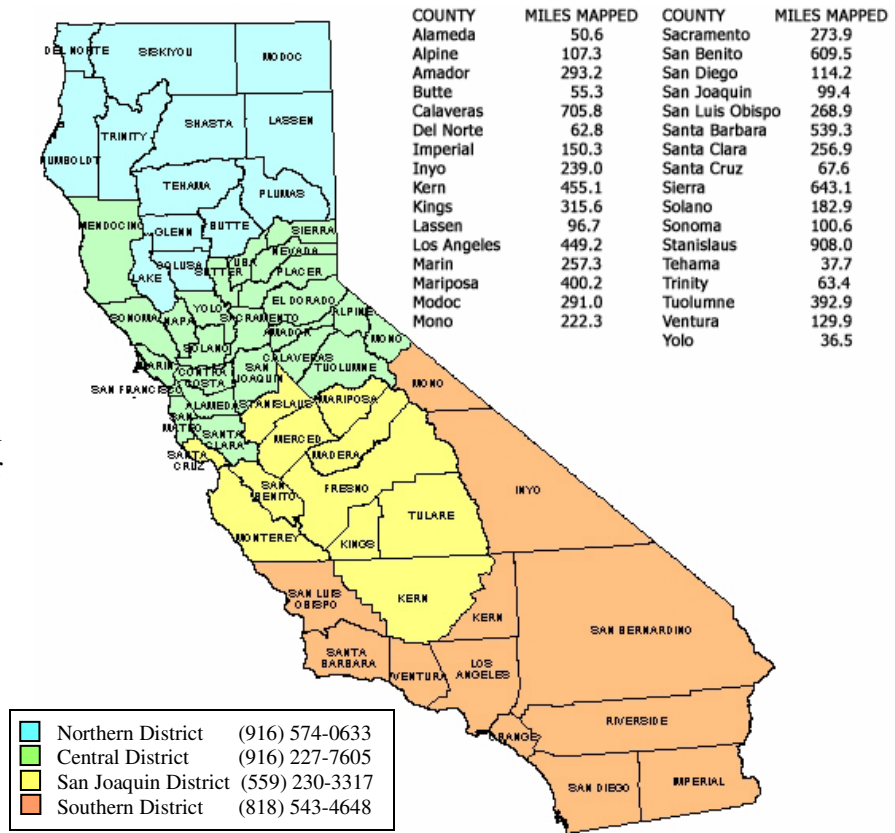


Awareness Floodplain Mapping Created by California DWR and FEMA's Flood Map Modernization Initiative

Between 2001 and 2007 the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) analyzed the 1% annual chance flood hazards for approximate 15,000 miles of streams currently not studied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A county summary of some of these studies is depicted in the graphic below. These floodplains were determined using automated hydrologic and hydraulic techniques and are simply shown as flood prone areas without specific flood elevations, depths, or other flood hazard data. The flood areas provided under the State's program are considered advisory and not regulatory. They are viewable as USGS quadrangle sheets overlaid with floodplain polygons (see back) or in digital format on the State's interactive website at http://www.fpm.water.ca.gov/mapping/awareness_mapping.cfm.




To support its vision, "A Nation Prepared," FEMA has embarked on Flood Map Modernization to transform the Nation's flood maps into more reliable, easier-to-use, and readily available products. This effort will create a new, digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for every county in California resulting in safer communities by providing more accurate predictions and studying many areas that have never been studied. The State's awareness floodplains will be added as a Zone A (special flood hazard area, no base flood elevations determined) to a new



FIRM upon a written request from local officials. A continuing facet to the State's Awareness Mapping program is active consultation with communities to establish a priority for approximate studies as well as the selection of detailed study areas in the future. All flooding sources, including the areas studied by the State, can be studied more thoroughly at any time in the future. Furthermore, Map Modernization presents opportunities for communities to partner with FEMA to develop more detailed flood hazard data for the new, digital FIRMs. Communities that choose to have the awareness floodplains mapped on a new FIRM can receive higher priority for a detailed study in the future.

More information on FEMA's Flood Map Modernization initiative is available online at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/mm_main.shtm. California DWR can be contacted at the phone numbers depicted above to discuss their Awareness Floodplain Mapping.

California DWR Awareness Floodplain Map Example

-  DWR Awareness Floodplain
-  FEMA Q3
-  Flooding < 1'
Floodplain Terminated



Floodplain Vector Data Overlaid on
1:24,000 USGS Quadrangle Guinda
State Plane Zone 2 1983

Date 4/9/03

