

Tribes, public interest groups, nongovernmental organizations, businesses, trade associations, and individual members of the public.

As described under the **DATES** section of this notice, FEMA is facilitating virtual and in-person meetings as well as a virtual scoping room to accommodate and encourage public participation. At these meetings, the public will have the opportunity to present comments on the scope of the EIS. FEMA representatives will be available to answer questions and provide additional information to meeting attendees. In addition to providing comments at the public scoping meetings, stakeholders may submit written comments as described in the **ADDRESSES** section. Comments may be broad in nature or restricted to specific areas of concern, but they should be directly relevant to the NEPA process or potential environmental impacts as described in the Comments section below.

#### Comments

FEMA is seeking input on relevant information, studies, or analyses of any kind concerning impacts that result from the proposed action or alternatives. Specifically:

1. Potential effects (adverse or beneficial) that the proposed action could have on biological resources, including species and their habitat.
2. Potential effects that the proposed action could have on physical resources and natural floodplain functions.
3. Potential effects that the proposed action could have on socioeconomics, including demographics, employment, economics, minority, low-income populations, and Tribes, land use, zoning, housing, commerce, transportation, community growth, and community infrastructure.
4. Other possible reasonable alternatives to the proposed action that FEMA should consider, including additional or alternative avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures that achieve the performance standard of no-net loss of three key natural floodplain functions.

FEMA regulation, at 40 CFR 1502.17, requires that FEMA append to the draft EIS or otherwise publish all comments received during the scoping process that identifies alternatives, information, and analysis for FEMA's consideration. FEMA respects each commentor's desire to withhold sensitive information (such as the costs associated with development in the floodplain) but, at the same time, recognizes that one set of impacts that may be associated with the implementation of the draft plan is the

economic, social, and equity burden that individuals, businesses, and communities may face.

To promote informed decision-making, comments should be as specific as possible and should provide as much detail as necessary to meaningfully and fully inform FEMA of the commenter's position. Comments should explain why the issues raised are important to the consideration of potential environmental impacts and possible alternatives to the proposed action as well as to economic, employment, and other impacts affecting the quality of the human environment.

*Authority:* 42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*, and 40 CFR 1501.9.

**Deanne B. Criswell,**

*Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 2023-04495 Filed 3-3-23; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency

**[Docket ID FEMA-2023-0002; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-B-2317]**

#### Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Comments are requested on proposed flood hazard determinations, which may include additions or modifications of any Base Flood Elevation (BFE), base flood depth, Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) boundary or zone designation, or regulatory floodway on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and where applicable, in the supporting Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports for the communities listed in the table below. The purpose of this notice is to seek general information and comment regarding the preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided to the affected communities. The FIRM and FIS report are the basis of the floodplain management measures that the community is required either to adopt or to show evidence of having in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

**DATES:** Comments are to be submitted on or before June 5, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload> and the respective Community Map Repository address listed in the tables below. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. FEMA-B-2317, to Rick Sacbibt, Chief, Engineering Services Branch, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-7659, or (email) [patrick.sacbibt@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:patrick.sacbibt@fema.dhs.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rick Sacbibt, Chief, Engineering Services Branch, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-7659, or (email) [patrick.sacbibt@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:patrick.sacbibt@fema.dhs.gov); or visit the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) online at [https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx\\_main.html](https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** FEMA proposes to make flood hazard determinations for each community listed below, in accordance with section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and 44 CFR 67.4(a).

These proposed flood hazard determinations, together with the floodplain management criteria required by 44 CFR 60.3, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean that the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements of its own or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, State, or regional entities. These flood hazard determinations are used to meet the floodplain management requirements of the NFIP.

The communities affected by the flood hazard determinations are provided in the tables below. Any request for reconsideration of the revised flood hazard information shown on the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report that satisfies the data requirements outlined in 44 CFR 67.6(b) is considered an appeal. Comments unrelated to the flood hazard determinations also will be considered before the FIRM and FIS report become effective.

Use of a Scientific Resolution Panel (SRP) is available to communities in support of the appeal resolution process. SRPs are independent panels of experts in hydrology, hydraulics, and other pertinent sciences established to review conflicting scientific and technical data and provide recommendations for resolution. Use of the SRP only may be exercised after FEMA and local communities have been engaged in a collaborative consultation process for at least 60 days without a mutually acceptable resolution of an appeal. Additional information

regarding the SRP process can be found online at [https://www.floodsrp.org/pdfs/srp\\_overview.pdf](https://www.floodsrp.org/pdfs/srp_overview.pdf).

The watersheds and/or communities affected are listed in the tables below. The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload> and the respective Community Map Repository address listed in the tables. For communities with multiple ongoing Preliminary studies, the studies can be identified by

the unique project number and Preliminary FIRM date listed in the tables. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 97.022, "Flood Insurance.")

**Michael M. Grimm,**  
Assistant Administrator for Risk Management, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Community	Community map repository address
<b>Pender County, North Carolina and Incorporated Areas</b> <b>Project: 11-04-6510S Preliminary Dates: November 30, 2018 and July 30, 2021</b>	
Town of Surf City .....	Surf City Municipal Complex, 214 West Florence Way, Hampstead, NC 28443.
Town of Topsail Beach .....	Building Inspection Department, 820 South Anderson Boulevard, Topsail Beach, NC 28445.
Unincorporated Areas of Pender County .....	Pender County Planning Department, 805 South Walker Street, Burgaw, NC 28425.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

[Docket ID FEMA-2023-0002; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-B-2319]

**Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Comments are requested on proposed flood hazard determinations, which may include additions or modifications of any Base Flood Elevation (BFE), base flood depth, Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) boundary or zone designation, or regulatory floodway on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and where applicable, in the supporting Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports for the communities listed in the table below. The purpose of this notice is to seek general information and comment regarding the preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided to the affected communities. The FIRM and FIS report are the basis of the floodplain management measures that the

community is required either to adopt or to show evidence of having in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

**DATES:** Comments are to be submitted on or before June 5, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload> and the respective Community Map Repository address listed in the tables below. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. FEMA-B-2319, to Rick Sacbibit, Chief, Engineering Services Branch, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-7659, or (email) [patrick.sacbibit@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:patrick.sacbibit@fema.dhs.gov).

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