

How to Look Up A Regulatory “Effective” Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

Google “FEMA FIRM”

Or go to <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>



The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) website. At the top left is the FEMA logo. To its right is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a map showing a flood hazard area with a red and white striped pattern, labeled 'ZONE A'. The map includes street names 'MARTIN AVE' and 'RUTLAND RD', and a numerical value '574.9' near a point 'A'. Below the map, the text 'Welcome to FEMA's Flood Map Service Center' is displayed. Underneath, there is a section titled 'Looking for a Flood Map?' with a question mark icon. Below this is a search input field with the placeholder text 'Enter an address, a place, or longitude/latitude coordinates:' and a 'Search' button. To the left of the search button is a link that says 'Search All Products'. To the right of the search input is a section titled 'About Flood Map Service Center' with a paragraph of text: 'The FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Use the MSC to find your official flood map, access a range of other flood hazard products, and take advantage of'.

Type in the address to get the relevant **effective** map

Effective FIRM, Pt 2

FEMA

You have selected a location in
WISCASSET, TNW / LINCOLN CO

The flood map for the selected area is number **2302230010B**, effective on **04/16/1991** ?

VIEW **DOWNLOAD**

Letters of Map Change ?

- Revisions (0)
- Amendments (0)
- Revalidations (0)

Get additional products for **WISCASSET, TNW / LINCOLN CO** ?

1. Left click on the map to move the site marker

2. Select "view" option on left

Legend:

- Selected Flood Map Boundary
- Printed Flood Map Boundary
- Non-printed Flood Map Boundary
- Unmapped Area

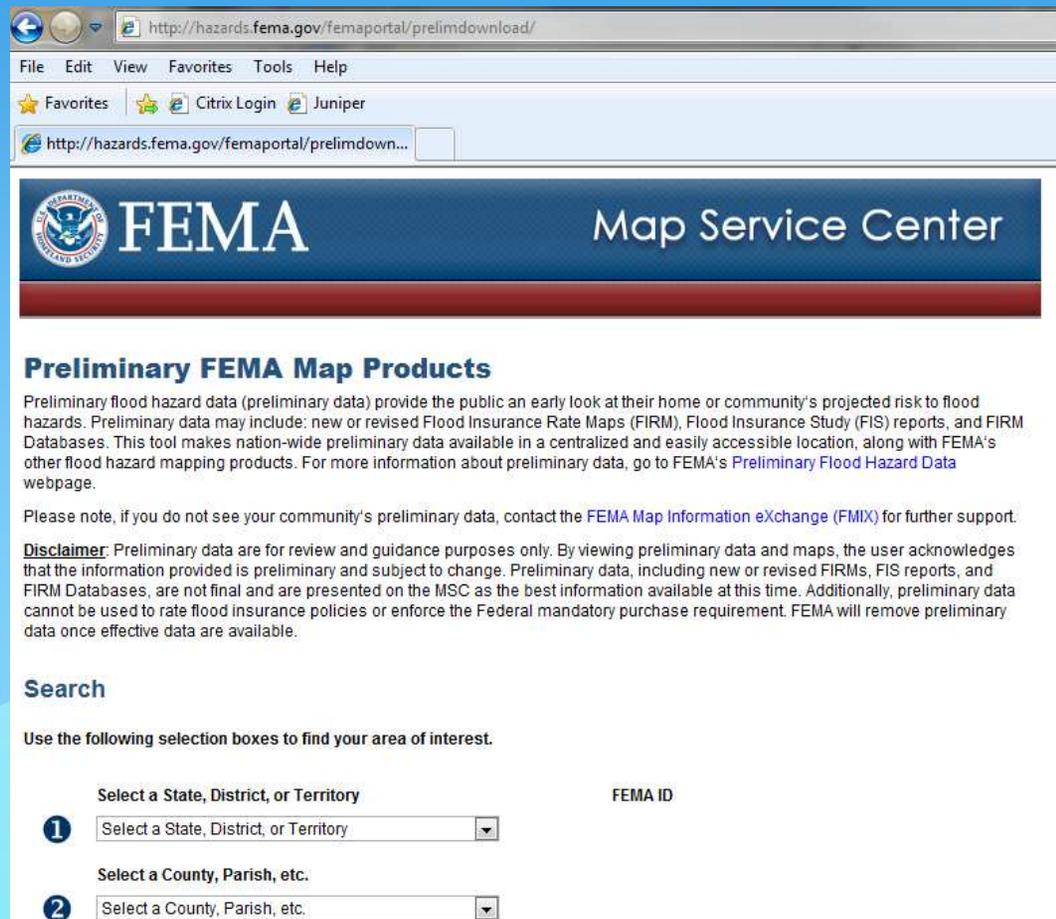
Esri, HERE, DeLorme, iPC

Use the lefthand toolbar to Make a FIRMette

The image displays two screenshots of the FEMA FIRMS software interface. The top screenshot shows a detailed map view with a toolbar on the left. The toolbar includes a 'Help' icon, a 'Zoom Win' icon, a 'Pan' icon, 'Zoom In' and 'Zoom Out' icons, '1:1 Zoom In' and 'MAX Zoom Out' icons, and a 'Make a FIRMette' button. The main map area shows a detailed view of a river and surrounding land with a legend on the right. The bottom screenshot shows a zoomed-out view of the same area, with the 'Make a FIRMette' button highlighted in the toolbar. The interface includes a FEMA logo, a scale of 4%, and a LOMC of 1.

Locate Preliminary Map Panels and Flood Insurance Studies on the FEMA Map Service Center

Google “FEMA Preliminary Map” or go to:
www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload/>. The page features the FEMA logo and the text "Map Service Center". Below this is a section titled "Preliminary FEMA Map Products" with a paragraph of text and a "Disclaimer" section. At the bottom, there is a "Search" section with the instruction "Use the following selection boxes to find your area of interest." and two dropdown menus. The first dropdown is labeled "Select a State, District, or Territory" and has a circled "1" next to it. The second dropdown is labeled "Select a County, Parish, etc." and has a circled "2" next to it. To the right of the first dropdown is the text "FEMA ID".

Preliminary FEMA Map Products

Preliminary flood hazard data (preliminary data) provide the public an early look at their home or community's projected risk to flood hazards. Preliminary data may include: new or revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports, and FIRM Databases. This tool makes nation-wide preliminary data available in a centralized and easily accessible location, along with FEMA's other flood hazard mapping products. For more information about preliminary data, go to FEMA's [Preliminary Flood Hazard Data](#) webpage.

Please note, if you do not see your community's preliminary data, contact the [FEMA Map Information eXchange \(FMIX\)](#) for further support.

Disclaimer: Preliminary data are for review and guidance purposes only. By viewing preliminary data and maps, the user acknowledges that the information provided is preliminary and subject to change. Preliminary data, including new or revised FIRMs, FIS reports, and FIRM Databases, are not final and are presented on the MSC as the best information available at this time. Additionally, preliminary data cannot be used to rate flood insurance policies or enforce the Federal mandatory purchase requirement. FEMA will remove preliminary data once effective data are available.

Search

Use the following selection boxes to find your area of interest.

Select a State, District, or Territory FEMA ID

1 Select a State, District, or Territory

Select a County, Parish, etc.

2 Select a County, Parish, etc.

1. Select “Maine”
2. Select your county
3. On the next page, scroll to the bottom of the list of PDFs to one starting with “IND” for index. Use the Index map to locate the relevant map panel

Address Search for Preliminary Flood Zones on Maine Flood Hazard Map

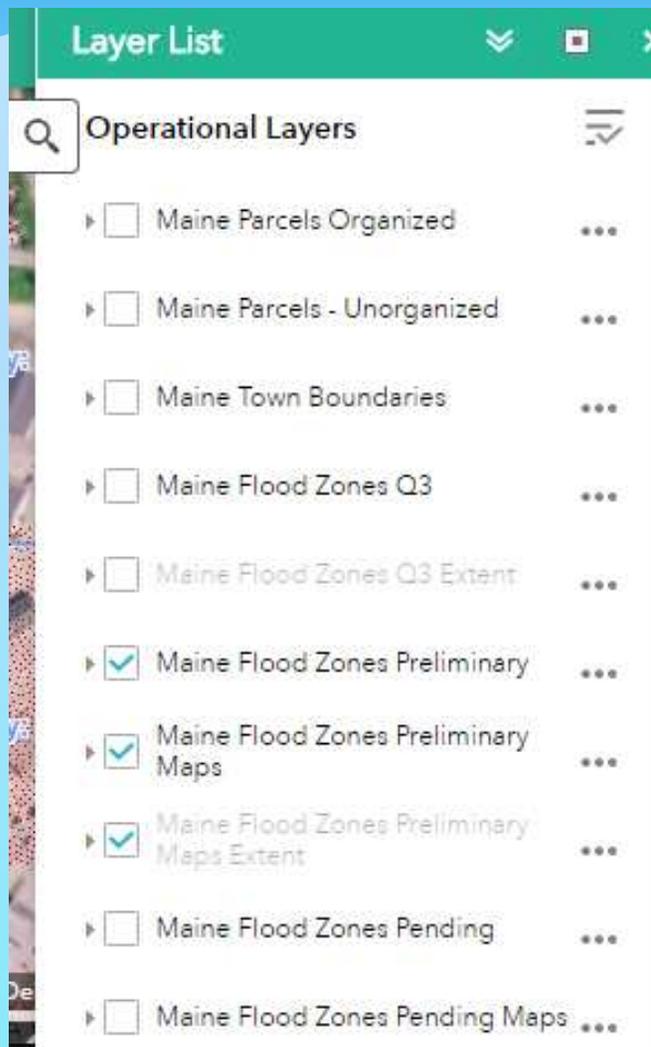
Go to the Floodplain Mapping Resources page, located at:
<http://www.maine.gov/dacf/flood/mapping.shtml>

Click the link for the Maine Flood Hazard Map



1. Use the address input bar in the upper left to search for a site
2. Open the layer list in the upper right (the icon that looks like a stack of papers) and make sure the Q3 layers are unchecked, and the Preliminary layers are checked.

Address Search for Preliminary Flood Zone Data on Maine Flood Hazard Map (Pt 2)



In the “Layer List”

Uncheck the box to the left of “Maine Flood Zones Q3”

Check the box to the left of “Maine Flood Zones Preliminary”

Notes:

Q3 data is a very rough approximation of the existing flood zone. Consult the effective FIRM for more precise flood zone depiction

Look up Pending Map Panels and Flood Insurance Studies on the FEMA Map Service Center

To access panel maps that are no longer “preliminary” and are scheduled to go final, use the FEMA Map Service Center:

<http://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch>

Search for Maine, your County, and community (or select the County name-county wide option under the community search pulldown menu – for example: “Waldo – County Wide”)

Map Service Center - Pending Maps (pt 2)

**FEMA**

State: MAINE

County: WALDO COUNTY

Community: WALDO COUNTY-WIDE

Jurisdiction Name or FEMA ID
(Ex. Fairfax County-wide or 51059C)

Product ID
(Ex. Panel Number, LOMC Case Number)

Map Service Center Posting Date Range (optional) [?](#)

Date From: Date To:

Search Clear All Fields

Search Results for WALDO COUNTY-WIDE

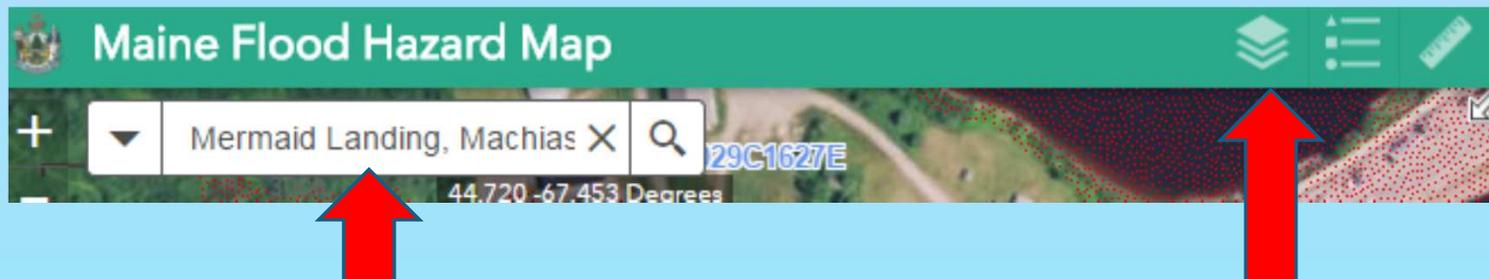
[Click subscribe to receive email notifications when products are updated.](#)

- Effective Products (1) [?](#)
- Preliminary Products (0) [?](#)
- Pending Product (118) [?](#)**
- Historic Products (0) [?](#)
- Flood Risk Products (4) [?](#)

Address Search for Pending Flood Zones on Maine Flood Hazard Map

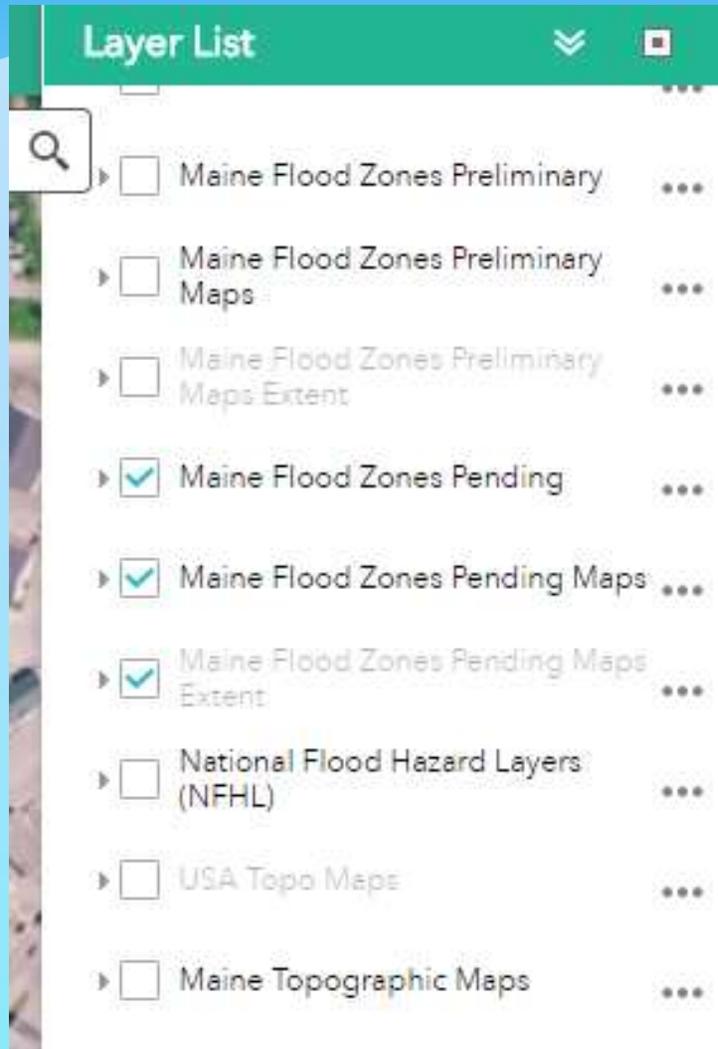
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1. Use the address input bar in the upper left to search for a site
2. Open the layer list in the upper right (the icon that looks like a stack of papers)

Address Search for Pending Flood Zones on Maine Flood Hazard Map (pt 2)



In the “Layer List”

Uncheck the box to the left of “Maine Flood Zones Q3” and “Maine Flood Zones Preliminary”

Check the box to the left of “Maine Flood Zones Pending”

Notes:

NFHL data will show the location of existing Letters of Map Change.

National Flood Hazard Layer

Once the new digital maps become effective, they will become part of the National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL), which is served up by FEMA's Map Service Center at

<https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/wps/portal/NFHLWMS>

And the Maine Flood Hazard Map at

<http://www.maine.gov/dacf/flood/mapping.shtml>

Note about NFHL

The NFHL Special Flood Hazard Area data is immensely helpful in planning and estimating, but does not by itself represent a regulatory product as the effective printed maps do. For that reason, if you are making a regulatory decision, **please use FEMA's Map Service Center to create a FIRMette to use as your reference of the effective map**