

# Flood Hazard Mapping

## TRANSITION TO HOMELAND SECURITY

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, funds were allocated to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to update and transform the Nation's flood maps through Flood Map Modernization (Map Mod). This effort is critical to protecting the Nation through preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery from multiple hazards. These funds will also allow the Department of Homeland Security to develop and maintain effective partnerships and leverage resources that are fundamental to the success of Map Mod.

### CURRENT STATUS OF FLOOD MAPS

Because of limited funding, the Nation's flood maps, an essential tool for flood hazard mitigation in the United States, have not been fully maintained with up-to-date information. For years, the flood hazard mapping program was funded through very limited flood insurance policy "fees" that totaled approximately \$35-50 million per year. As time passed, new development and other factors changed local flood hazards, and the limited funding resulted in a backlog of outdated maps.

Additional funds helped to launch Map Mod through activities such as developing new standards and procedures, expanding the Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program, developing digital flood maps, and initiating a "best practices" effort nationwide.

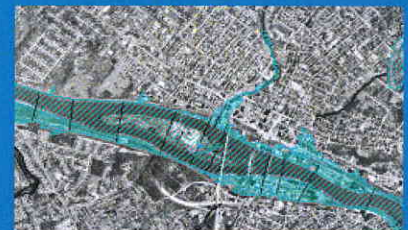
FY 2003 funding was used to initiate flood map updates for priority communities, further develop State and local flood mapping capability, establish a system for exchange of flood hazard data through the Internet, and retool program management to a performance-based system.

### PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Developing and maintaining effective partnerships and leveraging resources are fundamental to the success of Map Mod, and a key element is the CTP Program. Fostering collaboration with Federal, State, and local partners, Map Mod will help improve and maintain the quality and reliability of flood hazard data. The Department of Homeland Security will also be able to coordinate more closely with other Federal agencies in hazard data development and distribution using advanced technology.

### FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

As flood hazard data is updated, the current flood map inventory will change from a paper map system to a digital system. New technology will enhance the usefulness and availability of flood data to all customers.



Digital Flood Hazard Data



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## TRANSITION FROM FEMA TO HOMELAND SECURITY



### IMPLEMENTATION OF FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

A two-pronged approach for updating the Nation's flood hazard data inventory has been implemented. First, with buy-in from our State and local partners, we have developed an approach that focuses on high-risk areas, where progress toward our goal of reducing the loss of life and property can be maximized. As a result, areas with high growth, high population, and a history of significant flood losses will be targeted. To take advantage of economies of scale in these areas, we are investigating the feasibility of basin-wide studies. The second prong of our approach involves capitalizing on areas that have existing data that

can be quickly and efficiently leveraged to produce flood hazard information that supports the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). We will also leverage resources with State, local, and regional partners to produce flood hazard data that supports the NFIP. This approach provides a framework for prioritizing projects and is scalable to accommodate available funding.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR FLOOD HAZARD MAPPING AND FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

For information on Map Mod: [hazards.fema.gov](http://hazards.fema.gov)

For more information on Flood Hazard mapping: [www.fema.gov/fhm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm)

For information on the Cooperating Technical Partners Program: [www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp_main.shtm)

To purchase or order current Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Insurance Study reports: [store.msc.fema.gov](http://store.msc.fema.gov)

For Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: [www.fema.gov/fhm/fq\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm/fq_main.shtm)

