



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

RECEIVED
JUN 28 2002
COUNCILMAN/
CITY MANAGER

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Case No.: 02-09-439P

The Honorable Christopher Krohn
Mayor, City of Santa Cruz
809 Center Street, Room 10
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Community: City of Santa Cruz, CA
Community No.: 060355
FIRM Panels Affected: 0002 B and 0004 C
FBFM Panels Affected: 0002 and 0004
Effective Date of **JUN 26 2002**
This Revision:

102-D

Dear Mayor Krohn:

This responds to a request that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) revise the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM) for your community in accordance with Part 65 of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations. In a letter dated January 24, 2002, Mr. Richard C. Wilson, City Manager, City of Santa Cruz, requested that FEMA revise the FIRM and FBFM to show the effects of adequate progress, as that term is defined in Section 61.12 of the NFIP regulations, toward the completion and expected certification of a federally sponsored flood-control project along the San Lorenzo River. The project under construction is the San Lorenzo River Levee Project (Project), which extends from approximately 500 feet upstream of the mouth of the San Lorenzo River to State Highway 17 (SH17).

All data required to complete our review of this request were submitted with letters from Mr. Joe Hall, Assistant Director, Redevelopment Agency, City of Santa Cruz, and Mr. Wilson. Because this Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) shows the effects of a federally sponsored flood-control project where 50 percent or more of the project's costs are federally funded, fees were not assessed for the review.

We have completed our review of the submitted data and the flood data shown on the effective FIRM and FBFM. We have received sufficient evidence of compliance with the adequate progress requirements of Paragraph 61.12(b) and with all other portions of Section 61.12 of the NFIP regulations. We have revised the FIRM to modify the zone designations of the flood having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (base flood) along the San Lorenzo River from approximately 500 feet upstream of its mouth to SH17. As a result of the modifications, the boundary delineations of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), the area that would be inundated by the base flood, along the San Lorenzo River were revised to reflect the proposed SFHA that would result from completion of the Project. The base flood will be contained within the Project levees. No Project levees are being constructed in the vicinity of Branciforte Creek; therefore, the SFHA was not revised in that area. The SFHA, both within the Project levees and in the vicinity of Branciforte Creek, remains designated Zone AE, an SFHA with Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) determined. The regulatory floodway for the San Lorenzo River is shown only within the Project levees; however, the floodway data will not be revised until completion of the project. SFHAs designated Zone AE outside the Project levees were redesignated Zone A99, areas to be protected from the base flood by a Federal flood-protection system under construction, with no BFEs determined. The BFEs and regulatory floodway in these areas were removed to reflect the change in flood zone designation.

Please note that as part of this revision, the format of the map panels has changed. Previously, flood hazard information was shown on both the FIRM and FBFM. In the new format, all BFEs, cross sections, zone designations, and floodplain and floodway boundary delineations are shown on the FIRM, and the FBFM has been eliminated. Some flood insurance zone designations were changed to reflect the new format. Areas previously shown as Zones A1-A30 were changed to Zone AE, those shown as Zones V1-V30 were changed to Zone VE, those shown as Zone B were changed to Zone X (shaded), and those shown as Zone C were changed to Zone X (unshaded).

The modifications are shown on the enclosed annotated copies of FIRM Panels 0002 B and 0004 C. This LOMR hereby revises effective FIRM Panel 0002 B and FBFM Panels 0002 and 0004, all dated February 15, 1985, and effective FIRM Panel 0004 C dated June 17, 1986.

The modifications are effective as of the date shown above. The map panels as listed above and as modified by this letter will be used for all flood insurance policies and renewals issued for your community.

A review of the determination made by this LOMR and any requests to alter this determination should be made within 30 days. Any request to alter the determination must be based on scientific or technical data.

We will not physically revise and republish the FIRM, FBFM, and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community to reflect the modifications made by this LOMR at this time. When changes to the previously cited FIRM and FBFM panels and FIS report warrant physical revision and republication in the future, we will incorporate the modifications made by this LOMR at that time.

This LOMR is based on minimum floodplain management criteria established under the NFIP. Your community is responsible for approving all floodplain development and for ensuring all necessary permits required by Federal or State law have been received. State, county, and community officials, based on knowledge of local conditions and in the interest of safety, may set higher standards for construction in the SFHA. If the State, county, or community has adopted more restrictive or comprehensive floodplain management criteria, these criteria take precedence over the minimum NFIP criteria.

Because this LOMR will not be printed and distributed to primary users, such as local insurance agents and mortgage lenders, your community will serve as a repository for these new data. We encourage you to disseminate the information reflected by this LOMR throughout the community, so that interested persons, such as property owners, local insurance agents, and mortgage lenders, may benefit from the information. We also encourage you to prepare an article for publication in your community's local newspaper. This article should describe the changes that have been made and the assistance that officials of your community will give to interested persons by providing these data and interpreting the NFIP maps.

This determination has been made pursuant to Section 206 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-234) and is in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (Title XIII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Public Law 90-448), 42 U.S.C. 4001-4128, and 44 CFR Part 65. Pursuant to Section 1361 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, communities participating in the NFIP are required to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations that meet or exceed NFIP criteria. These criteria are the minimum requirements

and do not supersede any State or local requirements of a more stringent nature. This includes adoption of the effective FIRM, FBFM, and FIS report to which the regulations apply and the modifications described in this LOMR.

If you have any questions regarding floodplain management regulations for your community or the NFIP in general, please contact the Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) for your community. Information on the CCO for your community may be obtained by calling the Chief, Community Mitigation Programs Branch, Mitigation Division of FEMA in San Francisco, California, at (415) 923-7184. If you have any questions regarding this LOMR, please call our Map Assistance Center, toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

Sincerely,



Max H. Yuan, P.E., Project Engineer
Hazards Study Branch
Federal Insurance and
Mitigation Administration

For: Matthew B. Miller, P.E., Chief
Hazards Study Branch
Federal Insurance and
Mitigation Administration

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard C. Wilson
City Manager
City of Santa Cruz

Mr. Joe Hall
Assistant Director
Redevelopment Agency
City of Santa Cruz

Col. Michael J. Conrad, Jr.
District Engineer
Programs and Project Management Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Sacramento District