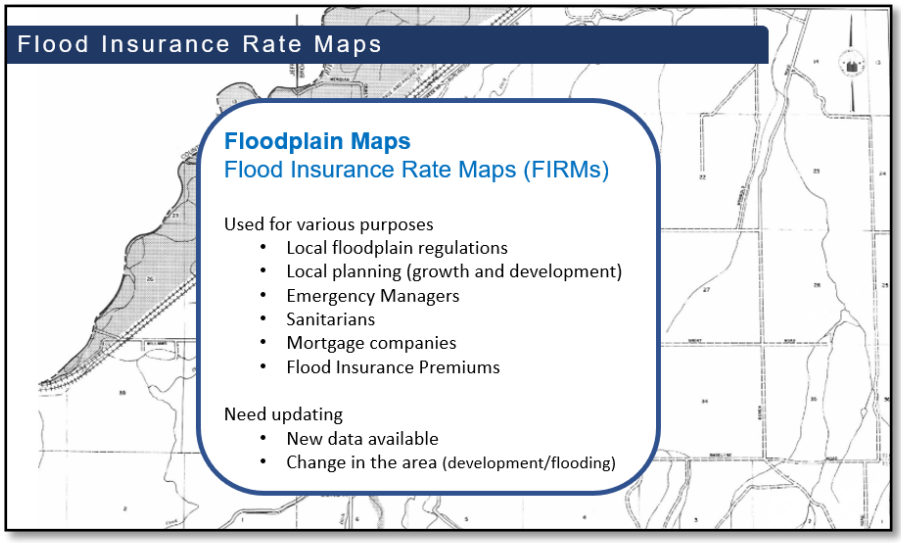
2022 Floodplain Mapping Project

What are floodplain maps?

Floodplain maps help identify risk, and in turn that helps keep people and property out of harm's way. Floodplain mapping projects are a coordinated effort with the state, county, city, and FEMA to identify and reduce flood risk. What these maps show is what is called the 100-year flood event. A better way to think of this is not in terms of years, it's the flood event that has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.



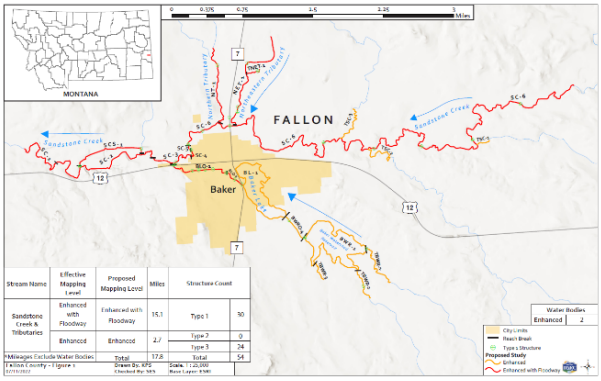
Floodplain maps are called Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). They are used for various purposes in the community. Maps need periodic updating due to high flood events, new data that can improve the accuracy, or if there has been substantial development in the area.

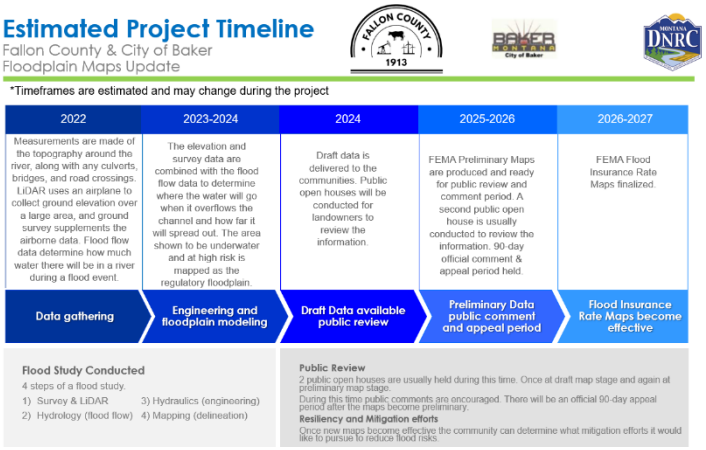
History of floodplain maps in County and City:

Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBMs) were originally produced in 1975 for the City of Baker. Flood study work completed by the SCS in 1985 was incorporated into FIRMs issued to the city and county in 1988. There have been some revisions to the maps over the years, including two LOMRs (2013 and 2018) that were completed in the county and part of the city. No other revisions or updates have occurred to the FIRMs since 1988.

2022 Flood Study:

This project will conduct new floodplain mapping studies on 15.1 miles of enhanced with floodway tributaries, 10.9 of those miles are on Sandstone Creek. New floodplain mapping studies will also be done on 2.7 miles of enhanced tributaries along with 5.1 shoreline miles. The overall project covers 17.8 miles of updated floodplain mapping. Funding includes all of the field survey, base map preparation, hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, and floodplain mapping for the county.





Outreach & Engagement:

DNRC will develop a project website for the project that can be used to keep the public informed. DNRC will post information on the project (timelines, figures, completed reports throughout the project), upcoming meeting information & materials. At draft data stage a public viewer will be developed and posted.

Community project support:

In conjunction with the new flood study there are things that the county and town will be asked to help with.

- Providing jurisdictional information (i.e newly annexed areas for the town)
- Provide historic flood information (photos, GIS data)
- At draft data stage the community will send post cards or letters to all affected landowners (list to be provided by DNRC) inviting them to attend a public open house meeting
- Schedule and arrange venue for a joint (county, town, DNRC) public open house
- Prior to the appeal period DNRC will provide a template press release, we ask that the community share these with the local media

Mitigation Plan:

If the county is in the process of updating the county hazard mitigation plan, support for project planning can be provided in conjunction with the new flood study.