



Oregon

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Oregon Seeks Common-Sense Approach to New Floodplain Development Expectations

New Guidelines Should Support Healthy Salmon and Steelhead Populations,
Promote Resilient Communities, and Advance the Goals of
Oregon's Land Use Program.

Managing development in flood prone areas protects people, property, and communities, and protects fish and wildlife habitat. This will become even more important as Oregon faces extreme weather events and other challenges that a changing climate brings.

On April 14th, 2016 the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) delivered a Biological Opinion (BiOp) to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Based on the BiOp, FEMA will be setting new minimum requirements for local floodplain development ordinances based on federal requirements to protect endangered species. These changes will be incorporated into the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The federal NFIP provides flood insurance for homeowners and property owners generally. In Oregon, 260 cities and counties and three Indian tribes¹ participate in the NFIP.

The NFIP is administered by FEMA, which sets standards for local governments that participate in the NFIP, including requirements for local floodplain development regulations. DLCDC assists local governments with implementation of those regulations.

How will the state assist local communities?

The state has a strong interest in how FEMA implements the NFIP. Oregon is working with FEMA to identify a common-sense approach to new floodplain development expectations, ones that support healthy salmon and steelhead populations, promote resilient communities, and advance the goals of Oregon's land use program.

Our activities will include:

- Workshops and presentations
- Guidance
- Model local ordinances
- Grants
- Technical assistance

For more information from the Department of Land Conservation and Development, please contact [Amanda Punton](#), Natural Resource Specialist, at (971) 673-0961 or [Chris Shirley](#), NFIP Coordinator, at (503) 934-0027.

For more information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, please contact [John Graves](#), at (425) 487-4737.

¹ http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1915-25045-9744/or_nfip_pba_final_version_march_2013.txt