



# USGS Flood Inundation Mapping

## Developing a Public-Private Partnership

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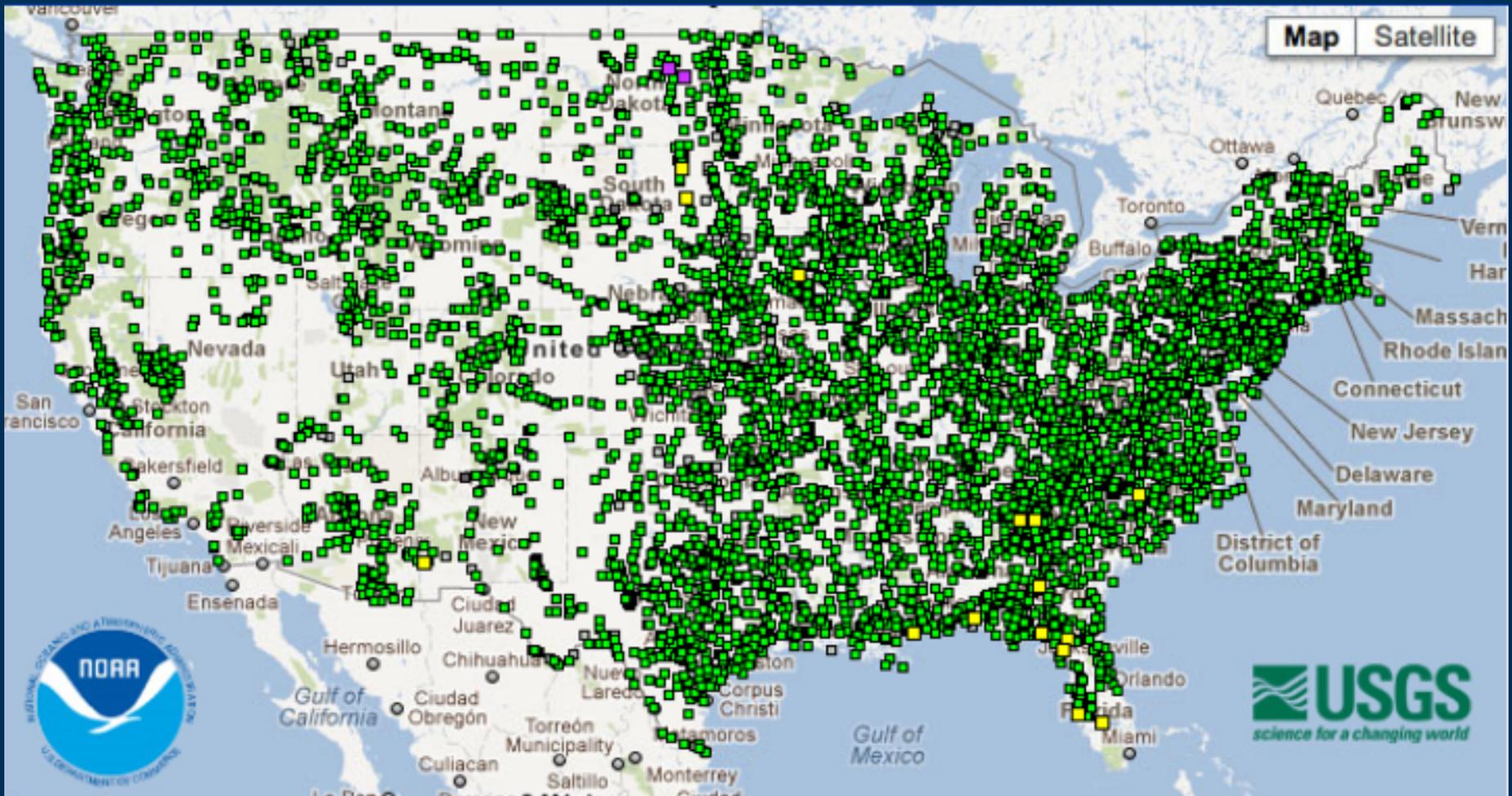
# What is a Flood Inundation Map?

**A Flood Inundation Map (FIM)** is a real-time, operational tool that visually relates USGS streamgauge readings and NWS river forecasts to flood risk for the primary purpose of *public safety*,



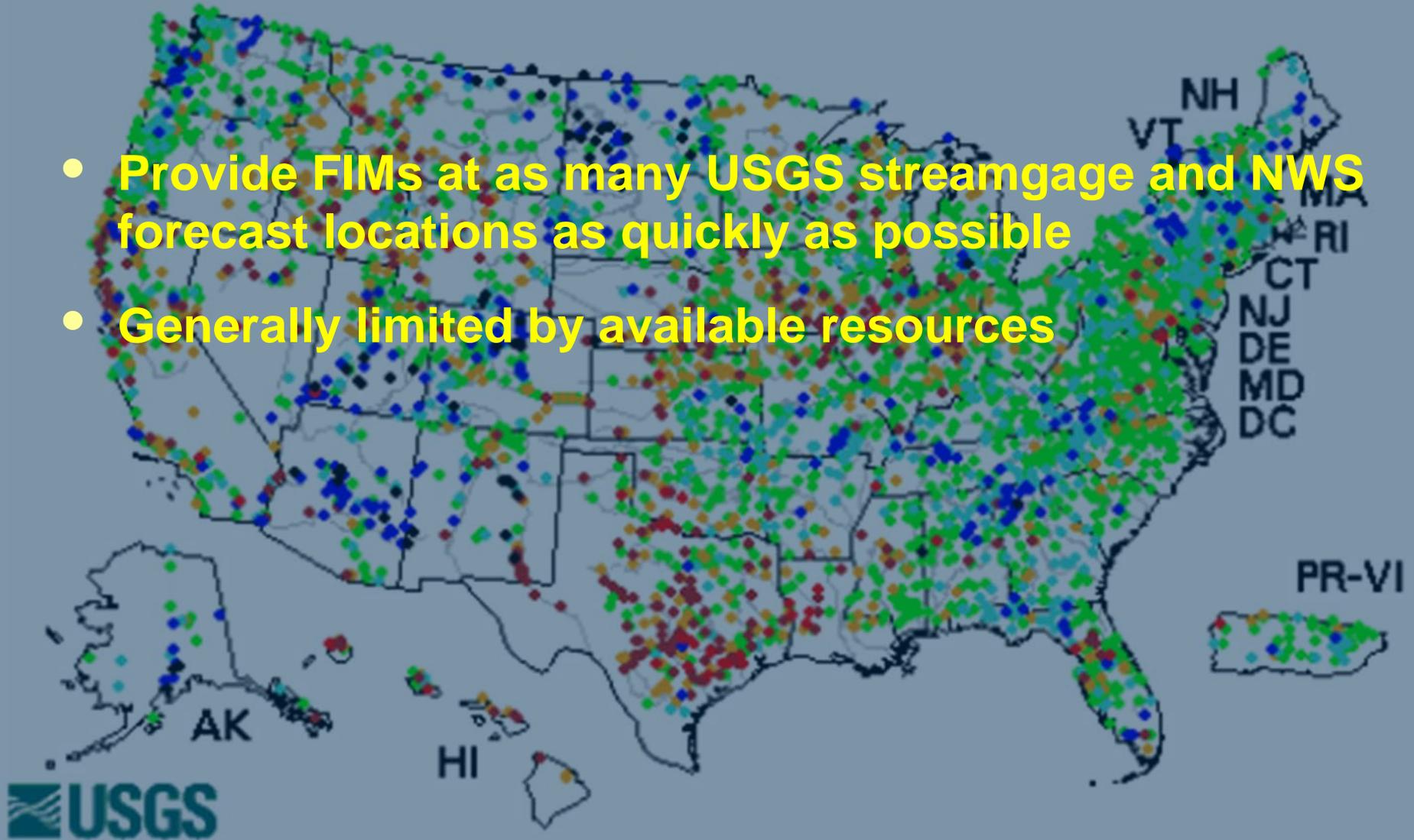
# Background – FIM Potential

- USGS operates nearly 8,000 streamgages
- NWS forecasts at nearly 4,000 USGS streamgages



# FIM Objective

- Provide FIMs at as many USGS streamgange and NWS forecast locations as quickly as possible
- Generally limited by available resources



# Background – FIM Activity

USGS has completed about 32 FIM projects  
USGS expects to complete 45 more in the next year



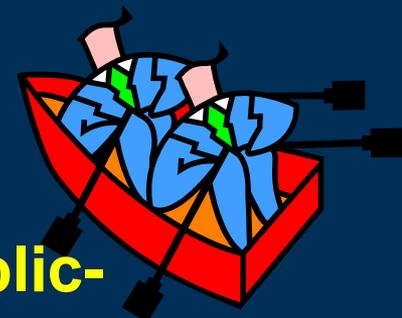
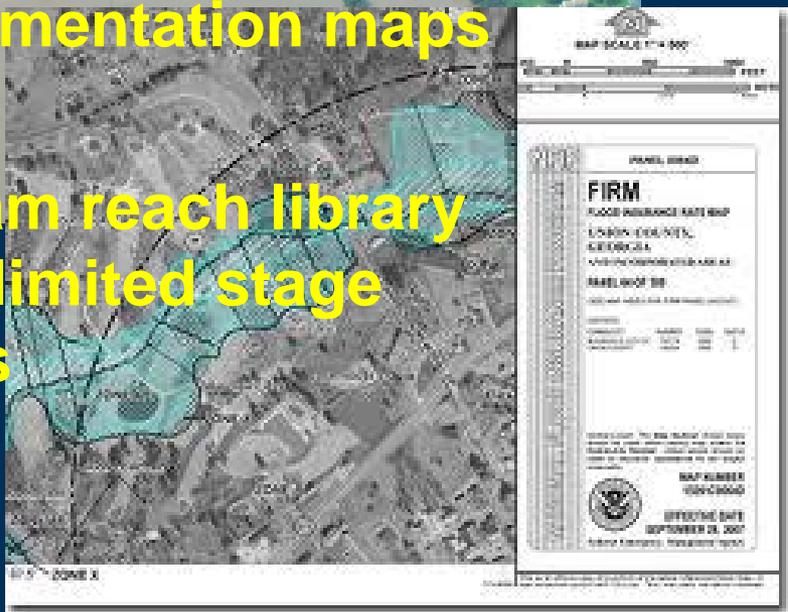
NWS has completed about 90 FIM projects

# FIM Approach



- Investigate less resource-intensive methods
  - Historical flood documentation maps

- Stream reach library with limited stage maps



The  
“Public-  
Private”  
Partnership

# Partnership Approach

- Initial contact from private sector
  - Looking for a stable long-term platform for display
- Collaborative work is developed through a Technical Assistance Agreement
  - Benefits to both parties are required
  - USGS provides QA and documentation support
- Benefits
  - Private sector has an outlet for their work and a means for the community to view the results
  - USGS assists with the goal of delivering FIMs for NWS forecast locations
  - Activity promotes collaboration—not competition

# Future Plans

- Review results from WEST Consultants/WA WSC pilot
- Follow-up on leads from CA WSC and IL WSC
- Re-assess process and revise, as necessary
- Promote concept through other organizations
  - Silver Jackets, ASFPM, River Basin Commissions
  - Others?
- Questions?

