ARKANSAS COOPERATING TECHNICAL PARTNER (CTP) PROGRAM AND Risk MAP

Accreditation Workshop

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission

2015

Outline

- **What is Risk MAP?**
- **CTP Program in Arkansas**
- **How it benefits communities**
- **Current Projects**
- **Statewide Pre-Discovery Project**

Risk MAP

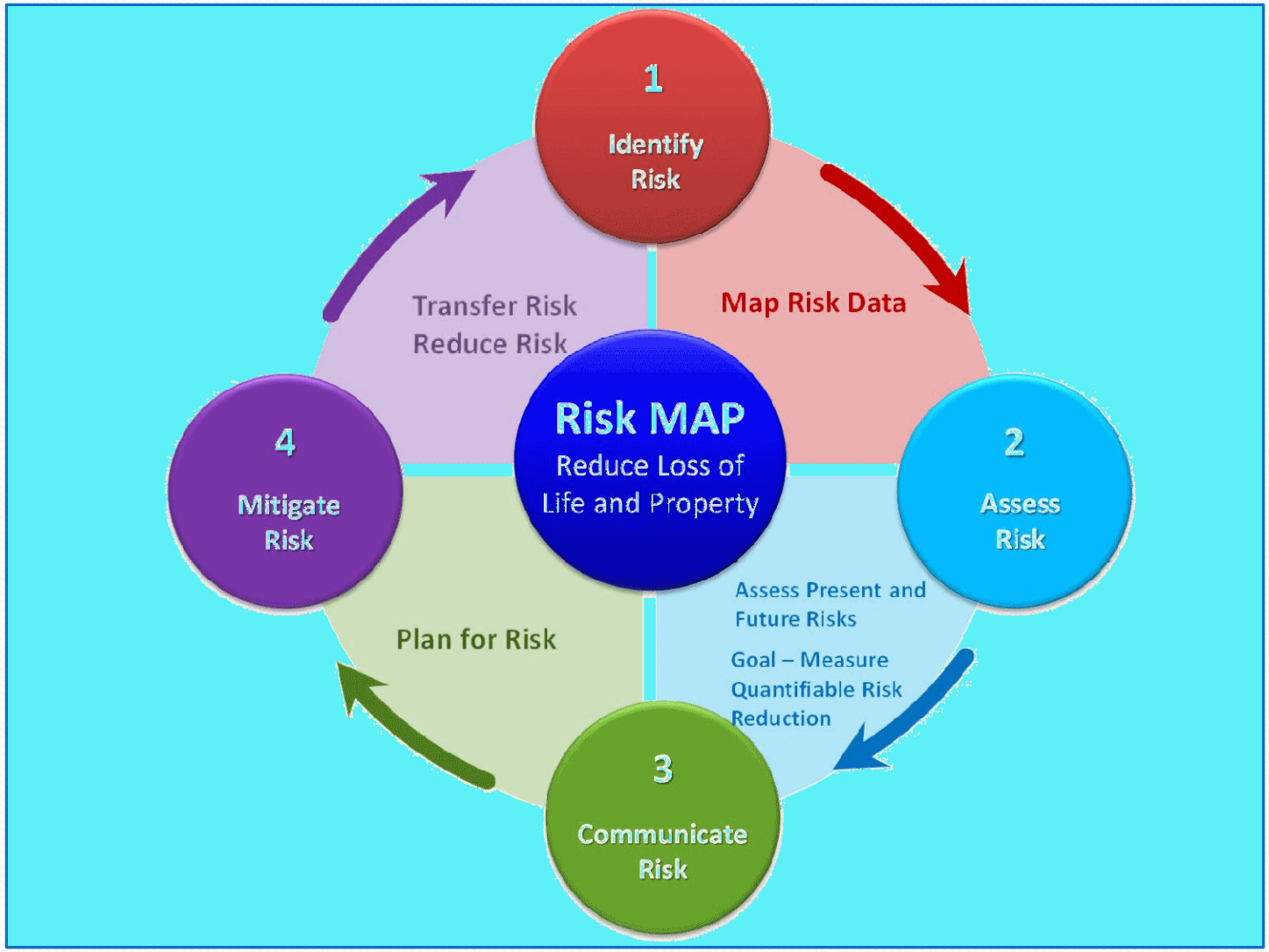
Mapping, Assessment & Planning

Risk MAP is the Federal Emergency Program (FEMA) Program that provides communities with flood information and tools they can use to enhance their mitigation plans and **take action** to better protect their citizens. Through **more precise flood mapping products**, **risk assessment tools**, and planning and outreach support, Risk MAP **strengthens local ability to make informed decisions about reducing risk**.

Risk MAP: The Vision

Through collaboration with State and Local entities, Risk MAP will deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property.

The Risk MAP Process

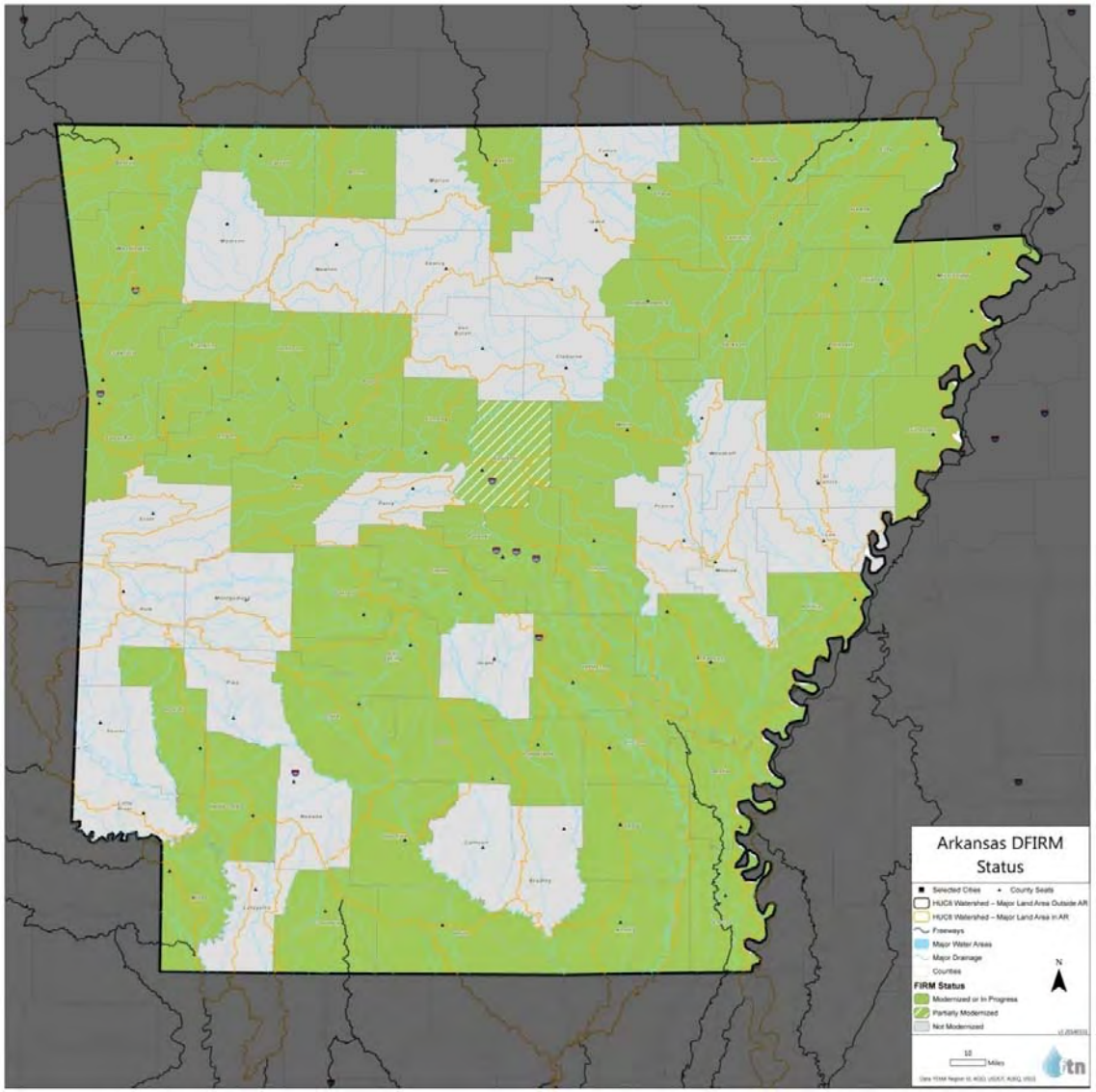


Risk MAP to CTP

- **Risk MAP** was projected to be a five (5) year program replacing the previous FEMA mapping program, **Map Modernization.** It began in 2009.

- In 2011, the ANRC signed an agreement with FEMA whereby ANRC became a “Cooperative Technical Partner” or CTP. As a CTP, the State of Arkansas has much greater flexibility and opportunity to prioritize flood mapping and mitigation needs.

Counties with “Modernized” Maps



DFIRMs (50 / 75 modernized or in progress)

Meet the CTP Team

- **Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) AR CTP – Mike Borengasser**
  - **FTN Associates, Ltd (MaryBeth Breed)**
  - **AMEC Foster Wheeler (Steve Noe)**
- **FEMA Region 6 – John Bourdeau**
- **Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) – Lacye Blake**

AR CTP and Risk MAP Goals

- Delivery Quality Data to Communicate the Risk

  → **Better maps**

- Create partnerships and collaboration for efficiencies

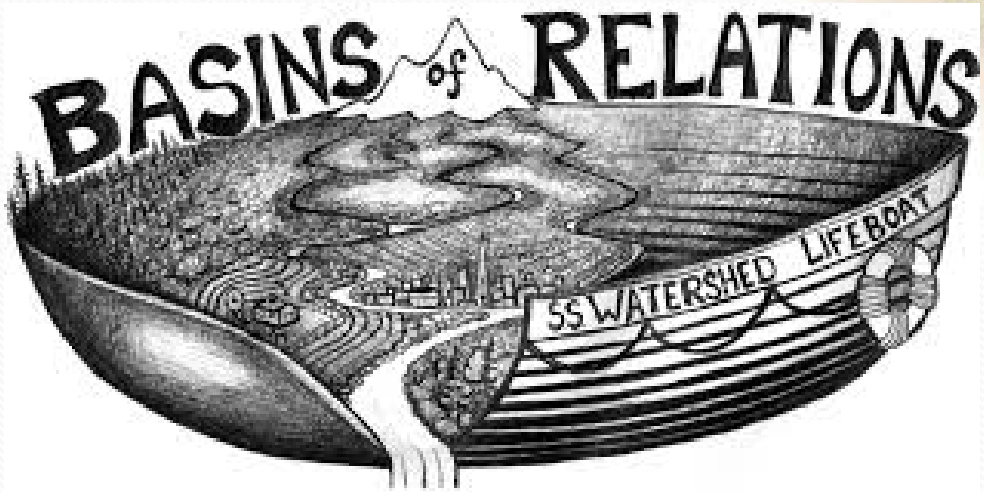
  → Get **input from local communities** and other state agencies

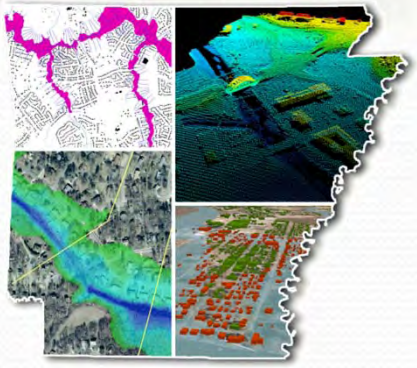
- Identify and promote Mitigation Actions that reduce risk to life and property

  → **Protect property and lives**

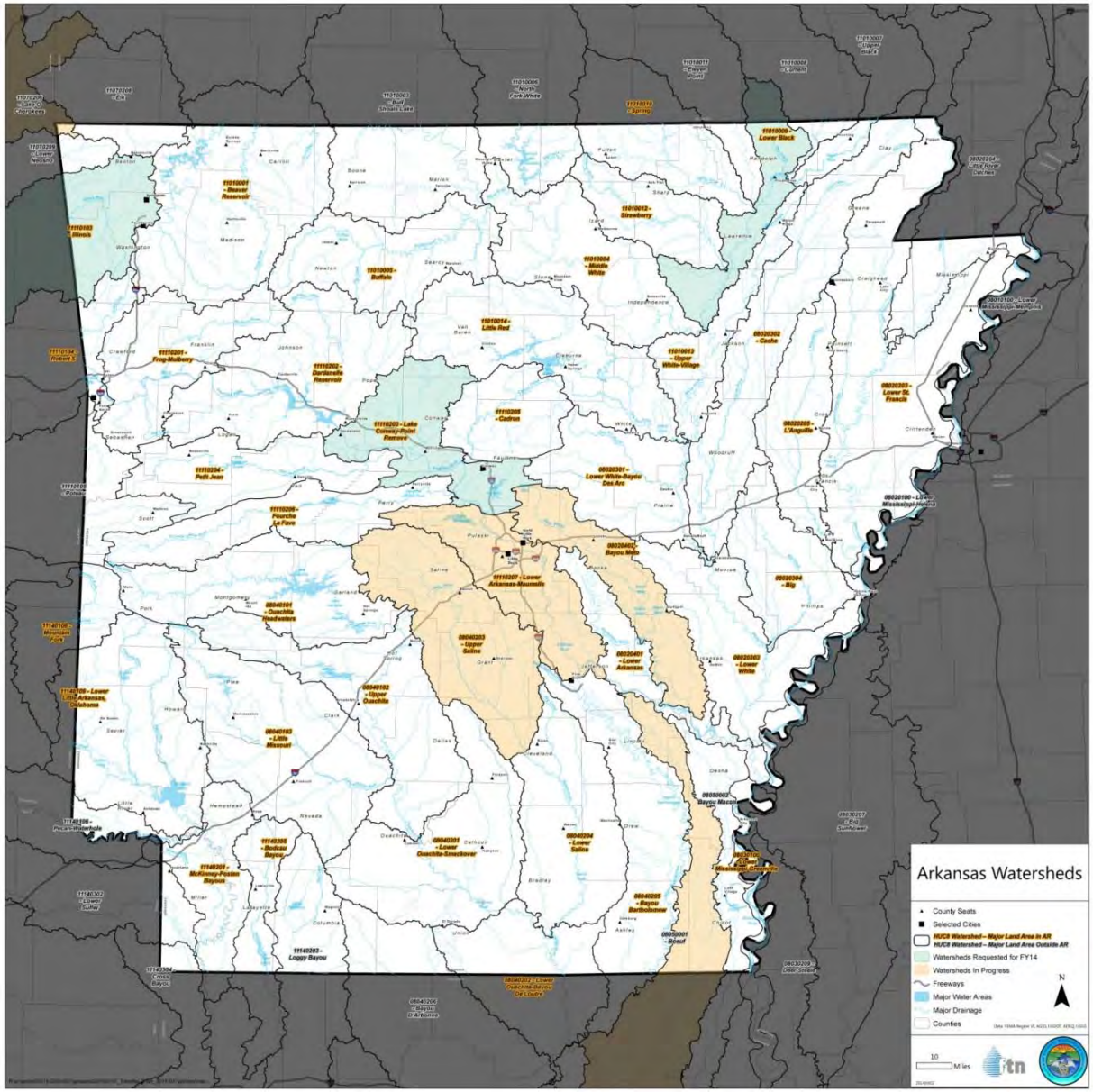
Watershed Based Approach Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 8

- **The Risk MAP Program is a watershed-based approach rather than one that follows city or county boundaries**





Risk MAP Program



ARKANSAS'S WATERSHEDS

76 Watersheds touch Arkansas /
38 Watersheds primarily in Arkansas
(>50% Land Area)

Colored watersheds have completed or are in progress for the Discovery phase

Risk MAP Program: Timeline

Phase 1: Risk MAP begins with "**Discovery**" – a fancy word for "scoping"

- Data are collected and community input is taken to produce a report that identifies mitigation needs, including mapping
- Discovery is a necessary step before any other steps can proceed

Phase 2: **Projects** or **actions** identified during or after Discovery.

- This may result in obtaining better, more accurate and usable map data. It may lead to communities updating their mitigation plans or joining CRS to improve floodplain management and lower flood insurance premiums throughout the community. (Examples of some of these projects will follow.)

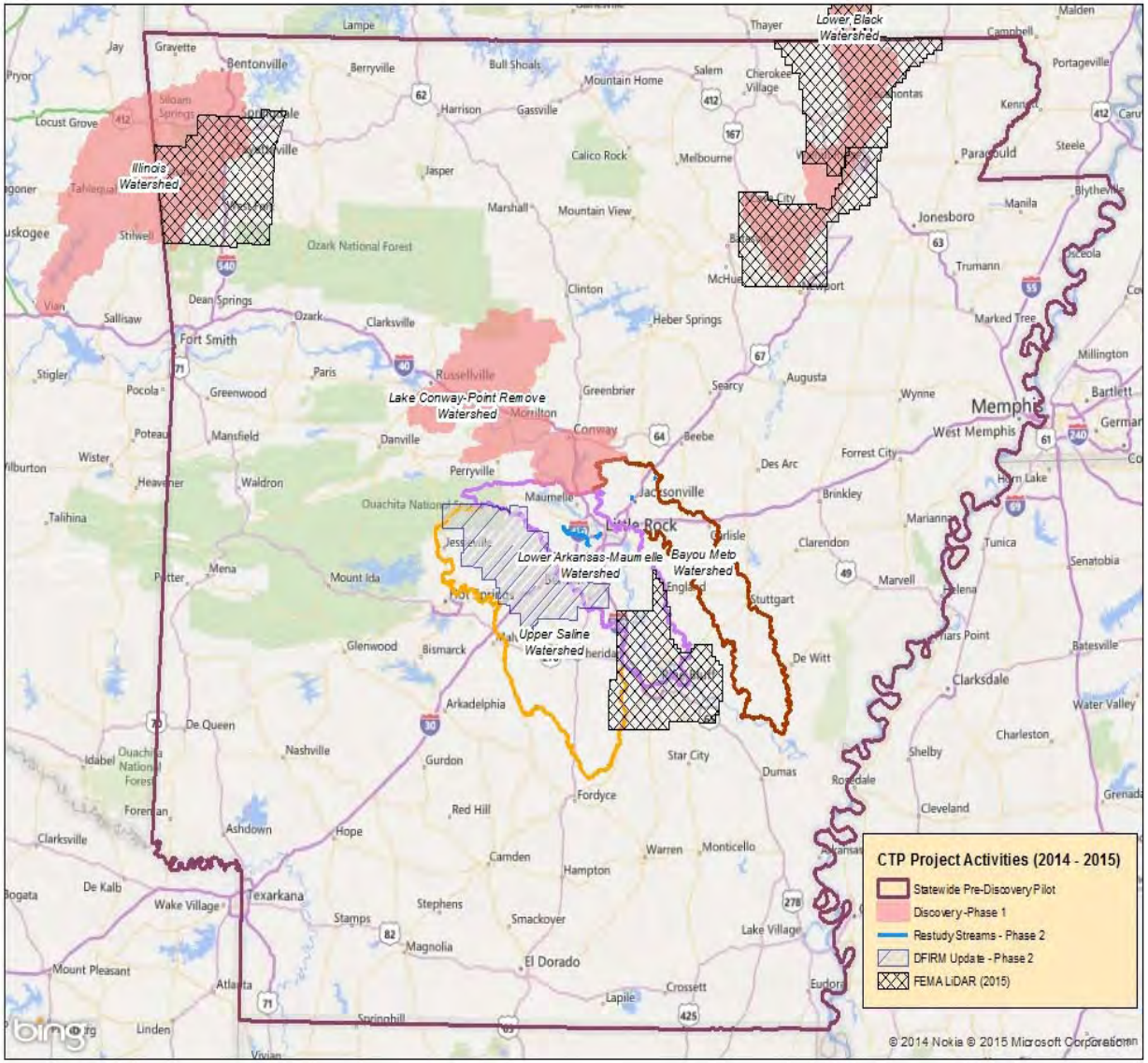
Phase 3: The result of obtaining new mapping data may lead to the publication of a **new FIRM and FIS**.

Arkansas Discovery Watersheds

The Arkansas CTP Program and FEMA have “deployed” or are deploying eight (8) watersheds that are either entirely within the State or overlap a bordering state.

These are:

Boeuf River in the SE
Lower Arkansas-Maumelle in Central
Lake O’ Cherokees in NW
Upper Saline River in Central
Bayou Meto in Central
Conway-Point Remove in Central
Lower Black River in NE
Illinois River in NW

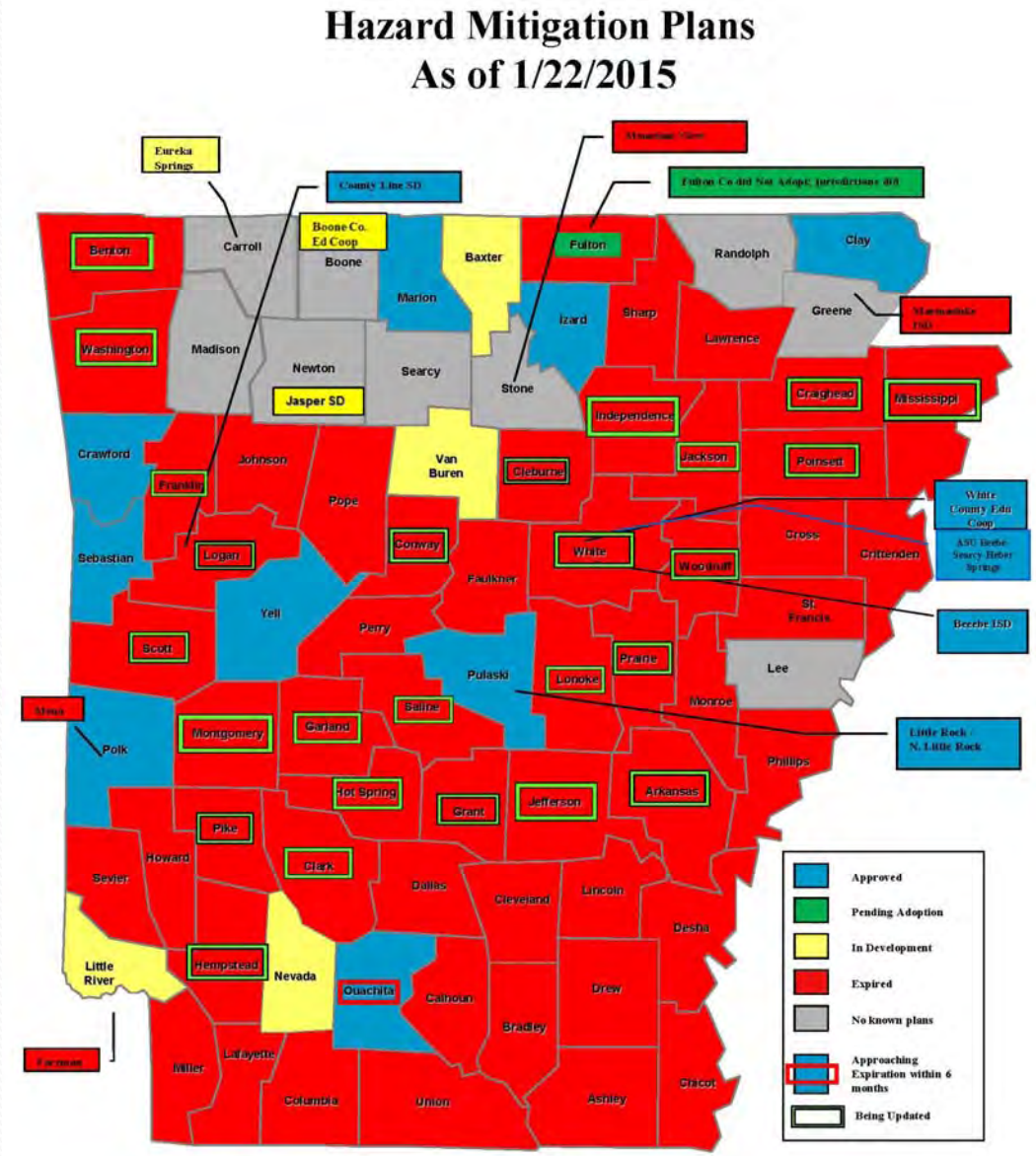


- **Discovery: 5 Completed, 3 in progress**
- **Engineering & Mapping: Saline & Grant Co's, Little Rock, Cabot, and Jacksonville)**
- **LiDAR / Topo Data Collection (USGS + FEMA)**

Arkansas Risk MAP Products/Actions

- **Acquisition of LiDAR** data for improved accuracy of topography for Washington County, Jefferson County and a portion of the Lower Black River Watershed
- **New digital map** of Grant County based on new topography
- Remapping of Hurricane Creek in Saline County, Benton and Bryant, Rock Creek in Little Rock, and watersheds in Jacksonville, Sherwood Cabot to reflect **impact of development**
- Remapping of **Zone A areas** Saline County based on new topography

Risk MAP Program

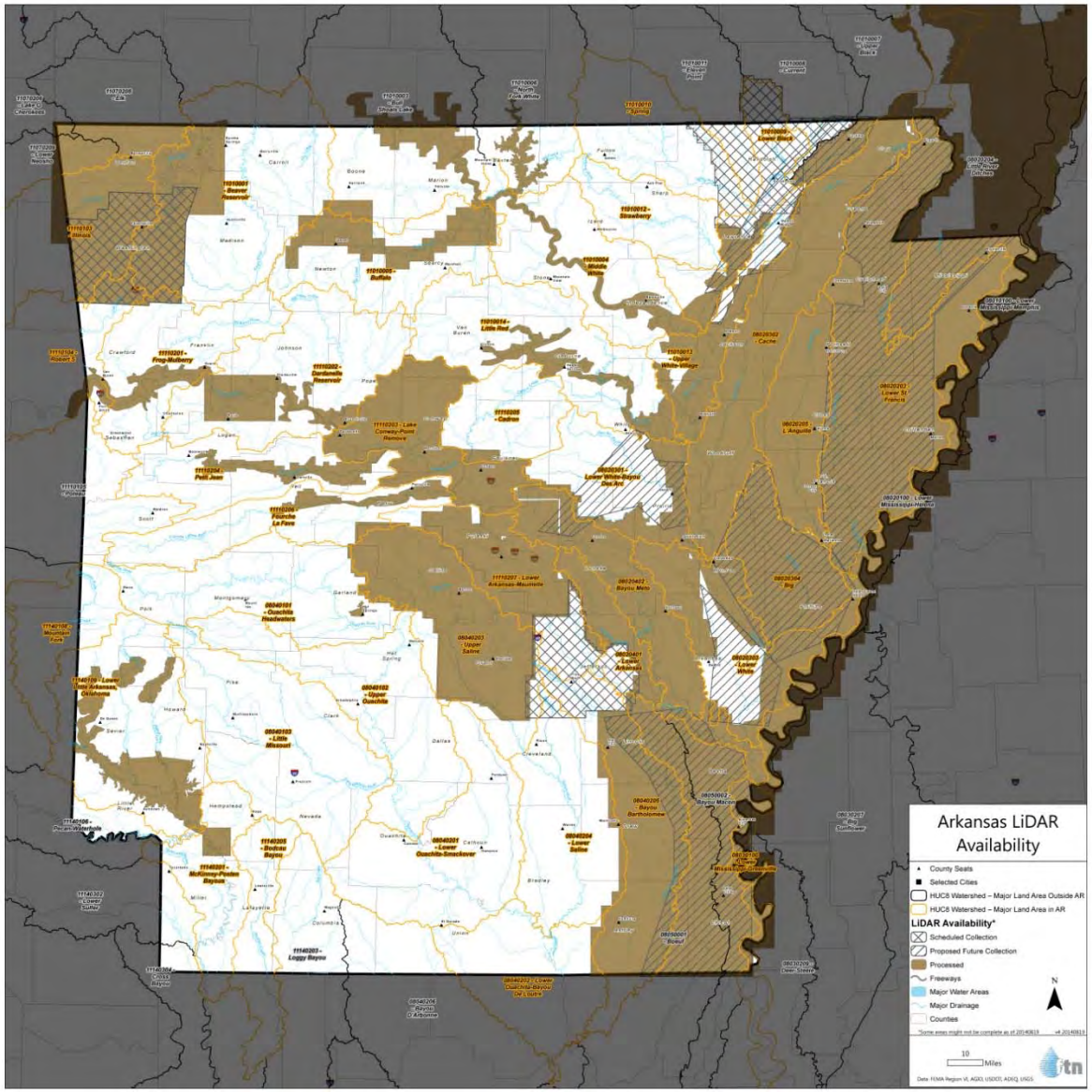


Identify and promote Mitigation Actions that reduce risk to life and property beginning with **new or updated Mitigation Plans**

Promoting CRS

- Working with several communities in central Arkansas to join CRS to **enhance floodplain management** and **reduce flood insurance costs** for property owners.

Challenge to Obtaining Better Flood Maps



A Limitation of Quality Flood Risk Maps is the Lack of Quality Topography

LiDAR, or "light detection and ranging" is a method for collecting high resolution topographic data.

"When an airborne laser is pointed at a targeted area on the ground, the beam of light is reflected by the surface it encounters. A sensor records this reflected light to measure a range."

The Importance of Risk MAP

- Risk MAP is FEMA's method to deliver significant **map revisions** to local communities
- It provides **funding opportunities** to conduct studies to improve flood data and consider alternatives to reducing or solving flood problems

Local Input

- Unlike previous FEMA mapping program, the State and local communities have greater control over solving their mapping and mitigation needs
- With 38 HUC8 watersheds entirely within Arkansas and 38 partially included in bordering states, it will take years to “make the rounds”.
- Your community will have a greater chance of moving up on the priority list if it is involved.

National Risk MAP Pilot Project

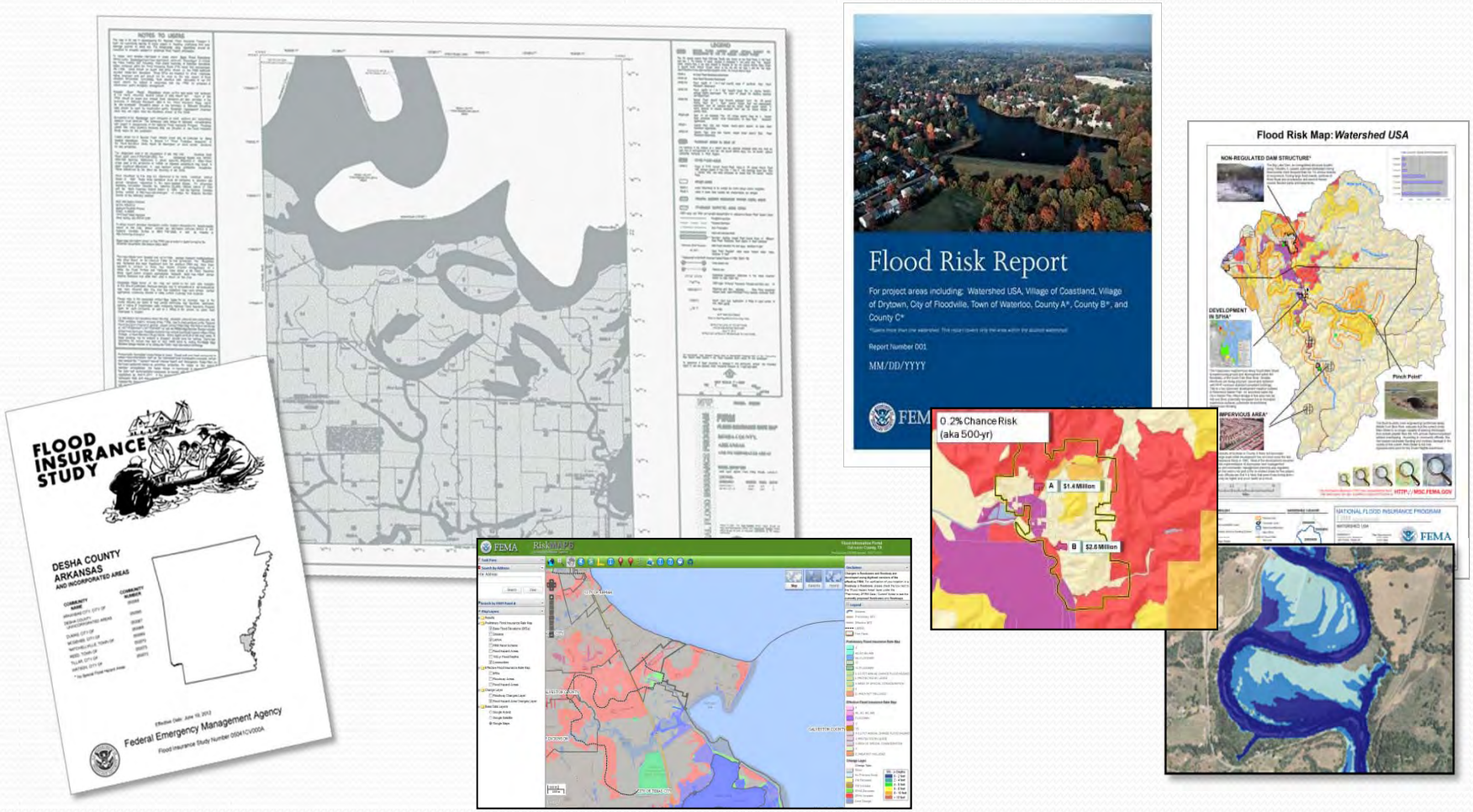
FEMA has funded the State of Arkansas to fund a statewide **Pre-Discovery project** to find out if, by gathering data statewide at one time, more parts of the State and the nation can be studied in a shorter timeframe. Thus, areas of Arkansas, for example, will not have to wait 20 or 30 years for a new map revision.

What Can Local Communities Do?

- **Complete the questionnaire provided by instructors**.
- Provide information to the ANRC Floodplain Section of any needs or activities that you think may justify funding under Risk MAP and the State's CTP program.

Risk MAP Program

Identify and Map Risk
Delivery Quality Data to Communicate the Risk



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