

**FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY  
SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO AND INCORPORATED AREAS**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Purpose of Study**

This Flood Insurance Study (FIS) revises and supersedes the FIS reports and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in the geographic area of San Juan County, New Mexico, including the Cities of Aztec, Bloomfield and Farmington; and unincorporated areas of San Juan County (hereinafter referred to collectively as San Juan County), and aids in the administration of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973. This study has developed flood risk data for various areas of the community that will be used to establish actuarial flood insurance rates. This information will also be used by San Juan County to update existing floodplain regulations as part of the Regular Phase of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and by local and regional planners to further promote sound land use and floodplain development. Minimum floodplain management requirements for participation in the NFIP are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations at 44 CFR 60.3.

In some States or communities, floodplain management criteria or regulations may exist that are more restrictive or comprehensive than the minimum Federal requirements. In such cases, the more restrictive criteria take precedence and the State (or other jurisdictional agency) will be able to explain them.

**1.2 Authority and Acknowledgments**

The sources of authority for this FIS are the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

This FIS was prepared to include all jurisdictions within San Juan County in a countywide FIS. The authority and acknowledgments prior to this countywide FIS were compiled from the previously identified FIS reports for flood prone jurisdictions within San Juan County and are shown below:

Aztec, City of: The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for this study were prepared by the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), under Inter-Agency Agreement No. EMW-85-E-1823. This work was completed in March 1987.

Farmington, City of: For the original study, a search for basic information relating to the study was made at all levels of government. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Flood Plain Information report (Reference 1) was used as the principal source of information.

The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for this study were performed by the USACE, Sacramento District, for the Federal Insurance Administration (FIA) under Interagency Agreement Nos. IAA-H-7-76 and IAA-H-10-77, Project Order Nos. 19 and 1 respectively. This work, which was completed in September 1977, covered all significant flooding sources in the City of Farmington and became effective in March 1978.

The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for the first revision were performed by the USACE, Albuquerque District, for FEMA, under Interagency Agreement No. EMW-95-E-4756, Project Order No.5. This work was completed in 1998 and submitted to FEMA in January 1999.

San Juan County (Unincorporated Areas): The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses for this study were prepared by the USGS for FEMA, under Inter-Agency Agreement No. EHW-85-E-1823. This work was completed in March 1987.

The study was revised on May 15, 2002 to incorporate new flooding information for the Animas River (at Farmington), Hood Arroyo, Hood Arroyo Tributary and the San Juan River (at Farmington). The hydrologic and hydraulic analyses were performed by the USACE, Albuquerque District, under Interagency Agreement No. EMW-95-E-4756, Project Order No.5. This work was completed in 1998 and submitted to FEMA in January 1999.

Countywide Revisions: For this first time countywide revision, MAPVI compiled existing data to convert the previous San Juan County FIS into digital format. In addition, MAPVI conducted enhanced approximate studies on portions of the Animas and San Juan Rivers in and around the City of Farmington that had previously been studied using approximate methods. Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses were also conducted for Bloomfield Canyon Creek and Bloomfield Canyon Creek Tributary in and around the City of Bloomfield. A new approximate analysis was conducted for the Animas River upstream of the City of Aztec and the San Juan River upstream of the City of Bloomfield. In addition MAPVI redelined all previous flooding sources studied by detailed methods and refined all previous approximate studies. MAPVI completed this work in June 2008 under Contract No. EMT-2002-CO-0052.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was derived from multiple sources. This information was compiled from the United States Geological Survey, 1989, the National Geodetic Survey, 2007, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1988 and 2002, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 2006, U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2003 and San Juan County, 2007. Additional information was photogrammetrically compiled at a scale of 1:12,000 from New Mexico Resource Geographic Information System aerial photography dated 2006.

The projection used in the preparation of this FIRM was New Mexico State Plane West Zone (FIPS 3003). The horizontal datum was NAD83, GRS80 spheroid.

Flood elevations on this FIRM are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or State Plane zones used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of the FIRM.

1.3 Coordination

An initial Consultation Coordination Officer's (CCO) meeting is held with representatives from FEMA, the community, and the study contractor to explain the nature and purpose of a FIS, and to identify the streams to be studied by detailed methods. A final CCO meeting is held with representatives from FEMA, the community, and the study contractor to review the results of the study. All problems raised in the meeting have been addressed in this study.

The dates of the initial and final CCO meetings held for San Juan County and the incorporated communities within its boundaries are shown in Table 1, "Initial and Final CCO Meetings."

For this countywide revision, an initial CCO meeting was held on April 17, 2007, and was attended by representatives of the community, the study contractor and FEMA. The final CCO meeting was held on \_\_\_\_\_, and was attended by representatives of the community, the study contractor and FEMA.

**Table 1 – Initial and Final CCO Meetings**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Initial CCO Date</b>	<b>Final CCO Date</b>
City of Aztec	August 10, 1984	August 28, 1987
City of Bloomfield	<sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup>
City of Farmington	April 29, 1976 (Original) September 19, 1994 (First Revision)	<sup>1</sup> (Original) May 23, 2001 (First Revision)
Unincorporated Areas (San Juan County)	August 10, 1984 (Original) September 19, 1994 (First Revision)	August 28, 1987 (Original) May 23, 2001 (First Revision)

<sup>1</sup>Data not available