

West Gallatin River and Bozeman Creek and Tributaries Floodplain Mapping Update Projects Fact Sheet

Key facts

- Gallatin County is currently working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), and the City of Bozeman to update floodplain maps for the West Gallatin River and Bozeman Creek and its tributaries. This update will ensure stakeholders have the best available data to keep themselves and their properties safe.
- The draft floodplain maps show that 59 buildings will be newly mapped into the 100-Year Floodplain (1% Annual Chance Floodplain) and 107 buildings will be newly mapped out of it.
- FEMA will use the draft maps to produce Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps, which generally show a community's base flood elevations, flood zones, and floodplain boundaries.
- FEMA and DNRC expect to present Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps to the city for formal review and hold public meetings in Fall 2016.

Overview

In 2012, FEMA, DNRC, and Gallatin County began a floodplain mapping update project for the West Gallatin River and Bozeman Creek and its tributaries. The project's draft floodplain maps will eventually replace existing floodplain maps for the West Gallatin River, Bozeman Creek, Mathew Bird Creek, Nash Spring Creek, Flat Creek, Figgins Creek and Mill Ditch Diversion that were produced more than 30 years ago. The project utilizes high-accuracy topographic information, updated hydrologic data and modern engineering methods to ensure the communities have the best available data.

Stakeholders

Stakeholders for this project include property owners, tenants, property managers, developers and business owners whose properties and structures will be newly mapped into or out of the proposed 100-Year Floodplain (1% Annual Chance Floodplain). The draft floodplain maps show that 59 structures, including residential homes and commercial buildings, will be newly mapped into the 100-Year Floodplain, while 107 structures will be newly mapped out of it.

To see if the draft maps will affect your property, please visit the project website: www.floodplain.mt.gov/gallatin

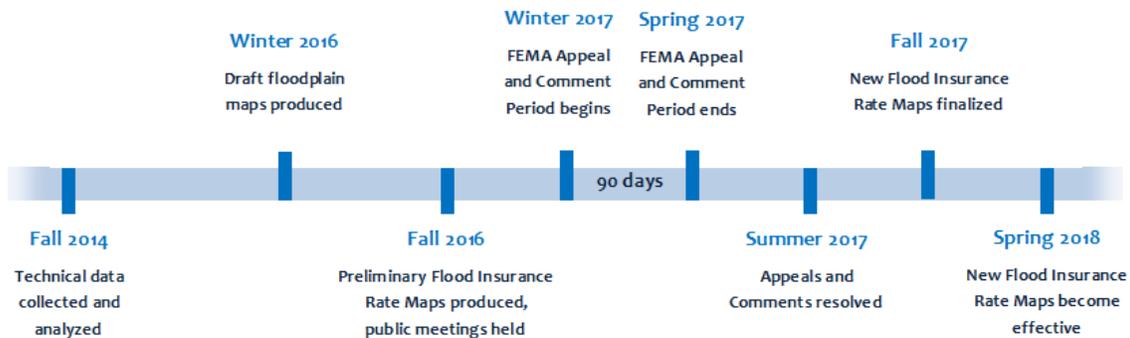
Changes Ahead

The proposed floodplain map changes will impact some properties' insurance rates and development regulations. However, changes have not taken place yet. New Flood Insurance Rate Maps produced from this project are expected to be finalized in 2018 after a technical and public review process. Please visit www.floodplain.mt.gov/gallatin for more information about the Appeal and Comment Period.

Next Steps and Estimated Project Timeline

County staff and DNRC will host two public Open Houses to educate the community about the project and to speak with property owners one-on-one about the impact of proposed floodplain changes. A public Open House for interested stakeholders near the West Gallatin River will take place on April 6, 2016 and another meeting for interested stakeholders near Bozeman Creek and its tributaries will take place on April 7, 2016.

FEMA and DNRC expect to present Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps to the county for formal review in Fall 2016. Public meetings to review the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps are also expected to take place in Fall 2016. The FEMA 90-Day public Appeal and Comment Period is projected to begin in Winter 2017. Once public appeals and comments are resolved, FEMA will finalize the Flood Insurance Rate Maps, which is expected to be in Fall 2017. Adoption of the new maps is estimated to happen in Spring 2018.



Tentative Gallatin County floodplain mapping update project timeline

Contact Information

The public can contact the following staff for more information about the ongoing Gallatin County floodplain mapping update project:

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