

FIM v6 Release - October 2025

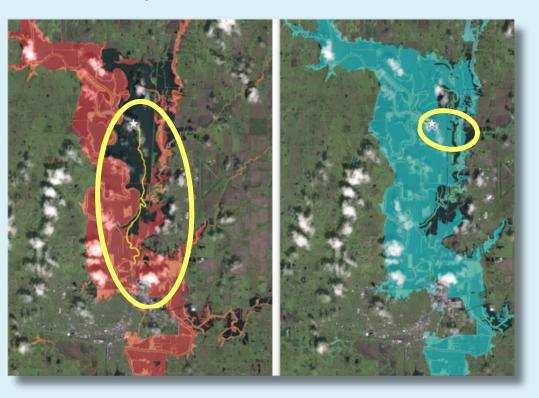
HAND v4.8 | RASFIM v3.0 | NWC VIS v2.2.2

National Updates

Catchment Boundary Mitigation

Algorithm updated to direct water flow to the nearest river, rather than exclusively to the bottom of the assigned catchment

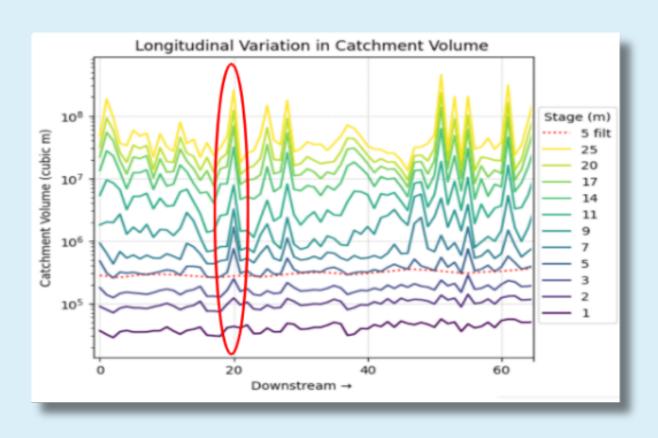
✓ Benefit: Produces more realistic height-above-nearestdrainage values across catchments and improves overall flood representation



Longitudinally Consistent Flows

Maintains river volume and preserves water surface elevation when volume fluctuates across reaches with tributaries

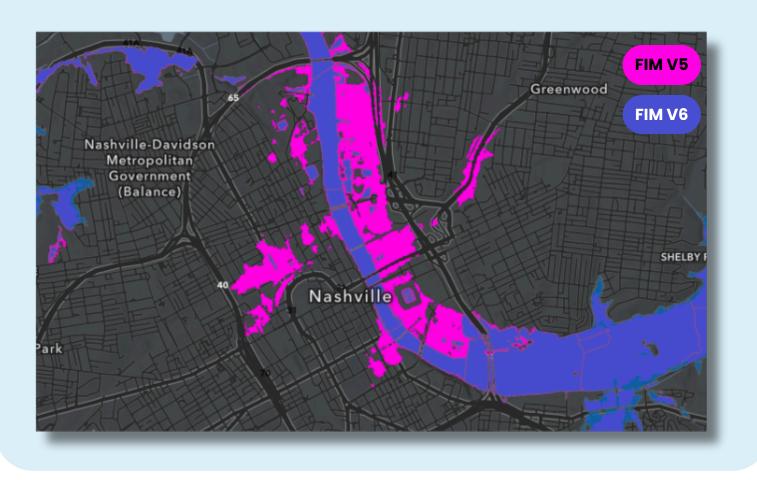
✓ Benefit: Prevents dramatic stage drops near tributaries, resulting in a more consistent downstream flood map



Machine Learning Bathymetry

Improves estimates of missing volume caused by LiDAR inability to penetrate water surfaces

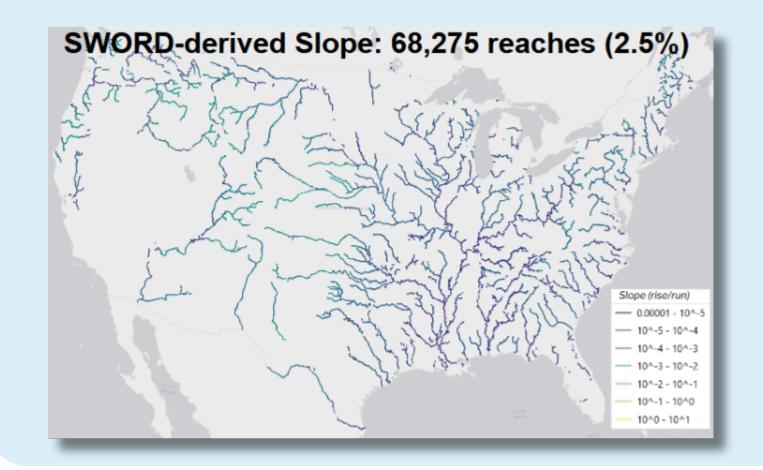
✓ Benefit: Yields more accurate synthetic rating curves and flood map extents



Slope Enhancement

Improved Manning's equation flow estimates by using a more precise slope dataset

✓ Benefit: Increases the accuracy of flood extents through improved flow estimation

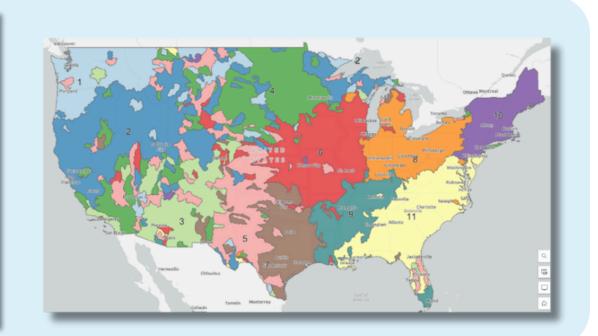


Optimized Manning's Numbers

Regionalizes Manning's numbers by calibrating to benchmark data

✓ Benefit: Enhances regional flood mapping accuracy to better match benchmark data

Runoff cluster	channel n (order 4 or higher)	overbank n (order 4 or higher)	channel n (order 3 or lower)	overbank n (order 3 or lower)
1	0.027	0.100	0.016	0.120
2	0.008	0.041	0.005	0.060
3	0.025	0.087	0.038	0.053
4	0.008	0.066	0.005	0.096
5	0.023	0.069	0.030	0.042
6	0.025	0.076	0.027	0.043
7	0.035	0.100	0.044	0.091
8	0.023	0.100	0.014	0.120
9	0.022	0.075	0.028	0.040
10	0.022	0.093	0.013	0.115
11	0.024	0.089	0.024	0.072



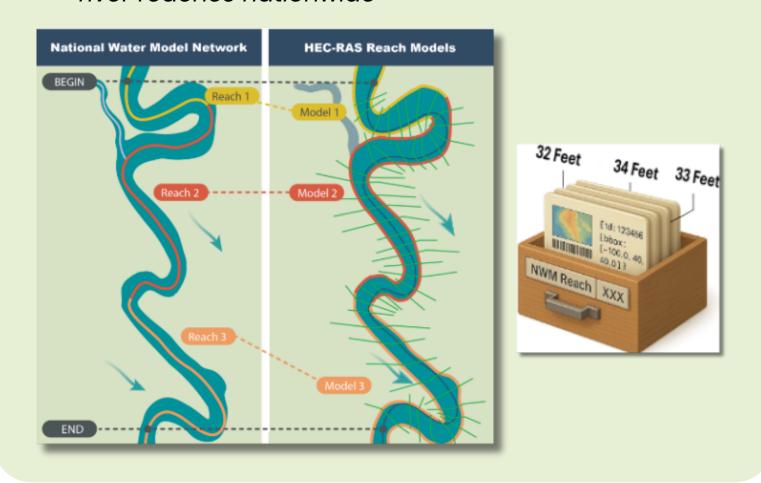


Regional and Local Updates

RASFIM Ripple Implementation

Implements flood-mapping libraries using HEC-RAS models from FEMA MIP and BLE programs for over 200K+ river miles

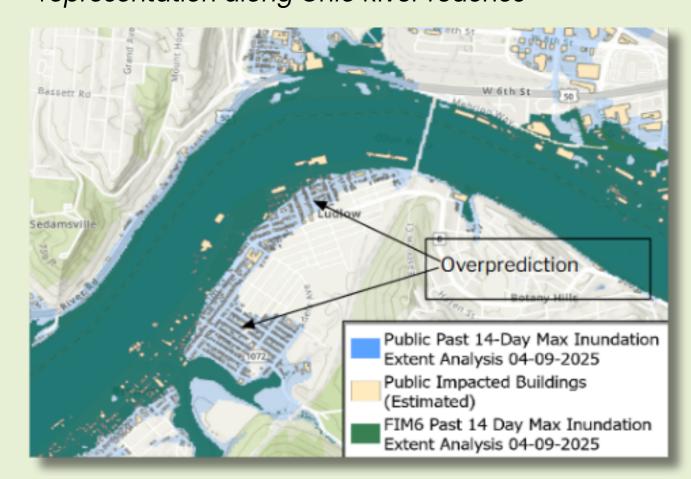
✓ Benefit: Produces more accurate mapping for many river reaches nationwide



Ohio River Bathymetry Enhancement

Incorporates OHRFC-provided HEC-RAS model bathymetry into the synthetic rating curve for the Ohio River

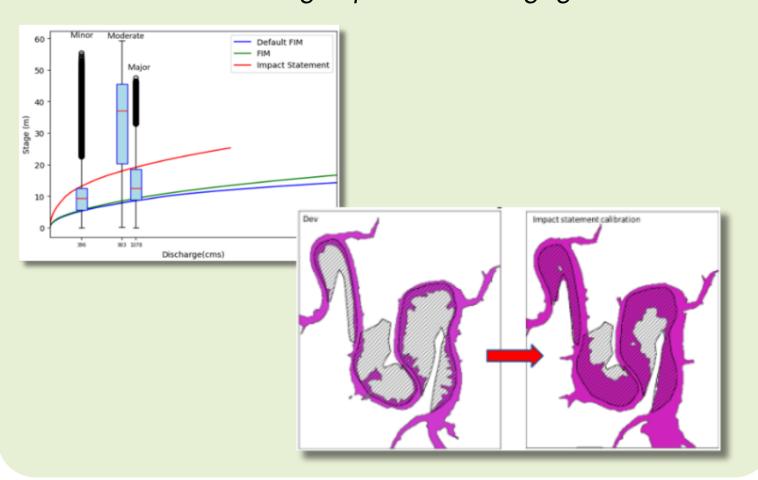
✓ Benefit: Reduces overestimation and improves volume representation along Ohio River reaches



Geo-Located Impact Statements

Utilizes polygon-based geo-located impact statements to "nudge" rating curves toward observed impacts

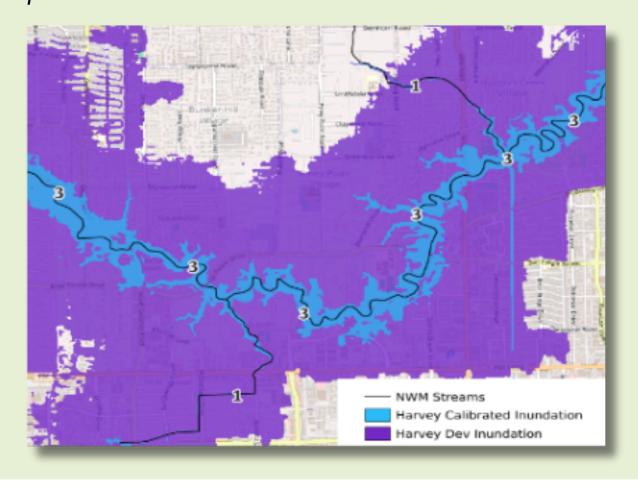
✓ Benefit: Creates maps that more accurately reflect measured flooding impacts around gage sites



Manual Calibration in Houston

Manually calibrates reaches in the coastal urban area to better match HEC-RAS flood maps.

✓ Benefit: Decreases the overestimation previously experienced in Houston



Questions, Comments, Discussion?

Speak Directly to the Developers!



Slack Page: national-water-center-gid

Vlab Tickets for Issues: https://vlab.noaa.gov/redmine/projects/owp-

<u>inundation-mapping?jump=welcome</u>

