

Table 1. Summary of FEMA digital flood hazard products and tools, available from the MSC at <http://msc.fema.gov>.

Digital Flood Hazard Product or Tool	What is it? What does it do?	Available Coverage	What do I need to use it?	Suitable for ...	Learn more
Digital Flood Hazard Maps					
FIRM Scans	Image data that provides a picture of an entire FIRM or FHBM.	Everywhere FEMA has mapped flood hazards.	Software, such as <i>FIRMette – Desktop</i> (or <i>F-MIT</i>), that lets you view and print TIFF or PNG-formatted image files.	Viewing flood hazard maps, printing your own flood maps for an area of interest.	http://msc.fema.gov . Follow the link “Product Information,” and then “NFIP Flood Maps.”
Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) database	The initial flood hazard GIS data for a community or county.	Only where FEMA has modernized maps.	Software, such as <i>MapViewer – Desktop</i> or GIS or other mapping software.	Creating custom maps, viewing attribute data, and incorporating flood hazard data into custom software applications.	http://msc.fema.gov . Follow the link “Product Information,” and then “DFIRM databases.”
National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) GIS data	Flood hazard GIS data for a State.	Only where FEMA has modernized maps. Includes changes from Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs).	Software, such as <i>MapViewer – Desktop</i> or GIS or other mapping software.	Creating custom maps, viewing attribute data, and incorporating flood hazard data into custom software applications.	A user guide is available at http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3291 .
NFHL Web Map Service	Web service that makes map overlays and lets users view attribute data from the NFHL.	Only where FEMA has modernized maps. Includes changes from LOMRs, and locations of Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs) and Letters of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMR-Fs).	Internet connection and GIS or other mapping software that lets you use a web map service.	Creating custom maps, viewing attribute data, and incorporating map images of flood hazard data into custom software applications.	A user guide is available at http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3292
FEMA-provided Tools for Digital Flood Hazard Maps					
<i>FIRMette – Desktop</i> (or <i>F-MIT</i>)	Desktop software to create a map from a portion of a FIRM Scan.	Works with FIRM Scan data on your computer.	FIRM Scan data copied to your desktop and ability to view and print PDF files.	Viewing flood hazard maps and printing an area of interest.	Download the software under “ <i>FIRMette - Desktop (F-MIT)</i> ” at http://msc.fema.gov . The software includes a tutorial.
<i>FIRMette – Web</i>	Internet software to create a map from a portion of a FIRM Scan.	Everywhere FEMA has mapped flood hazards.	Internet connection, web browser software, and ability to view and print PDF or TIFF files.	Viewing flood hazard maps and printing your own flood maps for an area of interest.	<i>FIRMette</i> tutorial at http://msc.fema.gov
<i>MapViewer – Desktop</i>	Desktop software to make maps and view attribute data.	Works with DFIRM databases and NFHL GIS data on your computer.	DFIRM databases or NFHL GIS data on CD or copied to your desktop.	Viewing custom flood hazard maps and attribute data. Making comments on preliminary DFIRMs.	Download the software under “ <i>MapViewer – Desktop (beta)</i> ” at http://msc.fema.gov .
<i>MapViewer – Web</i>	Internet software to make maps and reports from the NFHL.	Only where FEMA has modernized maps. Includes changes from LOMRs, and locations of LOMAs and LOMR-Fs.	Internet connection, web browser software, and ability to view and print PDF files.	Creating custom maps and reports, and viewing attribute data.	A user guide is available at http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3290 .
NFHL Google Earth™ utility (kmz) files “Stay Dry” and “FEMA NFHL”	Files that allow the viewing of the NFHL Web Map Service in Google Earth™.	Works with the NFHL Web Map Service.	kmz files, Internet connection, and Google Earth viewer software.	Quick looks at NFHL flood hazard data. Dynamic visualizations of flood data.	User guides are available at http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3289 and http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=3293
Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Reports					
FIS report file	A book that contains information about flooding in a community. It is developed in conjunction with the FIRM.	Available for most areas. Generally, wherever FEMA has published Base Flood Elevation information.	FIS report file and ability to print and view PDF files.	Reading about the flood study for a community or county and related engineering data.	FIS report tutorial at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prev ent/fhm/ot_fisr.shtm