



Flood Acronyms

ACT – Actual Cash Value

The cost to replace an insured item of property at the time of loss, less the value of physical depreciation.

BFD – Base Flood Depth

Pertains to Zone AO only. The water level resulting from the Base Flood would be this far above the highest point of the ground immediately next to the building. There is a one percent chance that the flooding would reach that level in a given year.

BFE – Base Flood Elevation

The elevation shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Zones AE, AH, A1-A30, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/A1-A30, AR/AH, AR/AO, V1-V30, and VE that indicates the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a 1-percent chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year.

CBIA – Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990

Enacted on November 16, 1990, the Act greatly expanded the identified land in the Coastal Barrier Resources System established pursuant to the Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982.

CBRA – Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982

For the purposes of the NFIP, the Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982 designated certain portions of the Gulf and East Coasts as undeveloped coastal barriers. These areas are shown on appropriate flood insurance map panels and have certain coverage restrictions.

CBRS – Coastal Barrier Resources System

Communities, coastal barriers, and other protected areas identified by the Department of the Interior legislation defined above.

CLOMR – Conditional Letter of Map Revision

Letter issued by FEMA based on its review of proposed construction that indicates the map will be revised if the structure is built as proposed.

CRS – Community Rating System

A program developed by FEMA to provide incentives for those communities in the Regular Program that have gone beyond the minimum floodplain management requirements to develop extra measures to provide protection from flooding.

FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency

The federal agency within the Department of Homeland Security that is tasked with responding to, planning for, recovering from and mitigating against man-made and natural disasters.

FDPA – Flood Disaster Protection Act

Act that made the purchase of flood insurance mandatory for the protection of property located in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

FHBM – Flood Hazard Boundary Map

Official map of a community issued by the Administrator, where the boundaries of the flood, mudflow, and related erosion areas having special hazards have been designated.

FIA – Federal Insurance Administration

The federal entity within FEMA that directly administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

FICO – Flood Insurance Claims Office

An NFIP claims processing office set up in a catastrophe area when a sufficient number of flood claims result from a single event.

FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map

Official map of a community on which the Mitigation Division Administrator has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

GFIP – Group Flood Insurance Policy

Issued by the NFIP Direct Program in response to a presidential disaster declaration. Disaster assistance applicants, in exchange for a modest premium, receive a minimum amount of building and/or contents coverage for a 3-year policy period. An applicant may cancel the group policy at any time and secure a regular Standard Flood Insurance Policy through the NFIP.

HWM – High Water Mark

This is the highest level water reaches during a flood event. The HVM has significance for communities and for FEMA officials as they analyze the effects of flooding and make projections for future events.

HMDA – Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act enacted by congress in 1975 and implemented by the Federal Reserve Board's Regulation C, requires lending institutions to report public loan data.

ICC – Increased Cost of Compliance

Coverage for expenses a property owner must incur, above and beyond the cost to repair the physical damage the structure actually sustained from a flooding event, to comply with mitigation requirements of state or local floodplain management ordinances or laws. Acceptable mitigation measures are elevation, flood-proofing, relocation, demolition, or any combination thereof.

LODR – Letter of Determination Review

FEMA's ruling on the determination made by a lender or third party that a borrower's building is in a Special Flood Hazard Area(SFHA). A LODR deals only with the location of a building relative to the SFHA boundary shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map.

LOMA – Letter of Map Amendment

An amendment to the currently effective FEMA map which establishes that a property is not located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. A LOMA is issued only by FEMA.

LOMC – Letter of Map Change

Issued by FEMA, this letter results in a change of flood hazard status for some portion of a flood map. These letters are either LOMAs or LOMRs.

LOMR – Letter of Map Revision

An official amendment to the currently effective FEMA map. It is issued by FEMA and changes flood zones, delineations, and elevations.

MISMO – Mortgage Industry’s Standards Maintenance Organization

Established by the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) to coordinate development and maintenance of real estate finance specifications in Internet-based Extensible Markup Language (XML).

NFIP – National Flood Insurance Program

A federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding. This insurance is designed to provide an insurance alternative to disaster assistance to meet the escalating costs of repairing damage to buildings and their contents caused by floods.

NFIRA – National Flood Insurance Reform Act

The purpose of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 is to improve the financial condition of the NFIP and reduce federal expenditures for disaster assistance to flood-damaged properties. The act affects every part of NFIP, insurance, mapping and floodplain management. NFIRA also gives lenders tools with which to enforce requirements for flood insurance coverage mandated under the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973. Also referred to as the **Reform Act** and **The Act**.

NSFHA –Non-Special Flood Hazard Area

An area in a low to moderate risk flood zone (Zones B, C, X) that is not in any immediate danger from flooding caused by overflowing rivers or hard rains. However, it's important to note that structures within a NSFHA are still at risk.

PRP – Preferred Risk Policy

A policy that offers fixed combinations of building/contents coverage or contents-only coverage at modest, fixed premiums. The PRP is available for property located in B, C, and X zones in Regular Program communities that meet eligibility requirements based on the property's flood loss history.

RCV – Replacement Cost Value

The cost to repair or replace an insured item of property at the time of loss without a deduction for physical depreciation.

SFHA –Special Flood Hazard Area

A FEMA-identified high-risk flood area where flood insurance is mandatory for properties. An area having special flood, mudflow, or flood-related erosion hazards, and shown on a Flood Hazard Boundary Map or a Flood Insurance Rate Map as Zone A, AO, A1-A30, AE, A99, AH, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/AH, AR/AO, AR/A1-A30, V1-V30, VE, or V.
