



# Wallace County




**FEMA**

*Floodplain Mapping Project  
Data Development Kickoff Meeting*

*June 4, 2024*



While we are waiting, please enter your name and community in the chat box!



***Your engagement  
in this process is  
important to the  
success of this  
project, so thank  
you for taking the  
time to be here  
today!***



**THANK  
YOU**





## *Introductions*

### **Kansas Department of Agriculture**

**Joanna Rohlf, CFM,  
GISP**

*Floodplain Mapping  
Coordinator*

**William Pace, CFM**

*Floodplain Mapping  
Specialist*

**Cheyenne Sun Eagle,  
CFM**

*NFIP Coordinator*

**Keegan Schwartz**

*Floodplain Outreach  
Specialist*

### **FEMA – Region VII**

**Dawn Livingston**

*Regional Project Officer*

### **AtkinsRéalis**

**Mike Schlesener, GISP**

*Project Manager*

**Brandon Gonzalez, PE**

*Engineer*





## *Today's Goals*

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*Share details on the mapping project*

*Get initial feedback on modeling methods*

*Review future steps*



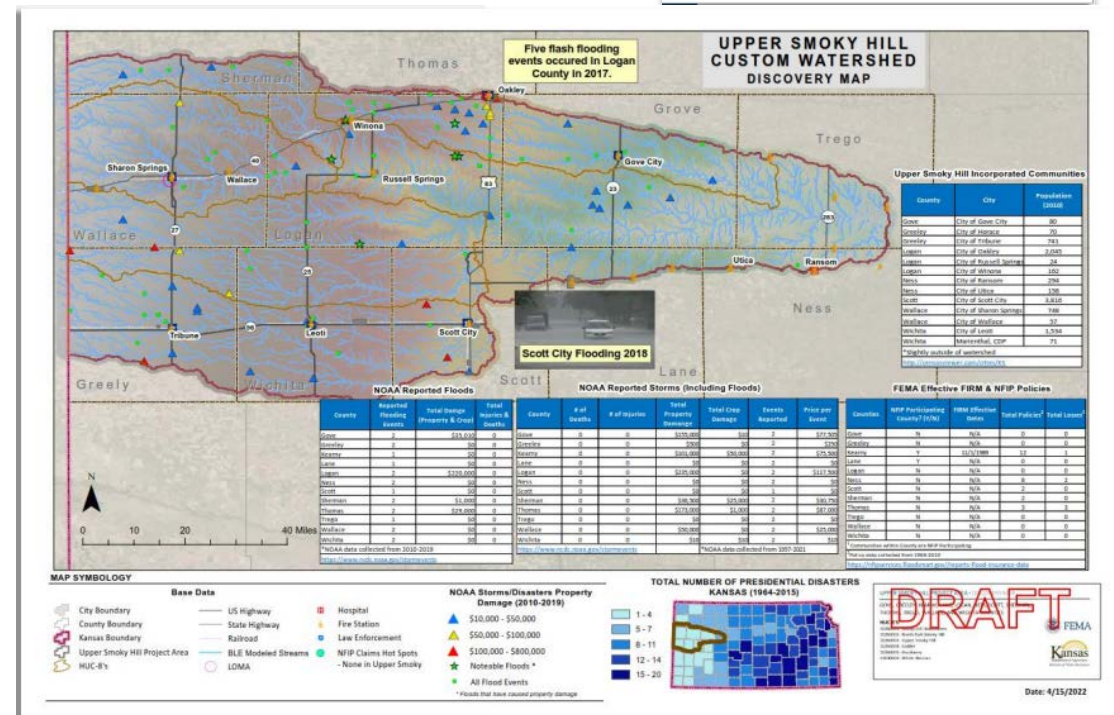
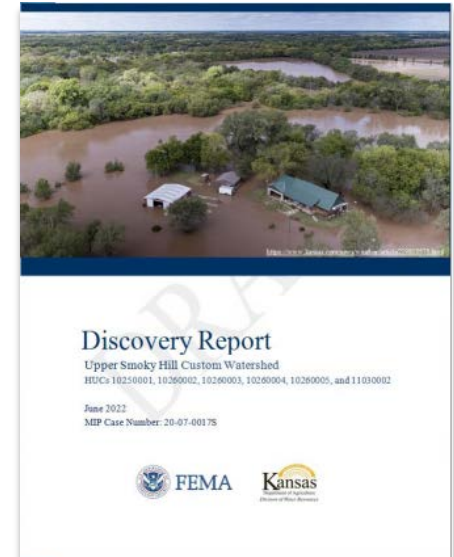
# *Background*

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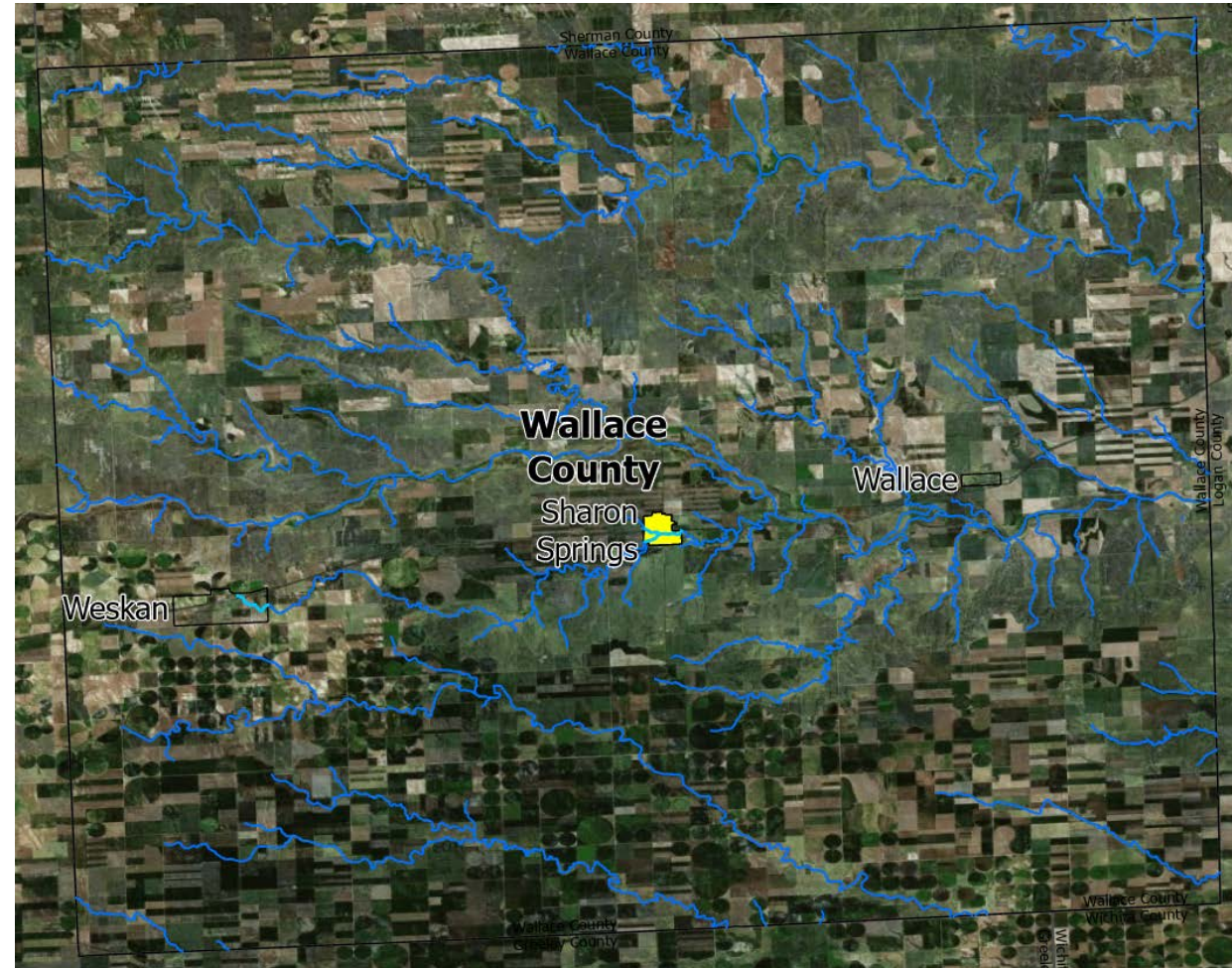
# Background

- Upper Smoky Hill Custom Watershed Base Level Engineering Projects
  - BLE Kick-off Meeting:
    - Upper Smoky Hill – December 2021
  - Discovery Meetings and BLE Review:
    - Upper Smoky Hill – November 2022



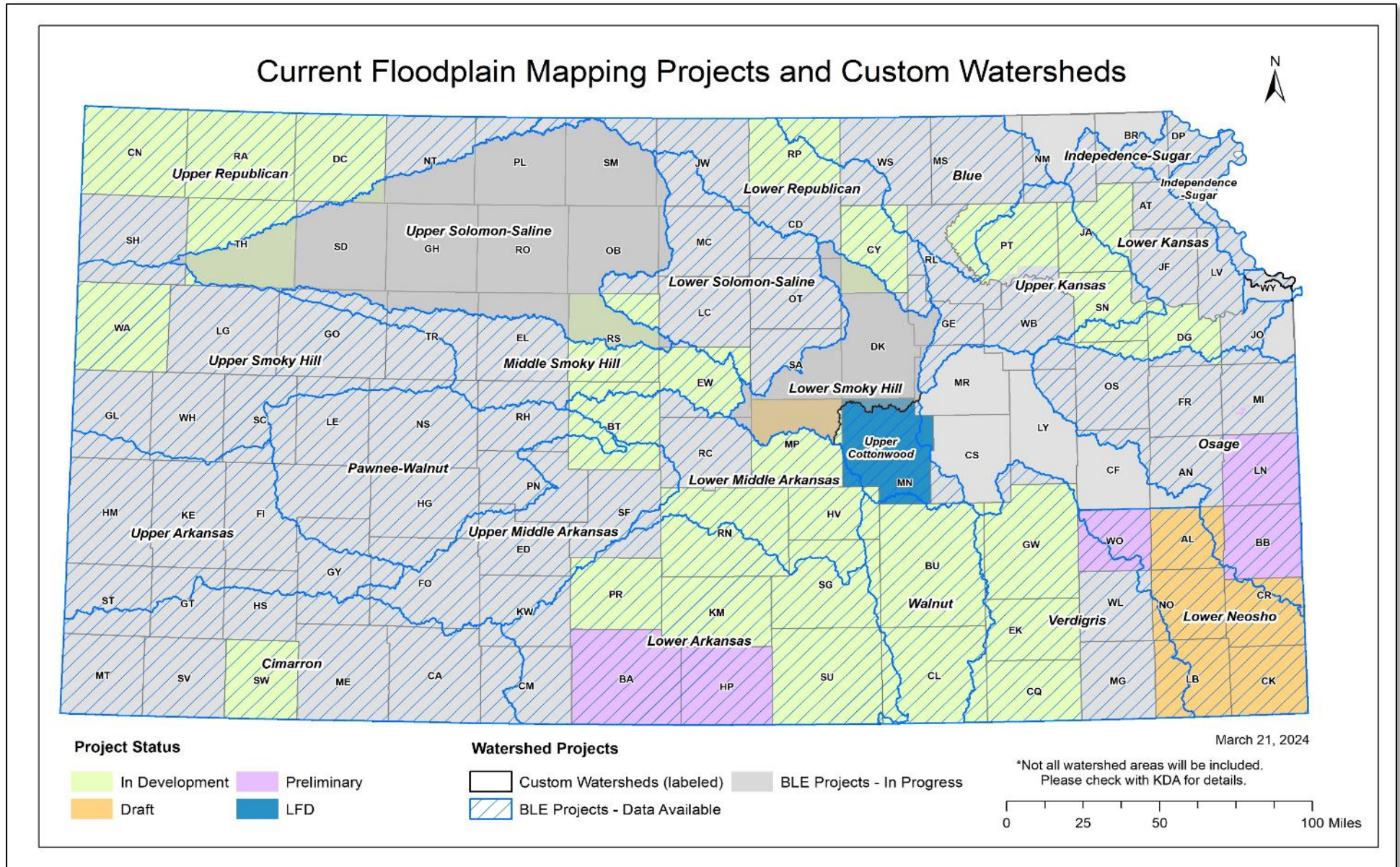
# Background

- First-time Countywide
  - Current Effectives:
    - Sharon Springs – 1986





# We are doing similar work across Kansas...





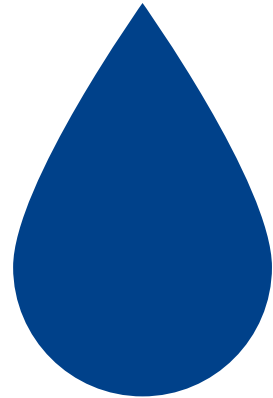
# *Review of the Work Ahead and How We Propose Doing It*

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# Definitions

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**Hydrology**  
*How Much Water?*



**Hydraulics**  
*How High Will Water Get?*









# Differences between traditional 1D studies and 'new' 2D studies

In a 2D model, elevations are in every cell eliminating interpolation



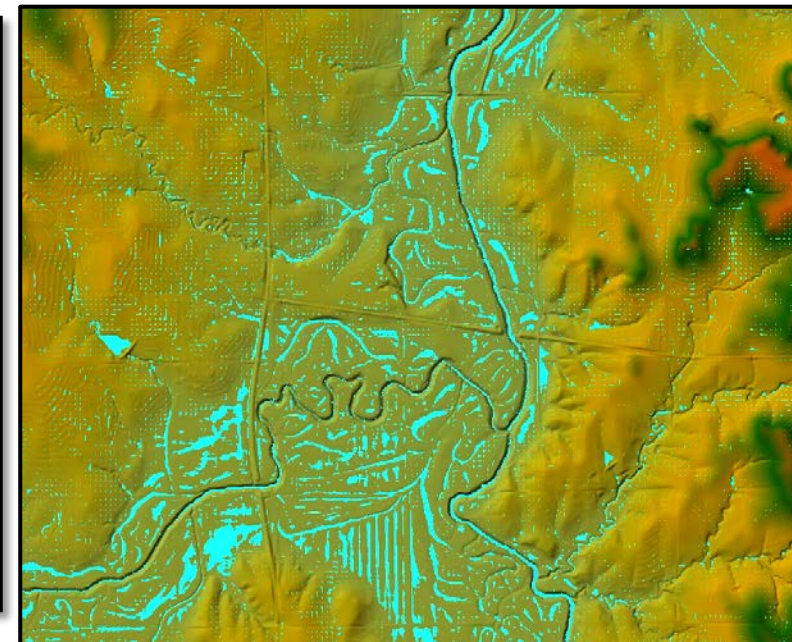
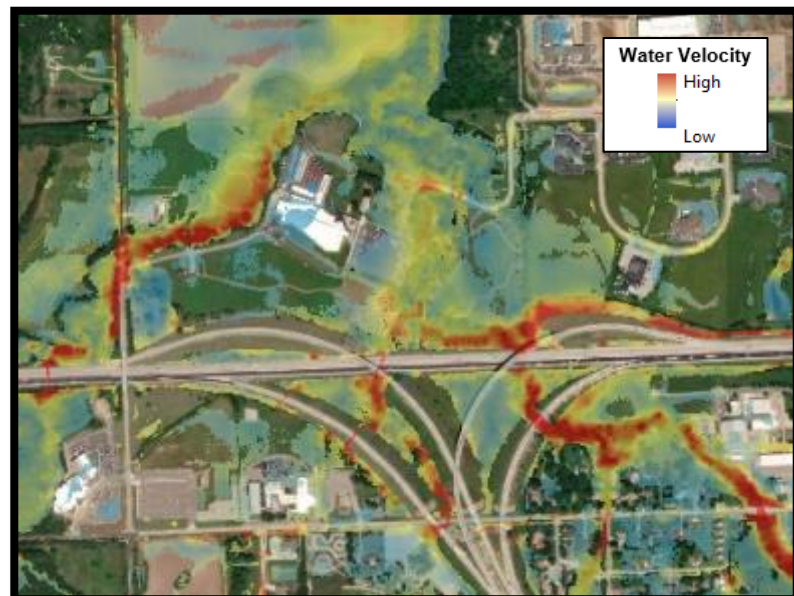
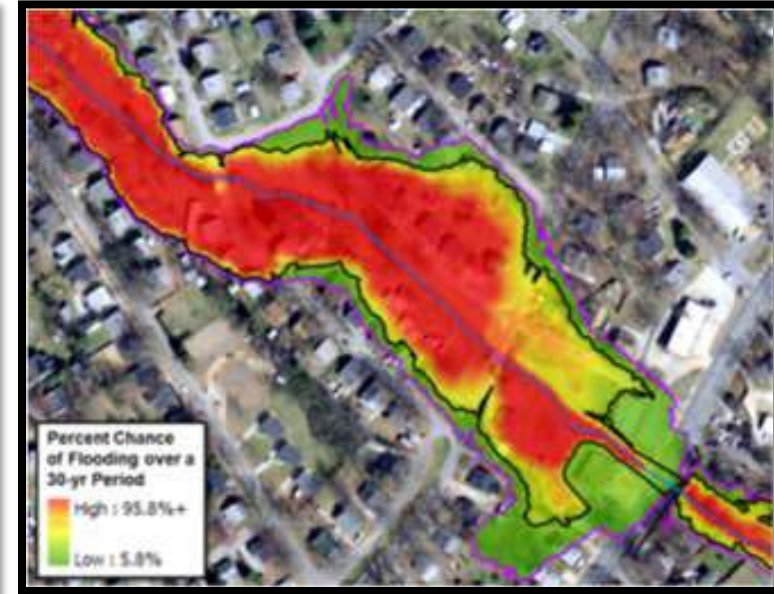
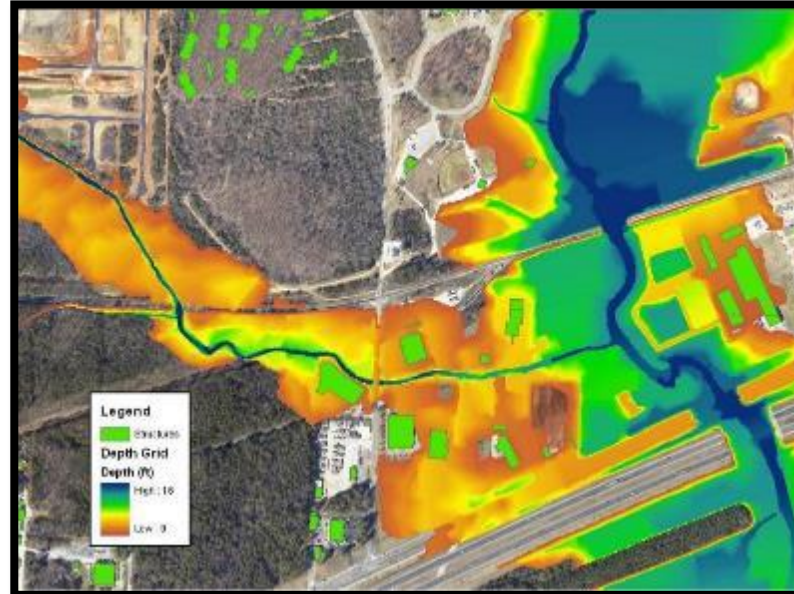
- 2D Studies evaluate flood risk beyond the channel banks
- More refined model in complex areas on a cell-by-cell basis





*More precise data  
and modeling  
methods gives  
you more  
information about  
flood risk*

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## ***Model Enhancements***

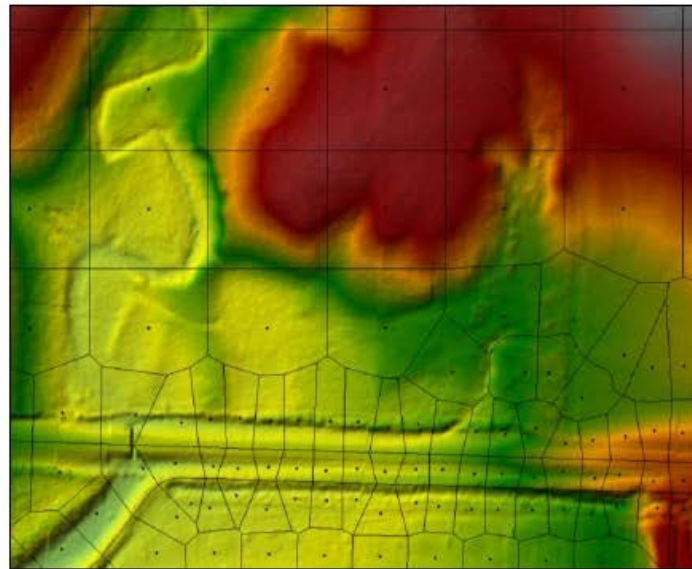
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- Enhancements will be made to the BLE modeling that was performed.
  - Updated to newest version of HEC-RAS
  - Refined model meshes in cities with additional detail including:
    - Ground and channel Manning's roughness
    - Land use refinement
    - Re-verify gage analysis against refined results
    - Detailed structure modeling
      - Where data is available
      - Field collected structure data, if necessary

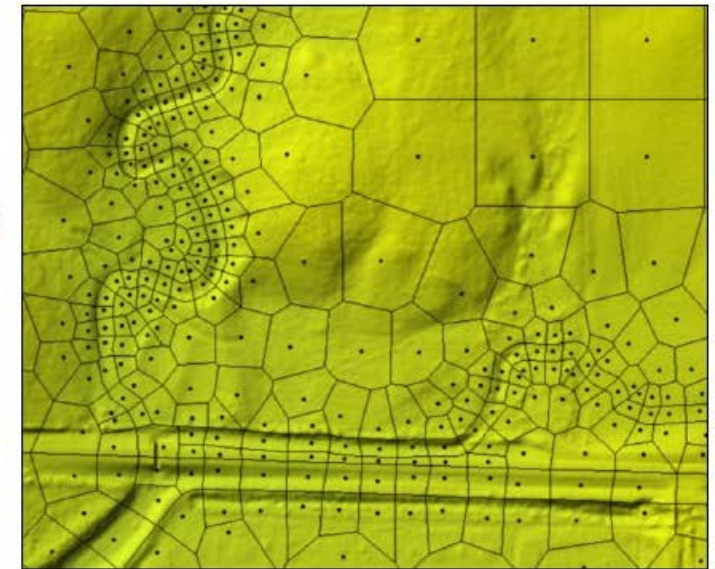


# Model Enhancements

- Refined Mesh
  - Will allow for greater accuracy in flood modeling due to increased cell density



Coarser Mesh

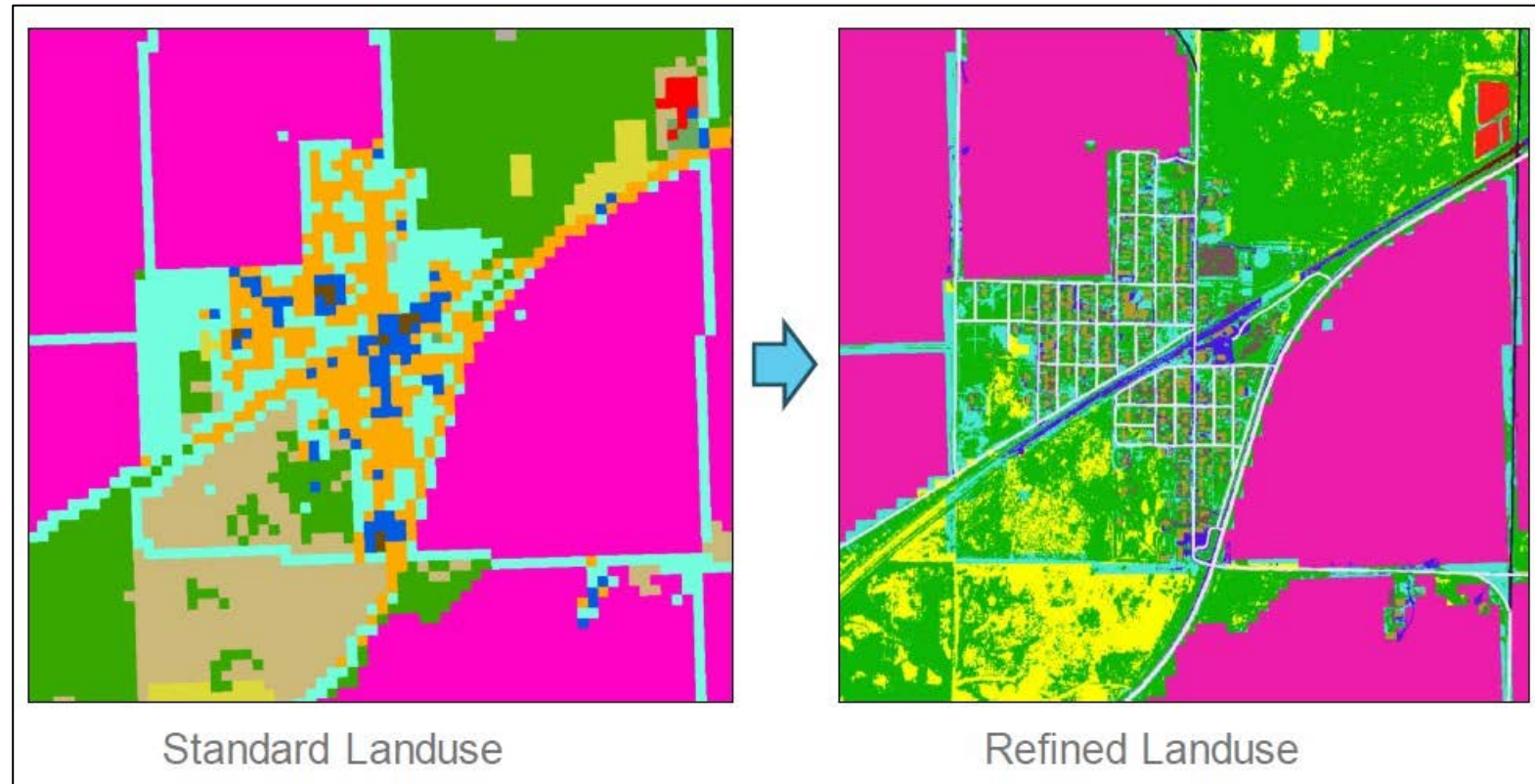


Refined Mesh



## Model Enhancements

- Refined Land Use
  - Will allow for greater accuracy in surface modeling due to more detailed land use



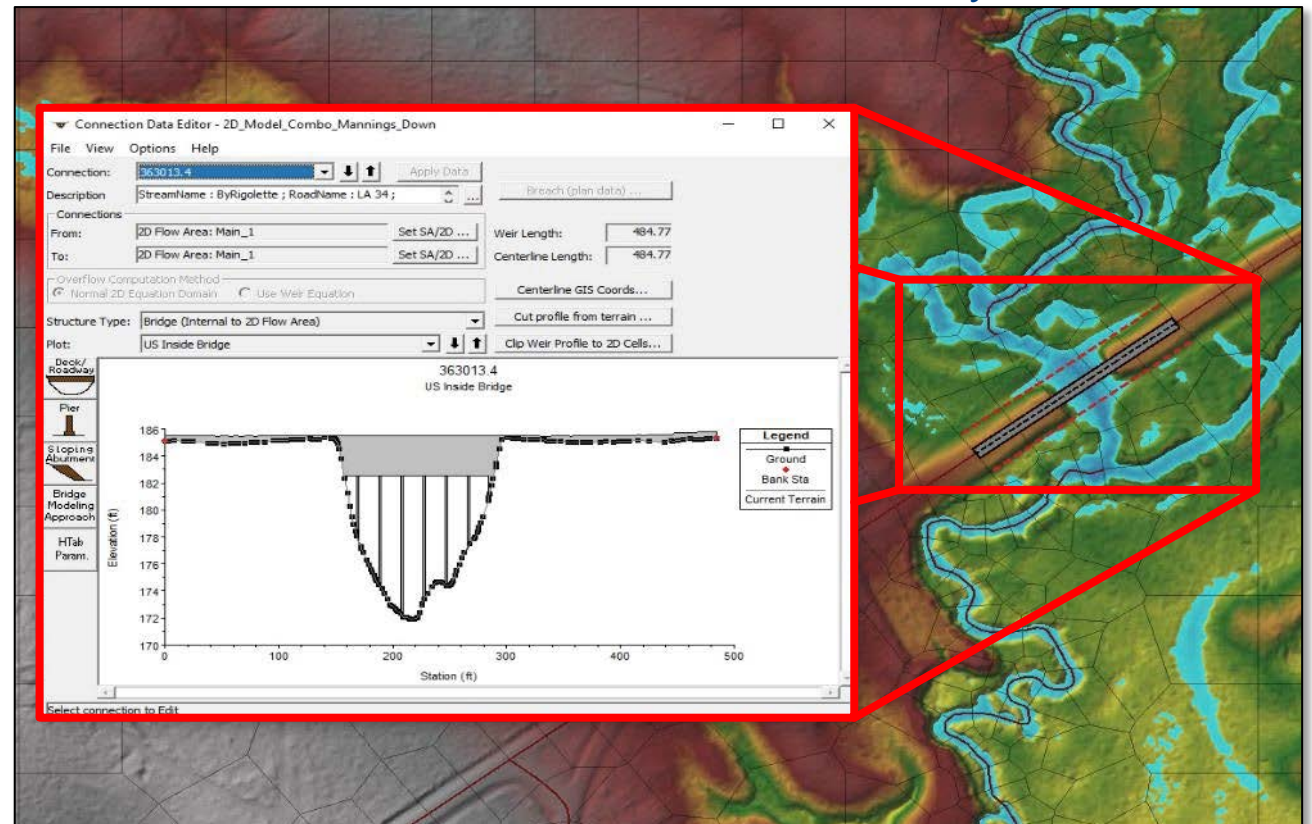






# Model Enhancements

- Detailed structure modeling incorporated into Refined models, where data is available
  - Do you have any recent structure improvements, or planned improvements, that has data that can be shared?
  - Field collected structure data, if necessary







## ***Model Enhancements***

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- Enhancements can be made to the BLE modeling that was performed.
  - Lidar, flown in 2016, will be incorporated.
  - Comments made and additional information gathered during the Discovery and Data Development phase can be used to enhance the modeling.
  - With your feedback additional review/refinement of mesh can be done to improve accuracy of modeling.



# *Data Development Scope*

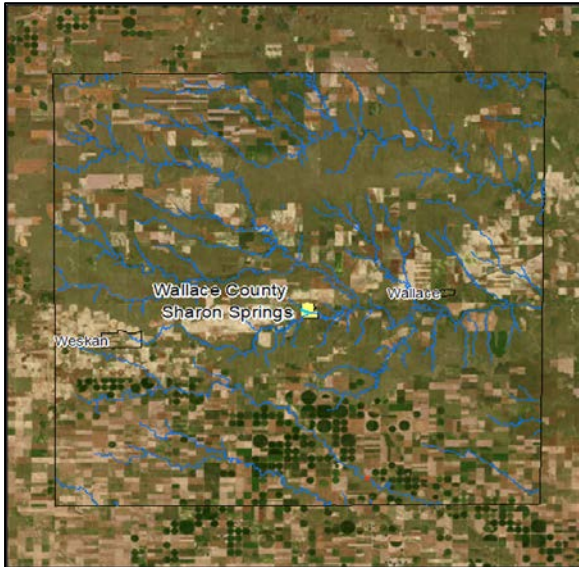
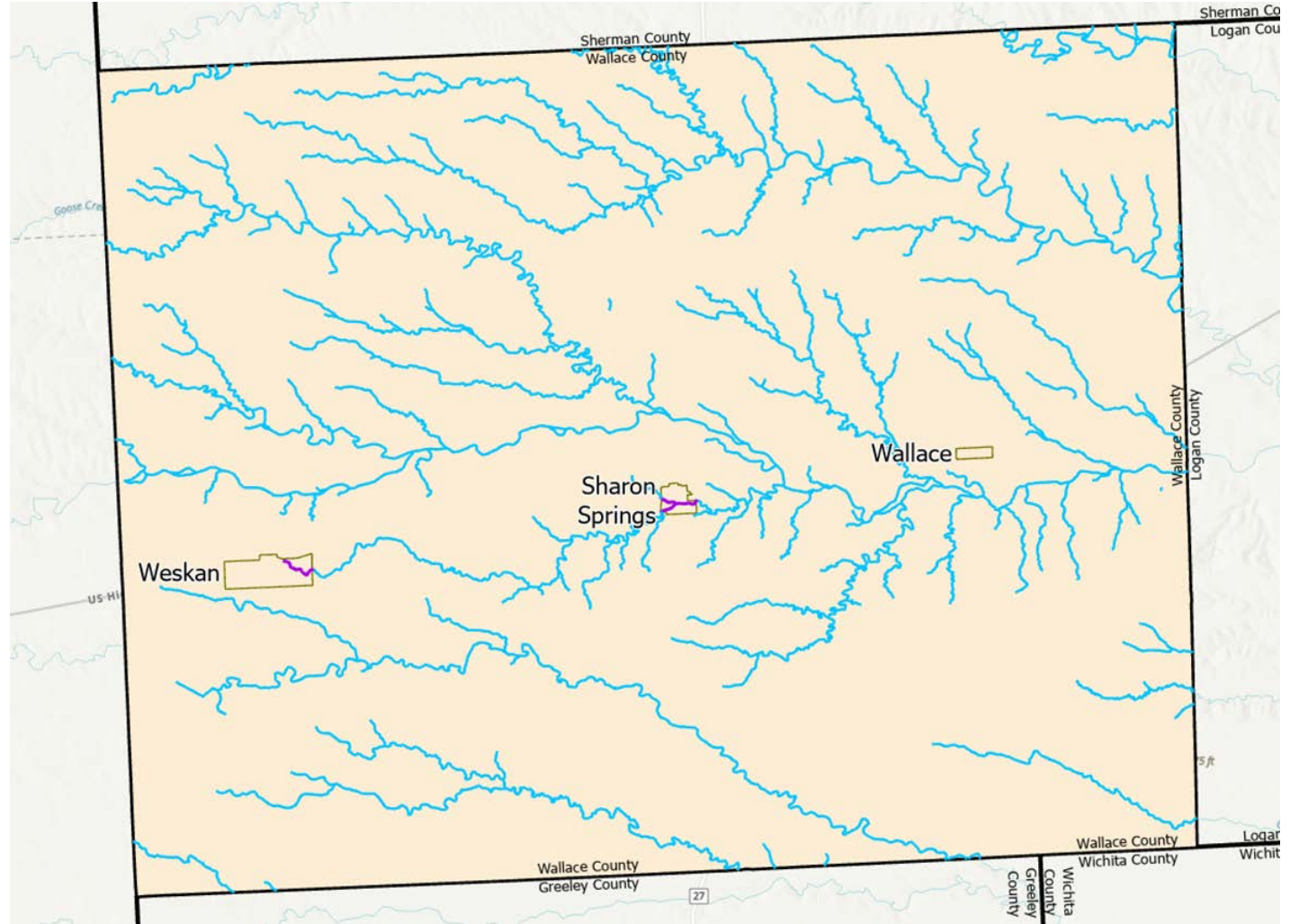
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# Data Development Scope

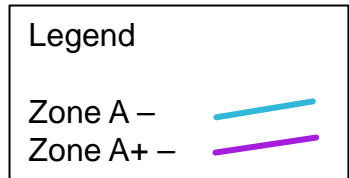


- All Zone A 2D BLE (664 mi.)



## Current Effectives:

- Sharon Springs – 1986







# Levees

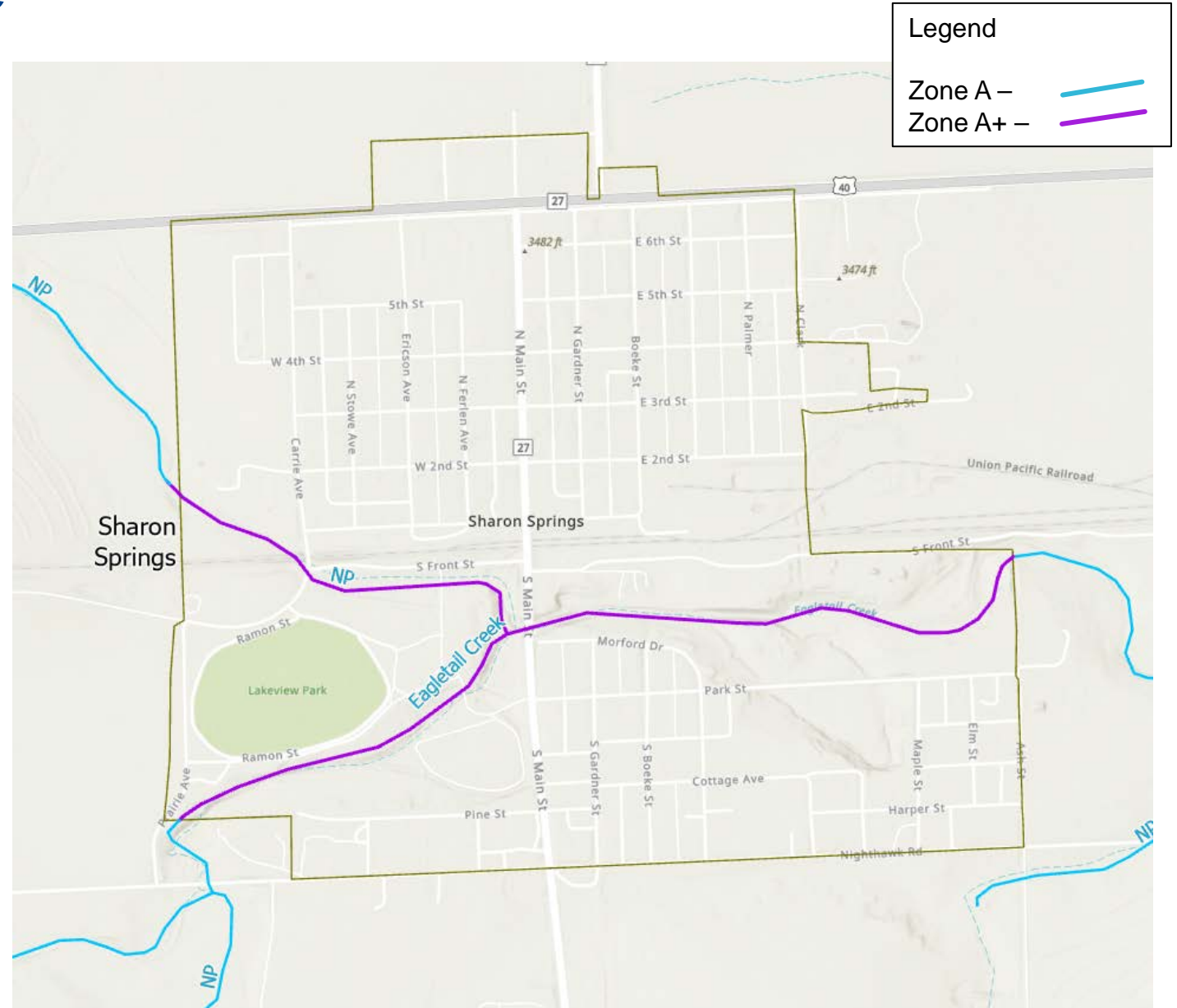
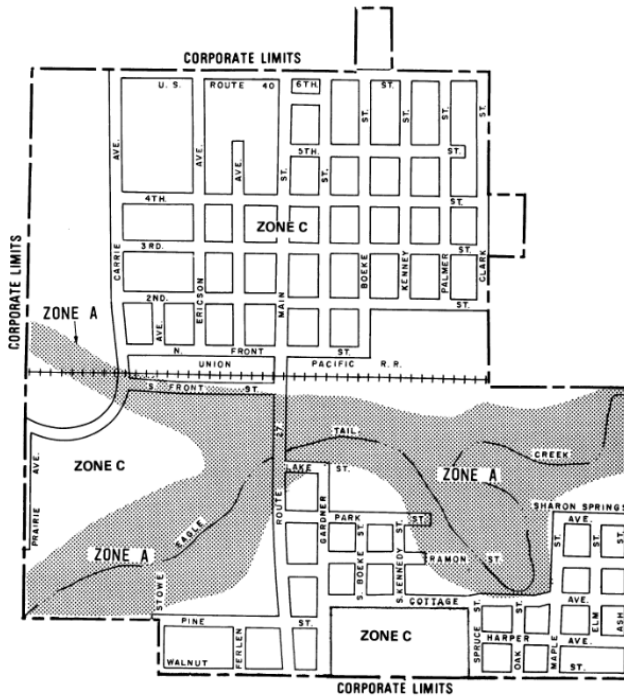
There is one non-accredited levees in the project area.





# Data Development Scope

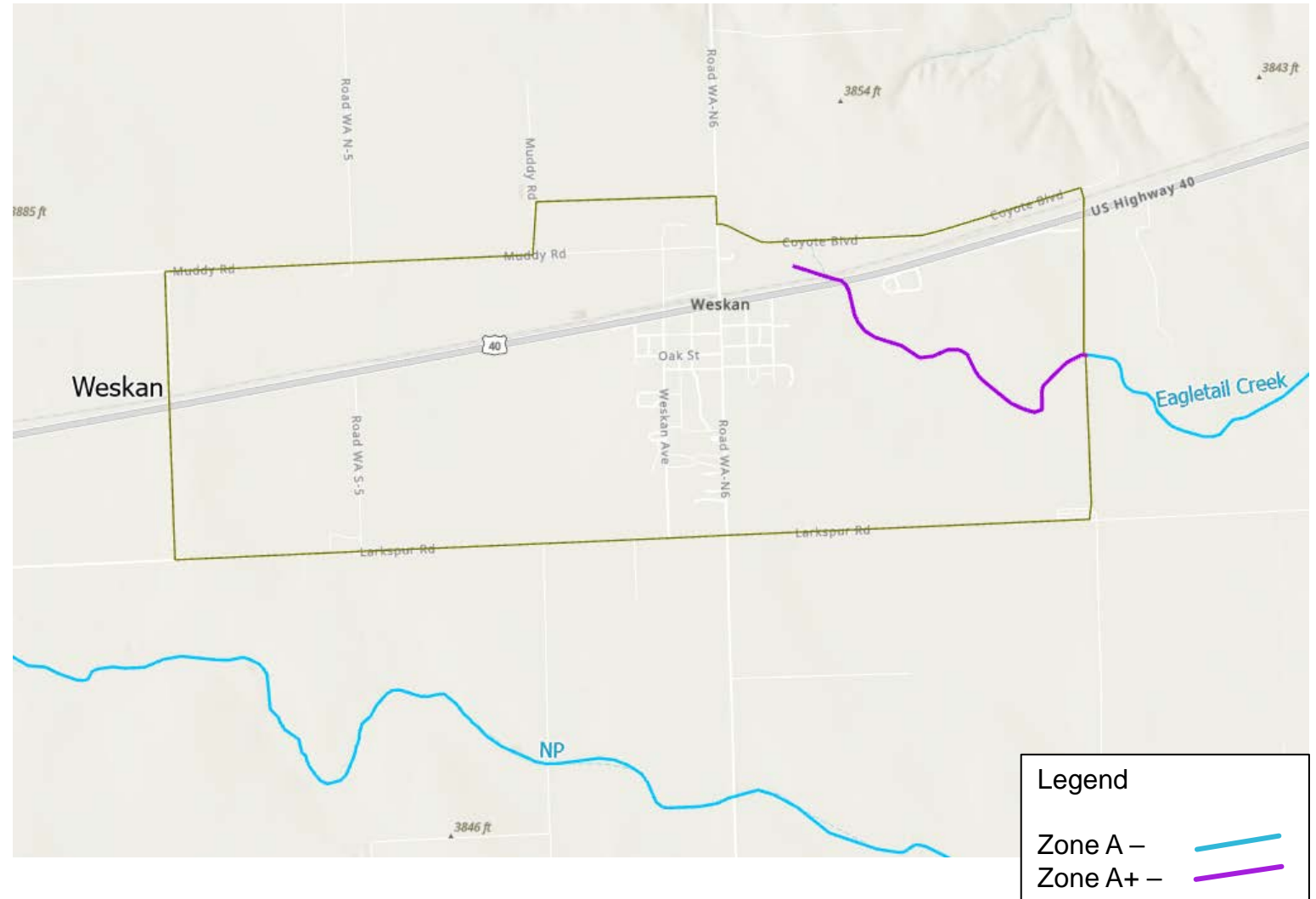
City of Sharon Springs  
Zone A+ – 1.72 miles





# Data Development Scope

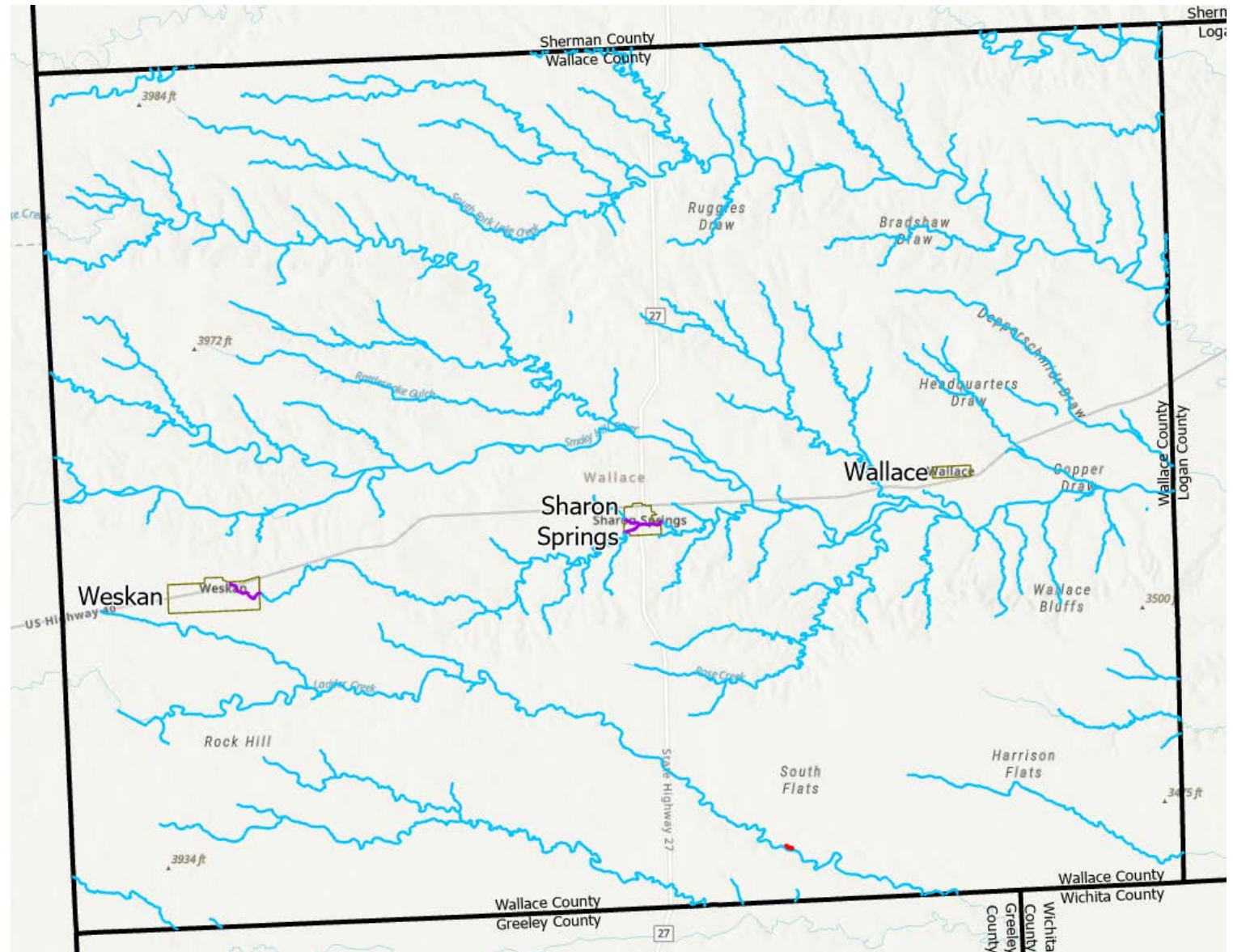
City of Weskan  
Zone A+ – 1.2 miles





# Data Development Scope

- Cities without Zone A
  - Wallace

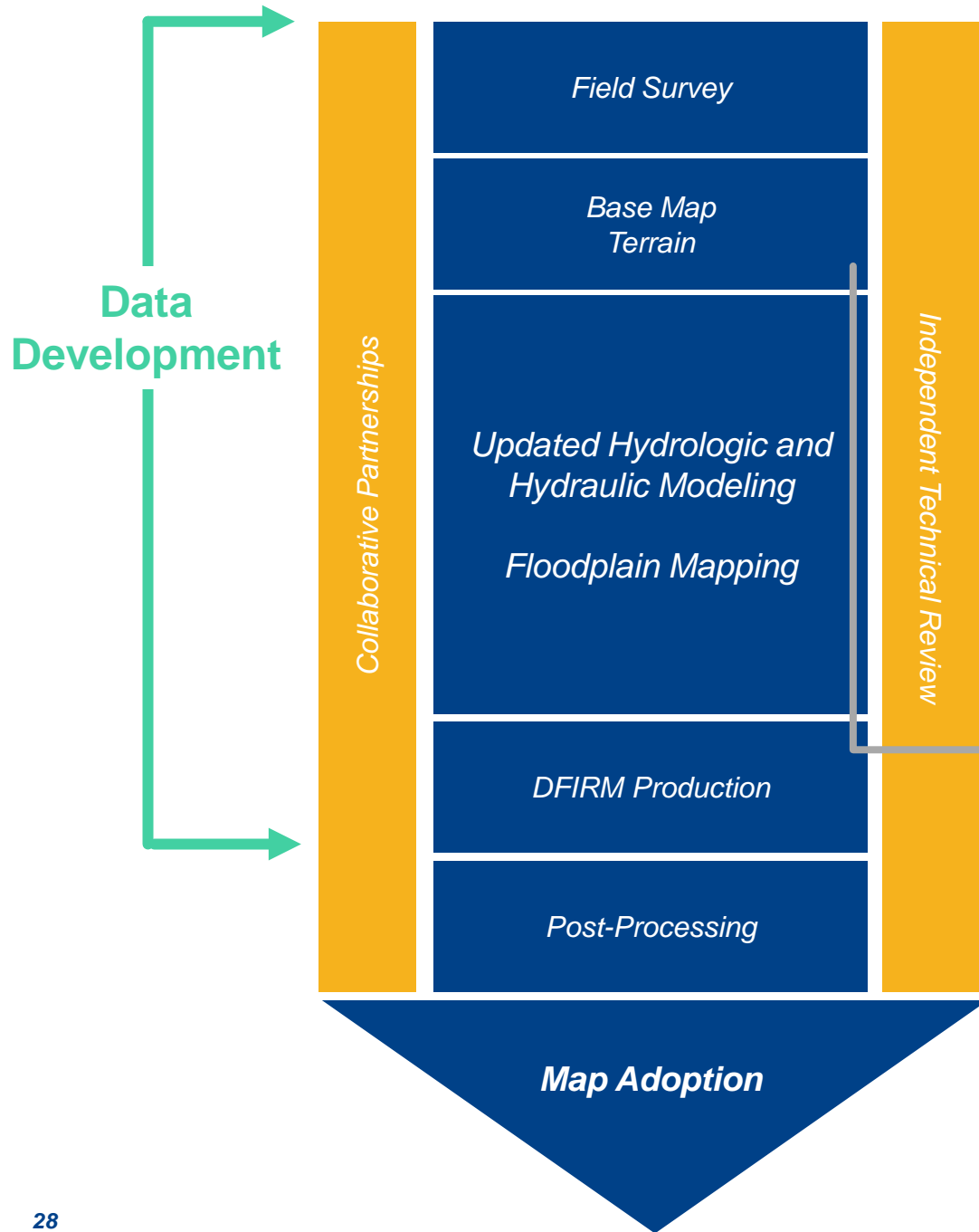




# *Next Steps*

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## Project Tasks

1. Base Map and Topography Preparation
2. Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling
3. Floodplain Mapping
4. DFIRM and FIS Production
5. Post-Preliminary

We are about to begin the modeling task





## ***Our Next Steps:***

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- We will complete the engineering analysis previously described.
- Several rounds of reviews will be completed.
- We will develop your draft regulatory floodplain maps.
  - Also known as your Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
- We will develop your draft Flood Insurance Study (FIS).
- We will have a community review period and a public review period





- Mapping determinations will be made for Zone A streams and playas using acceptable mapping criteria.
  - Mapped streams have defined bed and banks
  - Mapped playas have drainage areas of 1 sq. mile or greater
  - Mapped playas shows extended static ponding in model

***Draft Mapping***

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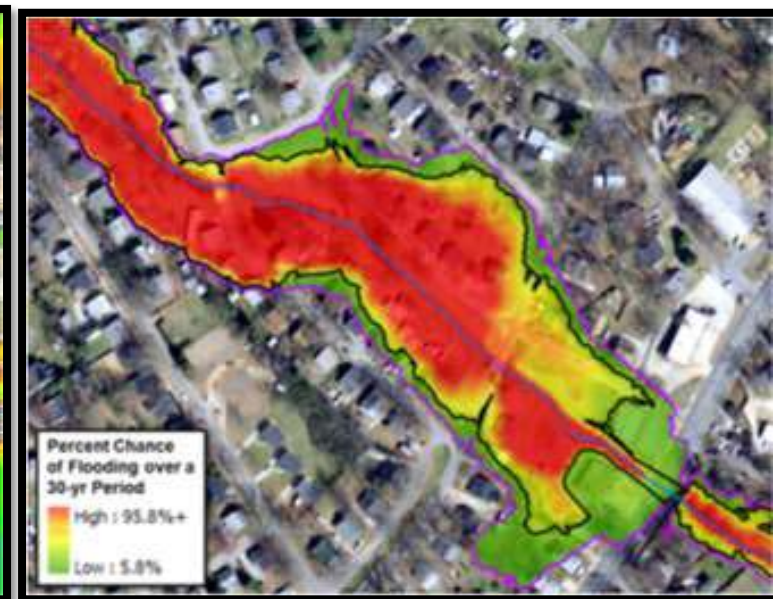
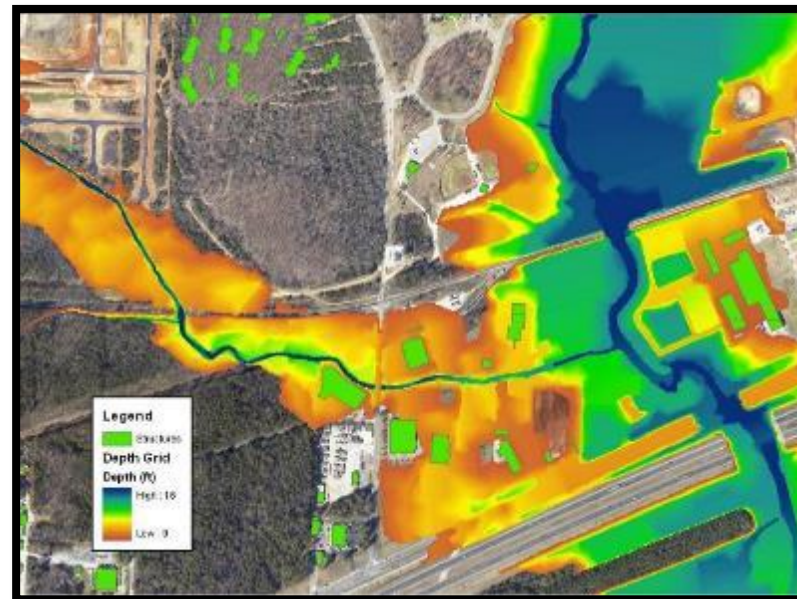




- We will also be developing flood risk products for Wallace County as part of this project.
  - Water Surface Elevation (WSE) Grids
  - Depth Grids
  - Percent Annual Chance & 30yr Chance Grids
  - Velocity Grids

## Our Next Steps:

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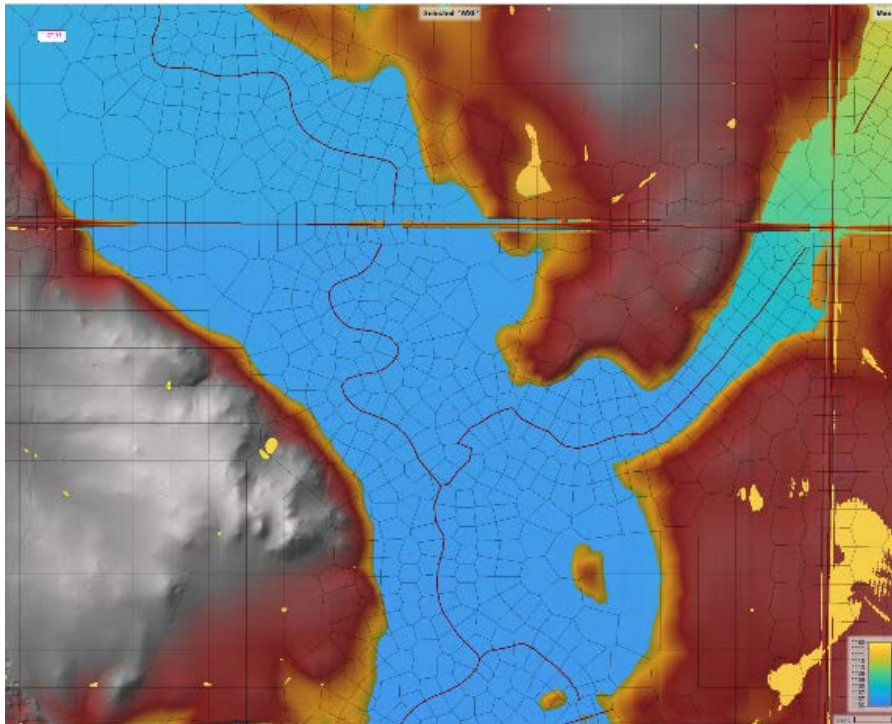




# Flood Risk Products

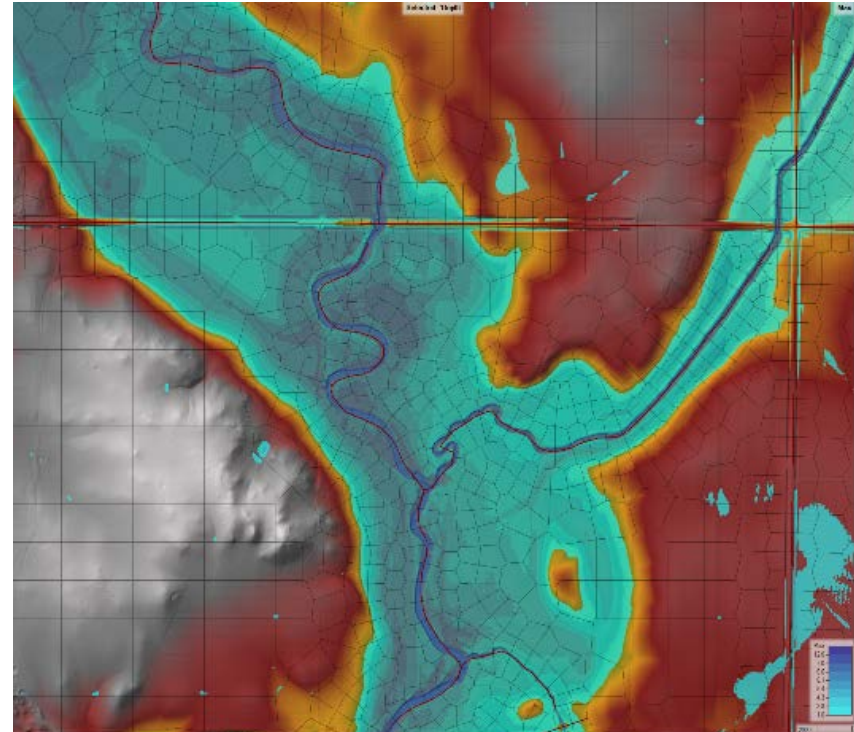
## Water Surface Elevation Grids

- Raster output from model that displays varying water surface elevations within derived floodplain extents
- Used to find base flood elevation throughout the floodplain rather than just at the extent lines.



## Flood Depth Grids

- Raster output from model that displays varying depths of flooding within derived floodplain extents
- Used to find depth of flooding at any location, like residential structures, based on a subtraction of ground elevations from water surface elevation.

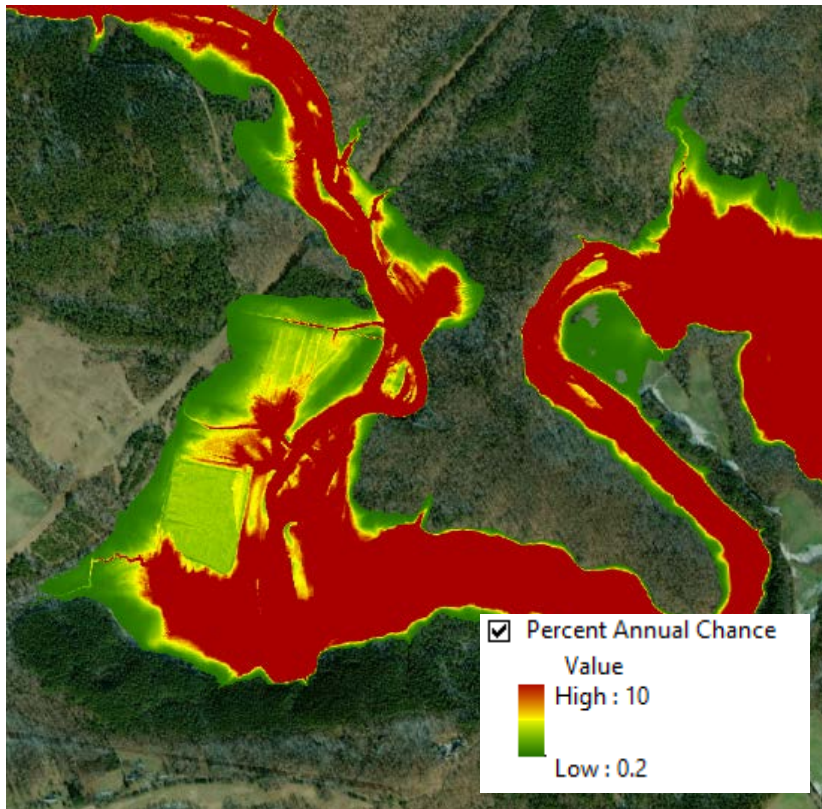




# Flood Risk Products

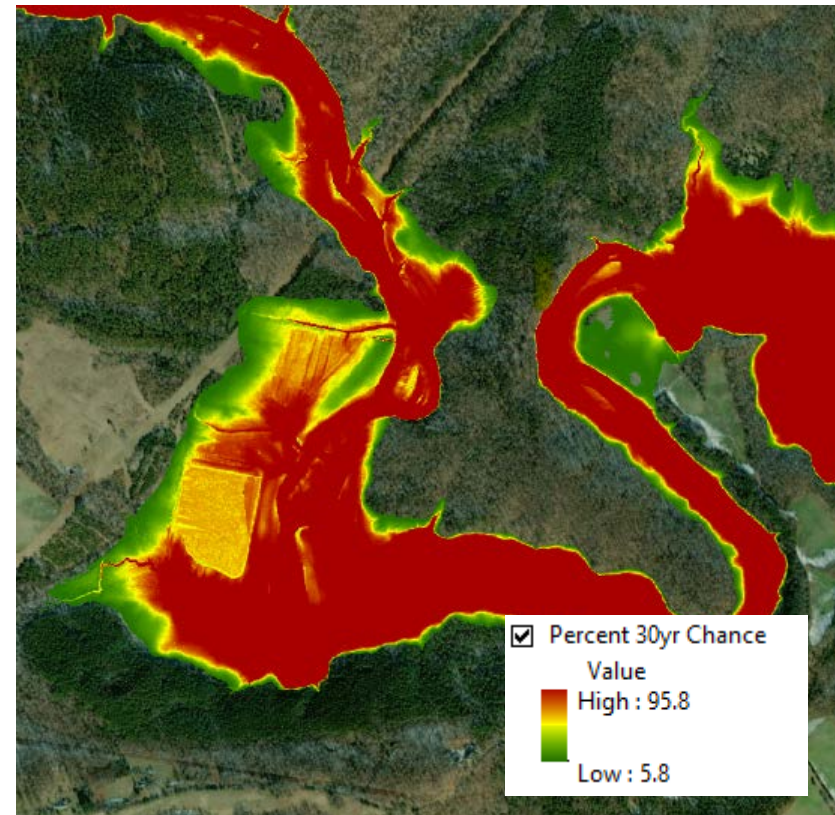
- Percent Annual Chance Grids

- Raster output from model that displays varying likelihood, in percentage, of chance that any given cell within the raster has of flooding within a single year.



- Percent 30-yr Chance Grid

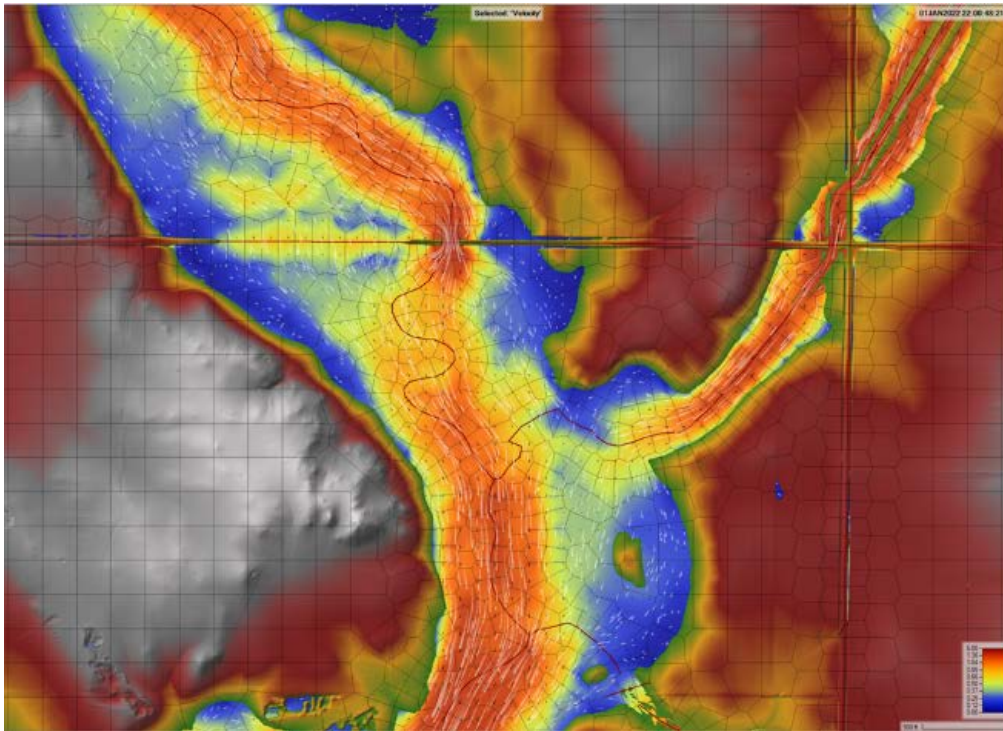
- Raster output from model that displays varying likelihood, in percentage, of chance that any given cell within the raster has of flooding within a 30 year period.





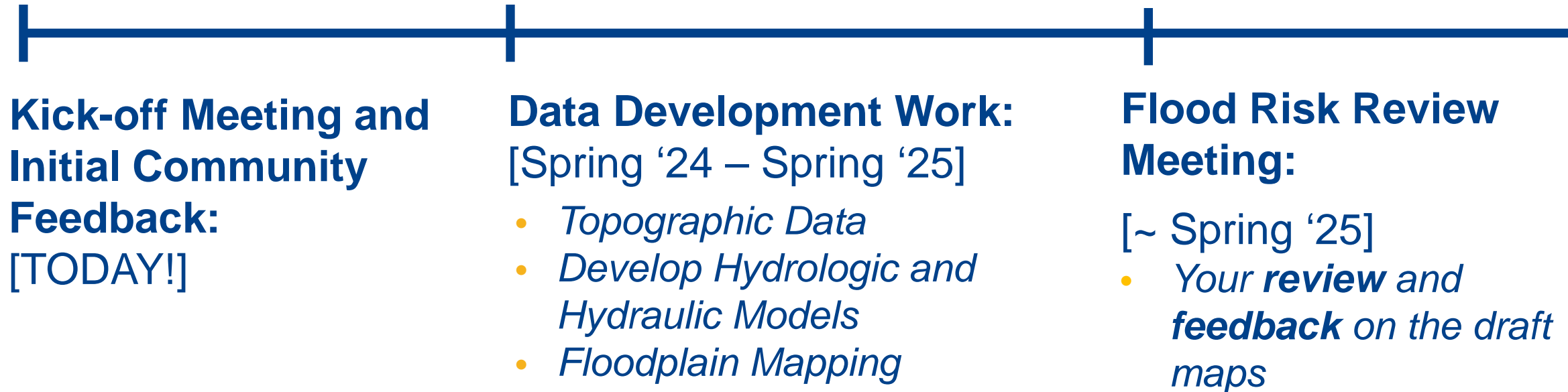
# Flood Risk Products

- Velocity Grids
  - Raster output from model that displays varying velocities within the floodplain extents.
  - Can be used to help visualize areas within the floodplain with the highest velocities.





# Project Timeline





## Project Timeline, continued

Community  
**comments** will  
be **addressed**

**Public review** of  
the draft maps

- *Includes Public  
Open House*

**Preliminary Map  
Products**

- *Preliminary DFIRM  
Community  
Coordination Meeting*

**Post-  
Preliminary  
Processing**







## ***Key Takeaways***

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*Floodplain Mapping Projects take time*

*Your involvement in this process will result in better flood information for your community*

***DON'T HESITATE TO CALL,  
WE ARE HERE TO HELP***



# *Resources*

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# Online Project Information

## Project Websites:

- Scoping Maps, Project Timeline, Meeting Presentations, Newsletters, Technical Reports, Web Review Map
  - <https://www.agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/division-of-water-resources/water-structures/floodplain-management/mapping/mapping-projects>

## Upper Smoky Hill:

- <https://www.agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/division-of-water-resources/water-structures/floodplain-management/mapping/upper-smoky-hill-custom-watershed>

**Web Review Map:** <https://gis2.kda.ks.gov/gis/wallace/>

Provide comments on areas impacted by past floods, community needs, etc.

- Review of floodplain data

## Story Maps

- “Floodplain Current”: Mapping Process ‘Nuts and Bolts’



***Any Questions?***

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# Contact Information

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