

It Begins with Quality:

Improving Trust in and Use of FEMA's Flood Risk Products

STARR II

JUNE 21, 2018

Introductions



Mary Jo Mullen, PE, PMP - Advantage Strategy Consulting, Inc.

- 10 years at FEMA – R5 and HQ
- Represent STARR II on Flood Risk Products workgroup
- Something you may not know

Marc Pearson, GISP, CFM - Stantec

- 15 years' experience working in flood hazard analysis and mitigation
- Represents STARR II on Guidelines & Standards team and Quality Working Group
- Something you may not know

What You Will Get



- Learn more about the new Quality Standard for FRP rolled out in February 2018
- Understand the benefits of the Quality Standard and how it applies to ongoing and new projects
- Find out more about what is possible now with the Quality Standard in place

Why This Matters



- Every day, public officials use data regarding flood hazards and risks to make decisions to protect their residents, infrastructure and other community resources.
- The data used must be built upon high-quality processes and standards.
 - Confidence
 - Reliability
 - Consistency
- In order for the Flood Risk Products to be used as a risk-informing, decision-making tool set, there must be quality standards and controls in place.



Background

- FEMA initiated the transformation of Map Mod to Risk MAP in 2009.
- Transitioned from a mapping program to one that supported
 - Mapping hazards,
 - Assessing risk. and
 - Planning for mitigation action
- This transformation led to the development of the Flood Risk Products.
- Vision of FRP: the go-to tools that public officials could use to make floodplain management and hazard mitigation decisions.
- Stakeholder Survey indicates the Vision may not be a reality.



Current State



Guidance for Flood Risk
Analysis and Mapping

Quality Management for Flood Risk
Projects

November 2016



4.1 Quality Review for Non-Regulatory Flood Risk Datasets and Products

The following is offered as guidance for Risk MAP practitioners who are tasked with creation of non-regulatory datasets and products in compliance with FEMA standards.

To ensure the highest chance of delivering quality non-regulatory flood risk datasets and products shown in Table 8, Mapping Partners should map out a process that calls for iterative reviews of the non-regulatory datasets and products conducted at strategic points in the data and product development lifecycle.

Mapping Partners who do not already have QC checklists for review of the items shown in Table 8 may use the checklists posted at www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7577.

Quality Challenges



Stakeholder Survey

- Familiarity and experience with FRPs and datasets were limited among external stakeholders.
- This is preventing widespread use.

Quality Working Group + FRP IPT

- 5 recommendations to improve quality of FRP
- Recommendation 2: Develop a new standard that requires the use of the FEMA FRP Checklists.

Inspector General Report

- Complete and upload the required checklists and self-certifications into MIP;
- Validate that flood map project data passes all verification checks prior to issuance of a flood map; and
- Upload documentation of verification check bypasses in the MIP

Introducing SID 628, The Quality Standard



All Flood Risk Products will be deemed of acceptable quality if they meet the following conditions:

- All Flood Risk Products pass the MIP Validation step
- All raster datasets and the Changes Since Last FIRM dataset align with the underlying model information used to develop the associated regulatory products
- All other database elements align with regulatory products as of the time they are contracted, if they are developed from regulatory products

Standard intended to be:

- Simple
- Focus on what is important
- Still allow for flexibility in products & datasets

Applicability of Quality Standard



- Effective for projects funded in FY18 and beyond
- In-flight projects: Regions may choose to fund changes to scope to meet the new Standard.
- Effective projects: Some datasets will not meet the standard
 - No requirement to meet Quality Standard
 - But may want to...



Benefits to Users



- Increased trust in products
- More consistent approach
- Easier to access



Search Results for LISLE, VILLAGE OF

Click [subscribe](#) to receive email notifications when products are updated.

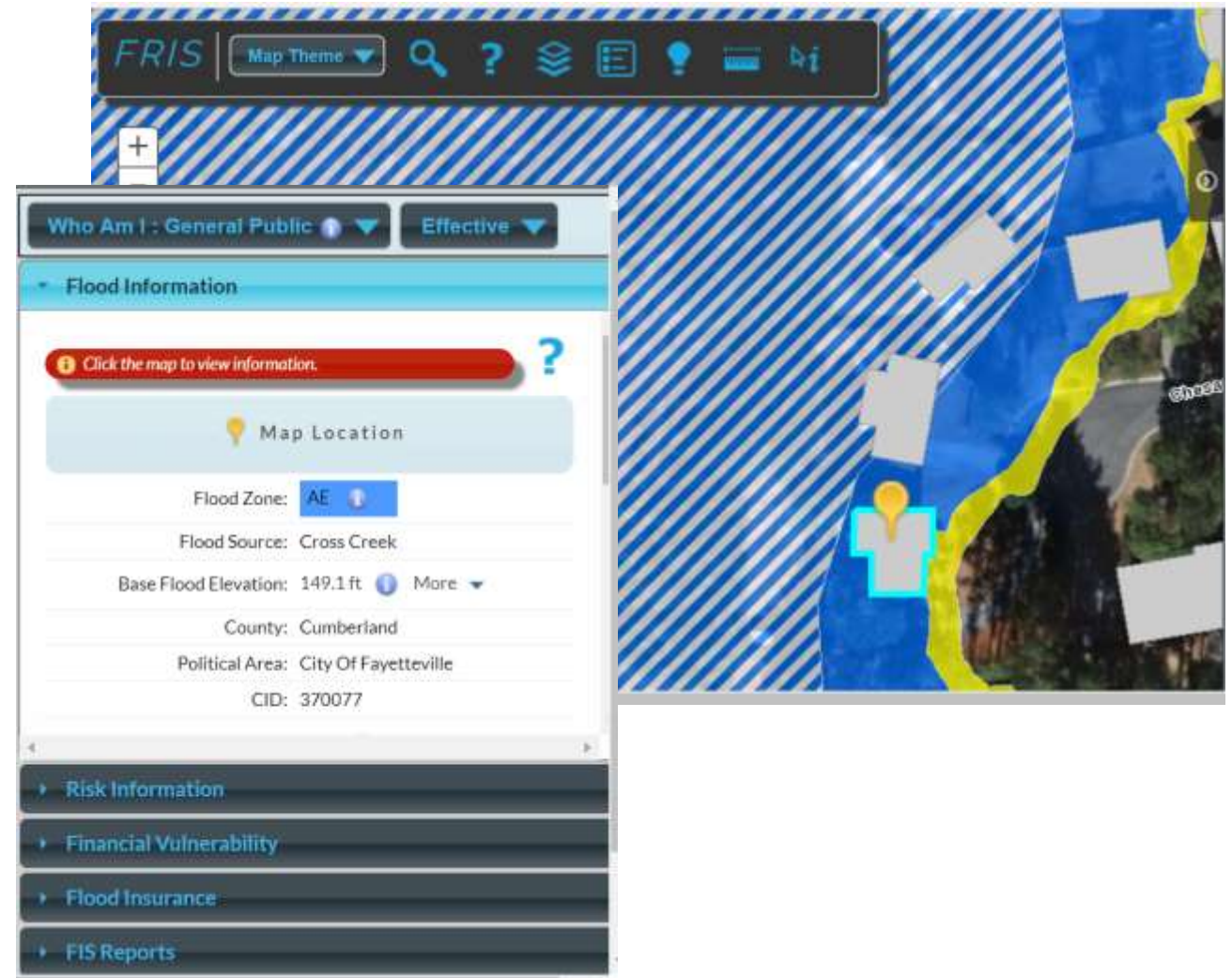
Please Note: Searching All Products by county displays all products for all communities within the county. You can refine your search results by specifying your specific jurisdiction location using the drop-down menus above.

- Effective Products (38) ?
- Preliminary Products (120) ?
- Pending Product (0) ?
- Historic Products (15) ?
- Flood Risk Products (5) ? ←

Benefits to Program



- Responds to Inspector General Findings
- Improves Program Delivery
- Promote consistency in datasets between regions and providers
- Enables seamless coverages of FRP datasets
- Enables future vision of Program



Upcoming Initiatives



- Review of existing Grid datasets for compliance
 - First step toward national layer
 - Initiated a small pilot
- Automated QC Tool
 - Another recommendation of QWG-FRP
 - Ensure consistency in check
 - Provide check efficiently



Questions

