



FEMA

# How to Find Your FIRM and Make a FIRMMette

<http://msc.fema.gov>

July 2013

**RiskMAP**  
Increasing Resilience Together



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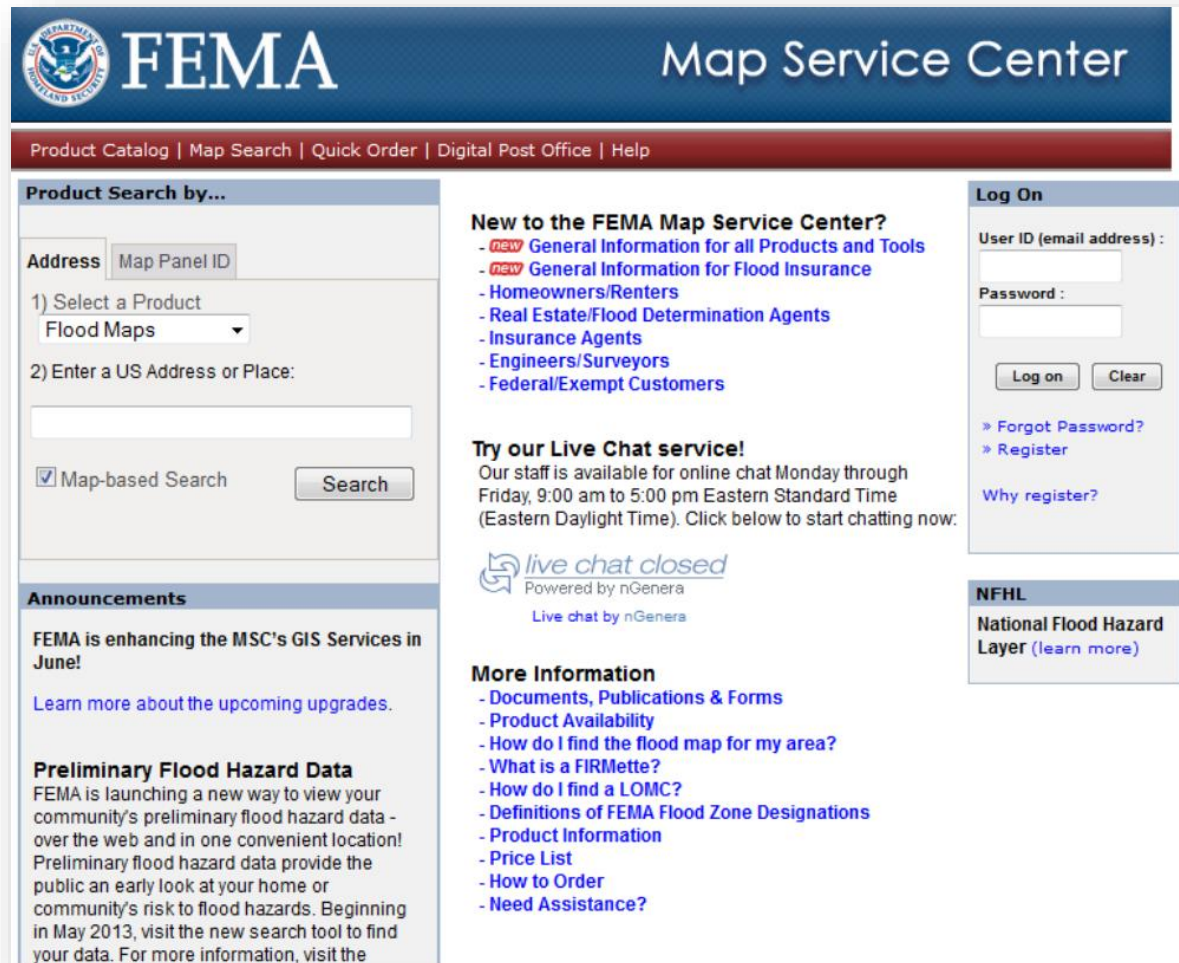
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# Getting Started

- A Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is an official flood map used in the National Flood Insurance Program
- A FIRMette is a full-scale section of a FIRM that you create yourself

First, navigate to the Map Service Center homepage,

<http://msc.fema.gov>



The screenshot shows the FEMA Map Service Center homepage. The header features the FEMA logo and the text "Map Service Center". Below the header is a navigation bar with links: "Product Catalog", "Map Search", "Quick Order", "Digital Post Office", and "Help". The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Product Search by...**: A search form with fields for "Address" and "Map Panel ID". It includes a dropdown menu for "1) Select a Product" (currently set to "Flood Maps") and a text input for "2) Enter a US Address or Place:". There is a checkbox for "Map-based Search" and a "Search" button.
- Announcements**: A section titled "FEMA is enhancing the MSC's GIS Services in June!" with a link to "Learn more about the upcoming upgrades."
- Preliminary Flood Hazard Data**: A section titled "FEMA is launching a new way to view your community's preliminary flood hazard data - over the web and in one convenient location!" It describes how preliminary flood hazard data provide an early look at home or community risk to flood hazards, starting in May 2013.
- New to the FEMA Map Service Center?**: A list of links for new users, including "General Information for all Products and Tools", "General Information for Flood Insurance", "Homeowners/Renters", "Real Estate/Flood Determination Agents", "Insurance Agents", "Engineers/Surveyors", and "Federal/Exempt Customers".
- Try our Live Chat service!**: A section stating that staff is available for online chat Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (Eastern Daylight Time). It includes a link to "live chat closed" and a note "Powered by nGenera".
- More Information**: A list of links for additional resources, including "Documents, Publications & Forms", "Product Availability", "How do I find the flood map for my area?", "What is a FIRMette?", "How do I find a LOMC?", "Definitions of FEMA Flood Zone Designations", "Product Information", "Price List", "How to Order", and "Need Assistance?".
- Log On**: A login section with fields for "User ID (email address)" and "Password", and buttons for "Log on" and "Clear". It also includes links for "Forgot Password?", "Register", and "Why register?".
- NFHL**: A section titled "National Flood Hazard Layer" with a link to "learn more".

# Step One

## Find Your Flood Map

- There are several ways to find and access a FIRM
- Some of these options make use of the Bing™ Map interface, while others take you straight to a listing of one or more FIRMs
- From the FIRM, you may make a smaller FIRMette

The screenshot shows the FEMA Map Service Center homepage. At the top is the FEMA logo and the text 'Map Service Center'. Below this is a navigation bar with links: 'Product Catalog | Map Search | Quick Order | Digital Post Office | Help'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Product Search by...**: A search form with fields for 'Address' and 'Map Panel ID'. It includes a dropdown menu for '1) Select a Product' (currently set to 'Flood Maps') and a text input for '2) Enter a US Address or Place:'. There is a checkbox for 'Map-based Search' and a 'Search' button.
- Announcements**: A section titled 'FEMA is enhancing the MSC's GIS Services in June!' with a link to 'Learn more about the upcoming upgrades.' Below this is a section for 'Preliminary Flood Hazard Data' stating that FEMA is launching a new way to view preliminary flood hazard data over the web, starting in May 2013.
- New to the FEMA Map Service Center?**: A list of links for new users, including 'General Information for all Products and Tools', 'General Information for Flood Insurance', 'Homeowners/Renters', 'Real Estate/Flood Determination Agents', 'Insurance Agents', 'Engineers/Surveyors', and 'Federal/Exempt Customers'.
- Try our Live Chat service!**: A section stating that staff is available for online chat Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time. It includes a 'live chat closed' icon and a link to 'Live chat by nGenera'.
- More Information**: A list of links for additional resources, including 'Documents, Publications & Forms', 'Product Availability', 'How do I find the flood map for my area?', 'What is a FIRMette?', 'How do I find a LOMC?', 'Definitions of FEMA Flood Zone Designations', 'Product Information', 'Price List', 'How to Order', and 'Need Assistance?'.
- Log On**: A section for user login with fields for 'User ID (email address)' and 'Password', and buttons for 'Log on' and 'Clear'. It also includes links for 'Forgot Password?', 'Register', and 'Why register?'.
- NFHL**: A section for the 'National Flood Hazard Layer' with a link to 'learn more'.

# Step One

## Option A: Search by Address

To find a FIRM for a specific address, you may use Product Search by Address on the MSC homepage

Enter an address or place of interest in “Product Search by”

The screenshot shows the FEMA Map Service Center homepage. The header includes the FEMA logo and the text 'Map Service Center'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: 'Product Catalog | Map Search | Quick Order | Digital Post Office | Help'. The main content area is divided into three sections. The left section, titled 'Product Search by...', contains a form with two tabs: 'Address' (selected) and 'Map Panel ID'. Under the 'Address' tab, there are two steps: '1) Select a Product' with a dropdown menu showing 'Flood Maps', and '2) Enter a US Address or Place:' with a text input field containing '500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472'. Below the input field is a checkbox labeled 'Map-based Search' which is checked, and a 'Search' button. The middle section, titled 'New to the FEMA Map Service Center?', lists several links: 'General Information for all Products and Tools', 'General Information for Flood Insurance', 'Homeowners/Renters', 'Real Estate/Flood Determination Agents', 'Insurance Agents', 'Engineers/Surveyors', and 'Federal/Exempt Customers'. The right section, titled 'Log On', contains a 'User ID (email address):' field, a 'Password:' field, 'Log on' and 'Clear' buttons, and links for 'Forgot Password?', 'Register', and 'Why register?'.

Search by place of interest is only available when “Map-based Search” is enabled. Map-based Searches will display the result [on a graphical map](#). Searches without this option will return [a list of associated FIRMs](#)



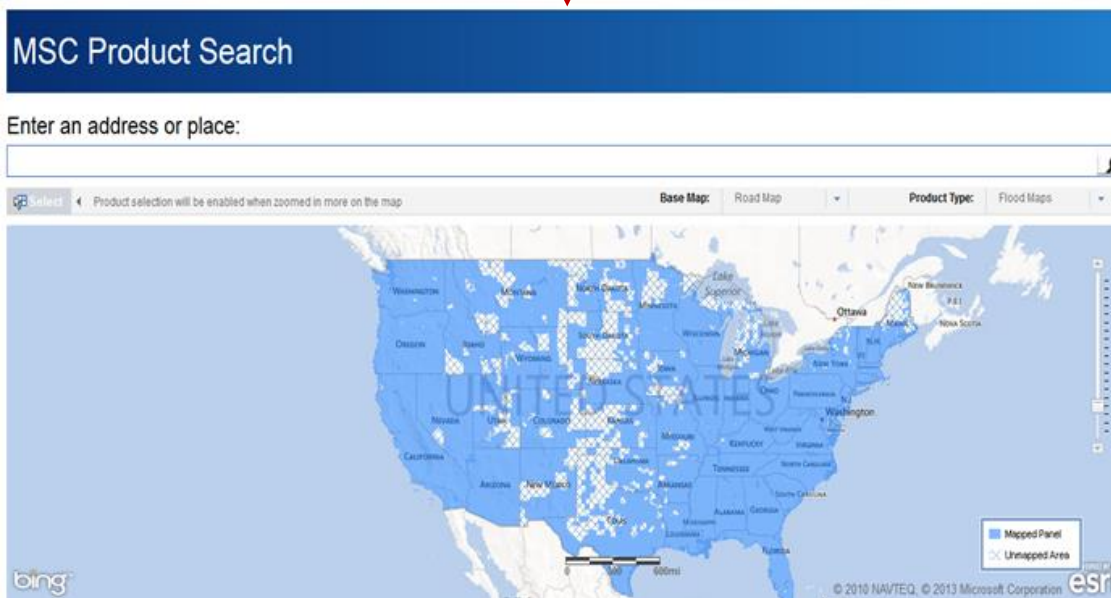
# Step One

## Option A: Search by Address

- Similar to Product Search by Address, you can locate the FIRM for a specific address through the “Map Search” option
- Enter an address or place of interest on the map search page and hit the magnifying glass



The *Flood Maps* product type and *Road Map* base map will be selected by default. If you prefer to use different layers, move your cursor over the Base Map menu and select *Aerial Imagery* or *Aerial with Labels*



# Step One

## Option A: Search by Address

The MSC Product Search page will display your map panel location superimposed over a map of the area

The screenshot displays the 'MSC Product Search' web application. At the top, a blue header contains the title. Below it, a search bar prompts the user to 'Enter an address or place:' and shows the input '500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20024'. A 'Select' button and a map are visible. The map shows a street grid in Washington, DC, with a red location pin at 500 C Street SW. A legend in the bottom right corner identifies 'Printed Panel' (blue square), 'Non-printed Panel' (red square), and 'Unmapped Area' (yellow square). A red box highlights a search result for 'FIRM Panel 1100010019C' with the address '500 C St SW, Washington, DC 20024' and the community 'DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'. A red arrow points from this result to a larger, detailed view of the same panel on the right, which includes a 'Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel' link and the panel number '1100010019C'.

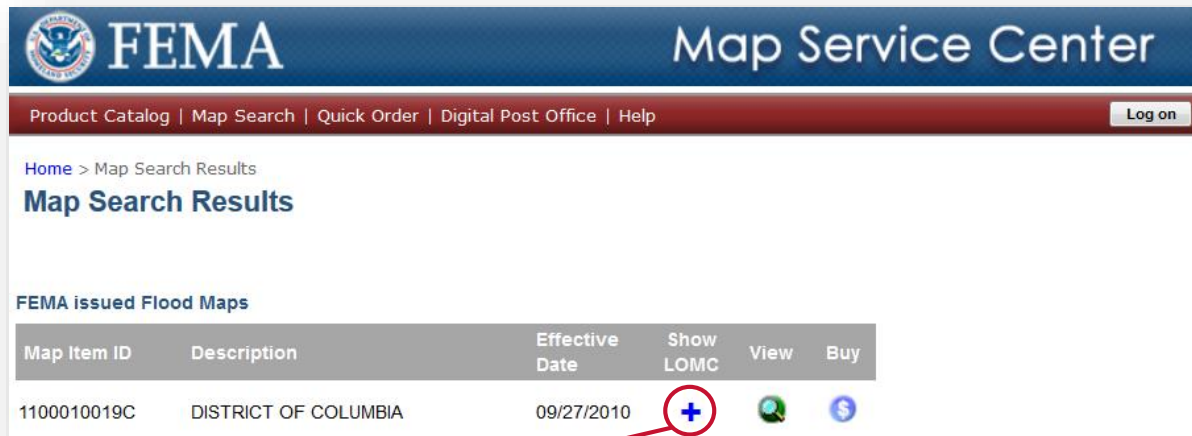
To create a FIRMette, click the panel number under “Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel”

# Step One

## Option A: Search by Address

The Map Search Results page will display the options for your map

- To view the FIRM Panel and [make a FIRMette using the MSC's Intranetix Viewer](#), click the "View" button
- To purchase a copy of your map, click the "Buy" button



To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under "Show LOMC"

Map Item ID	Description	Effective Date	Show LOMC	View	Buy
1100010019C	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	09/27/2010	-		
LOMC	MICS-12682-110001	09/28/2010			
LOMC	12-03-0808P-110001	07/20/2012			
LOMC	10-03-2017P-110001	09/28/2010			

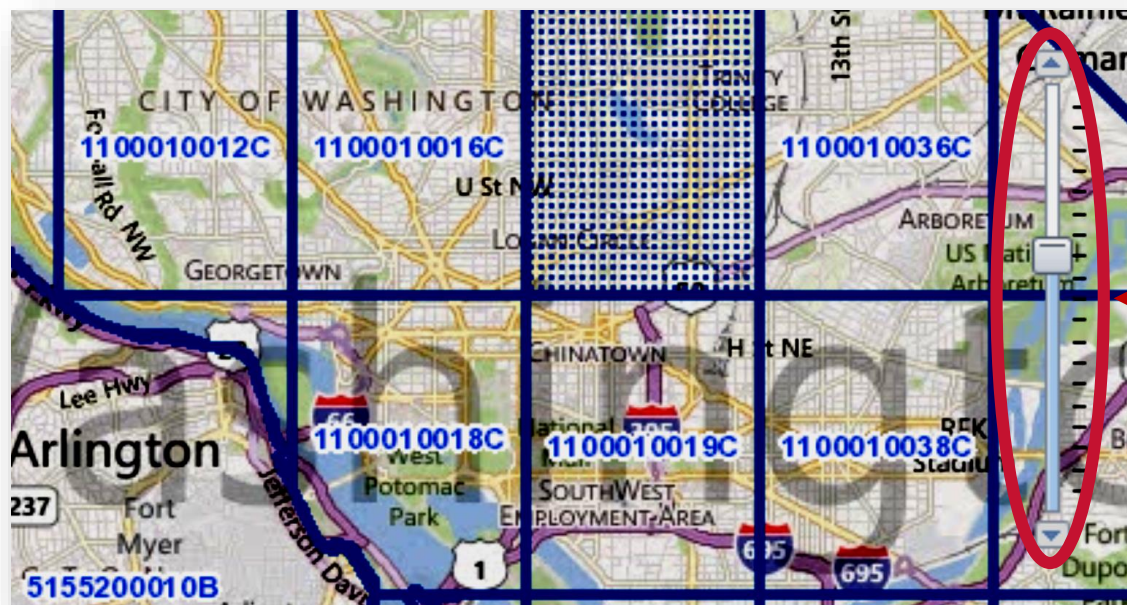
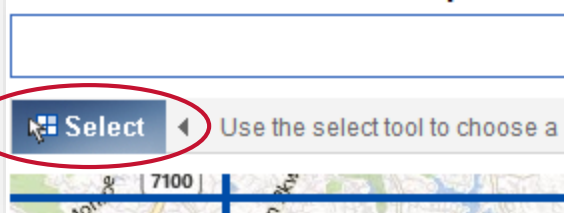


# Step One

## Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

- On the map search page, **zoom in on your area of interest**
- To re-center the screen to your desired location when zooming, drag the map so that the target area is at the center
- When you have zoomed in to the level at which you can see the individual blue FIRM Panel borders and numbers, **click the “Select” button** at the top left of map

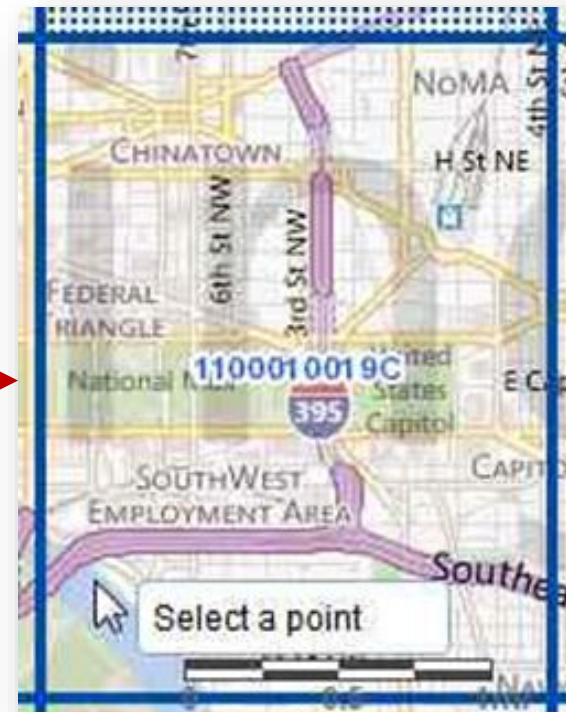
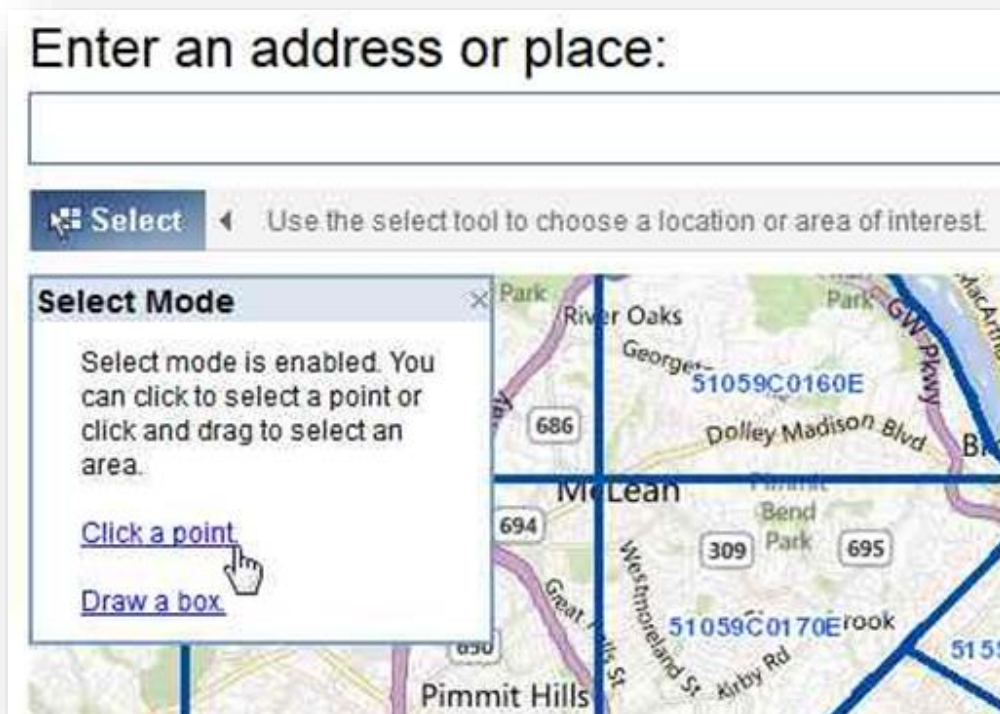
Enter an address or place



# Step One

## Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

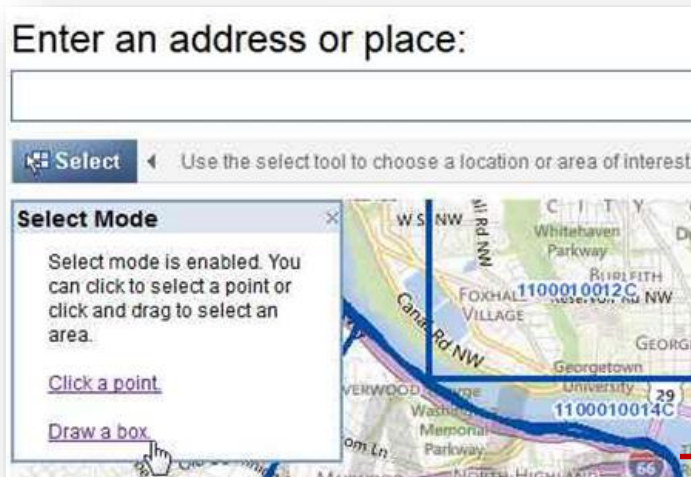
After you hit “Select,” the resulting dropdown menu will allow you to pick one of two options: 1) either “Click a point” to select a panel...



# Step One

## Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

...or 2) “Draw a box” on the map by clicking and holding on a point and dragging the cursor to select multiple panels at once





# Step One

## Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

To view your flood map or to create a FIRMette, click either the panel number that appears as a link under “Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel” or, if you have selected multiple panels, the “Retrieve Printed FIRM Panel(s)” link



OR



# Step One

## Option B: Zoom in Using the Map

The Map Search Results page will display the options for your map

- To view the FIRM Panel and [make a FIRMette using the MSC's Intranetix Viewer](#), click the "View" button
- To purchase a copy of your map, click the "Buy" button




FEMA Map Service Center

Product Catalog | Map Search | Quick Order | Digital Post Office | Help Log on






Home > Map Search Results

Map Search Results

FEMA issued Flood Maps

Map Item ID	Description	Effective Date	Show LOMC	View	Buy
1100010019C	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	09/27/2010	+		

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under "Show LOMC"

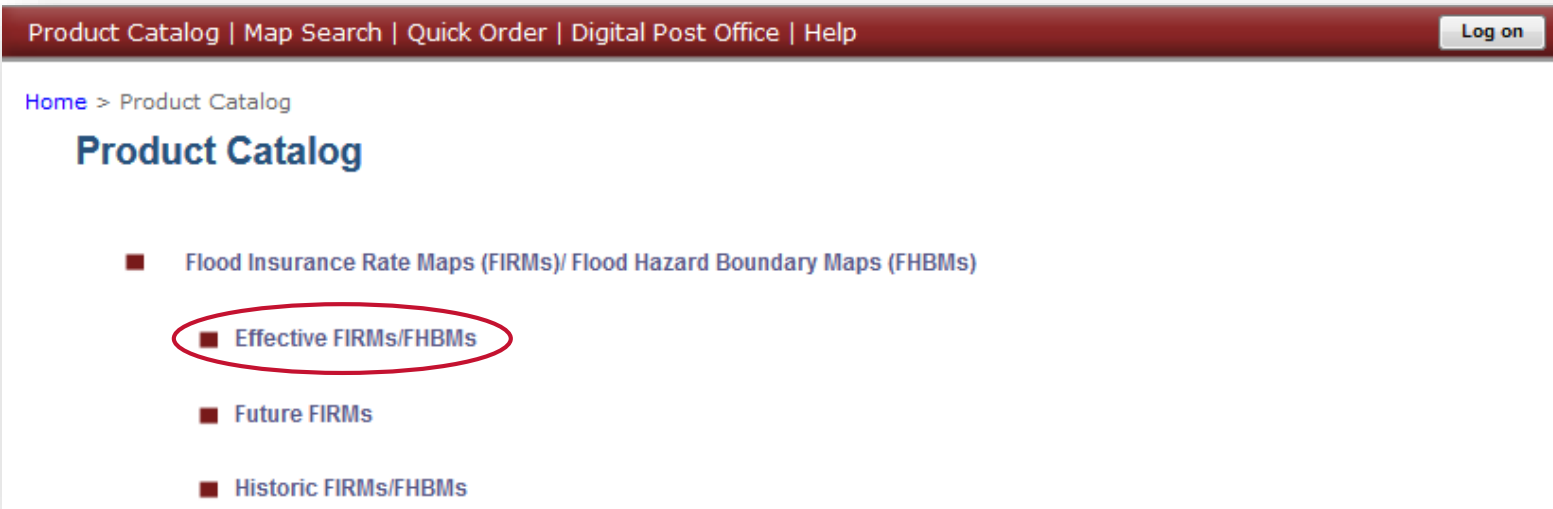
Map Item ID	Description	Effective Date	Show LOMC	View	Buy
1100010019C	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	09/27/2010	-		
LOMC	MICS-12682-110001	09/28/2010			
LOMC	12-03-0808P-110001	07/20/2012			
LOMC	10-03-2017P-110001	09/28/2010			



# Step One

## Option C: Product Catalog

- Finally, you may find the FIRMs for your community using the Product Catalog
- Select “Product Catalog” from the navigation bar at the top of the homepage, and then select “Effective FIRMs/FHBMs”



# Step One

## Option C: Product Catalog

On the following page, progress through the option tree

The screenshot shows the FEMA Product Catalog interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Product Catalog | Map Search | Quick Order | Digital Post Office | Help, and a Log on button. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Product Catalog > FEMA Issued Flood Maps. The main heading is "Current FEMA Issued Flood Maps". A text block instructs users to use selection boxes to find their area of interest and to click the "Get Kit" button for a particular jurisdiction. The interface features a table with four rows, each representing a step in the selection process. The first three rows are for selecting a State, District, or Territory; a County, Parish, etc.; and a Community. The fourth row is for the "Get Current FEMA Issued Flood Maps" button, which is circled in red. The table also includes FEMA IDs and buttons for "Get County Kit", "Get Community Kit", and "Get DFIRM data".

	Show FEMA IDs	FEMA ID		
1	Select a State, District or Territory: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	11	To order state kits, please contact customer service at (877) 336-2627.	
2	Select a County, Parish, etc: WASH D.C.	11001		Get County Kit
3	Select a Community: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	110001		Get Community Kit    Get DFIRM data
4	Get Current FEMA Issued Flood Maps			

\* designates unincorporated areas

Selecting each option will cause the next one in the sequence to appear, concluding with the button that will bring up all of the FIRMs for your desired community

# Step One

## Option C: Product Catalog

To view a FIRM Panel and make a FIRMette, click the “View” button

[Home](#) > [Product Catalog](#) > FEMA Issued Flood Maps

### Current FEMA Issued Flood Maps

State : VIRGINIA

County : FAIRFAX COUNTY

Community : FAIRFAX CO \*

[Get Community Kit](#)









Index maps, if available, are now located at the top of the list below.

Click the *View* button to view a map or to make a FIRMette. To purchase a map, click the *Buy* button to show pricing information. If you would like all the maps for the community, then click the *Get Community Kit* link above. Please be aware that some maps may have been amended by Letter of Map Change (LOMC) since publication. These maps have a "plus" sign in the "Show LOMC" column. Please note, that only LOMCs issued from June 1, 1997 through June 14, 2013 are available for viewing. To determine if additional LOMCs have been issued for a map, contact your local government office responsible for floodplain management. Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps may also have been produced for this community. To view or order these, select the Flood Insurance Studies link on the catalog page.

A total of 47 items found. Displaying map item 1 through 20.

Sort by:

1 | 2 | 3 NEXT>>

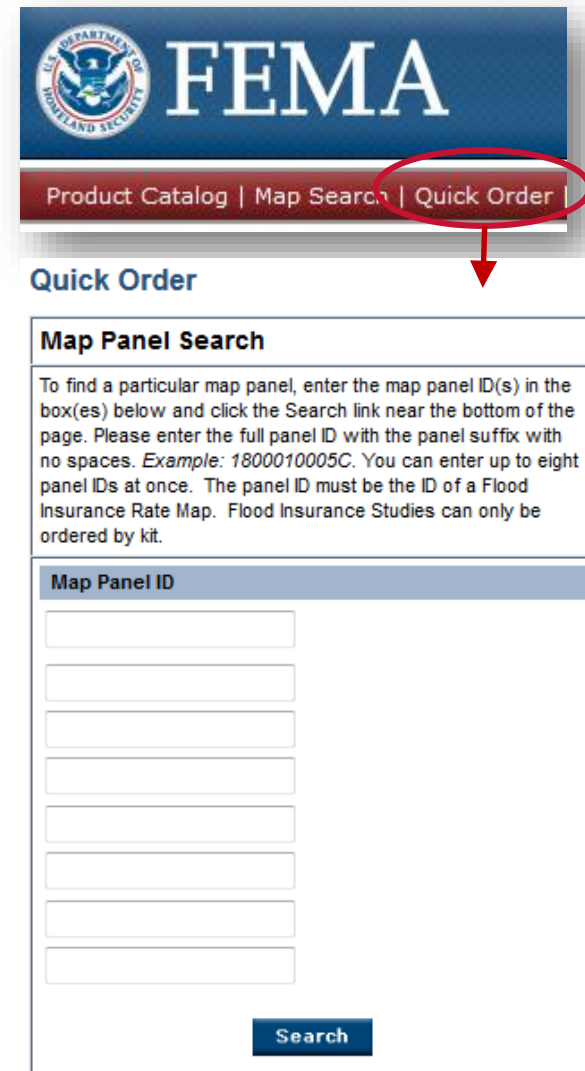
<a href="#">Item ID</a> ▲	Item Name	<a href="#">Effective Date</a>	Show LOMC	File Size (Mb)	View	Buy
51059CIND0A	FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)	09/17/2010		1.0 Mb		
51059C0020E	FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)	09/17/2010	+	1.0 Mb		
51059C0040E	FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)	09/17/2010	+	1.0 Mb		
51059C0045E	FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)	09/17/2010	+	1.0 Mb		

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under “Show LOMC”

# Step One

## Option D: Quick Order

If you know the IDs of the FIRMs you want, access them using Quick Order. Either click on “Map Panel ID” in the “Product Search by...” window and input the panel IDs **or** select “Quick Order” from the navigation bar and enter the panel IDs on the Quick Order page.



**FEMA**

Product Catalog | Map Search | **Quick Order**


### Quick Order

#### Map Panel Search

To find a particular map panel, enter the map panel ID(s) in the box(es) below and click the Search link near the bottom of the page. Please enter the full panel ID with the panel suffix with no spaces. *Example: 1800010005C*. You can enter up to eight panel IDs at once. The panel ID must be the ID of a Flood Insurance Rate Map. Flood Insurance Studies can only be ordered by kit.

**Map Panel ID**

**Search**



**FEMA** Map Service

Product Catalog | Map Search | Quick Order | Digital Post Office | Help

### Product Search by...

Address **Map Panel ID**

Enter Map Panel IDs:

e.g., 5155240005D,51059C0270E

**Search by Map Panel ID**

#### New to the FEMA Map Service Center?

- **new** General Information for all Products and Tools
- **new** General Information for Flood Insurance
- Homeowners/Renters
- Real Estate/Flood Determination Agents
- Insurance Agents
- Engineers/Surveyors
- Federal/Exempt Customers

#### Try our Live Chat service!

Our staff is available for online chat Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (Eastern Daylight Time). Click below to start chatting now:

# Step One

## Option D: Quick Order

The Quick Order Search Results page will display the FIRM panels you have entered

- To view the FIRM Panel and [make a FIRMette using the MSC's Intranetix Viewer](#), click the "View" button
- To purchase a copy of your map, click the "Buy" button

FEMA Map Service Center

Product Catalog | Map Search | Quick Order | Digital Post Office | Help Log on

Home > Quick Order > Quick Order Search Results

**Quick Order Search Results**

Check the products that you would like to view or buy.

Map Panel Search Results

Map Item ID	Description	Effective Date	Show LOMC	View	Buy
51059C0140E	FAIRFAX CO UNINC & INC	09/17/2010	+		
51059C0040E	FAIRFAX CO UNINC & INC	09/17/2010	+		

To see a list of Letters of Map Change issued for that panel, hit the + under "Show LOMC"

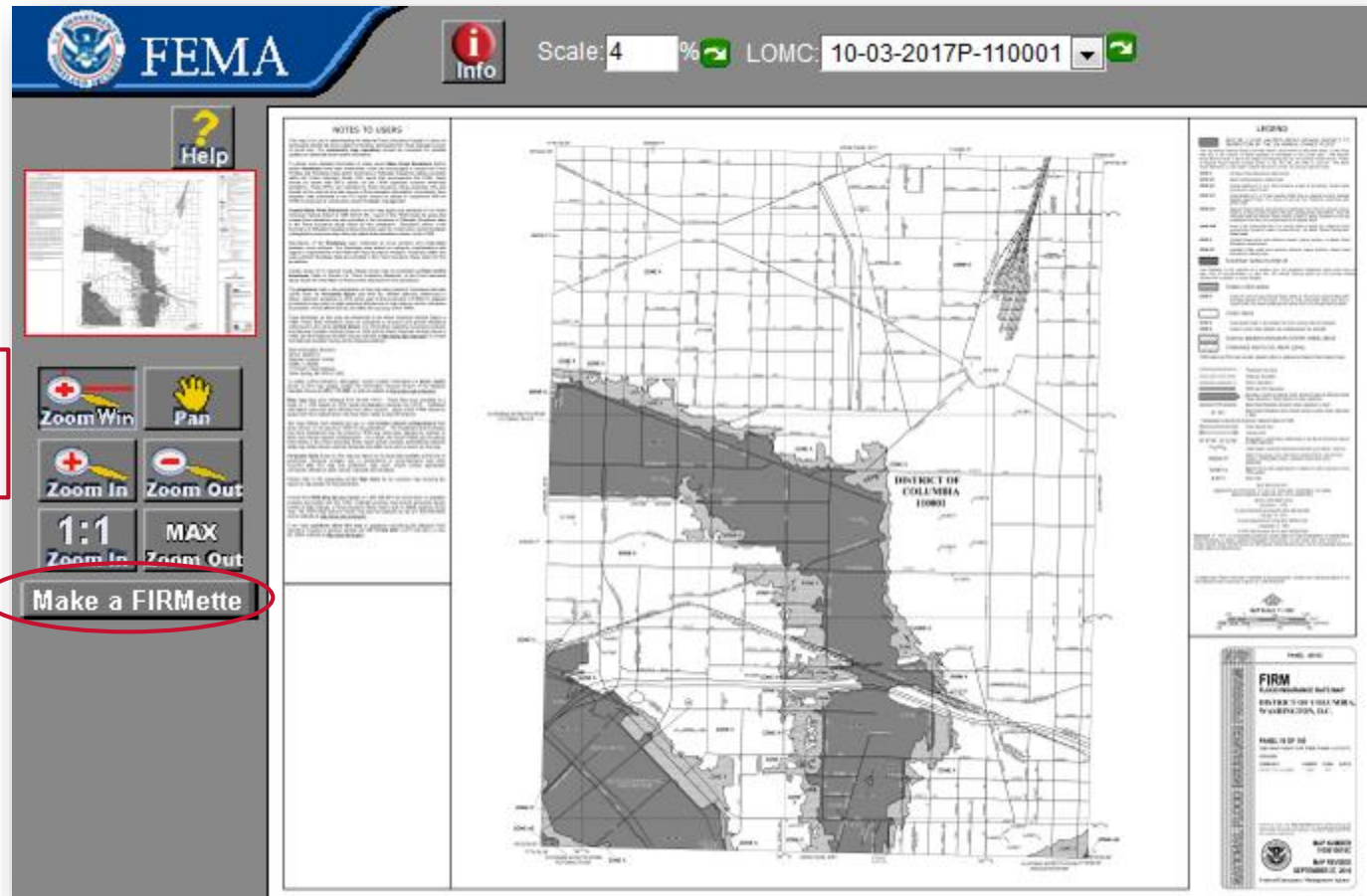
Map Item ID	Description	Effective Date	Show LOMC	View	Buy
51059C0140E	FAIRFAX CO UNINC & INC	09/17/2010	-		
LOMC	09-03-0596V-515525	09/18/2010			
LOMC	11-03-0577A-515525	01/25/2011			
LOMC	11-03-0831A-515525	05/19/2011			



## Step Two

# Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

A new window will appear, containing the Intranetix Viewer, which will display the selected FIRM panel



# Step Two

# Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

Click, hold, and drag the pink layer to cover the area you want in your FIRMette

Choose your paper size

To reposition the title block or scale and north arrow, click the appropriate button and drag the newly pink layer

The screenshot shows the FEMA Intranetix Viewer interface. At the top, there's a header with the FEMA logo, an 'Info' icon, and a scale bar set to 6%. Below the header is a toolbar with various icons. A red box highlights the 'Print Area' button in the toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Print Area' button to the 'NOTES TO USER' box. A red box highlights the 'Scale and North Arrow' button in the toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Scale and North Arrow' button to the 'NOTES TO USER' box. A red box highlights the 'Title Block' button in the toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Title Block' button to the 'NOTES TO USER' box. A red box highlights the 'Create FIRMette' button in the toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Create FIRMette' button to the 'NOTES TO USER' box. A red box highlights the 'Adobe PDF' button in the toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Adobe PDF' button to the 'NOTES TO USER' box. A red box highlights the 'Image File' button in the toolbar. A red arrow points from the 'Image File' button to the 'NOTES TO USER' box. The main area of the interface displays a map of the District of Columbia with various zones labeled. A legend is visible on the right side of the map. At the bottom right, there's a small inset showing a preview of the FIRMette output.

# Step Two

# Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

- You may use the Zoom and Pan functions to more precisely identify the area you want in your FIRMette
- However, you must be zoomed out all the way in order to make a FIRMette correctly

The screenshot displays the FEMA Intranetix Viewer interface. At the top, the FEMA logo is on the left, followed by an 'Info' icon, a scale of 6%, and the LOMC (Last Official Map Change) date and time: 10-03-2017P-110001. The main area shows a map of the District of Columbia with a green selection box. To the left of the map is a sidebar with navigation tools: 'Zoom Win', 'Pan', 'Zoom In', 'Zoom Out', '1:1', 'MAX', 'Zoom In', and 'Zoom Out'. Below these are instructions for selecting page size (Letter 8.5x11, Legal 8.5x14, Tabloid 11x17), selecting and moving areas, and creating FIRMettes. At the bottom of the sidebar are buttons for 'Adobe PDF' and 'Image File'. On the right side of the map is a legend. A red arrow points from the text 'When ready, click on your preferred output format, “Adobe PDF” or “Image File”' to the 'Adobe PDF' button.

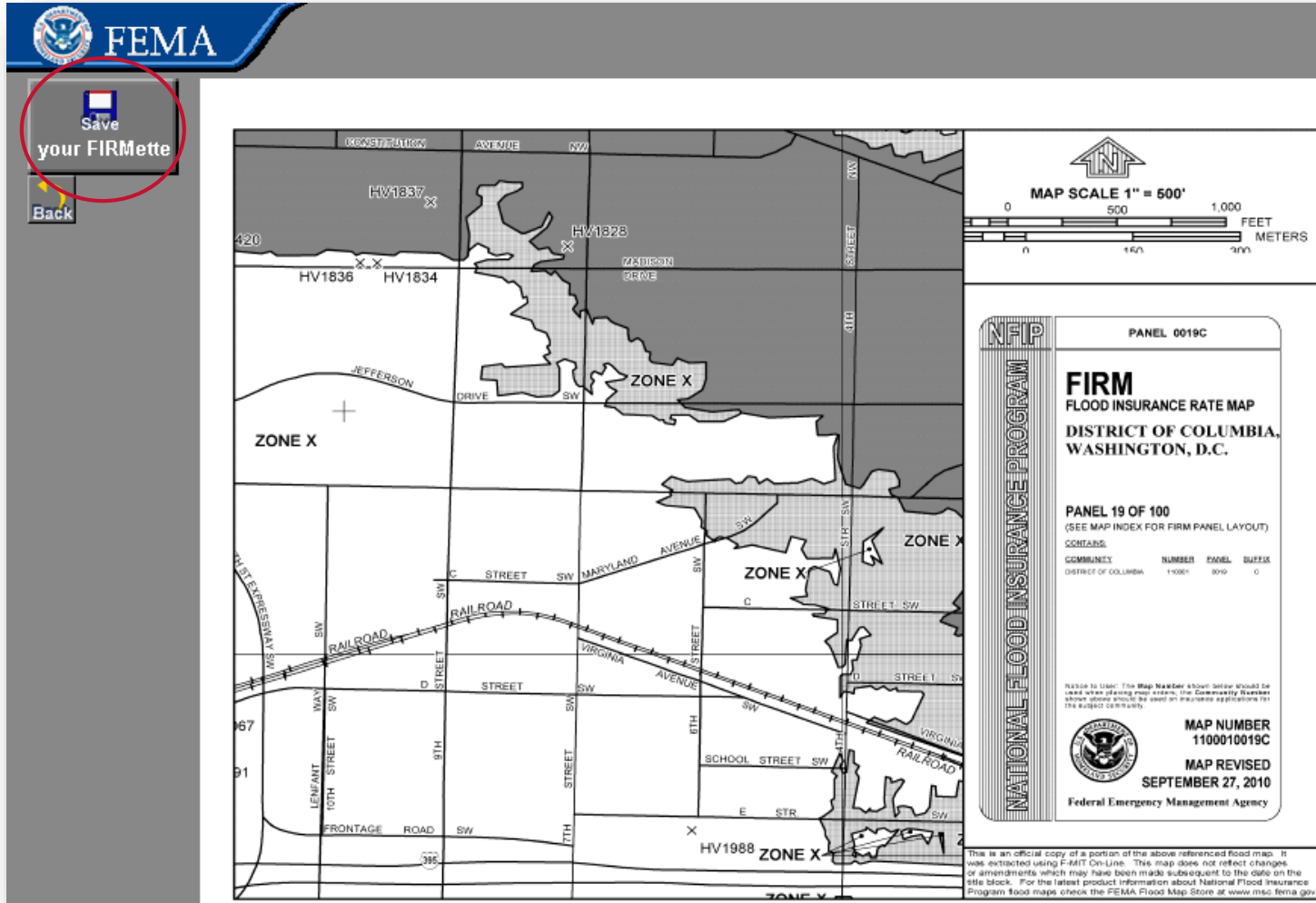
When ready, click on your preferred output format, “Adobe PDF” or “Image File”

# Step Two

# Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

- Your FIRMette will appear and can be saved to your hard drive

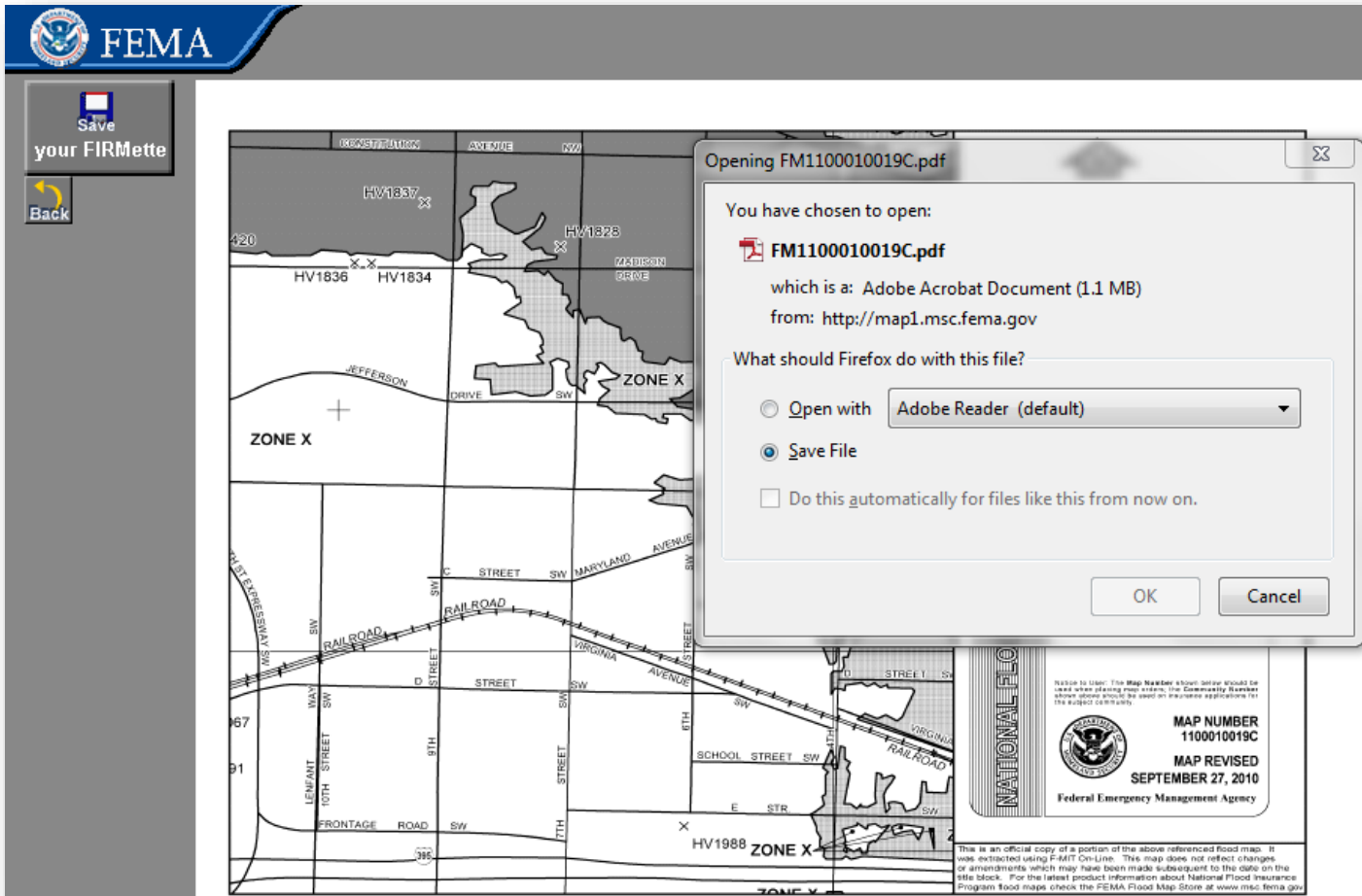
- You can also go back and make additional FIRMettes from the same panel





# Step Two

# Making FIRMettes in Intranetix Viewer

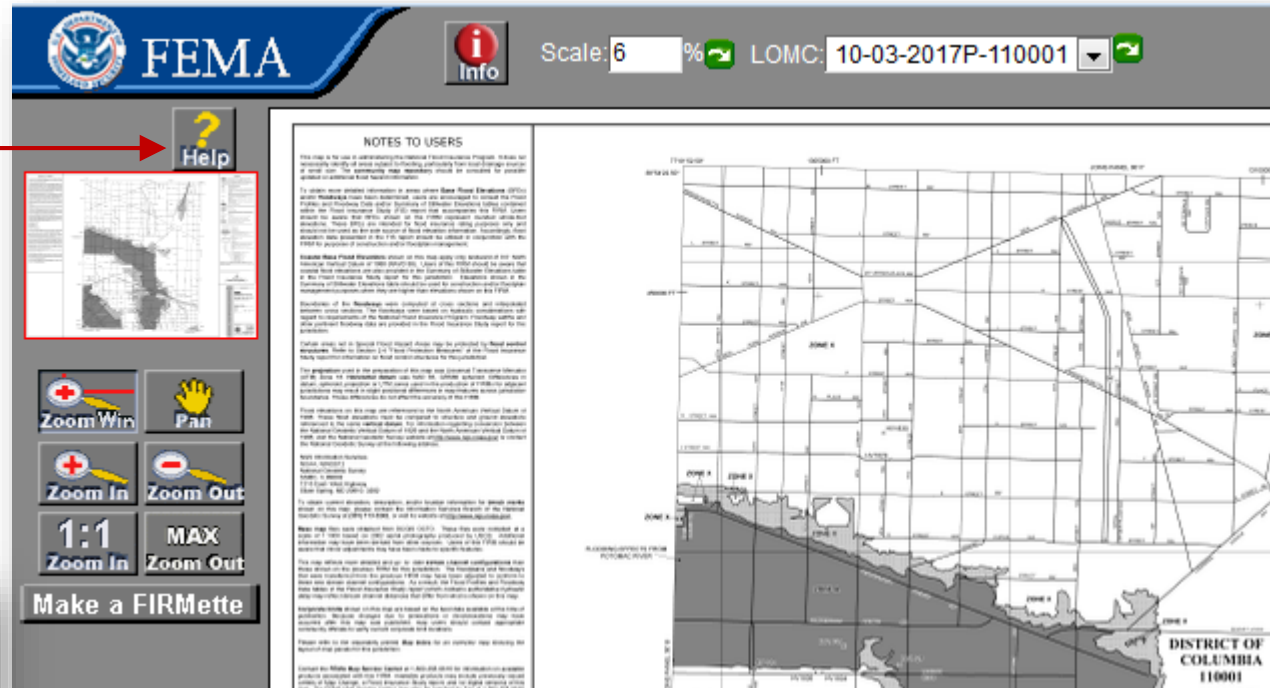


Once saved and/or opened in your local viewer, you can print out the FIRMettes on the appropriate-sized paper corresponding to your earlier selection



# Troubleshooting

For technical assistance, please use the “Help” feature or contact the Map Service Center



<http://msc.fema.gov>