

NOTES TO USERS

This map is for use in administering the National Flood Insurance Program. It does not necessarily identify all areas subject to flooding, particularly from local drainage sources of small size. The **community map repository** should be consulted for possible updated or additional flood hazard information.

To obtain more detailed information in areas where **Base Flood Elevations (BFEs)** and/or **floodways** have been determined, users are encouraged to consult the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data and/or Summary of Stillwater Elevations tables contained within the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report that accompanies this FIRM. Users should be aware that BFEs shown on the FIRM represent rounded whole-foot elevations. These BFEs are intended for flood insurance rating purposes only and should not be used as the sole source of flood elevation information. Accordingly, flood elevation data presented in the FIS Report should be utilized in conjunction with the FIRM for purposes of construction and/or floodplain management.

Coastal Base Flood Elevations shown on this map apply only landward of 0.0' North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88). Users of this FIRM should be aware that coastal flood elevations are also provided in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table in the Flood Insurance Study Report for this jurisdiction. Elevations shown in the Summary of Stillwater Elevations table should be used for construction and/or floodplain management purposes when they are higher than the elevations shown on this FIRM.

Boundaries of the **floodways** were computed at cross sections and interpolated between cross sections. The floodways were based on hydraulic considerations with regard to requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Floodway widths and other pertinent floodway data are provided in the Flood Insurance Study Report for this jurisdiction.

The AE Zone category has been divided by a **Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LIMWA)**. The LIMWA represents the approximate landward limit of the 1.5-foot breaking wave. The effects of wave hazards between the VE Zone and the LIMWA (or between the shoreline and the LIMWA for areas where VE Zones are not identified) will be similar to, but less severe than those in the VE Zone.

Certain areas not in Special Flood Hazard Areas may be protected by **flood control structures**. Refer to Section 2.4 "Flood Protection Measures" of the Flood Insurance Study Report for information on flood control structures for this jurisdiction.

The **projection** used in the preparation of this map was Rhode Island State Plane Zone (FIPS zone 3800). The **horizontal datum** was NAD 83, GRS 1980 spheroid. Differences in datum, spheroid, projection or UTM zones used in the production of FIRMs for adjacent jurisdictions may result in slight positional differences in map features across jurisdiction boundaries. These differences do not affect the accuracy of this FIRM.

Flood elevations on this map are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988. These flood elevations must be compared to structure and ground elevations referenced to the same **vertical datum**. For information regarding conversion between the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1928 and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988, visit the National Geodetic Survey website at <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov> or contact the National Geodetic Survey at the following address:

NGS Information Services
NOAA, NNGS12
National Geodetic Survey
SSMC-3, #9202
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282
(301) 713-3242

To obtain current elevation, description, and/or location information for **bench marks** shown on this map, please contact the Information Services Branch of the National Geodetic Survey at (301) 713-3242, or visit its website at <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov>.

Base map information shown on the FIRM panels produced for this coastal study revision was derived from USGS High Resolution orthophotography dated spring of 2011, produced at six inch resolution. The horizontal datum used was North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

The **profile baselines** depicted on this map represent the hydraulic modeling baselines that match the flood profiles in the FIS report. As a result of improved topographic data, the **profile baseline**, in some cases, may deviate significantly from the channel centerline or appear outside the SFHA.

Based on updated topographic information, this map reflects more detailed and up-to-date **stream channel configurations and floodplain delineations** than those shown on the previous FIRM for this jurisdiction. As a result, the Flood Profiles and Floodway Data tables for multiple streams in the Flood Insurance Study Report (which contains authoritative hydraulic data) may reflect stream channel distances that differ from what is shown on the map. Also, the road to floodplain relationships for unrevised streams may differ from what is shown on previous maps.

Corporate limits shown on this map are based on the best data available at the time of publication. Because changes due to annexations or de-annexations may have occurred after this map was published, map users should contact appropriate community officials to verify current corporate limit locations.

Please refer to the separately printed **Map Index** for an overview map of the county showing the layout of map panels; community map repository addresses; and a Listing of Communities table containing National Flood Insurance Program dates for each community as well as a listing of the panels on which each community is located.

For information on available products associated with this FIRM visit the **Map Service Center (MSC)** website at <http://msc.fema.gov>. Available products may include previously issued Letters of Map Change, a Flood Insurance Study Report, and/or digital versions of this map. Many of these products can be ordered or obtained directly from the MSC website.

If you have **questions about this map**, how to order products, or the National Flood Insurance Program in general, please call the **FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX)** at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/info>.

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) LEGEND

11-16-1991 Otherwise Protected Area (OPA)
FLOOD INSURANCE NOT AVAILABLE FOR STRUCTURES NEWLY BUILT OR SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 16, 1991 IN DESIGNATED OPAs WITHIN THE CBRS.

Boundaries of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) shown on this FIRM were transferred from the official CBRS source map(s) for this area and are depicted on this FIRM for informational purposes only. The official CBRS maps are enacted by Congress via the Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended, and maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The official CBRS maps used to determine whether or not an area is located within the CBRS are available for download at <http://www.fws.gov>. For an official determination of whether or not an area is located within the CBRS, or for any questions regarding the CBRS, please contact the FWS field office for this area at 603-223-2541.

Only coastal structures that are certified to provide protection from the 1-percent-annual chance flood are shown on this panel. However, all structures taken into consideration for the purpose of coastal flood hazard analysis and mapping are present in the DFIRM database in S_Gen_Struct.

