

Welcome to the Statewide Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Planning Committee Meeting

2/08/2022



If you encounter any technical difficulties, please send a private chat message to Michele York, or email Michele.York@Nebraska.gov



To ask a question or provide comment – utilize the Chat box or use the “Raise Hand” function and the host will unmute you.

Attendees will not be able to unmute themselves



This webinar is being recorded and will be posted for those unable to attend

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

STUDY TEAM

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AGENDA

- 01 Welcome and Introductions
- 02 Review of December Survey Results
- 03 Flood Risk Assessment Update
- 04 Mitigation Strategies and Project Pages
- 05 Repetitive Losses Discussion
- 06 Ongoing Efforts Update
- 07 Next Steps

GOAL OF TODAY'S MEETING

- Stakeholder comments/discussion of the December Survey results and potential initiatives
- Stakeholder input on products of the risk assessment
- Stakeholder comments on mitigation strategies featured and project pages
- Data request – Updated information on property acquisition efforts in your community

02 REVIEW OF DECEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Should Nebraska consider adopting more stringent standards?

- Majority feel standards are fine as-is
 - Better enforcement of current standards
 - Better education of existing standards, education of individuals in flood plains with real data
- Concerns with adopting more stringent standards:
 - People don't understand the current standards-making them more stringent would increase confusion
 - Consider economic impact to existing and future development potential

TAKE-AWAY

- Focus on dissemination of education/information for floodplain managers to better manage their floodplains instead of pursuing more stringent standards

Where do you see opportunities for improvement in regulation or administration regarding floodplains?

- Opportunity for improvement in building or construction requirements:
 - Don't allow new construction/Adopt standards for new developments
 - Require buffer or setback distance from watercourses
 - Incentives for relocating outside of flood plain
- Opportunity for improvement in local and state regulation/administration
- Zoning Improvements
 - Develop policies floodplain management policies/Incentivize adoption of policies
 - Provide technical assistance and hazard mitigation funding
- Enforcement of county participation in NFIP
- Opportunity for more public programs and education

TAKE-AWAY

- Development or inclusion of planning and zoning ordinances (NeDNR has sample ordinances on website and review all ordinances before adoption; Mitigation project pages of this plan)
- Training and support, particularly for small communities (Continuation/enhancement of NeDNR outreach and support efforts – currently monthly virtual trainings; 2 in-person workshops each year)

What additional technical support would benefit flood hazard mitigation (existing services or new services needed)?

- Community Education and access to information would be beneficial:
 - Better mapping
 - LOMA/LOMR-F documents and surveys
 - Models showing past/current/potential impacts
 - More accessible support site for administrators
 - FAQ page
- Assistance preparing applications for mitigation grants
- State fund for cost sharing on mitigation grant applications
- Develop zoning policies
- New state positions to assist small municipalities and assist with benefit cost analyses

REVIEW OF NEDNR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CAPABILITIES

- Provide base flood elevation data to local, state and federal agencies based on the best available data.
- Assist in monitoring floodplain management administration and enforcement activities.
- Assist communities in joining the NFIP and the Community Rating System
- Review all ordinances before adoption.

REVIEW OF NEDNR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CAPABILITIES

- Provide educational workshops and trainings on floodplain management.
 - Monthly virtual trainings – typically on the 3rd Thursday of each month
 - In-person Workshops twice a year
- Obtain federal funds through FEMA's:
 - Community Assistance Program – State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE) Program, and
 - Cooperative Technical Partners (CTP)'s Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP) Program

REVIEW OF NEDNR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CAPABILITIES

- Monthly Virtual Trainings
 - Basic Floodplain Management
 - Permitting
 - Ordinance Enforcement
 - Substantial Damage Assessment
 - Interactive Map
 - Mitigation
 - Elevation Certificates



Over 500 in total attendance throughout the last year!

REVIEW OF NEDNR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CAPABILITIES

- NeDNR has hosted trainings with:
 - Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association
 - Insurance Agents
 - Judiciary Districts
 - Nebraska Association of County Officials
 - Nebraska Clerk's Academy
 - Professional Surveyors Association of Nebraska

TAKE-AWAY

- Raise awareness of available NeDNR programs, technical, and financial support
- Potential staffing needs for broader outreach/support and assistance grant applications

Are there alternative or improved ways in which you'd like flood hazard information conveyed?

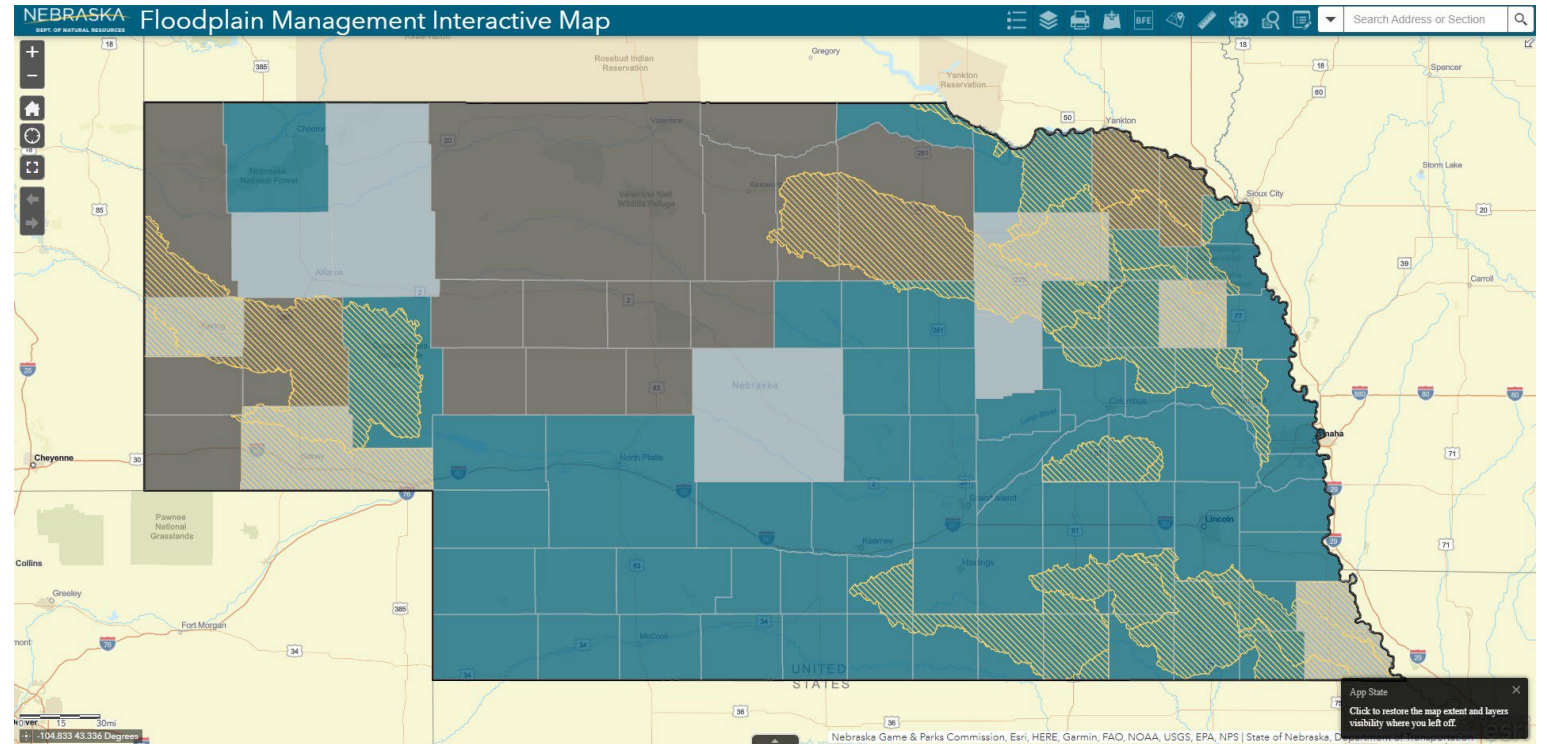
- Improved outreach from the State/NeDNR
- Text Messaging updates for those who opt in
 - FIRM of areas
 - Mitigation techniques
 - Important numbers
- Separate discussion of commercial and residential flood insurance costs, benefits, repetitive losses
- In-person training

REVIEW OF NEDNR FLOOD RISK PRODUCTS

Floodplain Management Interactive Map

- Flood Awareness Areas
- Depth Grids
- Regulatory Maps

<http://ne.gov/go/floodriskmap>



REVIEW NEDNR FLOOD RISK PRODUCTS

- Nebraska Real-Time Flood Forecasting (NeRFF)
 - NeDNR working in partnership with NEMA
 - HMGP funds for the project received in spring of 2021
 - Funds received as a response to the 2019 flood event
 - The project will provide pre-delineated inundation boundaries for every ½ foot stage for 48 gages, benefiting 54 communities across the state
 - The result of the project will be an online interactive map

TAKE-AWAY

- Raise awareness of available NeDNR technical support and information available

How should future mapping projects be prioritized?

- Based on greatest risk/impact/highest probability of flooding
- Biggest area of impact/areas with substantial development
- Based on age of existing mapping projects –oldest should be prioritized
- Stronger priority should be placed on development in rural flood-prone areas

TAKE-AWAY

- Factors identified are considered in current approach and align with state statute prioritization requirements discussed in December:
 - Potential for future development;
 - Potential for flood damage or loss of life;
 - Probability that adequate data and maps will be prepared within a reasonable time by other sources;
 - Availability and adequacy of any existing maps;
 - Availability of flood data and other information necessary to produce adequate maps; and
 - Degree of interest shown by the local governments in the area in utilizing flood data and maps in an effective flood plain management program.

Are there training topics or educational issues that would support better flood hazard mitigation in Nebraska?

- Public trainings/public education in general would be beneficial
 - Help the public understand the “Why” behind floodplain management
 - Importance of flood insurance
- Training and support geared toward small cities and villages
- Identify communities of repetitive losses
 - Develop stories into case studies for training and education
 - Consider economic impact to existing and future development potential
- How to request LOMR
- Centralized trainings so more administrators can attend

TAKE-AWAY

- Consider outreach targeted at general public education
- Evaluate training: topics, format, targeted communities

Should Nebraska consider a dedicated funding stream for supporting flood mitigation projects or other activities to mitigate flood hazards?

- Most in favor of dedicated funding stream
- Suggestions:
 - Low interest loan or cost share on buyout
 - Funding for flood mitigation projects – provide options for addressing constituent concerns
 - Support training and CEU requirement for floodplain managers
 - Funding focused on small communities
- Funding stream especially important if enhanced floodplain standards are enacted

TAKE-AWAY

- Consider dedicated flood hazard mitigation funding source

What additional State capabilities in flood hazard mitigation and flood mitigation planning have we not identified?

- Utility Infrastructure – not just road/bridge infrastructure
- Cleaning state and county owned ditches/creeks that carry water runoffs
- Communication
 - Better outreach/explanation to communities

TAKE-AWAY

- Inclusion of utilities in risk assessments
- Flood Hazard Mitigation funding requirements needs to consider long-term operation and maintenance

SUMMARY

- NeDNR Floodplain Management Activities
 - Raise awareness of training and technical assistance available
 - Evaluate format/topics and ways to reach largest audiences, including smaller communities
 - Outreach and education for the general public
- Funding – consider dedicated flood hazard mitigation project funding stream, which considers O&M
- Mapping prioritization and state floodplain standards – no changes required

03 FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

NRS 61-228(5) well underway:

- Flooding impacts datasets are assembled:
 - State-wide parcel data, Critical facilities, State-owned facilities, Ag land, NWI, etc.
- Special flood hazard area datasets are assembled (FEMA and NeDNR)
- State-wide DEM at 1m resolution – processing ongoing
- Product: a GIS tool annually updated to reflect flood risk
- Detailed report to be appended to SFHMP

FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

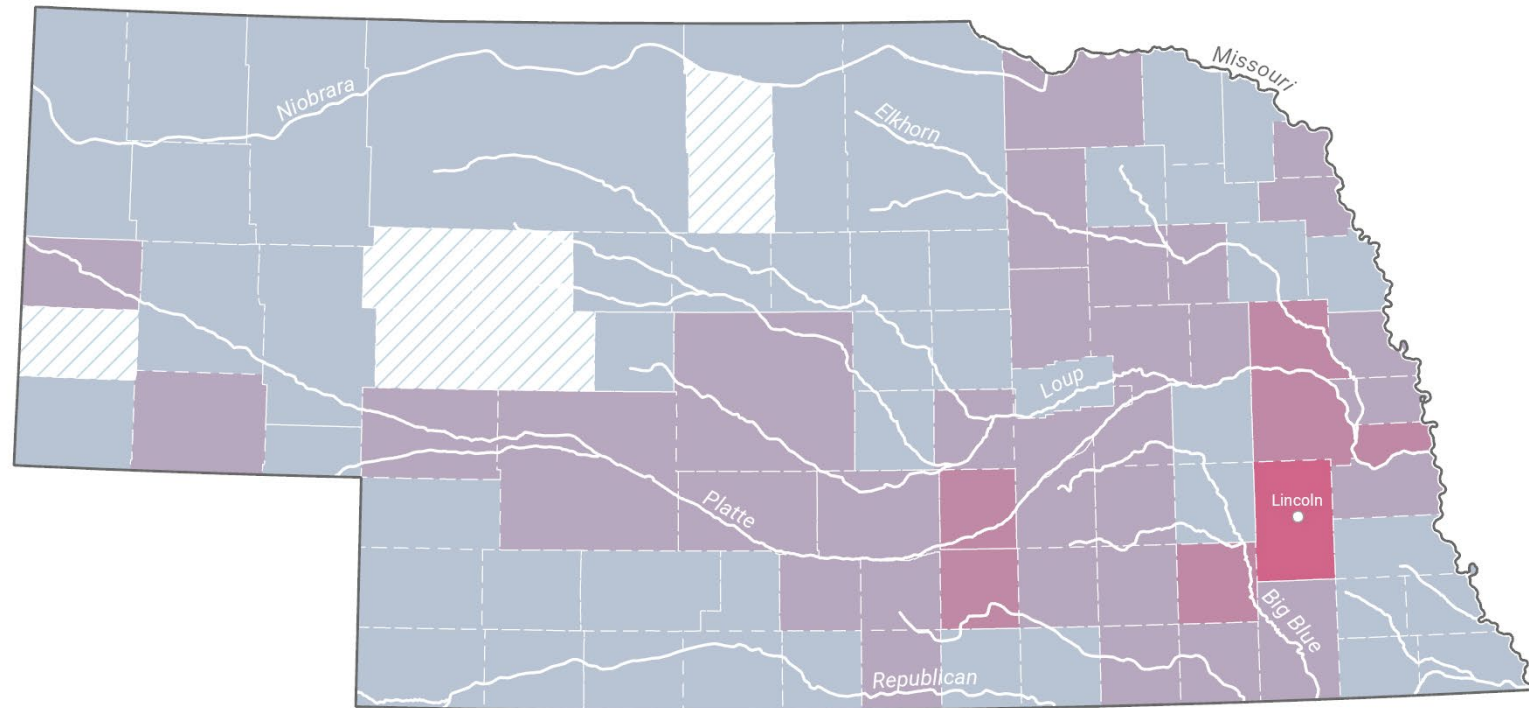
FEMA National Risk Index:

- We're exploring riverine flooding Expected Annual Loss data
- County-level understanding of vulnerabilities in terms of property, population, and agriculture

Risk = **Expected Annual Loss** x **Social Vulnerability** ÷ **Community Resilience**

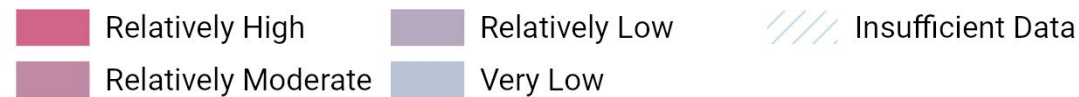


FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT



Riverine Flooding

Expected Annual Loss Rating:



04 MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND PROJECT PAGES

MITIGATION

- Mitigation actions presented and discussed in October Meeting
- Four categories to align with FEMA's mitigation action categories
 - Structure and Infrastructure
 - Natural System Protection
 - Education and Awareness Program
 - Local Plans/Regulations

MITIGATION

- Developed Project Pages for mitigation actions to serve as a “menu” to incorporate into local plans
- Each project page contains:
 - A description of the strategy
 - Why it is important
 - Its applicability
 - Step-wise approach to implementation
 - Relative cost considerations
 - References or links for additional information.

MITIGATION

- Review project pages (opened separate file)

05 REPETITIVE LOSSES

RL & SRL STRATEGY

- Stipulated by Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, approved strategy enables increased Federal cost share from 75% for FMA grants to:
 - $\leq 90\%$ for RL
 - $\leq 100\%$ for SRL
- RL and SRL structures are defined in 44 CFR §77.2(i) and (j) respectively
- Note: Additional definitions describing RL are used for NFIP and CRS purposes:
 - RL Building (April 2021 Flood Insurance Manual with October 2021 Update)
 - RL Community, RL Property, SRL Property (2017 CRS Coordinators Manual)

RL & SRL STRATEGY

- Plan document reports
 - 16 FMA-funded property acquisitions (verified in 2020)
 - NE Silver Jackets Repetitive Loss 2.0 study results:
 - Duplications, vacant locations, and destroyed/uninhabitable structures removed from list
 - 34 structures evaluated for nonstructural mitigation (acquisition, elevation, and wet floodproofing with food vents)
 - 19 showed positive BCR: \$2.7 million project cost / \$10.4 million risk reduction benefit over project life*
 - +10 below \$175,000 pre-determined elevation cost effective at time of report writing (March 2021)
 - Additional completed flood risk ID projects
 - Ongoing NeDNR-participating flood risk ID projects
 - NeDNR's RL Mitigation Strategy

RL & SRL STRATEGY

- NeDNR's RL Mitigation Strategy:
 - Provide technical assistance to communities: FP management, grants, mitigation strategy, RL and SRL property verification.
 - Promote CRS to communities across the state (CRS requires evaluation of RL and SRL, if present).
 - Administer and promote the FMA Grant program, prioritizing RL and SRL properties for funding.
 - Promote the inclusion of RL & SRL mitigation projects in LHMPs.

06 ONGOING EFFORTS UPDATE

ONGOING EFFORTS

- Risk Assessment
 - Complete risk assessment tasks statewide
- Draft Plan Document
 - Incorporating comments on plan sections
 - Assembling Draft Plan Document

PLAN DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW



- <https://dnr.nebraska.gov/floodplain/nebraska-flood-hazard-mitigation-plan>
 - Documents currently available for review
 - Review/comment form



- Sections available now through **February 23:**
 - Mitigation Strategy Project Pages
 - Repetitive Loss Strategy



- Upcoming:
 - Draft Plan Document
 - Risk Assessment



07 NEXT STEPS

NEXT STEPS

- Complete Risk Assessment
- Compile Draft Plan Document
- Next Meeting
 - April 12, 2022 – 10:00 AM
 - Draft Plan Review



FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

 Meeting	 Meeting Topic	
Kickoff Meeting (July 23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction and Purpose • Public Meeting Recap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Types and Flood History • Next Steps
Meeting #2 (August 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery and Funding Sources • Assessment of Opportunities for Improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan Maintenance Process
Meeting #3 (October 12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Impact Analysis, Pt. 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation Strategy, Pt. 1
Meeting #4 (December 14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Capability Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory Framework Evaluation
Meeting #5 (TODAY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Impact Analysis, Pt. 2 • Mitigation Strategy, Pt. 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with Local Mitigation Planning
Meeting #6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Plan Review 	
Meeting #7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Hearing Recap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Draft Plan Approval

Visit the website to access the online meeting, more information, links
<https://dnr.nebraska.gov/floodplain/nebraska-flood-hazard-mitigation-plan>

QUESTIONS?