

## Introduction- Meeting Outreach

Invitations were mailed out to all affected community CEOs and Zoning Administrators on July 8, 2025. The first outlook email invitation to the CCO meeting was sent out to affected stakeholders on July 2, 2025, and follow-up correspondence included attachments of the planned meeting agenda and slides. A list of the attendees at the CCO meeting is included below.

Online resources for viewing the preliminary FIRMs, FIS, and GIS data, such as the FEMA Flood Map Changes Viewer and FEMA Map Service Center (MSC), were shared and discussed during the meeting.

## Meeting Time and Location

Thursday July 31, 2025, 1:00pm – 2:30pm via Zoom

## CCO Meeting Agenda

Introductions

RiskMAP Overview and Project History

Floodplain Engineering

NFIP and Floodplain Management Overview

Hazard Mitigation Planning

Preliminary Products Review (LOMCs/SOMAs)

Next Steps/Map Adoption

Questions

## Attendance

Community	Name	Title	Email Address
FEMA Region 5	Munib Ahmad	FEMA Region 5 Engineer	<a href="mailto:munib.ahmad@fema.dhs.gov">munib.ahmad@fema.dhs.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Chris Olds	State Floodplain Engineer	<a href="mailto:christopher.olds@wisconsin.gov">christopher.olds@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Ben Sanborn	CTP Coordinator/ Project Lead	<a href="mailto:ben.sanborn@wisconsin.gov">ben.sanborn@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Allison Kielar	Floodplain Mapping GIS Specialist	<a href="mailto:allison.kielar@wisconsin.gov">allison.kielar@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Fritz Statz	Floodplain Mapping GIS Specialist	<a href="mailto:Gordon.Statz@wisconsin.gov">Gordon.Statz@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Chad Heimerl	Floodplain Engineer	<a href="mailto:chad.heimerl@wisconsin.gov">chad.heimerl@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Bill Roznik	Floodplain Engineer	<a href="mailto:william.roznik@wisconsin.gov">william.roznik@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Jen Jefferson	Dam Safety Floodplain Section Supervisor	<a href="mailto:jennifer.jefferson@wisconsin.gov">jennifer.jefferson@wisconsin.gov</a>
WI-DNR	Avery Fluet	Regional Water Management Engineer	<a href="mailto:avery.fluet@wisconsin.gov">avery.fluet@wisconsin.gov</a>
WEM	Chad Atkinson	Hazard Mitigation Supervisor	<a href="mailto:chad.atkinson@widma.gov">chad.atkinson@widma.gov</a>
Vernon County	Matt Albright	Zoning Administrator	<a href="mailto:matthew.albright@vernoncountywi.gov">matthew.albright@vernoncountywi.gov</a>
Vernon County	Monique Hassman	Land Information Officer	<a href="mailto:monique.hassman@vernoncountywi.gov">monique.hassman@vernoncountywi.gov</a>

Vernon County	Brandon Larson	Emergency Management Director	<a href="mailto:brandon.larson@vernoncountywi.gov">brandon.larson@vernoncountywi.gov</a>
Vernon County	Cassie Hanan	Administrative Coordinator	<a href="mailto:cassandra.hanan@vernoncountywi.gov">cassandra.hanan@vernoncountywi.gov</a>
Village of Readstown	Andrew Payne	Trustee	<a href="mailto:payne5151@hotmail.com">payne5151@hotmail.com</a>
Village of Viola	James Twomey	Floodplain Zoning Administrator	<a href="mailto:jetwomey@aol.com">jetwomey@aol.com</a>
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	Kevin B. Scholze	Emergency Management Coordinator	<a href="mailto:kevin.scholze@ho-chunk.com">kevin.scholze@ho-chunk.com</a>
Village of La Farge	Wayne Haugrud	Public Works Manager	<a href="mailto:haugs@mwt.net">haugs@mwt.net</a>

## Meeting Information

The CCO Meeting presented preliminary mapping data to local officials and reviewed the engineering methods used for the Vernon County portion of the Kickapoo River Watershed Risk MAP study. There were also presentations on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and Hazard Mitigation. Representatives from Vernon County, La Farge, Readstown, Viola, Ho-Chunk Nation, Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM), FEMA, and WDNR attended the meeting.

## Meeting Goals and Overview of Project

Ben Sanborn started out with introductions and a summary of meeting topics. A brief overview of Risk MAP, past project meetings, and the revised study area were provided. State Floodplain Engineer, Chris Olds, discussed the engineering methods used for the proposed floodplains and data included in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS).

Chris continued into the portion of the presentation dedicated to flood insurance and map changes. A brief history of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was given, as well as a summary of coverage. Next, information on what map changes mean for flood risk, and resources available for reducing flood insurance costs were covered.

Following the insurance topic, Chad Atkinson gave a presentation on the importance of hazard mitigation. Some of the topics covered were the value of mitigation, examples of mitigation, and available mitigation assistance grant funding.

Ben followed up with information about the Vernon County preliminary products that were made available on April 30, 2025. He explained how to read a FIRM panel and what the floodplain symbology represented, as well as which communities received a Summary of Map Actions (SOMA) documenting previous Letters of Map Change (LOMC) that would be either superseded, incorporated, or revalidated. The next steps leading up to the final map adoption were discussed, including the due process phase, letter of final determination (LFD), 6-month ordinance adoption window, and effective map status. Ben went into further detail on the due process phase, what is considered a comment or appeal, the publications in the federal register and local newspaper, and appeal start letters. Further information was discussed regarding the letter of final determination, how it establishes what the effective date of the new FIS and FIRMs will be, how it serves as a formal notification to communities of the need to update their floodplain management regulations by the effective date, and additional reminder letters that may be sent.

To conclude the presentation, several additional resources were shared and are also listed below. No follow-up questions were asked by meeting attendees.

- [FEMA Flood Map Changes Viewer](#): An ArcGIS app to view the preliminary data and how it has changed since the effective study.
- [FEMA Preliminary Products Download](#): Download preliminary FIRMs, FIS, and/or GIS data.
- [DNR Floodplains](#): Click the Active RiskMAP projects link to view the Vernon County project information, or search “Model Ordinance” for assistance with local floodplain ordinance updates.