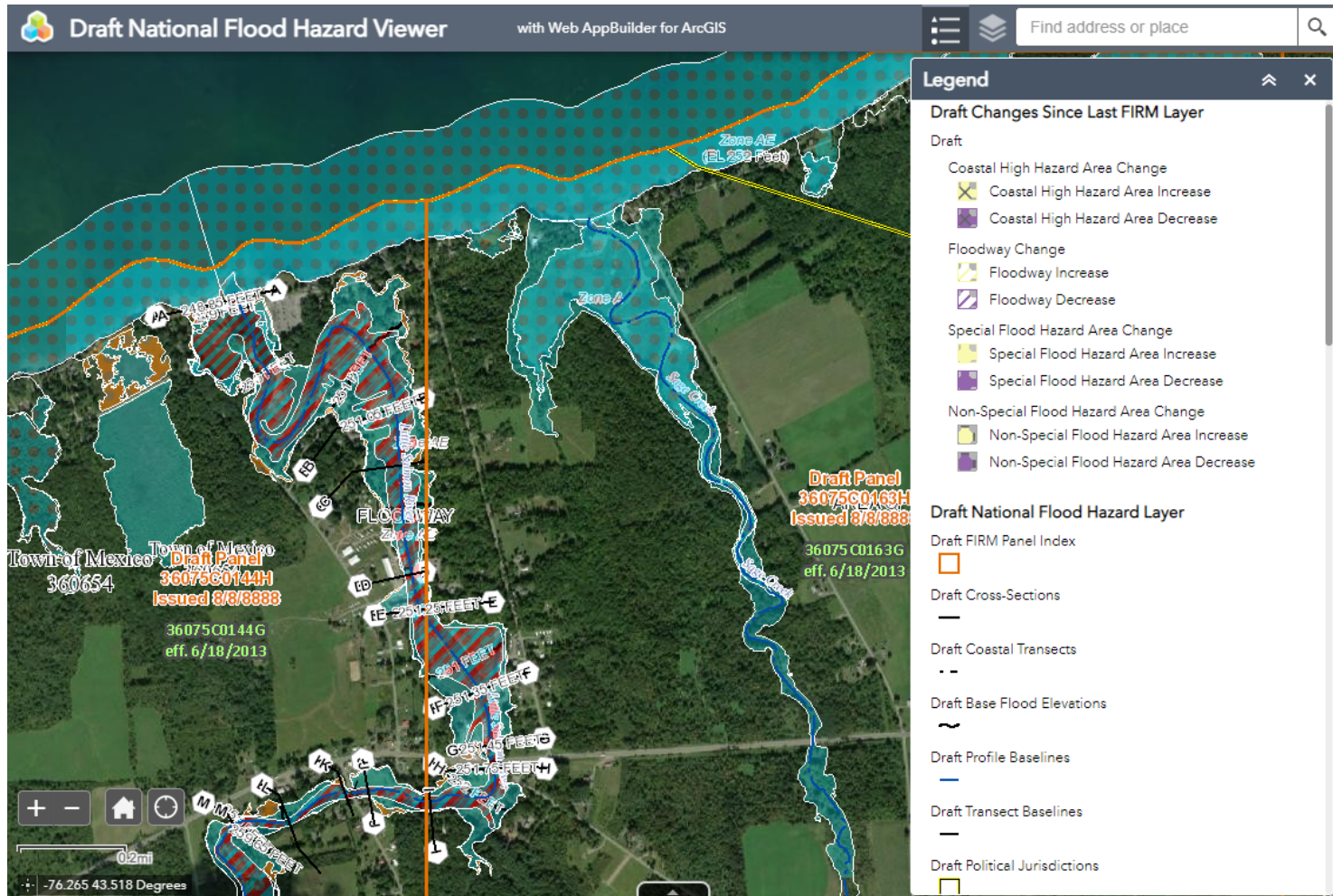
- ▶ **Draft floodplain mapping shared using work maps**
- ▶ **Flood Risk Review meeting provides a review of the new engineering analysis results, allowing communities to:**
  - Identify potential updates for Hazard Mitigation Plans
  - Provide insight and input on hydrology and hydraulic results in updated study area
  - Seek local buy-in and review possible use of analysis
  - Identify areas of large changes and potential opportunities for risk reduction
  - Identify risk communications needs and options
  - [Draft National Flood Hazard Viewer](#)



FEMA



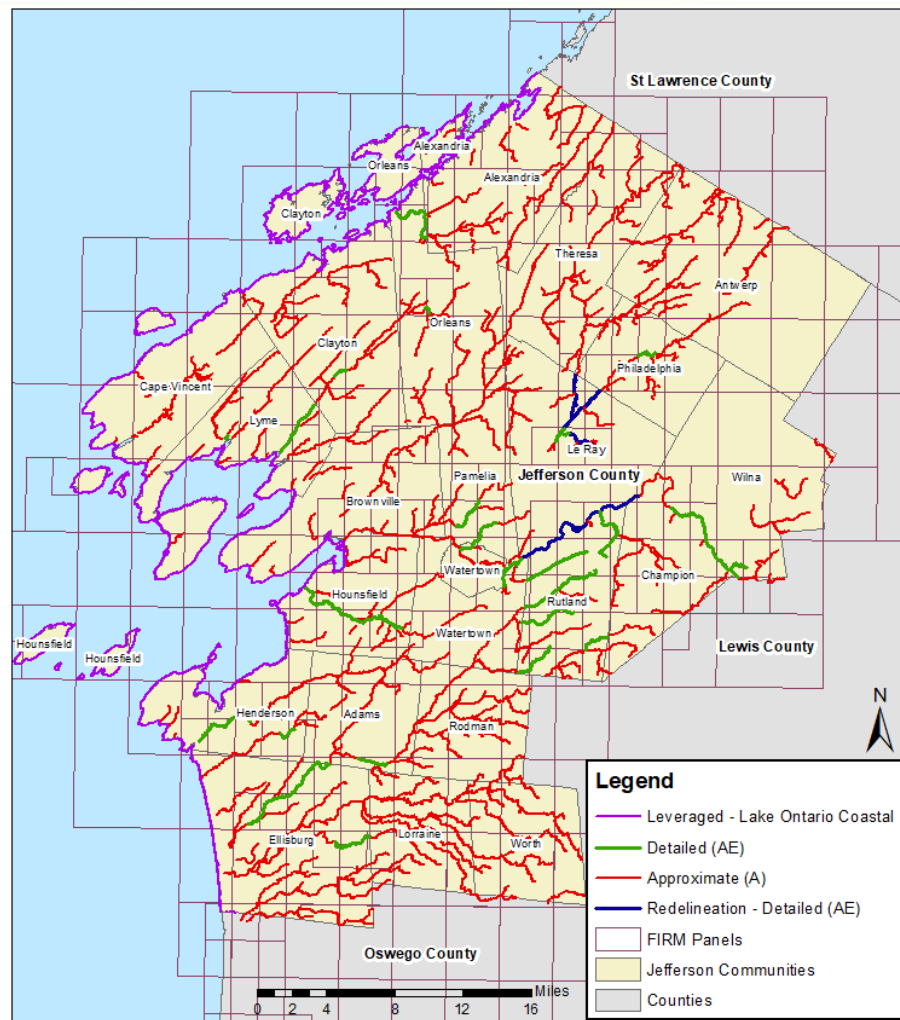
# Draft Flood Hazard Viewer (*Example*)



FEMA

# Preliminary Mapping Products

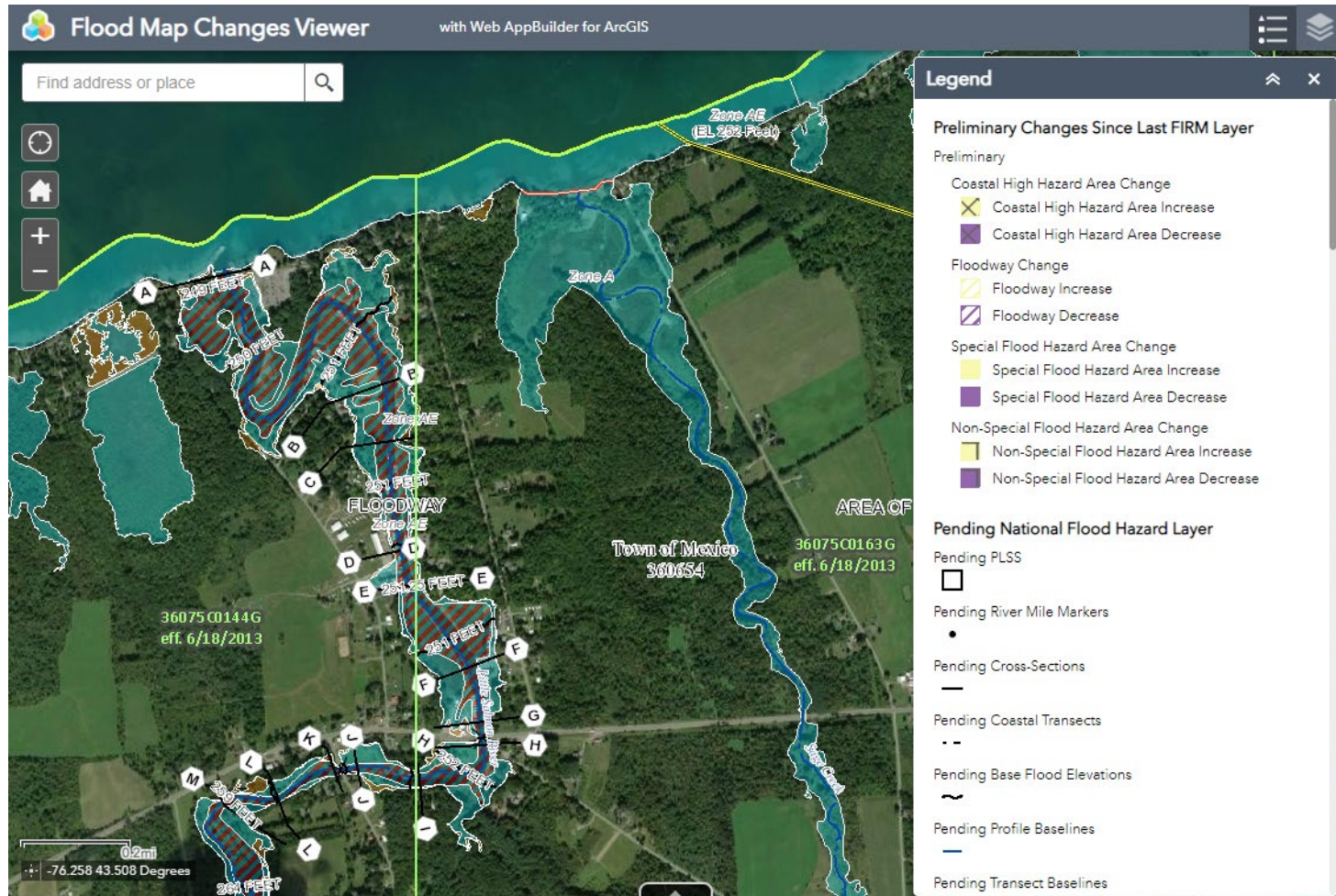
- ▶ **Preliminary product development commences after work map comment period**
- ▶ **Seamless countywide mapping produced**
  - Incorporates Lake Ontario Coastal mapping
- ▶ **Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) Database**
- ▶ **255 Preliminary FIRM Panels**
- ▶ **Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report**
- ▶ **[Flood Map Changes Viewer](#)**



FEMA



# Flood Map Changes Viewer (*Example*)



FEMA





# Knowing the Risk

**Communities that develop a sound understanding of flood risk will be more empowered to...**

- ▶ Effectively plan use of resources for natural hazards and potential disasters;
- ▶ Implement effective hazard mitigation projects;
- ▶ Effectively regulate current and future development without increasing risk; and/or
- ▶ Effectively communicate about natural hazards to its residents about personal and community mitigation projects that can reduce long-term risk.



# Contacts

- **FEMA Project Monitor**

Shudipto Rahman

202-702-4273

[shudipto.rahman@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:shudipto.rahman@fema.dhs.gov)

- **FEMA Outreach Coordinator**

Stephanie Gootman

202-802-3137

[stephanie.gootman@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:stephanie.gootman@fema.dhs.gov)

- **NY State Department of Environmental Conservation**

Central Office Contact: Brad Wenskoski

Region 6 Contact: Mary Binder

315-705-3038

[Mary.Binder@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Mary.Binder@dec.ny.gov)

- **STARR II Project Manager**

David Sutley, PE

303-951-0612

[dsutley@dewberry.com](mailto:dsutley@dewberry.com)

- **STARR II Regional Support Center Lead**

Rosemary Bolich

646-490-3848

[rosemary.bolich@stantec.com](mailto:rosemary.bolich@stantec.com)



**FEMA**

# Questions? Comments?



## Thank you!



# FEMA