

# AMP-ing up FIRM Production

TFMA 2023 Conference

Miguel Segura and Ethan Guyer

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## Meet our team



Miguel Segura  
GIS Manager



Ethan Guyer  
GIS Specialist

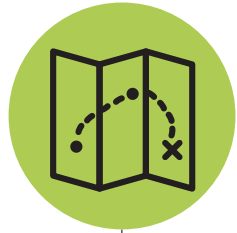
# Agenda

- History of Flood Mapping
  - Timeline
- Automated Map Production
  - What's Need for AMP
  - Importance of FIRM Database
  - Benefits of AMP
  - Helpful Links
- Questions

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# History of Flood Mapping

# Timeline



## First Floodplain Maps

Maps based on a historical flooding event, helping maintain waters for commerce.



## Flood Hazard Boundary Maps

Map shows special flooding in high-risk areas identified as zone A



## Risk Maps

Improving hazard mitigation with panels and interactive maps



## Use of NFIP Map

Created from the National Flood Insurance Act in 1968



## Map Modernization

Making flood mapping accessible to the public

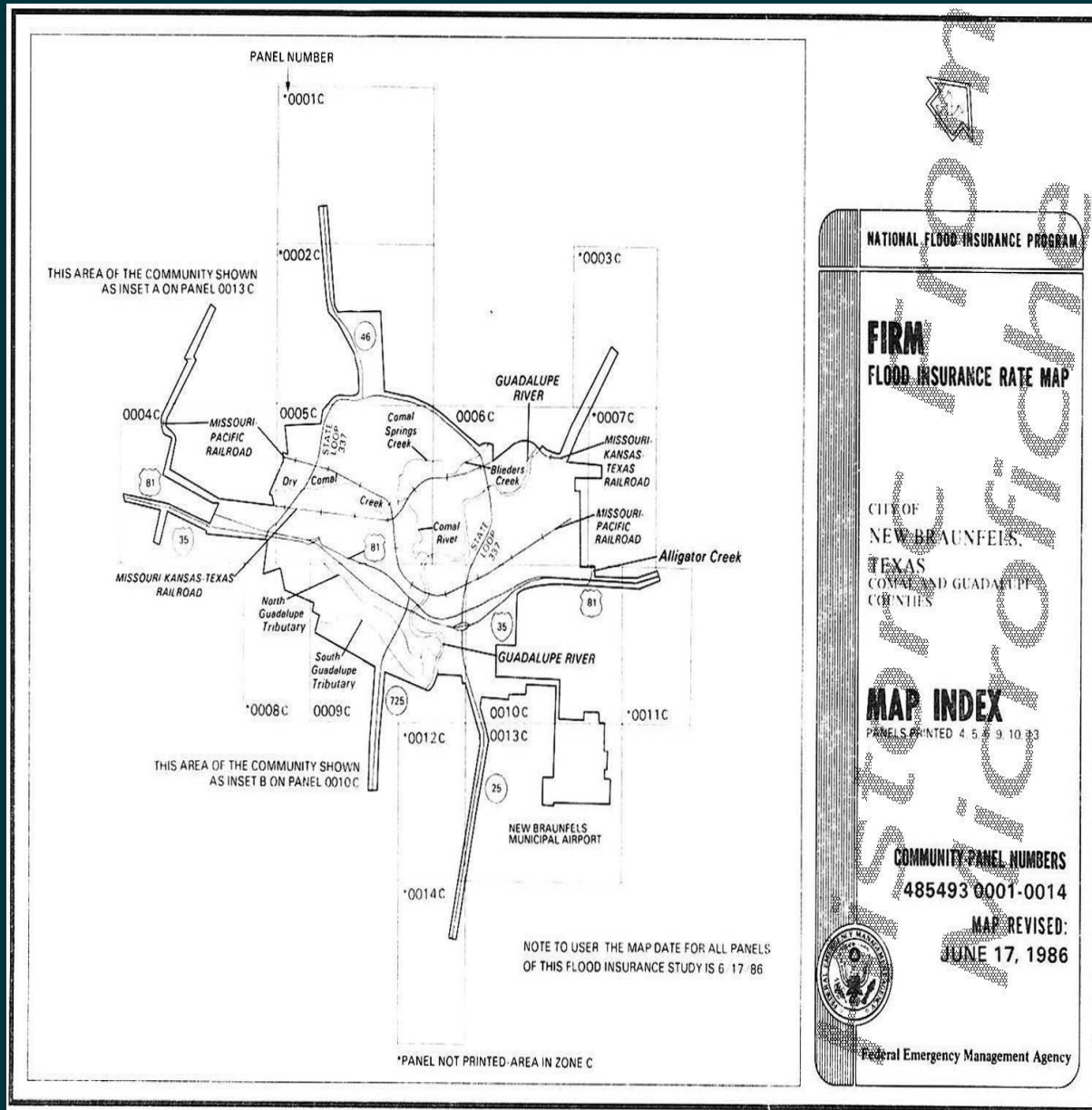
# First Floodplain Maps



- Maps that pioneered the way for maps that we use today.
- Goal was to maintain waters for commerce
- Based on historic weather events

# Use of NFIP Maps

- Created from the National Flood Insurance Act in 1968
- NFIP is a program designed to aid communities flooding events
- Uses FIRM panels to show communities area of flood risk, to prepare communities

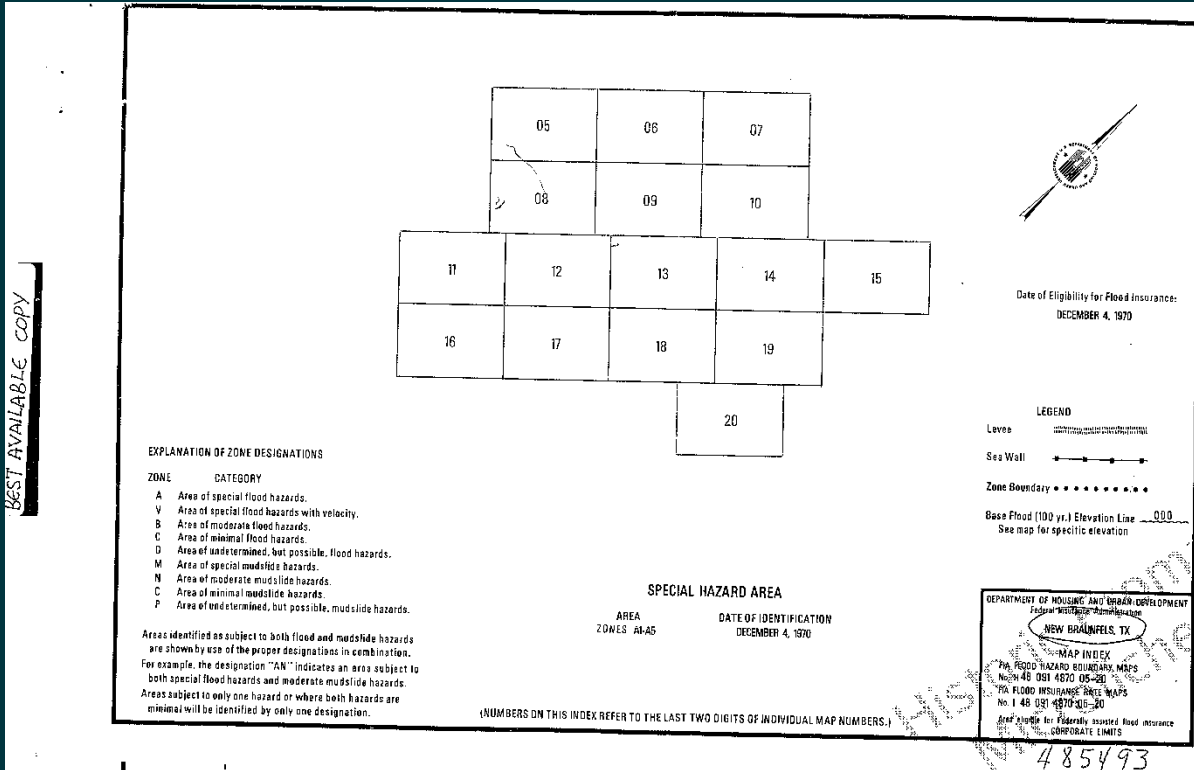


# Use of NFIP Maps



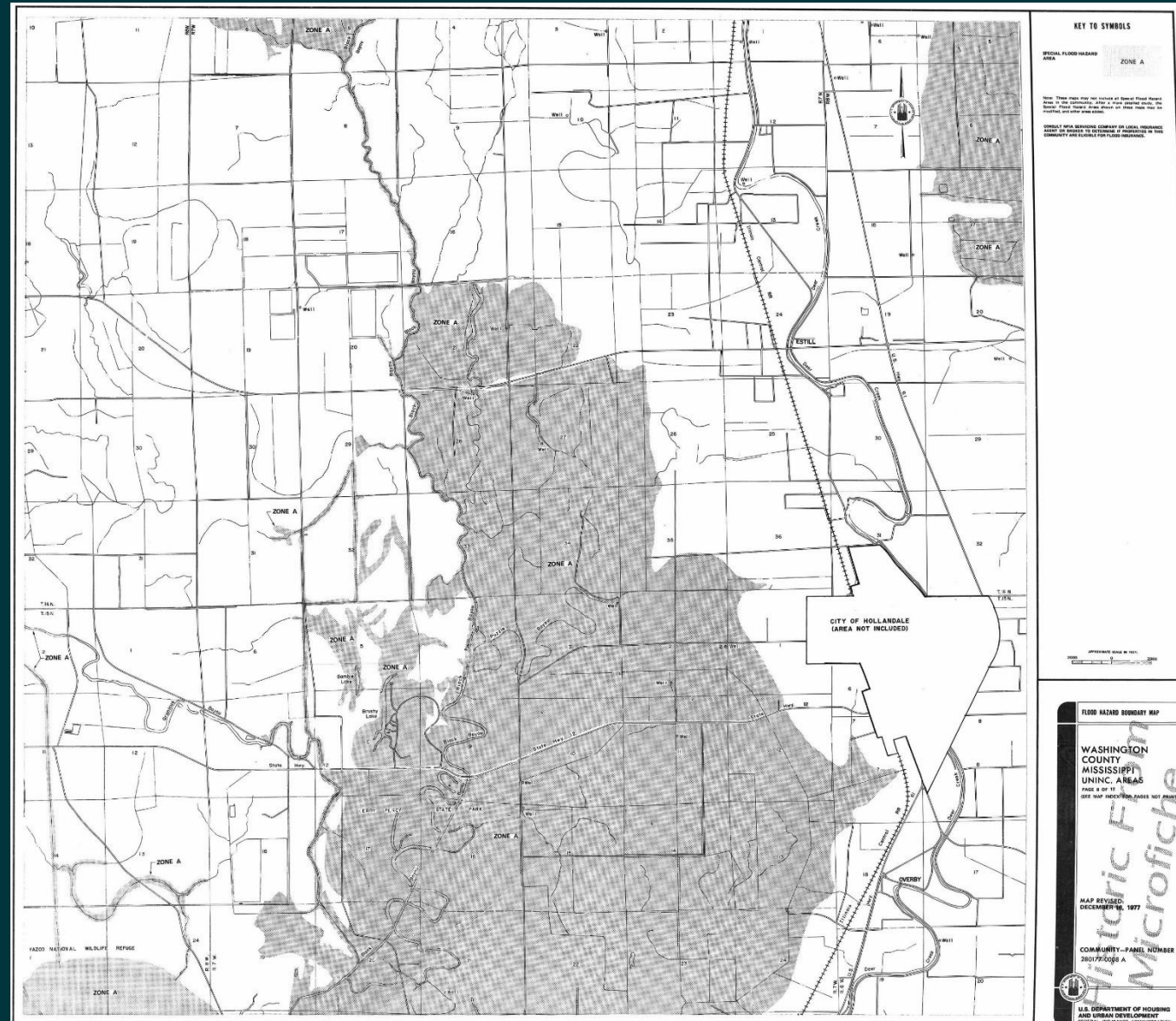


# Flood Hazard Boundary Maps



- Adds details of special flood hazards in area
- Showed communities special flood hazard areas
- Works alongside NFIP

# Flood Hazard Boundary Maps



The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Store (MSC) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FEMA logo and the text "The FEMA Flood Map Store" and "MSC". Below this, there are several icons for navigation: Home, Catalog, Map Search, Quick Order, My Account, Digital Product Information, and Help. The main content area is divided into three columns:

- Customer Log In:** Includes fields for "User (e-mail address)" and "Password", with "Login" and "Register" buttons. A "Forgot Password" link is also present.
- News and Updates:** Features a section titled "Free How-To Guides Online" with a brief description and a link to "documents" page. Below this is a section for "LOMCs on the Web" with a detailed explanation of LOMCs and a "Note" regarding online viewing availability for LOMCs issued from June 1, 1997, through October 31, 2004. A "New DFIRM Viewer" section mentions that the new application will be continuously updated with DFIRM digital mapping data.
- Three Ways to Get Maps:** Lists three methods: "Catalog" (find products by state, county or community), "Map Search" (find products by street address or by navigating a map), and "Quick Order" (enter the exact map panel ID including the suffix character). A "Digital Product Information" section describes the F-MIT Basic viewer.

# Map Modernization

- Updating maps into current and accessible digital data.
- Able to access all data on participating counties
- Panels provide information to user with extensive legend

The screenshot shows the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) website. The top left features the FEMA logo and a navigation menu with options: "Navigation" and "Search". Below the navigation menu, there is a sidebar with links: "MSC Home", "MSC Search by Address", "MSC Search All Products", "MSC Products and Tools" (including Hazus, LOMC Batch Files, and Product Availability), "MSC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)", "MSC Email Subscriptions", and "Contact MSC Help".

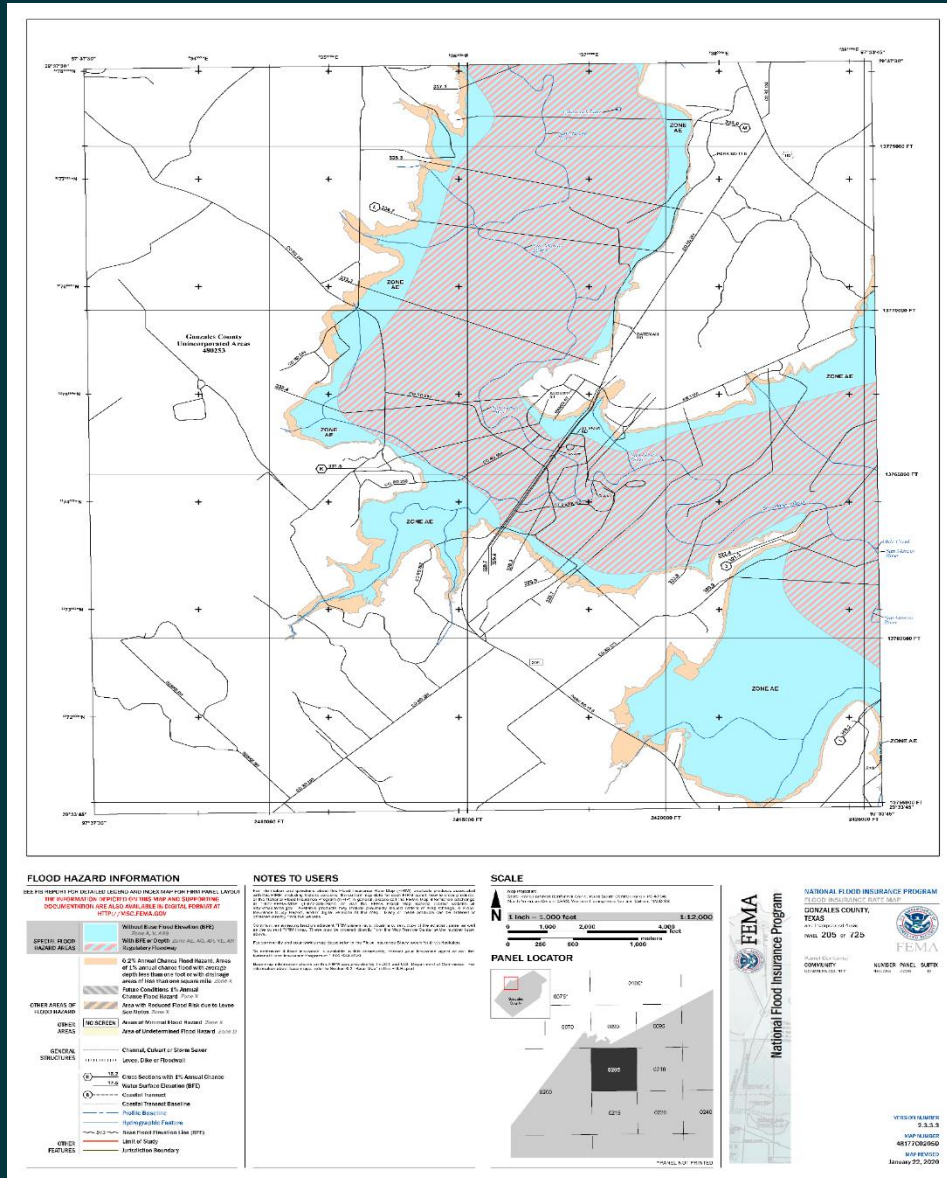
The main content area is titled "FEMA Flood Map Service Center: Welcome!". Below the title, there is a section "Looking for a Flood Map?" with a search bar and a "Search" button. The search bar contains the text "Enter an address, a place, or longitude/latitude coordinates:". To the right of the search bar is a small map showing a flood hazard area with a "FLOODWAY" label.

Below the search bar, there is a section "Looking for more than just a current flood map?" with a link to "Search All Products" and a brief description: "Visit Search All Products to access the full range of flood risk products for your community." Below this is a section "About Flood Map Service Center" with a paragraph: "The FEMA Flood Map Service Center (MSC) is the official public source for flood hazard information produced in support of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Use the MSC to find your official flood map, access a range of other flood hazard products, and take advantage of tools for better understanding flood risk." Below this is another paragraph: "FEMA flood maps are continually updated through a variety of processes. Effective information that you download or print from this site may change or become superseded by new maps over time. For additional information, please see the Flood Hazard Mapping Updates Overview Fact Sheet."



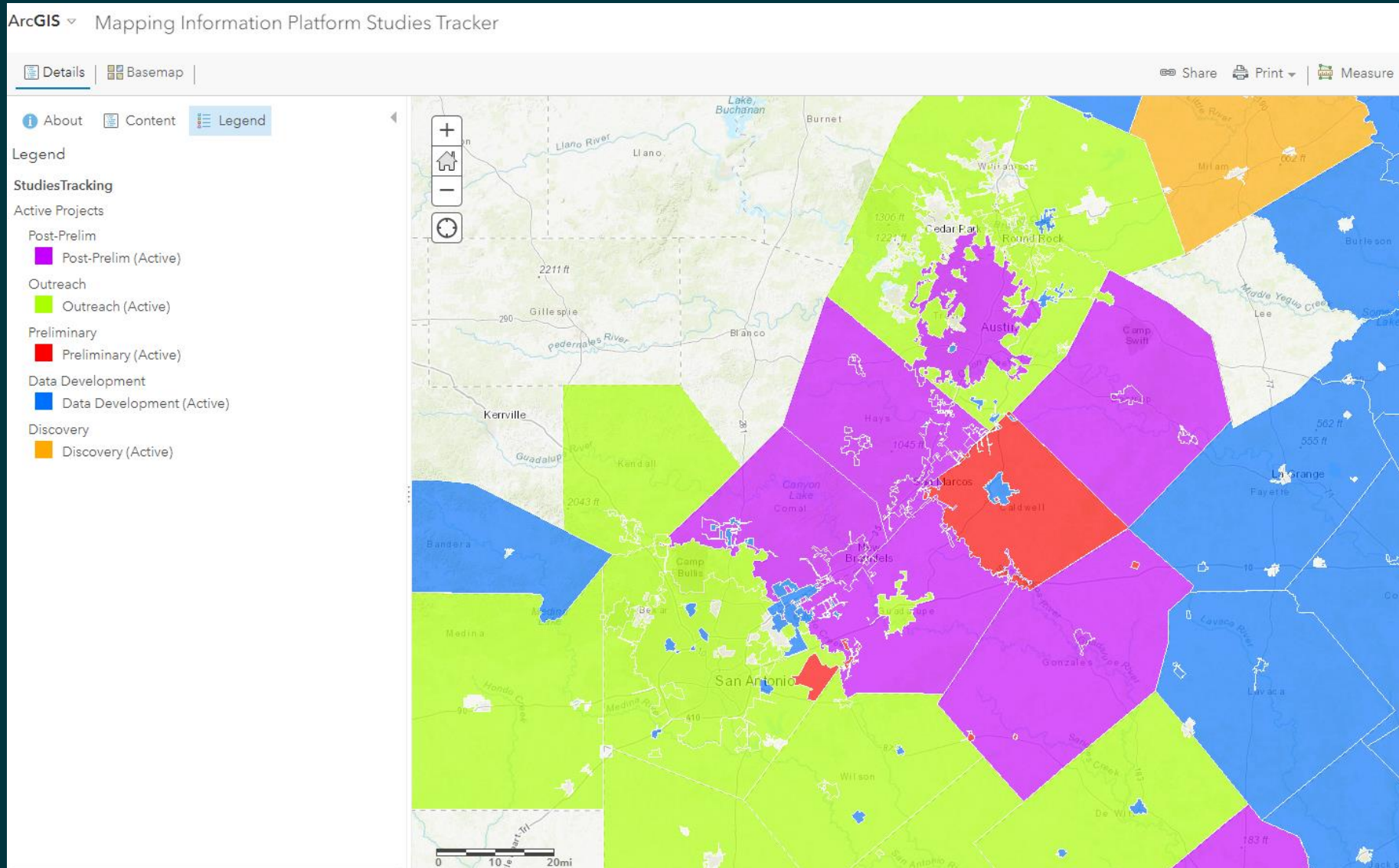
# Risk Maps

- Colored and detailed information on maps
- Involves interactive maps that help communities understand and visualize data
- Add the location of panel in the map





# Risk Maps Projects



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# Automated Map Production (AMP)



# Introduction to AMP

- To support the Flood Risk Program with creating automated FIRM Panels and Indexes.
- Incorporated by FEMA for all projects funded in fiscal year 2020 and later.
- Goal is to help providers eliminate manual edits to FIRM Labels, Notes to User text, and Title Block
- AMP Panels are generated once the appropriate task has passed FEMA's FIRM Database Verification Tool (DVT) check.
  - Once Passed the FIRMs and Index can be found in the "RFIRM" folder within the studies file structure. NOTE this folder is a "Read Only" folder, one cannot make edits after AMP has ran.
  - Within every RFIRM Folder you will find a .txt file called 'AMP\_Generation Status', this file will give you a status update on AMP production.

# What's needed to Run AMP?

# MIP Access

## Mapping INFORMATION PLATFORM



Welcome Miguel | [Log Out](#) | [Manage User Profile](#) | [FEMA Dictionary](#) | [MIP Help?](#)

[Home](#) | [Studies Post Launch TIPS](#) | [Tools & Links](#) | [Workbench](#) | [MIP User Care](#) | [MARS](#)

### Tools For Professionals

- » [Learn about eLOMA](#)
- » [cCHECK-RAS](#)
- » [RASPLOTT](#)
- » [Hazus](#)

[More Tools](#)

### Tips and Tutorials

- » [How to Read a Flood Map](#)
- » [Read a Flood Insurance Study](#)
- » [Become a Cooperating Technical Partner](#)

[More Tips and Tutorials](#)

### Questions?

For general website or tools support, contact a Technical Support Specialist by calling 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or via [email](#).

For questions related to Flood Hazard Mapping, contact a Map Specialist by calling 1-877-FEMA-MAP or via [email](#).



### MIP User Care

- » [MIP User Care Home](#)
- » [Studies](#)
- » [Amendments](#)
- » [Revisions](#)

### Online LOMC



[Learn More](#)

[Apply for a Letter of Map Change](#)

### News and Highlights

- » [Regularly Scheduled System Maintenance Windows](#)

### Studies Tracker Map

Ever wonder if there is a FEMA Flood Risk MAP Study in your community? Check out the [Studies Tracker Map](#)!

# Project/Task that requires FIRM Panels (Draft DFIRM, Preliminary, Final Mapping)

## Draft FIRM Data Capture

*Please refer to MIP User Care for guidance on how to complete this task. Required fields are indicated with a red asterisk (\*).*

## Produce Preliminary Map Data Capture

*Please refer to MIP User Care for guidance on how to complete this task. Required fields are indicated with a red asterisk (\*).*

## Develop Final Mapping Products

*Please refer to MIP User Care for guidance on how to complete this task. Required fields are indicated with a red asterisk (\*).*

# Passing DVT Report

## Submission Status

### Metadata Validation Results

Passed [\(View Details for Metadata Validation\)](#)

### FIS/FIRM Validation Results

Passed [\(View Details for Preliminary Validation\)](#)

### DVT Validation Results

Passed [\(View Details for DVT Validation\)](#)

# RFIRM Folder

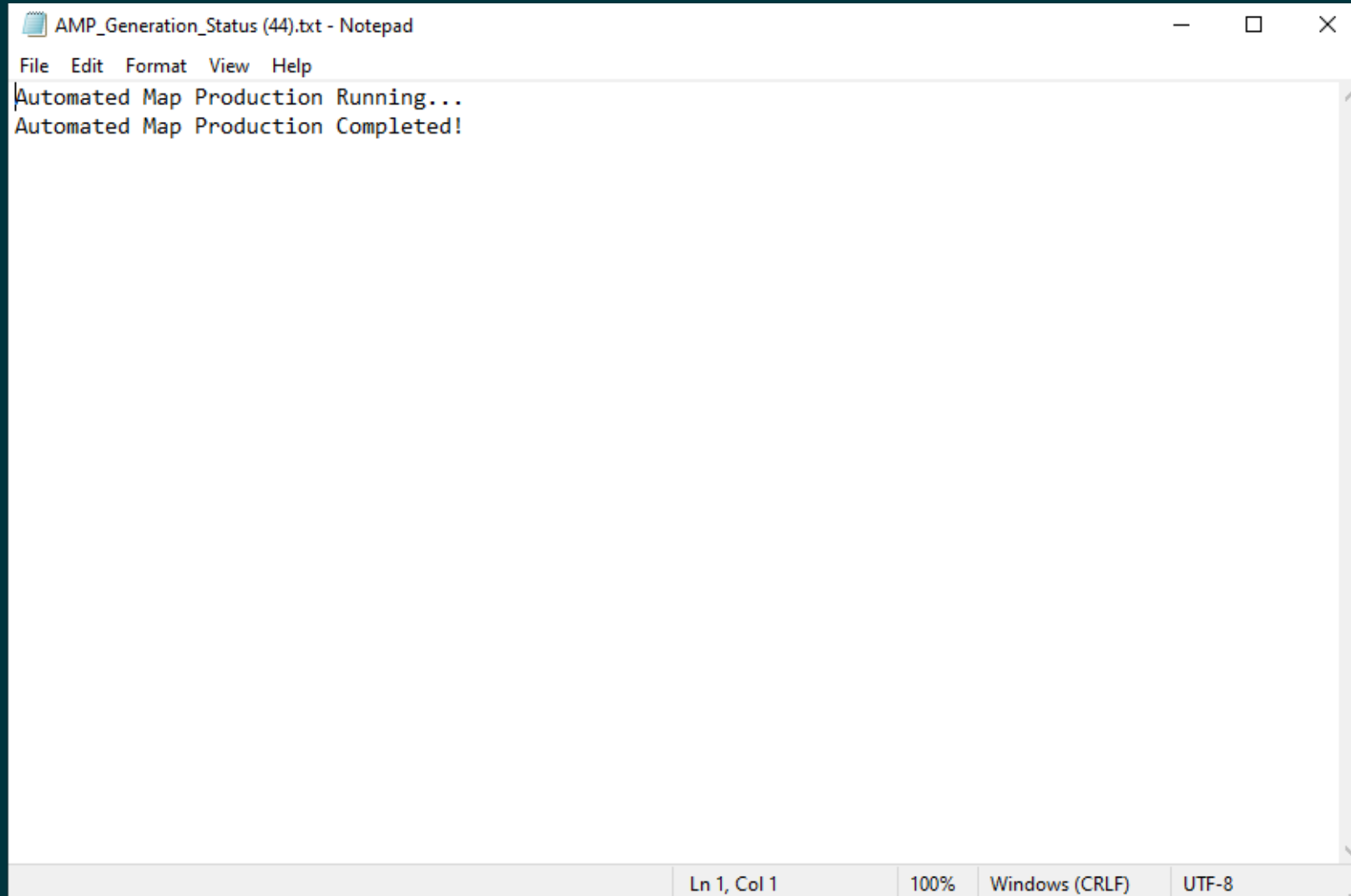
## File Explorer

User Guide (Download Adobe Acrobat Reader).  
Keyboard Access Assistance

The MIP File Explorer portal may be used to navigate and access directories and files located on the MIP J: and K: drives.  
The ability to modify specific folders is based on a user's permissions and project workflow status within the MIP.  
Please direct questions regarding data access or permissions to [FEMA-RiskMAP-ITHelp@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-RiskMAP-ITHelp@fema.dhs.gov)

Legend	File Path:	Search By MIP Case Number	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>																																																																														
(r--) - read only (rw-) - read and write (rwd) - read, write, and delete	J:/FY2023/23-06-0039S/Preliminary - FY21 Phase 3 - Prelim Love County, OK 05/Produce Preliminary Products Data Capture - Produce Prelim Product FY21 Love County, OK - 01/RFIRM																																																																																	
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Automated Map Production Running...
Automated Map Production Completed!

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











**What's the difference?**



# Manual FIRM Layout

## FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT  
**THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS MAP AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT AT [HTTP://MSC.FEMA.GOV](http://MSC.FEMA.GOV)**

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile. Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
OTHER AREAS		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee See Notes Zone X
		NO SCREEN Areas of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert or Storm Sewer
OTHER FEATURES		Levee, Dike or Floodwall
		18.2 17.5 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation (BFE)
		Coastal Transect
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
		513 Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
	Limit of Study	
	Jurisdiction Boundary	

## NOTES TO USERS

For information and questions about this Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), available products associated with this FIRM, including historic versions, the current map date for each FIRM panel, how to order products, or the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in general, please call the FEMA Map Information eXchange at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA Flood Map Service Center website at <http://mssc.fema.gov>. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a Flood Insurance Study Report, and/or digital versions of this map. Many of these products can be ordered or obtained directly from the website.

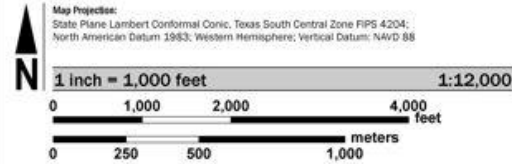
Communities annexing land on adjacent FIRM panels must obtain a current copy of the adjacent panel as well as the current FIRM index. These may be ordered directly from the Map Service Center at the number listed above.

For community and countywide map dates refer to the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-635-6620.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided by TxDOT and U.S. Department of Commerce. For information about base maps, refer to Section 6.2 'Base Map' in this FIS Report.

## SCALE



## PANEL LOCATOR



NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM  
 FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

GONZALES COUNTY,  
 TEXAS  
 and Incorporated Areas  
 PANEL 380 OF 725



Panel Contains:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
GONZALES, CITY OF	480254	0380	D
GONZALES COUNTY	480253	0380	D

VERSION NUMBER  
 2.3.3.3  
 MAP NUMBER  
 48177C0380D  
 MAP REVISED  
 January 22, 2020

# AMP FIRM Layout

## FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT  
**THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS MAP AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT AT [HTTPS://MSC.FEMA.GOV](https://MSC.FEMA.GOV)**

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee See Notes Zone X
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GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
OTHER FEATURES		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
		Cross Sections with 1% Annual chance Water Surface Elevation coastal Transect
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary

## NOTES TO USERS

For information and questions about this Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), available effective flood hazard information for your community, or the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in general, please call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance Information Exchange at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA Flood Map Service Center website at <https://fims.fema.gov>. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a Flood Insurance Study Report, and/or digital versions of this map. Many of these products can be downloaded from the website. Communities annexing land on adjacent FIRM panels must obtain a current copy of the adjacent panel as well as the current FIRM Index. These may be acquired directly from the Flood Map Service Center at the website listed above.

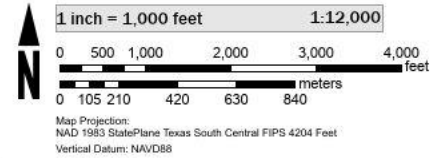
For community and countywide map dates refer to the Flood Insurance Study Report for this jurisdiction. To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, contact your insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

Basemap information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The basemap shown is the USGS National Map: Orthoimagery, Last refreshed October, 2020.

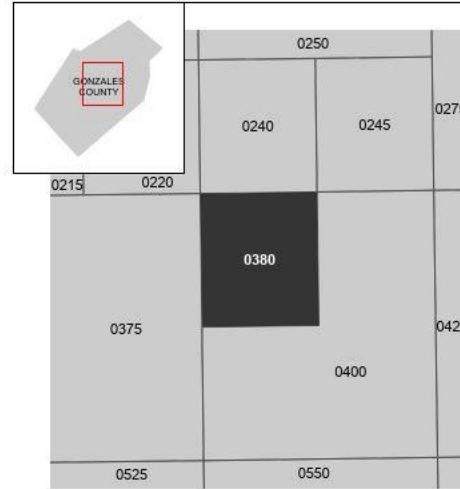
This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards. This map image is void if one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM Issue Date or Effective Date.

Note: Some Special Flood Hazard Areas with elevations may not appear with elevation labels if the Base Flood Elevation or Cross-section line which communicates the elevation for the location appears on the adjacent panel. Please see the Panel Locator Diagram on this map panel to determine the adjacent panel and find the elevation feature there, or alternatively use the Flood Insurance Study report for detailed elevations by flood source.

## SCALE



## PANEL LOCATOR



## NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

GONZALES COUNTY  
 TEXAS  
 AND INCORPORATED  
 AREAS

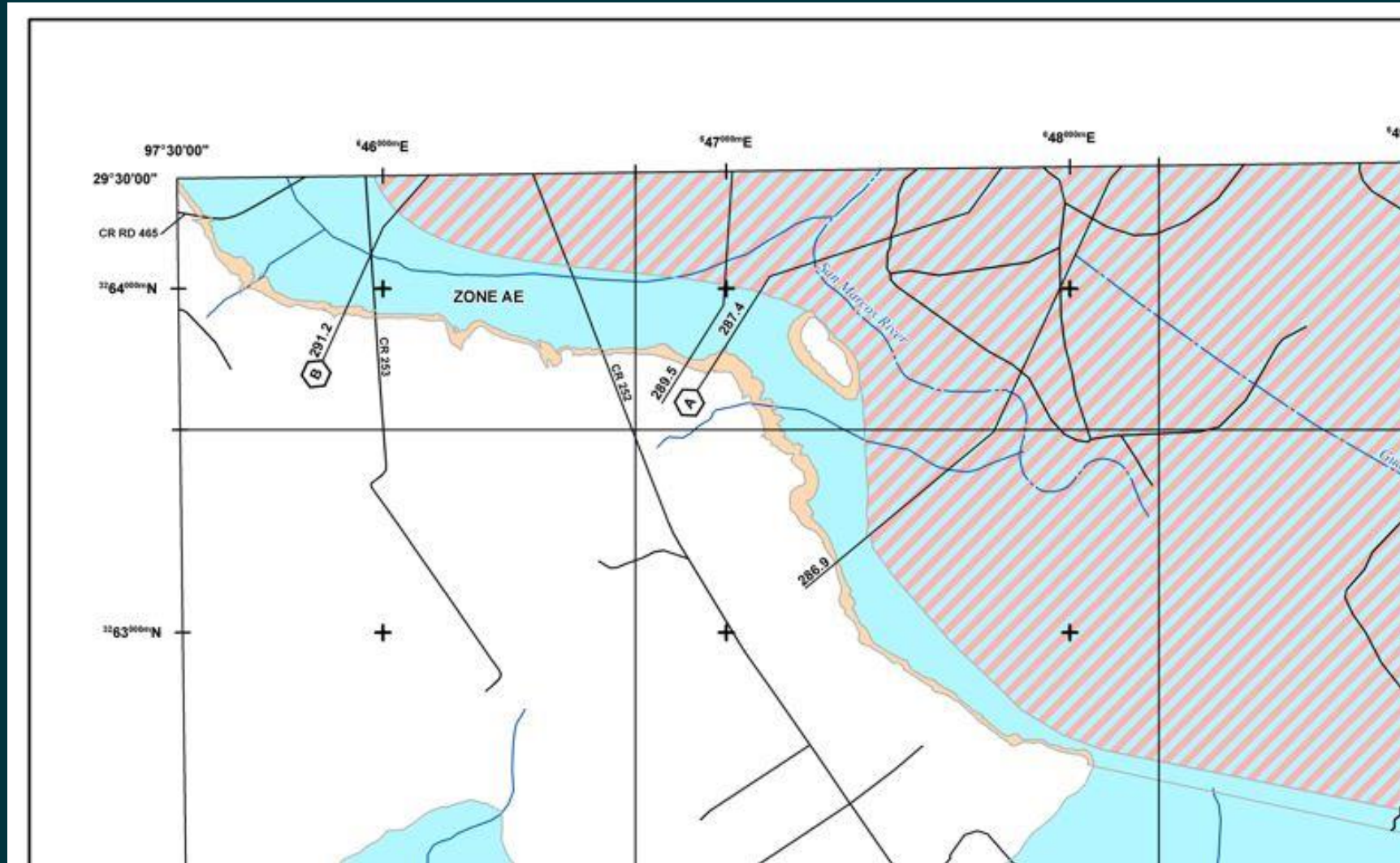


Panel Contains:

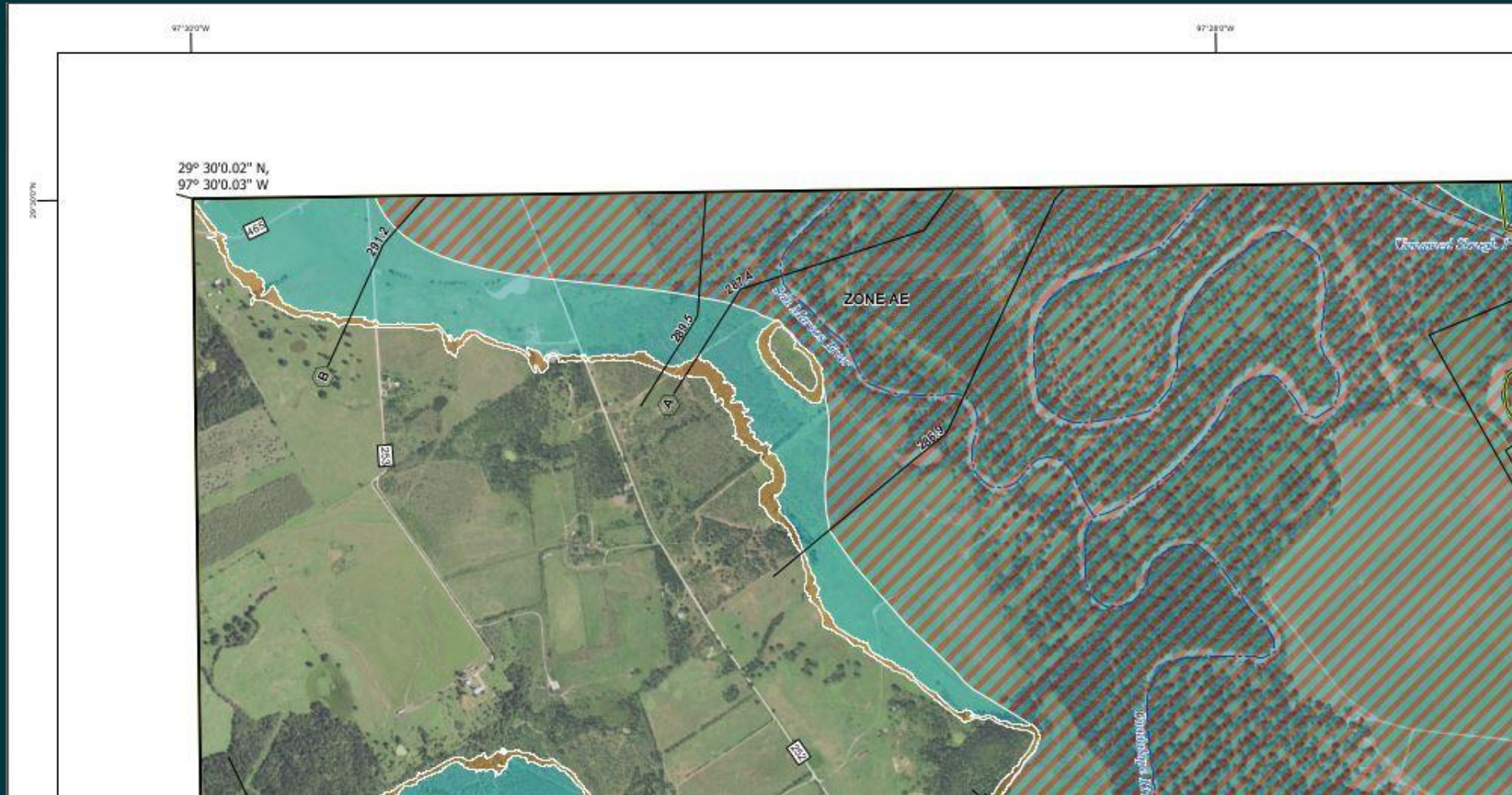
COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
GONZALES COUNTY	480253	0380	E
UNINCORPORATED AREAS			
CITY OF GONZALES	480254	0380	E

MAP NUMBER  
**48177C0380E**  
 EFFECTIVE DATE  
 Prelim Issue Date: 10/29/2021

# Manual Map Body



# AMP Map Body



# Importance of the FIRM Database

- The database plays a pivotal role in symbolizing features and generating labels within AMP FIRMs
- Labels are directly linked to the features and tables in the database.
  - S\_Gen\_Struct
  - S\_Pol\_Ar
  - S\_Firm\_Pan
  - S\_Wtr\_Ln/ S\_Profil\_BasIn
  - S\_Transport
  - S\_Fld\_Haz\_Ar/Ln
  - S\_XS
  - S\_Levee
  - Study\_info

# S\_Firm\_Pan

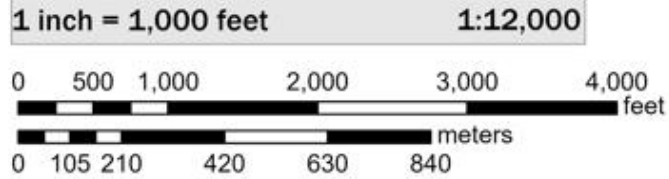
## AMP Related Fields

- Panel, Suffix, Firm\_Pan, Panel\_Typ, Pre\_Date, Eff\_Date, Scale, PNP\_Reason, and Base\_Typ
- Must Submit Firm Panel for entire county

DFIRM_ID	VERSION_ID	FIRM_ID	ST_FIPS	PCOMM	PANEL	SUFFIX	FIRM_PAN	PANEL_TYP
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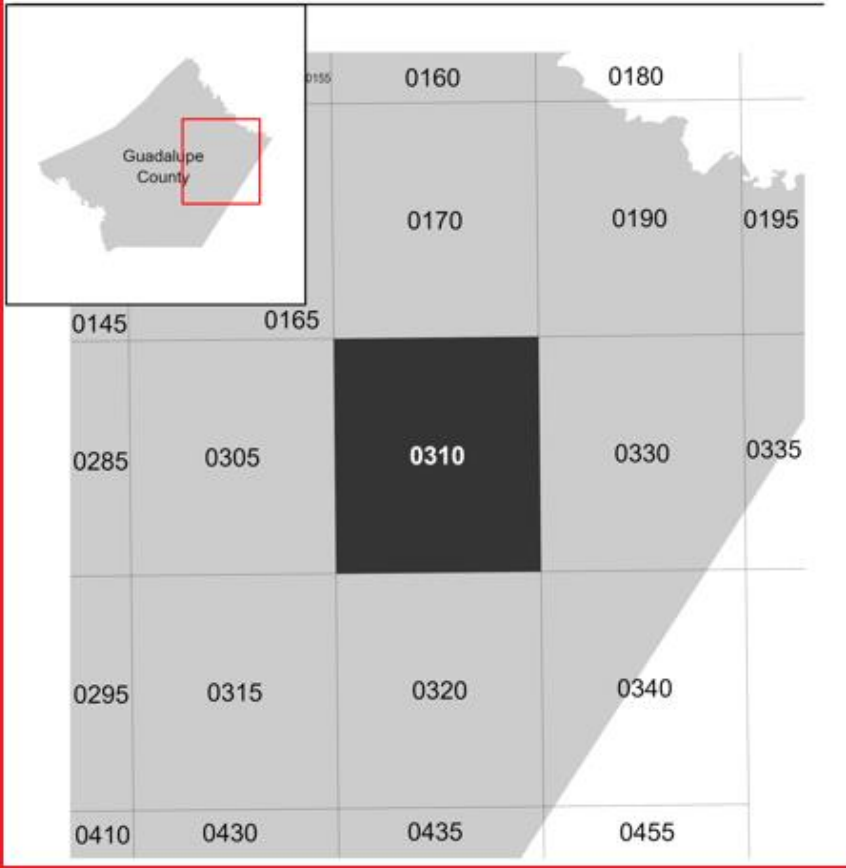
PRE_DATE	EFF_DATE	SCALE	PNP_REASON	BASE_TYP	SOURCE_CIT
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# SCALE



Map Projection:  
NAD 1983 StatePlane Texas South Central FIPS 4204 Feet  
Vertical Datum: NAVD88

# PANEL LOCATOR



## NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

**GUADALUPE COUNTY  
TEXAS  
AND INCORPORATED  
AREAS**



Panel Contains:

**COMMUNITY**  
GUADALUPE COUNTY  
UNINCORPORATED  
AREAS

NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
480266	0310	G

**MAP NUMBER**  
**48187C0310G**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE**  
**February 22, 2024**

# S\_Fld\_Haz\_Ar

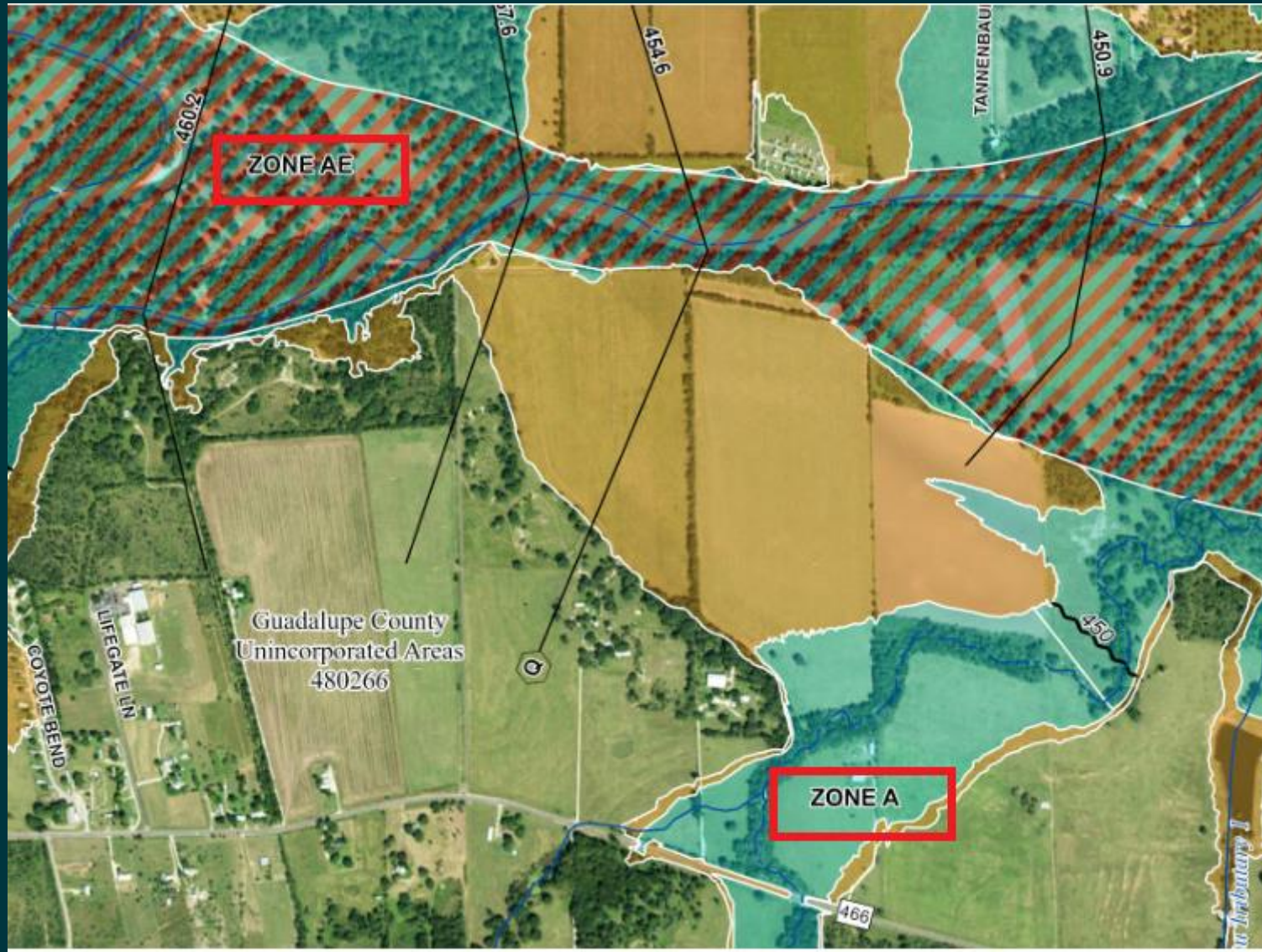
## AMP Related Fields

- Fld\_zone, Zone\_Subty, Static\_BFE, Depth, Velocity

DFIRM_ID	VERSION_ID	FLD_AR_ID	STUDY_TYP	FLD_ZONE	ZONE_SUBTY	SFHA_TF	STATIC_BFE	V_DATUM
----------	------------	-----------	-----------	----------	------------	---------	------------	---------

DEPTH	LEN_UNIT	VELOCITY	VEL_UNIT	AR_REVERT	AR_SUBTRV	BFE_REVERT	DEP_REVERT	DUAL_ZONE	SOURCE_CIT
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# Study\_Info

## AMP Related Fields

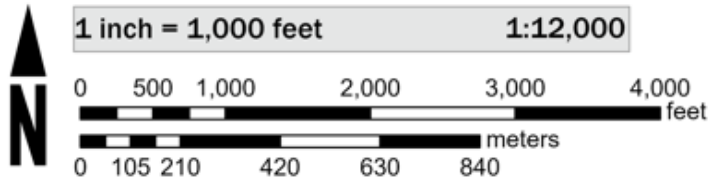
- Projection, Proj\_Zone, Proj\_Unit, Study\_Pre, Study\_Nm, State\_Nm, Cnty\_Nm, Juris\_Typ, Indx\_Suffix

DFIRM_ID	VERSION_ID	STD_NFO_ID	STUDY_PRE	STUDY_NM	STATE_NM	CNTY_NM	JURIS_TYP	LG_PAN_NO	OPP_TF	H_DATUM	V_DATUM
----------	------------	------------	-----------	----------	----------	---------	-----------	-----------	--------	---------	---------

PROJECTION	PROJ_ZONE	PROJ_UNIT	PROJ_SECND	PROJ_SUNIT	PROJ_SZONE	LANDWD_VAL	CW_TF	RTROFT_TF	META_NM
------------	-----------	-----------	------------	------------	------------	------------	-------	-----------	---------

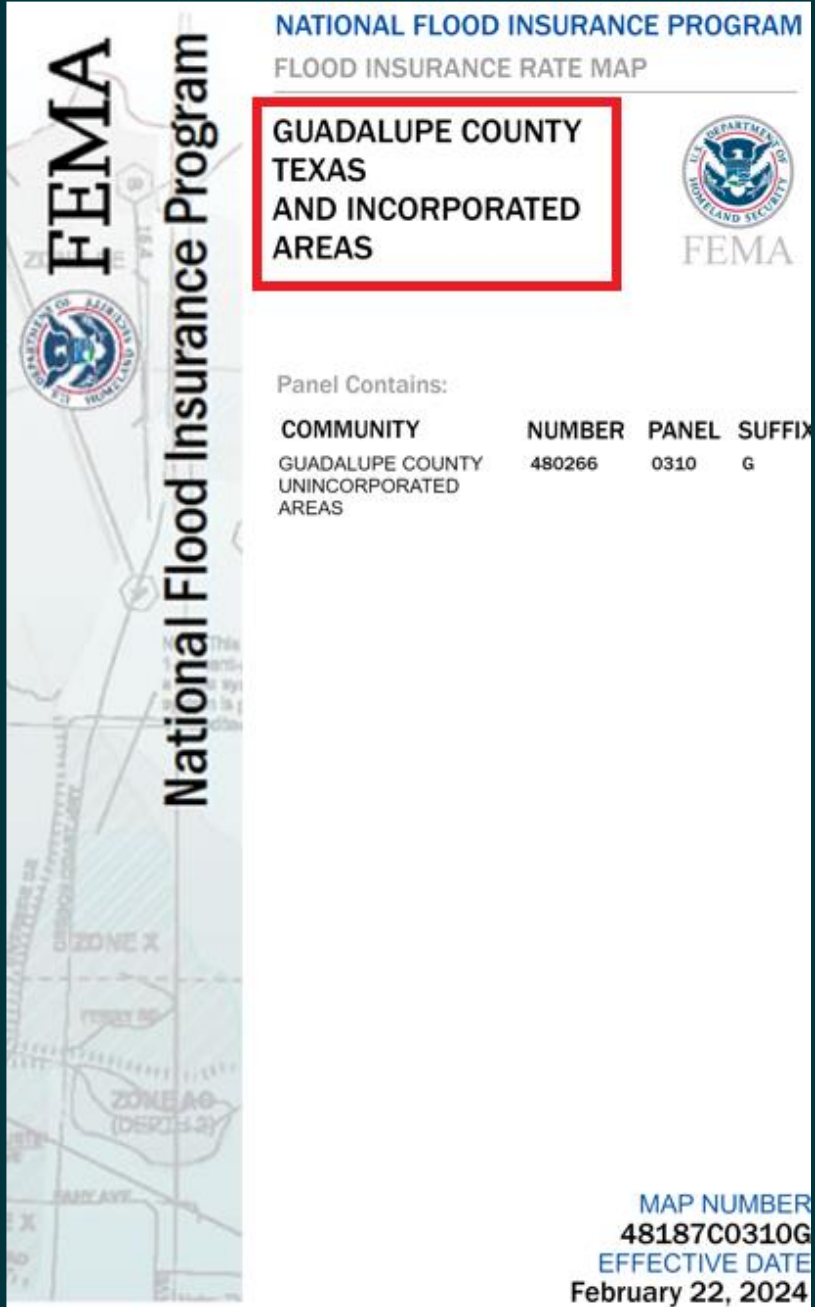
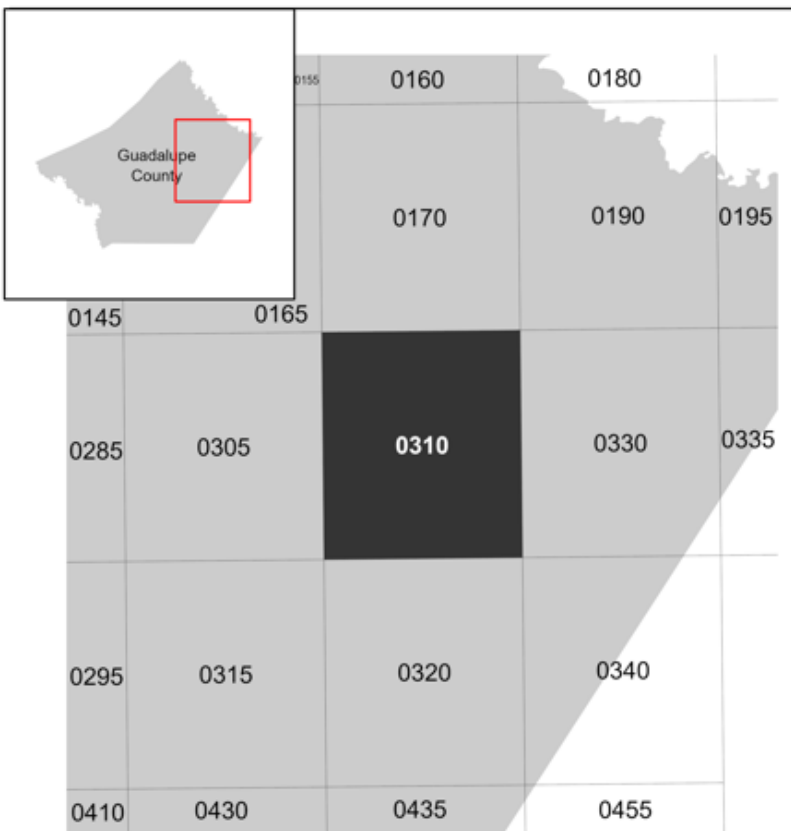
FIS_NM	LOGO_NM	INDX_EFFDT	DBREV_DT	AVG_CFACTR	INDX_SUFFIX
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# SCALE



Map Projection:  
 NAD 1983 StatePlane Texas South Central FIPS 4204 Feet  
 Vertical Datum: NAVD88

# PANEL LOCATOR



Panel Contains:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
GUADALUPE COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREAS	480266	0310	G

MAP NUMBER  
**48187C0310G**  
 EFFECTIVE DATE  
 February 22, 2024

# Benefits of using AMP.

- Eliminate Manual Label Placement
- Simplified Breakout Panel Creation
- Prioritizing FIRM Database Focus
- Eliminates human error and reduces the risk of a due process errors.
  - Misspellings
  - Incorrect WSEL data entry
  - Missing Labels
- More counties can be mapped at a faster rate due to eliminating Manual production.

# Helpful links and Resources

- FIRM Panel / Database / Domain Code Technical References
  - <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/guidance-reports/guidelines-standards/technical-references-flood-risk-analysis-and-mapping>
- Automated Map Production (AMP Best Practices)
  - [https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/usercare/guidesAndDocs/Documents/AMP\\_Best\\_Practices.pdf](https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/usercare/guidesAndDocs/Documents/AMP_Best_Practices.pdf)
- Risk Map IT Help
  - FEMA-RiskMAP-ITHelp@fema.dhs.gov

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# Questions?

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