

**FEMA REGION IX FLOODPLAIN MAPPING PROGRAM  
INITIAL COORDINATION MEETING FOR SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

**MAP IX-Mainland**



A Joint Venture of URS, Dewberry, Schaaf & Wheeler, Airborne 1, and TerraPoint

<b>Subject:</b>	Santa Barbara Co, CA Initial CCO Meeting	<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	May 7, 2008 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
<b>Leader:</b>	Raymond Lenaburg FEMA Region IX	<b>Location:</b>	Santa Maria Office
<b>Purpose:</b>	Discuss scope and process for Santa Barbara County FIS and DFIRM update to convert Base Flood Elevations to NAVD 1988 datum; incorporate Santa Maria River levee analysis		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Please see attached scanned sign-in sheet. It can also be viewed by clicking on the following link: <a href="http://www.map9-m.com/projects/">http://www.map9-m.com/projects/</a> then navigating to the Santa Barbara County: Vertical Data Conversion and Levee Certification website.		

After introductions, Ray Lenaburg of FEMA Region IX explained the purpose of the vertical datum conversion update to the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) for Santa Barbara County and Incorporated Areas. Ray asked John Hoffman of MAPIX-M to review the technical process for performing the vertical datum conversion and the tentative schedule for this map update. John explained that MAPIX will follow FEMA’s Guideline and Specifications for converting the existing base flood elevations (BFEs) from the current National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 by utilizing the conversion software Corpscon (<http://crunch.tec.army.mil/software/corpscon/corpscon.html>) that is available from the US Army Corps of Engineers. This software utilizes the latitude/longitude coordinates of the area to be converted to develop point specific conversion values, in this case, each corner coordinate from the USGS Quadrangle maps that are in Santa Barbara County will be converted. FEMA’s preference is to utilize one standard conversion factor for the county provided the points fall within an acceptable range of +/- 0.25’. If the results of the conversion process results in variation above the acceptable range, the same approach will be utilized on a stream by stream analysis.

The most recent update to the Santa Barbara County and Incorporated Areas FIS and DFIRM became effective on September 30, 2005 and reflected updated mapping of the flood hazard information in a seamless county-wide format, on an updated Digital Orthophoto Quad base map and incorporated effective Letters of Map Correction (LOMCs) and the California Awareness Mapping prepared by the California Department of Water Resources.

This current update will convert the BFEs to NAVD 88, incorporate any LOMCs issues subsequent to the 8/28/08 effective date, update the base map to the 2005 National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) and evaluate the existing floodplains to meet the Floodplain Boundary Standard requirements. The Floodplain Boundary Standards require that all existing flood hazards be validated against the best available topographic data. During the meeting, John requested that the County and communities provide MAPIX with the any available topographic data that can be utilized to perform the FBS review. In lieu of any new topographic data being submitted, MAPIX will utilize the available USGS Digital Elevation Model

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topographic information. In addition, the scope of this FIS and DFIRM update will also include the publication of the revised hydrologic and hydraulic analysis of the without levee condition for the Santa Maria River in Santa Barbara County.

The following is the schedule that was tentatively developed for this project:

- May 7, 2009 - Initial Community Coordination Officers Meeting
- August 31, 2009 - MAPIX complete updated hydrologic/hydraulic and mapping for Santa Maria River
- September 30, 2008 - MAPIX issue Preliminary FIS and DFIRM for Santa Barbara and Incorporated Areas for the vertical datum conversion and Santa Maria River Analysis
- October 21, 2008 - Final Community Coordination Officers Meeting and initiation of 30-day Comment Period for Preliminary FIS and DFIRM
- November 1, 2008 - First Publication of revised BFEs in Federal Register and local newspaper
- November 8, 2008 - First Publication of revised BFEs in Federal Register and local newspaper
- November 15, 2008 - Initiation of 90-day Appeal/Protest Period for Santa Maria River only
- February 15, 2009 - Expiration of 90-day Appeal/Protest period
- April/May 2009 - Issuance of Letter of Final Determination
- October/November 2009 - Estimated Effective Date for Vertical Datum Conversion and revised Santa Maria River analysis

Next Actions:

- Any information request or questions can be directed to:  
John Hoffman, CFM  
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