

HOW2

Find the Right Spatial Data Files

To fully engage with the Base Level Engineering modeling and datasets, communities should download and engage with the Base Level Engineering spatial datasets. The datasets become inputs for local analysis and assessment when paired with locally available datasets and knowledge of local projects and developments that may interact with areas identified as flood prone.



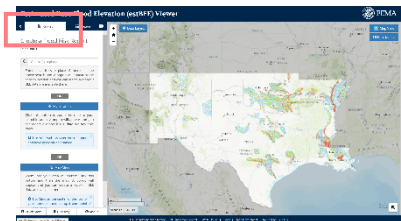
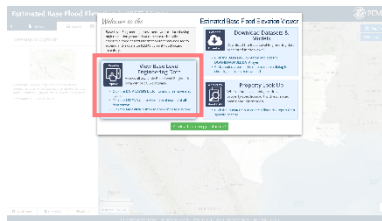
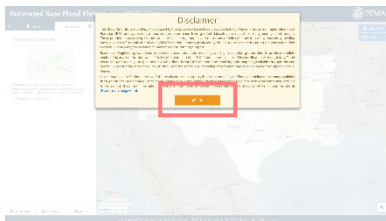
Local analysis can update evacuation plans, identify egress routes, provide an assessment of where local first responder efforts may be cut off from those needing assistance.

Local risk assessments and analysis are critical inputs for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. Locals may update their flood risk profile, perform vulnerability assessments, and identify mitigation projects with the expanded datasets available.

Locate, access and download the Base Level Engineering spatial files using the free **Estimated Base Flood Elevation Viewer**, available free of charge, on-line at <https://go.usa.gov/xsGdu>.

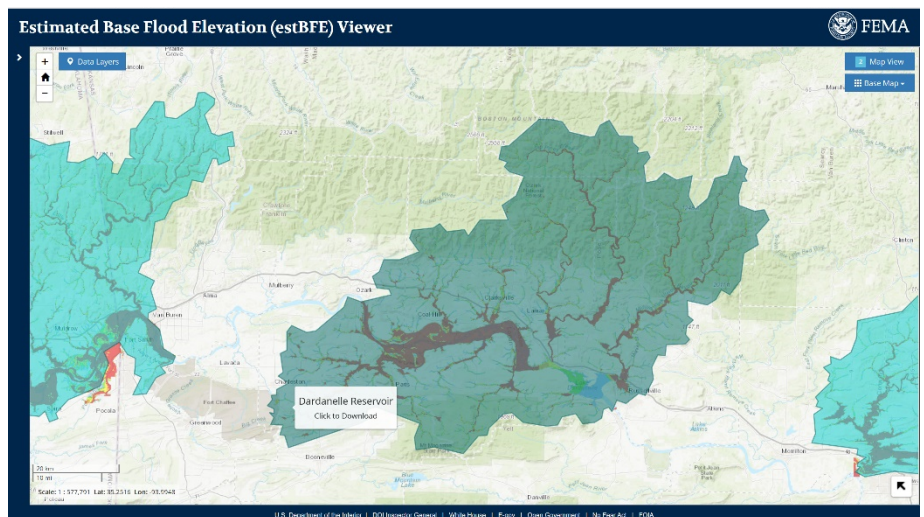
1

Look up your project site. Once you have accessed the site, review the **DISCLAIMER**, then click **OK**. From the three available options on the splash screen, select **View Base Level Engineering Data**. On the left of the screen, click the tab named **REPORT** and enter the location, address or latitude/longitude of the project site.



2

On the top left in the map area, access the Data Layers. Click on the arrow to open the **Downloadable Data (BLE)** information. Click the box next to **Downloadable Data Available**. A teal color will be added to the viewing area and the mouse cursor will identify the Base Level Engineering study area where your project is located.

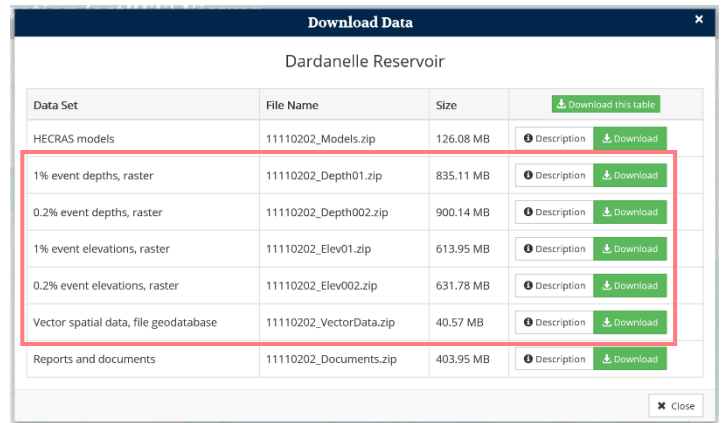


3

Right-click your mouse and a list of downloadable items will be available. Click **DOWNLOAD** on the spatial data files of interest. The files are described in more detail in the table below to assist you.

A dialogue box will open at the bottom of your screen. Choose **SAVE** and identify a folder where the spatial files will be saved to your computer.

Once the download is complete, unzip these spatial files so that they can be added to any software that will load GIS data.



If your community does not have access to GIS software, look for open source (free) GIS software viewers that are available for download. These free viewers may be used to view the files downloaded from the Estimated Base Flood Elevation Viewer.

4

Work with local GIS and technical staff to review and use the information available. These data sets allow communities to use the BLE data with other datasets to perform local analysis and assessments to identify areas of flood risk and flood potential. The intent of these tools is to provide a base level understanding of where communities face flood risk so that they may make informed development and emergency preparedness decisions.

Download Data Set	Includes
1% event depths, raster*	Provides an estimated flood depth for areas identified as flood prone during the 1% annual chance flood event. Having 1:100 chance of occurrence each calendar year.
0.2% event depths, raster*	Provides an estimated flood depth for areas identified as flood prone during the 0.2% annual chance flood event. Having 1:500 chance of occurrence each calendar year.
1% event elevations, raster*	Converts thousands of model results into a grid defining the calculated water surface elevation during the 1% annual chance event.
0.2% event elevations, raster*	Converts thousands of model results into a grid defining the calculated water surface elevation during the 1% annual chance event.
Vector Spatial Data, file geodatabase	Provides a range of point, line and polygon files, including model inputs and results. Model input files include: HUC8 watershed boundaries, hydrologic sub-basins, stream centerlines, water areas, current detailed study areas/lines, analysis cross-sections (1D), terrain (2D), n-values (2D), Model output files include: 10%, 1% and 0.2% flood extents, point file indicating areas where model may need update, Hazus flood risk assessment by census block calculated with BLE results.

* A raster data set is a gridded data coverage that generalizes larger and more precise datasets. A raster coverage generally includes a value in each cell that has been generated through a relational computation of other data. LiDAR datasets include millions of ground points that are converted into Digital Elevation Models which approximate hundreds of values into an average grid cell.