



FEMA



Accessing the National Flood Hazard Layer through Google Earth™

FEMA is updating the security protocol for accessing National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) GIS Services. In compliance with White House Office of Management and Budget memorandum M-15-13 as well as Department of Homeland Security and FEMA guidance, all services will be made available via Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) using Transport Layer Security (TLS) 1.2. **Because the Google Earth™ application does not support these security standards, Google Earth™ users will no longer be able to connect to NFHL web services.**

As part of this security protocol change, users who access the NFHL through Google Earth™ must install the Google Earth™ Version 7.3 or higher and download the new .kmz files which can be found on the [National Flood Hazard Layer Web Map Service \(WMS\) on the Google Earth™](#) web page.

The security protocol change requires a minimum of two steps to be completed to successfully view the NFHL on the Google Earth Platform.

Steps to Access the National Flood Hazard Layer

1. Users must uninstall any older versions of Google Earth and install the latest release version 7.3 or higher at: <https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html> If an issue occurs or the user requires assistance with the platform, Google Earth Help is the recommended resource to best support.
2. Once install is complete, we advise visiting the following link to download the latest [NFHL KMZ](#) file compatible with the security compliant Google product.

Learn more about the FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL):

www.fema.gov/national-flood-hazard-layer-nfhl

Questions?

General Inquiries:

Users may call the FEMA MAP Information eXchange at 1-877-FEMA-MAP

NFHL GeoPlatform Tutorial:

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/videos/83223>

NFHL GIS Services User Guide:

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/33052>

More information on the HTTPS-Only Standard:

<https://https.cio.gov>

RiskMAP

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