

## Major Changes for the 2012 CRS Coordinator's Manual

*This paper assumes the reader is familiar with the Community Rating System (CRS). Numbers refer to the section numbers in the 2012 Manual. The new credit points are listed in tables for each activity. Only those sections and elements with major changes are summarized.*

The effective date for the 2012 CRS Coordinator's Manual will be no sooner than July 1, 2012.

A participating CRS community will need to meet the prerequisites in effect at the time of its cycle verification visit. No new requirements, including annual recertification requirements, will take effect until the ISO/CRS Specialist reviews them one-on-one with the community at the cycle visit.

### 210 Requesting CRS Credit

#### 211.a. Class 9 Prerequisites:

- (5) The community must maintain all flood insurance policies that it has been required to carry on properties owned by the community. The CEO will need to sign a statement that the community is aware that disaster assistance for any community-owned building located in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) is reduced by the amount of NFIP flood insurance coverage (structural and contents) that a community should be carrying on the building, regardless of whether the community is carrying a policy.
- (6) If a coastal community receives a draft Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) that delineates the Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA), the community must agree to show the LiMWA on its final published FIRM.

**211.b. Class 6 Prerequisite:** The CRS Class 7 Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) prerequisite will be replaced with a CRS Class 6 prerequisite: the community will need to have a BCEGS Class 5/5 or better to be a CRS Class 6.

#### 211.c. Class 4 Prerequisites:

- (2) The BCEGS prerequisite to be a CRS Class 4 or better will change from 5/5 to 4/4.
- (3) Class 4 or better communities will need to have at least one foot of freeboard and obtain at least 700 points under Activities 430 (Higher Regulatory Standards) and 420 (Open Space Preservation) (after the impact adjustment).
- (4) Class 4 or better communities will need to obtain a minimum total score of 100 points from one or a combination of elements that credit protecting natural floodplain functions.
- (5) Class 4 or better communities must document the following life safety measures:
  - (a) Obtain some credit under Activity 610 (Flood Warning and Response)
  - (b) Have a map of all areas protected by levees and an inventory of the buildings and critical facilities that would be flooded if the levees were overtopped.

- (c) Have a map of all areas that would be flooded by a failure of a high hazard dam and an inventory of the buildings and critical facilities that would be flooded.

**211.d. Class 1 Prerequisites:** Receiving at least 50% of the credit for Activity 370 (Flood Insurance Promotion) will be an alternative to the 50% insurance coverage prerequisite. The community will need to receive at least 150 points from one or a combination of elements that credit discouraging development in the floodplain and 150 points for elements that credit protecting natural functions.

**212 Application Procedures:** The current 50-page *CRS Application* will be replaced by a shorter “Quick Check” that will identify if the community is likely to receive at least 500 points for its activities. If so, a visit by an ISO/CRS Specialist will be scheduled (but only with the approval of the FEMA regional office). The Quick Check will be available for completion on-line or downloading. It is hoped that states will help tailor the Quick Check for their conditions.

**213 Recertification:** The table below will be in a new worksheet. Lines 7 and 14 will need to be completed when a community joins the CRS and at the first cycle verification visit after the 2012 *Manual* takes effect. All of the lines will need to be completed and submitted with subsequent recertifications and cycle visits.

<b>CRS Program Data Table</b>	A. In the SFHA	B. In a regulated floodplain outside the SFHA	C. In the rest of the community
1. Number of buildings in the SFHA (bSF) as of last report (line 7 in last report)			
2. Number of new buildings constructed since last report	+		
3. If available, the following data would be useful:			
a. Number of new manufactured homes installed since last report	+		
b. Number of other new 1 - 4 family buildings constructed since last report	+		
c. Number of all other buildings constructed/installed since last report	+		
4. Number of buildings removed/demolished since last report	-		
5. Number of buildings affected by map revisions since last report (+ or -)			
6. Number of buildings affected by corporate limits changes (+ or -)			
7. Current total number of buildings in the SFHA (bSF) (sum of lines 1 – 6)			
8. Number of substantial improvement/damage projects since last report			
9. Number of repetitive loss properties mitigated since last report			
10. Number of LOMRs and map revisions (not LOMAs) since last report			
11. Acreage of area(s) (aSFHA) as of the last report (line 14 in last report)			
12. Acreage of area(s) affected by map revisions since last report (+ or -)			
13. Acreage of area(s) affected by corporate limits changes (+ or -)			
14. Current acreage of the SFHA (aSFHA) (sum of lines 11 – 13)			

Lines 1–9 deal with “buildings.” Section 301 has more information on what qualifies as “buildings” and how they are counted for CRS purposes. Numbers in column A are for the Special Flood Hazard Area. If the community also regulates floodplain development outside the SFHA, Column B is completed (and the community may deserve credit in Activity 410 (Floodplain Mapping)). The data in Column C help relate what happens in the floodplain with what is happening in the rest of the community.

**214 Modifications:** Modifications are requests by a community to revise the scores for selected activities. Because of all the changes in the 2012 *CRS Coordinator's Manual*, if a community submits a modification, the community's entire program will be verified and the cycle schedule will start over.

## 240 CRS Community Self Assessment

This is a new on-line tool to help communities better understand the risks and natural functions inherent in their floodplains. This tool will also help communities identify which CRS activities would most benefit them. A demo version of the Community Self Assessment is available online at [www.crs2012.org](http://www.crs2012.org).

The Community Self Assessment is voluntary and not a credited activity. However, if a community lacks a more detailed assessment, such as in a floodplain management plan, the Community Self Assessment can fulfill the assessment requirements for some CRS activities including developing a Program for Public Information (PPI) under Activity 330 (Outreach Projects), the flood insurance coverage assessment (FIA) under Activity 370 (Flood Insurance Promotion), and the documentation to meet the Credit Criteria for Activities 610 (Flood Warning and Response), 620 (Levees), and 630 (Dams).

## Activity 310 – Elevation Certificates

**EC – Elevation Certificates:** A V Zone Certificate and a breakaway wall certificate are needed, where applicable.

**ECCF – Elevation Certificates in a computer format:** The credit is being dropped from the CRS. However, a new, similar credit is being added to Activity 440 – Flood Data Maintenance, Additional Map Data (AMD).

Activity 310 (Elevation Certificates)	Max Credit
EC – ECs after joining CRS	38
ECPO – Post-FIRM ECs	48
ECPR – Pre-FIRM ECs	30
Activity max	116

**ECWS – Elevation Certificates on the community's website:** This element is being moved to Activity 350 – Flood Protection Information, with the rest of the CRS website credits.

**ORS – Off-site record storage** is being moved to a new element, Regulation Administration in Activity 430 – Higher Regulatory Standards. That element will also have credit for inspections and photographs at the time of the final Elevation Certificate.

**Credit Verification:** A new process will be followed for EC:

Two months before each verification visit, the community will send the ISO/CRS Specialist a list of all new buildings and substantial improvements constructed in the SFHA since the last visit. The community also sends copies of the Elevation Certificates (and/or V Zone, Floodproofing Certificates, etc., as appropriate) for those buildings and substantial improvements.

ISO reviews the certificates and the Specialist will bring the findings to the visit. The community's score for the first element, EC, will be based on this review. For example, if the community has 20 certificates and 12 have no problems listed on the checklist, the community's score will be:

$$EC = 38 \times \frac{12}{20} = 22.8 \text{ points.}$$

The community is given feedback on all the certificates. To stay in the CRS, at least 90% of the community's certificates must be correct, i.e., with no problems. If less than 90% of the certificates pass (as in the example above), the community must correct them in order to stay in the CRS.

The score for EC is based on the review of certificates submitted for the verification visit. It will not change after the community makes the needed corrections, but EC will be rescored at the next visit based on a review of the next batch of certificates.

At each annual recertification, the community again provides the list of new buildings and substantial improvements constructed in the SFHA during the previous year and copies of the elevation and other certificates for those buildings. These are reviewed and feedback on the findings is given to the community.

There is no change to the community's score based on the recertification findings, but those Elevation Certificates will be reviewed at the next cycle verification visit. Therefore, it behooves the community to get them corrected or face a lower score at the next visit.

### Activity 320 – Map Information Service

This credit will be reduced from a max of 140 to 90. MI 1, which is the same as the current credit, will be a prerequisite for the other credits.

The additional credit points add up to more than 100%, so the community can select what information it wants to provide and receive the maximum credit.

Activity 320 (Map Information Service)	Max Credit
MI 1- Read the FIRM for inquirers	30
MI 2 – LiMWA/floodway info/CBRS area	20
MI 3 – Other flood problems not shown on FIRM	20
MI 4 – Flood depth data (formerly in Activity 360)	20
MI 5 – Special flood-related hazards	20
MI 6 – Historical flood information/repetitive flood losses	20
MI 7 – Natural floodplain functions	20
Activity max	90

### Activity 330 – Outreach Projects

**OP – Outreach projects:** The community must identify the messages it wants to deliver and who they go to. A project disseminates one or more messages. Certain projects are more effective at motivating change, so they are worth more points. The credit points for OP are based on how many times the projects convey the same message each year.

Activity 330 (Outreach Projects)	Max Credit
OP – Outreach Projects	200
FRP – Flood response preparations	80
PPI – Program for Public Information	100
STK – Stakeholder delivery	50
Activity max	350

**FRP – Flood response preparations** credits having a pre-flood plan of public information activities (news releases, handouts, etc.), ready in advance of the next flood.

**PPI – Program for Public Information:** The credit for OP and FRP can be increased by 40% if the projects are designed as part of a Program for Public Information (PPI). A PPI is a plan, prepared by a committee in a similar manner as the current public information program strategy (OPS). Other activities' credits can be increased by a PPI, too.

**STK – Stakeholder delivery:** The credit for OP can be increased with a 30% bonus multiplier if there is a PPI and the projects are implemented by stakeholder organizations.

Check [www.CRS2012.org](http://www.CRS2012.org) for a separate paper, *Preparing a Program for Public Information*.

**Activity 340 – Hazard Disclosure**

Credit is given for disclosing the flood hazard before the mortgage lender has to notify prospective buyers of the hazard and of the need for flood insurance. Two elements (DFH and REB) receive a 40% bonus if they are designed in a Program for Public Information (element PPI under Activity 330) or if the community worked with real estate agents to design them.

Activity 340 (Hazard Disclosure)	Max Credit	Max W/PPI
DFH: Real estate agents' disclosure	25	35
ODR: Other disclosure requirements	25	25
REB: Real estate brochure	8	12
DOH: Disclosing other hazards	8	8
Activity max	66	80

**Activity 350 – Flood Protection Information**

**LIB – Keeping publications in a library.**

Full credit will be for having 11 specific FEMA publications cataloged in the community's public library. All of them are available at no cost in hard or digital copy from FEMA.

**LPD – Keeping locally pertinent documents** available in the library. Documents for LIB or LPD credit may be hard copies or digital versions that one can view on a monitor in the library.

Activity 350 (Flood Protection Information)	Max Credit	Max W/PPI
LIB – Flood protection library	10	10
LPD – Locally pertinent documents	10	10
WEB – Website		
WEB 1 – 6 points per 330 topic	36	60
WEB 2 – Posting warning information	10	15
WEB 3 – Posting real time gage links	10	10
WEB 4 – Posting ECs on the site	20	20
Activity max	96	125

**WEB – Providing information via a website.** There are new prerequisites for this credit. There must be a flood information home page, with a directory of the site's flood information. For examples, see [www.pbcgov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/floodawareness](http://www.pbcgov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/floodawareness), and [www.floodhelp.uno.edu](http://www.floodhelp.uno.edu). There will be no credit for items that are not connected to this flood information home page.

For full credit, coverage of the topic must be more thorough than what is provided in an outreach project. Simply posting the written portions of an outreach project does not earn full credit. The objective is to provide more in-depth information.

### Activity 360 – Flood Protection Assistance

Credit is given to communities that provide one-on-one advice to residents on protecting their property from flooding. Some elements previously available are moved to Sections 320 or 330 and some items' points will be increased if the community has a Program for Public Information (PPI) that includes these items as projects to be implemented and monitored.

Activity 360 (Flood Protection Assistance)	Max Credit	Max W/PPI
PPA – Property protection advice	25	40
PPV – Advice after a site visit	30	45
FAA – Financial assistance advice	10	15
TNG – New credit for grants training	10	10
Activity max	75	110

**PPA – Property protection advice:** This is for *face-to-face* advice and/or assistance about property protection, such as retrofitting techniques and local drainage improvements.

**PPV – Property protection site visit:** If the community receives credit for PPA, additional points are available for making *site visits* to review flooding, drainage, and sewer problems and providing one-on-one advice to the property owner about protection of property.

**FAA – Financial assistance advice** credits providing advice on financial assistance that may be available, including FEMA mitigation grants and Increased Cost of Compliance.

**TNG – Training** credit is provided if the person providing the advice and assistance has graduated from Emergency Management Institute courses on retrofitting or grants programs.

### Activity 370 – Flood Insurance Promotion

This new activity credits communities that take an active role in encouraging residents and businesses to purchase and maintain adequate flood insurance coverage. A three step process is credited, which should be part of a PPI.

Activity 370 (Flood Insurance Promotion)	Max Credit
FIA – Assessment of Flood Insurance coverage	15
CP – Coverage improvement Plan	15
PI – Plan Implementation	60
TA – Technical Assistance	20
Activity max	110

**Step 1. FIA – Assessment of flood insurance coverage:** The new CRS Community Flood Risk Assessment (Section 240) can help. The community must also plot and review data on all policies in the community. The data are provided on a CD by ISO.

**Step 2. CP – Coverage improvement Plan:** the plan is prepared by a committee that has representation from local insurance agents and lenders. The planning process is similar to a PPI.

**Step 3. PI – Plan Implementation:** Projects are implemented pursuant to the plan. At least one of the projects must involve public support for flood insurance by one or more elected officials. Projects are scored in the same way as outreach projects (OP) in Activity 330.

**TA – Technical assistance:** Separate credit is available for having an expert advise people about flood insurance, similar to the credit for property protection advice under Activity 360.

Check [www.CRS2012.org](http://www.CRS2012.org) for a separate paper, *Preparing a Program for Public Information* that incorporates the three steps from this activity into preparing a PPI.

## Section 402 – Impact Adjustments for Areas

**aRF:** The term “area of the regulatory floodplain,” or aRF, will be replaced by the area of the Special Flood Hazard Area, or aSFHA. Communities that regulate an area larger than the SFHA shown on their Flood Insurance Rate Map can receive extra credit through the impact adjustment, up to a maximum of 150%.

**Coastal wetlands:** Coastal wetlands or marshes will no longer be excluded from the area of the regulatory floodplain or aSFHA. This will likely increase the denominator used for the impact adjustment for many coastal communities, which may result in a reduction in credit. However, communities (and states) that prohibit development in their coastal wetlands will likely see an increase in credit in Activity 420 – Open Space Preservation.

**Default values:** The three options for calculating impact adjustments will be replaced by the single formula, formerly known as Option 3. Some elements and activities will have an optional minimum value. The minimum value can be used where the community does not want to develop the data for the impact adjustment formula or the calculated impact adjustment ratio is less than the minimum value, usually 0.10. Table 402-1 lists the activities that use areas for their impact adjustments and the optional minimum value that can be used.

Table 402-1. Impact Adjustments for Areas			
Activity	Affected Elements	Denominator	Optional Minimum
320 (Map Information Service)	MI 3 – MI 7	aSFHA	0.10
410 (Floodplain Mapping)	NS, SR, HSS, FWS	aSFT *	0.10
420 (Open Space Preservation)	OSP, DR, NFOS, LZ	aSFHA	None
	OSI	aSFHA	0.10
	NSP	total length of shoreline	0.10
430 (Higher Regulatory Standards)	DL, FRB, FDN, CSI, LSI, PCF, ENL	aSFHA	0.10
	CAZ	aSFHA	0.5/0.1
440 (Flood Data Maintenance)	AMD	aSFHA	0.10
450 (Stormwater Management)	SMR, WMP	area of the watershed	0.15
540 (Drainage System Maintenance)	CDR, PSM, CIP	number of drainage components	0.10
	SBM	number of storage basins	0.10
* aSFT = the area of the SFHA at the time of adoption of the map. This area does not change after the SFHA is revised in new studies or FIRMs.			

## Activity 410 – Floodplain Mapping

**SR – State review** is a new element that replaces the “with review” points in NS. It is provided where a study was given a detailed review by a qualifying state or regional agency.

**HSS – Higher study standard** credit is for conducting a study using future conditions, better topography, or other higher standard. “Future conditions” has been clarified to include sea level rise, subsidence, and climate change as well as watershed development. Up to three higher standards will be credited.

Activity 410 (Floodplain Mapping)	Max Credit
NS – New Study	290
SR – State Review	60
LEV – Leverage	
HSS – Higher Study Standards	160
FWS – More restrictive floodway standard	110
CTP1 – Cooperating Technical Partners 1	20
CTP2 – Cooperating Technical Partners 2	112
MAPSH – Special Hazards credit	50
Activity max	* 802
* Higher points are possible if the impact adjustment is greater than 1.0	

## Activity 420 – Open Space Preservation

Except for the credit points, **OSP – Open space preservation** and **DR – Deed restrictions** are essentially the same as in the 2007 *Manual*.

**NFOS – Natural functions open space** will replace Natural and Beneficial Functions Open Space (NB). It credits parcels credited for OSP that have been preserved in or restored to their natural state. There are bonus credits for additional attributes, such as having critical habitat for endangered species or educational materials on the site’s natural floodplain functions

Activity 420 (Open Space Preservation)	Max Credit
OSP – Open Space Preservation	1,450
DR – Deed Restrictions	50
NFOS – Natural Functions Open Space	350
SHOS – Special Hazard Open Space	50
OSI – Open Space Incentives *	250
430LD-LZ – Low density Zoning *	600
NSP – Natural Shoreline Protection	120
Activity max	1,970
* These regulations are not credited in preserved open space areas that are credited under OSP. The impact adjustment accounts for this mutual exclusivity. Therefore, they are not included in the totals.	

**OSI – Open space incentives:** This is a new element, but parts come from land development criteria (LDC) in 430LD. It will credit requirements and incentives that keep floodprone portions of developments open. OSI credit will not be provided in areas already developed or areas preserved as open space and credited under OSP. Examples include requiring all building sites to be on natural high ground and providing incentives, such as density transfers, to keep floodprone areas vacant.

**LZ – Low density zoning** will provide credit for zoning districts that require lot sizes of five acres or larger.

**NSP – Natural shoreline protection:** This new element credits programs that protect natural channels and shorelines (riverine and coastal), the areas most valuable for protecting natural floodplain functions. The programs can be local policies followed on public lands and/or regulations that govern development on private lands. The credit will only be available for those channels or shorelines that are currently in their approximate natural state.

## Activity 430 – Higher Regulatory Standards

Activity 430 (Higher Regulatory Standards)	Max Credit
DL – Development Limitations *	1,330
FRB – Freeboard *	500
FDN – Foundation Protection *	80
CSI – Cumulative Substantial Improvement *	90
LSI – Lower Subs. Improvement threshold *	20
PCF – Protection of Critical Facilities *	80
ENL – Enclosure Limits *	240
BC – Building Code	100
LDP – Local Drainage Protection	120
MHP – Manufactured Home Parks	15
CAZ – Coastal A Zones	650
SHR – Special Hazards Regulations	TBA
OHS – Other Higher Standards *	100
SMS – State-Mandated Standards	20
RA – Regulations Administration	67
Activity max **	1,942
<p>* These regulations are not credited in preserved open space areas that are credited under 420 – OSP. The impact adjustment accounts for this mutual exclusivity.</p> <p>** FRB, FDN, ENL, and CAZ are mutually exclusive from DL 2, so they are not included in the total points</p>	

**DL – Development Limitations.** This is a new credit for prohibiting fill, prohibiting buildings, and/or prohibiting storage of materials in the floodplain. Note that there is no credit for DL and other higher regulatory standards in areas credited as OSP.

Development Limitations Credit	Points
1. Prohibit fill (including no LOMR-Fs)	280
1.a. Require compensatory storage: 130	
2. Prohibit new buildings (pro-rated for prohibiting some types of buildings)	1,000
3. Prohibit storage of materials	50
3.a. Prohibit hazardous materials: 20	
3.b. Require hazardous materials to be stored above the BFE: 10 points	
Element max	1,330

**FRB – Freeboard:** credit will be provided for up to three feet of freeboard. There will be additional credit if (1) the community prohibits construction of new buildings on fill or (2) requires compensatory storage where filling is allowed.

Freeboard Credit			
Freeboard	No filling restrictions	Comp storage required	Fill prohibited
1 foot	100	110	120
2 feet	225	250	280
3 feet	375	440	500
Element max			500

**FDN – Foundation protection:** requiring foundations to be engineered or constructed on compacted fill that is protected from erosion and scour. More emphasis will be placed on the engineering and less on filling.

Foundation Protection Credit	Points
1. Engineered foundations, no buildings on fill	80
2. Buildings on compacted fill, protected from erosion, compensatory storage required	60
3. Buildings on compacted fill, protected from erosion and scour	35
Element max	80

**PCF – Protection of critical facilities:** The maximum credit will be for preventing new critical facilities from being located in the 500-year floodplain. Therefore, there will be gradations of credit to lower protection standards. This will provide more opportunities for partial credit for different levels of protection to different types of critical facilities.

**ENL – Enclosure limits:** Full credit is for prohibiting enclosing the bottom floor of elevated buildings. Less credit is provided for limiting the size of an enclosure and/or for requiring a nonconversion agreement.

Enclosure Limits Credit	Points
1. Regulations prohibit any building enclosures, including breakaway walls, below the base flood elevation, OR	240
2. Regulations prohibit enclosures of areas of 300 square feet or greater, including breakaway walls, below the base flood elevation, PLUS	100
3. Regulations require that the owner of a building sign a nonconversion agreement, promising not to improve, finish, or otherwise convert the area below the lowest floor and	90
a. The community will inspect the enclosed area at least once a year, OR	
b. Granting the community the right to inspect the enclosed area at any time, OR	60
c. No mention is made of inspections	30
Element max	240

**LDP – Local drainage protection:** ensuring that new buildings are well above the street level or otherwise protected from shallow drainage flooding. This was moved from 450 – FRX.

**BC – Building code:** credit is provided for adoption and enforcement of the International Codes or their equivalent. Where a community has two different BCEGS classes, the higher number will be used to calculate the credit.

Building Code Credit	Points	Points
Adoption of the International Building Code	20	
Residential Code	20	
Plumbing Code	3	
Mechanical Code	3	
Fuel Gas Code	2	
Private Sewage Disposal Code	2	
Max for code adoption		50
BCEGS classification of 5/5	10	
BCEGS classification of 4/4	20	
BCEGS classification of 3/3	30	
BCEGS classification of 2/2	40	
BCEGS classification of 1/1	50	
Max for BCEGS		50
Element max		100

**RA – Regulations administration:** This is a new element with five parts, as shown in the table. Staff training includes five points for each Certified Floodplain Manager.

Regulations Administration Credit	Points
1. Staff training	25
2. Building department is accredited by the International Accreditation Service	5
3. Conducting 3 detailed inspections	16
4. Conducting reinspections	16
5. Off-site record storage (old ORS)	5
Element max	67

## Activity 440 – Flood Data Maintenance

**AMD – Additional map data** credit is for incorporating FIRM data into the community's GIS or database and using the results in its regulatory and mitigation programs. Additional credit is provided for having layers showing areas with natural floodplain functions (e.g., wetlands, designated riparian habitat) and for showing building elevation data (formerly 310 – ECCF).

Activity 440 (Flood Data Maintenance)		Max Credit
AMD – Additional Map Data		160
FM – FIRM Maintenance		15
BMM – Benchmark Maintenance		27
EDM – Erosion Data Maintenance		20
Activity max		222

**BMM – Benchmark maintenance** will recognize more frequent re-surveying of benchmarks that don't have the stability ratings of A or B. There will be new credit for CORS systems that support GPS surveying. The credit will be based on the number of qualifying benchmarks and CORS stations for floodplains with regulatory flood elevations, rather than all floodplains.

## Activity 450 – Stormwater Management

**SMR – Stormwater management regulations** will have four sub elements, the scores for which are summed to obtain the score for SMR.

**DS – Design storm:** This credit has previously been limited to managing peak flows, but there will be more points for also limiting increases in the volume of stormwater runoff leaving the site.

**PUB – Public maintenance:** requiring new stormwater management facilities to be maintained and subject to inspection. The credit in 450 will be limited to the regulatory requirement and its enforcement. There is a new credit in 540 – Drainage System Maintenance for the inspections and maintenance of storage facilities.

Activity 450 (Stormwater Management)		Max Credit
SMR– Stormwater Mgmt. Regulations		380
SZ – Size of development regulated	110	
DS – Design Storm	225	
PUB – Public maintenance	20	
LID – Low Impact Development	25	
WMP – Watershed Master Plan		315
ESC – Erosion and Sedimentation Control		40
WQ – Water Quality regulations		20
Activity max		755

**LID – Low impact development:** This is a new element for requiring developers to use low impact development or similar “soft” techniques to minimize the size of on-site detention and to replicate natural stormwater characteristics.

**WMP – Watershed master plan** credit is for having a master plan to best determine how to manage stormwater, using open space and regulations as well as man-made and natural systems. There will be a new credit for having a dedicated source of funding for implementation, such as a stormwater utility.

**ESC – Erosion and sedimentation control** regulations credit is for management of sediment-laden runoff from construction sites. ESC will provide minimal credit for programs that do not regulate construction sites smaller than the national NPDES requirement, one acre. Credit for regulating agricultural lands will be dropped.

## Activity 510 – Floodplain Management Planning

**FMP – Floodplain management planning** credits a 10-step process to prepare, adopt and implement a plan to mitigate the community's flood problems and protect natural floodplain functions. There will be new criteria in Steps 1 and 2 for the planning committees, including multi-jurisdictional committees.

Activity 510 (Floodplain Management Planning)	Max Credit
FMP – Floodplain Management Planning	382
RLAA – Repetitive Loss Area Analyses	140
NFP – Natural floodplain functions plan	100
Activity max	622

The Step 5 problem assessment must cover repetitive loss areas and all hazards identified in the Step 4 hazard assessment. Communities will get extra credit for assessing the impact of climate change, including sea level rise. In Step 6, the goals must address all problems identified in Step 5. In step 7, review possible activities, the plan must describe the community's capability to implement the activities reviewed.

**NFP – Natural floodplain functions plan:** This is a new credit for one or more natural floodplain functions plans that protect the natural functions of the community's floodplain. Examples include a habitat conservation or restoration plan or a green infrastructure plan.

## Activity 520 – Acquisition and Relocation

The number of points is based on the number of buildings that have been cleared out of the floodplain. Double points are provided for clearing repetitive loss properties in any location and triple points are provided for clearing out severe repetitive loss properties.

Activity 520 (Acquisition and Relocation)	Max Credit
Acquiring/relocating buildings	1,900
Clearing more than 30% of the SFHA	350
Activity max	2,250

Added in 2012 will be:

- Double credit for removing critical facilities,
- A 50% credit bonus for buildings that are removed from the V Zone, coastal A Zone, or coastal erosion area,
- Replacing the Option 1 limit of 20 buildings with an Option 1 limit of 190 total points.
- Under Option 2, there will be a bonus of up to 350 points for clearing out more than 30% of the buildings in the community's SFHA.

There will be new environmental compliance criteria for Activities 520 (Acquisition and Relocation), 530 (Flood Protection), 540 (Drainage System Maintenance), and 620 (Levees) to ensure that the CRS is not rewarding projects and maintenance programs that have a negative impact on environmental, historical or cultural resources.

### Activity 530 – Flood Protection

Activity 530 credit is based on the flood protection technique used to protect buildings that remain in the floodplain. As with Activity 520, extra credit is provided for protecting repetitive loss properties in any location and critical facilities in the 500-year floodplain.

Activity 530 (Flood Protection)	Max Credit*
Retrofitting buildings	1,600
Sewer backup protection	200
Flood protection projects	1,000
Activity max	1,600

The Option 1 limit of 20 buildings will be replaced with an Option 1 limit of 160 total points.

If a flood control project changes the base flood elevation shown on the FIRM, credit will be dependent on submittal of a request for a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). This is required by 44 CFR Section 65.3 of the NFIP regulations.

### Activity 540 – Drainage System Maintenance

The original CDR – Channel and basin debris removal will be divided into three parts:

**CDR – Channel debris removal:** Inspecting channels and removing debris to maintain conveyance. Credit will be based upon the number of components inspected annually instead of the miles of channel.

**PSM – Problem site maintenance:** Providing special attention to known problem sites, such as more frequent inspections.

**CIP – Capital improvements program:** Having a long-term program to correct or replace drainage problem sites.

**SBM – Storage basin maintenance:** Inspecting retention and detention basins and maintaining them as needed is a new element. Communities that received public maintenance credit (PUB) in Activity 450 – Stormwater Management should be able to qualify for this credit.

**SDR – Stream Dumping Regulations** will continue, with half of the points provided for the regulations and half for publicizing the regulations. Publicity will be scored using the same approach as outreach projects in Activity 330 – Outreach Projects.

Activity 540 (Drainage System Maintenance)	Max Credit
CDR – Inspecting and maintaining channels	200
PSM – Problem site maintenance	50
CIP – Capital improvements program	70
SBM – Inspecting/maintaining storage basins	120
SDR – Stream Dumping Regulations	30
EPM – Coastal Erosion Protection Maint.	100
Activity max	570

## 600 Warning and Response

The three 600 series activities should be part of every community's emergency response plan, as they are typically coordinated by the local emergency management staff. In the series, most of the credit is for threat recognition and emergency response planning. However, in 620, there is an additional emphasis placed on maintenance. All three activities have a public information prerequisite and require an annual exercise. All have four similar credits, organized in a chronological order. All three activities require some credit from each of these four elements to receive any activity credit.

- Advance notification of an impending flood (“threat recognition”),
- Issuing warnings to the threatened population (“warning”),
- Taking steps to protect life and reduce losses during the flood (“operations”), and
- Coordinating with critical facilities (“critical facilities planning”).

### Activity 610 – Flood Warning and Response

This activity assumes that an ample warning, combined with a good flood response plan, can prevent loss of life and damage to property. There will be three new prerequisites:

1. The community must receive some credit from the first four elements, FTR, EWD, FRO, and CFP, to receive any credit for Activity 610.
2. The community must have a flood inundation map, also known as a flood stage forecast map. The map must show areas that are inundated by at least three different flood or storm surge levels. It is used in planning the community's flood response when different flood levels are predicted.
3. The community must provide information to residents and businesses on safety measures people should take before, during, and after a flood. This usually done with an annual outreach project, but in areas with more than 72 hours of advance flood warning repeated watch, warning and safety information after the notice would qualify.

Activity 610 (Flood Warning and Response)	Max Credit
FTR – Flood threat recognition system	75
EWD – Emergency warning dissemination	75
FRO – flood response operations	115
CFP – Critical facilities planning	75
SRC – StormReady community	25
TRC – TsunamiReady Community	30
Activity max	395

### Activity 620 – Levees

This activity assumes that maintenance of levees, combined with a good local flood response plan that addresses the potential failure of a levee can prevent loss of life and damage to property. Credit is available for both accredited and non-accredited levees that are operated and maintained by a public agency. There will be four new prerequisites:

Activity 620 (Levees)	Max Credit
LM – Levee maintenance	95
LFR – Levee failure recognition system	30
LFW – Levee failure warning	50
LFO – Levee failure operations	30
LCF – Levee failure critical facilities planning	30
Activity max	235

1. The community must submit a map showing the location of each levee and the area flooded if the levee was overtopped. The community must know the number of buildings in the area and have an inventory of critical facilities in the area.
2. For any credit under Activity 620, there must be a levee maintenance program that qualifies for LM credit. The program must be documented for both accredited and non-accredited levees, but LM credit points are not available for accredited levees (because maintenance is a minimum requirement for accreditation). Both types of levees are eligible for the rest of the activity's credits once this prerequisite is met.
3. Credit for all four levee failure warning and response elements, LFR, LFW, LFO, and LCF, are required for credit for any one of those elements.
4. The community must implement one or more outreach projects to the residents and businesses in the area(s) inundated by a flood that overtops a levee.

**Activity 630 – Dams**

This activity assumes that an ample warning of a failure of an upstream dam, combined with a good flood response plan, can prevent loss of life and damage to property.

For any credit under this activity, the community must submit a map showing the location of each high hazard potential dam that would affect the community if it failed, the area inundated if it failed, and information about the area inundated. It will be up to the community to obtain the dam failure inundation map(s) (or other documentation from the state dam safety office) needed to document this prerequisite.

Activity 630 (Dams)	Max Credit
SDS – State Dam Safety Program	
Condition Assessment	15
Emergency Action Planning	15
Risk Communication/Public Awareness	15
DFR – Dam failure recognition system	30
DFW – Dam failure warning	35
DFO – Dam failure operations	30
DCF – Dam failure critical facilities planning	20
Activity max	160

**SDS – State Dam Safety Program** credit will reflect FEMA’s efforts to encourage state programs to get more involved in emergency planning for dam failures and to work more with communities and the public. SDS credit will be limited to communities affected by the failure of a high hazard potential dam.

**Dam failure warning and response:** The one credit for local dam failure preparedness will be expanded into four elements that mirror the elements in 610 and 620. Credit for all four dam failure warning and response elements, DFR, DFW, DFO, and DCF, are required for credit for any one of those elements.

For DFR, DFW, DFO, and DCF only, the community must implement one or more outreach projects to the residents and businesses in the area(s) inundated by a dam failure. The project(s) must tell people of their risk of flooding, how they will be warned of a dam failure flood, and the safety measures they should take during a flood.