GIS IN SUPPORT OF DIGITAL FLOOD RISK MAPPING

15 MAY 2023

Joe Trimboli, MSc, GIS-SME Huntington District Planning Branch Plan Formulation

US Army Corps of Engineers®

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4-BFE 924.42

1384 Limestone Rd, Keyser, WV 26726, United States

J-BFE 926.3



HUNTINGTON DISTRICT BFE PROGRAM

- The Huntington District Base Flood Elevation (BFE) program has developed over time in Planning Branch and resulted from outreach in support of the State of West Virginia. The earliest BFE request database is dated May 2006 and represents 17 years of development in a multi-agency environment. The West Virginia NFIP Coordinator requested a Zone A BFE solution meeting NFIP requirements. A previous study comparing FEMA Quick2 and **HEC-RAS** conducted by the state and used in initial discussions.
- FEMA 265 "Managing Floodplain Development in approximate Zone A Areas (April 1995)" documents a FEMA approved process as well as a user manual for the associated DOS based version of Quick2
- A review of FEMA 265 shows manual methods of mapping, explains, different methods of determining risk, and describes a minimum acceptable method of determining BFE's in Zone A's using Quick2.
 - 1. Floodplain **Geometry** (topography/DEM/LiDAR)
 - 2. Flood **Discharge** and/or volume (hydrology)
 - 3. Flood **Height** (hydraulics)





Current Status

- BFE requests are part of a Huntington District outreach program authorized under Floodplain Management Services (FPMS)
- There is a **charge to private entities** based on a program table of charges for compiling information that takes less than a day (\$125, unless additional work is required)
- Floodplain Managers (FPM) and other public entities are coordinating partners and are not charged for services
- The **example graphic** shows an FPM request for new construction that includes a floodway, depth grid, inundation limit, and cross sections with BFE results. Not shown is an interpolated raster layer of the BFE surface.



PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

Process Validation and Review

- Establishing an **annual review** with District H&H Section
 - **Overall process approval** ٠
 - Annual check of random locations
- Planning Branch review done when the invoice is emailed to requesting individual
 - **Integrated** into database process ٠
 - Includes initial training for **GIS mentoring** (data review) ٠

Database Transition

- Microsoft Access database conversion to SQL/React (java based)
- Current status: Pre-Production
- **No BFE process** without Quick Response Database

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		GRID Geospatial Repository	Maintained by National Geospatial - Intelligence Agency	https://rsgis.erdc.dren.mil/griduc/export/coord/add/	9			
		NRCS Bounding GIS Order	Watershed data download	https://datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov/GDGOrder.aspx?order=MBROrder	10			
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		National Geodetic Survey Data Explorer	Geospatial reference	http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/NGSDataExplorer/	12			
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		KY DEM Download	Web app to download DEM data in Kentucky	http://kyfromabove.ky.gov/datasets/kentucky-elevation-data-5ft-dem	18			
		Huntington District Fact Sheets	Internal link to District projects	https://myko.lrh.usace.army.mil/teams/pcr/district_fact_sheet/	19			

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ID: 2211-0108-1243 DATE IN: 11/1/2022 DATE OUT: 11/1/2022 CONTACT: Michael Ash STATE: WV INTEREST: Professional Surveyor COUNTY: Upshur PHONE: (304) 476-8668 Base Flood Elevation - GIS LOCATION: 83 Hackers Creek Rd, Buckhannon, WV 26201 EXCEPTION: Large Area Zone A BFE RESPONSE ISSUED BFE: 1416.8 EL FT (NAVD88) CALOULATIONS: Digital Elevation Models: When a digital elevation model (DEM) is used to calculated a BFE, its is typically downloaded from a state or federal web site. The most current DEM data is used to insure it matches the accuracy of the current regulatory DFIRM. If the file is in meters it is converted to feet my multiplying the DEM values by 3.2808399. DEM Source - WVGISTC: WV- DEM_Mosaic_WV_Statewide_1m_UTM17_p2021. Two cross sections were used to create a BFE surface across the property. USGS NSS peak flow statistics were used and were referenced from the Central Mountain Region with the following values: ID Basin Area Sope MN-L MN-C MN-R Discharge WS_EL 1 3.88 0.0116 0.080 0.040 0.120 137 1421.23 This request fell between cross sections 1 and 2 at the coordinates referenced above with a BEE of 1416.84 This information meets FEMA.Minimum requirements for Zone A's but can bemore accurate if a ground survey is performed and/or an engineer consulted. This letter reflexts FEMA.National Flood insurance Program standards. It is	US Arm of Engi	HUNTINGTON DISTRIC FLOODPLAIN M 502 Ty Corps HUNTINGTO neers. 1-866-401-3980 01 Noven	T, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ANAGEMENT SERVICES BGHTH STREET DY, WEST VIRGINA 25701 Email: fpms-irh@usace.army.mil bber 2022 12:59:14 PM
INTEREST: Professional Surveyor COUNTY: Upshur PHONE: (304) 476-8668 REQUEST: Base Flood Elevation - GIS LOCATION: 83 Hackers Creek Rd, Buckhannon, WV 26201 EXCEPTION: Large Area Zone A BFE RESPONSE ISSUED BFE: 1416.8 EL FT (NAVD88) CALOULATIONS: Digital Elevation Models: When a digital elevation model (DEM) is used to calculated a BFE, its is typically downloaded from a state or federal web site. The most current DEM data is used to insure it matches the accuracy of the current regulatory DFIRM. If the file is in meters it is converted to feet my multiplying the DEM values by 3.2808399. DEM Source - WVGISTC: WV - DEM_Mosaic_WV_Statewide_1m_UTM17_p2021. Two cross sections were used to create a BFE surface across the property. USGS NSS peak flow statistics were used and were referenced from the Central Mountain Region with the following values: ID Basin Area Slope MN+L MN+C MN+R Discharge WS_EL 1 3.88 0.0073 0.080 0.040 0.800 879 1416.91 2 0.38 0.0116 0.080 0.040 0.120 137 1421.23 This request fell between cross sections 1 and 2 at the coordinates referenced above with a BFE of 1416.84 This information meets FEMA minimum requirements for Zone A's but can be more accurate if a ground survey is performed and/or an engineer consulted. This letter reflects FEMA National Flood insurance Program standards. It is	ID: CONTACT:	2211-0108-1243 DATE IN: 11/1/2022 Michael Ash	DATE OUT: 11/1/2022 STATE: WV
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HUNTINGTON DISTRICT, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES

502 EIGHTH STREET HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701 1-866-401-3980 Email: fpms-lrh@usace.army.mil 01 November 2022 12:59:14 PM



Measured results based on cross section calculations at the requested site. The heavy orange lines show the calculated BFE elevation references while the lighter orange lines are interpolated at one foot increments'. The red dot is the coordinate location for the issued BFE.

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GIS PROJECT TEMPLATE

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QGIS DWG EXAMPLE

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GIS Functionality not software specific

- Process has been used in training with
- ESRI ArcMap 3 day, 4 hours a day workshop
- AutoCAD QA with surveyor interested in duplicating the process
- Tools developed specifically for QGIS
- Contours, Interpolate XS, Inundation, Point Z Values, and XS_40pts
- Tools automate repetitive GIS functionality easily created
- Fayette County, OH, used an ESRI Toolbox designed for Biologist



CONTOURS (DEM ASSESSMENT)



CONTOURS (CROSS SECTION PLACEMENT)





CONTOURS (BACKWATER ID)





INTERPOLATE XS & INUNDATION









WV STATEWIDE 1M DEM





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WV STATEWIDE 1M DEM

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Micro GIS projects in support of flood risk management using open-source GIS and nonproprietary request database.



Joe Trimboli, MSc GIS-SME Community Planner (Geographer) Floodplain Management Services (FPMS) Technical Lead

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https://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Flood-Plain-Management-Services/