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TO: Halcott Flood Advisory Committee  
FROM: Milone & MacBroom, Inc.  
RE: Halcott LFA Public Meeting #1  
DATE: July 26, 2019  
MMI #: 5197-16

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A first public meeting for the Halcott Local Flood Analysis (LFA) was held on the evening of July 22, 2019 at the Grange Hall. In attendance were Mark Carabetta and Ethan Ely from Milone and MacBroom (MMI), several members of the Halcott Flood Advisory Committee (FAC), and a number of Halcott residents. A sign-in sheet and the presentation slides are appended.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Review the study area
- Recap the LFA process and intended outcomes
- Discuss flooding history in Halcott
- Collect information about flooding and flood damages

The meeting began with introductions and a presentation by MMI about the LFA process and intended outcomes. During the presentation, MMI discussed what is known about the flood history in Halcott, steps involved in an LFA, and potential flood mitigation strategies.

Through the presentation, community members discussed their thoughts and experiences with flooding. MMI provided a large scale map so that those in attendance could identify areas where flood damage occurred and where bridges and culverts have overtopped or washed out. MMI staff collected information and took detailed notes, which are summarized below.

Flood damages and observations:

- Several stream crossings along Vly Creek, upstream of the Elk Creek bridge, were identified as having overtopped and/or experienced structural failure during Tropical Storm Irene. Some of these culverts are outside the boundary of the hamlet, which was established by NYCDEP and DCSWCD as the limit of the LFA study area.
- During Irene a private bridge on the property of Bill and Elizabeth Bernhardt washed out and has since been replaced. While the property owners were not present for the meeting, other community members stated that the bridge appears to have been replaced in-kind.
- Community members expressed their desire to have any flood mitigation recommendations incorporate stream habitat restoration.
- Upstream of Elk Creek bridge, within the property of Halcott resident Dan Chesire, Vly Creek eroded during Irene, shifting the primary channel approximately 100'-150' to the east. The erosion downed numerous large Hemlock trees. Residents expressed concern that these trees may travel downstream and block a stream crossing during the next major flood event.

- A stream crossing over Brownell Creek along Country Road 1 was identified as being frequently overtopped during large storm events. The culvert was outside the bounds of the map provided by MMI.

Reports and other information:

- Halcott residents Paul and Sybil Margolis provided MMI with photos and videos of the flooding during Tropic Storm Irene on a portable drive, which MMI will review.

The following tasks will be performed in moving forward with the LFA:

- The Town of Halcott will provide MMI with list of possible dates in August for the second FAC meeting.
- MMI will perform hydrologic and hydraulic analyses of various flood prone structures identified during the public meeting and kick-off FAC meeting. The capacities of these structures and potential flood mitigation scenarios will be evaluated.

## MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

 <b>MILONE &amp; MACBROOM</b>	<b>Meeting Date:</b> July 22, 2019, 7:00PM
<b>Project:</b> #5197-16 Halcott LFA	<b>Place/Room:</b> Halcott Grange Hall

Name	Company	Phone	E-Mail
Mark Carabetta	Milone & MacBroom, Inc	(845) 633-8153	mcarabetta@mminc.com
Ethan Ely	Milone & MacBroom, Inc	(845) 633-8153	eely@mminc.com
Alan Reynolds	T. O. HALCOTT	845-254-4522	ALANREYNOLDS05@GMAIL.COM
Innes Kasanof	Town of Halcott	518-265-4581	inneskas70@gmail.com
Patti Warfield	Town of Halcott	845-254-4833	Clerk@townofhalcott.org.
Paul Sybil Margolis - Self		845-254-5374	PJMARGOLIS@COMACC.COM
Peg DiBenedetto	Town of Halcott	845-254-6508	pegdib@gmail.com
Maria Cisneros	Manhattan NY	212-5058547	WINIFERN@AOL.COM
Sif Ruly		(646)245-5975	fernanda@conncoll.edu
ROBERT VAN ALKENBURGH	HALCOTT	845-254-5839	bobbyclar493@gmail.com
DAN CHESIRE	Town of HALCOTT	845-254-4310	CHESIRE22000@GMAIL.COM
Scott Moroff	HALCOTT	516-449-2278	smoroff@me.com

# Local Flood Analysis



**Town of Halcott, NY**



**Mark Carabetta  
Ethan Ely**

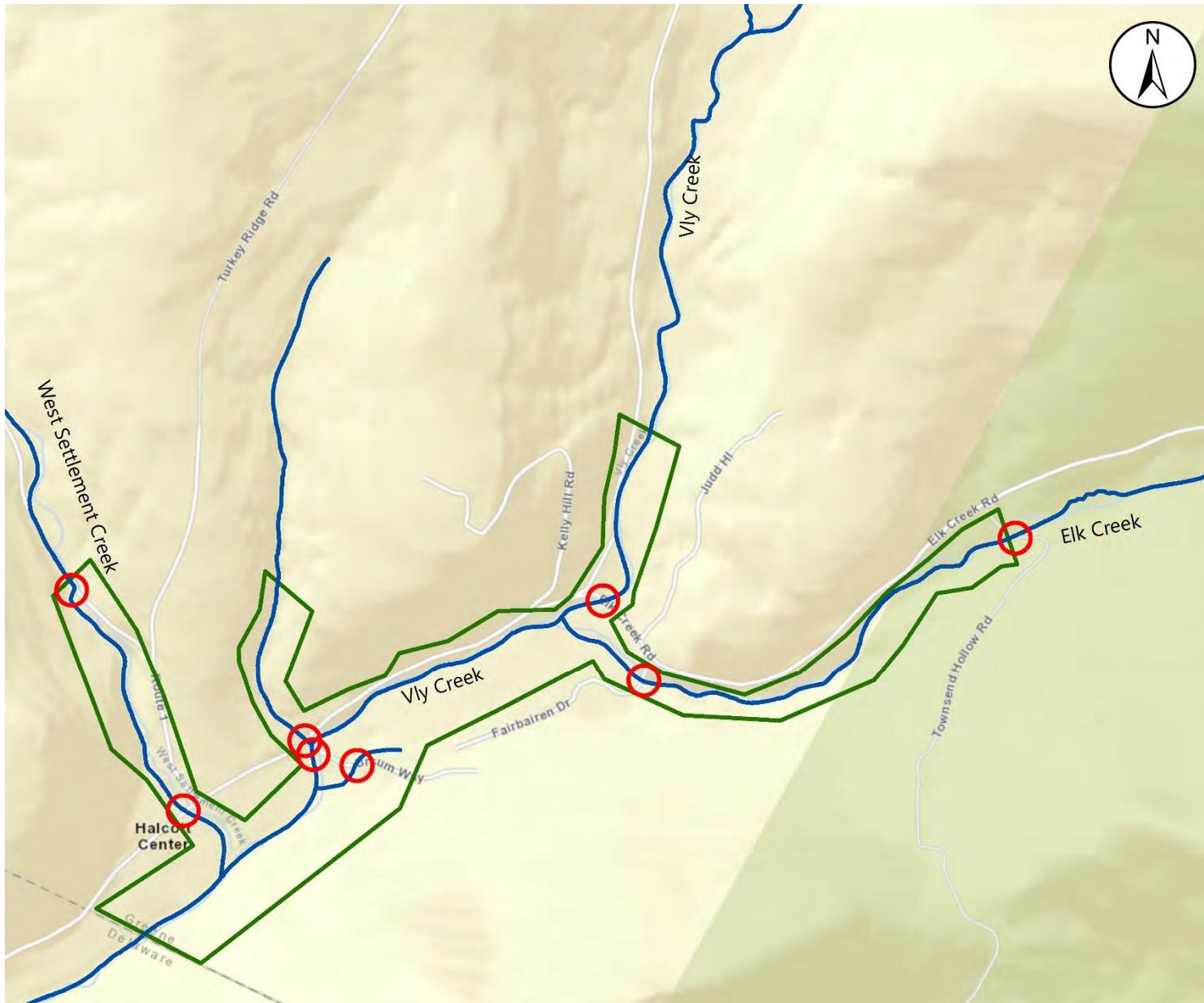
**Public Meeting #1 | July 22, 2019**

# Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

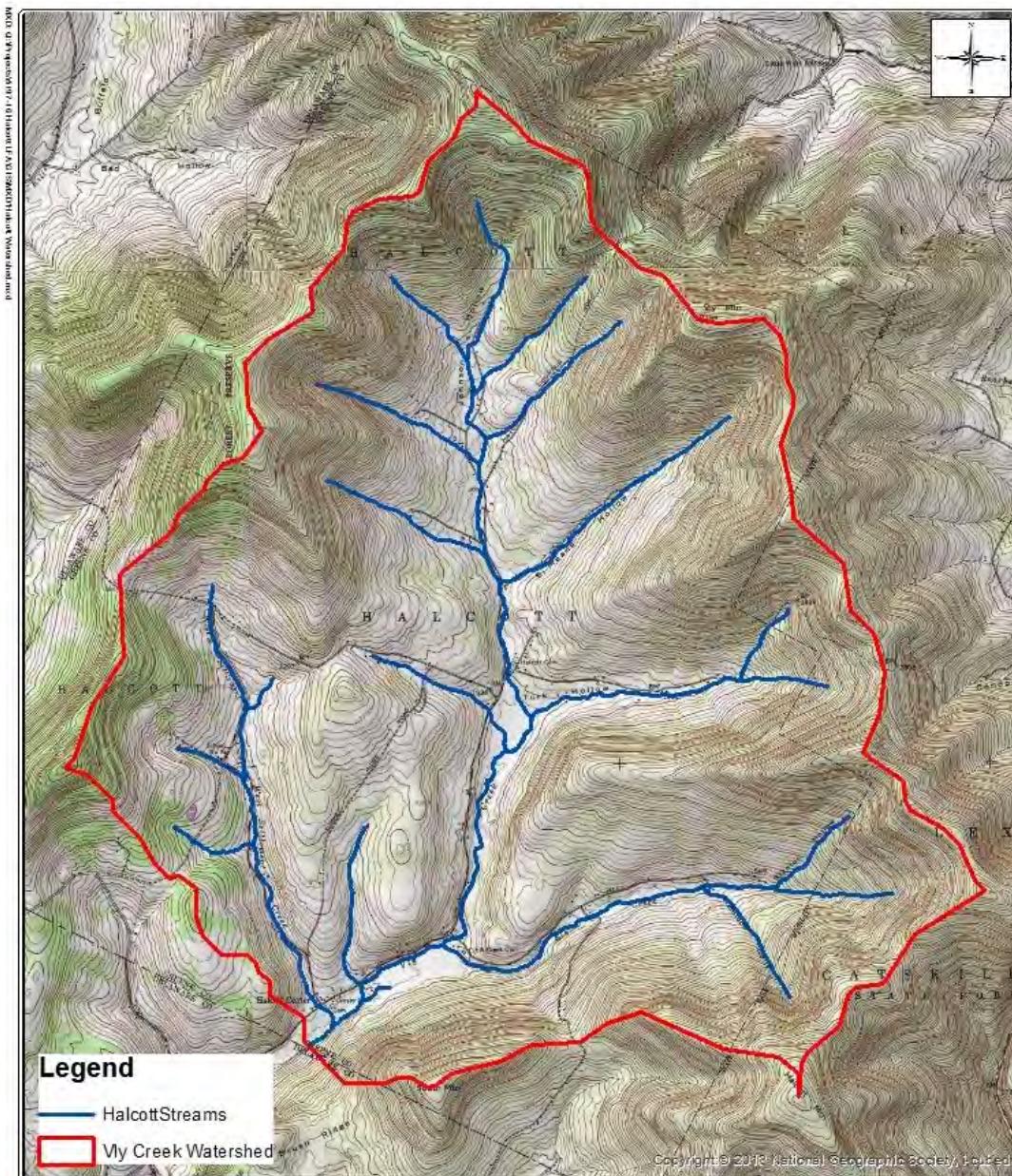
- Introductions
- Review the study area
- Flood history
- Review Local Flood Analysis (LFA) process
- Project schedule
- Collect ideas and information about flooding



# Halcott LFA Area



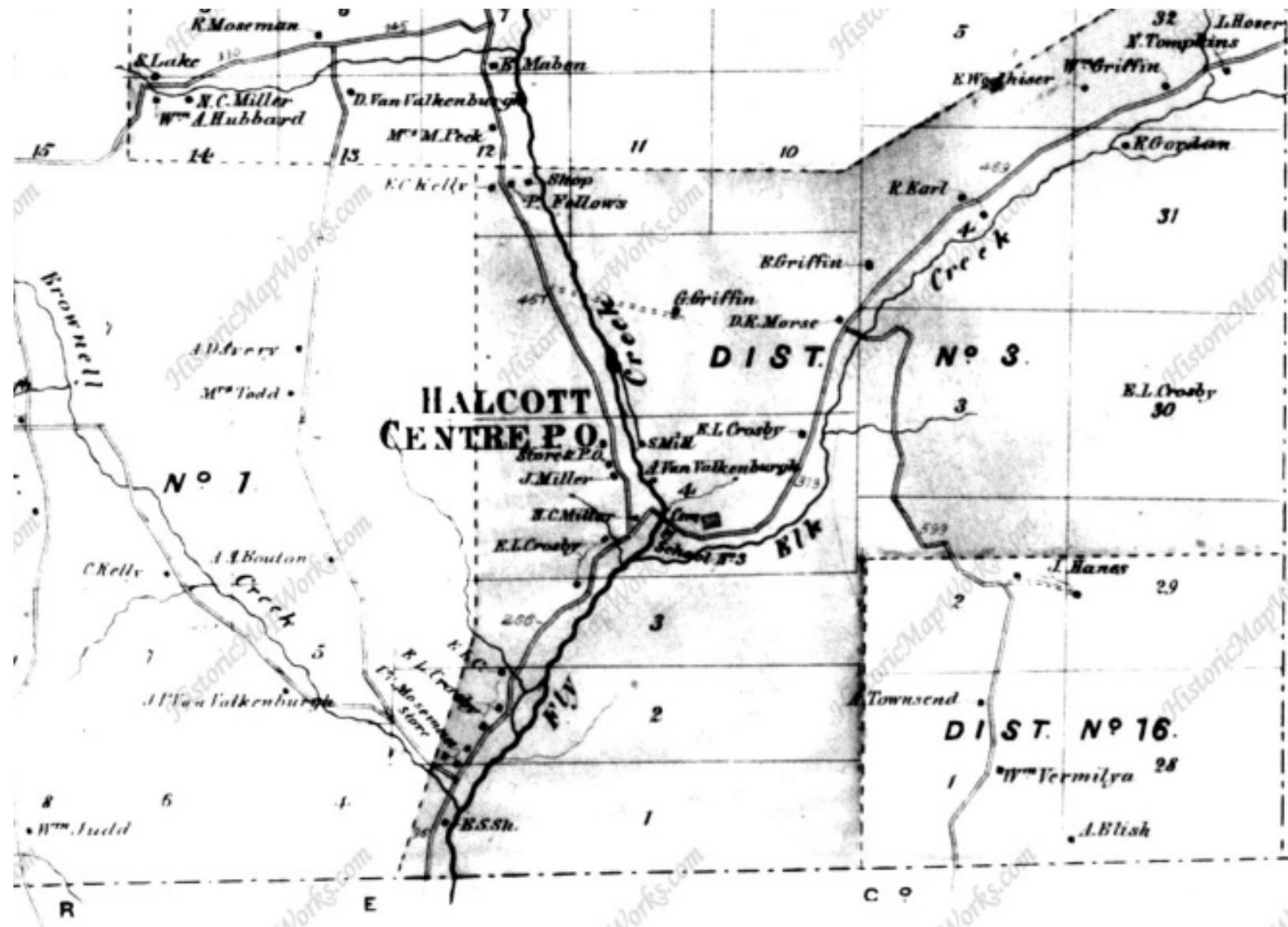
# Vly Creek Watershed



Watershed :

8.2 square miles  
(measured at county line)

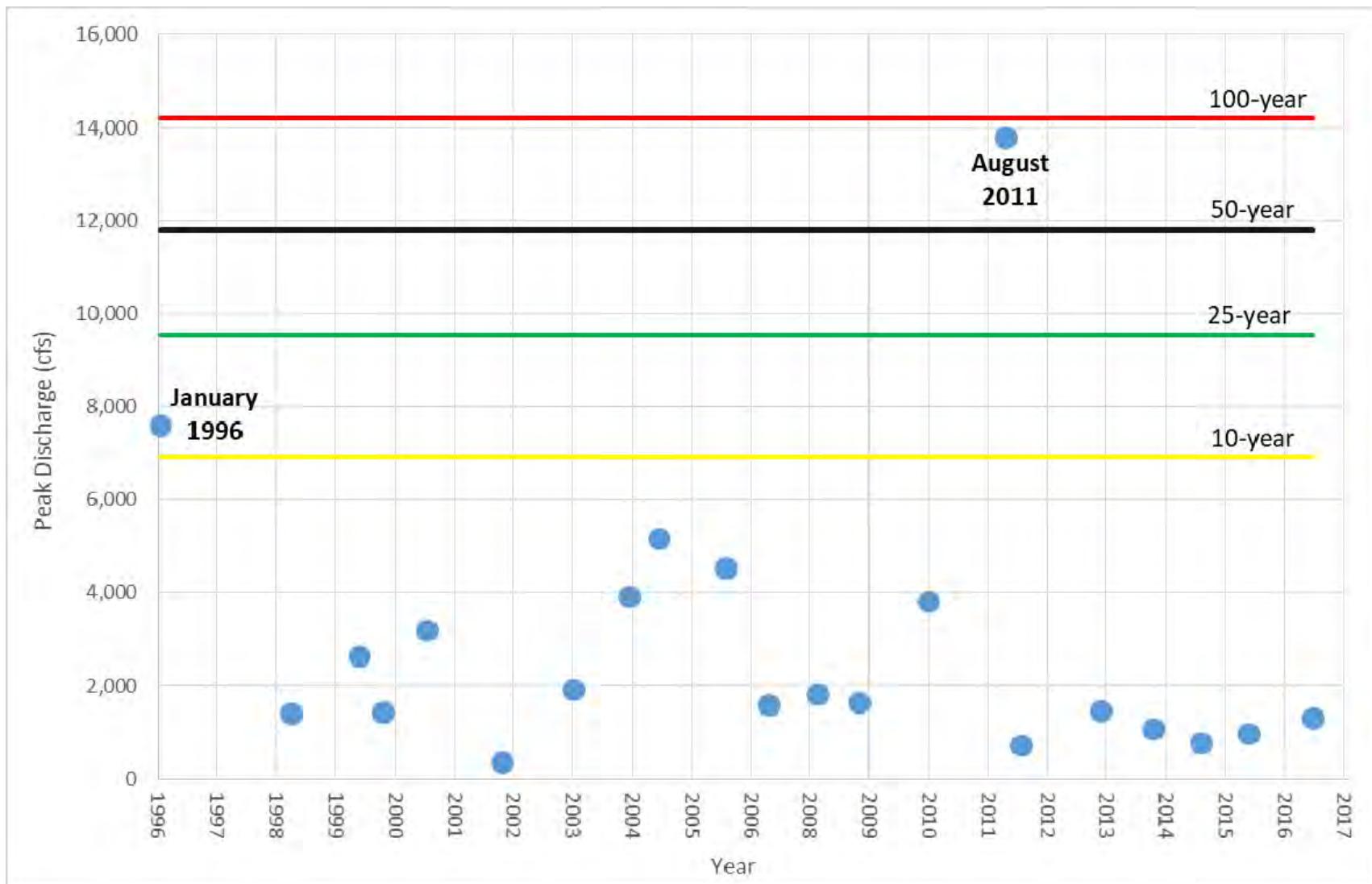
# Historic Image - 1867



# Flood History

- In the Catskills, flooding usually results from:
  - winter and spring rain/snowmelt  
(January 1996 Rain-on-Snow event)
  - late summer and fall tropical storms or hurricanes  
(Tropical Storm Irene – August 2011)
- Halcott has experienced flooding and flood-related damages
- Town Newsletter (Fall 2011) documents Irene destruction
- Stormwater Assessment Project (Delaware Engineering, 2010)

# Peak Flow History – Bush Kill near Arkville



- Graph created using annual peak flow data from USGS gauge 01413398 and discharges from FEMA FIS, June 2016
- Drainage Area: 46.7 square miles
- Period of Record: 1996 – 2017

# Project Understanding

Our Analysis Will Focus On:

- Floodprone Homes and Businesses
- Vulnerable or Undersized Bridges and Culverts
- Critical Facilities and Anchor Businesses
- Threats to Water Quality



# Steps of the LFA

**Public Input** – Help us understand flooding patterns and problems

**Engineering Analysis** – Hydraulic modeling of flood mitigation scenarios

**Benefit Cost Analysis** – To understand viability

**Funding** - Identification of potential funding sources

**LFA Report and Plan** - Blueprint for near- and long-term flood mitigation

**Implementation** – Halcott seeks funding to implement recommended projects

# Suggested LFA Meeting Schedule

FAC Kick-off (April 15)

Public Meeting #1 -  
gather information about  
flooding (July 22)

FAC (August)

FAC (September)

Public Meeting #2 -  
present results and  
gather feedback  
(Fall)

# LFA Information Needs

- Areas of flooding/flow paths/flooding depths
- Reports of flood damages
- Bridges that overtopped or became clogged with debris
- Locations of critical facilities and anchor businesses
- Sources of potential water quality impairment during a flood
- Photographs
- Videos





Questions, Comments, or Thoughts?