

(a) By January 1, 1982, the Department, after consultation with and consideration of recommendations submitted by subdivisions and the [Departments] DEPARTMENT of [State Planning and] Agriculture AND THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, shall designate a priority list of watersheds for the purpose of flood control planning and management and establish a schedule for completion of studies of these watersheds.

(b) The Department, in cooperation with the subdivisions and the [Departments] DEPARTMENT of [State Planning and] Agriculture AND THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, shall conduct studies of the watersheds designated pursuant to subsection (a) which shall define at least (1) the existing magnitude and frequency of flood events, (2) the magnitude and frequency of flood events based on planned development, and (3) alternative management techniques according to their effectiveness in controlling floods and minimizing flood damage. The studies shall address at least the 100-year flood event. By mutual agreement, the Department may delegate the responsibility for carrying out all or part of the studies of priority watersheds to the appropriate subdivisions.

(d) (1) By July 1, 1990, each subdivision, in cooperation with the Departments of Natural Resources[, State Planning,] AND Agriculture AND THE OFFICE OF PLANNING, and other appropriate State agencies shall prepare a flood management plan based upon an evaluation of the alternative management techniques and other findings included in studies conducted under subsection (b) of this section. Each flood management plan shall be consistent with the purposes and provisions of this subtitle.

(2) Management techniques may include:

- (i) Flood control dams;
- (ii) Levees and dikes;
- (iii) Stormwater detention or retention structures;
- (iv) Public acquisition;
- (v) Flood proofing;
- (vi) Storm drain and stream maintenance;
- (vii) Tax adjustment policies;
- (viii) Subdivision, zoning, and related ordinances; and
- (ix) Other practical methods.