

# Design for Flood Resilience

## 18 - Floodplain Management and Flood Resistant Design

*Donald Watson*

# Welcome!

Don Watson



*This presentation is not and cannot be legal advice, nor does it necessarily represent the views of anyone other than the presenter(s).*

# Outline

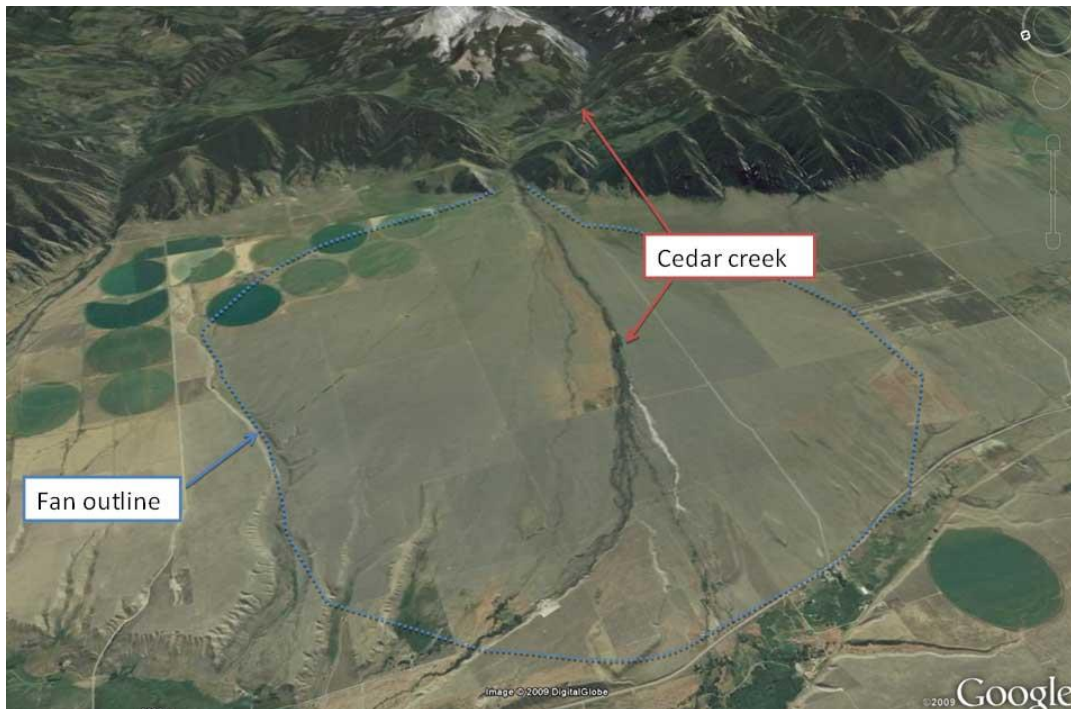
- 1 Identify **flood risks** in Montana
- 2 Explain advantages of **watershed management**
- 3 Describe **flood resistant design**
4. State the case **for all-hazard mitigation**

# 1

## **Flood risks** in Montana

# Flood risks

- **Flooding** ... *“the general or temporary condition during which normally dry land is partially or completely inundated.”* (NFIP F-002)\*



**Alluvial Fan** Montana Science Partnership: Landscape/examples

## Coastal

- Wave action
- Storm surge & erosion

## Riverine (“inland”)

- Stream overbank flooding
- Dam or levee failure

## Shallow

- Surface runoff
- Urban drainage overflow

## Alluvial (“uncertain flow”)

- Flash floods/distant storms
- Movable streambeds

\* [www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/definitions](http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/definitions)

# Flood impacts (NFIP)



Billings Gazette/AP 5/26/2011

**INUNDATION** of inland waters



Mt. Dept. of Transportation

**RAPID ACCUMULATION** of runoff



www.montanarightnow.com 10/30/13

**MUDFLOW** on normally dry land



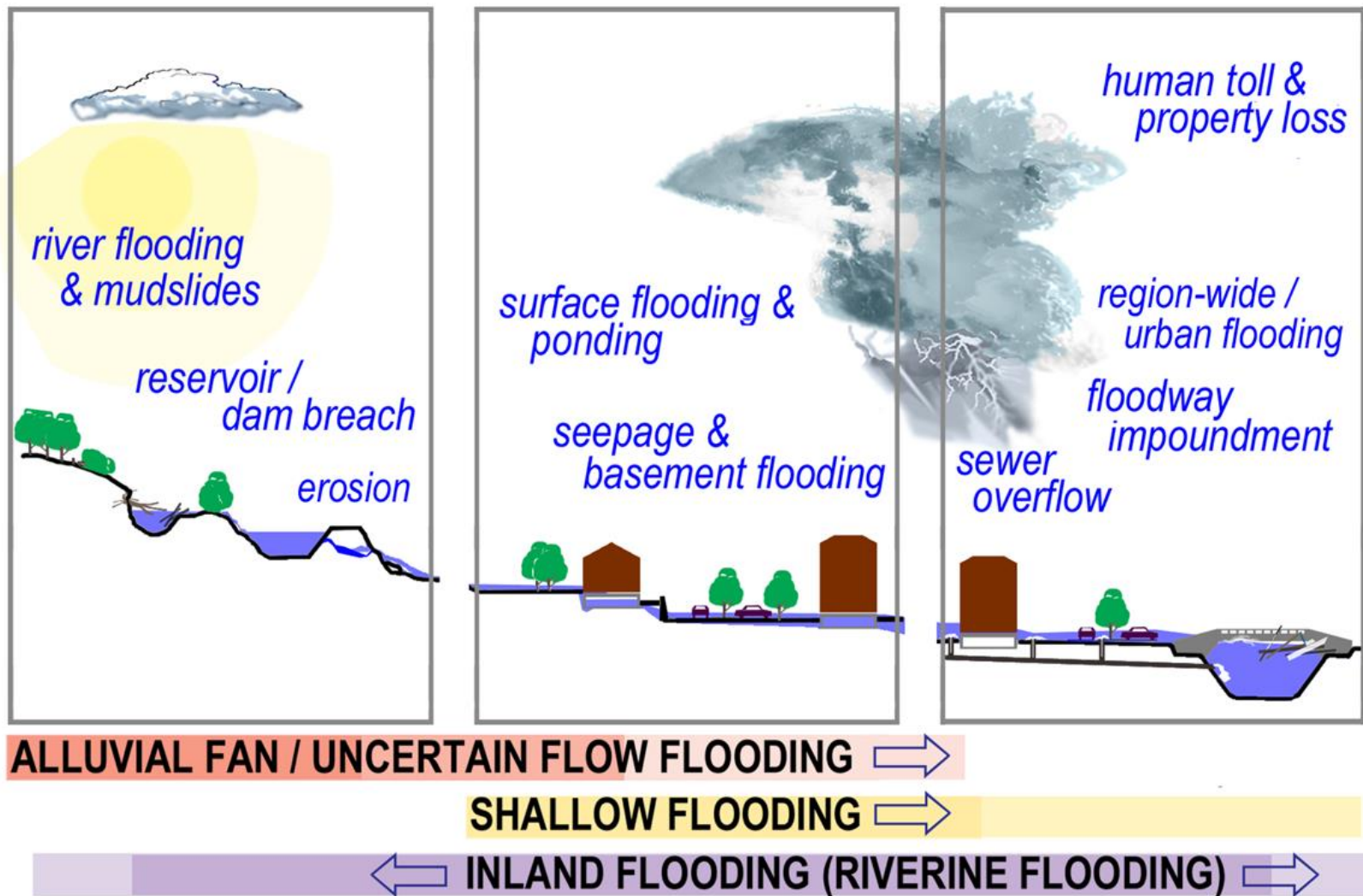
L. Beckner Great Falls Tribune 06/04/13

**COLLAPSE/SUBSIDENCE** from erosion / flooding

<https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program/definitions>

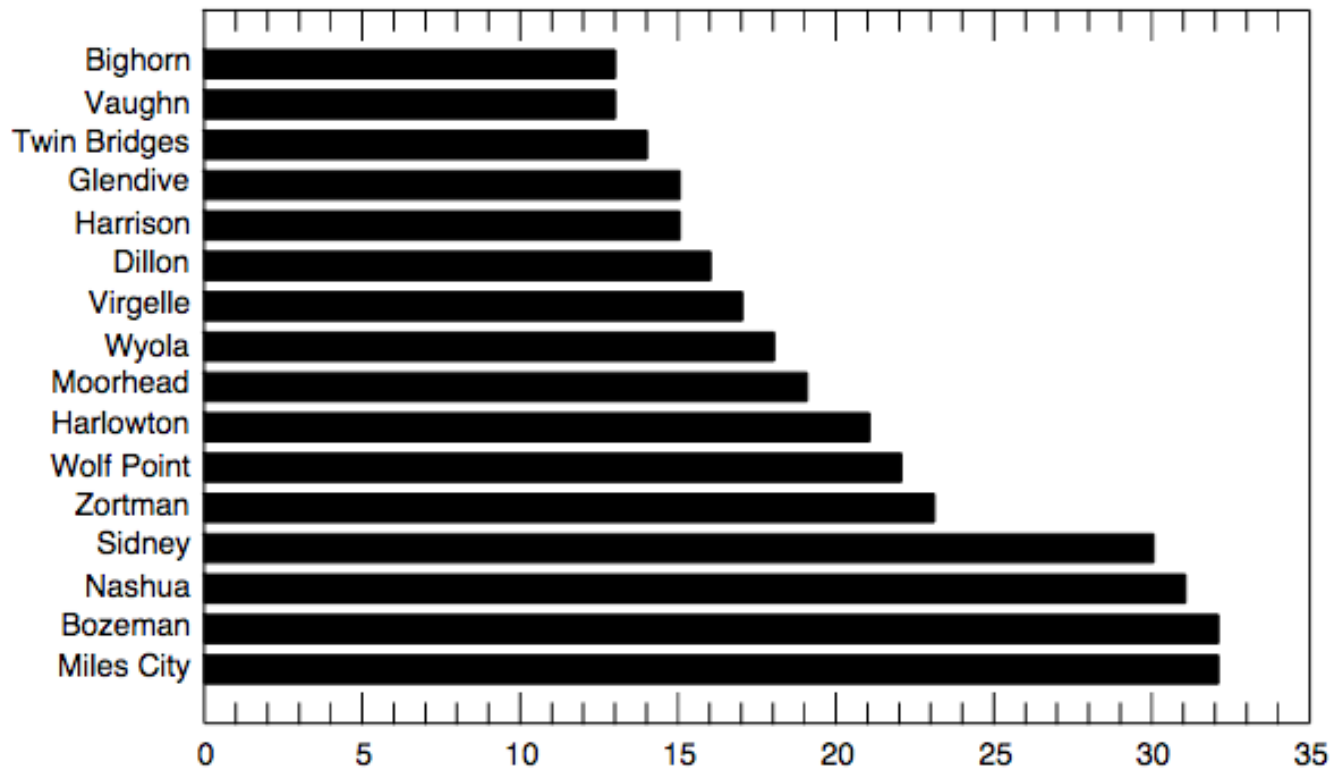


# Combined flood impacts



# Ice jams

*Montana is the most Ice Jam-prone of all U.S. states ...Miles City and Bozeman are the Montana communities most susceptible to them. From 1894 to 1997, each racked up 32 potentially dangerous ice jams. [1]*



[2]

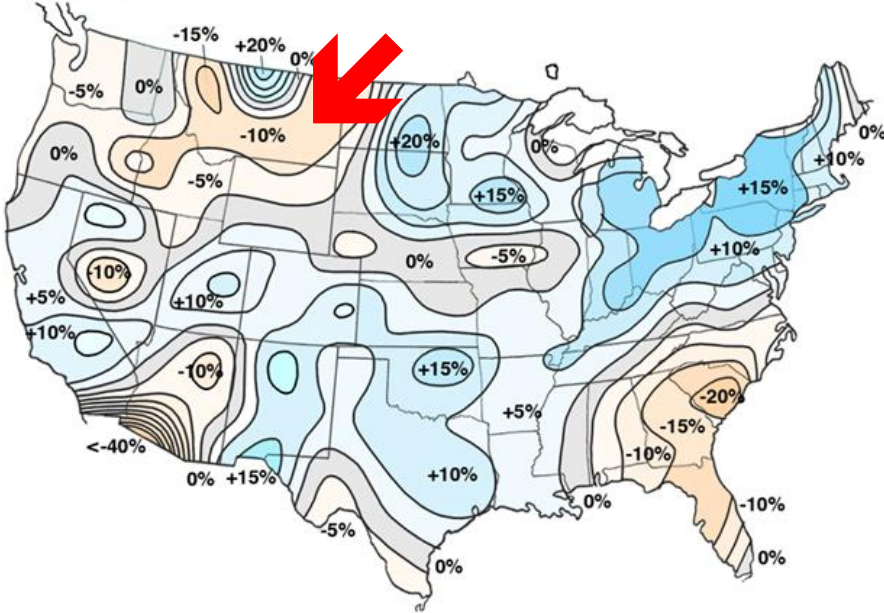
Figure 3. Montana cities with the most reported ice jams.

[1] [billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/..](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/)

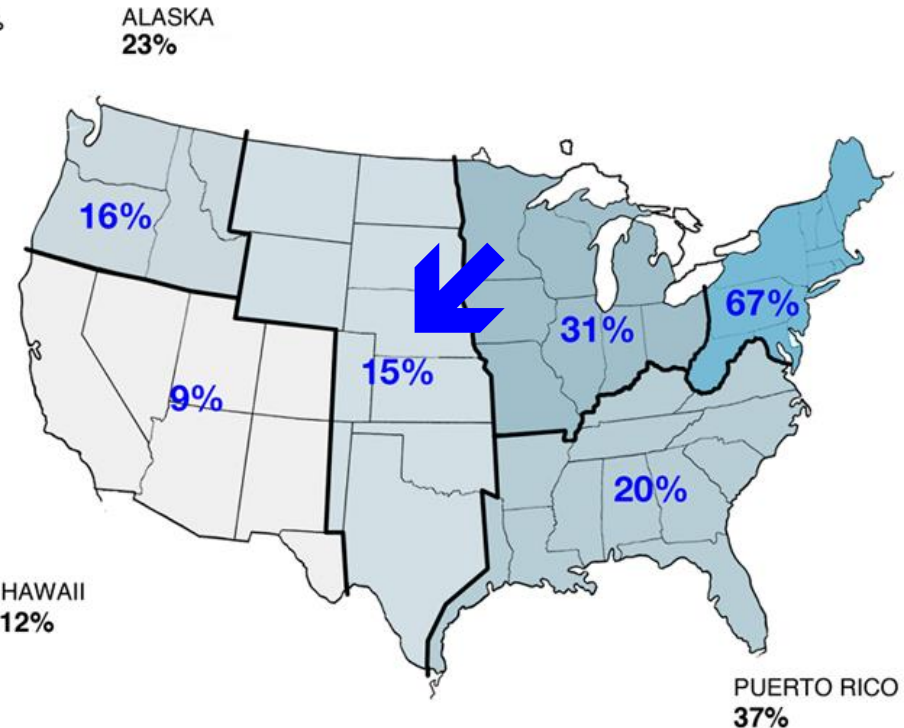
[2] [www.dawsoncountymontana.com/Ice Jams \(2015\) PDF](http://www.dawsoncountymontana.com/Ice%20Jams%20(2015).pdf)



# Precipitation trends



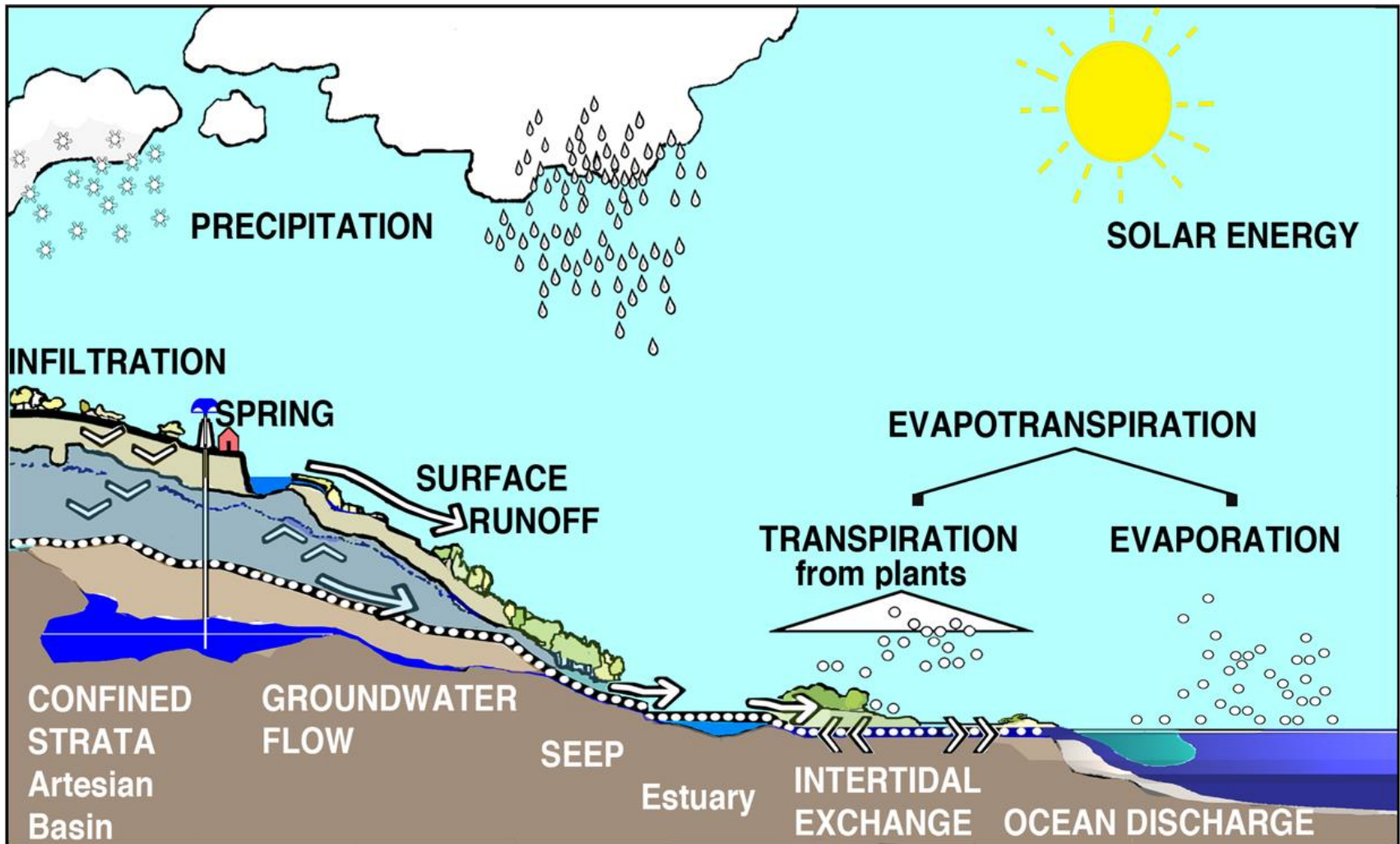
Observed change in annual average precipitation 1958-2008



Observed change in very heavy precipitation events 1958-2008 (heaviest 1% of all daily events)

U.S. Global Climate Research Program (USGCRP) *Scientific Assessments 2009*

# Our water bank account



# Aquifers - Montana

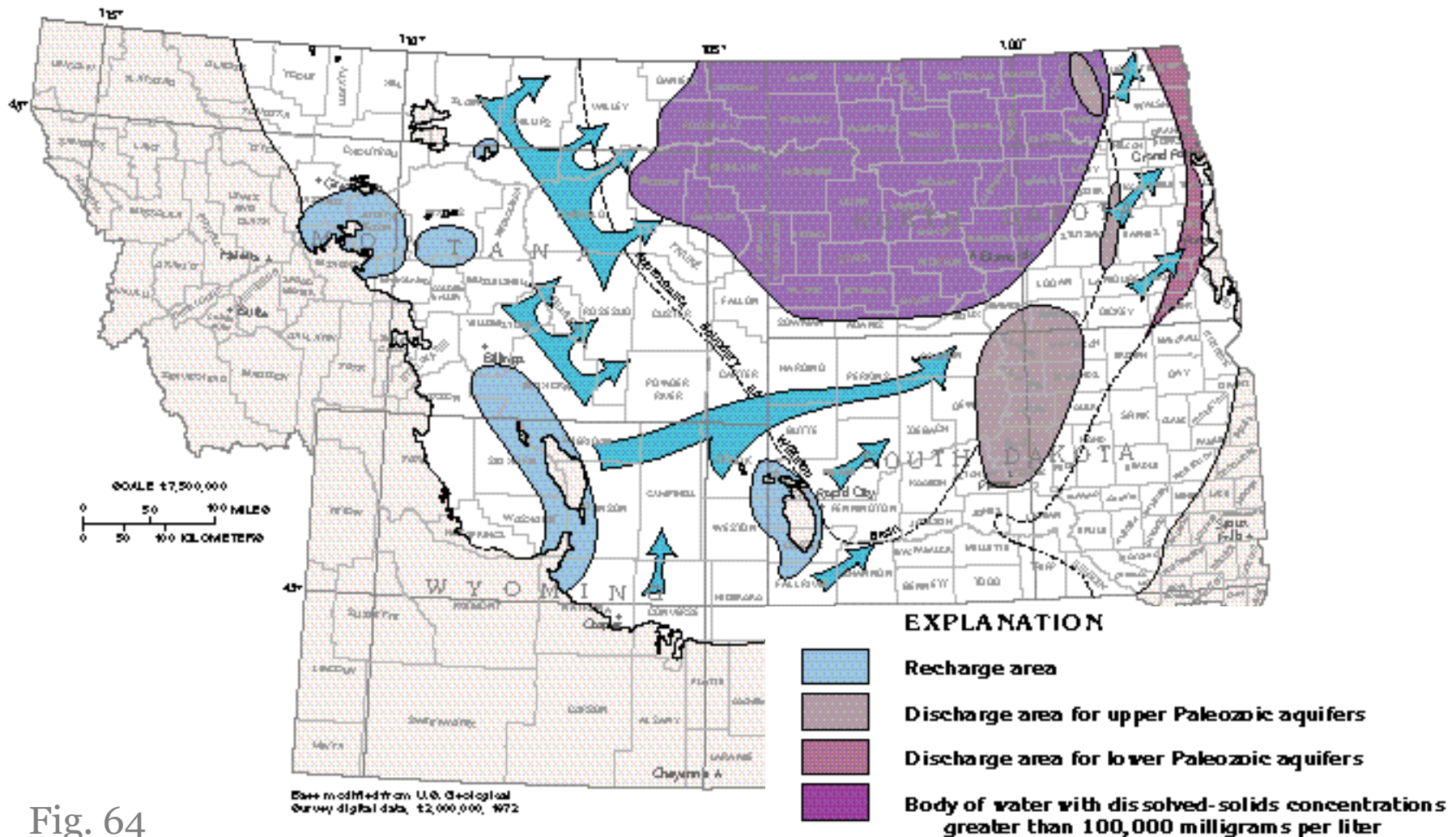


Fig. 64



# Flood measures: retention strategies

## Detention pond



## Retention pond

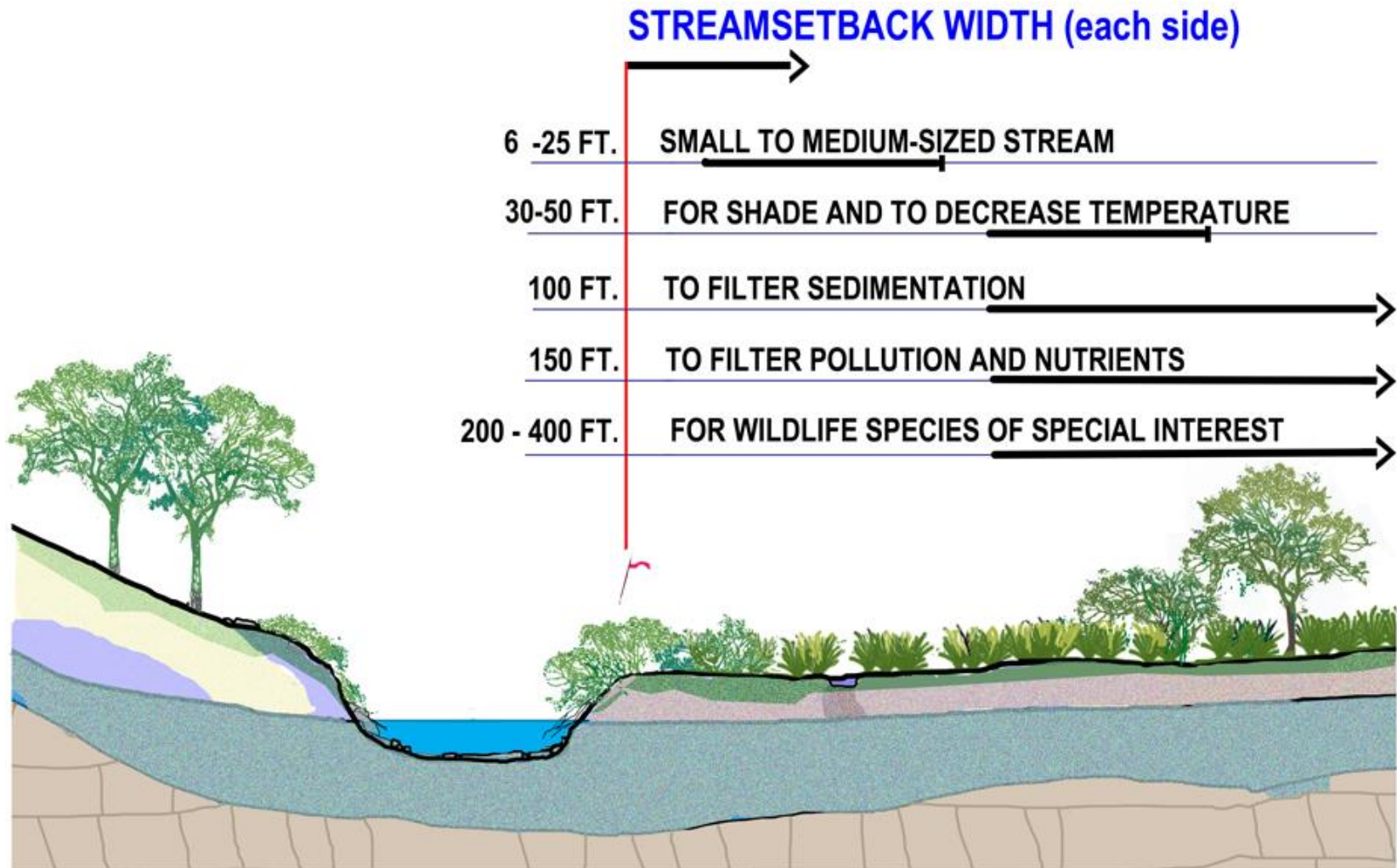


A newly planted, eight-row shelterbelt on State School Trust Land in Teton County.  
Photo by Diane Boyd, wildlife biologist, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

## Shelter belts

[arc.lib.montana.edu/msu-extension/objects/shelter belts](http://arc.lib.montana.edu/msu-extension/objects/shelter%20belts)

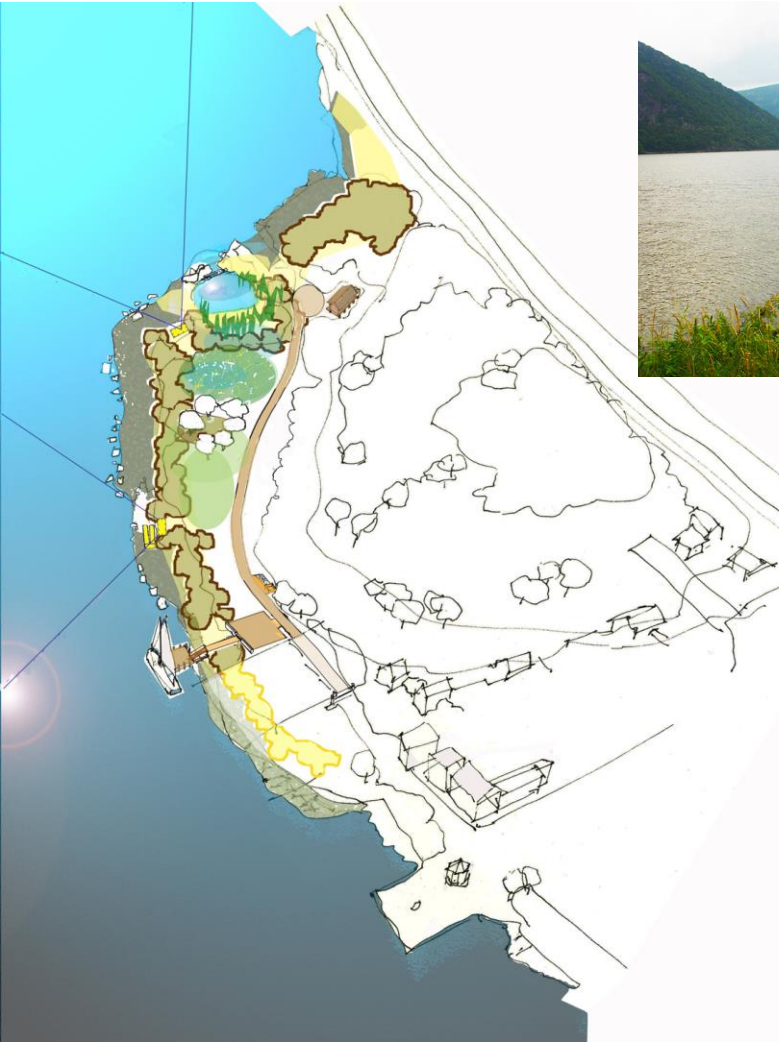
# Flood measures: streamside buffers





# Flood measures: Ice jam protection

**Boulder barricade**  
**Living shoreline**  
**Public park**



[www.dec.ny.gov/lands/81956.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/81956.html)

Dockside - Cold Spring NY Milhone & MacBroome / Donald Watson

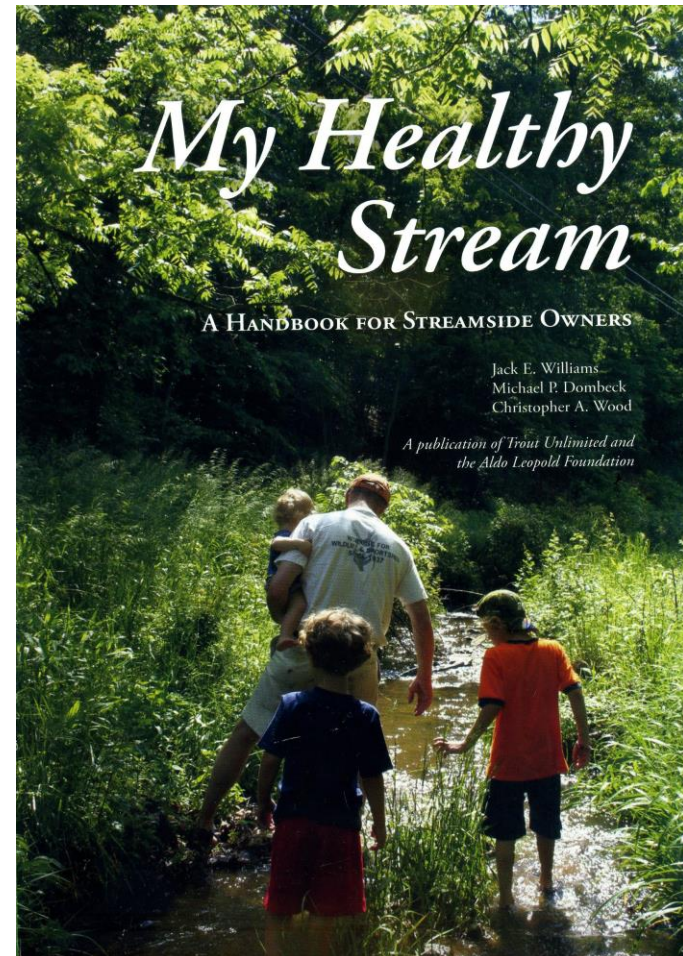




# Flood measures: stream protection

**Riparian zone protection**  
**Instream fish restoration**  
**Willow weaving**  
**Silt reduction**  
**Culvert replacement**  
**Irrigation canal screening**

★ RECOMMENDED REFERENCE



Trout Unlimited *My Healthy Stream*  
[www.tu.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/My-Healthy-Stream.pdf](http://www.tu.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/My-Healthy-Stream.pdf)

# Flood measures: erosion control

## Re-establish riparian zones

Different challenges call for different restoration projects. Monitoring your stream can help you determine your restoration priorities and direct you to which methods will be most effective.



### Riparian Zone Re-Establishment

**PROBLEM:** Livestock overgrazing is compacting streamside soils and preventing robust growth of riparian vegetation.

**SOLUTION:** Construct wildlife-friendly fencing 100 feet from stream channel to exclude cattle and encourage riparian plant growth.

### Restoring Instream Fish Habitat

**PROBLEM:** The stream channel has become simplified over time, lacking habitat diversity and deep pools.

**SOLUTION:** Introduce logs, root wads, and large boulders throughout the channel, which will help build more diverse habitats as stream flows interact with these structures to dig holes and move sediment. These habitat structures are simply placed into the stream channel and not cabled or otherwise locked into place, allowing the stream to dictate their most appropriate location.

### Willow Weaving

**PROBLEM:** Soil erosion over time has created steep-cut banks and dewatered meadow area.

**SOLUTION:** Weave willow cuttings together and connect them to the cut bank to slow erosive flows, capture silt, and create a vegetated and more natural streambank that is more resistant to erosion.

## Restoring fish habitat

## Willow weaving

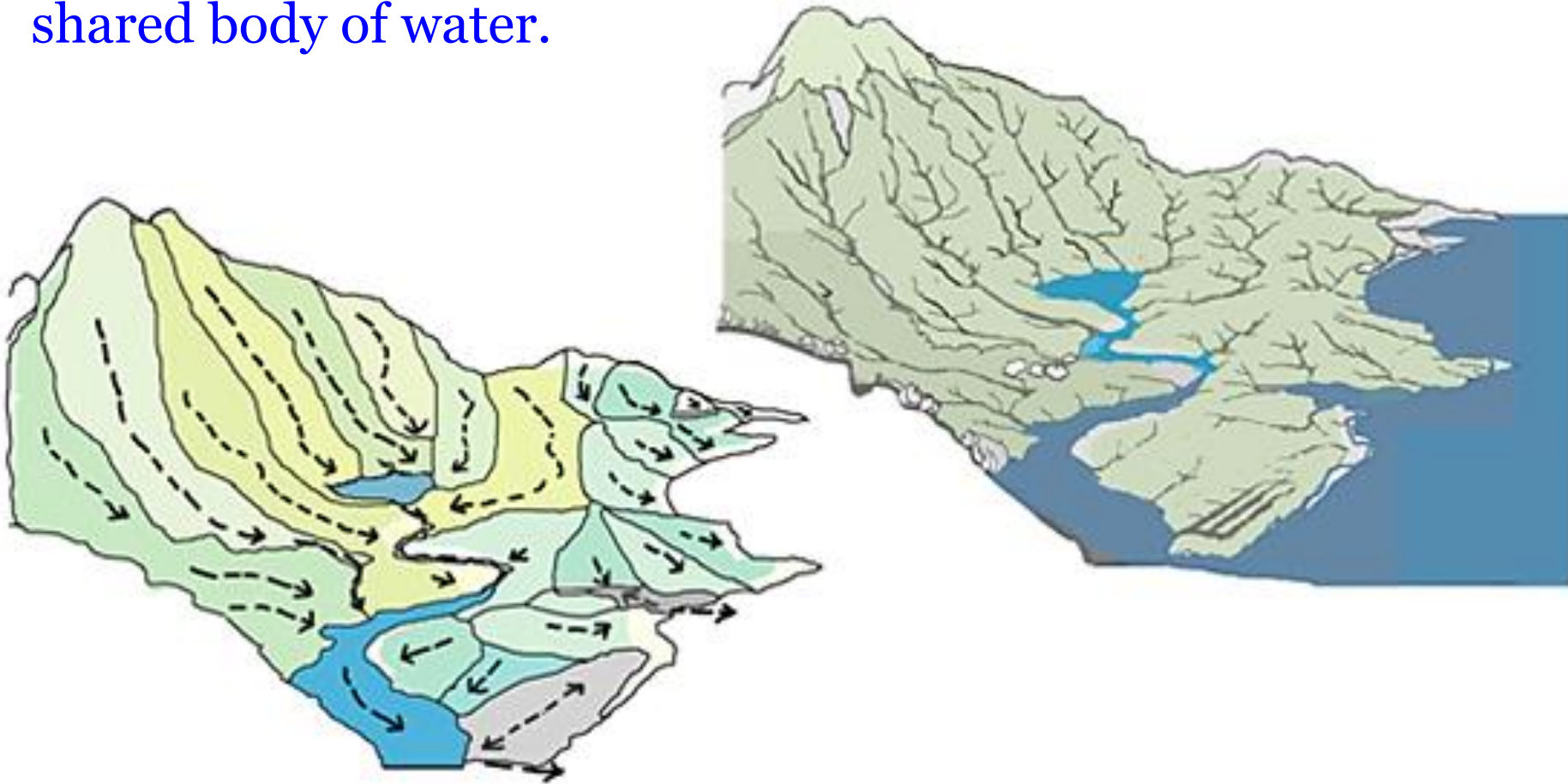


## Advantages of **watershed management**



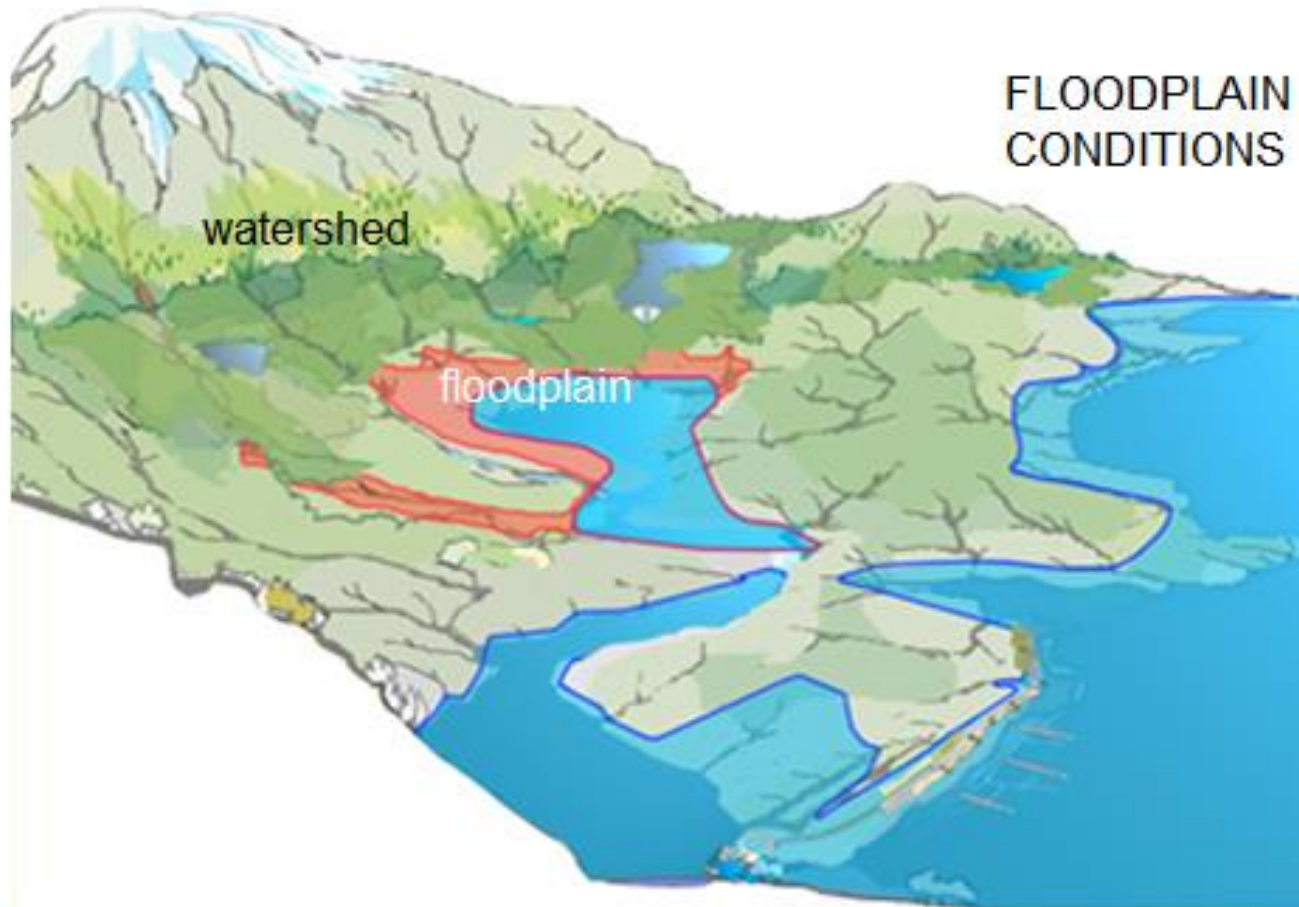
# Watershed

...the **entire** land area to which rain/snowmelt drains to a shared body of water.



# Floodplain

An area of land that experiences flooding



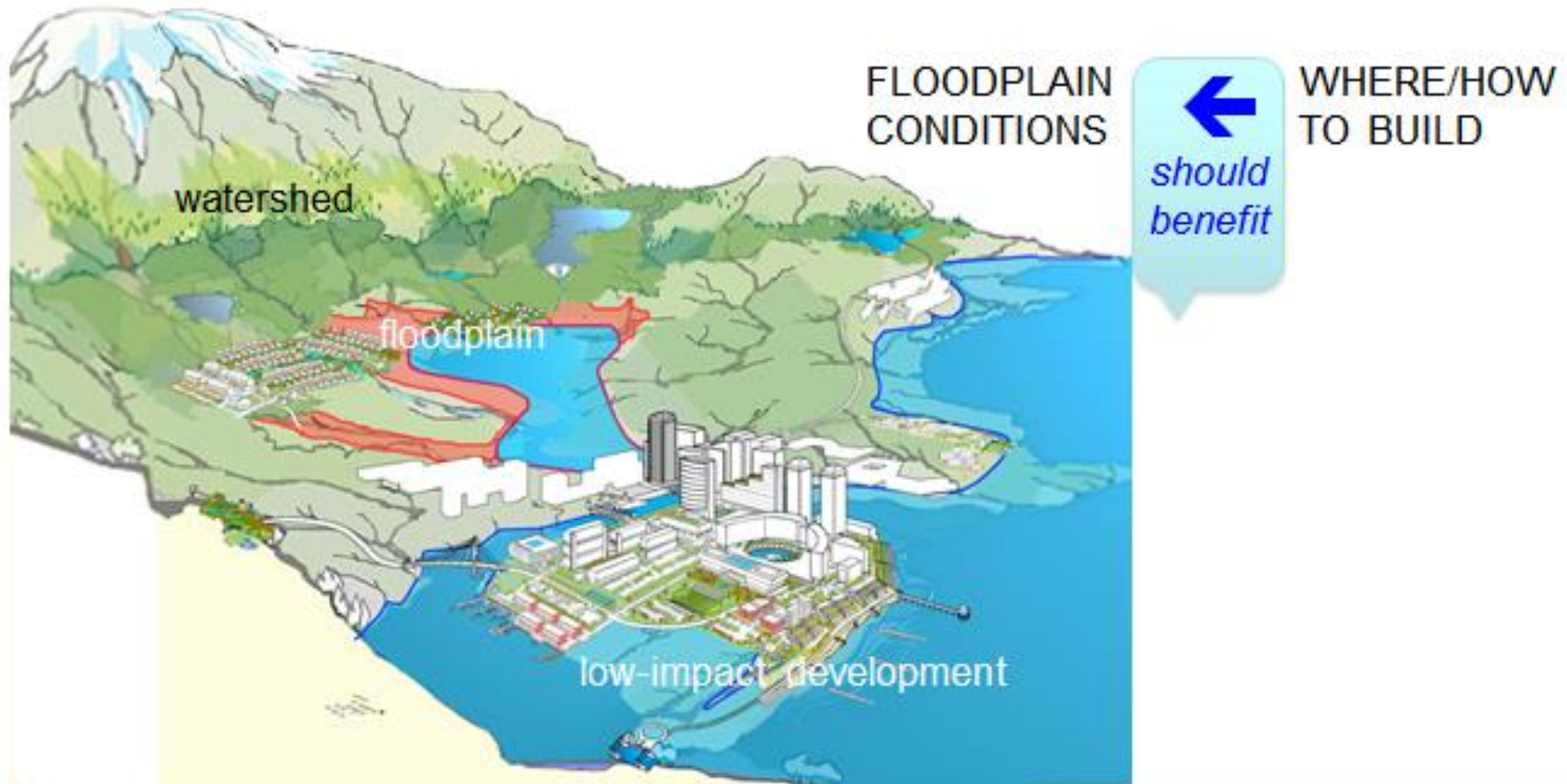
FLOODPLAIN  
CONDITIONS

➔  
*can  
benefit*

WHERE/HOW  
TO BUILD

NOTE: The regulatory floodplain is defined by probability of occurrence of flooding (typically 1% chance/year), established by the local jurisdiction.

# Building in the Floodplain





# Think like a watershed



# 3

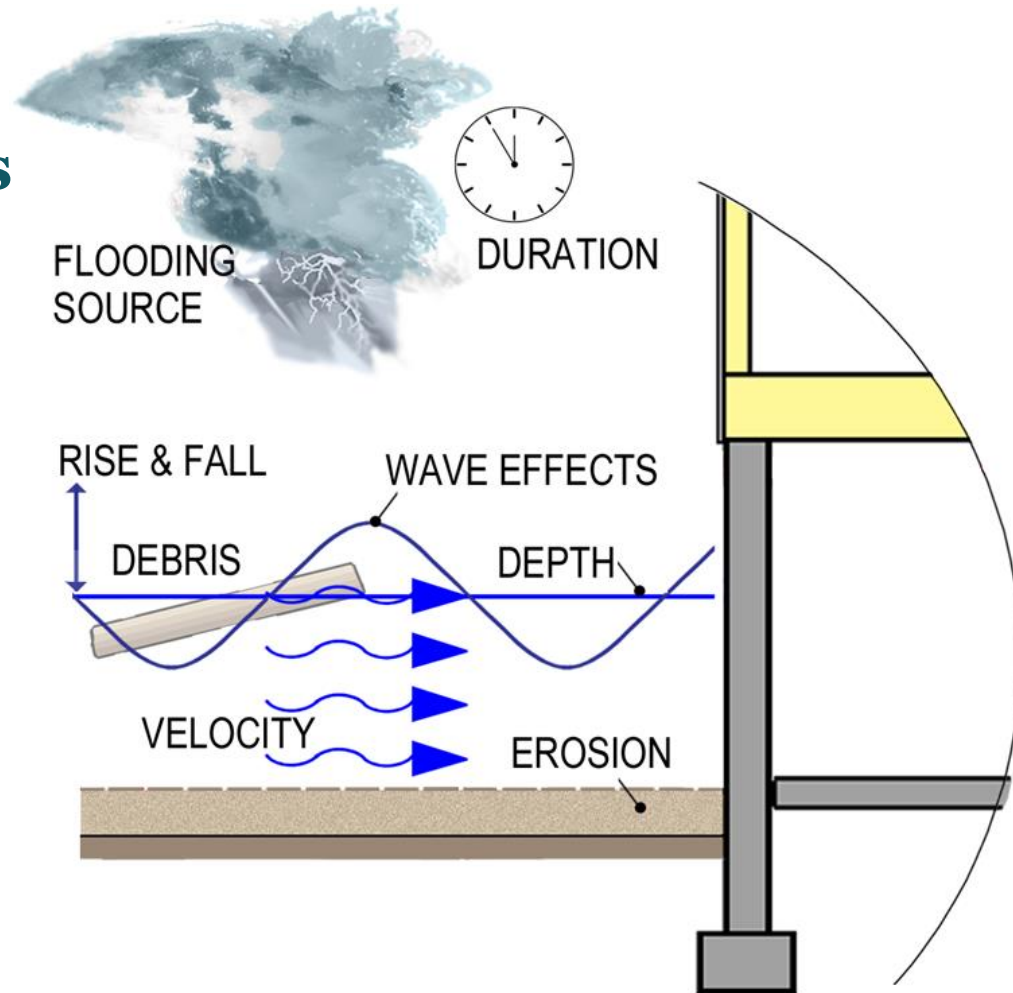
## **Flood resistant design**

for buildings and infrastructure

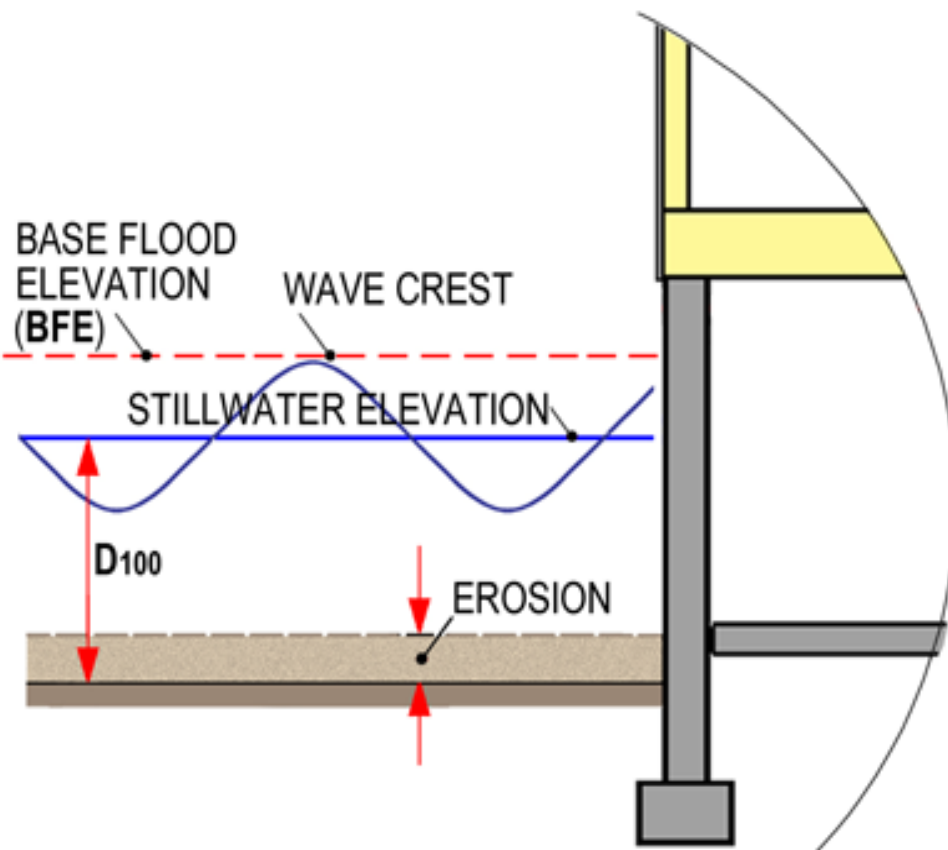
# Flood Resistant Design

## Flood Design Variables

- Source of flooding
- Flood depth
- Flood velocity
- Flood duration
- Rate of rise and fall
- Wave effects
- Flood-borne debris
- Scour & erosion



# Base Flood Elevation (BFE)

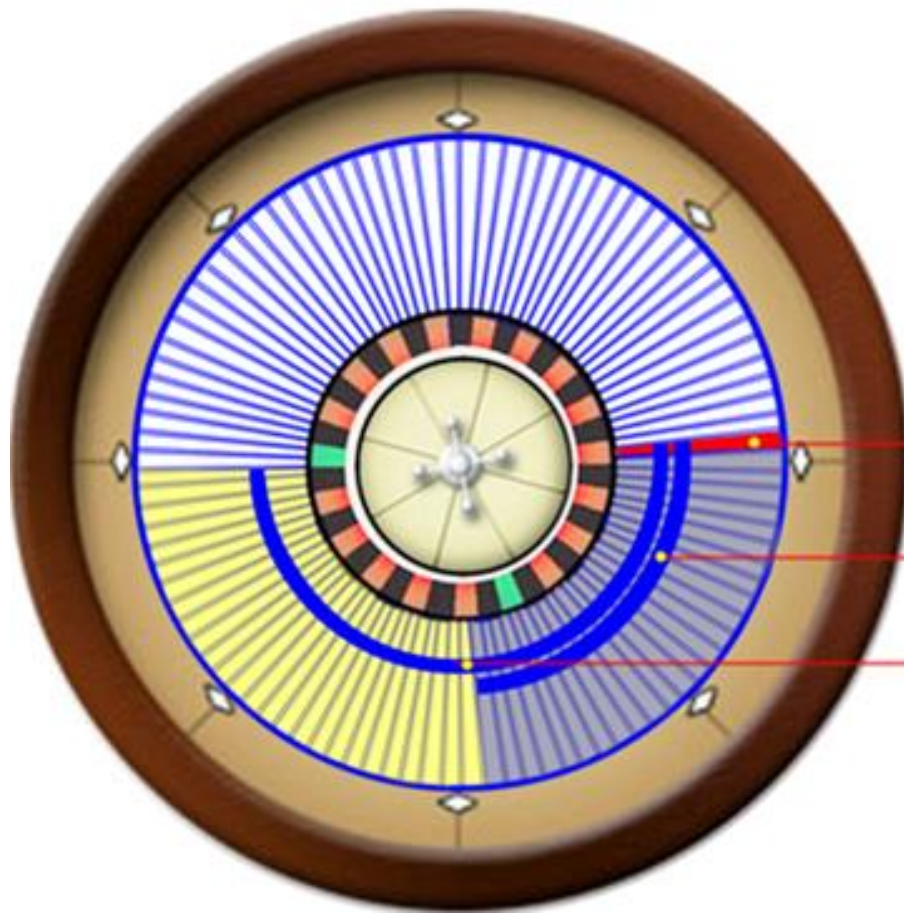


- Primarily intended for use in Federal Insurance Rates Maps (FIRMs)
- Based on *historical* flood data
- Not a sufficiently accurate indicator of *future* flood risk

**Additional analysis of local and “future probable conditions” is required**

# Probability of a 1% Event

The BFE, "Base Flood Elevation" is defined by 1% probability of exceedance in any one year



**1%**

chance any one turn

**26%**

chance with 30 turns

**51%**

chance with 70 turns



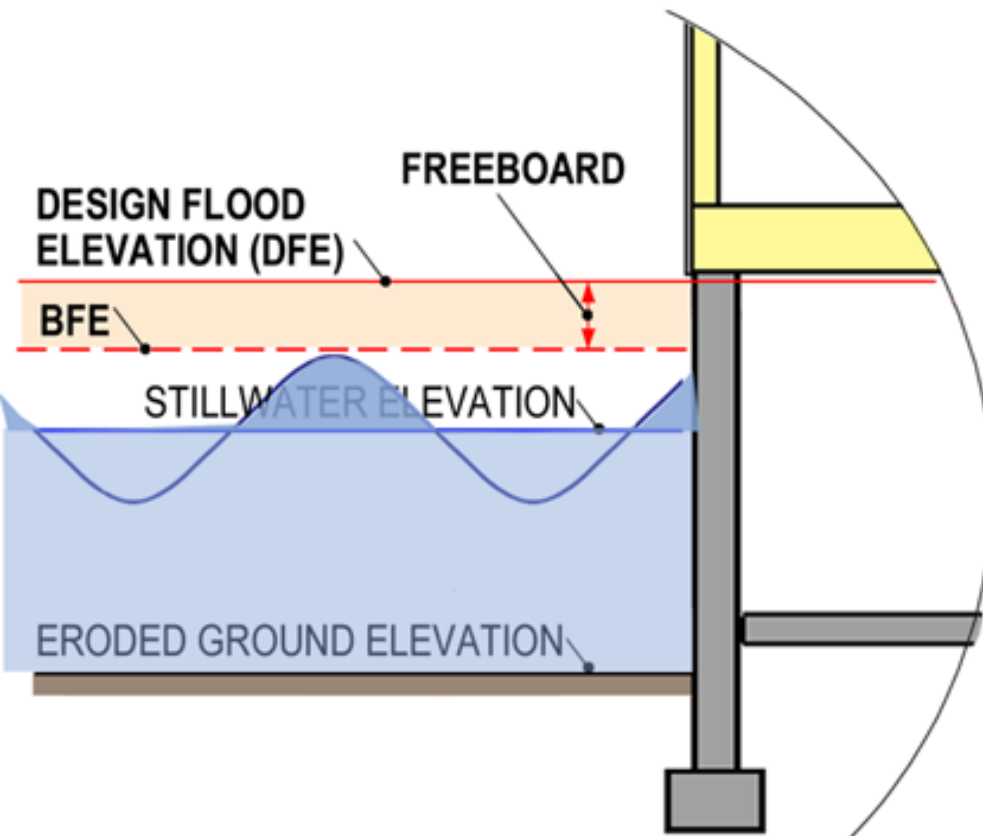
# Probability Table

## PROBABILITY OF NATURAL HAZARD EVENT FOR VARIOUS PERIODS OF TIME

Length of Period (Years)	Frequency – Recurrence Interval					
	10-Year	25-Year	50-Year	100-Year	500-Year	700-Year
1	10%	4%	2%	1%	0.2%	0.1%
10	65%	34%	18%	10%	2%	1%
20	88%	56%	33%	18%	4%	3%
25	93%	64%	40%	22%	5%	4%
<b>30</b>	96%	71%	45%	<b>26%</b>	6%	4%
50	99+%	87%	64%	39%	10%	7%
<b>70</b>	99.94+%	94%	76%	<b>51%</b>	13%	10%
100	99.99+%	98%	87%	63%	18%	13%



# Design Flood Elevation (DFE)



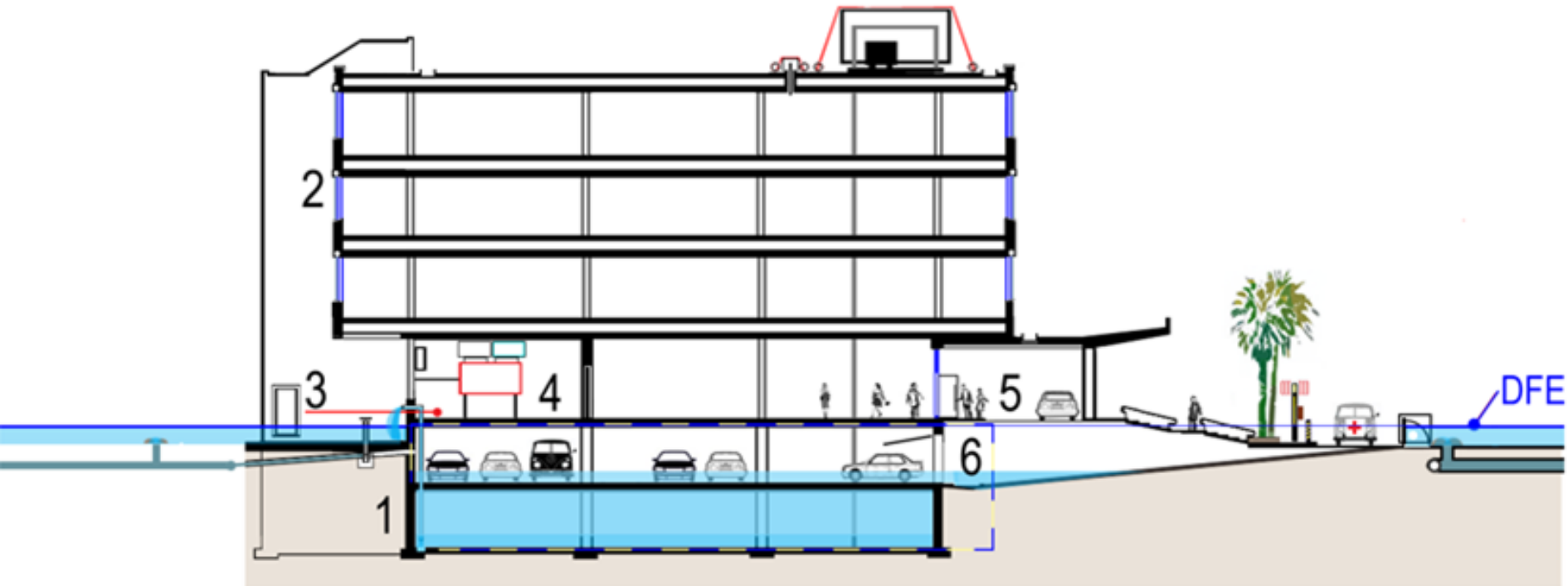
- The regulatory flood elevation established by State authorities & adopted by local jurisdictions.
- May equal or exceed NFIP requirements for BFE, cannot be less.
- May be higher than the BFE by adding height, called "freeboard," to represent **Safety Factor** above the BFE.

# Montana Rules

FLOOD DESIGN STANDARD	NFIP Minimum Requirements	MONTANA Administrative Rules
Freeboard	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BFE</b></p> No freeboard required	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DFE</b></p> Base elevation + 2 feet
Floodway Standards	** 1 foot Surcharge	** 1/2 foot Surcharge
Floodway Uses	Allows structures in Floodway with documentation of zero-rise	Prohibits habitable structures within the floodway
Mobile Home Applications	Will allow for mobile home placed in an existing mobile home park to be elevated above the adjacent grade	Requires all mobile homes to be elevated to the freeboard protection level

\*\*with exhaustive CLOMR/LOMR

# Flood Resistant Design



- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 - Foundation is intact         | 4 - Utilities are intact & operational |
| 2 - Envelope is impact resistant | 5 - Building is safe and accessible    |
| 3 - Lowest Fl. is above DFE      | 6 - Breakaway elements (as needed)     |



# 4

## **A 2020 Update**

The case for all-hazard mitigation

# All-hazard mitigation

## CLIMATE RISKS

Most common natural disasters

EM-DAT International Disaster Database

[www.emdat.be](http://www.emdat.be)

FLOOD / SLR



WINTER STORM



WIND / TORNADO



HEAT WAVE



DROUGHT



WILDFIRE



EARTHQUAKE



PANDEMIC DISEASE



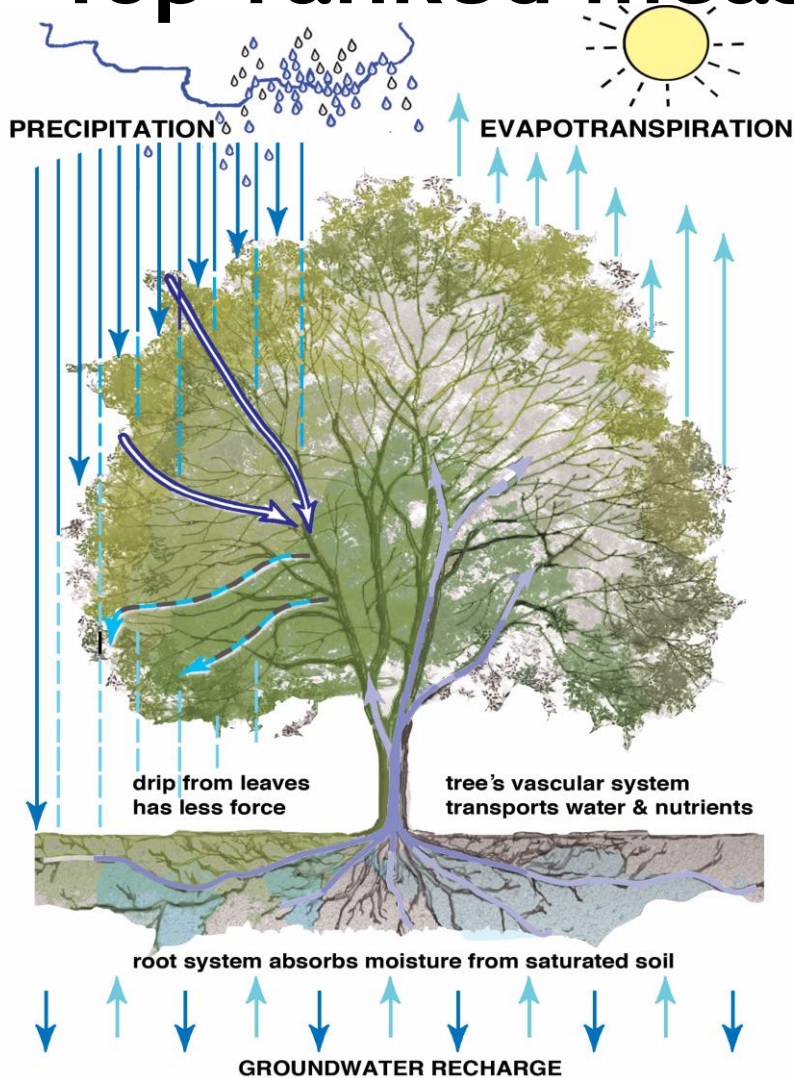
## CLIMATE ACTIONS

Most popular Climate Actions (rank order)  
undertaken by C40 Cities worldwide 2011-2015

compiling 10,000 registered projects

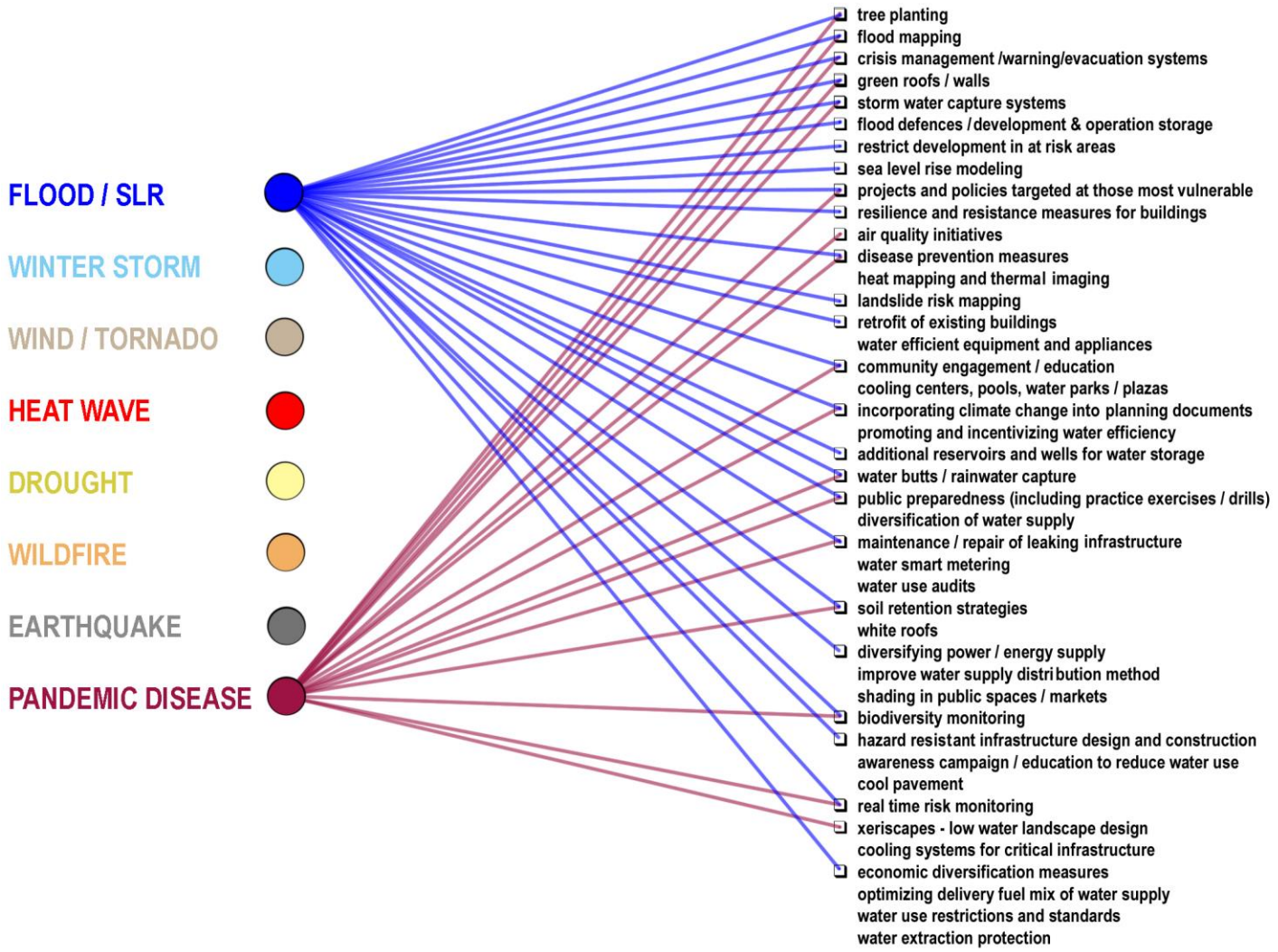
tree planting  
flood mapping  
crisis management / warning/evacuation systems  
green roofs / walls  
storm water capture systems  
flood defences / development & operation storage  
restrict development in at risk areas  
sea level rise modeling  
projects and policies targeted at those most vulnerable  
resilience and resistance measures for buildings  
air quality initiatives  
disease prevention measures  
heat mapping and thermal imaging  
landslide risk mapping  
retrofit of existing buildings  
water efficient equipment and appliances  
community engagement / education  
cooling centers, pools, water parks / plazas  
incorporating climate change into planning documents  
promoting and incentivizing water efficiency  
additional reservoirs and wells for water storage  
water butts / rainwater capture  
public preparedness (including practice exercises / drills)  
diversification of water supply  
maintenance / repair of leaking infrastructure  
water smart metering  
water use audits  
soil retention strategies  
white roofs  
diversifying power / energy supply  
improve water supply distribution method  
shading in public spaces / markets  
biodiversity monitoring  
hazard resistant infrastructure design and construction  
awareness campaign / education to reduce water use  
cool pavement  
real time risk monitoring  
xeriscapes - low water landscape design  
cooling systems for critical infrastructure  
economic diversification measures  
optimizing delivery fuel mix of water supply  
water use restrictions and standards  
water extraction protection

# Top-ranked measures



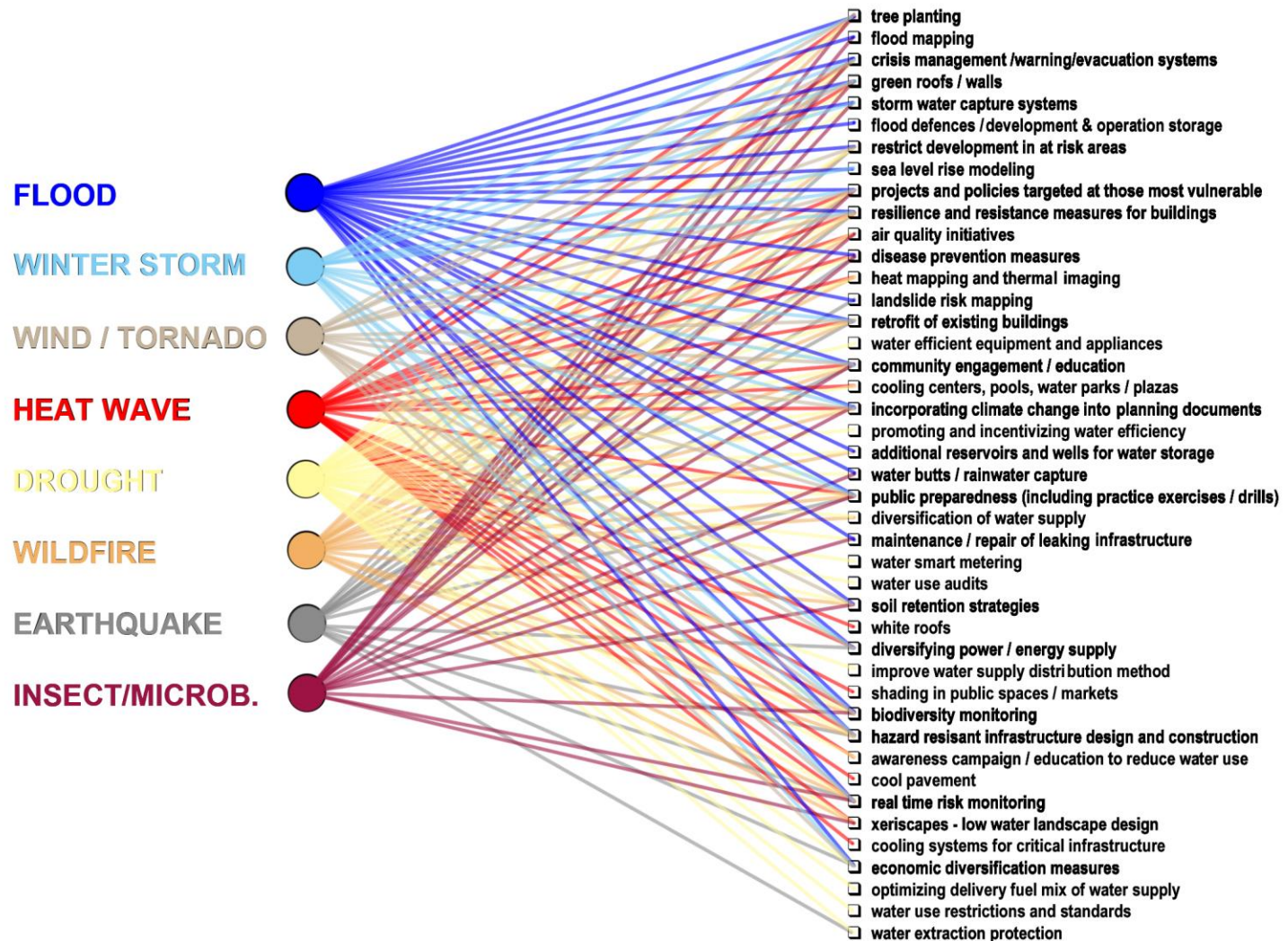
- tree planting
- flood mapping
- crisis management /warning/evacuation systems
- green roofs / walls
- storm water capture systems
- flood defences /development & operation storage
- restrict development in at risk areas
- sea level rise modeling
- projects and policies targeted at those most vulnerable
- resilience and resistance measures for buildings
- air quality initiatives
- disease prevention measures
- heat mapping and thermal imaging
- landslide risk mapping
- retrofit of existing buildings
- water efficient equipment and appliances
- community engagement / education
- cooling centers, pools, water parks / plazas
- incorporating climate change into planning documents
- promoting and incentivizing water efficiency
- additional reservoirs and wells for water storage
- water butts / rainwater capture
- public preparedness (including practice exercises / drills)
- diversification of water supply
- maintenance / repair of leaking infrastructure
- water smart metering
- water use audits
- soil retention strategies

# Flood & Pandemic measures





# Rainbow Resilience



# Summary review

- 1 Identify **flood risks** in Montana
- 2 Explain advantages of **watershed management**
- 3 Describe **flood resistant design**
- 4 State the case **for all-hazard mitigation**

## Design for Flood Resilience

# RESOURCES

# THANK YOU!



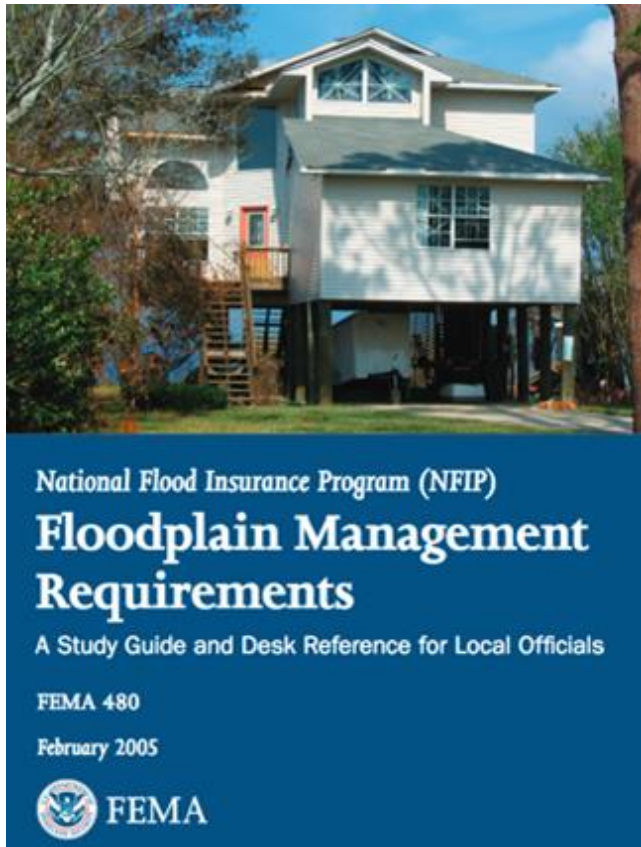
DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION  
Ambassador Curriculum

- **Questions and comments**
- **Contact information**

Natural Hazard Mitigation Association  
P.O. Box 170984  
Boston, MA 02117  
Email: [nathazma@gmail.com](mailto:nathazma@gmail.com)  
[www.nhma.info](http://www.nhma.info)



# FEMA 480 Floodplain Management



## A. INTRODUCTION

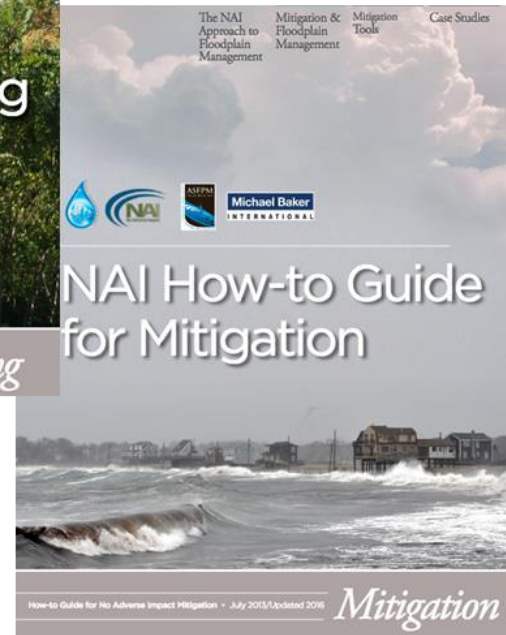
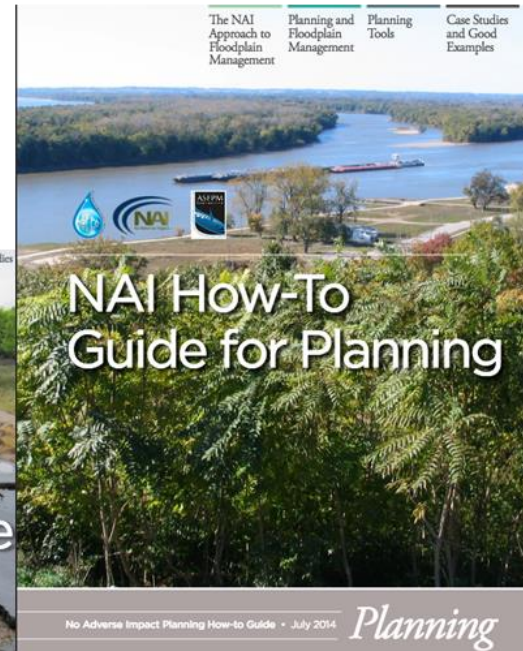
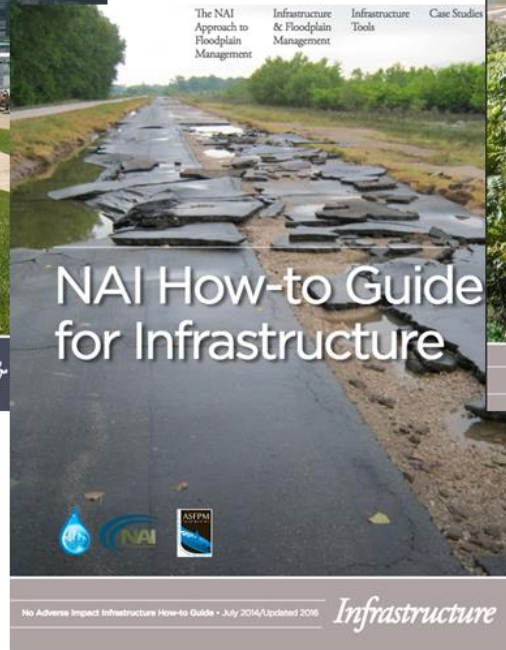
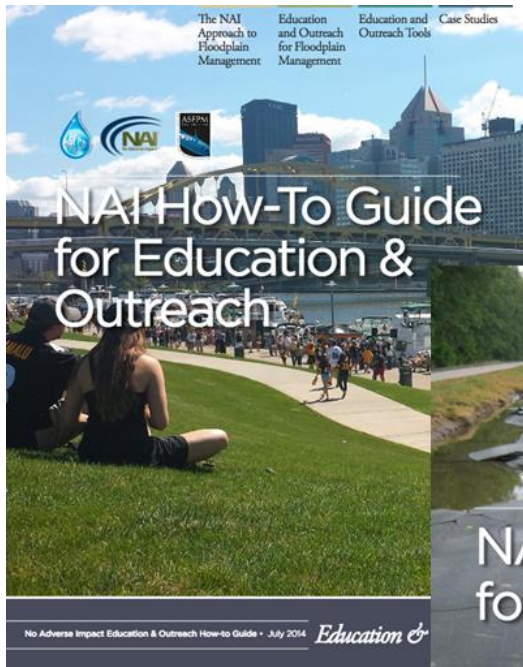
The responsibility for reducing flood losses is shared by all units of government—local, state and federal—and the private sector.

Fulfilling this responsibility depends on having the knowledge and skills to plan and implement needed floodplain management measures. The fundamental floodplain management program that most others are built on is the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

### ★ RECOMMENDED REFERENCE

FEMA 480 *Floodplain Management Requirements (2005)*  
[www.fema.gov/floodplain-management-requirements](http://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management-requirements)

# ASFPM - No Adverse Impact Guides



## ★ RECOMMENDED REFERENCES

ASFPM (2004) *No Adverse Impact How-To Guides*  
[http://www.floods.org/NoAdverseImpact/NAI\\_White\\_Paper.pdf](http://www.floods.org/NoAdverseImpact/NAI_White_Paper.pdf)



# Flood Mitigation existing residential



## Selecting Appropriate Mitigation Measures for Floodprone Structures

FEMA 551 / March 2007



**FEMA 551**

★ RECOMMENDED REFERENCE

FEMA 551 [www.fema.gov/media-library-data/fema551.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/fema551.pdf)

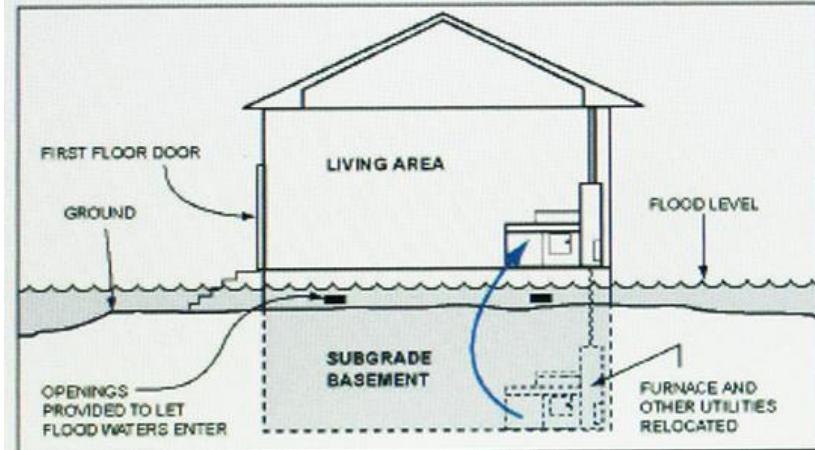


Figure 6-6. Wet floodproofing with a wet floodproofed subgrade basement  
(Source: FEMA 312)

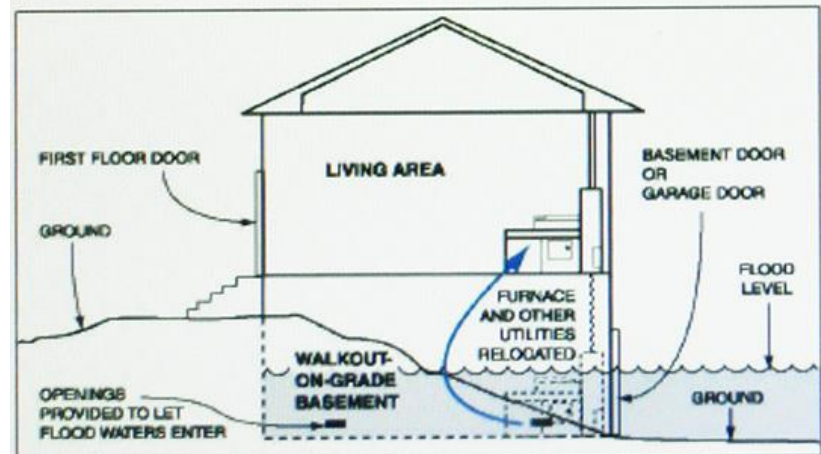


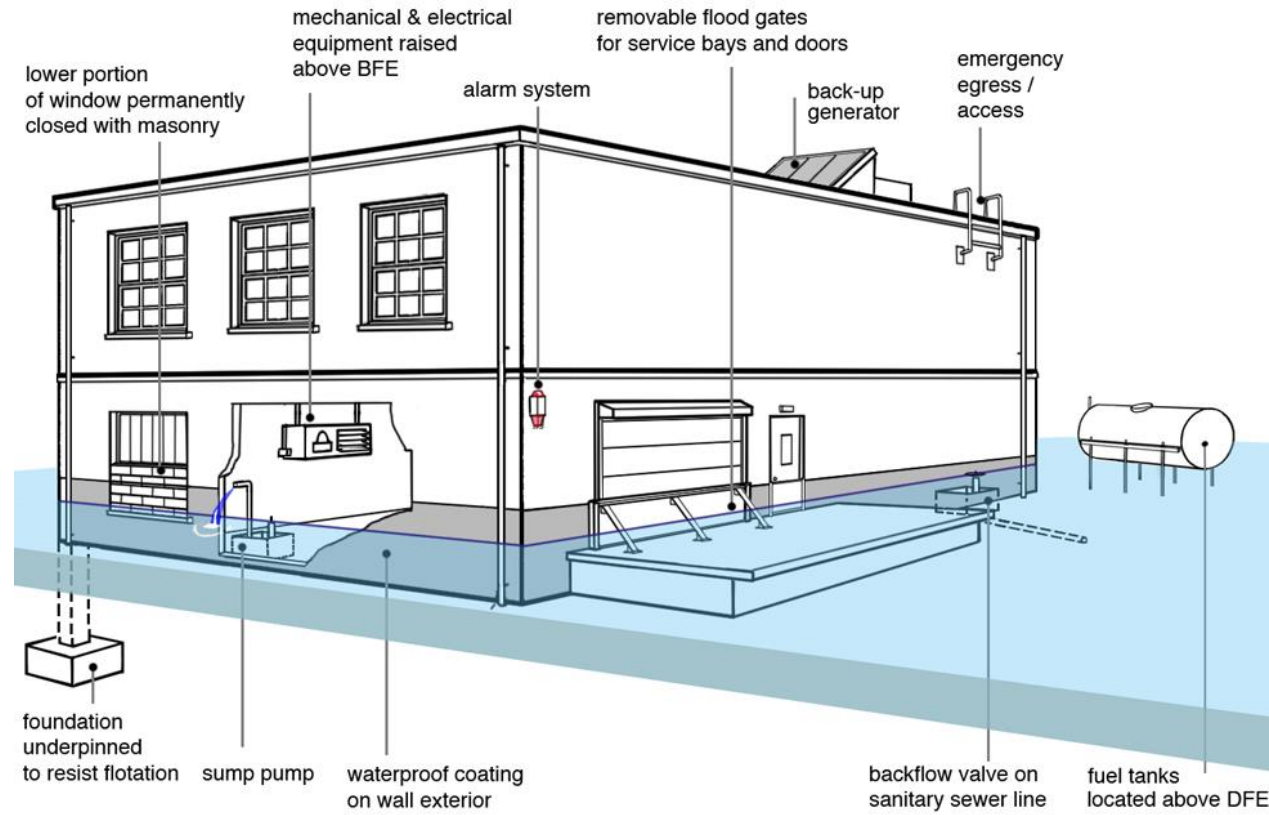
Figure 6-7. A structure with a wet floodproofed walkout-on-grade basement

# Flood Mitigation existing commercial



**Protecting Building Utility Systems From Flood Damage**  
 Principles and Practices for the Design and Construction of Flood Resistant Building Utility Systems  
 FEMA P-348, Edition 2 / February 2017

## FEMA P-346





DONALD WATSON MICHELE ADAMS



DESIGN for  
**FLOODING**

ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE, and URBAN DESIGN  
for RESILIENCE to CLIMATE CHANGE