

Alabama Ready for RiskMap

The Alabama Floodplain Management Program administered by the Office of Water Resources enters its sixth year with significant progress. Fifty-seven counties have modernized floodplain maps with the remaining ten expected to be completed between now and September 2010. Alabama is recognized as a very successful Cooperating Technical Community (CTP) working closely with FEMA Region IV to improve floodplain management in the state. OWR was recently awarded \$5.9M in funding for FY09 to update the engineering and resulting floodplain maps for seven counties in the state including updated coastal analysis and mapping for Baldwin and Mobile counties. These studies are scheduled to be completed in 2011. Last year OWR developed a methodology for assessing and documenting mapping needs using FEMA's Coordinated Needs Management Strategy framework that will serve as the basis for a system that FEMA Headquarters will utilize nationwide. OWR also recently submitted an application for State level delegation for review of Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) to FEMA Headquarters. All of these activities position the State of Alabama to maximize funding and program effectiveness for RiskMap, FEMA's program to integrate mapping and mitigation tools nationwide. The framework for RiskMap between 2010 and 2014 recently received congressional approval.

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