



FACTSHEET

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New FEMA Archived Flood Data Website Available

The LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT FACTSHEET is published through assistance provided by FEMA under the Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The contents do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Federal Government.

FEMA has made it easier to request technical data and information for Flood Insurance Studies and flood maps by launching the new [Archived Flood Data website](#).

Previously, requests were submitted through a paper mail-in process. Now, requests can be made online, helping to avoid delays, reduce manual data entry, and improve accessibility, accuracy and security.

Through this website, users can request Flood Insurance Studies. These studies include data about watercourses, lakes and coastal flood hazard areas, such as hydraulics, hydrology, levees and topography.

Users can also request other important flood information, including Letters of Map Changes, Letters of Map Revisions, Letters of Map Amendments, elevation certificates and final map products.

The website can be accessed at [Archived Flood Data | FEMA.gov](#). Users making requests on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency should use their existing Risk Analysis & Management Access Portal accounts to maintain their fee exemption status.

(Taken from ASFPM's News & Views, February 2, 2026)

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FEMA's Prep Toolkit Helps Emergency Managers Save Time and Resources

[PrepToolkit](#) is an online portal that provides communities with tools to help them implement all six areas of the [National Preparedness System](#). It helps people at all levels of government and the private and non-profit sectors work together to prepare for risks their communities face. Users can easily share ideas, information, files and data with peers and stakeholders across the nation.

One feature is the Exercise Builder tool, developed and supported by the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program. This tool helps you manage and execute exercise planning, design, operation and evaluation all in one location.

Exercise Builder saves emergency managers time and resources, so they can focus on the key capabilities they need to respond effectively. By streamlining exercise planning through structured templates and workflows, the tool:

- Reduces time and effort needed to design effective exercises.
- Helps ensure exercises are structured around the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program doctrine, improving the quality and consistency of preparedness activities.
- Enhances collaboration by allowing state, local, tribal and territorial stakeholders to work together in real time from multiple locations.

These exercises help organizations respond better to real world events.

On January 5, FEMA's National Exercise Division held a two-day training and technical assistance session on PrepToolkit for Florida's emergency managers. The session was held to prepare them for a full-scale state-wide exercise.

To learn more about PrepToolkit and how emergency managers can use the tool to prepare for disasters, visit [PrepToolkit.fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov/prep-toolkit).



(Taken from FEMA.gov, Update to the NFIP Technical Bulletins, January 20, 2026)



Actions Taken by FEMA to Update the 2025 CRS Coordinator's Manual

These changes did not affect current community credits. In the few instances directly tied to Community Rating System credits, the language was revised to preserve higher standards protecting communities from the types of flooding affecting their community.

Key Findings

The most significant impacts of the actions taken to update the Community Rating System Coordinator's Manual are:

- Class 1 Prerequisites: The Class 1 prerequisites to manage sea level rise were removed.
- Activity 320 Flood Depth Data Map Information: Element MI3 (credit for showing problems not shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map) was revised to credit extreme high tides to ensure no communities lose credit.
- Activity 450 required the most significant change to the credit criteria. The credit criteria for WMP1 were modified by replacing the sea level rise requirement with a tailwater elevation equal to mean sea level plus three feet, or a higher elevation as determined by the community.



GENERAL ACTIONS TAKEN

Below is a list of the actions undertaken in this effort.

- Combined the 2017 Manual, 2021 Addendum, and 2023 Supplement into one reference document
- Edited certain language and activity characteristics to ensure compliance with Administration priorities



NFIP/ CRS Corner (cont...)

- Removed Appendix D from the document and will prepare a separate document describing the history of the Community Rating System to be published on FEMA's website
- Removed outdated forms (Appendices E and F) and now direct users to FEMA's website to obtain the current forms
- Removed or updated broken links
- Revised references to FEMA's website and updated contact information
- Updated Community Rating System statistics and data
- Updated all insurance references to reflect changes due to the implementation of the current National Flood Insurance Program's pricing approach.
- Replaced "future conditions" with "fully developed land uses" for clarity.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS TAKEN

Below are the individual activities and elements where changes based on the Executive Orders were made.

Activity 320: Map Information Service

322.c Other problems not shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (MI3). Credit for providing information on Flood Hazards not shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map, including future sea levels for coastal communities.

- **Action taken:** Replaced the option to use sea level rise on the Flood Insurance Rate Map with extreme tides. No communities will lose credit in this activity.

Activity 340: Hazard Disclosure

342.d Disclosure of Other Hazards (DOH). Areas subject to increased flooding due to climate change or sea level rise is a creditable "other hazard."

- **Action taken:** Removed the option to credit areas subject to increased flooding due to climate change or sea level rise. No communities will lose credit for disclosure of other hazards.

Activity 410: Flood Hazard Mapping

412.d Higher Study Standards (HSS). Credit is for using a factor of safety when calculating the 100-year discharge, using future-conditions hydrology, using future-conditions hydrology (climate), and mapping the base flood elevation plus freeboard.



NFIP/ CRS Corner (cont...)

No communities currently receive credit for mapping their special flood hazard areas using future conditions hydrology or for mapping and regulating coastal flood hazards using climate-impacted sea levels. All communities receiving this credit have studies that consider fully developed watersheds or use a higher factor of safety when calculating the value of the base flood used in their riverine models.

- **Action taken:** Removed the option for climate-impacted hydrology and sea levels. This credit is now only for fully developed watersheds. No communities will lose credit for Higher Study Standards.

Activity 420: Open Space Preservation

422.e Coastal Erosion Open Space (CEOS). This included a bonus credit for considering sea level rise.

- **Action taken:** Removed this bonus credit. Section 404 (“Sea Level Rise Projections and the Community Rating System”) has been removed along with this credit option. No communities will lose credit for this activity.

Activity 430: Higher Regulatory Standards

432.k Coast A Zone (CAZ). This included a bonus credit for considering sea level rise.

- **Action taken:** Removed this bonus credit. Section 404 (“Sea Level Rise Projections and the CRS”) has been removed along with this credit option. No communities will lose credit for this activity.

Activity 450: Stormwater Management

452.b Watershed Master Plans (WMP1). To receive this credit, coastal communities with the 2017 Coordinator’s Manual were required to analyze the impacts of sea level rise for tidally influenced watersheds on their drainage systems.

- **Action taken:** This requirement was revised to require coastal plans to analyze the impact of a 100-year storm on their drainage system, assuming a tailwater elevation equal to mean sea level plus three feet, or a higher elevation. Other clarifying language was added, which has no impact on scoring. No communities will lose credit for this history.

Activity 450: Stormwater Management

452.b Watershed Master Plans (WMP5). To receive WMP5 credit, communities needed to identify





NFIP/ CRS Corner (cont...)

wetlands and other low-lying areas for preservation to ensure their flood attenuation benefits were not lost with development.

- **Action taken:** The description of watershed master plans was modified to clarify the required ordinance language. No communities will lose credit for this element.

Activity 450: Stormwater Management

452.b Watershed Master Plans (WMP6). There is credit for recommending no alteration or modification of existing channels and for having appropriate regulations.

- **Action taken:** This element will be retired. No communities receive this credit.

Activity 510: Floodplain Management Planning

512.a Floodplain Management Planning. Step 4(c) has three options for obtaining credit. Option 3 is to address climate change and/or sea level rise. The five-point credit is prorated if all three options are not addressed.

- **Action taken:** This requirement was eliminated and replaced with a requirement to address extreme tides. No communities will lose credit for Floodplain Management Planning Step 4(c).



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Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

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Baton Rouge, LA 70801

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Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

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