

Who has the right to appeal?

Any owner or lessee of real property within a community where a proposed Base Flood Elevation is established or revised can file an appeal. The appellant must file a written appeal with FEMA within 90 days of the second newspaper publication.

What is the basis for an appeal?

The sole basis for an appeal must be the possession of knowledge or information indicating that the elevations proposed by FEMA are scientifically or technically incorrect.

A protest is an objection to any information, other than BFE's, shown on an National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) map that is submitted by community officials or interested citizens through the community officials during the 90-day appeal period.



Map of FEMA Region VI



F E M A R e g i o n V I

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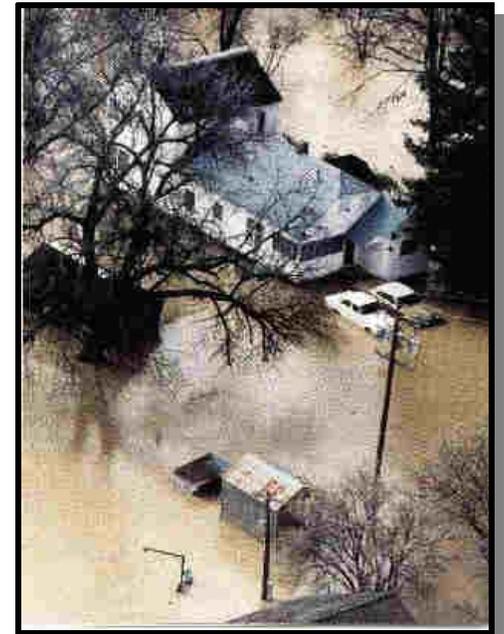
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National Flood Insurance Program:

How to Appeal a Proposed BFE



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The Appeals Process

When Preliminary Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) establish new or revised **Base Flood Elevations (BFE's)**, the community is given the opportunity to appeal the BFE's. After a thirty day review period, in which the public can review the preliminary information, the proposed BFE's are published on the web at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/st_main.shtm. and a notification is placed in a local newspaper alerting the public of the proposed BFE change. After the second newspaper notice, the 90-day appeal period begins.

Status of Map Changes

Select a State for information about ongoing map change activities within it, including Base Flood Elevation (BFE) notices.



BFE Listings on FEMA's Website

Code of Federal Regulations 67.5 Right of appeal:

Any owner of property within a community where a proposed flood elevation determination has been made, who believes their property rights to be adversely affected by the proposed determination, may file a written appeal with their local floodplain administrator within ninety days of the second newspaper publication of the proposed determination. (paraphrased)

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is an official map of a community, on which the local floodplain administrator has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

An **appeal** is a formal objection to proposed base flood elevations. Appeals may be submitted by a community or individual resident during the 90-day appeal period. They must be based on data that show the proposed base flood elevations are scientifically or technically incorrect.

Steps in the Appeals Process

- All inquiries of maps and requests for changes should be directed to a local community official.
- The local community official will collect all appeals and submit them to FEMA before the end of the 90-day appeal period.
- Supporting information or data should be submitted with the formal appeal.
- FEMA will send an acknowledgement letter to the local community official that the appeals have been received.
- After all cases have been reviewed and determinations are finalized, if necessary, a Revised Preliminary will be issued to the community.

