

Project Name:	<i>Greene County, Arkansas PMR</i>
Meeting:	<i>Initial Coordination Meeting</i>
Date:	<i>October 30, 2009</i>
Place:	<i>County Court House, 320 W Court Street, Paragould, AR</i>
Time:	<i>8:30 AM</i>

Attendees: See attached attendance sheet

Agenda Items

1. Introduction/Sign-in Sheet

Mr. Guy Lowes, representing FEMA Region VI, began the meeting at 8:30 AM with a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Guy Lowes stated that during this meeting, the representatives of the different organizations would have the opportunity to discuss the flood mapping issues that should be included or addressed during the DFIRM study process. RAMPP, a joint venture of the Dewberry, URS Corporation and ESP Associates will ensure that they coordinate with the communities and the Region throughout the restudy effort.

Mr. Guy Lowes indicated that RAMPP would compile the results of the Scoping Meeting in the Scoping Report. RAMPP would enter the mapping needs captured at the meeting into a needs database. The database would be used to justify funding from Congress for the future.

Introductions of attendees proceeded. All attendees acknowledged that they had signed the sign-in sheet.

2. 44 CFR 66 Discussion

Mr. David Key, Project Manager with RAMPP, began by indicating it is important to establish points of contact for the project at the scoping stage. This helps identify decision makers for each community and creates a good working relationship throughout the project. Mr. Key indicated that the main purpose of this meeting was to identify the community needs and to identify concerns for future map maintenance. He stressed that the maps were being produced for the communities, and that each community would be more satisfied with the maps if all of the final data was correct. He also stressed that it is important for the community to work with the mapping contractor throughout the process so that any issues can be resolved before the maps are released.

Mr. Key provided a detailed overview of the compliance requirements of 44 CFR 66. The discussion included: the approximate date the proposed study would commence, the areas identified for study, the nature and purpose of the proposed study, the scope and methodologies for the proposed study and the intended use of data obtained for the study.

3. Study Overview

National Flood Insurance Program Overview and Flood Mapping Process

Mr. Key provided a complete description of the Flood Mapping Process using a slide. Each task was presented in chronological order, with approximate time frames shown as well.

Map Base Options

Mr. Key provided options for the DFIRM base map, which included ortho or vector-based map. His discussion noted that Greene County, AR has effective FIRMs as of June 16, 2009 that are vector-based maps. It was agreed by all communities that the maps will remain vector-based.

Topographic Data Acquisition

Mr. Key provided an overview of the need for new topographic data to prepare new flood maps.

It was indicated that no new topography data is available for Greene County, other than the existing USGS data.

Engineering Analysis

Mr. Key provided an overview of the engineering analyses and the study types including: Detailed Study, Enhanced Approximate Study, Approximate Study as well as Redelineation and Refinement.

Mapping and DFIRM Production Overview

Mr. Key provided slides showing an overview of the mapping process of merging base data, topography, flood data, and placing it on a DFIRM.

Proposed DFIRM Panel Layout

Mr. Key provided visuals of the effective FIRM panel and stream layout. The panel layout for the 2009 studies will remain the same as agreed upon by the communities.

DFIRM and FIS Report

Mr. Key informed the meeting attendees that Greene County, AR has an existing single, countywide DFIRM set and FIS, as of the study dated effective on June 16, 2009.

Incorporation of Engineering Studies by Others

Mr. Key asked the communities to provide any LOMRs to RAMPP in a timely manner to ensure they are captured and incorporated into the maps. They were also informed that engineering studies may be incorporated into the maps if they meet specific criteria listed in the PowerPoint presentation. It is noted that the USACE has performed a study for a reach on Eight Mile Creek that will be reviewed and incorporated into the PMR providing the data meets FEMA's guidelines and specifications.

4. Levees (if applicable)

Mr. Key provided a detailed overview of levee certification process and criteria from the PowerPoint presentation. All effective levees on the FIRMs showing protection on maps must be certified in order to continue showing levees on new maps providing protection. Important points to consider include:

- The burden to certify the levees is on the community
- FEMA does not own or maintain levees.
- FEMA's accreditation is NOT a health and safety standard
- Accreditation is for insurance purposes only
- Only maps the inundation area of landward side of levee which would be affected if levee does not provide "1-percent annual chance" protection
- Dissemination of risk is the goal of the mapping exercise
- There is an existing levee in the southern portion of Greene County, AR that has an expired PAL. The USACE representative, Don Davenport, says it is the Corps of Engineers' intention to re-certify that levee before the PMR is completed.

5. Post Preliminary Process and Map Adoption

Mr. Key gave a brief overview of the steps that would be taken once the DFIRM process had been completed.

6. Outreach

Mr. Key indicated there are outreach tools from FEMA to assist in keeping the community informed about the process.

Please refer to the [://www.rampp-team.com](http://www.rampp-team.com) for more updates on the project.

7. Community Risk Assessment

Mr. Key indicated that every state, County city, town has some level of risk from some threat, whether it's economic risk, health risks (like heart disease), or flood risks. The difference is in how those risks are managed.

8. Mitigation Planning

Mr. Key indicated Mitigation Plans create a framework for risk-based decision making to reduce damages to lives, property, and the economy from future disasters. Mr. Lowes indicated Technical assistance from the State and FEMA is available upon request. Other resources include:

- Free FEMA 386-series of How-to Guides
- G-318 Mitigation Planning for Local governments
- Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance
- State Hazard Mitigation Office
- www.fema.gov

9. Needs Assessment

Mr. Key indicated going forward needs will be captured via the Coordinated Needs Management Strategy (CNMS). CNMS is GIS driven with validation of 7 critical items and 10 secondary items.

10. Scoping Presentation Summary

Mr. Guy Lowes provided a brief summary of the scoping meeting including contact information.

11. Community Needs Collection

Members of RAMPP and FEMA broke-out with each community and began a discussion of community needs. The communities were asked to identify any potential flooding issues that needed to be addressed. It was reiterated that each community has many needs but there is limited budget. The communities were informed that they needed to provide all their mapping needs so they are captured now and put into a database.

RAMPP worked with the communities to develop their mapping needs, the data included the requested stream name; length of water course in feet; requested level of study; name of person who made request; and the prioritization for study. The data has been captured in GIS format and will be added to the Scoping Report.

12. Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 AM

Meeting Minutes