

## Authoritative Source for Preliminary Flood Hazard Data PTS Quick Reference Guide

### I. Risk MAP CDS IT Solution:

- Starting April 1, 2013, PTS and affiliated mapping partners will submit their region's preliminary data through the Mapping Information Platform (MIP). Preliminary data will be made available for public viewing in a centralized location
- The centrally-hosted site can be accessed directly at this link:  
**[www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata](http://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata)**
  - Other ways to access the search tool:
    1. [www.hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload](http://www.hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/prelimdownload)
    2. MSC Product Catalog 'Preliminary Mapping Products': [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov)
  - Alternate site to access the data, in case the MIP is unavailable:
    1. <http://floodmaps.fema.gov/prelim/index.htm>
    2. Data is synced on the alternate site once a week, whereas the primary site (above) lists data in real time
- Starting May 1, 2013, citizens will begin to view their community's preliminary data on the site, which includes:
  - Preliminary FIRM and FIS reports as PDF files
  - Preliminary FIRM Database as a zip file
- Users can view and save the FIRM and FIS report PDF files, and download the FIRM database zip file using GIS software or FEMA's MapViewer Desktop application
- There are no FIRMette capabilities with this application
  - Preliminary mapping products will not be viewable in an application that provides the FIRMette web tool

### II. Summary of MIP Changes:

- When navigating to the MIP, there will be a new preliminary FIS and FIRM validation step
- 'Produce Preliminary Map Products' and 'Distribute Preliminary Map Products' activities are completed by the mapping partner
- 'Validate Content Submission' and 'Perform National DFIRM QA' activities are completed by the reviewing party
- When navigating to the 'Distribute Preliminary Map Products' activity, the manually- entered date will be the SAME date shown on the public facing site
  - **This manually entered date should also be the same date stamped on the preliminary maps. Additionally, it is imperative that this task is completed on or shortly after the preliminary maps are mailed because completing this task will trigger the preliminary data to be uploaded to the centrally- hosted site**
- Once the 'Distribute Preliminary Map Products' activity is complete, preliminary data is distributed to the public facing site
- Preliminary data will be removed from the public- facing site when 'Submit MSC Deliverable' activity is complete (in close proximity to the LFD date)

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### III. Preliminary FIRM and FIS Validation Requirements Include:

- Auto- Validation is performed within the ‘Produce Preliminary Map Products’ activity. Once ‘Produce Preliminary Map Products’ task is complete, validation is performed manually by individuals who currently have access to the ‘Validate Content Submission’ activity
- FIRM Database validation process is unchanged
- FIS and FIRM validations are automatically triggered when Metaman completes and passes validation
- FIS and FIRM validation must pass before DFIRM DB QA validation is automatically triggered
- Submitting party must create a Raster Flood Insurance Rate Map (RFIRM) folder (subdirectory) for the preliminary content submission:
  - Example: “J:\FEMA\
- RFIRM folder must contain FIRM file(s) with a standard naming format with PDF extension:
  - Countywide format: < 5 digit FIPS>C<4 digit panel number><panel suffix>.pdf
  - Single jurisdiction: < 6 digit CID><4 digit panel number><panel suffix>.pdf
  - Example: 12345C123B.pdf or 1234560123B.pdf
  - RFIRM folder must contain files with 400dpi PDF files
- RFIRM folder must also contain a FIRM Index File(s) with a specific naming format with PDF extension:
  - Countywide format: <5 digits FIPS>CIND<index map number><index map suffix>.pdf
  - Single jurisdiction: < 6 digits CID>IND< index map number><index map suffix >.pdf
  - Example: 12345CIND0A.pdf or 123456IND0A.pdf
  - RFIRM folder must contain files with 400dpi PDF files
- Submitting party must create an FIS report folder for the preliminary content submission:
  - Example: "J:\FEMA\  - Validation will take place in the J Drive first
- FIS folder must contain FIS Report file(s) with a standard naming format with PDF extension:
  - Countywide format: < 5 digits FIPS>CV<3 digits FIS Report volume number><FIS Report suffix>.pdf
  - Single jurisdiction: < 6 digits CID>V<3 digits FIS Report volume number><FIS Report suffix >.pdf
  - Example: 12345CV001A.pdf or 123456V001A.pdf

### IV. Un-publishing Preliminary Data:

- In rare cases and after FEMA approval, data can be removed from the public view:
  - Seek FEMA approval if you need to un-publish data
  - Contact MIP Help for support
- If data is removed, the public will not be able to select his or her state or county
  - When searching, language will indicate “No record found”

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V. Resources:

- For questions, please contact MIP Help at [miphelp@riskmapcdfs.com](mailto:miphelp@riskmapcdfs.com)
- Public resources:
  - [Preliminary Flood Hazard Data](#)
  - [Understanding Preliminary Flood Hazard Maps](#)
  - [Understanding the Changes to Your Community's Flood Insurance Rate Map](#)