

National Flood Insurance Program Compliance Issues in NYS

Course Information

This course has been approved by the Department of State for In-Service Training credit as follows:

1 hour(s), Topic 1 – Enforcement & Administration

Course number: T02-07-3110



Attendees must scan or sign the Class Registration List to receive credit

- Log In Between 30 minutes before the scheduled start time to 15 minutes after the scheduled start time.
- Log Out Between the scheduled end time to 30 minutes after the scheduled end time.

Logging in or out outside of the above time frames will prohibit attendees from receiving course credit.



Course Attendance Issues

The Division of Building Standards and Codes cannot give course attendees credit for a course without the required registration and logging in and out



DEC Floodplain Coordinators

Central Office Floodplain Management Coordinators
Main Number, 518-402-8185

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Floodplain Coordinator

Email us at floodplain@dec.ny.gov



DEC Regional Floodplain Coordinators



Region 8: North Avon Jonathan Tamargo 585-226-5451 Region 8: South Elmira Brad Chaffee 607-732-2214



Region 9: Buffalo Mandi Ohar 716-851-7084



Workshop Comments

- This workshop is an overview of the NFIP compliance issues we see in NYS. Additional training workshops providing more detailed information on the NFIP are available.
- Topics pertain to the minimum standards of the NFIP although we will discuss some NYS higher standards
- NYS building code incorporates most, but not all, of those standards.
- Other related federal/state programs will not be covered
- Subject matter applies to the special flood hazard area, i.e., The 1-percent annual chance flood (otherwise known as the 100-year flood).

Agenda

- Determining Compliance Issues
- Common Property Violations in NYS
- Community Program Deficiencies
- The Compliance Process
- Enforcement Actions
- Prevention of Violations
- Resources



Determining Compliance Problems



Compliance Issue Discovery

- Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) / Community Assistance Contacts (CACs)
- Letters of Map Change Process (LOMCs)
- Regulatory Map Updates
- Submit for Rate Insurance Policies
- Other Federal Agencies
- Adjoining Communities
- Residents



CAVs and CACs

- Ordinance review for compliance with 44 CFR 60.3
- Review of permitting process
- Floodplain tour
- Review of issued permits



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Letters of Map Change Process

- FEMA review of a LOMA, LOMR-F, or LOMR may indicate a potential violation
- A Potential Violation Notice (PVN) is sent to the FEMA Regional NFIP Specialist
- The FEMA Regional NFIP Specialist and/or the State NFIP Office work directly with the community to resolve the issue



Regulatory Map Updates

- Redelineation of Existing Special Flood Hazard Areas
- Conditional Letters of Map Revisions/ Letter of Map Revisions



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

CERTIFIEDMAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED INREPLY REFER TO:

December 16, 2020

The Honorable Byron Brown Mayor, City of Buffalo 65 Niagara Square, Room 201 Buffalo, New York 14202 Community: City of Buffalo, Erie County, New York Community No.: 360230 Map Panels Affected: See FIRM Index

Dear Mayor Brown:

On Jamary 31, 2000, you were notified of proposed modified flood hazard determinations (FIDs) affecting the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRAM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for the City of Buffalo, Erie Courty, New York. The statutory 90-day appeal period that was initiated on February 14, 2020, when the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published a notice of proposed FFIDs for your community in the Buffalo Niver, has alspeak.

FEM.A received no valid requests for changes in the FFIDs. Therefore, the determination of the Agency as to the FFIDs for your community is considered final. The final FFIDs will be published in the Federica Register as soon as possible. The modified FFIDs and revised map panels, as effectioned above, will be effective as of June 16, 2011, and revise HFIRM that was in effect riprior to flat date. For insurance rating purposes, the community number and new suffix code for the panels being revised are indicated above and on the maps and must be used for all new policies and renewals.

The modifications are pursuant to Section 106 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-49) and are in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1980, as amended (Tide XIII) of the Housing and Lithean Development Act of 1980, Public Law 90-48).
4 U.S.C. 400-142, and 44 CFF Part 65. Beause of the modifications to the FIRM and FTS report for your community made by this map revision, certain additional sequirements must be metunder Section 1861 of the 1980 Act as amended within 6 months from the date of this later. Prior June 16, 2021, your community is required, as a condition of continued eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), to adopt or show veidence of adoption of floodphin maragement regulations finate the standards of Paragraph 603 (d ande) of the NFIP regulations. These standards are the minimum requirements and donot supersed any State of coals requirements of a more stringent nature.

It must be emphasized that all the standards specified in Paragraph (0.3(d and e) of the NFID regulations must be encited in a legally enforceable document. This includes the adoption of the effective FIRM and FIS report to which the regulations apply and the modifications and eby this mapreviator. Some of the standards should already have been enacted by your community. Any additional requirements can be met by taking one of the following actions:

- Amending existing regulations to incorporate any additional requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d and e);
- Adopting all the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d and e) into one new, comprehensive set of regulations; or



Department of Environmental Conservation

Submit for Rate Insurance Policies

- Flood Insurance Policies that identify a post-FIRM structure with the lowest floor below BFE (at least 2 feet)
- Agents send these policies to FEMA HQ for rating
- Information is shared with the FEMA Regional Office since these structures are potential violations.



Notification Through Other Parties or Programs

- Other Federal/State Agencies
- Adjoining Communities
- Resident Reports
- Neighbor Disputes



Question #1

How does FEMA or the State find out about compliance issues?

- A. CAV/CAC
- B. Letter of Map Change(LOMC) Process
- C. NYSDEC Permitting Process
- D. Complaints
- E. All of the Above



Common Property Violations



Common Violations

- Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMR-F)
- Lowest Floor Below BFE
- Encroachments in the Floodway
- Failure to Submit a CLOMR/LOMR
- Use of Flood Prone Enclosures
- Flood Openings
- Anchoring Fuel Tanks/ Manufactured Homes



LOMR-F Violations



	AND SECURITY - FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OPERTY INFORMATION FORM	O.M.B. NO. 1660-0015 Expires February 28, 2014
searching existing data sources, gathering as benefits. You are not required to respond to accuracy of the burden estimate and any su	PAPERWORK BURDEN DISCLOSURE NOTICE on is estimated to svenage I.63 hours per response. The burden estimate includes the or minimizing the meeted data, and completing and abundancy are form. This collection produces the control of the collection for reducing this burden to information Collections Management, Department in Bell Street, Arlington, V.a. 20599-1800, Paperwork Reduction Project (1640-0015), NO	n is required to obtain or retain rm. Send comments regarding the t of Homeland Security, Federal
Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA), Condition Revision Based on Fill (CLOMR-F) for existing	owner, property owner's agent, licensed land surveyor, or registered professional engi mail Letter of Map Amendment [CLOMA], Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill [DMM-F] co proposed, single or multiple lots/structures. In order to process your request, all structures are supported to the second	or Conditional Letter of Map ormation on this form must be
LOMA	A letter from DHS-FEMA stating that an existing structure or parcel of by fill (natural grade) would not be inundated by the base flood.	land that has not been elevated
☐ CLOMA	A letter from DHS-FEMA stating that a proposed structure that is not t grade) would not be inundated by the base flood if built as proposed.	o be elevated by fill (natural
□ LOMR-F	A letter from DHS-FEMA stating that an existing structure or parcel of fill would not be inundated by the base flood.	land that has been elevated by
☐ CLOMR-F	A letter from DHS-FEMA stating that a parcel of land or proposed stru- would not be inundated by the base flood if fill is placed on the parcel built as proposed.	
ground that was previously below the 8 Will fill be placed on your property to n ground that is below the BFE?		
 Street Address of the Property (if street names below): 	equest is for multiple structures or units, please attach additional sheet refere	ncing each address and enter
2. Legal description of Property (Lot,	Block, Subdivision or abbreviated description from the Deed):	
Structures on the A portion of land w	ne determination be completed for (check one): property? What are the dates of construction? (MM/YYY) which the bounds of the property? (A certified metes and bounds description by a licensed had suveyoor or registered professional enjores. are required, excirciptions, please refer to the MF-1 Form 1 Instructions.) control property.	
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NEW YORK STATE Department of Environmental Conservation

Lowest Floor Violations



Page 1 of 4	Issue Date: June 6, 2019	Effective Date:	December 6, 2019	Case No	a.: 18-02-2086P	LOMR-APP
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IDENTIFIER	Black Creek Flood Plain Revision		APPROXIMATE LATITUDE SOURCE: Precision Mappi	& LONGITU	DE: 43.139, -77.363 DATUM: NAD 83	
	ANNOTATED MAPPING ENCLOSURE	:\$	ANNO	TATED STU	DY ENCLOSURES	
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Enclosures refle * FIRM - Flood	ed changes to flooding sources affected by th Insurance Rate Map; " FBFM - Flood Bound	nis revision. ary and Floodway Map				
	F	LOODING SOURCE(S)	& REVISED REACH(ES)			
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		Patrick "Rick" F. Sactil Engineering Services E Federal Insurance and	JUH ot, P.E., Branch Chief kranch Mitigation Administration		18-02-2086P	102-I-A-C
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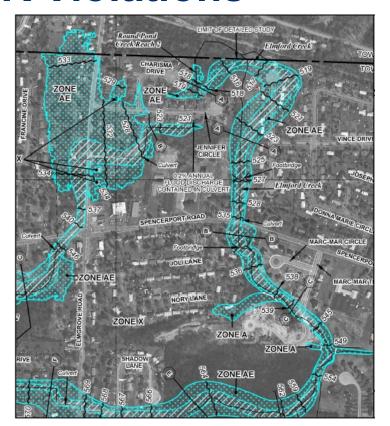


Department of Environmental Conservation

Floodway Violations



CLOMR/LOMR Violations





Flood Prone Enclosure



Department of Environmental Conservation **Flood Opening Violations**





Anchoring Fuel Tanks



Department of Environmental Conservation

Utilities Not Elevated





Question #2

True or False?

If a property owner adds fill to a parcel and constructs a building with a basement prior to submitting the LOMR-F application to FEMA and getting approval, then the structure is a violation.



Community Program Deficiencies



Local Law Issues

- Failure to adopt dissolved villages
- Failure to adopt official LOMR
- New study/maps issued
- Does not meet minimum
 NFIP or State requirements

Local La	w Filing		New York State Department of State cords and Uniform Commercial Code merce Plaza, 99 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12231-0001 www.dos.ny.gov
	(Use this form to file	a local law with the Secretary	of State.)
	should be given as amende derlining to indicate new ma	d. Do not include matter being atter.	
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Permitting



SI/SD Procedure



Variances

Use of procedures to process variances that are not consistent with NFIP variance criteria.*

- Variance granted must be the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief
- Where the variance conflicts with the Uniform Code of NYS, there must also be a state variance through the regional board of review



Record Keeping

- Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance
- Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures
- Floodproofing certificates
- Variances requested and whether issued or denied
- Notices required for any watercourse alterations



Question #3

True or False? Ppe text here

The NYSDEC Permit Unit considers local floodplain regulations and NFIP requirements during the review of **ALL** permit applications.



The Compliance Process



General Compliance Process

- FEMA regulations require violations be remedied to the maximum extent practicable
- Administrative deficiencies that led to the violation must be corrected
- As the participant in the NFIP, communities are responsible to remediate the violation
- FEMA and the State work with the community, not the property owner or the LOMC applicant
- The process can be time consuming
- Remediation is on a case-by-case basis



Full Compliance Options

- Demonstrate the Structure is not a violation of the NFIP
- Elevate
- Wet Floodproof
- Dry Floodproof (Non-Residential Structures and Enclosures)
- Remove the structure
- Relocate the structure
- Fill the basement or lower level
- Change use of the building
- Combination of options



Partial Compliance Options

- Elevate Utilities
- Floodproof Utilities
- Construct Compensatory Storage
- Restrict use of lower levels
- Retrofit the building for wet or dry floodproofing
- Combination of options



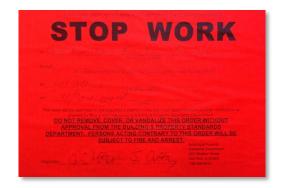
Other Compliance Options at the Community Level

- Restriction on Building Use
- Submit to Rate: Can encourage the homeowner to take action due to insurance costs
- Phased approach that is documented through a Memorandum of Understanding.
- Section 1316: Denial Flood Insurance for an individual structure



Section 1316 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968

- A process for denying flood insurance to structures in violation of State or local floodplain management regulations.
- A community should exhaust all other available enforcement actions such as stop-work-orders and fines, before pursuing the 1316 process.





Question #4

A new residential structure was built in the floodplain with a full basement that is 5 ft. below grade and 6 ft. below the BFE. The furnace and hot water tank are located in the basement. How do you bring the structure into **full** compliance?

- A. Elevate the utilities
- B. Floodproof the utilities
- C. Fill in the basement to grade
- D. Both A and C



Enforcement Options



Remedy Violations

FPA has responsibility to mitigate violations

- Bring structure or other development into compliance
- Implement enforcement provisions
- Protect structure or other development from flood damages, i.e., retrofit
- Deter future similar violations by modifying procedures, and training





Property Owner Non-Compliance

Local Actions

- Formal notification of violations
- Fines (per violation, per day)
- Stop work orders
- Injunctions
- Imprisonment
- Litigation
- Section 1316 (44 CFR Part 73)



Community & Individual Non-Compliance

State Actions

- NYSDEC NFIP Coordinating Office
 - Provide Technical Assistance
 - Assist in Communications between FEMA and the Community
- NYSDOS Codes Division
 - Investigation of complaints
 - Division of Code Enforcement and Administration (ny.gov)



Now York State
Department of State
Department of State
Division of Building Standards
and Codes
One Correcce Place
39 Westington America, Suite 1850
Alsony, NY 12234-001
(813) 674-4402

COMPLAINT AGAINST A CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL OR BUILDING SAFETY INSPECTOR AND/OR AGAINST A MUNICIPALITY RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE UNFORM CODE AND/OR ENERGY CODE

PURPOSE OF THIS FORM: This form may be used for either or both of the following purposes

- to file a complaint alleging that a Code Enforcement Official ("CEO") or a Building Safety Inspector ("BSI") has materially failed to unhold his or her duties as a CEO or BSI, or
- (2) to fie a complaint alleging that a city, town, village, or country that is responsible for administration and enforcemen of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (tie "Uniform Code") and/or the State Energy Conservation Construction code (the "Energy Code") is failing to do so in compliance with the minimum standards established by the Department of State Regulations.

The Department of State will review this form and make a preliminary determination whether this Complaint is applicable to (1) the CEO or BSI name in this Complaint, (2) the oily, lown, village, or county named in this Complaint, or (3) both the CEO or BSI name in this complaint and the city, lown, village, or county named in this Complaint.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please Complete Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, and Part 4: read Part 5; and date and sign this form in the place provided in Part 5. Please submit the completed, dated, and signed Complet (and any additional supporting documentation you may wish to include as part of this Complaint) by email or mail to:

> New York State Department of State Division of Building Standards and Codes 99 Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12231-0001 Email: Oversight.Codes@dos.ny.gov

PART 1 (please type or	printy	
Person filing this Compla	int:	
First Name:	Last Name:	
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Address related to complain	nt:	
Telephone:	Email:	

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Page 1 of 4



Community Non-Compliance

Federal Actions

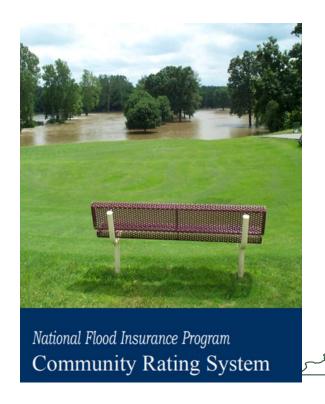
- CRS Retrograde to a Class 10
- Probation
- Suspension
- Subrogation





Community Rating System Retrograde

The Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed minimum NFIP requirements.





Probation

- Formal notification to the community that FEMA regards the community's floodplain management program as not compliant with the minimum standards of the NFIP
- An additional \$50 dollar premium will be charged on policies sold or renewed during the probation period
- The maximum probation period is one year





Suspension

A community is subject to suspension unless it corrects program deficiencies and remedies all violations by the compliance deadlines set during the probation period.

- No new policies or renewals
- No Federally related financing within SFHA
- No Federal financial assistance or aid, including disaster assistance, within SFHA



Subrogation

This is an action brought by FEMA when flood damages have occurred, flood insurance has been paid, and...

...all or part of the damage can be attributed to acts or omissions by a community or other third party.

FEMA then sues the third party to recover flood insurance

claims it has paid.





Other Factors to Consider

There may be other factors to consider when evaluating what are the best compliance actions for any given violation

- Mitigating Factors
 - Factors that may lessen the impact of the violation
- Aggravating Factors
 - Factors that may exacerbate the impact of the violation



Examples of Mitigating Factors

- Newly elected officials, or recently hired staff, have demonstrated a new attitude toward fulfilling the community's responsibilities under the NFIP
- There are isolated instances of violations, rather than a pattern of widespread or repeated violations
- A remedial measure to resolve a particular violation would undermine the credibility of local officials or their demonstrated efforts to achieve compliance
- The current owner of a property that is in violation was not the owner at the time the structure became noncompliant

Examples of Aggravating Factors

- Community has a history of violations that were previously identified and brought to the community's attention by the State or FEMA
- Community has not demonstrated willingness to take corrective actions to resolve past problems
- Community has adequate resources, including professional staff, but has not used those resources to administer or enforce its floodplain management regulations
- The present owner of a property that is in violation was the owner at the time the structure became noncompliant

Question #5

Who is responsible for mitigating violations?

- A. FEMA
- B. NYSDEC
- C. Local Floodplain Administrator (FPA)
- D. NYSDOS



Preventing Violations



Ways to Prevent Violations

- Enforce the community's ordinance and keep it up to date
- Create a strong permit procedures that include inspections and use of elevation certificate
- Require multiple inspections
- Require permit applicants to submit for CLOMRs and LOMRs
- Be aware of the community's responsibility when signing the Community Acknowledgement Form
- Keep Records
- Ask questions: Call FEMA and/or NYSDEC regarding compliance questions before you permit the development



Benefits of Proper Enforcement

- Safer, More Resilient Community
- Safer Public
- Decreased Flood Damages
- Lower Flood Insurance Rates
- Maintain Property Values
- Maintain NFIP Status and Access to Federal Funds



Resources



Ways to Learn

FEMA: Emergency Management Institute

FEMA - Emergency Management Institute (EMI) Home Page

DEC Workshops & Training Page

Floodplain Management Training Resources - NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation

NYS Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Assoc.

Home - New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers (nyfloods.org)

Association of State Floodplain Managers

The Association of State Floodplain Management | ASFPM (floods.org)

FEMA NFIP Desk Reference

NFIP Floodplain Management Requirements (fema.gov)

Self-education and experience

Violations & litigation - Abiding by the regulations will hopefully avoid this method of learning!



Information on the Web

NFIP Insurance Forms

Find an Insurance Form | FEMA.gov

NFIP Technical Bulletins

National Flood Insurance Technical Bulletins | FEMA.gov

Mapping Guidelines and Specifications

Guidelines and Standards for Flood Risk Analysis and Mapping Activities Under the Risk MAP Program | FEMA.gov FEMA Map Service Center

FEMA Flood Map Service Center | Welcome!

Flood Insurance Library

Office of the Flood Insurance Advocate Library | FEMA.gov

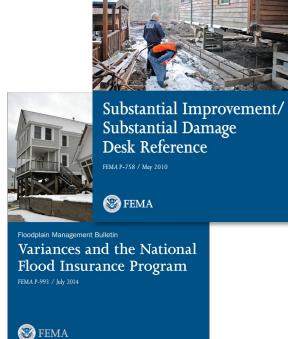
Floodplain Management Information

Floodplain Management | FEMA.gov



FEMA Resources

- Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage
 - Desk Reference, FEMA P-758 (https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1734-25045-2915/p 758 complete r3.pdf)
- Answers to Questions about Substantially Damaged Buildings, FEMA 213 (https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/169099)
- Variances and the NFIP, FEMA P-993 (https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/FEMA P-993 FPM-Bulletin Variance.pdf)







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