

**FEMA REGION X  
CHELAN WASHINGTON  
RISK MAP DISCOVERY INTERVIEW  
March 19, 2015 1:00 PM PST**

**Participating**

City of Chelan

- Craig Gildroy, City of Chelan Floodplain Administrator (FPA)

FEMA Region X

- Ted Perkins, Region X Engineer
- Amanda Siok, Region X Risk Analyst

STARR (FEMA Contractor)

- Becca Fricke-Croft (meeting host)
- Emily Whitehead, Project Manager
- Troy Sova, Senior GIS Analyst
- Josha Crowley, Regional Service Center (RSC) Lead

**Discussion**

Becca Fricke-Croft made introductions and presented an overview of the RiskMAP program and the different projects and products that can benefit communities. Our overall goal is discovering how FEMA can help Chelan become a more hazard and disaster-resilient community. A copy of the presentation is included with these meeting notes as Appendix A.

Pre-Discovery meetings and interviews with communities within the Wenatchee Watershed have been scheduled throughout March and April, 2015. The Discovery Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

*The following information was collected during the interview. Unless otherwise noted, all comments are from the City of Chelan representative.*

Confirm contact information

- Contact information was updated as follows:
  - Add David Grimes as Interim Planning Director, 509-667-6464
  - Request to send personal meeting invitations to Mayor Robert Goedde, City Administrator Paul Schmidt, and Fire Chief Tim Lemon.

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Confirm collected data

- Troy Sova discussed the data, in particular GIS base map data that has been collected thus far during Discovery from local, State and Federal resources. He asked if the City was aware of any additional data sets, such as:
  - Parcels = the Chelan County website should have a parcel dataset available for download from subfolders on their FTP site. Troy will confirm with the County during their pre-meeting interview, which is currently unscheduled.
- Floodplain data available is Q3 data captured off of old paper FIRMs via a process referred to as “rubber-sheeting” or “heads-up digitizing”. Troy and Craig aren’t aware of any better or more accurate available flood mapping. Mr. Gildroy expressed his belief that the current floodplains are inaccurate and re-studies are needed.
- Craig Gildroy had some comments and questions. The City of Chelan had a slope study performed by a local engineering firm. The City is particularly interested in learning the location of locally environmentally sensitive areas due to slope.

Planning

- The “Chelan County Multi-Jurisdiction Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan” was revised in 2011 and the City of Chelan participated and is covered by the plan.
- Past Mitigation Projects:
  - El Dorado
  - Crystal View
    - Has lots of clay and is erosive

Earthquake Hazard

- No local program to retrofit buildings to protect them in event of an earthquake.
- Mentioned locally experiencing earthquakes every day.

Wildfire Hazard

- Risk level/concern
  - Chelan is locally concerned with wildfire risk
  - This is the main hazard concern of City Council.

Landslide Hazard

- Risk level/concern
  - Not a huge concern locally according to Craig.
- Vulnerable locations, neighborhoods, infrastructure
  - Craig mentioned no areas of active landslides or historic landslides
  - No buildings in danger of landslide because no landslide risk areas are identified.

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- Local soils are very porous and they require detention/retention basins with development over a certain size.
- Mitigation projects or initiatives
  - City is interested in a geotechnical engineering study being performed on areas with slopes greater than 30%.

**Severe Storm Hazard**

- Risk level/concern
  - Once or twice a year (rain event, snow event)
  - Experience lake effect wind that causes waves on the lake (3-4 foot waves)
  - Also experience damage to local docks from this hazard.

**Power Outages**

- Risk level/concern
  - Not a concern locally in Chelan.

**Shelters/Safety**

- There are shelters identified – mainly schools, for residents to go to in event of emergency.

**Warning Sirens/Mass Notification System**

- City of Chelan uses the following for notifying residents of pending emergency such as bad weather:
  - Local radio
  - Local News
  - Couple of Websites
  - No knowledge of a Reverse-911 or other mass notification warning system

**Flood Hazard**

- City of Chelan does not believe the current FEMA floodplains are accurate.
- Craig Gildroy provided annotation on screen during the webex that indicated where clusters of Letters of Map Change (LOMC) have been filed and an area to the South of the City that needs a new or updated flood study or flood studies.
- Only real area of flood concern is El Dorado Way.
- Past Claims for Flood Damage outside of the Special Flood Hazard (SFHA):
  - Craig circled on area on the map
  - But he feels most claims are from burst water pipes
- Repetitive Flooding:
  - Not aware of any areas.
- Any other flood concerns?
  - Some sewer backup but this isn't a huge problem locally.

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**Dam**

- There is a dam owned by Chelan County PUC – Steve Vaughn is a good contact for questions. Craig will email Steve’s contact information to Becca.

**Levees**

- Unaware of local levees that provide protection
- There are some flood walls on the lake

**Leverage Study Data**

- Not aware of any local studies or significant transportation or road projects locally
- There was a limited study done in one area of the City to determine depth of flooding which was just a couple of inches.

**Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

- Craig used the annotation feature to circle some wetland areas on the map.
- He also mentioned steep slopes around the Lake.

**Communications and Outreach**

- Current community outreach/engagement
  - Nothing really active
  - Becca asked if the City would be interested in templates that FEMA has provided to other communities: Yes, not flood hazard related but fire related, yes.
  - Fire Department and City do most of the outreach.
  - They also have a local radio and City web site that can be used for outreach communications.
- Use of RiskMAP products for outreach, communication, and education
  - Very interested in any materials and tools FEMA can provide

**Compliance and Training**

- Floodplain administrator
  - Local FPA is identified: Craig Gildroy
  - No separate flood permitting process
  - Interested in training regarding floodplain management

City of Chelan’s #1 priority need is updated FEMA floodplain maps.

**Next Steps**

- Discovery Meeting arrangements were discussed. The City would like to meet with us and gather local plans and invite additional people to the Meeting, such as the fire Chief.

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- Craig asked who we recommend attend the meeting from the City. Becca answered that anybody who could help inform the team about hazards and other issues discussed today would be very welcome. Amanda mentioned Resilience and who else he might want to invite as a result: City Mayor and City Administrator, for example.
- Meeting Venue Option:
  - City Council Chambers seats over 100 people standing, and 25 people sitting.
  - Recommend scheduling the May meeting through the City Clerk.

## **Appendix A: Interview Presentation**



FEMA

# Risk MAP Discovery

## Okanogan & Wenatchee Watersheds

Information Exchange Sessions  
March/April 2015

**RiskMAP**

Increasing Resilience Together



# Information Exchange Agenda

- **Overview of Risk MAP and Discovery**
- **Introduction to Enhanced Risk MAP Products**
- **Interactive Questionnaire**
- **Close**



# The Vision for Risk MAP

Through collaboration with State, Local, and Tribal entities, Risk MAP will deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property



# RiskMAP

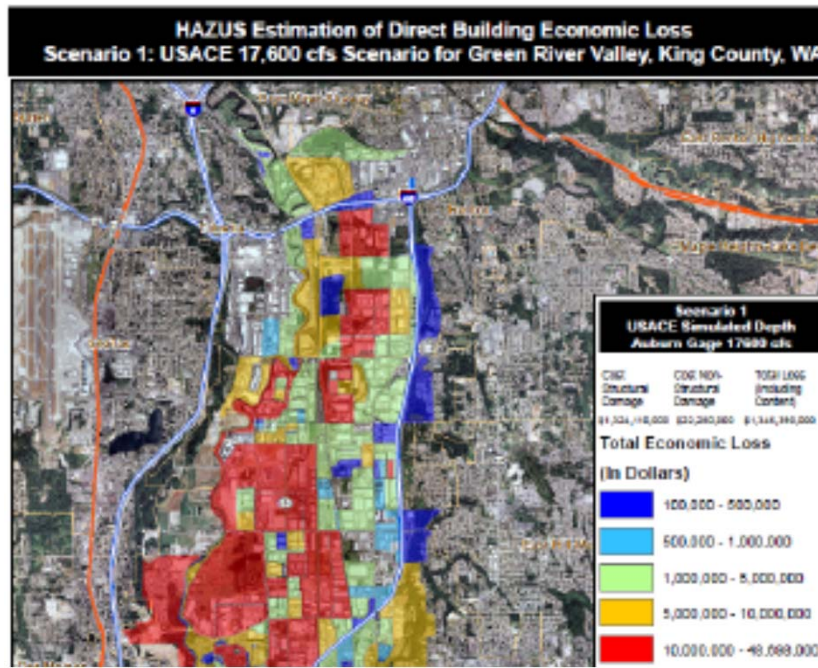
Increasing Resilience Together

- Collaborative approach
- Goals: quality data, public awareness, action that reduces risk
- Watershed-oriented
- Multi-Hazard
- Focus on up-front coordination
- Discovery is mandatory

# Risk MAP Products

## Multi-Frequency Depth & Water-Surface Elevation (WSE) Grids

10%, 2%, 1%, 0.5%, 0.2% annual chance profiles



### Inundation

- 3 feet or less
- 3 to 6 feet
- 6 feet +

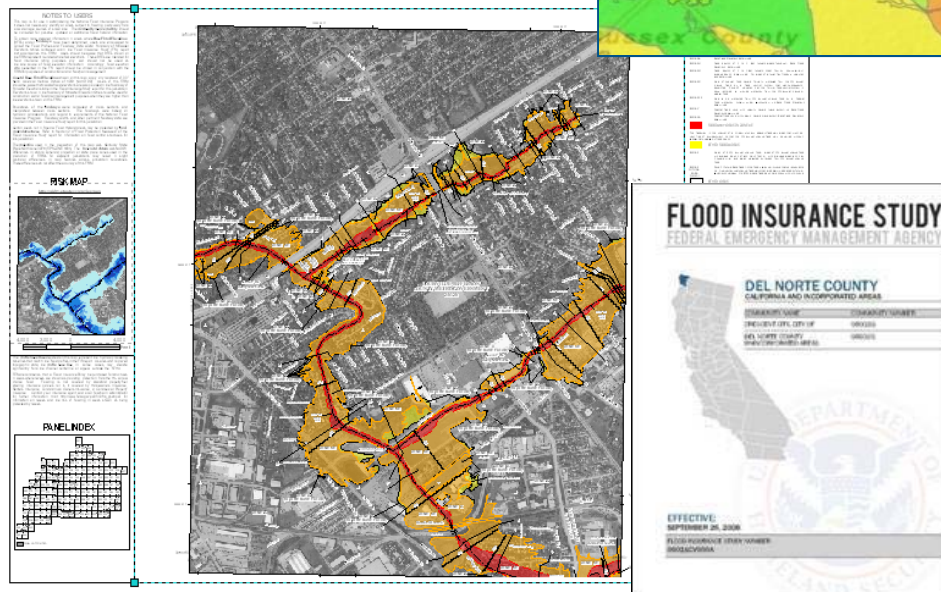
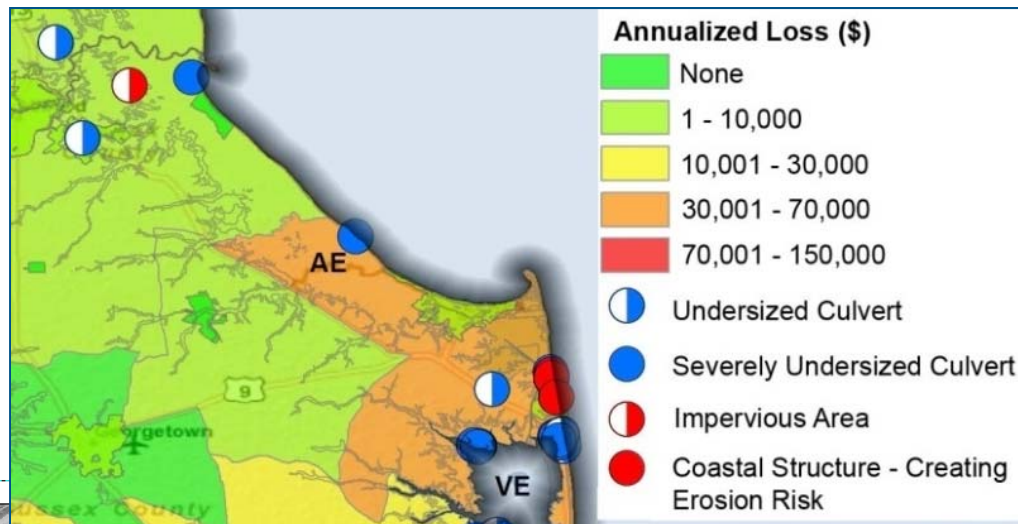
## HAZUS Risk Assessment & National Flood Risk Layer

Enables communities to understand risk by reference to existing structure loss

# Risk MAP Products

## Contributing Hazard Factors

Highlights areas of concern identified throughout project



## FIS Reports and DFIRM Maps

DFIRM and FIS will continue to fulfill regulatory requirements and support the NFIP

# Discovery

***Discovery is the process of data collection and analysis with the goal of initiating a hazard risk or mitigation project and risk discussions within the watershed***

## **When:**

- After an area/watershed has been prioritized
- Before a Risk MAP project is scoped or funded

## **Required for new and updated...**

- Flood studies
- Flood risk assessments
- Mitigation planning technical assistance projects

## **Why:**

- Increases visibility of flood risk information, education, involvement
- Helps inform whether a Risk MAP project will occur in the watershed



# Okanogon & Wenatchee Discovery

- **Federal and State Data Collection**
- **Local Issues: Identify Risk MAP Needs**
  - Need support with mitigation planning?
  - Need mitigation projects?
  - Need new flood study data?
  - Need training on floodplain management?
  - Need support developing a hazard risk outreach program?
  - What else can FEMA do to help your community become resilient?
- **Pre-Discovery Interviews: March/April 2015**
- **Discovery Meetings: May 4-6, 2015**
- **Risk MAP Project(s) Identified**
- **Possible FEMA Funding Allocated for Risk MAP Project**

# Discovery Interview

- **Local Contacts**
- **Data**
  - LiDAR
  - Local or Regional GIS Data
- **Mitigation Planning**
  - Desired Mitigation Projects
- **Local Hazards**
  - Earthquakes
  - Wildfires
  - Landslides
  - Severe Storms
  - Flooding
- **Levees**
- **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**
- **Communications and Outreach**
- **Compliance and Training**

Mitigation Planning		
How would you describe your level of involvement with the development of the mitigation plan? (Considerable, Moderate, Minimal)	Do you need assistance with mitigation planning in your community? (Yes, No, Possibly)	Mitigation Planning Comments, Explanations, Questions

# Questions?

## FEMA

- **Amanda Siok, Risk Analyst, [amanda.siok@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:amanda.siok@fema.dhs.gov)**
- **Kristen Meyers, Mitigation Planner, [kristen.meyers@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:kristen.meyers@fema.dhs.gov)**
- **Ted Perkins, Regional Engineer, [dwight.perkins@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:dwight.perkins@fema.dhs.gov)**

## WASHINGTON

- **Jerry Franklin, State Risk MAP Coordinator, [jfra461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jfra461@ecy.wa.gov)**
- **Michelle Gilbert, Floodplain Management Specialist, [migi461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:migi461@ecy.wa.gov)**

## STARR

- **Emily Whitehead, [emily.whitehead@stantec.com](mailto:emily.whitehead@stantec.com)**
- **Troy Sova, [troy.sova@stantec.com](mailto:troy.sova@stantec.com)**
- **Becca Fricke-Croft, [becca.croft@starr-team.com](mailto:becca.croft@starr-team.com)**