



CHAMP News!

This is the spring 2018 Newsletter for the Colorado Hazard Mapping Program (CHAMP)! CHAMP is nearing the finish line, either wrapping up reviews, or is into FIRM production. This newsletter represents an update to both.

Find the latest information on the project website: www.coloradohazardmapping.com/hazardMapping/floodplainMapping

Big Thompson Watershed Status

- **Hydraulics:** Approved (Years 1 & 2). TSDNs are available online, models upon request.
- **Floodplain Mapping:** Floodways for Estes Park and Loveland being delineated/in community review.

St. Vrain Watershed Status

- **Hydraulics:** Approved (Years 1 & 2). TSDNs are available online, models upon request.
- **Floodplain Mapping:** Awaiting approval of St. Vrain Floodway and comments for Y2 Streams.

South Platte River Status

- **Hydraulics:** Approved. TSDN is available online, models upon request.
- **Floodplain Mapping:** Approved.

Regulatory Update

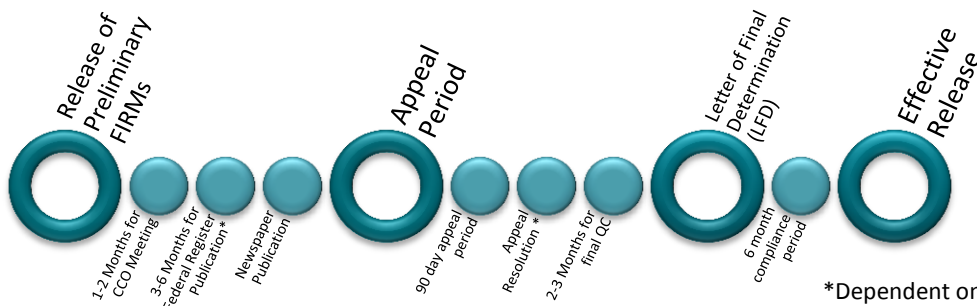
All streams studied under CHAMP were scoped for a regulatory update through the Physical Map Revision (PMR) process. This regulatory update is moving

forward on a county-by-county basis and for some streams are awaiting FEMA’s final approval of floodplain mapping. Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are anticipated in 2019 with new effective FIRMs by 2020 or 2021 (see table and graphic below for specifics). Below is a map of the next anticipated FIRM milestones and timeline for Effective FIRM release dates. Please note that the ongoing Cache La Poudre restudy, while not being completed under CHAMP, is included due to the geographic proximity to the CHAMP project areas (dates and geographic location subject to change).

2D, or not 2D... That is the question:

CWCB is leading the charge for the Region in developing recommendations to FEMA on the creation, use, and management of 2D floodways. A group of professionals from multiple government agencies and contractors have been meeting regularly to work through the technical complexities and regulatory challenges faced by generating floodways with 2D models. Included in this discussion are examples of floodways generated for Boulder Creek, St. Vrain Creek, the Big Thompson River through Loveland, and streams in Estes Park. Discussions with this group continue to develop. In the meantime, AECOM and CWCB developed a training for deciding to use 2D for floodplain mapping and use of products generated with these models. This training can be accessed [here](#).

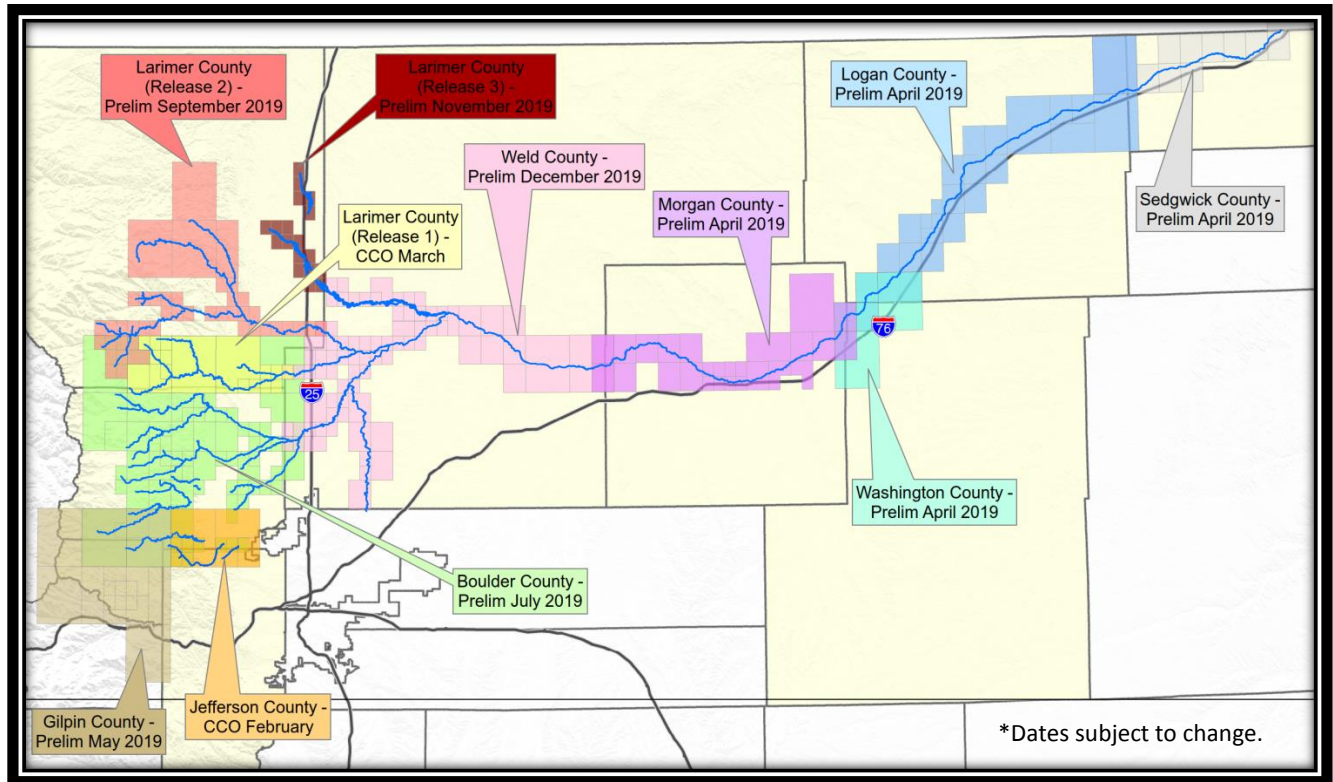
PMR Effective Release Typical Timeline (2-3 Years)



*Dependent on external factors.



Map of Current Plans for PMR Milestones



PMR Outreach

Multiple meetings are anticipated through the PMR process. Each will require different stakeholders and messaging. The meetings listed in the next section of the newsletter are as follows:

Resilience Meeting

- ✓ *Timing* – Before Preliminary FIRM release to just before Effective FIRM release.
- ✓ *Intent* – Provide training on additional tools that will accompany the FIRM database. Tools such as depth grids can be used to further flood risk knowledge and lead to advanced mitigation practices.
- ✓ *Who* – Led by CWCB, this meeting is intended as a discussion with community planners, floodplain managers, engineers and GIS professionals.

CCO Meeting

- ✓ *Timing* – Approximately 1 month after Preliminary FIRM release.

- ✓ *Intent* – Review the post-preliminary process and establish critical processes, such as the appeal period.
- ✓ *Who* – Led by CWCB and FEMA, this meeting is intended as a discussion with community officials and floodplain managers.

Public Meeting(s)

- ✓ *Timing* – Multiple. Recommend one near start of appeal period, and one near Effective FIRM release.
- ✓ *Intent* – Provide explanation of the process/results to public stakeholders along with process to appeal data and what the results mean to them.
- ✓ *Who* – Led by local officials, participants at these meetings vary depending what expertise is needed. CWCB/FEMA support is encouraged.
- ✓ *Other* – Community leads are also encouraged to review [Outreach Protocol for NFIP Participating Communities During Flood Studies](#) for ideas on outreach needs.



New LiDAR Acquired:

New LiDAR was acquired along the eastern portion of the state. This LiDAR was acquired to meet the United States Geological Survey's Quality Level 2. The graphic to the right highlights the collection area. There are ongoing efforts to acquire new LiDAR in the State not shown on the map. For more information, please contact Thuy Patton.



Next Steps

Meetings and Outreach:

The following meetings are anticipated for the coming months or occurred recently.

- **February 13, 2019 – Jefferson County CCO**
- **April 2019 – Larimer County CCO**
- **April 2019 – Morgan, Logan, Sedgwick, and Washington County Resilience Meetings**
- **April 17 – 19, 2019 – 2D and CHAMP Presentation at the 2019 NMFMA/ASFPM Arid Regions Conference**
- **May 2019 – 2D, CHAMP, and Lidar for LOMA presentations at ASFPM National Conference**

Project Contacts

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More Information

For more information, please visit these websites or contact the project team:

- Learn more about CHAMP: www.coloradohazardmapping.com
- For more information regarding CWCB: cwcb.state.co.us
- For more information on FEMA's NFIP, please visit: www.fema.gov/floodplain-management
- To find out more about FEMA Flood Insurance, please visit: www.floodsmart.gov