

# Maryland Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Managers

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## Letters of Map Revision Why and How Maps Can be Changed

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# Course Outline

- LOMR definition and when it is required to submit them
- What needs to be submitted to FEMA
- Tips for successful submittals that will cut down the overall review time required

# Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs)

- Not Usually Lot or Structure Specific
- Typically Involve H&H Analysis
- Require the Submittal of FEMA MT-2 Forms
- Basis for Revisions:
  - More Detailed Analyses
  - Project
  - Natural Changes
  - Error Corrections

# LOMRs

- More Detailed Analyses:
  - Updated Topographic Data
  - Additional Cross Sections to get a better idea of the floodplain in a smaller area

## LOMRs (continued)

- Show the effects of a project  
(Man-made changes in the Floodplain) :
  - Placement of Fill
  - Channelization/Relocation
  - Flood control structure(s)
  - Addition of Culvert(s) or Bridge(s)

## LOMRs (continued)

- Natural Changes:
  - Natural stream migration
  - Extensive channel erosion
  - Cutoff of an Oxbow

# LOMRs (continued)

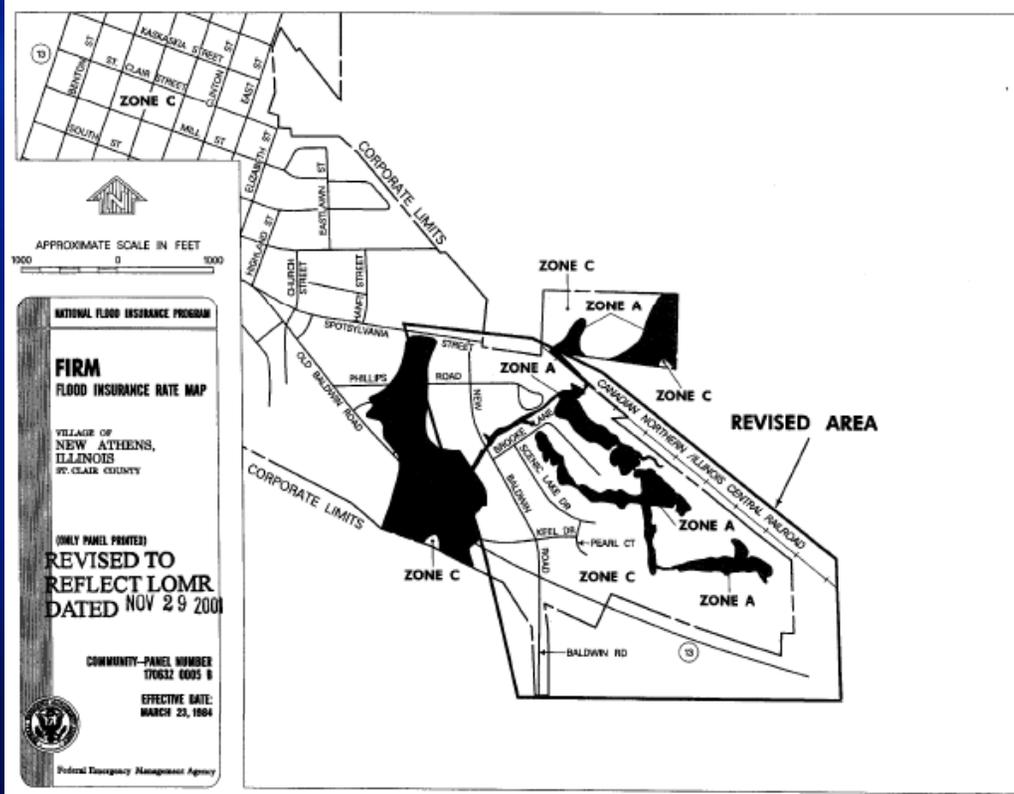
- Error Corrections:
  - Structure modeled incorrectly
  - Channel geometry problems
  - Methodology problems

# What is a LOMR?

- A LOMR is an official FEMA letter revising the effective NFIP map(s) for a community. A LOMR may involve changes to the BFEs, SFHA boundaries, or floodway boundaries
- A portion of the FIRM, revised to reflect the LOMR, is included as part of the LOMR.
- Portions of the FIS, such as the Floodway Data Table, Profile, or Summary of Discharges, may be included and are also revised to reflect the LOMR.
- The FIRM and FIS are NOT reprinted to reflect the LOMR.

# Letters of Map Revision (LOMR)

Page 1 of 4	Issue Date: March 7, 2007	Effective Date: March 7, 2003	Case No.: 03-05-1470P	LOMR-APP
 <b>Federal Emergency Management Agency</b> Washington, D.C. 20472				
<b>LETTER OF MAP REVISION DETERMINATION DOCUMENT</b>				
<b>COMMUNITY AND REVISION INFORMATION</b>		<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>BASIS OF REQUEST</b>	
<b>COMMUNITY</b>	VILLAGE OF STEGER, WILL AND COOK COUNTIES, ILLINOIS	NO PROJECT	REISSUANCE	
	COMMUNITY NO.: 170713			
<b>IDENTIFIER</b>	REISSUANCE OF LOMR CASE NUMBER 06-05-391P, DATED MARCH 1, 1999	APPROXIMATE LATITUDE & LONGITUDE: 41.483, -87.648 SOURCE: USGS QUADRANGLE DATUM: NAD 83		
<b>FLOODING SOURCE &amp; REVISED REACH</b>	Unnamed ponding area - bounded by W. Ritzsch Road, Ashland Avenue, Craig Court, Barbara Lane, Morgan Street, and Crescent Drive			
<b>SUMMARY OF REVISIONS</b>				
Effective Flooding:	Zone A			
Revised Flooding:	Zone A			
Increases:	YES			
Decreases:	YES			
<b>ANNOTATED MAPPING ENCLOSURES</b>		<b>ANNOTATED STUDY ENCLOSURES</b>		
TYPE: FIRM	NO: 17197C0359 F	Date: November 8, 2000	NO REVISION TO THE FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY	
* FIRM - Flood Insurance Rate Map				
<b>DETERMINATION</b>				
<p>This document provides the determination from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding a request for a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) for the area described above. Using the information submitted, we have determined that a revision to the flood hazards depicted in National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) map is warranted. This document revises the effective NFIP map, as indicated in the attached documentation. Please use the enclosed annotated map panels instead of the LOMR for floodplain management purposes and for all flood insurance policies and renewals in your community.</p> <p>This determination is based on the flood data presently available. The enclosed documents provide additional information regarding this determination. If you have any questions about this document, please contact the FEMA Map Assistance Center toll free at 1-877-338-2627 (1-877-FEMA MAP) or by letter addressed to the FEMA MCC Services, 12101 Indian Creek Court, Beltsville, MD 20705. Additional information about the NFIP is available on our web site at <a href="http://www.fema.gov/nfip">http://www.fema.gov/nfip</a>.</p>				
 Mark Crowell, Project Engineer Hazard Study Branch Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration				
Version 1.0 381804.05 03/07				



# When is a LOMR Required ?

- When does FEMA require a LOMR
  - §65.3: When a community's BFEs increase or decrease as a result of physical changes affecting floodplain, community must notify FEMA by submitting data within 6 months.
    - Revision of Base Flood Elevations (BFEs)
    - Correction of Map Errors
    - Changed Physical Conditions
    - Incorporating Improved H&H or Topographic Data
    - Incorporating Improved Methodologies

# What do I need to submit to FEMA?

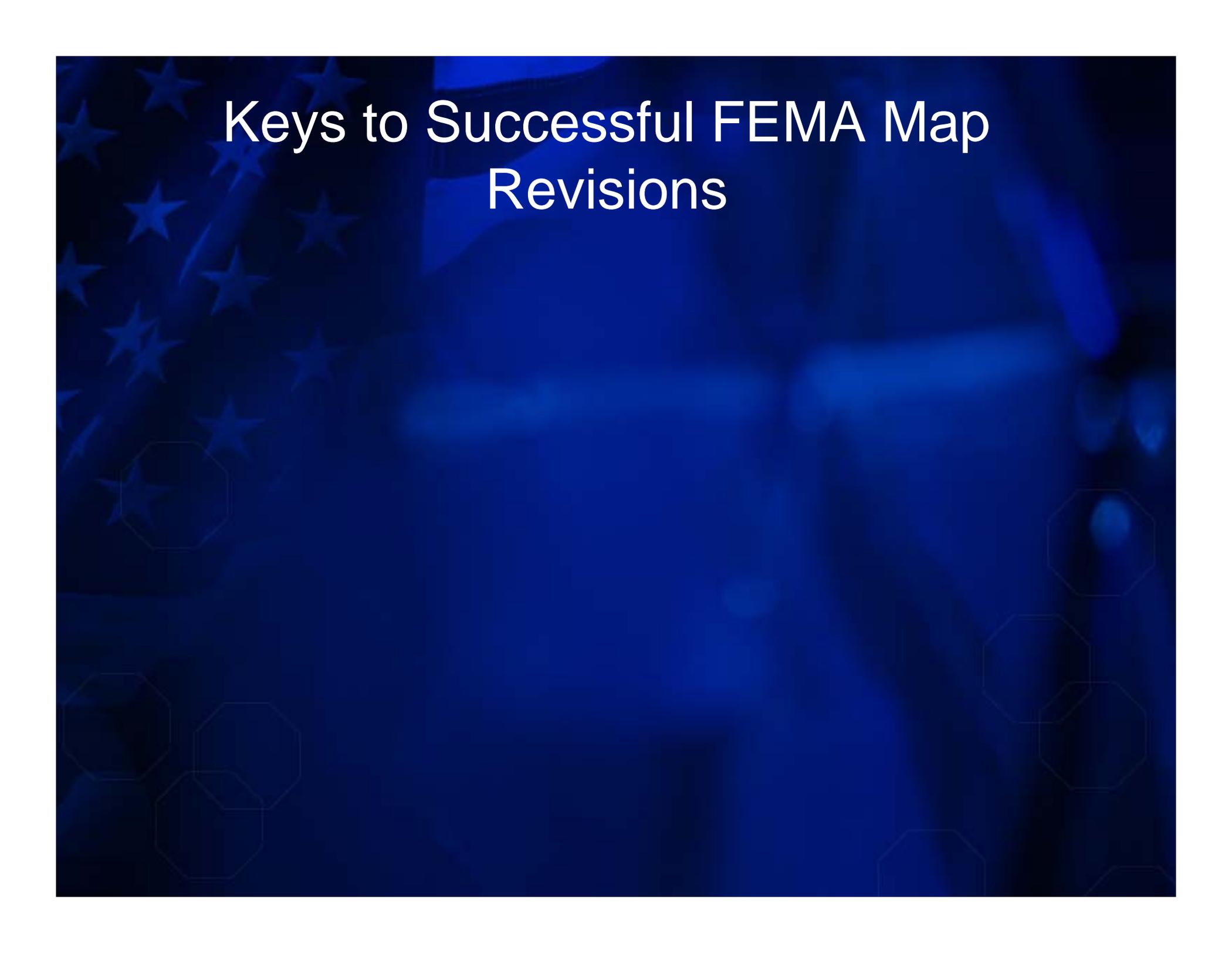
- Hydrologic Models (if not using effective):  
Revised hydrology with all supporting backup data
- The following hydraulic models:
  - Effective
  - Duplicate Effective
  - Corrected Effective
  - Existing conditions
  - As-built conditions
- All applicable MT-2 Forms
- A certified topographic work map
- A certified annotated FIRM / FBFM

# What do I need to submit to FEMA?

- The correct fee
- Community acknowledgement from ALL affected communities
- Evidence of property owner notification for any increase in 1% annual WSEL and/or SFHA
- Public notice (for floodway revisions)

## What data should I request from FEMA ?

- The EFFECTIVE hydrologic and hydraulic models and supporting data
- Copies of any LOMRs previously approved for your stretch of stream
- The study contractor work map
- Be sure to request data in writing and for some distance on either side of your area of revision—you must tie-in

The background of the slide is a dark blue gradient. On the left side, there is a pattern of white stars, similar to the stars on the American flag. On the right side, there is a pattern of white octagons, some of which are overlapping. The text is centered in the upper half of the slide.

# Keys to Successful FEMA Map Revisions

# Tips

- Understand the NFIP regulations and map revision procedures
- Submit early
- Use proper and latest MT-2 forms
- Follow directions of the MT-2 forms explicitly
- Tell and show FEMA exactly what you want to get from this submission
- Provide a narrative of project and project elements
- Organize the report logically
- Provide adequate and proper scale maps
- Send FEMA GIS, CADD or other electronic data

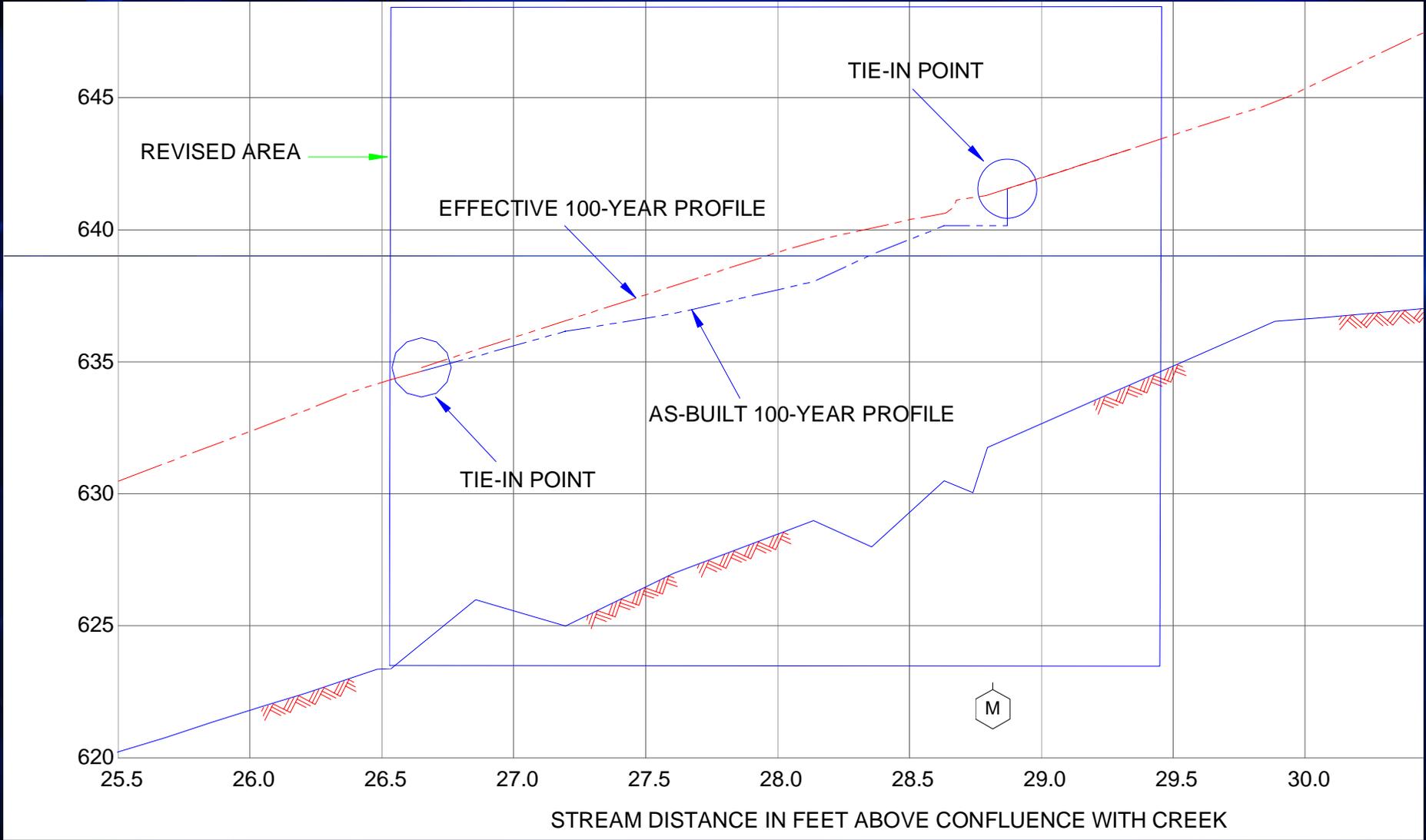
## Tips (Continued)

- Assess off-site impacts, extend model far enough to be sure
- Perform a quality check before submitting data- Ensure data consistency-Map to profile to FIS
- Respond to additional data requests from FEMA in a timely manner
- Coordinate with community PRIOR to submitting to FEMA
- Use CHECK-2 and CHECK-RAS programs from FEMA web site. These can be found at [http://www.fema.gov/fhm/frm\\_soft.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm/frm_soft.shtm).

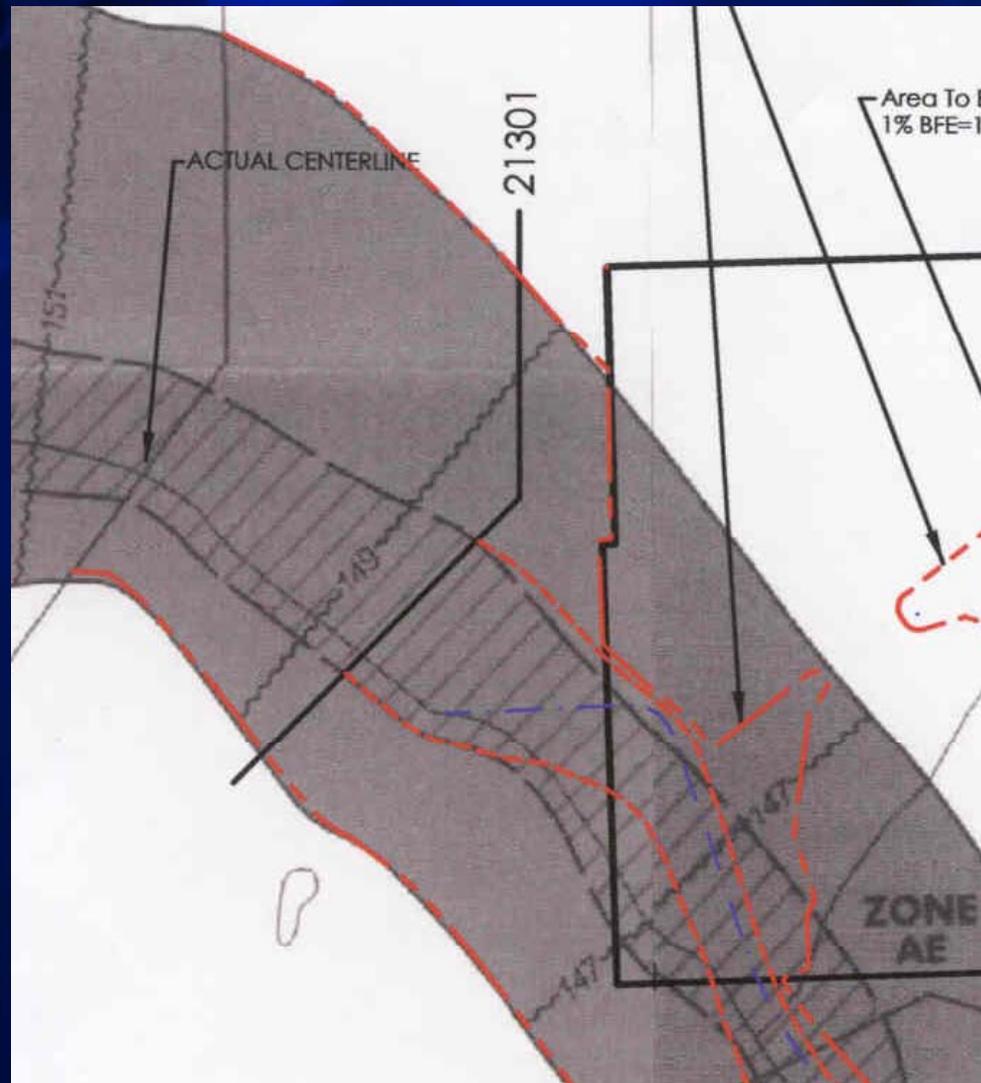
## Tips (Continued)

- Your models must tie into the effective BFE within 0.50' at the ends of your model area.
- Your map change must tie in visibly, using available topography as a guide, at the end of your model area. A 90° bend at the property line is not an acceptable tie in.
- Must model far enough to achieve both tie ins, regardless of how long the model must be.
- All models submitted should agree at a common cross-section near the limits of your models. If they do not, you probably have not achieved satisfactory tie in.

# Profile Tie-ins



# FIRM Tie-ins



# Tips (Continued)

- Ask FEMA about other LOMRs that may affect your site.
- Follow the guidelines in the MT-2 forms for what should be in duplicate effective, corrected effective, existing, and proposed conditions models
- Notify ALL affected property owners in writing. Send copies of letters to FEMA with submission
- Notify adjacent affected communities
- Eliminate negative surcharges
- Remember that FEMA looks at the internal consistency of the submission quite heavily. Does the work map match the model, the profile, and the new floodway data table explicitly ? If not, then expect concerns to be raised.

# Additional Information

- Questions: 1-877-FEMA-MAP (Toll Free)
- Map Service Center: 1-800-358-9616
- Useful Web Pages
  - NFIP Home Page
    - <http://www.fema.gov/fima/nfip.shtm>
  - FEMA Engineers and Surveyors Web Page
    - [http://www.fema.gov/fhm/en\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm/en_main.shtm)
  - NFIP Information for State and Local Officials
    - [http://www.fema.gov/fhm/fp\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm/fp_main.shtm)
  - **Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners**
    - [http://www.fema.gov/fhm/gs\\_main.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/fhm/gs_main.shtm)



Questions ?

**Copies of presentation available by email at  
[kmmartinenza@pbsj.com](mailto:kmmartinenza@pbsj.com)**