The 1% annual chance flood (100-year flood), also known as the base flood, is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. This flood height is determined on a case-by-case basis by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on the basis of studies of the local area's hydrology and geology. The flood height is used to set the flood insurance rate in flood-prone areas and to ensure that structures are built to withstand the flood height.

In addition to the base flood, there are also floodplains and floodways that are associated with the base flood. These floodplains and floodways are used to identify areas that are at risk of flooding and to determine the flood insurance rates for those areas. The floodplains and floodways are determined by the FEMA Map Service Center based on a variety of factors, including the base flood height, the topography of the area, and the presence of flood control structures.

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Please refer to the FIRM for more detailed information on floodplains and floodways.