

Town of Belt
Mayor & Floodplain Administrator, Jim Olson
70 Castner Street
Belt, MT 59412

January 10, 2025

Dear Property Owner,

Flooding is one of the most common and costly of all natural disasters in the United States. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was established in 1968 as a means to reduce flood losses and flood damage to local communities throughout the country. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your property may be located within or near the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) located in the Town of Belt, on FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map #30013C063E.

The Town of Belt has Floodplain Regulations which were adopted on January 24, 2024. Because of this our community participates in the NFIP and is required to administer and enforce our floodplain regulations. Enforcement of these regulations is done to ensure the safety and well-being of our property owners and for the Town to remain compliant with state and federal floodplain laws. One of the main ways to remain compliant is to ensure that any development (building, fencing, fill, maintenance, home improvements, etc.) that occurs on a property located on or near the SFHA, or in a high-risk flood area, a floodplain permit review is conducted. This is done by contacting the Town floodplain administrator. If it is determined that a floodplain permit is needed, a permit application shall be completed and submitted to the Town Floodplain Administrator for review and approval.

As a property owner within the Town, you are responsible for knowing if you are following and compliant with local regulations and state, and federal floodplain laws. Our Town Floodplain Administrator's Assistant, Rolf Johnson, can assist you in knowing this information and ensuring existing structures or future development to your property is compliant.

Our Town SFHA has been identified through our Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) dated March 19, 2013. The risk for flooding can vary within the same area and even from property to property. Knowing your flood risk is the first step to flood protection. I recommend that you visit FEMA's Map Service Center online, [msc.fema.gov](https://www.msc.fema.gov), to determine if your property's location is in or near the regulated floodplain. If you need assistance, please contact our Town Floodplain Administrator's Assistant, Rolf Johnson.

Enclosed is the Town's floodplain permitting brochure which provides more information about the NFIP, the permitting process, and information that may concern your property. The contact information for the Town is also given, as well as the link to the Floodplain Program at the State of Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation website. Please feel free to reach out to our office with any additional questions.

Finally, we want to thank you. As a local resident, your partnership with the Town, and our state, federal and local partners is essential. We look forward to working with you on ways to address your flood risk and how to minimize flood losses for your property and our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Olson", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Mayor & Floodplain Administrator, Jim Olson