Disclaimer for Flood-Inundation Maps

Inundated areas shown through this map are for navigation, regulatory, permitting, or other legal purposes. The USGS provides these maps "as is" for quick reference emergency planning or flood avoidance to local and state officials using these flood inundation maps. Flood inundation maps represent the boundaries of inundated areas as described above. Flood inundation maps are not intended to be full-scale floodplain maps; for more detailed information see your local floodplain management ordinance. Flood inundation maps represent the estimated areal extent of flooding due to stage (water-surface elevation) or flow and are not intended to represent the actual extent of flooding that will occur. Flood inundation maps were estimated using water-surface elevations and streamflows at selected USGS streamgages. Water-surface elevations along the stream reaches were determined by steady-state hydraulic modeling, assuming an unobstructed flow, and using streamflow and hydrologic conditions anticipated at the USGS streamgages. The hydraulic model reflects the land-cover characteristics and any bridge, dam, levee, or other hydraulic structures existing as of October 2011. Unique meteorological factors (timing and distribution of precipitation) may cause actual streamflows along the modeled reach to vary from those assumed during a flood, which may lead to deviations in the water-surface elevation and inundation boundaries shown. Additional areas may be flooded due to unanticipated conditions, such as changes in the streambed elevation or roughness, backwater into major tributaries along a main stem river, or backwater from localized debris or ice jams. The accuracy of the floodwater extent portrayed on these maps will vary with the accuracy of the digital elevation model used to simulate the land surface.

Additional uncertainties and limitations pertinent to this study are described in the document accompanying this set of flood-inundation map plates. If this series of flood-inundation maps will be used in conjunction with National Weather Service (NWS) river forecasts, the user should be aware of additional uncertainties that may be inherent or factored into NWS forecast procedures. The NWS uses forecast models to estimate the quantity and timing of water flowing through selected stream reaches in the United States. These forecast models can contain the assumption of a given extent of flood. If the user determines that the flood inundation extent is not appropriate for his or her area of interest, the user should be aware that this assumption could result in the wrong extent of flood inundation being determined.

For more information on AHPS forecasts, please see: