

FEMA Map Modernization

Last Updated: (January 29, 2015)

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.

Early in 2014, FEMA 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 provided an opportunity during the preliminary map stage for landowners and communities to comment on or file an appeal of the proposed maps. The 90-day appeal period for each of the 5 counties has closed. No comments or appeals relating to the revised map areas of the unorganized territories in Maine were submitted to the LUPC.

Currently, FEMA is working to resolve appeals submitted for property in organized municipalities of Hancock and Knox counties. However, they have issued a letter of final determination for Lincoln, Sagadahoc, and Waldo counties. *For Lincoln, Sagadahoc, and Waldo counties, the LUPC has 6 months to adopt references to the new FEMA maps into its regulations to remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program. The agency has initiated the necessary rulemaking process. See the public notice form linked below.* 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 for Hancock and Knox counties can be viewed from the FEMA website: <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload/>.

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

Date	Description	Additional Information
01/29/2015	Public Notice	Public Notice for Lincoln, Sagadahoc and Waldo Counties Public Notice for Lincoln, Sagadahoc and Waldo Counties (PDF 16 KB)
01/29/2015	Letters of Final Determination	Letters of Final Determination for Lincoln County (PDF 3.4 MB) Letters of Final Determination for Sagadahoc County (PDF 190 KB) Letters of Final Determination for Waldo County (PDF 585 KB)

08/27/2014	Notice for Preliminary Maps	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)
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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