

Guidance on the CRS Class 4 Prerequisite for Activity 630

Section 211.c.(5)(c) and the subparagraphs in Section 631.b.(2) from the CRS Coordinator's Manual (Manual) are shown below. Notes and guidance are shown in italics below the paragraphs taken from the Manual.

211.c. Class 4 Prerequisites

(5) Document the following life safety measures:

- (c) Have a description of the dam failure threat, including a map of all areas that would be flooded by the failure of each high-hazard potential dam that affects the community, and an inventory of the buildings and critical facilities that would be flooded. This is the same as Activity Credit Criteria (2) in Activity 630 (Dams), Section 631.b.

The reference to "inventory" in the above paragraph DOES NOT mean a list of buildings (or building addresses). CRS is interested in an estimate of the types and number of buildings impacted by the failure of each high-hazard potential (HHP) dam. For example, the number of single family homes, multi-family homes, commercial or industrial buildings, and critical facilities. See Section 631.b.(2)(d).

631.b. Activity Credit Criteria

- (1) There must be at least one insurable building within the community subject to inundation due to the failure of a high-hazard potential dam.

This is a credit criterion for DFR, DFW, DFO and DCF.

- (2) The community must submit a description of the dam failure threat, including the following for each high-hazard potential dam that affects the community. The first three items should be available from the state's dam safety office.

- (a) A general description of the dam, including its distance upstream from the community;

Again, CRS is interested in HHP dams that may impact at least one insurable building within the community should there be a failure of a HHP dam. If a community has more than one HHP dam that could impact insurable buildings within the community, general descriptions and the other items included in this section (paragraphs (c), (d), and (e)) may be presented in a table format or as a memo for each dam – whichever is appropriate for the community.

- (b) A dam failure inundation map;

The ISO/CRS Specialists will need to view the inundation areas or evacuation zones for each HHP dam. The Specialist does not need to take any maps with them, but they will need to document for the file that the community has mapped its dam failure threat areas or has been provided with inundation mapping from other entities. The community needs to describe its mapping system or mapping approach.

- (c) Dam failure flood hazard data, including arrival time at different locations and peak elevations of the dam failure flood;

This can be general information, such as an hour of warning time or several hours of warning time.. Arrival times do not need to be detailed throughout the inundation area (flood wave). Inundation or evacuation map can suffice for CRS documentation of peak elevations.

- (d) The development exposed to dam failure flooding, such as the number, types, and elevations of buildings; land use (residential, agricultural, open space, etc.); and critical facilities; and

This is the inventory referred to in 211.c. Note that paragraph (2) above requires a “description.” Estimates, for each HHP dam, based on an examination of the inundation areas are needed. Elevations of buildings are not required; a sense of the potential dam failure inundation flood heights is sufficient.

- (e) The expected impacts of dam failure flooding on health and safety; community functions, such as police and utility services; and the potential for secondary hazards.

A description of the “expected impacts” are needed. Numbers are not required.

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- Community files and specific community data is never published or released to the public.
- The community CRS Coordinator can request a copy of a community's verification file from the ISO/CRS Specialists. The Verification file provided to the community includes a placard explaining the Privacy Act requirements.
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