



FEMA

March 2, 2011

Warren M. Doty
Chairperson, Board of Selectmen
Town of Chilmark
Town Hall
Post Office Box 119
Chilmark, Massachusetts 02535-0119

Dear Mr. Doty:

I am writing to follow up on our recent phone conversation about the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) upcoming Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Discovery Meeting for coastal portions of Dukes County. Please see the proposed study area on the enclosed map. Risk MAP is a new FEMA program that helps communities identify, assess, and increase awareness of their flood risk. By combining new engineering analysis with updated flood hazard data, FEMA provides accurate and easy-to-use information to enhance local mitigation plans, improve community outreach, and increase local awareness to flood hazards.

The Discovery process commences at the beginning of a Risk MAP project and assists in identifying additional community data and/or local flood knowledge. The Discovery Meeting is part of the Discovery process and the information exchanged between FEMA and coastal communities within Dukes County during Discovery will improve our understanding of your coastal watershed's flood hazard mapping and mitigation planning. During Discovery, FEMA:

- Gathers information about local flood risks and flood hazards. Please see the enclosed Data Request Sheet for a list of data that could be of potential use for the study.
- Reviews mitigation plans to understand local mitigation capabilities, hazard risk assessments, and current or future mitigation activities.

Discovery Meeting Details

A Discovery Meeting has been scheduled for the Dukes County Coastal Study. The Discovery Meeting will take place at the following date, time, and location:

Date and Time

March 24, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to noon

Location

Martha's Vineyard Regional Transit Authority
11 A Street, Airport Business Park
Edgartown, Massachusetts 02539



STARR, a FEMA technical services contractor, is performing the Dukes County coastal study. Please RSVP to Tom Tufts, the Project Manager for the Dukes County coastal study, by email (Tom.Tufts@starr-team.com) or by calling (919) 325-4776.

In addition to inviting community leaders, emergency managers, GIS specialists, and local planners to the Discovery Meeting, FEMA will invite other stakeholders with a vested interest in the Dukes County coastal watershed resources, floodplains, and flood risks. This may include representatives from State, Federal, regional, and local agencies and associations. Together, we will discuss the study that will be conducted in Dukes County and any information you are able to provide, as well as the importance of mitigation planning and community outreach.

We encourage you and/or any other relevant floodplain management staff to attend this important meeting. The partnership and exchange of information between FEMA and your community will be important to the successful identification of coastal flood risks in your community.

If you have any questions regarding the Discovery process, the scheduled Discovery Meeting or the requested data, please contact Tom Tufts by email at Tom.Tufts@starr-team.com or by phone at (919) 325-4776. Also available to answer any questions is Kerry Bogdan, Senior Engineer at FEMA Region I. Kerry can be reached by email at Kerry.Bogdan@dhs.gov or by phone at (617) 956-7576.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Goetz, Chief
Risk Analysis Branch
FEMA Region I

Enclosures:

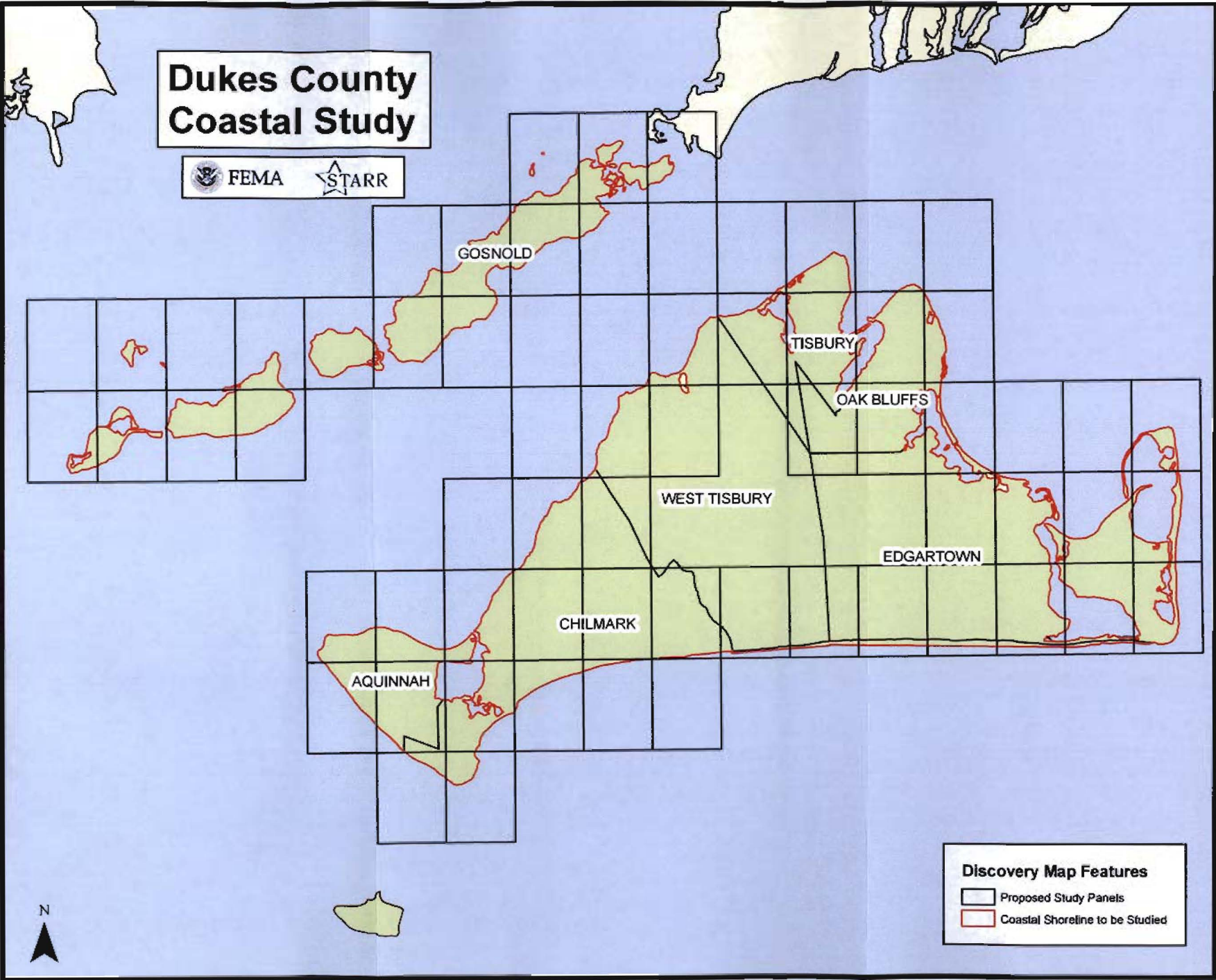
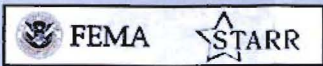
Map of Study Area
Data Request Sheet

cc: Jennifer L. Christy, Town Clerk, Town of Chilmark
Brian Cioffi, Chief of Police, Town of Chilmark
Timothy Carroll, Director, Emergency Management, Town of Chilmark
Leonard Jason, Jr., Inspector of Buildings, Town of Chilmark
David Norton, Fire Chief, Town of Chilmark
Richard Steves, Chairman, Town of Chilmark Conservation Commission
Dennis Jason, Harbormaster, Town of Chilmark
Janet Weidner, Chairperson, Town of Chilmark Planning Board
Richard Zingarelli, NFIP State Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Kerry Bogdan, Senior Engineer, FEMA Region I
Buvana Ramaswamy, STARR Region I

Data Request

Disaster High Water Marks (HWM)
Letters of Map Change (LOMCs)
Available topographic data (better than 2 ft)
Location extent, condition, and owner of coastal protection structures (i.e., revetments, seawalls, etc.) or any other public or private project which may have impacted the floodplain
Areas of recent development, identified future development, or future rezoning
Areas of significant beach or dune erosion
Post-event surveys and investigations for major storms
Documented areas of repetitive coastal flooding
Ongoing or future topographic acquisition efforts
Structure information
Hazard mitigation plans
Structural and flooding issues not represented on effective NFIP maps
Building footprints
Community plans to alleviate flooding

Dukes County Coastal Study



GOSNOLD

TISBURY

OAK BLUFFS

WEST TISBURY

EDGARTOWN

CHILMARK

AQUINNAH

Discovery Map Features

- Proposed Study Panels
- Coastal Shoreline to be Studied

