

Questions Asked by LCZ at their meeting on March 4, 2014

(Sources: WI DNR, Town of Rib Mountain

Answers are in red)

1) What is the Drop Dead date that the County must approve of the Lake Wausau/WI River Re Mapping Study?

The Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) has indicated they could, but at this time, are not going to enforce the 6 month deadline (indicated below) because they still believe that the municipalities are working in good faith to pursue the adoptions.

WI NR116.05(4) : (4) UPGRADING ORDINANCES. Within 6 months from the time any of the information listed below is made available to a municipality by the department, the municipality shall upgrade its floodplain zoning ordinance, using the amendment procedure in s. NR116.21, to reflect current floodplain information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Changes in floodplain management statutes.*
- (b) Changes in floodplain management rules.*
- (c) Changes in floodplain management case law.*
- (d) New study data.*
- (e) Improved technical information and methods.*

2) When would FEMA be notified that we are not using the most up to date information and may be placed on suspension?

The WI DNR would be the ones that would refer to FEMA any recommendations for probation/suspension. If Marathon County does nothing with the data the WI DNR has the authority to force the adoption of any studies/ordinances and then charge the County/Municipality for the costs incurred.

If the County/Municipality would deny the study the WI DNR would then forward a recommendation to their legal counsel to evaluate and possibly pursue action.

3) Many of the residents are under the impression that if the road is raised to the base flood elevation they would be taken out of the floodway?

The raising of the road is only one step in the removal of the properties from the Floodway/Floodplain. The road project would need an approved individual encroachment study showing the impacts of the fill material on the floodplain. If the road project study is approved, any easements for floodwater on the individual properties need to be obtained by the owners before the road can be raised. If the road project is completed, the residents could evaluate their property against the effective floodplain model that is in place at the time. If the individual's study shows the property to be out of the floodway/floodplain or that it can be filled so that the flood elevations don't change, their property could be removed from the floodway/floodplain through the process.

- 4) **Would any other individual property owner's studies be reviewed or approved by the WI DNR during the time while the new study has not been approved?**

NO, the WI DNR will not approve any flood studies in this area unless the Lake Wausau/Wisconsin River remapping study is approved. They consider the Marathon County LiDAR data to be the newest and best data available. The LiDAR data is what any additional studies would have to base on to determine the pre and post land filling levels.

- 5) **Would Mr. Senner's study be considered by the Department of Natural resources once the Lake Wausau/WI River Remapping study is approved?**

If the Road is raised to at least the base flood elevation, Mr. Senner could resubmit his study to the WI DNR for them to review. He would have to adjust his study to reflect the new effective model.

- 6) **Is the Town of Rib Mountain looking at raising N. Lakeshore Drive? Time Period: within the Next Year?, 5 Years?, 10 Years or greater than 10 years?**

Presently the Town has no plans to raise N. Lakeshore Drive. This spring/summer, the Town intends to obtain the existing roadway elevations of both N. Lakeshore Drive and Goose Ln to verify how much the roads are under the regional flood elevation.

Depending on the depth of flow and flow velocities, the Town may also revisit the emergency services agreement with the SAFER District and Marathon County Sherriff. If the road(s) are substantially under the flood elevation, then Town will research options for dry land access or other emergency service options.

Contact: Scott Turner, Town Public Works Director, for more information at 715-848-5123