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2012 Lower Boise Partnership Agreement

This Risk MAP Partnership Agreement is used to document the regulatory and non-regulatory tools that communities involved in a Risk MAP Project will receive, specify mitigation technical assistance to be provided, identify roles and responsibilities for all parties involved, list the data to be provided with associated deadlines and expectations of the study results, and provide a projected timeline and an explanation of what is expected from project partners at each major milestone.

The Agreement provides documentation of FEMA's commitment to the watershed and the commitments of the communities to the Risk MAP Project. By signing the Agreement, the stakeholders and project partners acknowledge that they understand and commit to the project scope.

Working together on a Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) project, FEMA Region X, the State of Idaho (hereafter referred to as "the State"), the communities of the Lower Boise Watershed, including Ada and Canyon Counties and the cities of Boise, Garden City, Eagle, Meridian, Star, Middleton, Caldwell, Notus, and Parma (hereafter referred to as "the Communities") the Ada City-County Emergency Management (ACCEN), and the USACE Walla Walla District Office, will identify, assess, communicate, plan for, and mitigate risk.

The information provided by this project can be used by these communities to enhance their hazard mitigation plans, make informed decisions to improve resilience to flooding, and raise awareness about local risks to hazards so that they are better informed and prepared to take actions to reduce their risk.

This Partnership Agreement outlines how these project partners will achieve success in key activities and goals:

- FEMA, the State, the USACE, ACCEN, and the Communities will commit to maintain open communication and a productive dialog during the Risk MAP project,
- FEMA will provide frequent and regular information on project progress, and opportunities for in-person discussions and feedback on results,
- FEMA and USACE, with Community, and State support, will provide non-regulatory risk assessment tools, information and findings, communication plans, and planning support over the course of the project,
- FEMA and the State will support the Communities by capturing community's value-added aspirations for how the project outputs will be incorporated into ongoing activities in order to reduce risk and build a more resilient community.

Roles and Responsibilities

FEMA and USACE will provide officials from the State, ACCEN, and the Communities with regular project status updates, the data and products described above, and assistance with outreach to increase local awareness of flood risk. These efforts will better enable the Communities to take action to reduce risk through the adoption of the maps, development or enhancement of mitigation plans, and increased communication with citizens concerning their risk of flooding and the steps they can take to mitigate that risk. The State will provide continuity, coordination and support throughout the Risk MAP project. Communities will provide input and updates throughout the project to ensure that the information is meeting the goals of this Agreement.

Communication and Coordination

Achieving Risk MAP's goal of reducing the Nation's vulnerability to risk requires clear, consistent, and candid communications. These communications need to reach local officials in communities where individual constituents need



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information to take steps to protect themselves from prevailing hazards. To accomplish this, the project partners will maintain open lines of communication and establish a consistent flow of information.

FEMA, USACE, and the State will:

- Provide quarterly status reports outlining the current project status, changes to priority future study status, key accomplishments to date, identified risks, and next steps via a letter provided electronically to each community's floodplain administrator and Chief Executive Officer.
- Enhance the Community's ability to communicate about hazards and associated risk to people who live and work within their communities and the watershed by providing templates and outreach materials for local use, quarterly updates on project progress, and recommendations for implementation upon request.
- Contact FEMA, USACE, the State, ACCEM, and the Communities at least two weeks in advance of a proposed meeting date via email.
- Initiate coordination with the other project partners to schedule, plan, and hold a minimum of three meetings during the life of the project :
 - **Flood Study Review Meeting:** To be held following the development of engineering analysis and draft mapping, the intent of this meeting is to provide local officials the opportunity to view and comment on drafts of the engineering analyses and risk data produced by FEMA prior to preliminary release of regulatory products and data.
 - **Resilience Meeting:** To be held following the development of non-regulatory Risk MAP products and tools, the intent of this meeting is to provide local officials with the Flood Risk Products described in this charter, review findings, and discuss how to incorporate this new information into existing hazard mitigation plans, land use plans, building codes, and mitigation efforts, etc.. Resources available from State and Federal governments and professional associations that support planning and implementation activities will be highlighted. The meeting will result in action items developed by the Communities to encourage mitigation activities and risk reduction.
 - **Final Community Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting/Open House:** To be held about a month after preliminary copies of the official Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) are distributed to the Communities, the intent of this meeting is to discuss the results and presentation of the FIS and provide the public with an opportunity to view the new data, gain insight to methodology used, and discuss regulatory implications and mitigation strategies. This can be two meetings held on the same day: the first meeting for local officials only, the second to be open to the public.

The State, with FEMA and USACE support will:

- Provide information, clarification, and resources to support participation in the project, upon request.

The County, ACCEM, and the Communities are strongly encouraged to:

- Communicate desired timing and schedule for receiving ongoing study updates.
- Be responsible for planning, supporting facilitation, and advertising the public meeting.
- Share study concerns with project staff early and often to reduce miscommunication.



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Risk Mapping Activities

A FEMA Risk MAP project identifies flood hazards, provides local floodplain management regulatory flood data, supports the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and provides risk assessments and mitigation support and planning technical assistance for hazards. Based on needs identified and/or validated by the State, USACE, ACCEM, the Communities, and available funding from FEMA, the following data will be developed or utilized in a mapping project (for more specific details of the scope of the mapping activities, please see attached Mapping Activity Statement and map of study areas).

FEMA and USACE will:

- Provide guidance, feedback, coordination and technical support throughout the Risk MAP Project Life Cycle.

USACE will perform detailed riverine flood hazard analyses for:

- 24.7 Miles of the Boise River (between the Snake River to approximately I-84)
- 20.6 Miles of the Boise River (between the Ada/Canyon County line to upstream of Eagle Island)
- 17.9 Miles of the Boise River (upstream of Eagle Island to the Diversion Dam)
- 1.9 Miles of Willow Creek (from the mouth to the upper corp. limit of Middleton)
- 2.7 Miles of Mill Slough (from the mouth to the upper corp. limit of Middleton)
- 5.9 Miles of Nine Mile Creek (from the mouth to E. Doberman Drive)

Engineering models will be provided by USACE for a broad range of flooding events. Floodplain delineations and the Flood Insurance Study will be updated based on the new data.

- Perform detailed redelineation of floodplain boundaries based on effective data and LiDAR for:
 - 11.4 Miles of the Boise River (from approximately I-84 to the Ada/Canyon County Line)BFEs will not be displayed on regulatory products, but will be provided for local planning use.
- FEMA will prepare and provide the regulatory **Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report** document to the Communities. An FIS is a book that contains information regarding flooding in a community and is developed in conjunction with the FIRM. The FIS, also known as a flood elevation study, frequently contains a narrative of the flood history of a community and discusses the engineering methods used to develop the FIRM. The study also contains flood profiles for studied flooding sources and can be used to determine Base Flood Elevations for some areas.
- FEMA will prepare and provide the regulatory **Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** which identifies the Community's flood zones, base flood elevations, and floodplain boundaries. This map is used to determine where the purchase of flood insurance is required for properties with federally-backed mortgages.

The State will:

- Make FEMA aware of any potential risks to the data development or project progress, and act as liaison to the Communities and Tribe by providing information and resources upon request.

The County, ACCEM, and the Communities are strongly encouraged to:

- Include the Risk MAP project as an agenda item in regular community meetings, and make FEMA aware of any potential risks to project progress.

Risk Assessment Activities

Risk assessments allow communities to make informed mitigation, land use, and emergency management decisions by providing products and technologies that communicate and visualize risks. To provide the Communities with information regarding risk associated with hazards within the community, FEMA with State support will work closely with the Communities to produce the products and tools listed below. (For more specific details of the scope of the mapping activities, please see the attached Project Summary.)



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FEMA and STARR will:

- Highlight areas where risk reduction actions may produce the highest return on investment.
- Provide a non-regulatory **Risk MAP** which includes a narrative on the hazards and risk exposure within the community, watershed, or other geographic area, and explain the risk assessment methodology and results.
- Provide **Changes Since Last FIRM** maps and data that identifies areas where the Special Flood Hazard Area, floodway, and/or flood zone designations have changed since the previous flood study. Engineering factors that may have contributed to the changes such as data used and level of study performed will also be identified. Estimates of structures affected by the changes will be quantified and summarized to capture increases/decreases in known risk and enable local officials to better plan for outreach needs.
- Provide **depth grids** for each newly studied riverine area, for the 10-percent, 4-percent, 2-percent, 1-percent, and 0.2-percent annual-chance flood events. Depth grids depict the depth of flooding at locations throughout a community and when combined with other information, such as first floor elevations, are invaluable in capturing demonstrating risk. Depth grids may also be used by the community to produce their own risk assessments using the FEMA loss estimation tool, HAZUS. These grids will also be used to depict the percent-chance of flooding over 30 years, the typical length of a home mortgage.
- Utilize locally-provided data to develop a risk assessment and will replace national datasets with locally derived information wherever possible. The specific methodology and products will be shared in a stand-alone document.
- Provide the Communities with technical assistance for HAZUS projects.
- Provide the Communities with a Risk MAP map and report depicting risk assessment results.

The State will:

- Provide access to the **Risk Database** which houses data collected, created, and analyzed during the project. This data can be used by the Communities to recreate maps, develop reports and other products, and to perform additional analysis.
- Will support risk assessment data and product development as needed.
- Provide the Communities with updated HAZUS Essential Facility data.
- Provide the Communities with Areas of Mitigation Areas of Interest findings and recommendations based on best available data.
- Provide the Communities with a Risk MAP database containing digital project data.

The County, ACCEM, and Communities are strongly encouraged to:

- Incorporate Risk Assessment data and findings into existing and future mitigation plans and local land use programs

Disaster Response Activities

Following any disaster, Federal, State, and local government staff work to minimize loss to life and property and to provide resources and support to citizens in need. In addition, data collection activities can be an invaluable resource for planning mitigation projects to improve community resiliency to hazards and improve future disaster response.

FEMA and the State will:

- Provide the community with any findings/recommendations resulting from the event, identify areas of mitigation interest and ultimately support the community in their recovery efforts.
- Support the Communities in prompt disaster response by coordinating internally and providing resources.
- Provide the Communities with suggested guidance for collecting and documenting this information.

FEMA will:



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- Use locally-supplied data to update or verify any ongoing study effort, provide the community with any findings\recommendations resulting from the event,

The County, ACCEM, and Communities are strongly encouraged to:

- Provide FEMA with copies of photographs of areas affected by disasters,
- Document high water marks, perform damage estimates, and provide the collected data to FEMA.
- Pre-identify locations and public facilities eligible for disaster-related emergency measures that may lead to permanent changes in the floodplain (such as the replacement of culverts with bridges, alteration of watercourses, etc.).
- Notify FEMA of any disaster-related emergency measures taken that may have caused permanent changes in the floodplain

Mitigation Planning Activities

Mitigation planning support provides technical assistance, incentivizes risk reduction activities at the local level, and develops the programmatic infrastructure to monitor local efforts. The risk information developed during this project will provide local governments with analyses they can use to develop or update their existing mitigation plans. The Communities can use this data to better identify risks and vulnerabilities associated with hazards, evaluate the areas of high mitigation value, and develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from future events. FEMA will offer mitigation planning technical assistance to cover the fundamentals of the requirements for Communities to meet requirements established in 44 CFR § 201.6.

FEMA will:

- Coordinate with the State and the Communities to schedule a meeting/workshop with a focus on using the updated data provided through the Risk Mapping project to improve existing mitigation strategies or identify additional strategies.
- Provide trainings on flood and earthquake Hazus analysis to GIS staff. FEMA will also provide trainings for emergency managers and mitigation planners on Hazus reports and using the output in response.
- Assist planning teams with incorporating new riverine hazard and risk data into the existing mitigation plan.
- Coordinate with the State and the Communities for mitigation planning.

FEMA and the State will:

- Discuss with the Communities how existing flood hazard data and available tools can be used to enhance the flood portion of their hazard mitigation plans.
- Provide updated Hazus datasets to include updated general building stock and critical facilities. As part of the update, documentation will be provided on the inventory update process and recommendations on a maintenance schedule.
- Share mitigation planning and/or implementation best practices, provide information about resources available to support flood mitigation actions, and assist in the development of an action item list to facilitate mitigation activities.

The State will:

- Support FEMA and the Communities by providing information, clarification, and resources to support mitigation planning efforts or obtaining funding, upon request.

The County, ACCEM, and Communities are strongly encouraged to:

- Update, maintain and improve upon the all- hazards mitigation plan adopted by Ada County, which was approved by FEMA on December 1, 2011, and expires December, 2016.



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- Update, maintain and improve upon the county all-hazards mitigation plan adopted by Canyon County and the cities of Caldwell, Middleton, Nampa, Notus, and Parma, which was approved by FEMA on April 17, 2007, and expired on April 1, 2012.
- Ensure that all cities and communities create and adopt a mitigation plan.
- Actively participate in the mitigation planning process, by, at a minimum, considering and prioritizing mitigation projects that may support community resilience to hazards.
- Inform FEMA and the State of new and emerging priorities for consideration in future studies.

Training Activities

FEMA and the State will assist the Communities by providing training and outreach materials as needed and requested. Training sessions and outreach materials may be targeted to the individual communities or to a general audience, as needed to meet the needs of this Partnership Agreement. FEMA will deliver outreach materials and schedule training sessions on the identified topics within 90 days of this Agreement.

The following topics have been identified as immediate needs for training and outreach materials for the Communities:

Training Sessions

- Community Rating System (CRS)

Publications and Outreach Materials

- Technical Bulletins
- Risk MAP Outreach Materials



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Ada County Floodplain Administrator
Jerry Hastings
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Todd Herrera
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Canyon County Floodplain Administrator
Dan Hunter
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Boise Emergency Manager
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Boise Floodplain Administrator
Hal Simmons
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Lee Van De Bogart
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Mike Williams
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Meridian Floodplain Administrator
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Middleton Floodplain Administrator
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Notus Floodplain Administrator
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