



Informal Interpretation Report Number 9157



Date October 01, 2025

Edition 2023

Section 1612.5

Question:

Please define "other than" as it relates to the SFHA. Does this include Site Plans for New Construction within the SFHA including AE Zones?

Answer

Flood Hazard Area is the Special Flood Hazard Area on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (unless the community also adopts and regulates a different map). The terms "coastal high hazard area" (CHHA) and "Coastal A Zone" (CAZ) are defined in Sec. 202. Flood hazard areas other than CHHA and CAZ means Zone A/AE, and in coastal communities it means Zone A/AE that is inland of the Zone V boundary or inland of the Limit of Moderate Wave Action, if there is one. Now look at 1612.5 #2, which applies in CHHA and CAZ; that means #1 applies in all flood hazard areas mapped for inland communities, and in coastal communities it means flood hazard areas that are inland of the CHHA or CAZ, if there is one.

FDEM compiles the flood provisions and posts them, and FEMA's Highlights of ASCE 24-14 Flood Resistant Design and Construction here: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/mitigation/floodplain/community-resources/>

Commentary:

None.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.