



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

May 15, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution List

FROM: John Magnotti, Task Leader
Flood Hazard Mapping (FHM) Web Site

SUBJECT: Flood Hazard Mapping Web Site
Monthly Activities Summary Report

This memorandum highlights new content that has been posted to the Flood Hazard Mapping (FHM) web site in the last month, site statistics, and other pertinent information.

FHM Web Summary

New Content on the site: The following new content has been placed on the site

- DFIRM Spatial Database Revision: FEMA released a draft design of its Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) database in July 1999. Several revised documents that describe the DFIRM Spatial Database and the activities of the committee that developed it are now available. These include a description of the technical content of the database, metadata, and a description of the database tables themselves. View the revised pages at http://www.fema.gov/mit/tsd/MM_DFDB.htm.
- Online Tutorials Page: FEMA is currently developing several multimedia tutorials based on training modules that were originally piloted at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), in Emmitsburg, Maryland, from October 12 - 22, 1999. These modules were designed to provide in-depth training in different facets of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and to support FEMA's public education and outreach efforts as part of the Map Modernization Plan. Get information about the online tutorials that are planned or in development at http://www.fema.gov/mit/tsd/OT_main.htm.
- Revised Map Modernization Content: The Map Modernization section has been reformatted for easier navigation and visual attractiveness. Each active task has its own web page with links to supporting and related content. All 23 tasks can be accessed directly from the main Map Modernization page with one click. Two scrolling banners offer links to Work in Progress articles and "hot" topics such as downloadable Progress Reports and Map Modernization Power Point Presentations. Users may also sign-up for a listserv on this page. View the revised pages at http://www.fema.gov/mit/tsd/MM_main.htm.

- **New content for Mapping Needs Assessment Program (MNAP):** New content has been added, including updated charts summarizing needs, e-mail links to key MNAP contacts, links to the MNAP regulatory mandate, and a description of the MNUSS database for tracking needs nationwide. View the new content at http://www.fema.gov/mit/tsd/MN_main.htm.
- **Updated Fees Page:** The Federal Register notice changing the Back-up Data fee for initiating a back-up data request from \$140 to \$120 has also been posted to the site. View the updated information at http://www.floodmaps.net/mit/tsd/FRM_fees.htm.

Latest Site News: The FHM web team has completed significant site revisions and research, and has offered assistance to other groups over the last month. The most recent activities are listed below.

- **Assisting with Project Impact Listserv:** A new listserv for Project Impact has been set up for Priscilla Scruggs and Jennifer East of the Project Impact Team. The listserv will be used by the Project Impact Team to communicate news, resources and success stories to Project Impact Communities and FEMA and State Project Impact staff. The FHM web team provided set-up as well as on-site and phone orientation to Priscilla Scruggs. The FHM Web Team will be entering approximately 200 members into this listserv to get it ready for use. After set-up, this listserv is designed to be fully administered by the Project Impact Team with minimal contractor involvement.
- **Online Multimedia Tutorial Progress Reports:** Several online multimedia tutorials are either in development or planned for development over the coming months. Many of these tutorials are based on the training modules that were originally piloted at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), in Emmitsburg, Maryland, from October 12-22, 1999. These modules were designed to provide in-depth training in different facets of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and to support FEMA's public education and outreach efforts as part of the Map Modernization program. A brief description and progress report for each online tutorial project is included below:
 - *Quick-2, Version 2.0 Tutorial* - This tutorial, which is being developed in Macromedia Flash (a multimedia software package), will use sample data sets to illustrate the functionality of the Quick-2 program. *Projected completion: May 2000.*
 - *LOMA Tutorial* - This tutorial is intended to walk users through the LOMA application process. A tutorial prototype is available for preliminary content review at http://www.floodmaps.net/Practice/OT_loma.pdf. *Projected completion: May 2000.*
 - *NFF Tutorial* - This tutorial will teach site visitors to use the NFF software to calculate peak discharge information. *Projected completion: June 2000.*

- *How to Read a FIRM* – This tutorial will contain information to educate the user on the use and application of FIRMs. Each component of the FIRM will be investigated. *Projected completion: June 2000.*
- *How to Read a FIS* – This tutorial will contain information to educate the user on the use and application of FISs. Each aspect of the FIS will be investigated. *Projected completion: June 2000.*
- *LOMR Tutorial* – This tutorial will take the user through the LOMR and CLOMR application process. It will include an overview of the NFIP, information on NFIP regulations, and other pertinent topics. *Projected completion: September 2000.*
- *GIS Tutorial* – This tutorial will use existing GIS demonstrations and training materials as a basis for the creation of an overview that explains how FEMA's Mitigation Directorate uses GIS to meet mapping and analysis requirements. *Projected completion: September 2000.*
- **Automated Review of the Site:** Using Linkbot Pro on an NT server, we have scheduled to automatically review the site nightly. FHM team members check the report each morning and make any necessary repairs. Some pertinent information gathered from the latest report is included below.
 - Broken links: 0
 - Total files:* 1654

**Total files include HTML pages, images, Adobe Acrobat PDF files, Microsoft Word WinZip Archives, etc.*
- **Listserv Sign-ups Continue to Grow:** As of May 11, 2000, 899 subscribers are receiving e-mail updates on Flood Hazard Mapping. So far in May, 71 new members have signed up for the listserv. Two listservs were distributed on May 10, 2000. The first announced the posting of information concerning the Mapping Needs Assessment Process (MNAP). The second announced posting of revised content for the DFIRM Spatial Database. E-mails like these are sent out when important new content is available on the web site or to advertise a training course or FEMA event. The new FHM web team goal is to average one new listserv posting per week.

FHM Web Site Project Status

The FHM project status summary outlines the progress on active tasks over the last month, by contractor. A primary point of contact for each contractor is included in this section along with a brief description of the scope of work for each task. These descriptions provide general background information concerning the specific tasks.

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Match the number of the following task descriptions to the ID in the table on page 2 to get a summary of information for a particular task.

1. **Quick-2 Tutorial**: Create a multimedia tutorial based on the previously developed software training module (used at the Emmitsburg training facility) to help teach engineers, as well as the general public, how to use the Quick-2 software to calculate BFEs in Zone A areas. This tutorial will use sample data sets to illustrate the functionality of the program. Supplementary example input information will be provided for download by users who would like additional exposure to the program.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Team: Bill Blanton, - FEMA; Elmer Knoderer and John Antkowiak (tutorial review), Keith Steury and Mike Ott (tutorial development) - D&D; other FHM web team members.
Projected Completion: May 2000.
2. **NFF Tutorial**: Create a multimedia tutorial based on the previously developed software training module (used at Emmitsburg) to teach site visitors to use the NFF software to calculate peak discharge information.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed Team: Bill Blanton - FEMA; USGS representative, TBD - USGS; Keith Steury, Mike Ott - D&D; other FHM web team members.
Projected Completion: June 2000.
3. **LOMRs/CLOMRs on the Web White Paper**: Convene a task force of appropriate personnel to address the topic(s), conduct technical and regulatory research, and develop a white paper to outline a proposed phased approach and budget estimate for completion of the task.
FEMA Lead: Sally Magee
Proposed Team: Dave Jula, Eric Simmons, Keith Steury - D&D; other team members, TBD.
Projected Completion: July 2000.

4. Preliminary/CBRS Maps on the Web White Paper: Convene a task force of appropriate personnel to address the topic(s), conduct technical and regulatory research, and develop a white paper to outline a proposed phased approach and budget estimate for completion of the task.
FEMA Lead: Mark Crowell
Proposed Team: Tony Hake, Sue Hoegberg, Steve Kalaf, Keith Steury - D&D; other team members, TBD.
Projected Completion: September 2000.

5. LOMR Tutorial: Create a multimedia tutorial, based on the existing NFIP Revisions and Amendments training module, to take users through the process of applying for LOMRs and CLOMRs. The tutorial will include an overview of the NFIP, information on NFIP Regulations, and other pertinent topics.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed Team: Bill Blanton - FEMA; Keith Steury, Mike Ott - D&D; other FHM web team members.
Projected Completion: September 2000.

ID	Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
1	Quick-2 Tutorial	Latest tutorial iteration demonstrated at May 4, 2000, web meeting (John Magnotti in attendance). Detailed review of the tutorial was completed April 21, 2000. Comments forwarded to John Magnotti and Bill Blanton on May 10, 2000.	98% complete. The first release of the tutorial will be presented during the next FHM web site meeting (May 18, 2000).
2	NFF Tutorial	Tutorial was discussed in the May 4, 2000, FHM web site meeting. Began coordination with Bill Kirby at the USGS on May 11, 2000. Initial storyboard created for the tutorial.	Just started.
3	LOMRs/ CLOMRs on the Web White Paper	Making contact with proposed team members and initiating project start.	Just started.
4	Preliminary/CBRS Maps on the Web White Paper	Making contact with proposed team members. Project not started.	0% complete.
5	LOMR Tutorial	Project not started.	0% complete.

General Maintenance: The following table provides information concerning ongoing maintenance-level support for the Flood Hazard Mapping web site.

Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
General Maintenance	Please visit our task-tracking log to view details regarding the most recent maintenance tasks. *	This budget has been approved by FEMA. A Task Management Plan is currently being developed for this task. This plan will be presented to FEMA in the near future.

*<http://www.floodmaps.net/fhmtracker/default.asp?direction=desc>

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Match the number of the following task descriptions to the ID in the table on page 7 to get a summary of information for a particular task.

1. BFE Notices on the Web White Paper: Prepare a memo from Mike Armstrong to FEMA Counsel with Mitigation's proposed approach to this effort – asking for their legal opinion. Convene a joint contractor task force to develop a white paper to include proposed phased approach, on-going updates, and associated budget estimates. Prepare pilot web page(s) for review and comment.
FEMA Lead: Matt Miller
Proposed FEMA Team: Mike Grimm, Doug Bellomo, Bill Blanton
Draft Memo Completed: March 2000 (delivered to Matt Miller).
Projected White Paper Completion: June 2000 (subject to Counsel's legal determination).
2. LOMA Tutorial: Create a tutorial that explains the LOMA application process, including necessary forms and information.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed FEMA Team: Bill Blanton, Katie Hayden, Mark Crowell.
Projected Completion: LOMA Tutorial: May 2000. LOMA submittals on the web: coordinated with LOMA 2000.
3. LOMA 2000 Database tie-in: A second phase will enable the completion and submittal of LOMA's via the web into an interim database compatible with LOMA 2000. Prepare a white paper focusing on the process and verification issues for a fully on-line LOMA submittal. Coordinate with the LOMA 2000 work group to format data from the tutorial for direct import into the LOMA 2000 database. Include an interim process for notification of submittal and the data validation prior to import to LOMA 2000.
FEMA Lead: Mark Crowell (with MCC's review)
Projected Completion: Online submittal May 2000. Database tie-in: Subject to joint contractor MIS schedule.
4. GIS Demo and Tutorial: Use existing GIS demos and training as a basis for the creation of an overview that explains how FEMA's Mitigation Directorate uses GIS to meet mapping and analysis requirements. Show screen shot examples of GIS projects underway such as the new DFIRMs, Hazard Exposure Study, etc. Create appropriate links to other related hazard GIS sites. As appropriate, a GIS quiz may be prepared as well.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti. Proposed FEMA Team: Stu Nishenko and Ed Corvi.
Projected Completion: September 2000.

5. Create Database for Study Status Web Pages: Create a web database to automatically generate study status pages, including information on up-coming meetings and milestones, a map of the study location, and e-mail contact information for FEMA regional representatives.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed FEMA Team: Stu Nishenko and Ed Corvi.
Projected Completion: Depends on availability of GIS infrastructure on MSC server. This activity is currently unfunded.

6. Animations for the LOMA Tutorial: Includes the creation of an image map and animations demonstrating riverine erosion, neighborhood and aerial views of flood profiles, and lowest adjacent grade. Include five animations with natural sound.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed FEMA Team: Bill Blanton.
Projected Completion: September 2000.

7. LOMAs on the Web White Paper: Coordinate with LOMA 2000 group and the Map Service Center. Conduct research and programming to the demonstration level. Prepare a white paper to include proposed phased approach and budget estimate.
FEMA Lead: Mark Crowell
Proposed FEMA Team: John Magnotti.
Projected Completion: Tied to the joint contractor MIS.

ID	Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
1	BFE Notices on the Web White Paper	Individual discussions held, meeting pending, regulations and background information research underway. Prototype underway.	25% complete.
2	LOMA Tutorial	Content drafted, programming underway.	50% complete.
3	LOMA 2000 Database tie-in	Meetings held, database tie-in structure under development.	15% complete.
4	GIS Demo and Tutorial	Discussions underway. Meeting planned for late May. On schedule.	5% complete.
5	Create database for Study Status web pages	Discussions underway. ST_hot.htm for new studies created for immediate outreach needs. Schedule tied to MICS and joint contractor MIS.	5% complete.
6	Animations for the LOMA tutorial	Discussions underway. Base map research underway. On-schedule.	2% complete.
7	LOMAs on the Web White Paper	On-hold pending the LOMA 2000 rollout.	0% complete.

Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
Special Requests *	1. Created new pages and graphics for Harris County LOMR, including a map, Q&A, and briefing materials. These pages are to be linked from “Hot Map Status” (ST_hot.htm) and “What’s New” (WN_main.htm)	Will be covered under Task 5 budget in second half of FY 2000. This budget is not finalized as of the date of this memorandum.
	2. Revised new FHM main pages and Map Mod pages to conform to FEMA graphical standards	
	3. Created a Project Impact listserv for Priscilla Scruggs. Provided training and data entry support.	
	4. Scanned the “Flood Flow Frequency” manual and posted as .pdf with links from Documents, Engineers, Floodplain Managers and What’s New	
	5. Created a folder off of floodmaps.net for the City of Woodland map update – to facilitate coordination and document review	
	6. Working with the Technical Mapping Advisory Council on an on-line group editing tool in a secure area of floodmaps.net	
	7. Updated and QC’d the Coordination listserv for use by Map Mod	

Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
	8. Developing a CTC tracking and information posting tool for use by FEMA Regions	Funded by Task 10 (Map Mod)

*For more details on these tasks and to view activities prior to March 2000, please visit our task tracking log at <http://www.floodmaps.net/fhmtracker/default.asp?direction=desc>

Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
General Maintenance	Please visit our task-tracking log to view details regarding the most recent maintenance tasks. *	Will be covered under Task 5 budget in second half of FY 2000. This budget is not finalized as of the date of this memorandum.

*<http://www.floodmaps.net/fhmtracker/default.asp?direction=desc>

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Match the number of the following task descriptions to the ID in the table on the next page to get a summary of information for a particular task.

1. How to Read a FIRM: Develop a web-based tutorial on how to read a FIRM. The tutorial will contain information to educate the users on its use and application. It will take the user through each aspect of a FIRM, such as the legend and notes.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed Team: Bill Blanton, Anne Flowers – FEMA;
Scott Freda, Vince DiCamillo -- PBS&J
Projected Completion: June 2000.

2. How to Read a FIS: Develop a web-based tutorial on how to read a FIS report. The tutorial will contain information to educate the users on its use and application. It will take the user through each aspect of a FIS, such as profiles, cross-sections, and notes.
FEMA Lead: John Magnotti
Proposed Team: Bill Blanton– FEMA; Gary Guhl -- PBS&J
Projected Completion: June 2000.

3. Backup Data on the Web: Assemble a task force and conduct technical research on supplying back-up data through the web. Develop a white paper including a phased approach to deploying the data, along with a budget estimate and schedule.
FEMA Leads: Bill Blanton and Mike Grimm
Proposed Team: Mike Gilliam – PBS&J
Projected Completion: August 2000.

4. MNAP Information Post: Develop a white paper for a web-based response area to allow feedback and information to be posted for MNAP. Coordinate with the MNAP group on critical issues and needs. A proposed phased schedule and budget will be prepared.
FEMA Lead: Cindy Croxdale
Proposed Team: TBD

ID	Task	Summary of Recent Activity	Current Status
1	How to Read a FIRM Tutorial	Writing tutorial content. Scanned images working on getting images quality for display and working on file size issues with FIRMs image. Developing a storyboard.	Developing web layout. Working with FIRM images. 20-25% complete.
2	How to Read a FIS Tutorial	Gathered documentation on FISs. Planning tutorial content. Will begin scanning images of FISs.	Just started.
3	Backup Data on the Web	Examining the existing system for requesting and delivering backup data.	1% complete.
4	MNAP Information Post	Project not started.	0% complete.

Distribution with Attachment

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Cindy Croxdale
Anne Flowers
Mike Grimm
Katie Hayden
Sally Magee
John Magnotti
Matt Miller
Stu Nishenko

Distribution without Attachment

Mike Buckley
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Jennifer East
Priscilla Scruggs
Nancy Thrall