

Flood Resilient Communities Fund

Building watershed resilience in the face of climate change

Stephanie A. Smith, Vermont State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Senate Committee on Government Operations Testimony
January 16, 2024

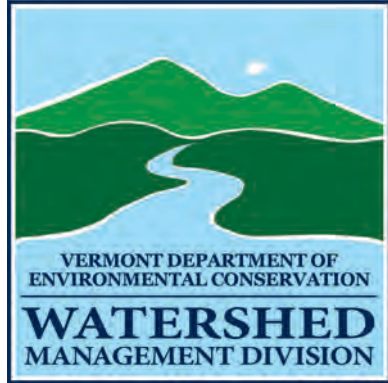
VERMONT STRONGER



**A SAFE AND
RESILIENT
VERMONT**

in the face
of climate
change and
natural
disasters.





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FEMA

*Managed and implemented by
Vermont Emergency Management

Hazard Mitigation Grant

Program (HMGP) (*\$75 million anticipated*)

Flood Mitigation Assistance –
Swift Current (*\$40 million*)

Building Resilient Infrastructure
and Communities (BRIC)



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Program Purpose:

Improving landscape and community resilience and reducing the future public safety and water quality impacts of climate-related flood hazards in Vermont.

\$5,000,000 ARPA allocation in FY2022

\$8,000,000 General Fund allocation in FY2023

\$15,000,000 ARPA allocation in FY2023



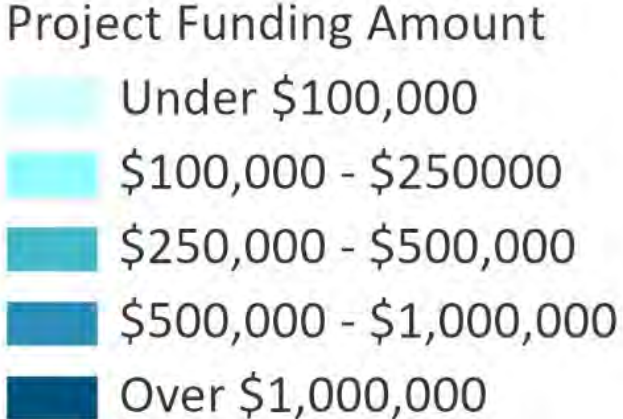
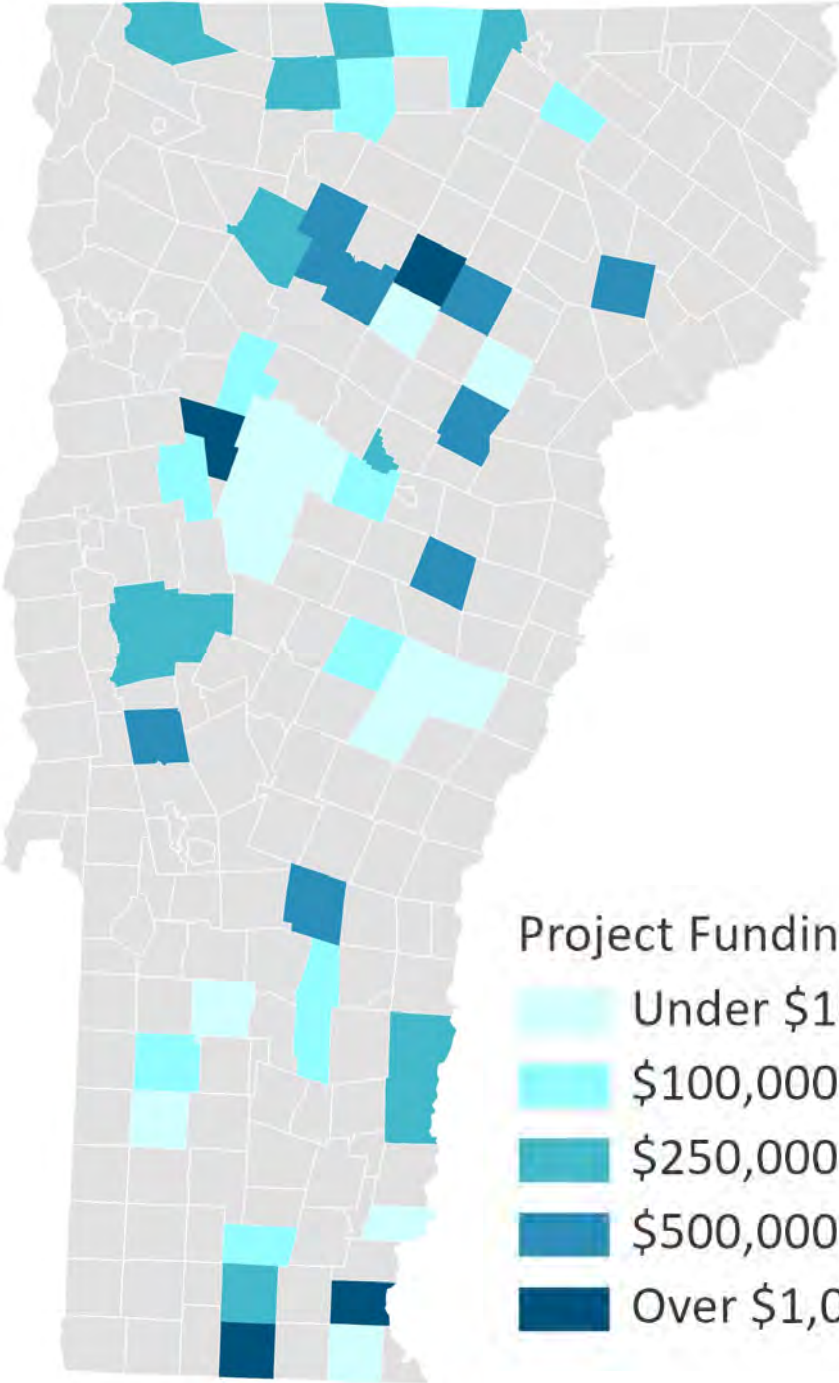
Eligible Projects

- Flood-vulnerable structure and buyout projects
- Vacant at-risk parcel buyout/conservation
- Natural resource projects to improve floodplain access/function
- Project scoping, planning, education and outreach initiatives



Flood Resilient Communities Fund Selected Projects

\$18.9 million obligated as of December 2023
(out of \$19.6 million in program funds)



Obligated Projects:

- 35 individual property buyouts
- 12 floodplain restoration and planting projects
- 1 infrastructure/community flood reduction project
- 12 scoping/planning projects

\$835,008.50 obligated to planning & scoping

\$1,114,654.42 obligated to infrastructure upsizing

\$3,383,447.54 obligated to floodplain restoration & plantings

\$13,304,805.40 obligated to property buyouts

How did we get here?

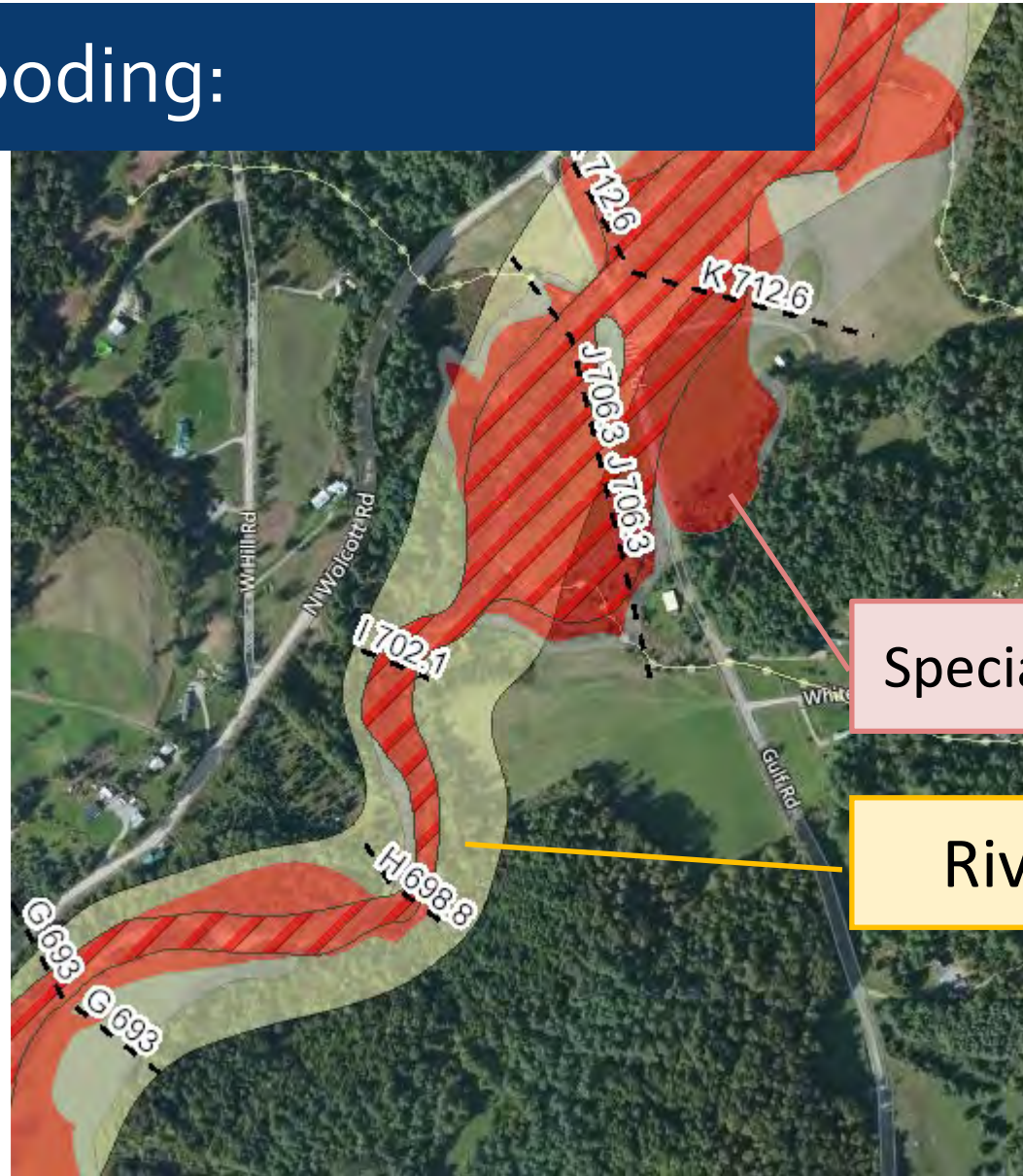


Inundation vs. Erosion Flooding:



Inundation vs. Erosion Flooding:

- The Agency of Natural Resources has statewide mapping available of River Corridors
- River Corridors account for future river erosion and adjustment



Special Flood Hazard Area

River Corridor

Tropical Storm Irene:



Updates since July 2023 Flood:

- Property buyout intake process
- Buyout applications submitted in Hardwick, Marshfield, Middlebury, Wolcott, Cambridge, Plymouth, Morristown, and Montpelier



Contact:

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More Information:

vem.vermont.gov/flood-resilient-communities-fund

