

Background on the Teton County floodplain maps:

In 1977, Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBM) were produced for Teton County and the City of Choteau. To convert the county and city into the regular phase of the NFIP program, Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) and FEMA maps were produced in 1983. Much of the approximate mapping for the 1983 maps were taken directly from 1977 FHBM, or developed using 20' contour topographic maps, aerial photographs, and engineering judgment. As part of the 1983 FIS efforts, flood studies were conducted on 1.6 miles of Spring Creek and 5.9 miles of the Teton River.

Since 1983, the City of Choteau has had two regulatory flood maps for the city - a Flood Boundary and Conservancy Zone Map and a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). The County has had two sets of regulatory maps for the Teton River – Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps and FIRMs. Two sets of regulatory maps with differing terminology (Conservancy Zone vs. Floodway), has made local program administration challenging and confusing for the communities.

