Bennington County Regional Emergency Management Committee

August 18, 2026

Choosing Flood Resilience

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Vermont Flood Hazard Mapping Coordinator
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Bennington County

1970s – Flood Hazard Boundary Map

12/02/2015 – Effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

8/27/2019 – River Corridors mapped statewide

Updates underway:

- West River CCO June 17, 2026
- Hudson-Hoosic Work maps – Winter 2027
- **Preliminary maps - Summer 2027**
- LFD – Spring 2029
- **Next effective FIRM – Fall 2029**

Town of Worcester, Vermont

2024 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Prepared by the Town of Worcester and

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Photo provided by Worcester Town Officials

Date of Town Adoption: August 19, 2024
Date of FEMA Approval: April 16, 2025

Plan is effective for five years from FEMA approval through April 15, 2030.

Funded in part by a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program grant from the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

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Municipality: Faketown

Date Updated: 3/15/2025

Local Emergency Management Plan

1. Emergency management planners

These are the people who wrote and maintain this plan. This must include the EMD.
John Doe, Emergency Management Director John Doe, Selectboard Member John Doe, Fire Chief John Doe, Road Foreman John Doe, VEM Regional Coordinator

2. Municipal emergency operations center (EOC)

The EOC is an organization that coordinates information, support, and response across the municipality for incident commanders and town officials. Its main functions are to maintain situational awareness for municipal leaders, coordinate resource and information requests, and provide public information.
Which municipal position(s) can activate the EOC?
Emergency Management Director, Fire Chief

Position title	*Preferred EOC positions and duties* *Duties associated with that position*
EOC Director	-Supervises and directs all EOC activities coordinating municipal support and response
Public Information Officer	- Coordinates all messaging with Incident Commander(s) - Produces and posts public information and press releases - Monitors public media for useful information and to correct inaccurate reports
Admin	- Maintains operations log - Supports incident commanders in documenting expenses for reimbursement
Situational Awareness	- Updates status board and map - Tracks and answers Requests for Information (RFI) from incident commander(s) and town officials
Logistics Support	- Tracks and coordinates fulfillment of any Requests For Support (RFS) from incident commander(s) - Provides resources for the EOC itself (coffee, food, sleeping areas, batters, fuel for generator, etc.)
Communications Support	-Staffs phones and radios

Name	*Potential EOC staff members* *Qualified position(s) and notes*
John Doe	EMD – Any Position
John Doe	EMC – Any Position
John Doe	Town Clerk – Any Position
John Doe	Selectboard Chair – Public Information, Communications
John Doe	Treasurer – Logistics
John Doe	Town Manager – Admin, Situational Awareness, Logistics
John Doe	Selectboard Member – Situational Awareness, Public Information

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Flood Hazard Summary Report

Community	ERAF Rate	(1) NFIP	(2) Rd Stds	(3) LEMP	(4) LHMP	(5) RC	(a) # In SFHA	(b) % Insured	(c) # critical or public	(d) % of all
Arlington	12.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	167	3%	0	9%
Bennington	17.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	595	7%	9	9%
Dorset	7.5%	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	68	4%	1	3%
Glastenbury	7.5%	No	No	No	No	No	0	?	0	?
Landgrove	12.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	1	?	0	0%
Manchester	17.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	121	14%	0	4%
Manchester Village	7.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	15	?	0	2%
North Bennington Village	17.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	7%	1	2%
Old Bennington Village	7.5%	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	0	?	0	?
Peru	7.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	1	?	0	0%
Pownal	7.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	203	5%	1	8%
Readsboro	17.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2	?	0	0%
Rupert	7.5%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	38	5%	1	4%
Sandgate	17.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	?	0	2%
Searsburg	7.5%	No	No	No	No	No	2	?	0	1%
Shaftsbury	7.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	31	6%	0	1%
Stamford	17.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	32	6%	1	4%
Sunderland	7.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	12	?	1	1%
Winhall	7.5%	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	14	?	0	1%
Woodford	7.5%	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	3	?	0	1%

Expanded Community Report for Pownal

8/17/2026
10:58:07 AM

Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) - State Post-Disaster Funding

Flood Hazard Mitigation Actions	Action Dates		Responsible	ERAF Status
1. Road and Bridge Standards	02/26/2026		Pownal	Yes
2. Local Emergency Management Plan	07/15/2026		Pownal	Yes
3. National Flood Insurance Program	04/01/1980		Pownal	Yes
4. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan	Expired		Pownal	No
5. River Corridor Protection				No
ERAF Rate for Actions 1 - 4:12.5%,	Actions 1 - 5: 17.5%	**ERAF Rate for:**	**Pownal**	**7.5%**

203	Buildings in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (estimated from e911 sites).
Hazard Maps For Manufactured Home Communities	Pownal Cozy Meadow_MHP_51 Pownal Burdick and Burdick_MHP_54 Pownal Green Mtn MHP_6 Pownal Royal Pine Villa_MHP_52
10	Flood Insurance Policies in SFHA (Zone A, AE, AO, A 1- 30)
5%	Percent of buildings in the SFHA with flood insurance in force.
1	Critical or public structures in SFHA or 0.2% flood hazard area (est. from e911 sites.)
8%	Percent of buildings in the SFHA.
04/01/1980	National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) (Enrollment Date)
DFIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map Standard (Digital FIRM (DFIRM), Rough Digital, Paper)
Pownal	NFIP Status: Regular Program
0	Community Rating System (CRS) Class
Yes	Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) ERAF Status valid for Pownal?
07/15/2026	LEMP - annual update after Town Meeting and before May 1.
No	Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) ERAF Status valid for Pownal?
05/23/2005	LHMP - Valid for 5 years from FEMA final approval date
	LHMP - Status of review (Plans currently in review are valid for ERAF).
No	River Corridor Protection in Pownal?

Map Key

- Approximate Boundary
- Residential Address Pt
- Road
- Stream/River
- Railroad

FEMA Flood Hazard Areas

- Floodway
- 100 Year Floodplain
- 500 Year Floodplain

VT River Corridors

- River Corridor
- Small Stream Buffer (50' from Centerline)

Data Source:

FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer (12/2/2015)

VT ANR River Corridors Layer (10/1/2019)

Funding Through:

Community Assistance Program
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Rivers Program
VT Department of Environmental Conservation

For More Information Please Contact:

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Email: Daniel.Baker@uvm.edu

Kelly Hamshaw, M.S.
Phone: 802-656-1219
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and Applied Economics
146 University Place
Burlington, Vermont 05404

Website: www.uvm.edu/cdae

The University of Vermont

Green Mountain Mobile Home Park
Potential Flood Hazard Map

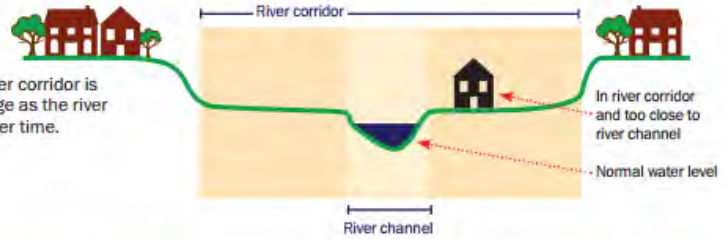
0 320 Feet

N

Base Flood Elevation ?

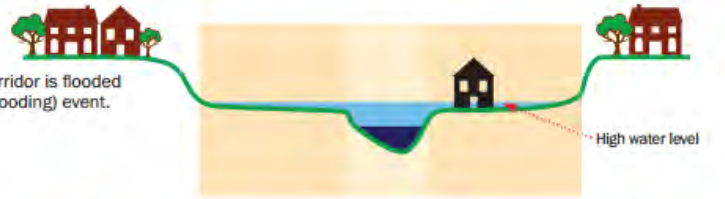
1. Development in River Corridor

Structure built in river corridor is vulnerable to damage as the river channel changes over time.



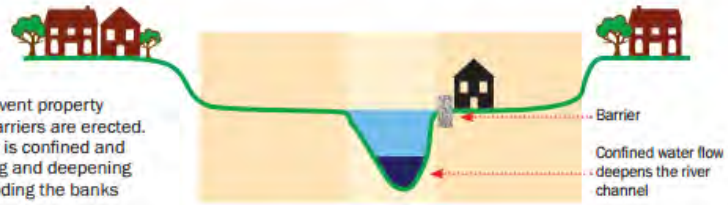
2. Flooding Event

Structure in river corridor is flooded during high water (flooding) event.



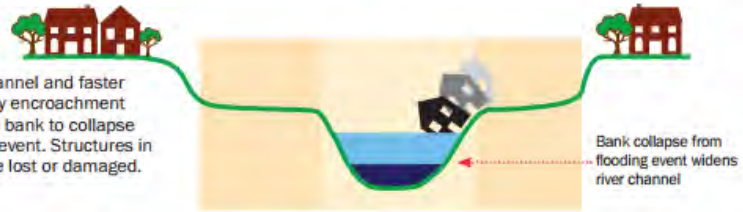
3. Attempt to Protect Property after Flooding

In an attempt to prevent property damage, physical barriers are erected. As a result, the river is confined and flows faster, scouring and deepening the channel and eroding the banks downstream.



4. Unintended Damage

The deeper river channel and faster water flow caused by encroachment eventually leads the bank to collapse during a high water event. Structures in the river corridor are lost or damaged.



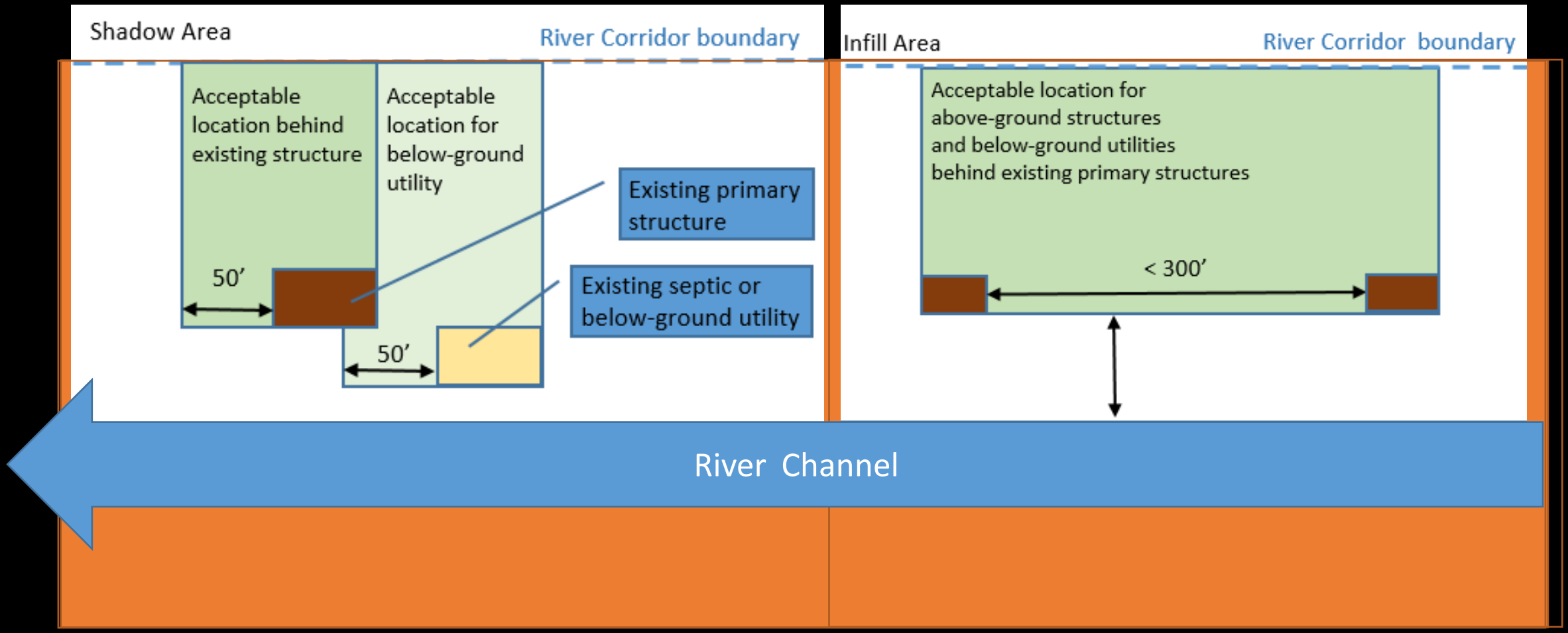
5. Reduced Flood Risk

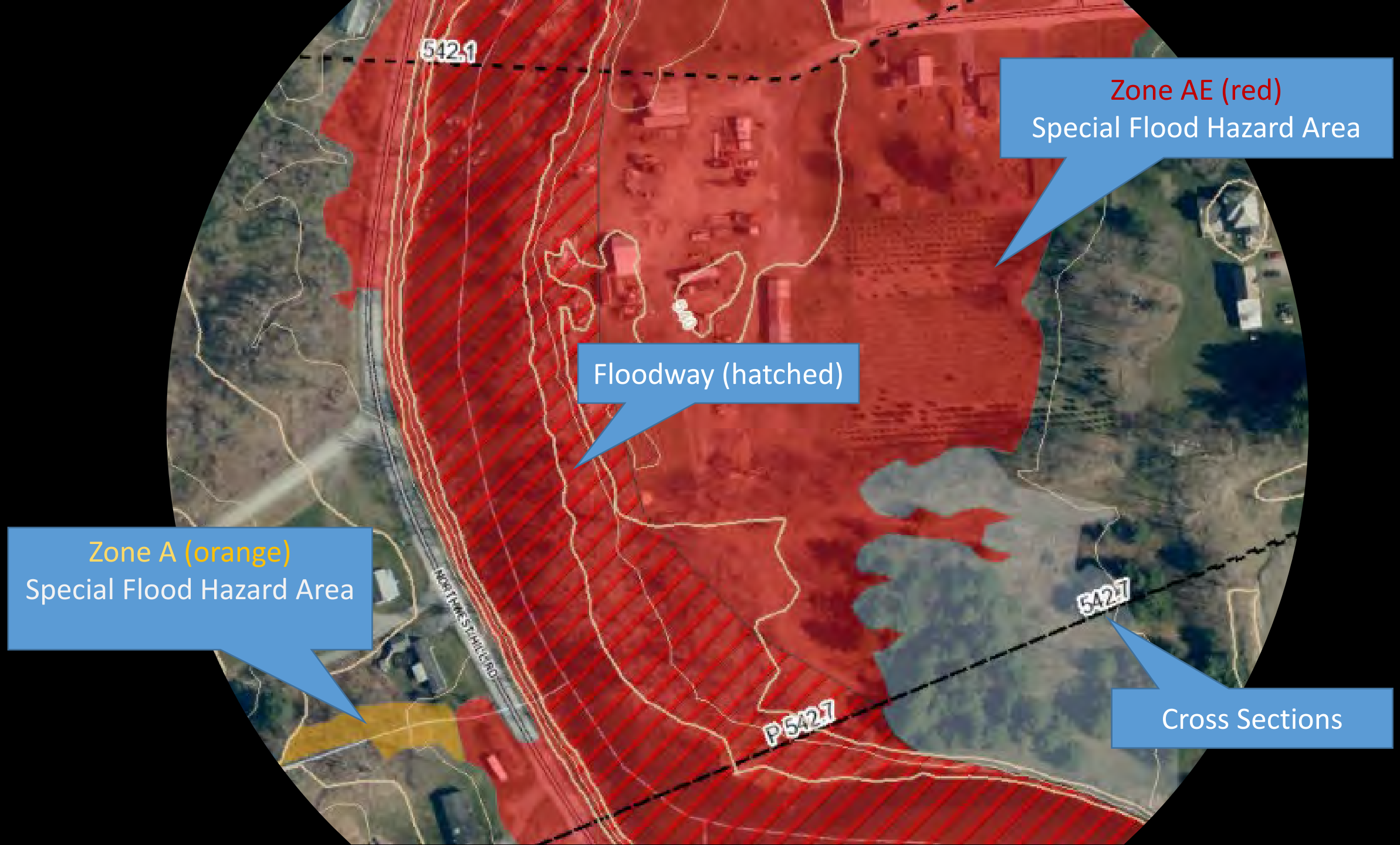
The energy from scouring water redistributes sediments and establishes a new floodplain. With room in the river corridor for the river to move and to flood, property damage is reduced.

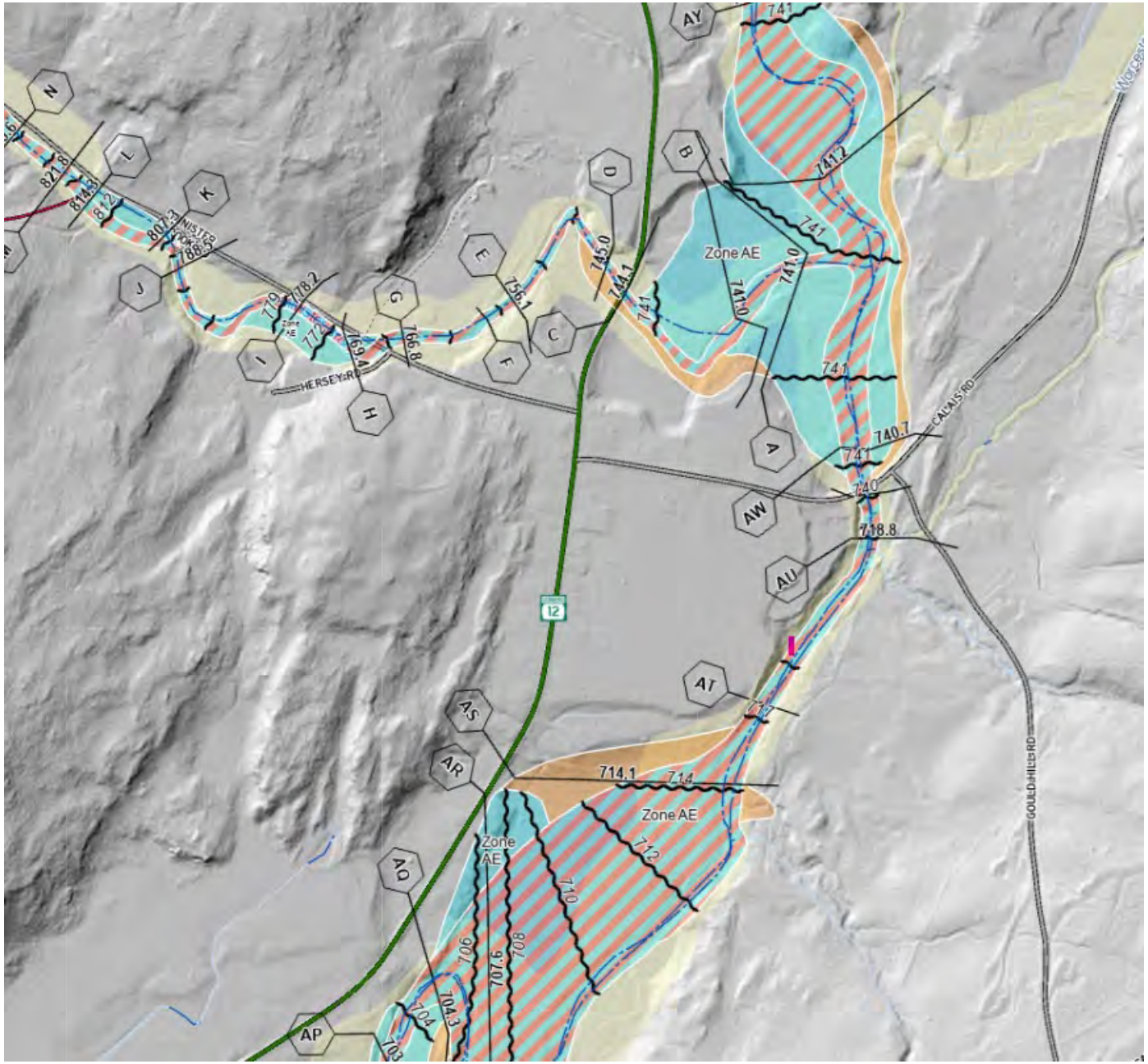
Why Protect River Corridors?

VERMONT
AGENCY OF COMMERCE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

No Adverse Impact on River Corridor Functions




542.1
Zone AE (red)
Special Flood Hazard Area
Floodway (hatched)
Zone A (orange)
Special Flood Hazard Area
542.7
P 542.7
Cross Sections


Zone AE
HERSEY RD
CALAIS RD
GOULD HILL RD
12
741
741.2
741.0
740.7
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714.1
714
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706
704.3
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745.0
744.1
756.1
769.4
766.8
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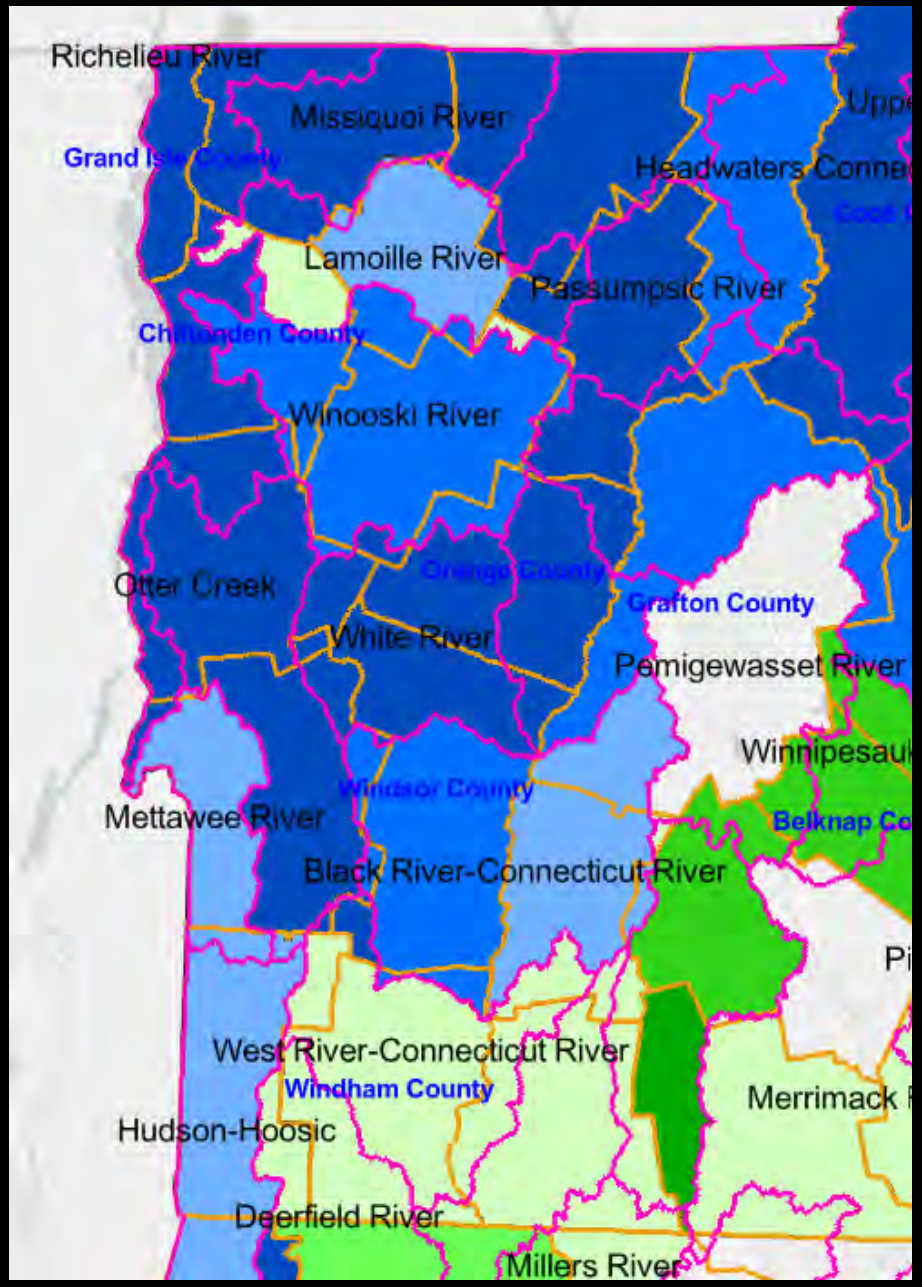
GET READY FOR
NEW FEMA MAPS

bit.ly/**fema-map-update**


Richelieu River
Missiquoi River
Grand Isle County
Headwaters Conne
Lamoille River
Passumpsic River
Chittenden County
Winooski River
Otter Creek
Orange County
Grafton County
White River
Pemigewasset River
Winnipesaul
Windsor County
Mettawee River
Belknap Co
Black River-Connecticut River
West River-Connecticut River
Windham County
Merrimack
Hudson-Hoosic
Deerfield River
Millers River

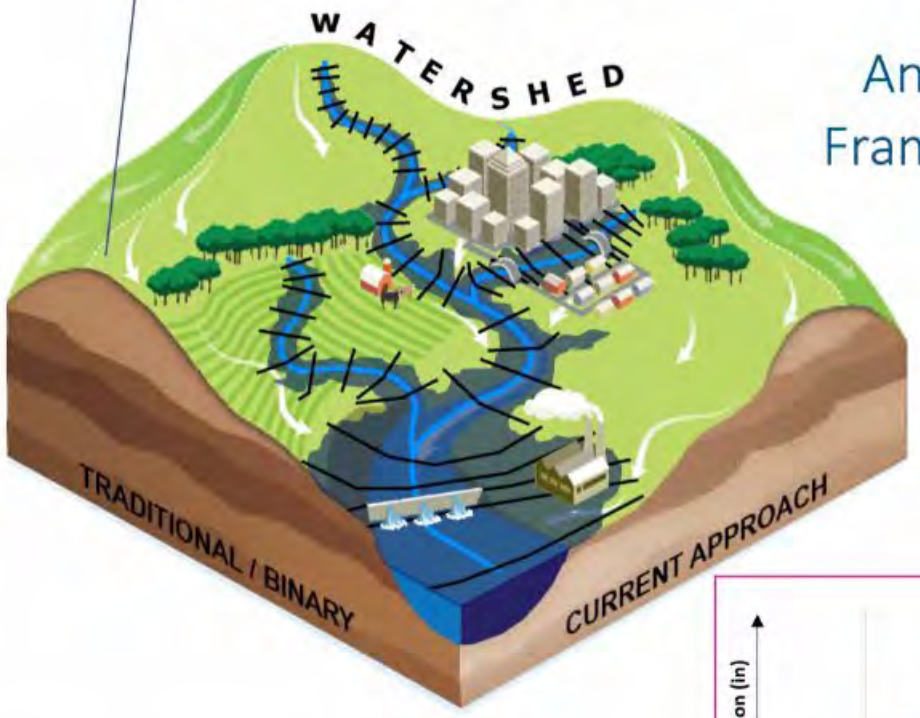
Black Rive
West River-Conn
Windham Cou
Hudson-Hoosic
Deerfield River

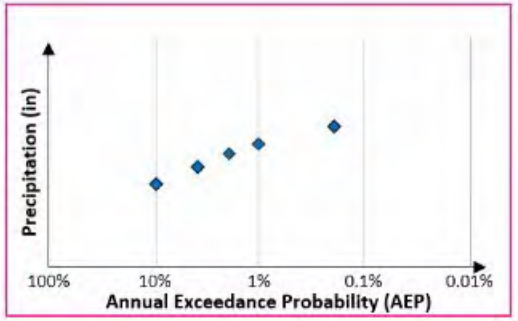
- **New Zone A from Base Level Engineering**
- **Delineated (old) Zone AE using high quality topo**
- **New Zone AE from fresh detailed studies**

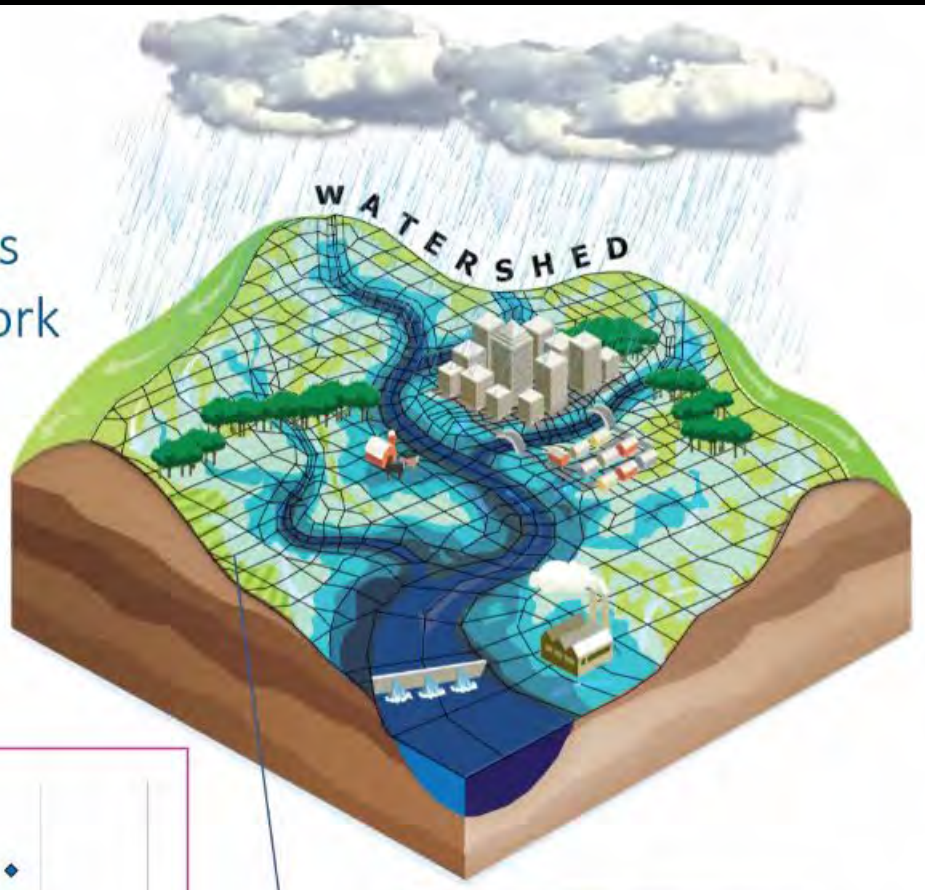
  - North Branch of Hoosic River in Stamford
  - Ladd Brook, Pownal
  - Potter Hollow Brook, Pownal
  - Walloomsac River - Bennington, North Bennington

Analysis Framework

- 1D Modeling
- Fluvial flooding only
- Event-based analyses

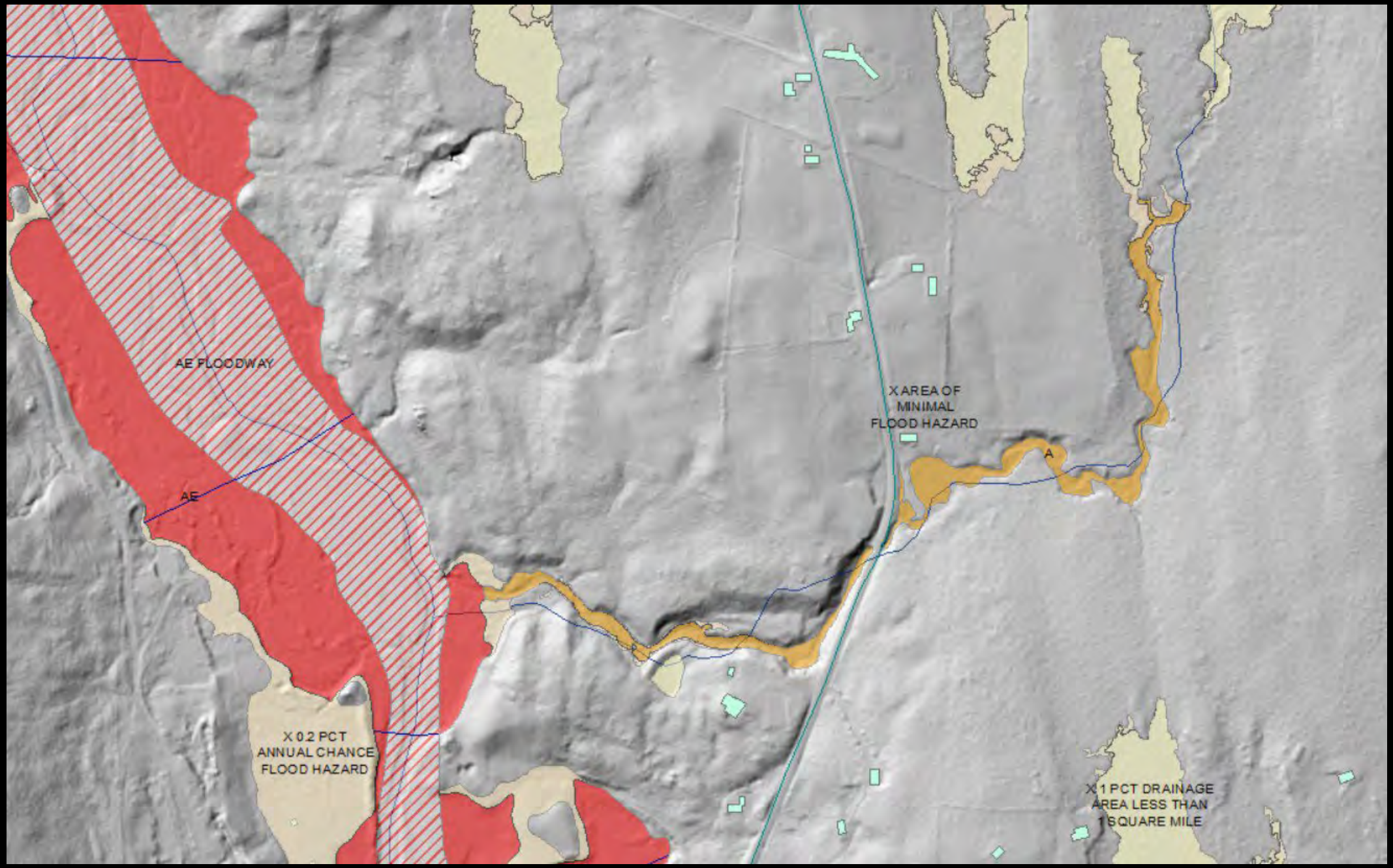






- 2D Modeling
- Fluvial and pluvial flooding

Inland/Riverine Flooding Examples


AE FLOODWAY
AE
X 0.2 PCT
ANNUAL CHANCE
FLOOD HAZARD
X AREA OF
MINIMAL
FLOOD HAZARD
A
X 1 PCT DRAINAGE
AREA LESS THAN
1 SQUARE MILE

Allen

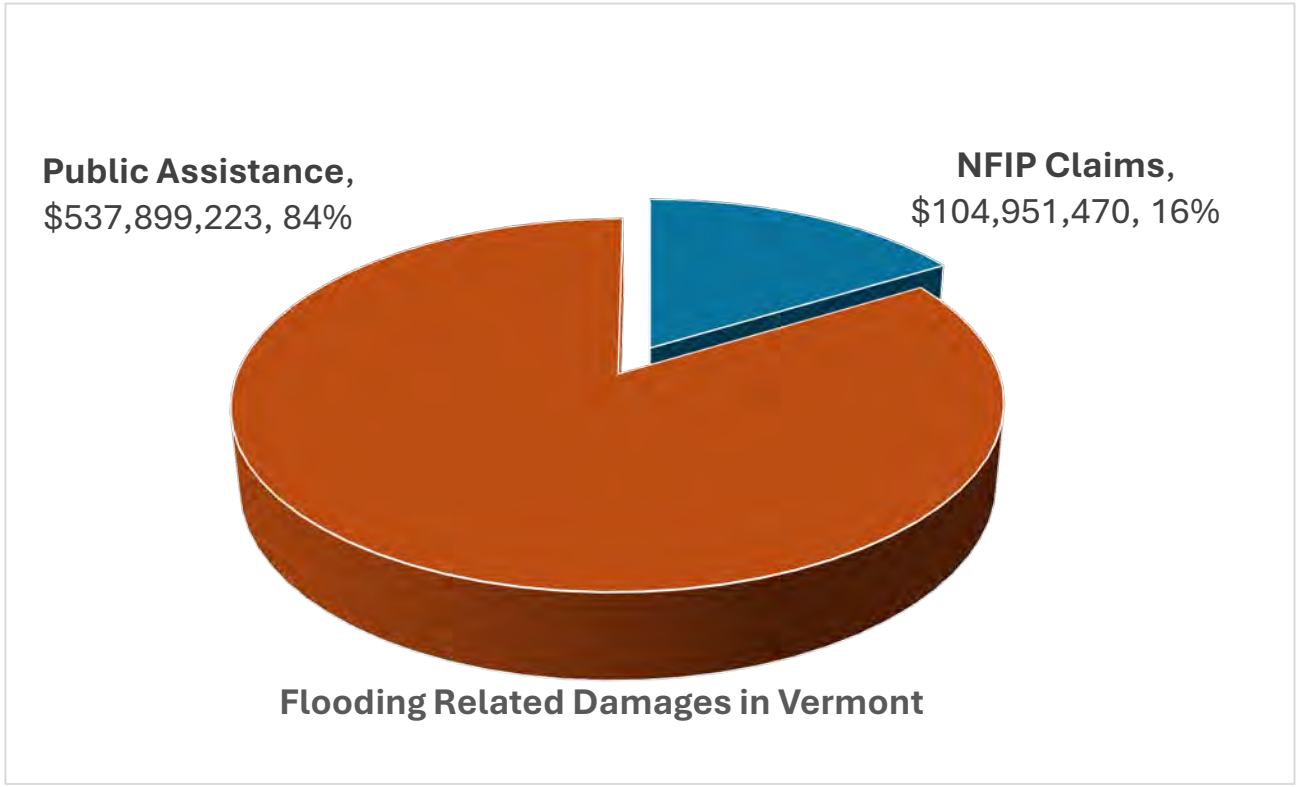
Why Protect River Corridors?

1. Avoid the liability of putting people in harm's way in a known hazard area.

2. Avoid new encroachments that will require bank armoring, and result in straightening the channel, increasing the erosive power of floodwater and delivering deeper water sooner downstream.

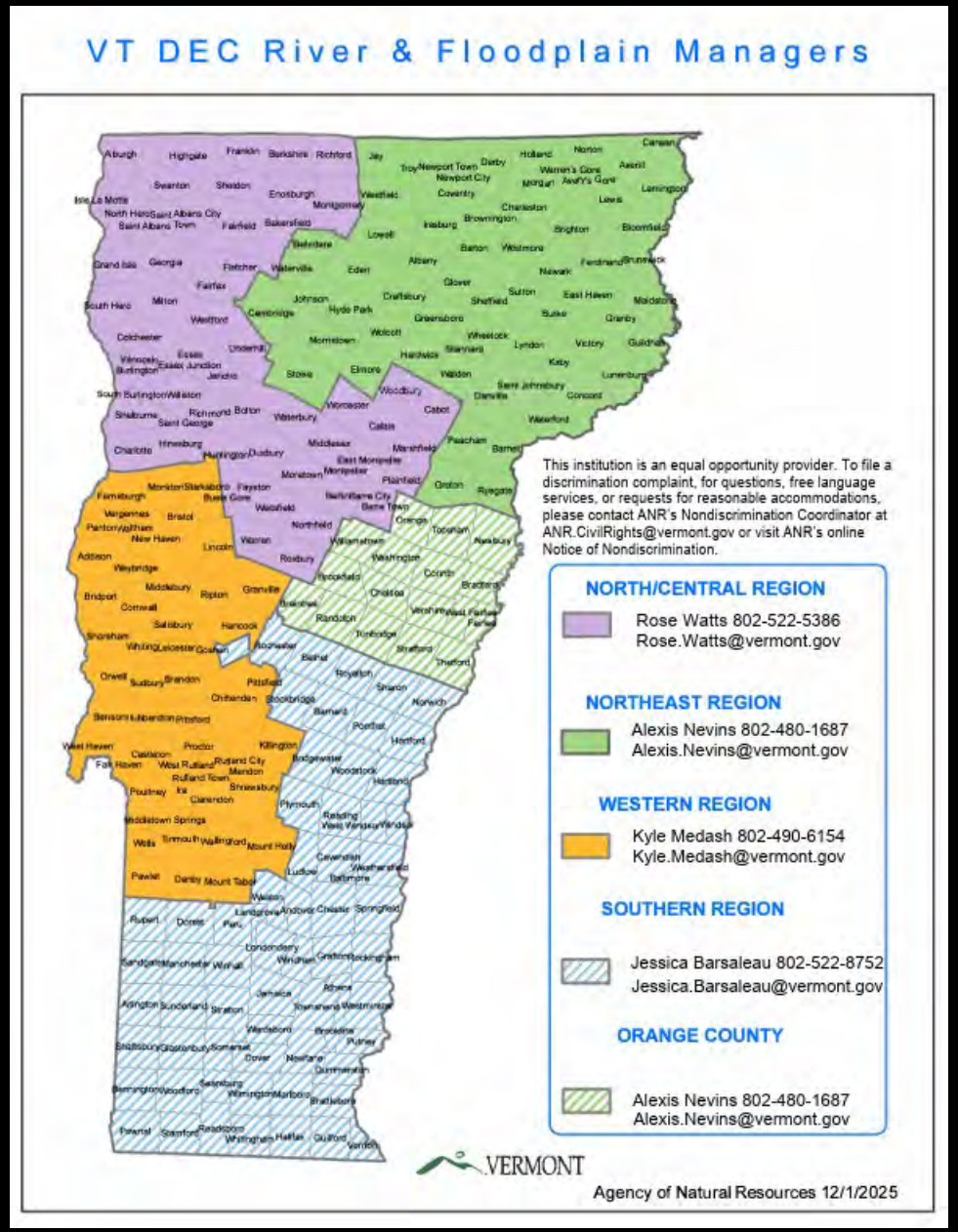
3. Avoid forcing the channel to cut down until the nearby riverbanks fail along with adjacent town roads, residences, workplaces and critical services.

4. Avoid increasingly costly damages to town roads, culverts, bridges and services.



Data as available: PA data (12/2010 to 9/2024 for Flooding, Severe Storms, Hurricane) and NFIP data from 1970 to 12/2/2025

Terry Allen
Terry L Allen



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