



Meeting Minutes from Finger Lakes Pre-Discovery Webinar

Held on Thursday March 6, 2014 at 3pm EST

Attendees:

- Jennifer Horton, NYS DEC
- Cidney Jones, Bergmann Associates
- Cleighton Smith, Bergmann Associates
- Jacob Tysz, Atkins
- Randy Thayer, Town of Spencer, Tioga County
- Bob Spaziani, Department of Public Works, Chemung County
- Randy Olthof, Chemung County
- Amy Dlugos, Steuben County
- Tim Marshall, Steuben County Office of Emergency Services
- Janet Thigpen, Southern Tier Central Regional Planning Council
- Allison Hunt, Congressman Reed's Office

Meeting Notes:

As participants logged on, Cidney Jones checked that lines of communication were open between participants.

The presentation began at 3:05pm EST

Jennifer Horton and Cleighton Smith gave a powerpoint presentation covering the following topics:

- Welcome to the Pre-Discovery Webinar
- Description of who is involved with the project
- Purpose of this meeting
- Overview of FEMA's RiskMAP program and the Discovery Process
 - Discovery is an interactive process to gain your input into the needs and issues in your community and will not result in new FIRM maps for every community. Discovery informs future decisions regarding updating FIRM maps.
- Description of Discovery Report and Discovery Map to be produced by the Discovery Process
- Overview of the Finger Lakes Watershed
 - 14 counties and over 175 communities with many FIRM maps out of date

Cidney Jones launched GIS to record specific areas of concern for Discovery Mapping. Issues raised during this webinar that reflect inaccurate FIRM maps for the communities present include:

- The Keuka Lake Association and Lamoka/Waneta Lakes Association should be included on the stakeholder list.
- In Chemung and Steuben Counties there are a lot of A flood zones that were created using low quality topography data. There is more recent LiDAR data available for topography data now.
- In Chemung County new approximate studies were conducted but only draft maps were produced. Both the effective maps and draft maps were not accurate for the flooding observed in 2013.
- In the Town of Veteran there are flooding issues in the Catherine Creek Valley watershed in 2013.
- Although outside of the Finger Lakes Watershed, on Cathawk Creek where it runs east to Ponce Valley Road under route 96 in the Town of Spencer it frequently floods.



Jennifer Horton and Cleighton Smith finished the presentation with the project schedule:

- In-person meetings will take place in April – June
- Final Discovery Report and Maps will be finished in September 2014

Questions raised by the participants:

- **Q:** Will the Discovery team undertake the CNMS validation process or just add qualitative notes to the CNMS database?
 - **A:** We are not updating the CNMS validation process, just presenting the current status.

Action Items:

- For NYS DEC and Bergmann Associates:
 - Distribute meeting minutes
 - Update contact list to include all stakeholders
- For the community leaders:
 - Please fill out the Finger Lakes Discovery Questionnaire if you have not already.
 - Help DEC determine meeting dates and locations for the upcoming Discovery Meetings
 - Watch your e-mail for further project updates and invitations to the in-person meetings.