

VIRGINIA SILVER JACKETS

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US Army Corps
of Engineers®



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in Virginia

- USACE Civil Works Program (flood risk management, navigation, environmental restoration, recreation, etc.) boundaries are based on river basins. There are five USACE District offices that manage the various water resources programs in Virginia: Baltimore, Huntington, Nashville, Norfolk, and Wilmington. The Norfolk District manages about 60 percent of the State's geography and 49 percent of the population.

River Basins

Baltimore District – Potomac

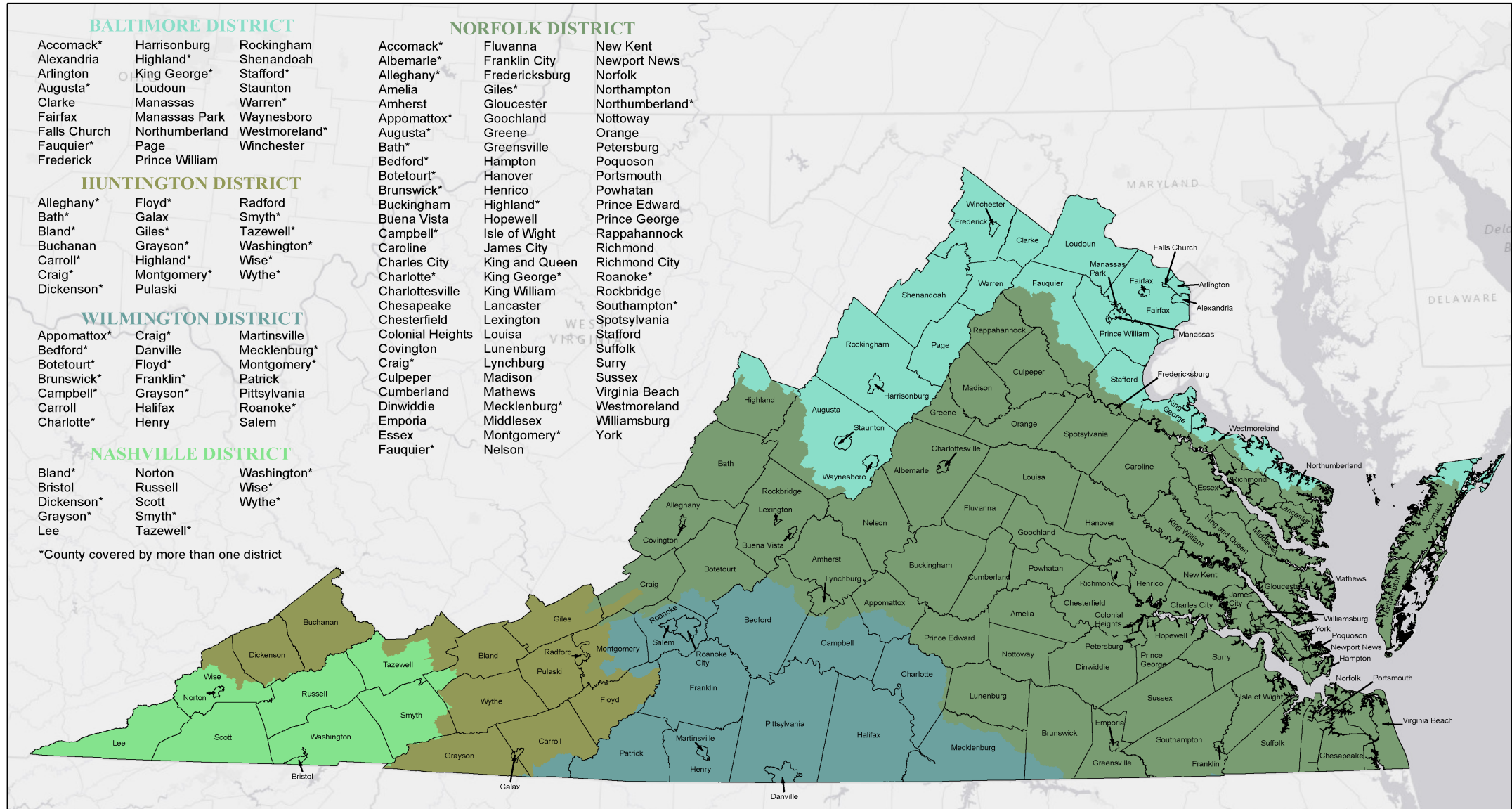
Huntington District – Big Sandy, Kanawha

Nashville District – Upper Tennessee, French Broad-Holston

Norfolk District – Albemarle-Chowan, Atlantic Coastal, Chesapeake Bay, James, Rappahannock, York

Wilmington District – Roanoke, Upper Pee Dee

- Norfolk District Regulatory Program (wetlands/permitting) covers the entire State.
- Norfolk District Military Program covers the entire State, except for certain areas bordering Washington, D.C.



BALTIMORE DISTRICT

- Accomack*
- Alexandria
- Arlington
- Augusta*
- Clarke
- Fairfax
- Falls Church
- Fauquier*
- Frederick
- Harrisonburg
- Highland*
- King George*
- Loudoun
- Manassas
- Manassas Park
- Northumberland
- Page
- Prince William
- Rockingham
- Shenandoah
- Stafford*
- Staunton
- Warren*
- Waynesboro
- Westmoreland*
- Winchester

NORFOLK DISTRICT

- Accomack*
- Albemarle*
- Alleghany*
- Amelia
- Amherst
- Appomattox*
- Augusta*
- Bath*
- Bedford*
- Botetourt*
- Brunswick*
- Buckingham
- Buena Vista
- Campbell*
- Caroline
- Charles City
- Charlotte*
- Charlottesville
- Chesapeake
- Chesterfield
- Colonial Heights
- Covington
- Craig*
- Culpeper
- Cumberland
- Dinwiddie
- Emporia
- Essex
- Fauquier*
- Fluvanna
- Franklin City
- Fredericksburg
- Giles*
- Gloucester
- Goochland
- Greene
- Greensville
- Hampton
- Hanover
- Henrico
- Highland*
- Hopewell
- Isle of Wight
- James City
- King and Queen
- King George*
- King William
- Lancaster
- Lexington
- Louisa
- Lunenburg
- Lynchburg
- Madison
- Mathews
- Mecklenburg*
- Middlesex
- Montgomery*
- Nelson
- New Kent
- Newport News
- Norfolk
- Northampton
- Northumberland*
- Nottoway
- Orange
- Petersburg
- Poquoson
- Portsmouth
- Powhatan
- Prince Edward
- Prince George
- Rappahannock
- Richmond
- Richmond City
- Roanoke*
- Rockbridge
- Southampton*
- Spotsylvania
- Stafford
- Suffolk
- Surry
- Sussex
- Virginia Beach
- Westmoreland
- Williamsburg
- York

HUNTINGTON DISTRICT

- Alleghany*
- Bath*
- Bland*
- Buchanan
- Carroll*
- Craig*
- Dickenson*
- Floyd*
- Galax
- Giles*
- Grayson*
- Highland*
- Montgomery*
- Pulaski
- Radford
- Smyth*
- Tazewell*
- Washington*
- Wise*
- Wythe*

WILMINGTON DISTRICT

- Appomattox*
- Bedford*
- Botetourt*
- Brunswick*
- Campbell*
- Carroll
- Charlotte*
- Craig*
- Danville
- Floyd*
- Franklin*
- Grayson*
- Halifax
- Henry
- Martinsville
- Mecklenburg*
- Montgomery*
- Patrick
- Pittsylvania
- Roanoke*
- Salem

NASHVILLE DISTRICT

- Bland*
- Bristol
- Dickenson*
- Grayson*
- Lee
- Norton
- Russell
- Scott
- Smyth*
- Tazewell*
- Washington*
- Wise*
- Wythe*

*County covered by more than one district



USACE Districts Responsible for Virginia Counties

0 20 40 Miles

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Geospatial Services Section
Map File: Districts_responsible_VA_Counties.mxd
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Silver Jackets Program

- **Authority/Funding:** Flood Plain Management Services Program (established in 1967).
- **Scope:** Have a State-led interagency team that facilitates collaborative solutions to help address flood risk priorities set by the State.
- **Cost-Share:** Varies per project, but usually 100% Federally funded. Partners can contribute funds and work in-kind.
- The first Silver Jackets Team was formed in Ohio in 2005, now there are teams in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands.
- **Why the name?** During disaster response, agencies are often identified by the color jacket or shirt they wear. For example, FEMA has typically worn blue jackets or shirts and USACE has worn red. The name 'Silver Jackets' was coined to represent many agencies working together to tackle flooding issues.
- **Website:** <https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Silver-Jackets/>





Silver Jackets – Goals to Reduce Flood Risks

- Have a State-led interagency team.
- Establish a forum to plan and implement State priorities.
- Collaborate with agency partners, working together to provide a unified approach.
- Supplement and strengthen existing relationships.
- Leverage the programs, funding, expertise, and perspectives of multiple agencies.
- Being aware of ongoing activities, preventing duplication of efforts.



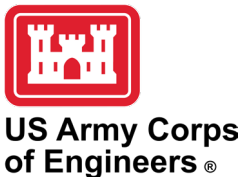
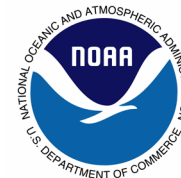


Virginia Silver Jackets Team

- **Charter originally signed:** December 22, 2010
- **Most recent charter signing:** March 2021
- **Virginia Silver Jackets Coordinator:** Faraz Ahmed, Chief, FPMS, USACE, Norfolk District
- **Co-Chair:** Debbie Messmer, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, VDEM

Mission Statement

To facilitate cooperation and function as a catalyst in the identification, abatement and resolution of flood hazards and associated risks within the Commonwealth through such means as flood and dam observation and warning systems; riverine, coastal and dam break hazard mapping; flood and dam hazard mitigation; planning and education; as well as response and recovery activities.



Website: <https://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Silver-Jackets/State-Teams/Virginia/>



Proposal Requirements / Selection Criteria

Proposal Requirements (submitted annually)

- At least two governmental partners other than USACE - needs to be one from the State and then one other State, Federal (FEMA/USDA/USGS/NOAA, etc.), Local, or Tribal partner.
- The State must submit a request for an interagency proposal.
- Other partners are helpful, not limited to governmental.

Proposal Selection Criteria

1. Directly protects life safety, reduces or prevents increases in flood risk, and/or increases resiliency.
2. Promotes shared responsibility for flood risk management by prompting actions by others in support of risk reduction, including by communicating flood risks.
3. Addresses priority in the State or Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
4. Leverages partner resources, with emphasis on collaborative execution.
5. Proposals judged more favorably if they
 - (A) improve environmental function;
 - (B) address Other Social Effects;
 - (C) address climate change;
 - (D) address repetitive flooding; or
 - (E) serve a disadvantaged community.



Silver Jackets - Activity Examples

(No Construction)

Activities & Products
Floodplain Mapping
Community Rating System Activities
Dam Break Analyses
First Floor Elevation Calculation
Flood Damage Estimation (HAZUS)
Flood Warning / Preparedness
Flood Risk Community Management Studies
Floodplain Management Plan / Emergency Action Plan Assistance
Hazard Mitigation Actions
Nonstructural Assessments
Outreach / Workshops
Tabletop Exercises
Risk Communication / Guides and Pamphlets



Silver Jackets - Activities in Virginia

Completed

- 50th Anniversary of Agnes Outreach Campaign (USACE, Baltimore District)
- City of Richmond High Water Mark Campaign
- Lower Virginia Peninsula Coastal Resilience Tournament (tabletop exercise for disaster preparedness)
- National Weather Service (NWS) Blackwater River Flood Inundation Mapping, Franklin, VA
- NWS James River Forecast Point Development, Richmond Locks, Virginia
- NWS Roanoke River Flood Inundation Mapping (coordinated through USACE, Wilmington District)
- Pulaski Nonstructural Flood Risk Management Assessment (USACE, Huntington District)
- Roanoke River Valley Flood Risk Outreach (coordinated through USACE, Wilmington District)
- Virginia Flood Risk Guidebook
- Virginia Flood Risk Information System

On-going

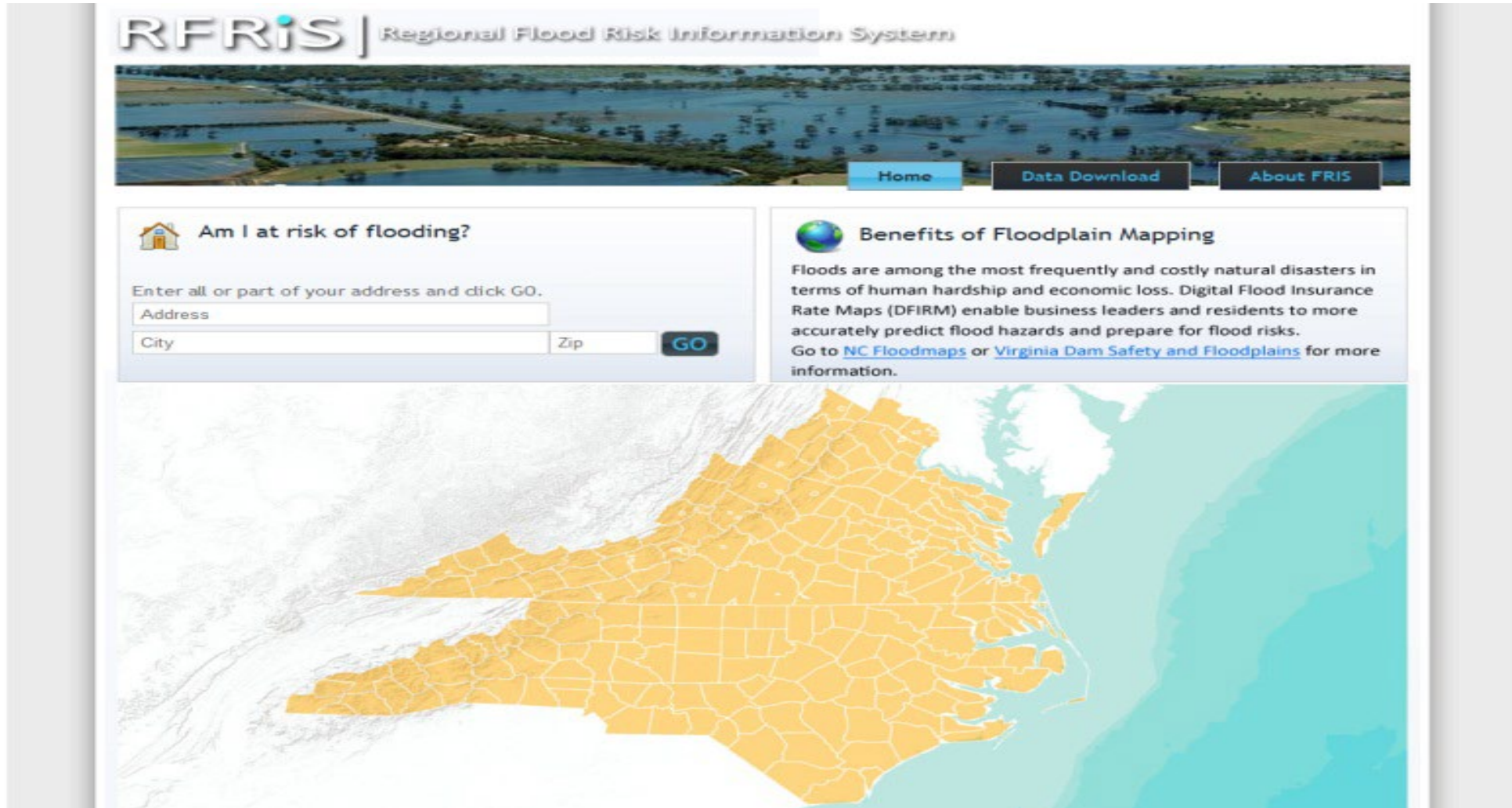
- Lakemont Neighborhood Flood Risk Assessment, Petersburg, VA
- Mitigating Historic Structures in Virginia

Future (FY24 Proposal Submitted)

- Outreach / Workshop

Virginia Flood Risk Information System

Website: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/dam-safety-and-floodplains/fpvfris>



The screenshot displays the RFRIS website interface. At the top, the logo "RFRIS | Regional Flood Risk Information System" is visible. Below the logo is a banner image of a flooded landscape. Navigation buttons for "Home", "Data Download", and "About FRIS" are present. The main content area is divided into two sections: "Am I at risk of flooding?" and "Benefits of Floodplain Mapping".

Am I at risk of flooding?

Enter all or part of your address and click GO.

Address

City Zip

Benefits of Floodplain Mapping

Floods are among the most frequently and costly natural disasters in terms of human hardship and economic loss. Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) enable business leaders and residents to more accurately predict flood hazards and prepare for flood risks. Go to [NC Floodmaps](#) or [Virginia Dam Safety and Floodplains](#) for more information.

The bottom half of the page features a map of Virginia, with the state's outline highlighted in orange against a light blue background representing the surrounding region.

Blackwater River Flood Inundation Mapping

Website: <https://water.weather.gov/ahps/inundation.php>

Partners: National Weather Service, USGS, City of Franklin

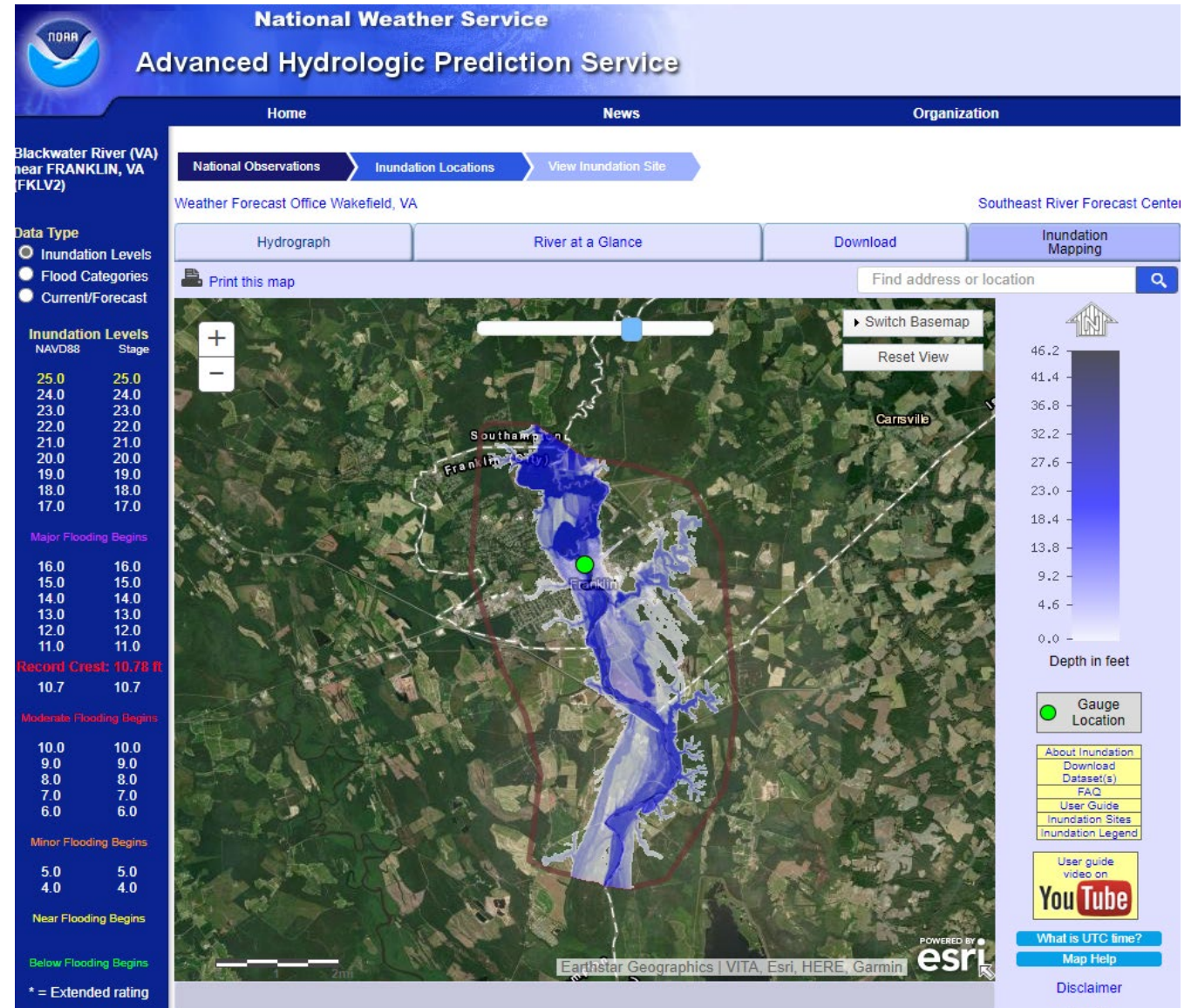
Project Description: Developed flood inundation mapping for the Blackwater River in Franklin, VA to post on NWS's AHPS site.

Objectives:

- HEC-RAS modeling
- Develop inundation mapping and depth grids at every foot intervals
- From Action Stage to the Flood of Record

Total project costs: \$150K

Federal funding: \$150K



City of Richmond High Water Mark Campaign

Website: <https://www.rva.gov/public-utilities/news/high-water-mark-sign-unveiled-pony-pasture>



Questions?

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