

**FEMA REGION X  
RISK MAP DISCOVERY INTERVIEW  
CITY OF TONASKET, WASHINGTON  
March 31, 2015 1:00 PM PST**

**Participating**

City of Tonasket

- Christian Johnson
- Kurt Dannison

State of Washington

- Jerry Franklin

FEMA Region X

- Ted Perkins

STARR (FEMA Contractor)

- Becca Fricke-Croft, Meeting Host
- Troy Sova
- Emily Whitehead
- Josha Crowley

**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 Tonasket 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 Okanogan Watershed have been scheduled throughout March and April, 2015. The Discovery Meetings are scheduled for Monday, May 4, and Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

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

Community Contacts

- Verified that the Mayor of Tonasket is Patrick Plumb
- Kurt Dannison works for several jurisdictions in Okanogan County, including Town of Brewster

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Topography, LIDAR, GIS

- Where are critical facilities and infrastructure located?
  - o Fourth Street bridge
  - o SR 97 bridge
  - o Community building between Fourth and Fifth Street West, on east side of Western Avenue
  - o Other locations mapped, data available from Tonasket website
- Do you know of any other projects that have collected topographic data that could be useful?
  - o Defer to Okanogan County GIS Department and data
- Do you have a GIS specialist and data layers that we could add to our maps?
  - o Defer to Okanogan County GIS Department and data

Wildfire Hazard

- High Priority Hazard
- Vulnerable locations
  - o schools and water reservoir on outskirts of town

Landslide Hazard

- Most of the city is on sloped ground and vulnerable to slides
- Whitcomb Avenue and school property mentioned specifically as vulnerable locations

Severe Storm Hazard

- Damage, power blackouts, duration
  - o Storm events quickly overload storm sewers and cause local urban flooding
- Communication and warning systems
  - o Mayor uses Facebook to provide information and warnings to residents
  - o Facebook was only outlet that worked during Caldwell Complex fire last summer—City’s website was not updated

Flood Hazard

- Are there any new floodplain studies underway?
  - o Kurt mentioned a channel migration zone study being done by Boulder & Associates for the Method River—he isn’t sure about the status of this project or what was done with the data
  - o Kurt also mentioned need for update SFHA boundaries for Bonaparte Creek

Levees

- Other levees or flood control structures not shown on the map
  - o Fill areas along Siwash Creek
  - o Levee around water treatment plant on south side of town

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Environmentally Sensitive Areas

- City has critical areas mapped – see community website

Communications and Outreach

- Current community outreach/engagement
  - o Tonasket does not do a lot on their own, would like to see County Commissioners take over emergency management/notification from Sheriff's Office
- Where does your community get information about disasters and hazards
  - o Emergency siren system
  - o Local radio stations

Compliance and Training

- Floodplain administrator & Floodplain permitting training is not needed locally at this time

**Next Steps**

- Discovery Meeting arrangements were discussed.

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**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

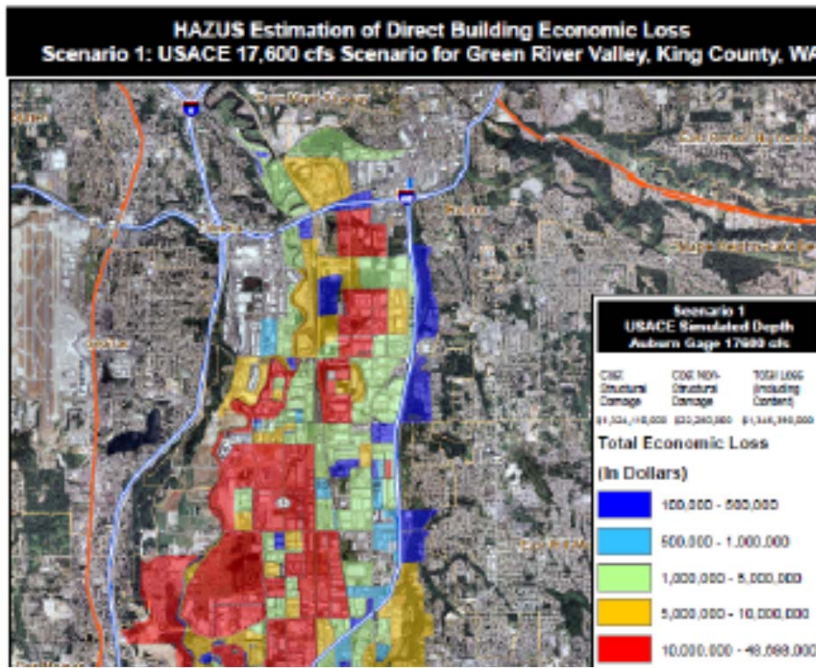
- Collaborative approach
- Goals: quality data, public awareness, action that reduces risk
- Watershed-oriented
- Multi-Hazard
- Focus on up-front coordination
- Discovery is mandatory



# 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 +

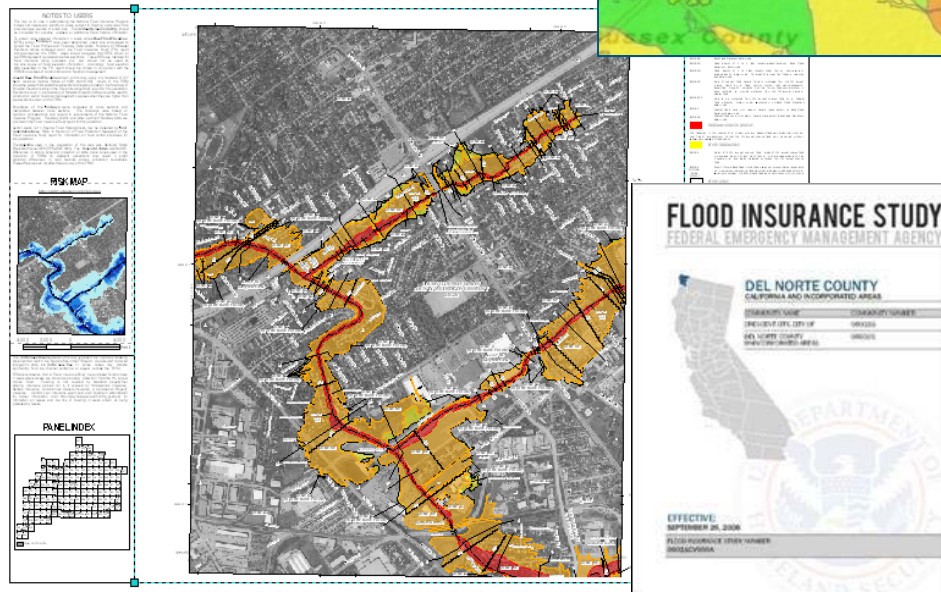
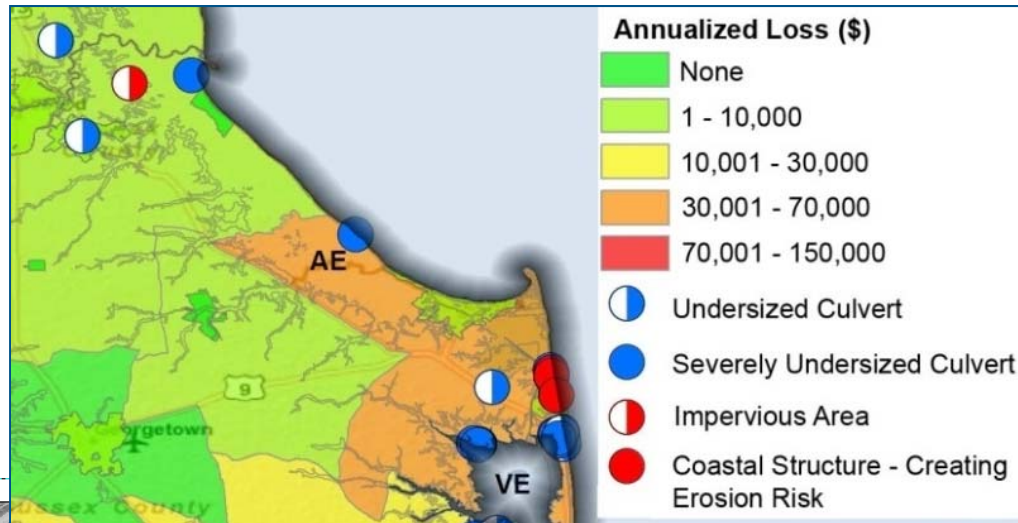
## HAZUS Risk Assessment & National Flood Risk Layer

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



# Okanogan & 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

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