RiskMAP
Increasing Resilience Together

Are You in a Flood Zone?

Check Your Property Online in FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer

FEMA created the National Flood Hazard Layer Viewer to make flood data and maps more accessible. The National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) is a geospatial database that combines individual digital flood maps so they appear as a seamless single layer in the NFLH Viewer. The NFHL Viewer allows you to easily access a repository of current flood risk data for most populated areas of the country.

Not all of the country is represented in the National Flood Hazard Layer. To see which of Utah's counties are mapped or partially mapped, see Fact Sheet "Flood Maps in Utah".
Utah's Risk MAP Program is actively collecting data and working with counties and communities to create, update, and digitize flood risk information. Updated maps for all of Utah's populated areas will eventually become digital.

NFHL Viewer Instructions

You can use the NFHL Viewer to see information for a specific location or address. You can also save or download a map of your area of interest. Here's how to do it:

How to Locate Your Area of Interest Within the Viewer

Go to FEMA's online Map Service Center at the following website: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home

Search

Then enter an address, a place, or longitude/latitude coordinates in the box and press "Search".

Go To NFHL Viewer »

When you see a mapped result, click the NFHL Viewer button near the upper right-hand corner of the map. The NFHL Viewer will give you an easy map interface to work with.

How to Operate the Viewer – Upper right corner

In the upper right-hand corner you will see a couple of symbols.

Click on the legend button and you will see a legend defining various map features.

Click on the layer button and you will see flood related information to turn on or off in the Viewer. Many of these features are found on coastlines so you will not see them on Utah maps.

How to Operate the Viewer – Upper left corner

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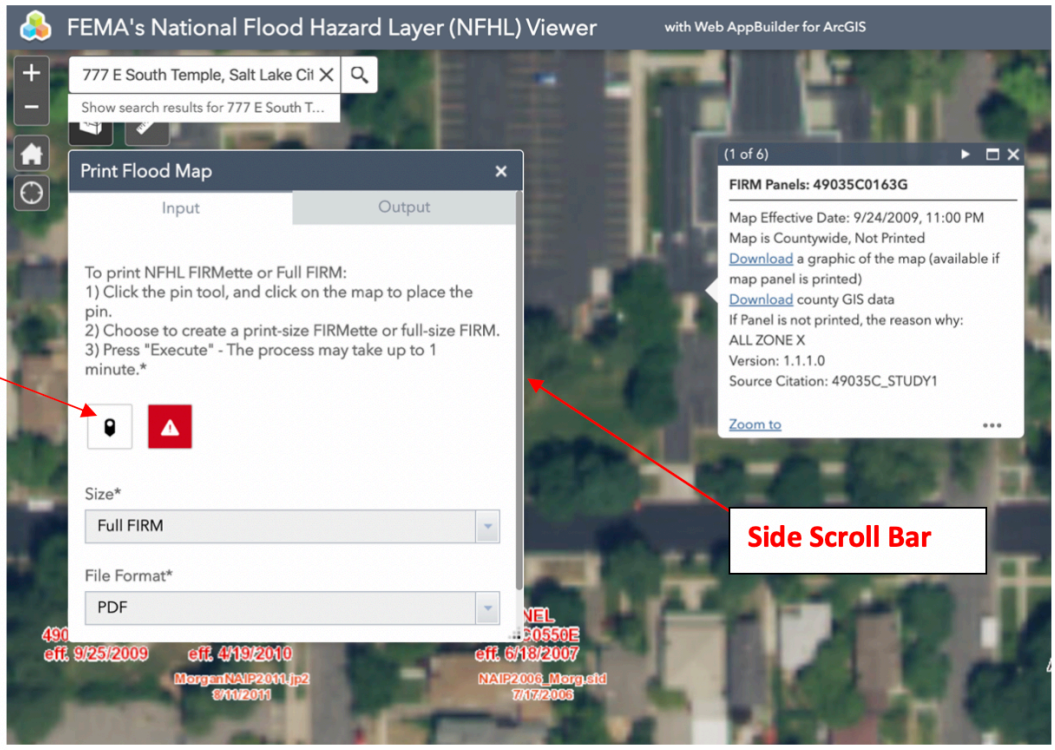
You can zoom in and out by clicking the plus or minus signs or by using your mouse scroll wheel. Zoom all the way in to see flood risk information. Zoom out to see which U.S. counties have digital data (indicated by red shading)

The house button allows you to see a U.S. scale map within the viewer. showing which counties have flood map coverage.

Click this button to show your actual location (where you are at this moment) on the Viewer. (Note that the geographic result for this function will not be as accurate as typing in a physical address.)

Saving or Exporting Information from the Viewer

Click anywhere on the Viewer map. You will get a box titled FIRM Panels: (Firm Panel #). This text box will tell you when the data for that area became effective. You can also download a graphic file of the corresponding paper map if one exists. And you can download the georeferenced flood risk data that were used to create the flood map.



You can save a FIRM or FIRMette of the area that interests you. A FIRM (or Flood Insurance Rate Map) is the official regulatory map of a community on which FEMA has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community. A FIRMette is a customized area selection from the online National Flood Hazard Layer. It contains the same information as a FIRM.

You can measure distances within the viewer using the ruler tool.

To save or print, click on the Pin tool within the Print Flood Map box. (The toolbox icon turns the Print Flood Map box on and off) Then click on your desired point of interest on the map. Choose .pdf or a .png format. Then scroll down on the side scroll bar and click on the Run button. Be patient! It will take a moment for the system to produce a result. When you get a link to the output file, click on that and you will have a FIRM or FIRMette, complete with a legend, to print or save.

For more information on the National Flood Hazard Viewer visit https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-hazard-layer-nfhl
For technical assistance, please use any of the "Help/?" features across any of the FIRM tools. Each of the "Help/?" will provide additional information and resources regarding the tools being used. OR contact a FEMA Map Specialist at: 1 (877) FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627) or by email: FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com