

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

JUN 24 2005

CTPLTR3

Carol Pan

Ms. Pam Brenner
Peterborough Town Administrator
Peterborough Town House
1 Grove Street
Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458

Dear Ms. Brenner:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and GRANIT (Geographically Referenced Analysis and Information Transfer System) at the Complex Systems Research Center (CSRC), a branch of the University of New Hampshire, have entered into a Cooperating Technical Partners agreement to produce a countywide Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) for all jurisdictions within Hillsborough County. We are pleased to have entered into this agreement, which has facilitated strong cooperation between the University, local communities, and FEMA in identifying and mapping flood hazards.

The countywide format FIS and DFIRM combines all flood hazard information for all jurisdictions within Hillsborough County into one seamless set of maps and report. Further, for the communities that had a Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM), as well as a FIRM, all information formerly shown on the FBFM has been combined to be shown on the DFIRM only.

Preliminary FIS Report and DFIRM Panels

Copies of the preliminary FIS Report and DFIRM panels are available for review on the GRANIT's website. We encourage you to visit the website at http://www.granit.sr.unh.edu/dfirms and to publicize the site to residents of your community. This website serves as a means to present and distribute the mapping data and associated reports to communities and the public via the Internet without requiring that the user have sophisticated Geographic Information System software.

The FIS Report and DFIRM panels reflect the following:

• updated, accurate flood hazard data and floodplain mapping (for a detailed description of the areas studied, please see the FIS report).

The DFIRM panels have the following advantages:

• they provide seamless digital map coverage for the entire county; and

• the DFIRM is being produced in countywide format, whereby all jurisdictions are shown on the same set of panels.

For this countywide study, the hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for the revised portions of the Merrimack River, Souhegan River, Baboosic Brook, Chase Brook, Naticook Brook, Nesenkeag Brook, and Tributary B No. 1 were prepared by U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), New Hampshire/Vermont District Office, for FEMA under Inter-Agency Agreement No. EMW-2003-IA-0282. The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for the revised portions of Gumpas Road Brook, Pennichuck Brook, Salmon Brook, and Second Brook were prepared by USGS, New Hampshire/Vermont District Office, for FEMA under Inter-Agency Agreement No. EMW-2002-IA-0115.

In addition, the hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for the revised portions of the Contoocook River, Nubanusit Brook, and Otter Brook in the Town of Peterborough were prepared by DELTA Environmental Services, Inc.

Base (1% annual chance) Flood Elevations (BFEs) on the DFIRM are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). Flood elevations that were not restudied during the creation of this countywide DFIRM have been converted from National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD 29) to NAVD 88. Newly determined flood elevations are in NAVD 88.

Public Participation Meeting

In the near future, a member of our Regional Office staff will be arranging a meeting with community officials and interested citizens from the county and its incorporated areas. The purpose of the meeting will be to officially present the findings contained in the FIS Report and DFIRM and to solicit comments.

Your community's comments on the preliminary FIS Report and DFIRM panels are an important part of our review process and will be carefully considered before the FIS Report and DFIRM panels are published in final form.

Revalidation of Letters of Map Change

To assist your community in maintaining the DFIRM, we have enclosed a Summary of Map Actions to document previous Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) (i.e., Letters of Map Amendment and Letters of Map Revision) that will be superseded when the revised DFIRM panels become effective. The LOMCs were divided into four categories:

Category 1 – LOMCs that have been incorporated into the preliminary FIS Report and DFIRM panels;

Category 2 – LOMCs that have not been shown on the preliminary DFIRM panels because of scale limitations or because the LOMC that was issued had determined that the lots or structures involved were outside the Special Flood Hazard Area shown on the DFIRM panels;

Category 3 – LOMCs that have not been included on the revised DFIRM panels because they have been superseded by new flood hazard data; and

Category 4 – LOMCs that will be re-determined.

The LOMCs in Category 2 of the Summary of Map Actions are automatically revalidated through a single letter that reaffirms the validity of the previously issued LOMC. LOMCs issued for multiple lots or structures where the determination for one or more of the lots or structures has changed (Category 4) cannot be revalidated through this administrative process. However, we will review the data that were previously submitted as part of the original LOMC request and issue a new determination for the subject properties after the DFIRM effective date.

Contact Information

If you are interested in discussing the FIS Report and DFIRMs, please contact the Director, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division of FEMA in Boston, Massachusetts at (617) 956-7573, or the FEMA Map Assistance Center toll free at (877) 336-2627 (877-FEMA MAP). Questions pertaining to GRANIT's website can be directed to Ms. Jennifer Merriam at (603) 862-1792, or via e-mail at Jennifer.Merriam@unh.edu.

In addition, the New Hampshire Floodplain Management Program in the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Planning is available to assist your community. You may reach Ms. Joanne Cassulo, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) State Coordinator, at (603) 271-2155, by mail at the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Planning, 57 Regional Drive, Suite 3, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-8519, or by e-mail at joanne.cassulo@nh.gov.

Sincerely,

Doug Bellomo, P.E., Chief Hazard Identification Section Mitigation Division Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate

Enclosure

 cc: Mr. Thomas Weeks, Town of Peterborough Code Enforcement Officer Ms. Fay A. Rubin, CSRC
 FEMA, Region I
 NFIP State Coordinator

3. LOMRs and LOMAs Superseded

The LOMRs and LOMAs listed below have not been reflected on the preliminary FIRM because they have been superseded by new detailed flooding data or sufficient information could not be located on which to make a determination. The reason each has been superseded is noted below. When the revised FIRM becomes effective, these LOMRs and LOMAs will no longer be in force.

LOMC

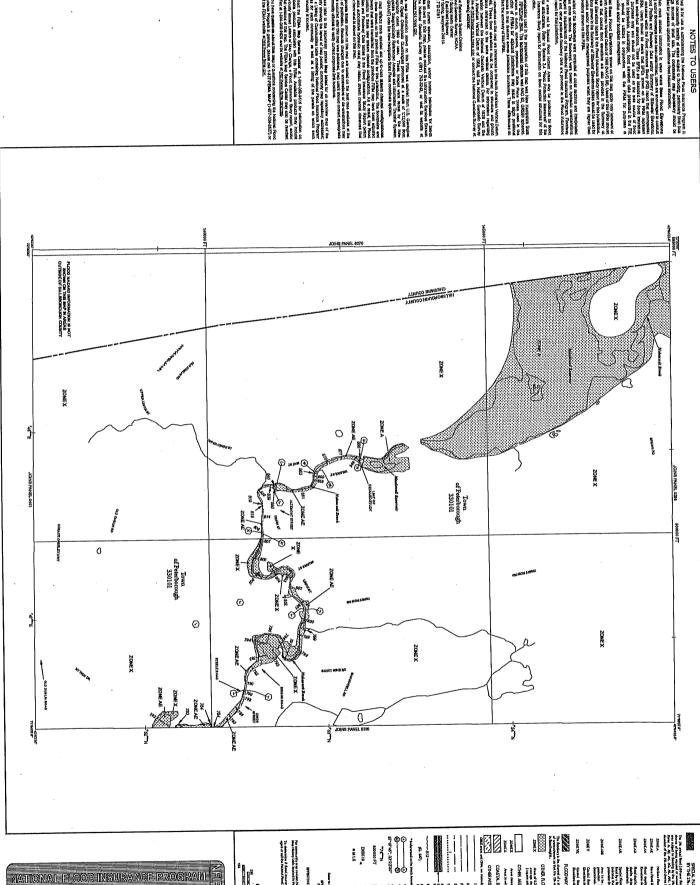
None

4. LOMRs and LOMAs to be Re-determined

The LOMCs in Category 2 of this form are revalidated through a single letter that reaffirms the validity of a previously issued LOMC. Therefore, LOMCs issued for multiple lots or structures where the determination for one or more of the lots or structures have changed cannot be revalidated through this administrative process. However, we will review the data which were previously submitted as part of the original LOMR or LOMA request listed below and issue a new determination for the subject properties after the FIRM effective date.

LOMC

None



FIRM FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MA

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PANEL 288 OF 701

SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

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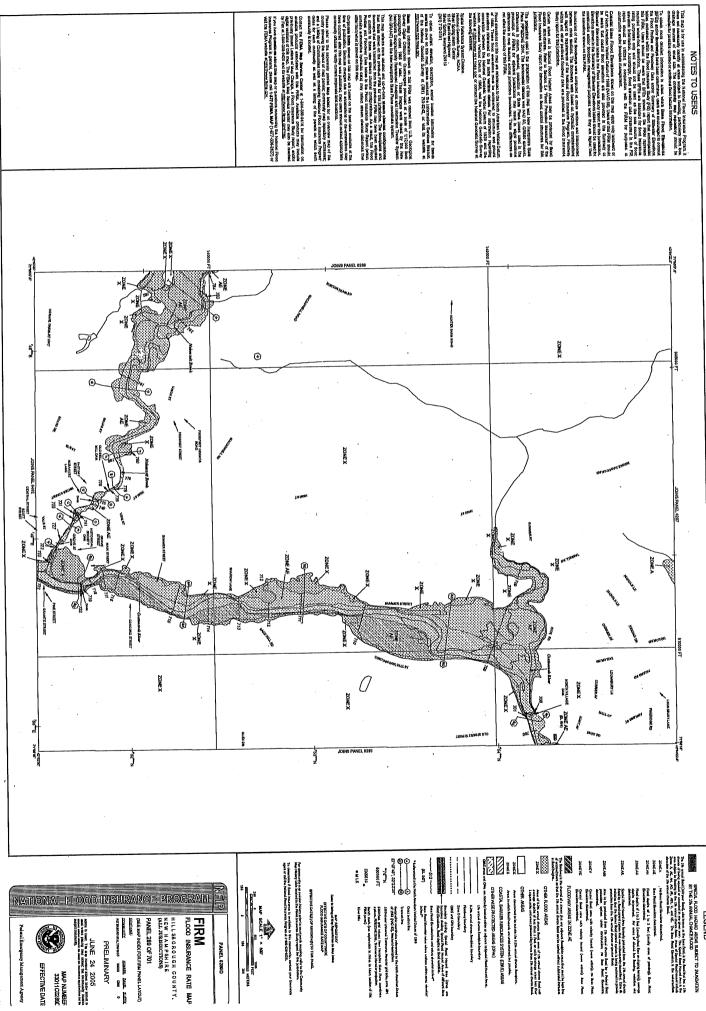
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NEW HAMPSHIRE
(ALL JURISDICTIONS)

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