



Risk MAP Guidelines and Standards (G&S) 2018 Annual Maintenance Cycle

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maintains guidelines and standards to support the Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) Program. These guidelines and standards define the specific implementation of the statutory and regulatory requirements for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These also outline the performance of Flood Risk Projects, processing of Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) and related Risk MAP activities. More information is available at FEMA.gov.

FEMA has a maintenance plan for the Risk MAP guidelines and standards and issues updates on an annual basis. This notice provides information about the 2018 annual update which has been delayed by three months and is expected to be released in February 2019. In addition to this annual maintenance, there is an off-cycle update occurring now to cover Standards updates related to the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) changes so that they can be implemented in November.

The annual cycle typically includes significant program policy initiatives and minor maintenance requested from Risk MAP Stakeholders. Beginning with this cycle the update will also include routine maintenance, where FEMA reviews approximately 20 percent of all standards and guidance so that all elements are reviewed every five-years. This year, FEMA has reviewed documents related to the following topics:

2D Models	Automated Engineering	Base Map
Base Flood Elevations (BFE)	Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS)	Coordination
Correspondence	Cross-Sections	Due Process
Engineering	Federal Register	FIRM Index
Hydrologic & Hydraulic (H&H) Analyses	Profile Baseline	Project Planning
Stakeholder Engagement	Coastal Mapping	

Although all these topics have been reviewed during this cycle, some may not require updates and therefore no revised document or template may be published.

The significant changes that FEMA plans to implement through new or updated standards, guidance documents, and technical references are:

- Addition of a new section to the MT-1 Technical guidance covering the expansion of the Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) Review Partners Program.
- Update to the General Hydrologic Considerations & Hydrologic Rainfall Runoff Analysis guidance to reference the updated guidelines for Determining Flood Flow Frequency per the USGS’s Bulletin 17C.
- Improving stakeholder engagement guidance (Discovery, Due Process Phase, Data Product Development Phase, and Preliminary National Flood Insurance Program) and templates to incorporate lessons learned from the implementation of the new engagement requirements from the Biggert Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act.

- Retiring the Document Control Procedures Manual (DCPM). Since the standards and guidance in the DCPM have been incorporated into the Risk MAP standards and transformed guidance documents, the DCPM will be fully superseded. The letter templates from the DCPM will be available on FEMA.gov or through an internal FEMA document repository.
- Removing the requirements to display CBRS boundaries on Risk MAP products and transitioning the delivery of this data to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, who are the authoritative resource for this information. Changes will include:
 - Retiring the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) guidance, removing the requirement to display CBRS data and references from static FIRMs, and removing CBRS references and requirements from the guidance, technical references, and templates listed below:
 - Guidance: Stakeholder Engagement Discovery Phase, Discovery, FIRM Graphics, Metadata, National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL), Database Verification Tool (DVT), FIRM Database, and Physical Map Revision (PMR)
 - Technical Reference: FIRM Panel, FIRM Database, and Flood Insurance Study (FIS Report)
 - Templates: Regulatory Checklists, FIRM Database schema, Flood County USA Ortho and Vector (MXDs), FIRM Index, Metadata Profiles and XMLs (Draft DB, Prelim DB, Final DB, Coastal, Discovery, and Floodplain Mapping), and NFHL Database schema.
- Updating the Regulatory Quality Review (QR) Checklists (Template) to reflect and align with recent program updates.

Listed below is a table that describes the other maintenance items with a short summary of the proposed changes to standards, guidance and related documents.

Maintenance Items

Item #	Doc. Type	Document Title/SID #	Description
1	Standard	SID 36	Updating to clarify CNMS update and submittal expectations, and to better align with current practice.
2	Standard	SID 50	Rescinding standard as it is covered by SIDs 61 and 186 and within section 3.1 of the 2-D Guidance.
3	Standard	SID 62, 67, and 81	Rescinding standards as they are covered in the hydraulics guidance and considered standard operating procedures for modeling.
4	Standard	SID 191	Rescinding standard due to changes in the location(s) and maintenance requirements of letter and correspondence templates.
5	Standard	SID 257	Updating to require 508 compliance for the FIS Report.

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6	Standard	SID 314	Rescinding standard as symbology and clarity of symbols on the FIRM Panels are covered in other Technical References and Guidance.
7	Standard	SIDs: 508, 522	Updating to correct information regarding FEDD File process in relation to KDP5.
8	Standard	SID 526	Rescinding standard due to Revalidation documentation requirements; requirements are now covered by standard MIP processes.
9	Standard	SID 619	Updating to provide clarification of coastal standard to ensure consistency in how Primary Frontal Dune features are revised.
10	Standard	SID 621	Updating to clarify that the draft FIRM database can be transmitted or made available online.
11	Guidance	Base Map and FIRM Panel Layout	Updating to clarify application of suffixes on FIRM panels split as part of a PMR.
12	Guidance	FIRM Graphics	Updating to clarify application of BFE (WSEL) information on the FIRM.
13	Guidance	Stakeholder Engagement Discovery Phase	Updating to incorporate additional communication standard guidance for SID 620 in addition to updates related to the CBRS changes.
14	Guidance	Appeal and Comment Processing	Updating to reflect information for a second appeal period and to ensure full alignment with current requirements and processes.
15	Guidance	Levee	Updates based on user feedback from the initial release of the revised Levee Guidance in February 2018.
16	Guidance	Coastal Wave Determination	Guidance transformation.
17	Guidance	KDP	Updating to reflect new Webpage locations and remove reference to Appendix C.
18	Guidance	Versioning	Updating to remove reference to the Document Control Procedures Manual (DCPM) which is being retired.
19	Technical Reference	Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Database	Updating Z & M values for profile baselines to accommodate Puerto Rico profile baseline and dataset metric units; changes to levee seclusion polygon tracking; changes Study Info table attributes to better align with FIRM title block information.

Item #	Doc. Type	Document Title/SID #	Description
20	Technical Reference	Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel	Updating to differentiate 1percent ACFH depth less than 1ft from 0.2 percent ACFH; to include flowage easement symbology; to align Study Info table attributes with FIRM title block information.
21	Technical Reference	Data Capture	Updating to better define LiDAR data capture that comes from purchases made by the USGS.
22	Technical Reference	Domain Tables	Updating with new domain value in the D_Levee_Status table, used to populate the LEVEE_STAT of the S_Levee table
23	Technical Reference	CNMS	Updating to align with recent Metaman Updates

Minor Items

There are some additional minor updates to various standards, guidance, and technical references that do not change the intent of the existing content but rather:

- Provide additional clarification to their application,
- Change terminology for consistency (for example, changes the term “1%” to “1 percent”),
- Establish better alignment to current processes and practices, and/or
- Reflect accurate webpage links and other references.

If you have feedback about FEMA’s guidelines and standards, submit comments or suggestions by e-mail to FEMA.GS@riskmapcads.com.

Standards Public Review

The table below lists proposed updates to existing standards and drafts of new standards.

FEMA intends to publish these standards as a part of the annual update to the [Policy for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping](#) in February 2019. The draft updates are being made available for public review to provide an opportunity for comment prior to incorporation into the policy. The reasons for the changes are summarized above.

The proposed changes are listed below with the Standard Identification Number (SID #), primary key words, implementation, current version of the standard (if applicable) and the proposed updates or revisions. The implementation approach for these standards has been chosen to avoid any cost impacts on work underway.

SID #	Primary Keyword	Implementation	Original Standard	Revised/New Standard
36	CNMS	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	A CNMS database that is compliant with the CNMS Technical Reference must be updated and submitted at the completion of Discovery or Project Initiation, at Preliminary, and at Revised Preliminary if applicable, based on the information and data collected.	A CNMS database that is compliant with the CNMS Technical Reference must be updated and submitted at KDP1 (Continue Flood Risk Project), at KDP 2 (Develop Preliminary FIRM) if applicable, at KDP 3 (Preliminary Issuance), at Revised Preliminary if applicable, and at KDP 5 (LFD Issuance).
50	2D Models	Effective immediately	The digital terrain model input for a two-dimensional model must cover the entire 2D study area and the derivation or development of the grid must be clearly documented.	Rescinding
62	H&H Analyses	Effective immediately	New or updated flood hazard data used for the regulatory products must be supported by modeling or sound engineering judgment and all regulatory products must be in agreement.	Rescinding

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67	2D Models	Effective immediately	Grids or cells must not be artificially removed when two- or three-dimensional models are used.	Rescinding
74	H&H Analyses	Effective immediately	The hydrologic, hydraulic, and coastal analyses and the final regulatory products must be certified by a registered professional engineer.	The hydrologic, hydraulic, and coastal analyses and the published regulatory products must be certified by a registered professional engineer.
81	H&H Analyses	Effective immediately	Ineffective and non-conveyance areas must be designated to reflect the actual conditions (such as topography and surface roughness) as closely as practical.	Rescinding
105	BFEs	Effective immediately	BFE placement standard exceptions may be made where BFEs are expressed in metric increments, such as in Puerto Rico.	BFE placement standard exceptions may be made where BFEs are expressed in metric increments, such as in Puerto Rico. BFEs in all other areas of the United States must be expressed in feet.
106	BFEs	Effective immediately	BFEs for ponding and lacustrine areas must be expressed to the 10th of a foot if they have been calculated to that level of precision; otherwise they should be shown as whole-foot rounded elevations. Unrevised lake and ponding elevations may be converted to 10th foot elevations if supported by technical data on a project-by project basis in coordination with the FEMA Project Officer. BFEs for coastal flood zones must be shown as whole foot elevations.	BFEs for ponding and lacustrine areas must be expressed to the 10th of a foot (or to the nth of a meter, in Puerto Rico) if they have been calculated to that level of precision, otherwise they should be shown as whole-foot rounded elevations. Unrevised lake and ponding elevations may be converted to 10th foot elevations (or nth meter elevations, in Puerto Rico) if supported by technical data on a project-by project basis in coordination with the FEMA Project Officer. BFEs for coastal flood zones must be shown as whole foot elevations.

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107	BFEs	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	BFEs must be shown within 1-percent annual chance floodplains; the exception shall be for Zone A, Zone V, Zone AO and Zone A99.	BFEs must be shown within 1-percent-annual-chance floodplains; the exception shall be for Zone A, Zone V, Zone AO, and Zone A99.
137	Coastal - Mapping	Effective immediately	Redelineation of coastal flood hazard areas requires the revision of the 1-percent-annual-chance SFHA boundary, the 0.2 percent-annual-chance floodplain boundary, and the primary frontal dune delineation.	Redelineation of coastal flood hazard areas requires the revision of the 1-percent-annual-chance SFHA boundary, the 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain boundary, and the primary frontal dune delineation.
138	Coastal - Mapping	Effective immediately	Coastal Flood Risk Projects shall produce, at a minimum, a 1-percent-annual-chance and 0.2 percent annual-chance floodplain and base flood elevations that include the contribution of wave effects.	Coastal Flood Risk Projects shall produce, at a minimum, a 1-percent-annual-chance and 0.2-percent-annual-chance floodplain and 1-percent-annual-chance base flood elevations that include the contribution of wave effects (including wave setup, wave runup, wave overtopping, and overland wave propagation).
148	Base Map	Effective for FY19 studies and beyond	The minimum horizontal positional accuracy for new FIRM base map hydrographic and transportation features is the NSSDA radial accuracy of 38 feet.	The minimum horizontal positional accuracy for new FIRM base map hydrographic and transportation features is the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) positional accuracy standards for digital geospatial data (2014).
168	SOMA	Effective immediately	All effective LOMCs located on affected FIRM panel(s) shall be reviewed and categorized: 1. through a draft SOMA before the Preliminary copies of the affected FIRM panel(s) are prepared and sent to the community for review and comment; 2. through a revised draft SOMA before Revised Preliminary copies of the affected FIRM panel(s) are prepared and sent to the community for	If the community is located on revised FIRM panels, all valid LOMCs shall be reviewed and categorized in the MIP SOMA Workbench. The Preliminary and Final SOMA is distributed to the community for review and comment if there are LOMCs that fall on revised FIRM panels. The SOMA is prepared and reviewed in advance of the following distributions: • Preliminary Issuance, • Revised Preliminary Issuance,

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			<p>review and comment;</p> <p>3. through a Final SOMA before the LFD letter is sent to the community; and</p> <p>4. through a revalidation letter before the effective date of the new or revised FIRM panels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of Final Determination, and • Revalidation Letter.
170	Coastal Barrier Resources System	Effective for all studies not yet submitted to Quality Review (QR) #5	CBRS units shown on all new and revised FIRMs must be provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.	Rescinding
191	Correspondence	Effective immediately	All standard correspondence, letters, and enclosures distributed during the life of a Flood Risk Project must be prepared in accordance with the templates located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577 .	Rescinding
257	FIS Report	Effective for FY19 studies and beyond	The FIS Report deliverable to the MSC must be an unsecured PDF file, with as much searchable text as possible, and must be bookmarked in accordance with the direction outlined in the FIS Report Technical Reference. Embedded graphics, where necessary, must have a resolution of 400 dpi.	The FIS Report deliverable to the MSC must be a 508 compliant, unsecured PDF file, with as much searchable text as possible, and must be bookmarked in accordance with the direction outlined in the FIS Report Technical Reference. Embedded graphics, where necessary, must have a resolution of 400 dpi.
314	Profile Baseline	Effective immediately	Hydrographic feature lines represented on FIRM panels must not obscure the Profile Baseline symbology.	Rescinding

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346	Cross-Sections	Effective immediately	On FIRM panels, all LETTERED, MAPPED and NOT LETTERED, MAPPED cross sections must be labeled with the regulatory WSEL value, rounded to the nearest tenth of a foot. All lettered or numbered cross section WSEL values must match the FDT in the FIS Report.	On FIRM panels, all LETTERED, MAPPED and NOT LETTERED, MAPPED cross sections must be labeled with the regulatory WSEL value, rounded to the nearest tenth of a foot or equivalent thereof, in the case of meters. All lettered or numbered cross section WSEL values must match the FDT in the FIS Report.
347	Cross-Sections	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	If unlettered cross sections and BFEs cannot be shown on the FIRM panel because of crowding due to steep terrain, a note shall be placed referring the user to the Flood Profiles in the FIS Report.	If unlettered cross sections and BFEs cannot be shown on the FIRM panel because of crowding due to steep terrain, a note shall be placed referring the user to the Flood Profiles in the FIS Report per the specifications listed in the FIRM Panel Technical Reference.
356	Coastal Barrier Resources System	Effective for all studies not yet submitted to Quality Review (QR) #5	All FIRM panel notes, labels, and symbolization associated with CBRS and Otherwise Protected Areas shall conform to the specifications outlined in the FIRM Panel Technical Reference.	All FIRM panel data, notes, labels, and symbolization associated with CBRS and Otherwise Protected Areas should be removed from regulatory products with the exception of the following Note to Users which shall be included on all FIRM Panels in communities identified by the FWS as potentially containing CBRS areas: "Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) areas and "otherwise protected areas" (OPAs) are no longer shown on this map panel, but still may be present in this community. Current information on these areas is provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS). NFIP flood insurance is not available within CBRS areas for structures that are built or substantially improved on or after the dates indicated by FWS. Users should reference the most up-to-date information provided by FWS to determine NFIP insurance eligibility. The official maps and additional information regarding CBRS areas are provided on the FWS website at: www.fws.gov/cbra

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374	BFEs	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	BFEs (i.e., cross-section values supplemented with BFE lines where needed) must be shown at appropriate locations to allow map users to accurately interpolate flood elevations both horizontally and vertically.	BFEs must be shown at appropriate locations to allow map users to accurately interpolate flood elevations both horizontally and vertically.
384	Correspondence	Effective immediately	In the absence of a final CCO meeting a letter shall be sent to the community and interested stakeholders to document the decision to forego the meeting.	For Flood Risk Projects a CCO meeting is required to occur following the issuance of preliminary products. In the absence of a final CCO meeting a letter shall be sent to the community and interested stakeholders to document the decision to forego the meeting.
385	Fed Register	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	Per 44 CFR 67.4, the News Release and Federal Register Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice shall include all communities affected by new or modified flood hazard information. The newspaper notice shall be published twice within the 10-days of notification of the community CEO, after publication of the Federal Register Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice.	Per 44 CFR 67.4, the News Release and Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice shall include all communities affected by new or modified flood hazard information. The News Release shall be published twice within the 10-days of notification of the community CEO, after publication of the Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice.
386	Fed Register	Effective immediately	The community and other affected stakeholders must be notified when corrections to the News Release or Federal Register are required, including timelines for publishing corrections.	The community and other affected stakeholders must be notified when corrections are required to the News Release or Federal Register.
391	Appeals Process	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	FEMA shall evaluate appeal submittals, and prior to LFD, FEMA or its designee must provide the community with a resolution letter and must provide a copy of the revised FIRM if changes were made as a result of the appeal.	FEMA shall evaluate comment and appeal submittals, and prior to LFD, FEMA or its designee must provide the community with a resolution letter and must provide a copy of the revised FIRM if flood hazard changes were made as a result of the comment or appeal.

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395	Post-Preliminary Deliverables	Effective immediately	FEDD files must be submitted to FEMA for review 60 days before the LFD is scheduled to be issued.	Interim FEDD files must be submitted to FEMA for review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concurrent with QR4 Part 1 • Prior to KDP 5 submittal
402	LFD	Effective immediately.	The LFD package shall be submitted to FEMA HQ for review and approval prior to issuing LFDs to affected communities.	The LFD package shall be submitted to FEMA HQ, once KDP5 has been approved, for review and approval prior to issuing LFDs to affected communities.
405	Revalidation	Effective immediately.	2-4 weeks before the effective date of the revised map, the revalidation package shall be submitted to FEMA for review and approval prior to issuing the revalidation letters.	4 weeks before the effective date of the revised map, the revalidation package shall be submitted to FEMA for review and approval using standardized checklist located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577 prior to issuing the revalidation letters.
406	Revalidation	Effective immediately	The LOMC-VALID letter shall be provided to the community CEO and floodplain administrator and the LOMC Subscription Service Coordinator before the effective date of the revised FIRM(s).	The LOMC-VALID letter shall be provided to the community CEO and floodplain administrator and the LOMC Subscription Service Coordinator on or around the effective date of the revised FIRM(s).
407	Letter of Map Change (LOMC)	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	FEMA will widely distribute the following at regular intervals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • final LOMCs with attachments • final SOMAs • revalidation letters. 	FEMA will make available the following at regular intervals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • final LOMCs with attachments • final SOMAs • revalidation letters.

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508	Quality Management	Effective immediately	<p>Quality Reviews 1 through 8 must be conducted. Associated requirements for each review are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QR1: The draft FIRM database shall be uploaded to the MIP for auto validation and must pass before QR2 is conducted. - QR2: The preliminary FIRM database shall be uploaded to the MIP for auto validation and must pass before QR3 is conducted. - QR3: The preliminary FIS Report, FIRM, and SOMA shall be reviewed using standardized checklists located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577 after the work has been self-certified as meeting FEMA standards. The FIS Report, SOMA, FIRM and FIRM database shall not be issued at preliminary until written certification is provided indicating that all issues cited at this review were properly addressed and resolved. - QR4: This review validates the Proposed FHD Notice, Appeal Period Docket, the FEDD files to date, and 90-day Start Letter(s). If a 90-day appeal period is required, the proposed flood hazard determination notice information must be entered into the Populate FHD MIP task. An approved docket must be received from FEMA prior to the issuance of the 90-day Start Letter(s) - QR5: The FIRM database shall be auto-validated in the MIP and a visual review shall be conducted using standardized checklists located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577 to compare the FIRM database to the printed FIRM and all cited issues must be resolved 	<p>Quality Reviews 1 through 8 must be conducted using standardized checklists located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577. Associated requirements for each review are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QR1: The draft FIRM database shall be uploaded to the MIP for auto validation and must pass before QR2 is conducted. - QR2: The preliminary FIRM database shall be uploaded to the MIP for auto validation and must pass before QR3 is conducted. - QR3: The preliminary FIS Report, FIRM, Preliminary letters and SOMA shall be reviewed using standardized checklists after the work has been self-certified as meeting FEMA standards. The FIS Report, SOMA, Preliminary letters, FIRM and FIRM database shall not be issued at preliminary until written certification is provided indicating that all issues cited at this review were properly addressed and resolved. - QR4: If a 90-day appeal period is required, information must be entered or uploaded into the MIP task for review. This review validates the Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice information, interim FEDD Files, News Release, Appeal Period Docket information and 90-day start letter(s) shall be reviewed using standardized. FEMA must provide approval prior to the issuance of the 90-day start letter(s) - QR5: The FIRM database shall be auto-validated in the MIP and a visual review shall be conducted using standardized checklists to compare the FIRM database to the printed FIRM and all cited issues must be resolved before the LFD will be distributed. - QR6: This review validates the products prior to

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			<p>before the LFD will be distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QR6: This review validates the LFD prior to the distribution of the final products. As part of the LFD Docket MIP task, the LFD Summary Sheet/Docket, FEDD Files, and LFD Questionnaire must be prepared and submitted, concurrent with QR5 and QR7. All cited issues must be resolved before the LFD will be distributed. - QR7: The final FIS Report, FIRM and associated paperwork shall be reviewed using standardized checklists located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577 before delivery to the MSC and all cited issues must be resolved before the LFD will be distributed. - QR8: A review of the FIS Report, FIRM, MSC paperwork, and delivery manifest shall be conducted by the FEMA Map Service Center using standardized checklists located at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577 and all cited issues must be resolved before delivery of the final products to the end users. 	<p>LFD distribution. LFD Verification Summary, LFD Questionnaire, LFD letters, and Final SOMA are prepared and submitted, concurrent with QR5 and QR7 and shall be reviewed using standardized checklists. All cited issues must be resolved before the LFD will be distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QR7: The final FIS Report, FIRM and associated paperwork shall be reviewed using standardized checklists before delivery to the MSC and all cited issues must be resolved before the LFD will be distributed. - QR8: A review of the FIS Report, FIRM, MSC paperwork, and delivery manifest shall be conducted by the FEMA Map Service Center using standardized checklists and all cited issues must be resolved before delivery of the final products to the end users.
516	Due Process	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	The standard FHD Notice must be posted with the correct newspaper publication dates and appeal period start and end dates on FEMA's website prior to issuing the 90-day start letters.	The standard Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice must be posted with the correct newspaper publication dates and appeal period start and end dates on FEMA's website prior to issuing the 90-day start letters.
522	LFD	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no	As part of the LFD Docket MIP task, the LFD Summary Sheet/Docket, FEDD Files, and LFD Questionnaire must be submitted, concurrent with Quality Reviews 5 and 7.	As part of the LFD Docket MIP task, the LFD Verification Summary and LFD Questionnaire, LFD Letters and Final SOMA must be submitted, concurrent with Quality Reviews 5 and 7.

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		change in intent.		
524	SOMA	Effective immediately	When multiple determination LOMAs and LOMR-Fs include both removal and non-removal determinations, and all determinations remain the same based on the new or revised mapping, the case must be included in Category 2A or 2B and the new zone must be listed as 'X' in the MIP SOMA Tool.	When multiple determination LOMAs and LOMR-Fs include both removal and non-removal determinations, and all determinations remain the same based on the new or revised mapping, the case must be included in Category 2A or Category 2B in the MIP SOMA Tool.
525	SOMA	Effective immediately	On the SOMA, the map number and map suffix must be listed in the new map panel field for each LOMC and the old map panel must be listed for the old panel field.	On the Preliminary and Final SOMA, the map number and map suffix must be listed in the Original Panel field and Current Panel field for each valid LOMC. On the Revalidation Letter, the FIRM Panel Number and map suffix must be listed for each valid LOMC.
526	SOMA	Effective immediately	All cases included on the SOMA in Category 2 must be listed with the new zone listed as 'X' in the MIP SOMA Tool.	Rescinding
600	Appeals Process	Effective immediately	<p>An administrative appeal period must be offered for physical map revisions and letters of map revision where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New BFEs or base flood depths are proposed or currently effective BFEs or base flood depths have been modified; • New SFHAs are proposed or the boundaries of currently effective SFHAs have been modified; • New SFHA zone designations are proposed or currently effective SFHA zone designations 	<p>An administrative appeal period must be offered for any FIRM updates including letters of map revision where Flood Hazard Data updates are made. Flood Hazard Data changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New BFEs or base flood depths are proposed or currently effective BFEs or base flood depths have been modified; • New SFHAs are proposed or the boundaries of currently effective SFHAs have been modified; • New SFHA zone designations are proposed or

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			<p>have been modified; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New regulatory floodways are proposed or the boundaries of currently effective floodways that have been modified. <p>In order to qualify as an appeal, scientific and/or technical data demonstrating these changes are incorrect must be provided.</p>	<p>currently effective SFHA zone designations have been modified; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New regulatory floodways are proposed or the boundaries of currently effective floodways that have been modified. <p>In order to qualify as an appeal, scientific and/or technical data demonstrating these changes are incorrect must be provided.</p>
601	Fed Register	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	The Community Map Repository address for each community listed in the Federal Register Flood Hazard Determination notice must be a physical address (i.e., not a P.O. Box) confirmed by the community. Additionally, the repository address must be consistent among all related products (FIS, FIRM Index, FIRM Database, Populate FHD MIP task, and Federal Register), both hard copy and online versions, before starting the statutory 90-day appeal period.	The Community Map Repository address for each community listed in the Proposed Flood Hazard Determination Notice must be a physical address (i.e., not a P.O. Box) confirmed by the community. Additionally, the repository address must be consistent among all related products on FEMA's website (FIS, FIRM Index, FIRM Database, Populate FHD MIP task, and Federal Register), before starting the statutory 90-day appeal period.
614	Coastal - General	Effective immediately	FEMA will only use whole foot BFEs for LOMA or CLOMA determinations where effective flood hazard areas are the result of coastal flood hazard analysis.	FEMA will only use BFEs in the format of the effective flood hazard map for (C)LOMA or (C)LOMR-F determinations where effective flood hazard areas are the result of coastal flood hazard analysis.
619	Coastal - Mapping	Effective immediately	When revising the dune feature identified as the Primary Frontal Dune in an effective FIS, the revised feature must be as continuous as, or more continuous than, the effective PFD. This is especially important in areas with multiple ridges throughout a dune field, areas with man-made dunes, and property-specific revisions, including requests that the PFD designation be removed altogether. Community coordination may be required to make this assessment.	When revising the dune feature identified as the Primary Frontal Dune in an effective FIS, the revised feature must be as continuous as, or more continuous than, the effective PFD and provide an accurate representation of the regional dune feature. This is especially important in areas with multiple ridges throughout a dune field, areas with man-made dunes, and property-specific revisions, including requests that the PFD designation be removed altogether. Community coordination may be required to make this assessment.

SID #	Primary Keyword	Implementation	Original Standard	Revised/New Standard
621	Coordination	Existing standard; already implemented. Minor edits; no change in intent.	Prior to completion of Quality Review 1, FEMA shall transmit a copy of the draft FIRM database and other contributing data as requested to the affected community Chief Executive Officers and Floodplain Administrators, provide a 30-day period during which the affected communities may provide data to FEMA that can be used to supplement or modify the existing data, and incorporate any data that are consistent with prevailing engineering principles.	Prior to completion of Quality Review 1, FEMA shall transmit or provide access to the draft FIRM database, along with any other contributing data as requested, to the affected community's Chief Executive Officer and Floodplain Administrator, provide a 30-day period during which the affected community may provide data to FEMA that can be used to supplement or modify the existing data, and incorporate any data that are consistent with prevailing engineering principles.
629	BFEs	Effective immediately	New Standard	The definition of "BFE," as applied on the FIRM panel, specifically includes cross-section values supplemented with BFE lines where needed.

How to Submit Comments to FEMA

You may provide comments via email at: FEMA.GS@riskmapcads.com. Comments received prior to December 7, 2018, will be reviewed and addressed as appropriate before the standards are finalized.