



Modeling to Support and Appeal of FEMA Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps

Work Plan (Deliverable 1.2)

Task Order #1778-05

April 16, 2021 | 13134.202.R1.RevA

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Modeling to Support and Appeal of FEMA Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps

Work Plan (Deliverable 1.2)
Task Order #1778-05

Prepared for:

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Revision	Date	Status	Comments	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved
A	2021-04-16	Draft		TH	GT	TH

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1. Project Overview

During a Review and Evaluation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Coastal Flood Risk Study (Task Order No. 1778-01), Baird identified several issues related to the accuracy of the modeling that was conducted by FEMA in support of the preparation of preliminary Florida Insurance Study (FIS) reports and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for eastern Palm Beach County (County). These modeling issues may have resulted in erroneous 1-percent annual chance water surface elevations [i.e., Base Flood Elevations (BFE)] and/or FEMA assigning an incorrect flood hazard flood zone to properties.

Under this task order, Baird’s specific objectives of this study are:

- Complete modeling to attempt to quantify impacts of the previously identified modeling issues
- Assist the County in the preparation of an appeal

2. Points of Contact

FEMA ↔ BakerAECOM ↔ Palm Beach County ↔ Baird

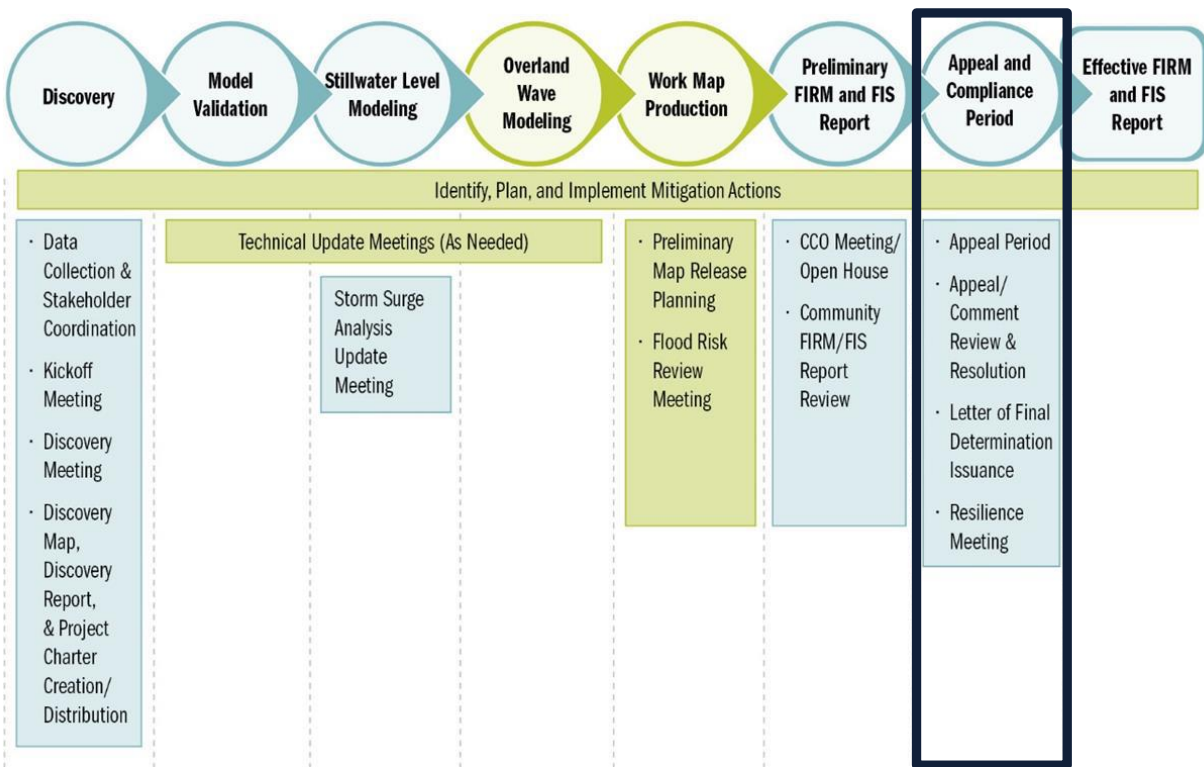
Table 2.1: Points of Contact

Entity	Name	Phone	Email
FEMA	Mark Vieira	(770) 220-5450	mark.vieira@fema.dhs.gov
BakerAECOM (Mapping Partner)	Chris Mack Adam Clinch Zachariah Cohoon	(843) 302-8712 (941) 284-4783 (404) 946-9481	chris.mack@aecom.com adam.clinch@aecom.com zachariah.cohoon@aecom.com
Palm Beach County	Jeremy McBryan Doug Wise	(561) 355-4600 (561) 233-5192	jmcbryan@pbcgov.org dwise@pbcgov.org
Baird	Gordon Thomson Onur Kurum Tadd Henson	(561) 400 7820 (289) 813-6259 (614) 787-1931	gthomson@baird.com okurum@baird.com thenson@baird.com

3. Coordination and Reporting

- The County shall be included in critical correspondence between Baird and BakerAECOM, and any correspondence between Baird and FEMA.
- Baird shall keep the County informed regarding the progression of the work and overall schedule. Updates shall entail phone calls, emails, or combinations thereof. Bi-weekly update call will be held.
- Where feasible and if the project schedule allows, Baird will strive to provide draft deliverables for the County to review. The County’s comments shall then be incorporated into the final deliverables.
- Baird’s monthly invoices shall generally be for tasks that are complete. If draft deliverables or measurable progress can be documented for a particular task, then the County may consider partial payment during execution of the work.

4. FEMA Process



Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting
 Open House (OH) Meetings
 Publication and Notification of FIRM changes
 Appeal & Comment Period (90 days)

→ February 4, 2020
 → February 4 and 5, 2020
 → Expected mid-April
 → Expected end mid-July

5. Approach

Baird's approach to completing modeling will be consistent with our proposal titled PROPOSAL FOR MODELING TO SUPPORT AN APPEAL OF FEMA PRELIMINARY FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS FOR EASTERN PALM BEACH COUNTY and dated January 5, 2021. The proposal included five planned tasks:

Task 1 – Project Management and Work Plan Development

Task 2 – Inlet Hydraulics Improvements

Task 3 – Wind and Pressure Field Grid Corrections

Task 4 – Validation Storm Improvements

Task 5 – FEMA Appeal Assistance

A flexible approach will be taken to the project. Resources will be targeted to completing the modeling that will best support an appeal to the maps. For instance, refining the coarse grid in Task 3 is not likely to have a significant impact on the results without updated wind and pressure information which may not be readily available. The bi-weekly meetings and email communication will be used to inform the County of changing plans as information becomes available and the modeling progresses.

6. Schedule

Currently, the best estimate of when the 90-day appeal period will begin is mid-April. This would put the end of the appeal period in mid-July. It is understood that the County would need a report at least 30 days prior to the appeal period ending for approvals. A draft report will be submitted on June 4 and the final report by June 15th.