



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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For Burleigh County Information Contact:

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FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP 90-DAY APPEAL PERIOD

On May 13, 2022, The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and an accompanying Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report showing updated flood hazard determinations for portions of Burleigh County, including the City of Bismarck.

Whenever FEMA issues preliminary FIRMs that involve changes to flood hazard information, a statutory 90-day appeal period is required. The 90-day appeal period for Burleigh County began after the second posting of the appeal period notification in the Bismarck Tribune, on February 17, 2023. The formal 90-day appeal period will run from February 17th – May 18th, 2023.

During the 90-day appeal period, any property owner or lessee of property located within the mapped area who would like to appeal or comment on the preliminary FIRMs and FIS report may submit appeals and comments to the Floodplain Administrator of the jurisdiction where the property is located.

The basis of an appeal must be knowledge or information indicating that the proposed flood hazard determinations represented in the preliminary products are scientifically or technically incorrect. Only appeals of the proposed flood hazard determinations supported by scientific or technical data can be considered before FEMA makes its final flood hazard determination at the end of the 90-day appeal period.

FEMA will also consider comments and inquiries regarding data other than the proposed flood hazard determinations (e.g., incorrect street names, typographical errors, omissions, etc.) that are submitted during the appeal period and will incorporate any appropriate changes to the revised FIRM and FIS report before they become effective.

Access to the preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, and instructions on how to review are viewable under the Preliminary FEMA Map Products section at:

<https://www.bismarcknd.gov/2099/Burleigh-County-Flood-Insurance-Rate-Map>

Information on how to submit an appeal/comment will also be sent to individual property owners whose risk level may be increasing with the proposed FIRM.

How to Submit and Appeal/Comment

Only written appeals/comments will be considered. In the subject line of the written comment please include the words FEMA Appeal. Appeals/comments must be submitted to the appropriate following contact by 11:59pm on Sunday May 14, 2023.

If your property is in the jurisdiction of Burleigh County, please submit written comments to the Director- Burleigh County Building/Planning/Zoning Department and Burleigh County Floodplain Administrator; Mitch Flanagan, at mflanagan@nd.gov or Mitch Flanagan, Burleigh County Floodplain Administrator, P.O. Box 5518, Bismarck, ND 58506-5518. For questions feel free to contact Mitch at 701-221-3727.

If your property is in the jurisdiction of the City of Bismarck including the City of Bismarck Extra Territorial Area (ETA), please submit written comments to the City of Bismarck Building Official and Bismarck Floodplain Administrator; Brady Blaskowski, at bblaskowski@bismarcknd.gov or Brady Blaskowski, City of Bismarck Floodplain Administrator, P.O. Box 5503, Bismarck, ND 58506-5503. For question feel free to contact Brady at 701-355-1467.