

FEMA Map Modernization

Last Updated: (August 27, 2014)

FEMA is working on updating the flood insurance rate maps for all coastal counties across the United States, including Maine. The new maps will be created on a county-wide basis and using a new digital format. During the map revision process, the Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) is working to coordinate communication with landowners of the unorganized territories in affected counties. This webpage will be updated periodically to help landowners and other interested parties understand the current status.

FEMA has released preliminary maps for the following 5 Maine counties: Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, and Waldo. These revised maps may include the addition or modification of base flood elevations, base flood depths, special flood hazard area boundaries, zone designations, or regulatory floodways. FEMA is providing an opportunity during this preliminary map stage for landowners and communities to comment on or file an appeal of the proposed maps. The 90-day period provided for the appeal process varies by county. Please see the table below. All comments and appeals relating to the revised map areas of the unorganized territories in Maine must be submitted through the LUPC. The LUPC will review them for completeness and submit them as a package to FEMA in advance of the 90-day deadline. FEMA plans to hold public meetings in each of the affected counties. Details will be posted when that information becomes available at: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/flood/>. See links to the landowner notifications below for more details by county.

Once the appeal period concludes, FEMA will resolve all appeals and issue a letter of final determination, which is expected in January of 2015. At that point, the LUPC will have 6 months to adopted references to the new FEMA maps into its regulations to remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program. Landowners with property that is newly mapped in the Special Flood Hazard Area and that are covered by a mortgage should be aware that it may be significantly less expensive to purchase flood insurance prior to the final adoption of the revised flood insurance rate maps. Please contact an insurance agent or visit www.floodsmart.gov for more information on flood insurance and the National Flood Insurance Program.

FEMA is also working on new maps for Washington County, but the release of the preliminary maps for that county is not expected until August of 2015.

Copies of FEMA's preliminary maps can be viewed from the FEMA website: <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload/>.

County	Preliminary Maps Released	Start of Appeal Period	Appeal Submission Due to LUPC	Appeal Deadline
Hancock	4/24/2014	8/14/2014	10/27/2014	11/10/2014
Lincoln	2/7/2014	8/6/2014	10/17/2014	10/31/2014
Sagadahoc	1/31/2014	8/6/2014	10/17/2014	10/31/2014
Waldo	1/17/2014	8/7/2014	10/20/2014	11/3/2014
Knox	1/31/2014	8/7/2014	10/20/2014	11/3/2014

Documents are provided in PDF and Microsoft Word formats. To view PDF documents, you will need the free [Adobe Reader](#). To view MS Word documents, you will need Microsoft Word or the free [Word Viewer](#).

Resources

Link to: [Notice for Preliminary Maps in Hancock County \(DOCX, 248 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Hancock County \(PDF, 47 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Knox County \(DOCX, 247 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Knox County \(PDF, 101 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Lincoln County \(DOCX, 248 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Lincoln County \(PDF, 101 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Sagadahoc County \(DOCX, 247 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Sagadahoc County \(PDF, 101 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Waldo County \(DOCX, 247 kb\)](#)
[Notice for Preliminary Maps in Waldo County \(PDF, 101 kb\)](#)

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Stacie R. Beyer at 207-941-4593, email at Stacie.R.Beyer or 22 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0022

Credits



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