



Appendix O — Glossary

100 Year Flood	a flood with a probability of occurring once during a one hundred year period. Alternatively, it is a flood with one chance out of 100 (1%) of occurring in any one year. Two 100 year floods could occur in the same year. The level of the 100 year flood is usually the Base Flood Elevation.
500 Year Flood	a flood with a probability of occurring once during a five hundred year period. Alternatively, it is a flood with one chance out of 500 (.2%) of occurring in any one year. Two 500 year floods could occur in the same year.
A	
ADT – Average Daily Traffic. Average number of cars in a 24 hour period.	
ASFPM	Association of State Floodplain Managers
Acre Foot	the capacity of a lake or reservoir is measured in acre feet. An acre foot is the equivalent of an acre of area filled to a depth of one foot. It

	contains 325,851 gallons.
B	
BFE	Base Flood Elevation. Usually the same as the level of 100 year flood.
BM	Bench Mark
Basement -	enclosed areas that have the floor level below ground level (sub grade) on all four sides.
Best Management Plan -	Methods adopted by resource users designed to mitigate harm to the environment that might result from their activities.
Biodiversity	The variety of life in an area, including the variety of genes, species, plant and animal communities, ecosystems, and processes through which individual organisms interact with one another and their environments. It is so complex, that planning and management can only address specific aspects or indicators of biodiversity such as the genetic variation in intensively managed or rare species' populations, the recovery and viability of endangered species, the conditions of special or unique biological communities, and the patterns and processes of ecological systems across large regional landscapes.
C	
CAV	Community Assistance Visits. These visits are actually inspections by FEMA to evaluate the communities adherence to NFIP regulations. CAVs frequently result in punitive action taken against the

	community. Conducting CAVs is a FEMA responsibility.
CLOMA	Conditional Letter of Map Amendment
CLOMR	Conditional Letter of Map Revision
CLOMRF	Conditional Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill
These three, CLOMA, CLOMR, and CLOMRF are all procedures established by the NFIP to amend or revise Flood Insurance Rate Maps. All three actions must be initiated by a resident or community.	
CTP	Cooperating Technical Partners (Initiative)
CFS	Cubic Feet per Second - a unit measuring the flow of a stream expressed as a rate of discharge. One cubic foot per second is equal to the discharge in a stream cross section one foot wide, one foot deep flowing with an average velocity of one foot per second. 1 cfs = 44.8 gallons per minute.
Channel Stabilization	Erosion control measures on streambanks and channels to prevent erosion and sediment production. Included are:
	a. Revegetation measures
	b. Protective fencing
	c. Structural measures
Community Rating System -	CRS - a system of rating community efforts to control flooding. The system is based on a ten point scale. For every point of

	reduction the community gets a 5% reduction on the flood insurance premiums of all policies within the community. Reductions are offered for several factors. The elementary steps to get down to an 8 don't take much effort. Getting additional reductions take more effort. The greatest value is getting the flood plain management program organized.
D	
Dam	a dam is an artificial barrier or obstruction that impounds, or will impound, water.
DEM	Digital Elevation Model
DFIRM	Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map
DGPS	Differential Global Positioning System
DLG	Digital Line Graph
DOQ	Digital Orthophoto Quadrangle
D FIRM	Digitalized Flood Insurance Rate Map.
Design Flood	The selected flood against which a flood protective works is designed to provide protection. This is usually expressed as the probable return frequency of the flood (25 year flood, 100 year flood, etc.)
Development	any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings, other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

Diameter at breast height (dbh)	the diameter outside bark of a standing tree measured at 4.5 feet above the ground.
Discharge	an outflow of water from a pipe, conduit, stream, groundwater system or watershed.
Divide	the boundary separating watershed drainage basins.
Drainage Basin	the land area drained by a creek, stream or river. Also called a watershed. It can be identified by connecting the highest elevations between two adjacent drainage basins.
Dry Dam	A flood control dam that impounds water only during floods. The stored water is released after the potential for downstream flooding stream flow is unimpeded.has been reduced. Normal
E	
Elevation Certificates	A document prepared and signed by a professional engineer or surveyor that provides the elevation of the Lowest Floor of the structure.
Ecosystem	A geographic area where it is meaningful to address the interaction of plants, animals, ecological processes, human social systems, soils, waters, sources of energy, and the forces that guide change over time. A watershed is an example.
Endangered Species	Species listed as nationally in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their ranges by current Federal Register

	Final Rule making.
Environmental Analysis	The process associated with the preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement and the decision whether to prepare an environmental assessment or impact statement. It is an analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short term and long term environmental effects which include physical, biological, economic, and social factors and their interactions.
Expressway	Interstate or other four lane highway.
F	
FBFM	Flood Boundary and Floodway Map
FHBM	Flood Hazard Boundary Map
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FIRM	DLG
Flood Insurance Rate Map	Digital Line Graph
FIS	Flood Insurance Study
Flash Flood	a flood that rises and falls rapidly with little or no advance warning. Flash floods usually occur as the result of intense rainfall over a relatively small area, intense rainfall over a heavy snow pack or failure of a dam.
Flood -	a condition that occurs when water overflows the natural or artificial confines of a stream or other water

	body or accumulates by drainage over low lying areas. To be considered a flood it must affect two or more properties in the community and must exceed one acre in area.
Flood Crest	the maximum stage or elevation reached by the waters of a flood at a given location.
Flood of Record .	the highest known flood level for an area
Floodplain	low lying, relatively flat areas adjacent to streams and rivers. Floodplains serve several functions including: 1) temporary storage of flood waters, 2) moderation of peak flows, 3) maintenance of water quality, 4) groundwater recharge, 5) prevention of erosion, 6) adsorption of the energy of floodwaters and 7) reduction of damage to the river channel. Floodplains are also areas where the river deposits excess sediment and debris associated with floods after a storm. In addition to the above floodplains provide habitat for wildlife, recreational opportunities (hiking, fishing, boating and, in some areas, hunting) and aesthetic benefits to the community.
Flood proofing	any combination of structural and non structural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and there contents. Such actions include raising electrical connections above the Flood Protection Elevation, securing fuel tanks, elevating

	heating, ventilation and air conditioning elements above the Flood Protection Elevation, installing one way valves or traps in sewer lines or other drain lines, adding French drains and sump pumps to areas below the Flood Protection Elevation or adding a waterproof veneer to exterior walls below the Flood Protection Elevation.
Flood Protection Elevation	the base flood elevation plus one foot.
Flood	resistant materials any building product capable of withstanding direct and prolonged contact (72 hours at a minimum) with flood waters without sustaining damage beyond low cost cosmetic repair
Flood Stage	the level on a fixed river gauge at which the overflow of the natural or artificial banks of a stream begins to cause damage in any portion of the stream reach for which the gauge is used as an index.
Flood Warning	an announcement by the National Weather Service to alert the public that flooding is imminent in, or close to, the designated area or is occurring due to heavy rain or dam failure.
Flood Watch	an announcement by the National Weather Service to alert the public that flooding is a possibility in, or close to, the designated area.
Floodway	the part of the floodplain which

	must be kept clear of fill or other obstructions in order to convey the 100 year flood without an excessive increase in flood elevations. This is the area immediately adjacent to the normal channel of the river or streams. Floodways are subject to deeper flooding by higher velocity water. No new buildings or development should be allowed in the floodway. In some jurisdictions floodways are defined as an area adjacent to the stream within a distance equal to 25% of the width of the stream.
Floodway Fringe	the normal channel of the river or stream. Floodway fringes are subject to shallower flooding by slower moving waters.
Forest Land	forest use include area for crops, improved pasture, residential, or administrative areas, improved roads of any width, and adjoining road clearing and power line clearing width.
G	
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
Gabions	Cylindrical or rectangular wire baskets filled with earth and stones, used in fortifying stream banks, road cuts, and anywhere where soil erosion may be a problem.
Gully Control and Stabilization	Land treatment efforts to stabilize advanced gully erosion areas. Structures, grading, and revegetation may be used in combination. Structural measures

	may include check dams or gully plugs consisting of brush, log or crib, masonry, rock, concrete, gabions, or other materials.
H	
HEC	Hydrologic Engineering Center (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
H&H	Hydrologic and Hydraulic (Analyses)
Historic Flood	any known flood for which there is no gage record or other systematic or usable technical record.
I	
IFG Program under WVOES.	Individual Family Grant
ICC	Increased Cost of Compliance.
In Stream Flow	Used in defining the minimum flow necessary for all the uses of water. Some of those uses are fisheries, channel stability, maintenance, riparian habitat maintenance, and aesthetics.
L	
LIDAR	LIght Detection and Ranging (System)
LODR	Letter of Determination Review
LOMA	Letter of Map Amendment
LOMC	Letter of Map Change
LOMC	VALID Letter of Map Change Revalidation (Letter)
LOMR	Letter of Map Revision
LOMRF	F Letter of Map Revision Based on

	Fill
Landowners Assisted	Individuals or groups which are provided watershed information or assistance.
Lowest Floor	the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, access to the building, or limited storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure elevation design requirements of Section 60.3.
M	
MNUSS	Map Needs Update Support System
Mitigation	action that permanently reduces, alleviates or eliminates a long term risk to people, infrastructure and property from natural hazards or disasters and their effects. Long term mitigation strategies include planning, policy changes, programs, projects and other activities. Mitigation may occur at a federal, state, or local government level. Private individuals or businesses may also take mitigation efforts.
N	
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NFIRA	National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994
NGVD29	National Geodetic Vertical Datum

	of 1929
NEMIS	National Emergency Management Information System. A computerized tracking system that replaced ADAMS, a paper tracking system, as the system for tracking emergency declarations.
Nonstructural	Flood Mitigation efforts to control the damages caused by flooding by means other than construction of physical structures. Typically this includes acquisition of property, relocation of buildings, or elevation of buildings or their contents to remove them to an area above the Flood Protection Elevation.
R	
RFIS	Flood Insurance Restudy
RMM	River Mile Marker. (See River Mile)
Recurrence Interval	The average interval of time, based on an analysis of past records, that can be expected to elapse between floods of a given magnitude. The recurrence interval is a statistical approximation and not a certain guide.
Regulated Floodplain	the portion of the floodplain identified on Flood Insurance Rate Maps as impacted by the 100 year flood. This area is also known as the Special Flood Hazard Area.
Right or Left Bank	the right or left bank as you face down stream. Also called Right or Left Descending Bank.
Riparian Area	Area which includes stream channels, lakes, and wetlands, and adjacent floodplains and

	ecosystems. They include all areas within a horizontal distance from the edge of the water system to an area where vegetation, soils, biogeochemical processes, and other conditions exist because of the influence of water.
Riprapping	Using broken rock, cobbles, or boulders placed on earth surfaces, such as the face of a dam or the bank of a stream, for protection also applies to brush or pole mattresses, or brush and stone, or other similar materials used for soil erosion control.
Riverine .	Pertaining to rivers
River Mile	The distance designation of points along a stream, usually measured from the mouth. The one exception is the Ohio River where river miles are measured from Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. (See RMM).
S	
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Area. The portion of the floodplain impacted by the 100 year flood. It may be designated as
Severe Thunderstorm	A thunderstorm which includes hail at least ¾ inch in diameter, winds of at least 58 miles per hour <u>or</u> a downburst. A downburst is strong out rush of wind formed by rain cooled air. Down bursts are frequently mistaken for tornados.
Silviculture	A combination of actions whereby forests are tended, harvested, and replaced.
Spillway	A channel for an overflow of water,

	as from a reservoir.
Stream	any natural or artificial body of water moving under gravity's influence through clearly defined channels to progressively lower levels.
Structural Flood Mitigation stream.	Typically this includes dams, levees, dikes, floodwalls, wetlands and stream construction of physical structures to control damages caused by flooding. Any activity that changes the flow characteristics of the channelization or dredging.
T	
Thunderstorm	a cloud containing lightning and thunder. A typical thunderstorm is usually 15 miles in diameter and lasts for 30 minutes. Heavy rainfall from a thunderstorm may cause flash flooding.
Trunkline	Major two lane highway.
W	
Water Equalizing Vents	g grated or non rated openings into areas below the flood protection elevation that allows water pressure to equalize on both sides of a wall. One square inch of opening is required for every square foot of space below the base flood elevation.
Watershed	the land area drained by a creek, stream or river. Also called a Drainage Basin. It can be identified by connecting the highest elevations between two adjacent drainage basins.

Water table	the top of an unconfined aquifer, it indicates the level below which soil and rock are saturated with water. (See Zone of Saturation.)
West Virginia Flood Protection Plan	a document developed by a task force consisting of state and federal agencies. It is intended to assist state and local officials to plan, direct, update and implement flood protection activities.
Wetland	An area periodically or permanently saturated with water, where the presence of water is a dominant factor and produces adverse effects on all vegetation except for aquatic plant communities (included bogs, marshes, ponds, sloughs, streams, swamps, and wet meadows).
Wildlife Habitat Development	Measures to create habitat for food and cover, and for erosion control.
Woodland Grazing Control	Measures, such as fencing, which are used to exclude or control grazing to reduce or avoid damage to soil and water.
Z	
Zone of saturation	the part of a groundwater system where all of the spaces between soil and rock material are filled with water. The water found in this zone is called groundwater. (See Water table.)