Project Name:	Gunnison County Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP)
Meeting:	NFIP Overview and Base Level Engineering (BLE) Kickoff Meeting
Date & Time:	August 5, 2021 11:00am – 12:00pm
Place (virtual attendees)	Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Intent of Meeting**

Eric Jansen – Gunnison County, Floodplain Manager and Building Official
Crystal Lambert - Gunnison County, Building/ Environmental Health Official
Rachel Sabbato – Gunnison County, Planner
Becca Ricord – Gunnison County, Planner
Cody Tusing – City of Gunnison, City Engineer
Leah Desposato – Mt. Crested Butte, Community Development Coordinator
Eric Treadwell – Crested Butte, Water and Wastewater Operator
Troy Russ - Crested Butte, Community Development Director
Terri Fead – CWCB, Floodplain Mapping Program Manager
Marta Blanco Castano – CWCB, Floodplain Mapping Assistant Program Manager
Doug Mahan – CWCB, NFIP Community Assistance Program manager
Steven Reeves – CWCB, Watershed and Flood Protection Specialist
Chris Gaynes – FEMA, Region VII Civil Engineer
Matt Buddie – FEMA, Floodplain Specialist
Josh Hill – Wood, Water Resources Engineer
Rachel Mares – Wood, Water Resources Engineer, Project Lead
Elizabeth Jefferson – Wood, Water Resources Engineer

2. **Risk MAP Background and NFIP Information**

Marta Blanco Castano provided an overview of the NFIP program, the Risk Map Program, the roles and responsibilities of the community, and how the NFIP relates to the Risk MAP program. Please see presentation slides for more details.

3. **Effective Mapping Status in Gunnison County**

Rachel Mares gave an overview of the effective mapping in Gunnison County and the ongoing PMR study. Please see the presentation slide for more details.

4. **Overview of 2-Dimensional (2D) BLE Project**

Rachel Mares gave an overview of the upcoming county wide BLE project, the BLE process, and benefits of the BLE results. Please see the presentation slide for more details.

Q: Cody Tusing from Gunnison – Will study still have cross-sections and profiles where we can see elevations at specific locations?

A: Rachel Mares / Josh Hill – BLEs are the preliminary step in the process. Any BLE studies in currently mapped Zone AE areas will eventually have Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) and profiles. For models studied using 2D methods the maps will look different from 1D models since there won't be 1D cross-sections. There will be BFEs and evaluation lines. Specifically in the City of Gunnison, the Gunnison River will be mapped in a detailed (Zone AE) model.

Marta Blanco Castano – As we move from BLE to county wide, if there is a preference for 1D, there may be an opportunity to map streams that are already on the effective FIRM in 1D.

Terri Fead - We are actively working to create tools for local FPMs to help them manage these new 2D floodplains in their communities without a large increase in burden.

5. Future Risk MAP Timeline and Next Steps

Josh Hill provided an overview of the timeline for the ongoing PMR and the countywide BLE study. He also covered the next steps for the BLE study and the products that will be available at the next meeting (Discovery Meeting). Please see presentation slide for more details.

6. Open Discussion

Q: Troy Russ – What is the difference between discovery phase and preliminary phase if the discovery phase results are 'regulatory ready'? What would Crested Butte need to regulate to?
A: Josh Hill – The discovery phase data is a high enough quality that it could eventually become regulatory, but none of the new data will be regulatory until the new mapping goes effective. In the meantime, the effective maps will continue to be the regulatory data, and discovery phase or preliminary phase data outside of those effective areas can be used as best available data. In Crested Butte, Coal Creek is actually part of the ongoing PMR, and that will become regulatory data prior to the parallel countywide study. There will be discovery data available for Coal Creek, however, this will not be regulatory.
Q: Troy Russ – What are the dates for having new effective data?
A: Josh Hill – The hydraulics for the PMR are scheduled to go to FEMA for review in October. After that the data will enter a three month review cycle. Once the hydraulics are approved, the mapping phase will begin. New maps will likely go effective late 2022.
Marta Blanco Castano – During this process there will be additional community meetings. This will include a flood risk review meeting, 30 day review and comment period, and a 90 day appeal period.

Q: Troy Russ - We have an upcoming wastewater treatment plant project. When can we get floodplain data to help guide this project?
A: Josh – We could provide you draft data with a MOA.
Troy Russ - Please provide the MOA and draft data as soon as possible.

Comment: Crystal Lambert - The nonregulatory data will be extremely helpful for proposed development especially in areas surrounding CB, i.e. Slate River
Marta BlancoCastano - We are glad to hear that the products will be useful to you. They can be used as best available data where there is no effective data.

Q: Eric Jansen – Speaking on behalf of a local developer. We believe there are some areas where the effective elevations are incorrect. Should a developer looking to develop in this area proceed with a LOMA or would that not make sense since new mapping may significantly change the elevations in this area. (The area is near Tomichi Ave – discussed back in April)
A: Josh Hill – This area was part of the driver for initiating the PMR study along the Gunnison River. As Rachel mentioned during the presentation, one of the benefits of 2D modeling is better accuracy in areas like this where there are multiple flow paths. Josh was unsure about being able to use preliminary data for a LOMA.
Q: Eric Jansen– Any recommendations on how to advise the developer?
A: Josh Hill – If possible wait. We are generally thinking that the BFEs will decrease in this area. We can share the preliminary BFEs when they are ready this fall.

Josh Hill – To both Eric and Troy. We can follow up after this meeting with more information about getting and using draft data as well as more detail on the estimated dates the PMR studies will go effective.
Terri Fead – If the preliminary or draft data has not gone effective and the effective data in that location is more restrictive, development will need to be regulated to the effective data. It would be possible to take the preliminary data and do a LOMA in this area to revise the effective mapping. This would revise the mapping in just that area on a faster schedule. This approach is generally not preferred by FEMA.

Q: Cody Tusing – Do we know what the vertical accuracy was for the LiDAR collected in the City of Gunnison?
A: Marta Blanco Castano – The vertical accuracy for LiDAR of this quality level is within about 10cm for every meter. Data can be made available to the community.
Cody Tusing – The city is working on a stormwater management plan and this data would be super helpful. City would like to request

Action Items:
CWCB: Send Crested Butte an MOA for data along Coal Creek.
CWCB: Work with City of Gunnison to provide LiDAR data
Wood: Work with City of Gunnison to discuss draft data near Tomichi Ave

7. **Meeting Adjourn – Thank you for your participation!**