

**Santa Rosa County
Local Mitigation Strategy Task Force
Steering Committee**

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 24, 2014 – 1:30pm CDT

**Meeting Location: Santa Rosa County Public Services Conference Room
6051 Old Bagdad Highway**

Agenda Items:

1. Call to Order – *Hunter Walker*
 2. Update on Current Mitigation projects – *Sheila Harris*
 - Status of Ramblewood HMGP Drainage Project (Phase II Construction)
 - Status of Settlers Colony HMGP Drainage Project (Phase I Design)
 - Status of Elevation Grants/Upcoming FMA Cycle
 - Status of CDBG grants (sewer completed in Bagdad and Navarre, application for water lines)
 - Status of City of Milton's HMGP application for the Glover Lane lift station
 3. Update from Rebuild Northwest Florida on Santa Rosa County mitigation projects – *Salina Randall*
 4. Update on HBTS Engineering Services – *Michael Schmidt*
 5. Update on Public Works activities in problem flooding areas – *Stephen Furman*
 6. Approval of LMS Steering Committee list and review and discussion of Bylaws – *Sheila Harris*
 7. Discussion of Community Rating System (CRS) – Program for Public Information Requirement –
Karen Thornhill
 8. Approval of the 2014/2015 LMS Meeting Schedule - *Sheila Harris*
 9. Discussion of 5-year LMS plan update (Expires June 2016) and new planning tools – *Sheila Harris*
 - Hazard Mitigation Planning - Updated Tool Box
 - New 5.0 BCA Toolkit
 - Sea Rise Tool
 10. Notice of upcoming Mitigation Education Opportunities – *Dan Hahn*
 11. Other Business & Public Comments – *Hunter Walker*
- Next Meeting Dates/Adjournment – *Hunter Walker*
- July 24, 2014 - 1:30 PM

**Santa Rosa County
Local Mitigation Strategy Task Force
Steering Committee**

LMS Steering Committee Officers

Chairman – Mr. Hunter Walker (SR County)
6495 Caroline St.
Milton, FL 32570
850-983-1855; 983-1856 fax

Vice Chairman – Mr. Brain Watkins (Milton)
6738 Dixon St
Milton, FL 32570
850-983-5411

Steering Committee Members

City of Gulf Breeze – Mr. Dave Szymanski
Town of Jay – Linda Carden (Alt – Donna Settle)
SR County BOCC – Commissioner Jim Melvin
SR Emergency Manager – Mr. Dan Hahn {Alt –Brad Baker}
SR County Building Dept/CRS – Ms. Karen Thornhill {Alt – Rhonda Royals}
SR Special Projects/Grants – Ms. Sheila Harris
SR County Planning Dept – Mr. Shawn Ward {Alt – Beckie Cato}
American Red Cross of NW FL – Amy Eden (Alt –Ken Cromer)
Lou Greene – Navarre Resident (Alt - Ginny Ward, Milton Resident)
Holley-by-the-Sea Homeowners Association – (TBD)

Sheila Harris

From: Williams, Quinton [Quinton.Williams@em.myflorida.com]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 7:30 AM
To: TCP@miamidade.gov; Sheila Harris; francisco.alonso@tylin.com; JBorrero@cityofsweetwater.fl.gov; NBranas@co.hernando.fl.us; vgualillo@coab.us; slaurenti@nlauderdale.org; PadillaA@leoncountyfl.gov; cyrille@miamidade.gov; BaSmith@fortlauderdale.gov; Peaton, David (Gilchrist County EM Director); lisa.conway@urs.com; agrieshaber@cityofarcher.com; lane@eutawutilitiesinc.com; FinleyW@hillsboroughcounty.org; sjuengst@hollyhillfl.org; bldgdept@townofredingtonshores.com; dwardsr@comcast.net; Charles_Taylor@davie-fl.gov; Corcoran-Brian@monroecounty-fl.gov
Cc: alemanm@miamidade.gov; ncharles@miamigardens-fl.gov; ewong@cityofnorthport.com; THill@hernandosheriff.org; mwolf@ecivis.com; jkelly@lakeworth.org; LANHAMD@leoncountyfl.gov; Busick, Sid (Bay County Alt. EM); Srinivas.Tammisetti@dep.state.fl.us; Busick, Sid (Bay County Alt. EM); cdd@cityoffellsmere.org; SteelM@miamidade.gov; Tommy.Horton@arcadis-us.com; jward@rstarml.com; Paul.Geisz@stpete.org; Eugene Henry
Subject: FY2014 Hazard Mitigation Flood Mitigation Assistance Application Cycle Now Open
Attachments: FY 2014 Cycle - Application Process.pdf; FMA - PM CountyMap 0414.pdf; FY14 FMA Fact Sheet final 4-3-14_final.pdf
 Florida Division of Emergency Management

April 18, 2014

FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM NOTICE OF 2014 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

~Open application period for Flood Mitigation Assistance Program begins April 21~

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced the opening of the FY 2014 Application Cycle for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs. FEMA's funding opportunity announcement can be found at www.grants.gov.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) is soliciting eligible applicants to prepare and submit applications for the FMA grant program. All applications must be submitted to FDEM via the eGrants application system on or before **June 6, 2014, 5:00 PM EST.**

Additional information about the FMA program and the application process instructions are attached. Please note, all property owners must contact their local government to apply.

Attachments:

2014 FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Fact Sheet
 2014 eGrants Application Process Guidance
 Map – State grants liaison map

Contact: Please see the attached map for the project manager assigned to your community.

P.S. The Florida Division of Emergency Management will provide notification of funding opportunity under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program soon.

Quinton N. Williams, Planning Manager
 Bureau of Mitigation
 Florida Division of Emergency Management
 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
 Room 350D
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
 (850) 487-1584 (O)
www.FloridaDisaster.org

4/21/2014



FY 2014 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program

Overview

As appropriated by the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2014* (Public Law 113-76); the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program provides resources to assist states, tribal governments, territories and local communities in their efforts to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) as authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended.

In Fiscal Year 2014, \$89,000,000 is available to assist States, Tribal, Territorial and local governments reduce or eliminate claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The FMA Grant Program was created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act (NFIRA) of 1994 with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP.

Consistent with Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-141), the FMA Grant Program changed in FY 2013 to allow more federal funds for properties with repetitive flood claims and severe repetitive loss properties, and the Repetitive Flood Claims and Severe Repetitive Loss Grant Programs were eliminated.

The Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Unified Guidance applies to the FY 2014 FMA application cycle. Applicants are encouraged to review the guidance for detailed information regarding eligibility and to contact their FEMA Regional Office for additional information.

Funding

In FY 2014, the total amount of funds distributed under the FY 2014 FMA will be \$89,000,000.

The FMA program funds will be distributed on a competitive basis.

Eligibility

All 50 States, the District of Columbia, federally recognized tribal governments, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to apply for FY 2014 FMA Program funds.

Local governments are considered sub-applicants and must apply to their applicant state/territory.

Either the state emergency management agency (EMA) or the office that has primary floodplain management responsibility is eligible to apply directly to FEMA for FMA program funds; however, only one application will be accepted from each state, tribe or territory.

Funding Guidelines

The maximum federal share for FMA sub-applications per 42 U.S.C. 4104c is as follows:

- \$50,000 for state plans
- \$25,000 for local plans

Additionally, a maximum 10 percent of grant funds awarded can be used by the state EMA for management costs, and a maximum of 5 percent of grant funds awarded can be used by the local EMA for management costs. For more information, please see the FY 2014 Funding Opportunity Announcement.

The period of performance for the FMA program begins with the opening of the application period and ends no later than 36 months from the award date.

Key FY 2014 FMA Changes

- FEMA added the mitigation of repetitive loss properties as an agency priority for FY 2014.
-

Application Process and Evaluation Criteria

Applications and sub-applications for FMA must be submitted via the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal: <https://portal.fema.gov>. If a subapplicant does not use the eGrants system, then the applicant must enter the paper sub-application(s) into the eGrants system on the sub-applicant's behalf.

FMA applications will undergo a complete eligibility review within their respective FEMA Region. FEMA Regions will review planning and project sub-applications plus one management cost subapplication submitted by each applicant through the Mitigation eGrants system to ensure compliance with the HMA Guidance, including eligibility of the applicant and sub-applicant; eligibility of proposed activities and costs; completeness of the sub-application and eligibility and availability of non-federal cost share.

FEMA will perform a Technical Review for the project sub-applications from each eligible Applicant focusing on two areas: (1) Benefit-Cost Analysis; and (2) Engineering Feasibility.

FEMA will select eligible planning and project sub-applications in order of the agency's priorities for the FY 2014 FMA grant program:

- 1st priority: Mitigation planning sub-applications consistent with 44 CFR Part 201 up to a maximum of \$100,000 federal share per applicant
- 2nd priority: Mitigation project sub-applications that mitigate Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) properties.
- 3rd priority: Mitigation project sub-applications that mitigate Repetitive Loss (RL) properties.

Santa Rosa County LMS Steering Committee April 2014			
	Organization/Department	Primary Representative	Designated Alternate (optional)
1	Santa Rosa County Special Projects/Grants Office	Sheila Harris, Coordinator (Task Force support staff)	
2	Santa Rosa County Emergency Management Plans Chief	Daniel Hahn, Co-Coordinator (Task Force support staff)	Brad Baker, Director
3	City of Gulf Breeze	Dave Szymanski, Asst City Manager	Steve Milford
4	Resident	Lou Greene, Navarre Resident	Ginny Ward, Milton Resident
5	Town of Jay	Linda Carden, Town Clerk	Donna Settle
6	City of Milton	Brian Watkins, City Manager (current Vice-Chair)	Randy Jorgenson
7	Santa Rosa County Building Permits Department	Karen Thornhill, Flood Plain Manager (Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator)	Rhonda Royals, Building Official
8	Santa Rosa County Planning and Zoning Department	Shawn Ward	Beckie Cato
9	American Red Cross	Amy Eden	Ken Cromer
10	Board of County Commissioners	Jim Melvin, Commissioner District IV	
11	Santa Rosa County BOCC Administration	Hunter Walker, County Administrator (current Task Force Chair)	Tony Gomillion
12	Holley-by-the-Sea Homeowner's Association	TBD	TBD

LMS Steering Committee Officers

Chairman:

Hunter Walker
 Santa Rosa County Administrator
 6495 Caroline St
 Milton, FL 32570
 (850) 983-1855
hunterw@santarosa.fl.gov

Vice-Chairman:

Brian Watkins
 City Manager of Milton
 6738 Dixon St
 Milton, FL 32570
 (850) 983-5411
brian.watkins@ci.milton.fl.us

Bylaws of the Santa Rosa County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Task Force

ARTICLE I. PURPOSES OF THE TASK FORCE

The purpose of the Santa Rosa County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Task Force is to plan ways or methods to decrease the vulnerability of the citizens, governments, businesses and institutions of Santa Rosa County to the future human, economic and environmental costs of natural, technological, and societal disasters. The Task Force will develop, monitor, implement, and maintain a comprehensive multi-jurisdictional plan for hazard mitigation that will be intended to accomplish this purpose and to promote a sustainable and disaster-resistant community.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Task Force is open to all jurisdictions, organizations and individuals supporting its purposes. Membership is accomplished through the completion of a Member Information Form. The Member Information Form should be submitted to the Task Force support staff for a signature of acknowledgement by the current Task Force Chair. A database of members and contact information will be maintained by the Task Force support staff.

Steering Committee alternate members shall also be required to submit a Member Information Form.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organizational structure of the Task Force shall consist of three permanent components: a Steering Committee, a Working Committee, and a support staff. Temporary subcommittees may be formed as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Steering Committee.

A. *The Steering Committee*

The Task Force shall be guided by a decision-making and voting body called the Steering Committee. The make-up of the Steering Committee shall be well conceived and well balanced with representatives from the following:

- At least one appointed representative and one designated alternate from the government of Santa Rosa County and each participating incorporated municipality,
- At least one representative from voluntary participating organizations and associations representing key business, industry, and community interest groups and others as listed in 9G-22.004 FAC, and
- Other individuals and their designated volunteer alternates as deemed appropriate by the Steering Committee to ensure well-balanced representation on the Steering Committee.

Ideally, Steering Committee members should have authority or responsibility for implementing proposed mitigation initiatives when resources to do so become available.

The Steering Committee shall be the central core decision-making and voting component of the Task Force. Members of the Steering Committee may also serve in the broader Working Committee component of the Task Force. Each Steering Committee member shall have one vote on formal motions made by the LMS Task Force.

The Steering Committee will provide a formal and stable core to the Task Force. Steering Committee members will serve as the official representative and spokespersons for the organization regarding the activities and decisions of the LMS Task Force. The roles and responsibilities of the Steering Committee members are described in Article V.

To maintain good standing, members of the Steering Committee must not have more than two unexcused absences from meetings during the course of a year.

Excused Absence Defined: An absence may be excused if the member's alternate attends in his/her place. If the member's alternate cannot attend in the member's place, the Chairperson may excuse the member's absence if the member notifies the Chairperson prior to the meeting that family sickness or death or other unavoidable and critical work or family conflict will not permit attendance at the specified meeting.

Criteria for Member Alternates: Each member of the Steering Committee may designate one alternate to assist them in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities on the Steering Committee and the Task Force as a whole. The alternate member may have one vote only when the primary member is absent. To maintain a well-balanced membership, the designated alternate should represent the same entity as the primary member. Alternate members of individual citizens shall also be individual citizens and not represent any other entity. A Steering Committee member cannot serve as an alternate member for another member.

Based on long-standing Steering Committee status prior to the establishment of these Bylaws, representatives from the following departments/organizations will serve as members of the initial Steering Committee under these Bylaws. Additional Steering Committee members will be added as the Task Force as a whole grows in membership and as representation is needed to maintain a well-conceived and well-balanced Steering Committee.

Makeup of Santa Rosa County LMS Steering Committee October 2011	
Organization/Department	
1	Santa Rosa County Special Projects/Grants Coordinator
2	Santa Rosa County Emergency Management Plans Chief
3	City of Gulf Breeze
4	Resident (Open)
5	Town of Jay
6	City of Milton
7	Santa Rosa County Inspection and Compliance Dept
8	Santa Rosa County Planning and Zoning Department
9	American Red Cross
10	Board of County Commissioners
11	Santa Rosa County BOCC Administration
12	Homeowner's Association Open
See Attachment A	

B. The Working Committee

The Working Committee component of the LMS Task Force shall have Planning and Public Information roles and responsibilities. Membership in and/or participation on the LMS Working Committee are open to all interested jurisdictions, organizations and individuals.

Membership of the Working Committee shall include representatives from departments of local governments and other entities as specified in 9G-22.004(2)(a)(b)(c) FAC. These entities includes representatives from various agencies of county [and municipal] government that may include, but not be limited to, planning and zoning, roads, public works, and emergency management. In addition, representatives from interested private organizations, civic organizations, trade and commercial support groups, property owners associations, Native American Tribes or authorized tribal organizations, water management districts, regional planning councils, independent special districts and non-profit organizations. Members of the Steering Committee that represent the 9G-22 entities may also be considered in meeting the 9G-22 FAC requirements.

The Working Committee may as an option form two sub-committees to more equitably distribute the planning and public information roles and responsibilities described in Article V.

Temporary subcommittees may be established at any time for special purposes by the chair of the Steering Committee, and their membership designated at that time.

C. *Planning Support Staff*

Santa Rosa County or other agency so designated by the Board of County Commissioners, will serve as the program LMS support planner or planning staff for the Task Force, and assist in the facilitation, coordination and support of the Task Force's activities. Roles and responsibilities of the LMS support planner are described in Article V. In addition Santa Rosa County, or other agency so designated will provide staff to take, prepare and maintain minutes for the Task Force.

ARTICLE IV. TASK FORCE OFFICERS

Any member in good standing of the Steering Committee is eligible for election as an officer. The LMS Task Force will have a chair, vice-chair and a secretary. The chair and vice-chair shall be elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the Steering Committee members. Each officer will serve a term of one year, and be eligible for re-election for an unlimited number of terms.

The chair of the Steering Committee will preside at each meeting of the Task Force as well as establish temporary subcommittees and assign personnel to them. The vice chair will fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the chair in his or her absence.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Task Force Officers will include, but shall not be limited to: The Task Force Chair shall:

- Conduct the Task Force Meetings as outlined in the agenda and according to Robert's Rules of Order when necessary.
- Assist the LMS Support Planner in setting meeting agendas.
- Pre-approve meeting minutes prior to distribution to the Task Force and others
- Maintain a Task Force file of all documentation (letters, plans, state and federal handouts/documents, etc.) received while in office and transfer the file to the next elected chairperson.
- Establish formation of temporary sub-committees and assign members to serve.
- Distribute minutes, meeting notices, and general Task Force outreach.
- Oversee the Planning Component of the Task Force Roles and Responsibilities.

The Task Force Vice-Chair shall:

- Fulfill the roles and responsibilities of the chairperson in his/her absence.
- Oversee the Public Information component of the Task Force Roles and Responsibilities.

ARTICLE V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. *Steering Committee*

The Steering Committee will be responsible for oversight and coordination of all actions and decisions by the Task Force, and is solely responsible for formal actions in the name of the Task Force, including the release of reports, development of resolutions, issuance of position papers, and similar activities. The Steering Committee makes task assignments to the Working Committee, coordinates their work, and takes action on their recommendations.

Other roles and responsibilities may include but not be limited to:

- Approve the mitigation initiatives for incorporation into the plan, the priority of those initiatives, and the removal or termination of initiatives.
- Set guidelines for the total mitigation planning effort.
- Serve as the official body to represent the overall planning process.
- Serve as the official liaison of the Task Force to the community.
- Presents the plan to communities and the local elected bodies.

B. *Working Committee*

The Working Committee shall have two categories of responsibilities – planning and public information. These responsibilities are described below:

Planning – The Planning responsibilities include undertaking and coordinating the actual technical analysis and planning activities fundamental to the development of an LMS plan. Activities will include identifying, analyzing, and monitoring the hazards threatening Santa Rosa County and the vulnerabilities of the community to those hazards, as well as assisting in the definition of actions to mitigate the impacts of those hazards; defining structural and non-structural actions needed to decrease the human, economic and environmental impacts of disasters, and preparing for consideration and action by the Steering Committee a strategy for implementation of those initiatives in both the pre- and post-disaster time frame; defining the general financial vulnerability of the community to the impacts of disasters; assisting with identification, characterization, and prioritization of initiatives to minimize vulnerabilities; and identifying funding sources for all priority mitigation initiatives identified in the mitigation strategy developed by the Task Force. In addition, planning responsibilities include assessing the communities' policies, regulations, and programs and making subsequent recommendations to enhance or strengthen the mitigation components of those planning documents (known as capabilities assessment). Planning responsibilities shall include any other planning activity required by CFR 44 Part 201, 9G-22 FAC or any other federal and state mitigation requirements.

Public Information — Public Information responsibilities include those specified in CFR 44 Part 201, FEMA Region IV Minimum Standards of Responsibilities, 9G-22 FAC or any other federal and state mitigation requirements. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to securing public input and comment on the efforts of the Task Force; informing the public about the activities of the Task Force; conducting public information and education programs regarding hazard mitigation; conducting surveys to gather information on community needs and attitudes; assisting with the conduct of public

meetings; providing a venue to receive comments from the public who cannot attend public meetings, and preparing the community for issuance of the LMS plan and promoting public acceptance of the strategy developed by the Task Force.

Temporary Subcommittees - The responsibilities of temporary subcommittees will be defined at the time they are established by the chair of the Steering Committee.

C. LMS Support Staff

The general and primary responsibility of the LMS Support Staff is to coordinate and facilitate the Local Mitigation Strategy's continual maintenance, monitoring, evaluation, and update of the plan on an annual and five-year planning schedule as required by 9G-22 FAC, FEMA criteria in CFR 44 Part 201, and FEMA Region IV Minimum Standards of Acceptability (and any other subsequent State and Federal requirements). Roles and responsibilities that support the general and primary responsibility stated above include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Serve as initial point of contact for all matters relating to mitigation planning and implementation and when appropriate confer with the chair and/or vice chair, the authority specified in Article VI, or other member(s) of the Task Force.
- Document the planning process in the mitigation plan as required by FEMA criteria in CFR 44 Part 201, and FEMA Region IV Minimum Standards of Acceptability (and any other subsequent State and Federal requirements).
- Obtain and utilize technical assistance and/or training support from the State and FEMA or other agencies as needed by the LMS Support Planner and/or the Task Force.
- Provide training as needed to equip Task Force members in satisfactorily completing planning tasks.
- Read, interpret, and keep current on State and Federal mitigation planning requirements and accordingly guide the planning activities of the Task Force as necessary to ensure the community's eligibility for State and Federal mitigation and disaster funding remains in good standing.
- Work with the Task Force to collect, compile, organize, and analyze needed information for plan development. Prepare the LMS Plan as a document.
- Coordinate with the County's website staff in the posting of meeting documentation, agendas, and other items to promote public information, participation, and feedback. Maintain public review documentation.
- Attend State and Federal workshops on behalf of the Task Force.
- Provide logistical and administrative support to the Task Force.

ARTICLE VI. AUTHORIZED COUNTY POINT OF CONTACT

The Emergency Management Director shall be the Task Force's designated county point of contact and is empowered by the Board of County Commissioners to accept and disburse funds, enter into contracts, hire staff, and take such other actions as necessary in support of, or for the benefit of, the Task Force.

ARTICLE VII. ACTIONS BY THE TASK FORCE

A. Authority for Actions

Only the Steering Committee has the authority to take final actions in the name of the Task Force. Actions by the Working Committee and its subcommittees or the LMS Support Planner/staff are not considered as final until affirmed by action of the Steering Committee.

B. Meetings, Voting and Quorum

Meetings of the Task Force will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Regular meetings of the full Task Force will be scheduled at least quarterly with a minimum of 7 days' notice. The different component groups of the Task Force may conduct additional and separate meetings as needed to complete tasks.

All final actions and decisions made in the name of the Task Force will be by affirmative vote of a quorum of the Steering Committee. A quorum shall be 50 percent of the members of the Steering Committee in good standing at the time of the vote. Each member of the Steering Committee will have one vote. (See voting requirements for alternates in Article III, A) Voting by proxy, written or otherwise, is not permitted.

C. Public Hearings

When required by statute or the policies of Santa Rosa County, or when deemed necessary by the Steering Committee, a public meeting regarding actions under consideration for implementation by the Task Force will be held.

The Task Force shall hold a minimum of two advertised public meetings during the preparation of the LMS Plan as required by FEMA Region IV Minimum Standards of Acceptability and CFR 44 Part 201.

D. Documentation of Actions

All meetings and other forms of action by the Steering Committee will be documented and made available for inspection by the public at one or more of the following county locations: the County's website and/or the County Clerk's office or other central location. Documentation may include minutes, handouts, and sign-in sheets. In addition, the LMS Support Planner will maintain public review documentation.

ARTICLE VIII. ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

The Bylaws of the Task Force may be adopted and/or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members in good standing of the Steering Committee. All proposed changes to the bylaws will be provided to each member of the Steering Committee not less than ten working days prior to such a vote. Voting can be accomplished at a regularly scheduled meeting, a special meeting, or via electronically utilizing email or fax so that a written confirmation of the vote can be generated.

ARTICLE IX. DISSOLUTION OF THE TASK FORCE

The Task Force may be dissolved by affirmative vote of 100% of the members in good standing of the Steering Committee at the time of the vote, by order of a court of competent jurisdiction, and/or by instruction of the Santa Rosa County governing body. Voting can be accomplished at a regularly scheduled meeting, a special meeting, or via electronically utilizing email or fax so that a written confirmation of the vote can be generated. At the time of dissolution, all remaining documents, records, equipment and supplies belonging to the Task Force will be transferred to the Santa Rosa County position specified as the Task Force's Point of Authority in Article VI for disposition.

ATTACHMENT A – SANTA ROSA COUNTY LMS STEERING COMMITTEE

Based on long-standing Steering Committee status prior to the establishment of these Bylaws, representatives from the following departments/organizations will serve as members of the initial Steering Committee under the Santa Rosa County LMS Task Force Bylaws. Additional Steering Committee members will be added as the Task Force as a whole grows in membership and as representation is needed to maintain a well-conceived and well-balanced Steering Committee.

Santa Rosa County LMS Steering Committee October 2011			
	Organization/Department	Primary Representative	Designated Alternate (optional)
1	Santa Rosa County Special Projects/Grants Office	Sheila Harris, Coordinator (Task Force support staff)	
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4	Resident	Open	
5	Town of Jay	Linda Carden, Town Clerk	Donna Settle
6	City of Milton	Brian Watkins, City Manager (current Vice-Chair)	Randy Jorgenson
7	Santa Rosa County Building Permits Department	Karen Thornhill, Flood Plain Manager (Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator)	Rhonda Royals, Deputy Building Official
8	Santa Rosa County Planning and Zoning Department	Beckie Cato, Director	Paul Miller
9	American Red Cross	Leanne Barger	Ken Cromer
10	Board of County Commissioners	Jim Melvin, Commissioner District IV	
11	Santa Rosa County BOCC Administration	Hunter Walker, County Administrator (current Task Force Chair)	Tony Gomillion
12	Homeowner's Association	Open	

Local Mitigation Strategy Task Force Structure

The Mitigation Planning Process starts with the development of the Task Force as an organization and obtaining participation from the local government jurisdictions and key organizations and institutions.

Working Committee

Planning and Public Information Responsibilities
Participation is not limited in any manner

Steering Committee

Core Decision-making and Voting Body

Ideally, these members have authority or responsibility for implementing the Task Force's proposed mitigation initiatives

To maintain good standing, member must not have more than two unexcused absences per year.
Members may designate alternates.

A quorum shall be 50% of the members in good standing of the Steering Committee.

Example Flood Response Projects (FRP) (See Figure 330-1)	A Points per Topic	B # of Flood- related Topics	C # of Times Delivered	(A x B x C) FRP = Points per Project
FRP#1. Media kit with background information for reporters	2	5	1	10
FRP#2. Radio public service announcements	2	2	1	4
FRP#3. Door hangers for flooded homes	6	5	1	30
FRP#4. Handouts on grant programs	1	1	1	1
Total FRP =				45

332.c. Program for Public Information (PPI) (extra credit points)

This element is a 40% multiplier that increases the points for each OP and FRP project that is covered in the PPI. The maximum extra credit for this element is 80 points.

The PPI is an ongoing public information effort to design and transmit the messages that the community determines are most important to its flood safety and the protection of its floodplains' natural functions.

Note that a PPI can help design an entire public information program, not just outreach projects. A PPI that covers other types of public information endeavors, such as a website and technical assistance, can result in increased credit under other activities, as noted in Section 335.

Credit Criteria

For CRS credit, the PPI must be developed according to a seven-step planning and public involvement process, similar to the process credited under Activity 510 (Floodplain Management Planning). There are seven steps to preparing a PPI.

Step 1: Establish a PPI committee. The community's PPI must be developed by a committee of people from both inside and outside the local government. The number of participants and their identities is determined by the community, but the committee must

- Comprise at least five people,
- Include one or more representatives from the community's floodplain management office,
- Include one or more representatives from the community's public information office, if there is one, and
- Have at least half of its members from outside the local government.

A multi-jurisdictional committee can prepare a PPI for several communities that want to work together. To receive this credit,

- Each community wanting the credit must send at least two representatives to the regional committee,
- At least half of the community’s representatives must be from outside the local government, and
- At least half of the representatives must attend ALL the meetings of the regional committee. In effect, there must be a quorum from each community. Remote attendance via a webinar that allows for everyone to talk is permissible.

It is recommended that communities use existing committees, such as the floodplain management planning committee credited under Activity 510, in cases in which such organizations meet the above criteria.

Step 2: Assess the community’s public information needs.

During this step, the committee delineates different target areas within the community, based on different flooding or development conditions. This may have been done as part of the community’s floodplain management planning. The CRS Community Self Assessment, described in Section 240, is an online tool that can help identify target areas and audiences. Another documented process may suffice, provided that it includes an evaluation of the flood hazard(s) and the buildings exposed to the hazard(s), and identifies flood-prone target areas.

The assessment must also inventory existing public information and outreach efforts being conducted in the community. These should include non-flood programs, such as efforts to inform people about other hazards, automobile safety, home improvements, or other activities where the community could leverage attention to flood protection.

Step 3: Formulate messages. The public information messages needed for each target audience are determined. The PPI committee identifies a desired outcome for each message.

Step 4: Identify outreach projects to convey the messages. The committee considers what media to use to deliver the identified messages to the target audiences. This may include continuing or revising existing public information and outreach efforts that are already being conducted in the community. Step 4 must produce a list of specific projects and identify who is responsible for them and when they will be implemented. A multi-jurisdictional PPI must identify which communities benefit from each project.

The PPI process is the same process used to obtain credit under Activity 370 (Promotion of Flood Insurance).

If the PPI committee includes a local insurance agent and a local lender, it can qualify for the planning committee that is credited under Activity 370.

It is recommended that both activities be addressed at the same time, by the same group. *Developing a Program for Public Information* shows how this can be done.

See Section 334 to obtain a copy.

Step 5: Examine other public information initiatives. The PPI committee looks at other public information activities in addition to outreach projects. This could include how to best set up a website on flood protection (Activity 350), what technical assistance is needed throughout the community (Activity 360), or how to publicize flood protection services (Activities 320, 350, and 360).

Step 6: Prepare the PPI document. The committee's work is recorded in a formal document. The PPI and the annual report that evaluates it can be stand-alone documents or they can be sections or chapters in a floodplain management or hazard mitigation plan credited under Activity 510. The document does not need to be a long, formal report. Much of the key information can be displayed in a spreadsheet, such as the example in Figure 330-2.

For multi-jurisdictional programs, the document must show which communities benefit from which projects. For example, an inland community would not benefit from a project oriented to beachfront property owners, but all communities would benefit from articles in a regional newspaper about flood insurance. This documentation may be in the form of a matrix or table included in, or attached to, the PPI document.

The PPI must be adopted by the community, through either

- Formal approval by the community's governing body, or
- Formal approval by another body or office of the community that has the authority and funding to implement the PPI, such as a flood control district.

Step 7: Implement, monitor, and evaluate the program. The PPI committee meets at least annually to monitor the implementation of the outreach projects. The committee assesses whether the desired outcomes were achieved and what, if anything, should be changed. This work is described in an evaluation report that is prepared each year, sent to the governing body, and included in the annual recertification.

Credit Points

$$PPI = OP_i \times 0.4$$

AND/OR

$$PPI = FRP_i \times 0.4$$

PPI is a multiplier added to each outreach project credited under OP (OP#1, OP#2, etc.) and FRP (FRP#1, FRP#2, etc.) that are described in the PPI document and evaluated and revised annually by the PPI committee. There is no PPI bonus for projects that are not included in the PPI. The application of the PPI points can be seen in the scoring example in Table 330-4.

Figure 330-2. Example spreadsheet for a Program for Public Information (PPI).

PPI Worksheet							
Target Audience	Message	Outcome	Project(s)	Assignment	Schedule	Stakeholder	
Target Area 1. Coastal floodplain residents	Topic 1 message: Find out about your flood hazard	Increase in the number of map information inquiries	320 map info service to include info on flood depths, wave heights, and past floods (320)	Floodplain manager	Start as soon as staff has the maps		
			OP 3. Presentations to five neighborhood associations	Floodplain manager	Set up the five presentations by January 31	Neighborhood associations	
			OP 4. Cable TV to show the neighborhood association presentation	Floodplain manager and public information officer	Tape the first two presentations and use the best scenes	Neighborhood associations, Cable TV company	
			OP 5. Mailing sent each year to residents of the SFHA	Floodplain manager and public information officer	Disseminate in May, before hurricane season		
			Increase in number of webpage hits	New website page will show flood depths and LIMWA boundary (350)	Floodplain manager and webmaster	Have on line by May 1 start of hurricane season	
	Topic 2 message: All residents in floodprone areas should have flood insurance	The total number of SFHA policies increases		Floodplain manager to explain depths, waves, and past floods when providing assistance (360)	Floodplain manager	Start as soon as staff has the maps	
				OP 1. FEMA brochure on flood insurance	Floodplain manager	Printed and displayed by Feb. 28	FEMA
				OP 2. Local insurance agents advise their clients	Insurance agency representative on the PPI committee	Explain at March 15 insurance assoc. meeting	Insurance agencies
				OP 3. Presentations to neighborhood associations	See OP 3 above	See OP 3 above	See OP 3 above
				OP 4. Presentation on cable TV	See OP 4 above	See OP 4 above	See OP 4 above
			Website to summarize cost of typical policy and have link to FloodSmart (350)	Floodplain manager and webmaster	Have on line by May 1 start of hurricane season		

Target Audience	Message	Outcome	Project(s)	Assignment	Schedule	Stakeholder
Target Area 3. Residents of repetitive loss areas 3 – 9 (in X Zone)	Topic 2 message: Make sure you have contents coverage	Increase in the number of flood insurance policies with contents coverage	OP 2. Local insurance agents advise their clients	See OP 2 above	See OP 2 above	See OP 2 above
			OP 3. Presentations	See OP 3 above	See OP 3 above	See OP 3
			OP 4. Cable TV	See OP 4 above	See OP 4 above	See OP 4
			Website page stresses contents coverage (350)	Floodplain manager and webmaster	Have on line by May 1	
			Floodplain manager to explain need for contents coverage when providing tech assistance (360)	Floodplain manager	Start immediately	
	Topic 4 message 4a: Protect your property from shallow flooding	Increase in the number of permits for retrofitting projects	OP 3. Presentations	See OP 3 above	See OP 3 above	See OP 3
			OP 4. Cable TV	See OP 4 above	See OP 4 above	See OP 4
			OP 7. Meetings with home builders association to explain retrofitting projects	Floodplain manager	Presentations at the January and April meetings	Home builders association
			Website page on how to protect from shallow flooding (350)	Floodplain manager and webmaster	Have on line by May 1	
			Floodplain manager to explain projects when providing advice (360)	Floodplain manager	Start immediately	
	Topic 4 message 4b: Don't dump in your ditch [could be topic 7 in the PPI]	Drainage inspectors report fewer calls and a decrease in the amount of trash removed	OP 3. Presentations	See OP 3 above	See OP 3 above	See OP 3
			OP 4. Cable TV	See OP 4 above	See OP 4 above	See OP 4
			OP 7. Meeting to explain the rules to home builders	See OP 7 above	See OP 7 above	See OP 7
			Website page on drainage maintenance (350)	Floodplain manager and webmaster	Have on line by May 1	
			Floodplain manager to explain owner's responsibilities when providing advice (360)	Floodplain manager	Start immediately	
		OP 3, 4 and 5 to cover dumping regs (540)	See OP 3, 4, and 5	See OP 3, 4, and 5	See OP 3, 4, and 5	

Figure 330-2 (cont.). Example spreadsheet for a Program for Public Information (PPI).

Documentation Provided by the Community

In addition to the materials provided for OP and FRP credit:

- (1) At the initial verification visit,
 - (a) A copy of the PPI document.
 - (b) Minutes of the meetings, sign-in sheets, or other documentation of the committee members' participation.
 - (c) Documentation that the PPI has been adopted by the community.
- (2) At each subsequent verification visit and annual recertification,
 - (a) Documentation that the PPI document has been reviewed and updated annually. This is in the form of a report, table, or spreadsheet that summarizes each outreach project, what was done, and the outcomes. An example annual report can be found in *CRS Credit for Outreach Projects* found at www.CRSresources.org/300.
 - (b) Minutes of the meetings, sign-in sheets, or other documentation of the committee members' participation.

332.d. Stakeholder delivery (STK) (extra credit points)

STK is a 30% multiplier that increases the points for each project credited under OP that is delivered or otherwise endorsed by one or more stakeholder organizations. The maximum extra credit for STK is 50 points for outreach projects (OP). STK points do not apply to FRP projects.

Research has shown that the credibility and visibility of outreach messages are enhanced if they are sent by numerous sources. Since most messages tend to come from the local government, extra credit is provided for messages that are clearly from stakeholders—someone or some group concerned with the community, but not a part of the local government.

Credit Criteria

- (1) This credit is only available to communities with a PPI. The stakeholder organization or agency must be named in the PPI document and the associated projects, but the stakeholder does not need to be on the PPI committee.
- (2) A stakeholder can be any agency, organization, or person (other than the community itself) that supports the message. Stakeholders could be
 - An insurance company that publishes a brochure on flood insurance, even if it is set out at City Hall;
 - A local newspaper that publishes a flood or hurricane season supplement each year;
 - FEMA, if, for example, a FEMA brochure is used as an informational material;
 - Schools that implement outreach activities;

- A local newspaper that publishes articles and editorials (although advertisements paid for by the community do not qualify for STK credit, unless other sponsors or supporters are named in the advertisement);
 - A neighborhood or civic association that sponsors and hosts a presentation by a community employee;
 - A utility company that includes pertinent articles in its monthly bills; or
 - Presentations made by state or FEMA staff at a Risk MAP meeting.
- (3) It needs to be clear that the message is coming from someone other than the community or is sponsored by or supported by the stakeholder. For example, when stencils are displayed on city storm drains, they send a message that appears to come from the city, even if the stencils were applied by a volunteer group. If the volunteer organization's name were in the message, however, then it would qualify for STK credit.

Credit Points

$$\text{STK} = \text{OPi} \times 0.3, \text{ if the outreach project is delivered by a stakeholder entity}$$

The application of the STK points can be seen in the scoring example in Table 330-4.

Documentation Provided by the Community

All documentation needed for this element is supplied with the OP and PPI documentation. It should be made clear which projects are delivered by stakeholders and therefore warrant STK credit.

333 Credit Calculation

Credit is based on the number of messages, the type of projects, the number of times the messages are repeated, and the extra PPI and STK credit. This makes for a complicated scoring system, best done on a spreadsheet. A sample spreadsheet is shown in Table 330-4.

$$c330 = cOP + cFRP, \text{ where}$$

$$cOP = \sum (\text{OP\#1} + \text{PPI\#1} + \text{STK\#1}) + (\text{OP\#2} + \text{PPI\#2} + \text{STK\#2}) + (\text{OP\#3} + \text{PPI\#3} + \text{STK\#3}) \dots$$

and

$$cFRP = \sum (\text{FRP\#1} + \text{PPI\#1}) + (\text{FRP\#2} + \text{PPI\#2}) \dots$$

A spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel[®] is available to facilitate calculating the credit for all the elements and for c330.

The credit for each element cannot exceed the element's maximum points, and the total credit for Activity 330 cannot exceed 350 points.

Table 330-4. Scoring examples for PPI and STK.							
Outreach Project	A Points per topic	B # of Flood- related Topics	C # of times Project Delivered	(A x B x C) OP = Points per Project	PPI OP x 0.4	STK OP x 0.3	Total cOP = OP + PPI + STK
OP#1. FEMA's brochure on flood insurance	1	1	1	1	0.40	0.30	1.70
OP#2. Local insurance agents advise their clients	2	1	1	2	0.80	0.60	3.40
OP#3. Presentations to five neighborhood associations	2	5 ^a	5	50	20.00	15.00	85.00
OP#4. The neighborhood association presentation on cable TV	2	5 ^a	1	10	4.00	3.00	17.00
OP#5. Mailing sent each year to residents of the SFHA	6	6 ^a	1	36	14.40		50.40
OP#6. Stencils on storm drains	2	1	1	2	0.80		2.80
OP#7. Meetings with home builders association	6 ^b	2	2	24	9.60		33.60
Total				125	50.00	18.90	193.90

a. When the PPI added a 7th message, OP#3, OP#4, and OP#5 received more points for including the new message.

b. The PPI also identified building contractors as a target audience, so the semi-annual meetings in OP#7 are now considered targeted outreach projects. This is not a simple change of numbers. To continue to receive this higher credit, the PPI committee must track progress towards the desired outcomes, evaluate and revise the project each year as needed, and include its findings in the annual report.

c. A spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel[®] is available to facilitate calculating the credit for OP, FRP, PPI, STK, and c330.

334 For More Information

- a. Additional information, reference materials, and examples can be found at www.CRSresources.org/300.
- b. A spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel[®] is available to facilitate calculating the credit for OP, FRP, PPI, STK, and c330. "330-370 Spreadsheets.xls" can be downloaded from www.CRSresources.org/300.

- c. *CRS Credit for Outreach Projects and Developing a Program for Public Information* can be found at www.CRSresources.org/300.
- d. Some state and local emergency management offices have training courses for public information officers. FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers public information officer courses. EMI courses are tuition free and travel stipends can often be obtained. For more information, contact your state emergency management agency's training officer.
- e. NFIP flyers, stuffers, and toolkits can be ordered and/or downloaded from <http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program> or from <http://www.floodsmart.gov/>.
- f. The American Red Cross has informational materials that can be obtained in bulk, such as tear-sheet pads about flood preparedness and returning to a flooded building. "Preparedness Fast Facts" can be ordered from the Red Cross at www.redcross.org.

335 Related Activities under the Community Rating System

Several activities have publicity requirements that may be met with an outreach project that is credited under this activity. These include Activities 320 (Map Information Service) and 360 (Flood Protection Assistance); technical assistance (TA) under Activity 370 (Flood Insurance Promotion); and stream dumping regulations (SDR) under Activity 540 (Drainage System Maintenance). Outreach projects should be designed with these publicity needs in mind.

The three warning and response activities, Activity 610 (Flood Warning and Response), Activity 620 (Levees), and Activity 630 (Dams), have requirements for outreach projects that can be credited under OP.

A PPI should not be limited to outreach projects. It should look at all the activities a community can pursue to inform people and motivate them to protect life and property, buy insurance, and protect natural floodplain functions. The CRS credits other public information work in addition to that credited under Activity 330 (Outreach Projects). The 2013 *Coordinator's Manual* provides extra credit in some activities, if they are included in the PPI:

- Activity 320 (Map Information Service): The priority messages identified in the PPI should be conveyed when inquiries are made. The PPI step 2, Needs Assessment, may identify areas that should be mapped and included in the map information service.
- Activity 340 (Hazard Disclosure): If real estate agencies are represented on the PPI committee and their disclosure practice(s) and informational brochures are reviewed in the PPI, then extra credit is provided.
- Activity 350 (Flood Protection Information): As with outreach projects, credit for the website (WEB) is based on the number of topics covered. If there is a PPI, the community can receive additional credit for covering up to 10 topics, instead of just

six. The WEB credit for information on flood warning is also increased if it is coordinated with other warning messages in the PPI.

- Activity 360 (Flood Protection Assistance): The credits for the first three elements, property protection advice (PPA), advice after a site visit (PPV), and financial assistance advice (FAA), all can be increased if the services are included in the PPI.
- Activity 370 (Flood Insurance Promotion): It is recommended that the plan to improve insurance coverage be part of the PPI and be prepared by the same committee, provided that the committee meets the prerequisites for Activity 370 credit. *Developing a Program for Public Information* provides guidance for doing this.
- Activity 420 (Open Space Preservation): This activity provides extra credit for educational materials (brochures, signs, field trips, etc.) in open space areas that also have identified natural floodplain functions. The credit is higher if the materials are part of a PPI.
- Activity 510 (Floodplain Management Planning): In the past, some communities have prepared public information program strategies (OPS) as part of their floodplain management or hazard mitigation plans. Both PPI and floodplain management planning (FMP) provide credit for having a committee. The same committee can fulfill both activities' credit criteria.
- Activity 540 (Drainage System Maintenance): A additional five points are available under SDR if the community publicizes its regulations prohibiting dumping in streams and ditches through its PPI.

NOTE: To receive the extra PPI credit, these activities would need to be based on appropriate messages, which have desired outcomes discussed in the PPI. The activities would also need to be evaluated by the committee and reviewed in the annual report.

Santa Rosa County
Local Mitigation Strategy Task Force
Steering Committee

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held on Thursdays at 1:30 pm in the afternoon in the Santa Rosa County Public Services Conference Room located at 6051 Old Bagdad Hwy in Milton.

The proposed quarterly meeting schedule is as follows:

July 24, 2014
October 23, 2014
January 22, 2015
April 23, 2015

Working Group Meetings or Special meetings can be scheduled as the need arises.

Table 1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Process Local Planning Requirements By Program

FEMA How-to Series		Hazard Mitigation Grant and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (DMA 2000 Plan Criteria)	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	Community Rating System Floodplain Management Planning (10-Step Process)
Planning Requirements	Phase 1 Organize Resources	Coordination among agencies	Coordination with other agencies or organizations.	Coordination with other agencies
		Integration with other planning efforts	Involve the public, including a description of the planning process. Public involvement may include workshops, public meetings, or public hearings.	Involve the public
		Involve the public throughout the planning process		Organize to prepare the plan
		State coordination of local mitigation planning		
	Phase 2 Assess Risks	Identify all hazards	Flood hazard area inventory that identifies the flood risk, including estimates of the number and types of structures at risk and repetitive loss properties.	Assess the flooding hazard
		Profile hazard events		
		Assess vulnerability	Problem identification, including a description of the existing flood hazard, the extent of flood depth and damage potential, and the applicant's floodplain management goals.	Assess the problem
		Estimate potential losses		
	Phase 3 Develop the Mitigation Plan	Documentation of planning process	Review of possible mitigation actions, including the identification and evaluation of cost-effective and technically feasible mitigation actions.	Set goals
		Capability assessment		Review possible activities
		Develop hazard mitigation goals		Draft an action plan
		Identification and analysis of mitigation measures		
		Funding sources		
	Phase 4 Implement and Monitor Progress	Adoption	Documentation of the formal plan adoption by the legal entity submitting the plan (e.g., Governor, mayor, county executive).	Adopt the plan
		Implementation of mitigation measures		Implement, evaluate, and revise the plan
		Implementation through existing programs		
		Monitoring, evaluation, and updating the plan		
		Continued public involvement		



Hazard Analysis Toolbox



HAZUS-MH 2.0

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus/#2>

HAZUS is FEMA's risk assessment program for hurricanes (wind), flood, and earthquakes. The changes in this update include a new coastal storm surge modeling capability integrating two industry standard models (SLOSH and SWAN), which allows HAZUS to predict the physical and economic impacts of hurricane scenarios on coastal flood regions. The coastal surge scenario methodology also estimates the combined economic losses to the general building stock in a manner that avoids double counting of flood and wind losses. With HAZUS-MH 2.0, the CDMS tool has been integrated with HAZUS and is now compatible with ArcGIS 10.0 Service Pack 1.

FEMA Map Service Center- Flood Maps

<http://www.msc.fema.gov/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/FemaWelcomeView?storeId=10001&catalogId=10001&langId=-1>

This website is orientated to provide mapping services to homeowners/renters, real estate/flood determination agents, insurance agents, engineers/surveyors and federal/exempt customers. The mapping services that this tool can provide include flood maps, FIRMettes, DFIRMs, Mapviewer, and other documents, publications and forms. Through this site one can also find the Letters of Map Change (LOMC).

Florida Division of Forestry – Wildland Fire Risk Assessment System

<http://flame.fl-dof.com/cgi-bin/mapsvr?map=maps/webfras.map>

The Florida Division of Forestry (DOF) website provides risk maps for wildfire. The web-based risk system produces maps for Level of Concern (LOC), Fuels, Wildland Fire Susceptibility Index (WFSI), and the likelihood of the number of fires per 1000 acres per year (FOA). There are 2 versions of FRAS, the web version, which is in the process of being updated. The alternative version is the "stand alone" computer application, which requires the use of ESRI's Arcview and the Spatial Analyst Extension. It allows the user to make changes to the data.

Comment: Asked Ronda at FFS to see if we should be still be sharing this website.

Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment (SWRA Online)

<http://www.southernwildfirerisk.com/>

SFRAS provides custom mapping and reporting tools as well as analysis tools for running the wildfire risk models, analyzing the impacts on areas of concern and communities, and evaluating different mitigation options such as fuel treatments. The latest version, SFRAS 9.3, operates on the ArcGIS 9.3 Desktop platform on all ESRI supported Windows operating systems. This includes XP, Vista and Windows 7. It does **not** operate on ArcGIS 10+.

As of February 2014, the development of an interactive web mapping portal called the Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal, or SouthWRAP is under development and should be released in “early 2014.” SouthWRAP will encapsulate updated SWRA results into custom mapping applications, providing tools to easily use the data for wildfire mitigation and prevention planning. This includes capabilities to download data for areas of interest. SouthWRAP will also have a public application to create awareness and educate the public on wildfire risk conditions.

Department of Transportation- Maps and Publications

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/FacilitiesMap/FDOTFacilities.shtm>

This tool allows a user to select and view maps with airport locations, interstate routes and rest stop locations, railways, welcome centers, and seaports.

Natural Hazards Statistics

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hazstats.shtml>

This site contains statistical information on fatalities, injuries and damages caused by weather related hazards since 1940.

National Hurricane Center- Archive of Hurricane Seasons

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pastall.shtml>

The NHC is perhaps the best and most reliable source for historical hurricane and tropical storm data. It has comprehensive data on topics like past tropical cyclone advisories, summaries, and climatology along with weather outlooks, and tracking information.

Tornado History Project

<http://www.tornadohistoryproject.com/>

The tornado history project is an interactive GIS interface that allows users to search historic tornado information as well as make maps of past tornado locations and paths. The website is updated when the Storm Prediction Center’s data becomes available, which is generally yearly.

National Atlas Online Map Maker

<http://nationalatlas.gov/mapmaker>

This website offers a vast array of easy mapping options utilizing an interactive GIS interface. Map layers range from the basic roads and towns to toxic release inventories and seismic hazards. The website is easy to use and loaded with information.

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)

http://flame.fl-dof.com/fire_weather/KBDI/index.html

KBDI provides one more source for drought maps. This website has been put together by the Florida Division of Forestry and it is updated frequently.

U.S. Drought Monitor

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The U.S. Drought Monitor is sponsored by NOAA and the USDA. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 7 a.m. EST

National Drought Mitigation Center

<http://drought.unl.edu/AboutUs.aspx>

This site offers definitions of different levels of drought, maps, monitoring tools, and planning information.

USGS- Florida Earthquake Information

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/regional/states/index.php?regionID=9>

One can come to this website and get information about the history of earthquakes in Florida as well as view maps.

Florida Geological Survey- Sinkholes

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/geology/geologictopics/sinkhole.htm>

This website contains lots of information about sinkholes including a sinkhole inventory. The website also contains a large map explaining the types of sinkholes that are likely to form across the State. Unfortunately, the inventory is not a complete list of Florida's sinkholes but it is one of the best sinkhole resources available. The Department of Environmental Protection attempts to update the website yearly.

U.S. States and Territories National Tsunami Hazard Assessment: Historical Record and Sources for Waves

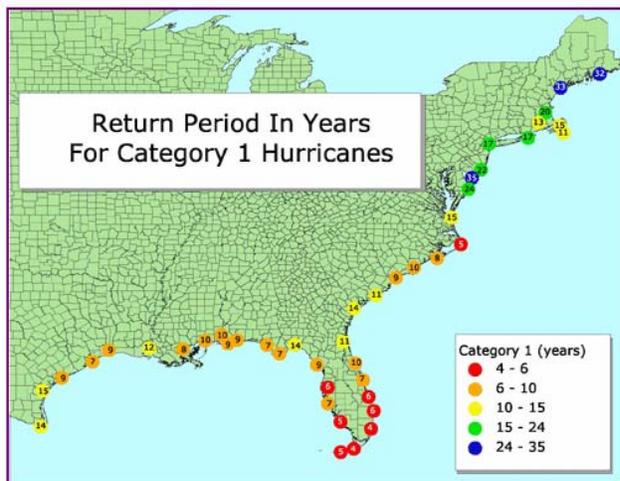
http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/documents/Tsunami_Assessment_Final.pdf

Although tsunamis have not been prevalent in Florida, this document is an excellent resource for tsunami information.

Tropical Cyclone Climatology & Return Periods

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pastprofile.shtml>

On this website you can get the return period for category 1-5 hurricanes direct link is <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/basics/return.shtml>.



Historical Topographic Maps-USGS

<http://nationalmap.gov/historical/>

Because historical maps are stored in a limited number of collections and are not readily available, the USGS National Geospatial Program (NGP) is converting these historical printed topographic quadrangles to an electronic format (GeoPDF). This scanning and processing effort serves the dual purpose of creating a master catalog and digital archive copies of the irreplaceable collection of topographic maps in the USGS Reston Map Library as well as making the maps available for viewing and download from the USGS Store.

Storm Surge Overview

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/ssurge/risk/index.shtml?gm>

This side provides information in storm surge risk as well as data on previous storm surge events using SLOSH.

Coastal County Snapshots

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/snapshots/>

This tool provides three different “snapshots”: flood exposure, wetland benefits, and ocean jobs. The flood exposure snapshot provides local officials with a quick look at county’s demographics, infrastructure, and environment within the flood zone. The ocean jobs snapshots provides a quick look at the economic value of jobs that are dependent on the Great Lakes and Oceans. The wetland benefits snapshots provides a quick look at how wetlands contribute to safer, cleaner, and more economically productive coastal communities. To use this tool, a state and county and snapshot need to be selected.

Georgetown Climate Center

<http://www.georgetownclimate.org/adaptation/clearinghouse>

This website is a great resource because it provides adaptation policy tools for law, urban heat and sea level rise. It also provides tool suggestions for coasts, public health professionals, transportation folks, and water related areas.

Coastal Hazards

<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/hazards.html>

This website includes information on numerous coastal hazards to include coast storms, flooding, erosion, tsunamis, and land subsidence. Both descriptions and statistics can be found on each hazard.

Drought

<http://md.water.usgs.gov/drought/define.html>

This site offers definitions of different levels of drought.

Lightning

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/cae/svrwx/ltg.htm>

This site offers myths and fact of lighting safety including specific activities that are especially dangerous within reach of lighting.

Hail

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/cae/svrwx/hail.htm>

This site gives information on how hail forms, how it can be measured, and ways to look for the possibility of it in a storm.

For the complete “State and Local Mitigation Planning: How to Guide” document go to:

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1867>

To provide feedback or get other websites added please email

Laura.Hite@em.myflorida.com. All responses and questions are welcomed!

Sheila Harris

From: McCusker, William [William.McCusker@em.myflorida.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2014 12:30 PM
To: sbusick@co.bay.fl.us; Ellerbe, Carol (Jefferson Co EM); Smith, Angie (Calhoun County Alt. EM); Morgan, Shayne (Columbia Co EM); em3frank@gtcom.net; em2frank@gtcom.net; Juan C. Lemos (JCLEMO@co.escambia.fl.us); swoodbery@rebuildnwf.org; trday@myescambia.com; em2frank@gtcom.net; em3frank@gtcom.net; Wood, Shawn (Gadsden Co EM); Nelson, Marshall (Gulf Co EM); Whaley, Tashonda (Gadsden Alt EM); Erickson, Mr. Clint; Stafford, Wanda (Holmes Co EM); Rodney Andreasen (Jackson Co EM); Ellerbe, Carol (Jefferson Co EM); Land, Donnie; lafcobldg@gmail.com; Gail Leek; Hodges, Steven M; Webb, Leigh (Madison County Alt EM); Sherry Reed; damunds@co.okaloosa.fl.us; ekampert@co.okaloosa.fl.us; Smeykal, Mitch (Okeechobee Co EM); Hunter Walker; brian.watkins@ci.milton.fl.us; Sheila Harris; sheriff@suwanneesherriff.com; Thomas, Kimberly (Suwannee Co EM); dustin.hinkle@taylorcountygov.com; Nelson, Scott (Wakulla Co EM); brarenee@co.walton.fl.us; cityplanner@defuniaksprings.net; swebb@washingtonfl.com; mderuntz@washingtonfl.com
Subject: FW: BCA Version 5.0 Release
Attachments: New features BCA Version 5-0.pdf
Subject: BCA Version 5.0 Release

The latest Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) Toolkit (version 5.0) is now available at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/92923>. This version of the toolkit can be used to determine the cost-effectiveness for projects currently under development for any of our HMA programs. As of today, version 4.8 and version 5.0 are the only allowable versions of the BCA Tool.

Version 5.0 and version 4.8 can be installed on the same machine. It is recommended that you keep version 4.8 installed as you transition to version 5.0 of the benefit cost toolkit. Please note that version 4.5.5 will be removed from our website. Version 5.0 will import projects created in version 4.5.5 and version 4.8, but version 4.5.5 and version 4.8 will not import projects created in version 5.0 due to the new features of the toolkit. Version 4.8 will remain posted on our site and will be supported for another six (6) months from the date of this message. This is to allow for the transition to version 5.0.

I have attached a document titled "New features BCA Version 5-0"; it lists the major upgrades.

Please forward this message to the field offices, States, Tribes, and U.S. Territories in your respective regions.

If you have any questions regarding the usage of the tool, please contact the benefit cost helpline at bchelpline@fema.dhs.gov or [1-855-540-6744](tel:1-855-540-6744).

Thank you,
Bill McCusker

Sheila Harris

From: McCusker, William [William.McCusker@em.myflorida.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 8:54 AM

To: mbowen@co.bay.fl.us; sbusick@co.bay.fl.us; Juan C. Lemos (JCLEAMOS@co.escambia.fl.us); swoodbery@rebuildnwf.org; trday@myescambia.com; em2frank@gtcom.net; em3frank@gtcom.net; Nelson, Marshall (Gulf Co EM); Sherry Reed; damunds@co.okaloosa.fl.us; ekampert@co.okaloosa.fl.us; Hunter Walker; brian.watkins@ci.milton.fl.us; Sheila Harris; dustin.hinkle@taylorcountygov.com; Spradley, Steve (Taylor County Alt EM); Nelson, Scott (Wakulla Co EM); mcorbett@mywakulla.com; brarenee@co.walton.fl.us

Subject: Tool to view Sea Rise from NOAA

I thought you might find this tool interesting. Go to <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/slr/viewer/>

You can drill down enough to see structures and slide the SLR indicator to 6 feet.

Take Care
Bill McCusker

KEEPING YOUR HEAD ABOVE WATER

Flood Insurance, Mitigation, and the Community Ratings System



April 24, 2014 at 8AM

UF/IFAS Extension Okaloosa County • 3098 Airport Rd, Crestview, FL 32539

Changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) have highlighted the importance of communities addressing flooding problems and striving to lower flood insurance premiums for local businesses and residents. The Community Rating System (CRS) of the NFIP can save money on premiums and help reduce flood damages.

Guest speakers include representatives from FEMA, Florida Division of Emergency Management, Texas A & M, University of Florida, and more

Who should attend

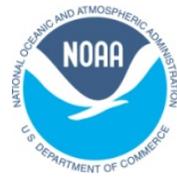
Local elected officials concerned about flood insurance changes, emergency managers, local government staff (particularly floodplain managers and planners), and public works department staff

CECs are available for Certified Floodplain Managers

Cost: \$25 (includes lunch and materials)

Online registration: <http://bit.ly/lijWfRZ>

Questions? Contact Carrie Stevenson at 850-475-5230 or ctsteven@ufl.edu



Keeping Your Head above Water: Flood Insurance, Mitigation, and the Community Ratings System

April 24, 2014, 8:00 am to 3:45 pm

**UF IFAS Extension Okaloosa County, 3098 Airport Rd,
Crestview, FL 32539**

Agenda:

--Welcome and introductions: Nathan Boyles, Okaloosa County Commissioner

--Changes to the NFIP: Janice Mitchell, FEMA Region IV Ins. Specialist & CRS Mngr.

BREAK

--The NEW Community Rating System: Sue Hopfensperger, ISO CRS Specialist

LUNCH (Provided on site as part of registration)

--Florida DEM Promoting the CRS: Danny Hinson, Fla. Div. of Emergency Mgmt., State CRS Coord.

--Mitigating Through Elevating—A Contractor's Perspective: Steve Hall, contractor and Realtor

--Decreasing Flood Damage Through Effective Mitigation: Dr. Sam Brody, Texas A&M University

BREAK

--Flooding and Sea-Level Rise—Similar Policy and Mgmt. Challenge: Thomas Ruppert, Fla. Sea Grant

--Panel Discussion and Q&A

--Wrap-up, Evaluation, and CEC Certificates



Be Ready Florida

Helping Florida Homeowners to
make their homes safer from the
next HURRICANE

Make Mitigation Happen Workshop

Plan to participate in the up-coming *Make Mitigation Happen Workshop* scheduled for your community. This workshop provides homeowners with a stronger understanding of how to make their home safer from the next HURRICANE and other disasters that threaten Florida residents. Workshop participants will also learn how to save money on the windstorm portion of their homeowner's insurance premium.

Workshop Date / Time: **May 1st 2014 5:30 pm**

Workshop Location: **PSC South Santa Rosa Center (Rm 5131)
5075 Gulf Breeze Parkway
Gulf Breeze**

To register to participate in this up-coming workshop and for additional information please visit the following web site today:

www.BeReadyFlorida.org



Sheila Harris

From: Jerrick Saquibal [Jerrick.Saquibal@nfwfmd.state.fl.us]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2014 3:25 PM
To: CFGONZAL@co.escambia.fl.us; bchattaway@myescambia.com; trday@myescambia.com; jclemos@myescambia.com; cacurb@myescambia.com; dowens@cityofpensacola.com; jsdosh@myescambia.com; htgibson@myescambia.com; drmayo@myescambia.com; smorris@cityofpensacola.com; Paolo Ghio (paolo_ghio@sria-fla.com); jeff.deviney@navy.mil; alan.fenters@navy.mil; stephanie.oram@navy.mil; Karen Thornhill; Roger Blaylock; Sheila Harris; Fire Department - Gulf Breeze; City of Milton - Randy Jorgenson
Cc: Algeo, Laura (Laura.Algeo@fema.dhs.gov); christina.lindemer@fema.dhs.gov; Williams, Henrietta (Henrietta.Williams@fema.dhs.gov); Jason Hunter (jason.hunter@fema.dhs.gov); gabriela.vigo@fema.dhs.gov; Bailey, Cynthia B; Shields, Nathan; Newcomb-Thompson, John; Duperrault, Joy; Anderson, Miles; Laura Herbert (laura.herbert@em.myflorida.com); Johnson, Robert (robert.e.johnson@urs.com); Zambito, Chris; Brewer, Shannon J.; Nick Wooten; Guy Gowens; Jerrick Saquibal
Subject: Storm Surge Analysis Update Meeting
Attachments: Meeting Invitation Letter 4-8-2014 - Escambia - Santa Rosa Final.pdf; Draft Meeting Agenda - May 6th Afternoon.pdf

Dear Stakeholder:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has a nation-wide initiative to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in coastal areas including the Florida Panhandle. Attached is a letter inviting you to participate in a meeting to discuss the draft results of the coastal storm surge analysis completed for your area. The storm surge analysis provides the water levels for the next phase of the coastal study where the flood elevations and flood zone delineations will be determined. The objective for the meeting is to gain insight from the local technical community stakeholders and to discuss the data and methodology used to develop the coastal storm surge study. The remaining steps in the process and the schedule to update the flood maps will also be discussed.

Based on the responses to the Doodle Poll we sent out on March 21, 2014, the meeting has been scheduled for May 6, 2014, from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm. The meeting will take place at the Santa Rosa County Development Services Office – Media Room at 6051 Old Bagdad Hwy, Milton, FL. 32583. A draft agenda for the meeting is attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Thank you.

*Jerrick Saquibal, P.E., CFM
Senior Hydrologist
81 Water Management Drive
Havana, FL 32333
(850)539-5999 ext. 228*

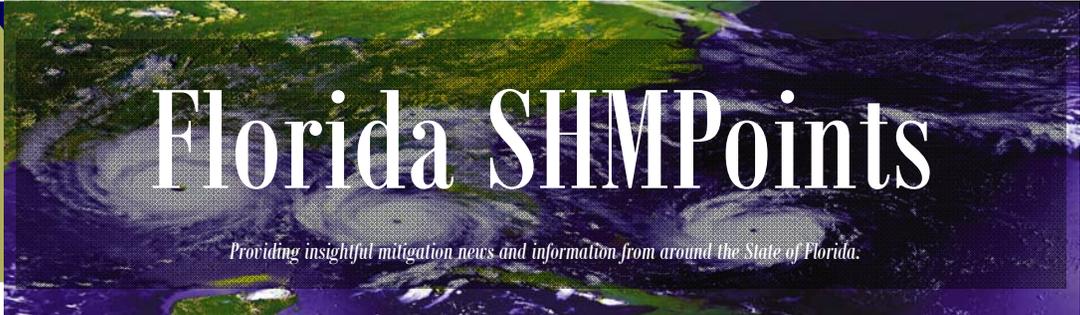


FEMA



Storm Surge Analysis Meeting for Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, Florida and Incorporated Areas

Subject:	Storm Surge Analysis Meeting for Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, Florida and Incorporated Areas	Date & Time:	May 6, 2014 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Central Time
Location:	Santa Rosa County Development Services - Media Room 6051 Old Bagdad Hwy Milton, FL. 32583		
Agenda Item	Lead	Est. Start Time	
I. Introduction and Welcoming Remarks	NFWFMD/FEMA	2:00 PM	
II. Overview of Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal Study Overview Elements of the Coastal Study Schedule 	URS/Dewberry	2:15 PM	
III. Technical Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storm Surge Analysis Erosion Areas Runup Areas Overland Wave Analysis 	URS/Dewberry	2:45 PM	
IV. Risk MAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk MAP Overview Standard Products Coastal Enhanced Products Areas of Mitigation Interest Mitigation Planning 	URS/Dewberry	3:40 PM	
VI. Questions and Comments	All	4:00 PM	
VI. Breakout by County (if requested)	All	4:15 PM	



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2014

Community Rating System in Florida

By: Bryan Koon

One of the many consequences of the Biggert Waters 2012 Legislation has been the highly increased visibility of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The discussion that followed has resulted in many more Americans becoming familiar with terms like “actuarially sound” and “base flood elevation”, and even insider jargon like “pre-FIRM” and “glide path”. Regardless of which side of the issue you end up on, it’s easy to agree that the increased awareness of flood hazards and their impacts on society has been beneficial to the emergency management and mitigation communities.

One of those terms that people are now paying much closer attention to is the Community Rating System (CRS). CRS is the component of the NFIP that allows communities to achieve flood insurance premium discounts for their citizens by taking credit for actions in the community which reduce the risk of flood damage. The CRS program has a strong foothold in Florida, with 47% of the communities (representing 91% of the state’s population) taking advantage of at least a 5% discount. Many jurisdictions across the state have gone much further, achieving up to a 25% discount for policy-holders in their community. Combined, NFIP policyholders in Florida save \$191 million each year because of the CRS efforts across the state.

As good as that is, however, there is room to grow. There are still 53% of the NFIP communities in the state not enrolled in CRS, many of them because they are too small to support the administrative requirements of participating in the program. Additionally, CRS supports discounts up to 45% for policies inside the special flood hazard areas. If every NFIP community in the state achieved the maximum discount possible, Florida residents would save several hundred million dollars in additional discounts every single year, in

addition to enjoying the benefits of living in a community that recognized its flood hazards and took tangible, proactive steps to help reduce those hazards.

In order to help move Florida toward that objective, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) has made assisting communities in their CRS efforts a top priority. In November 2013, the division created and hired a position whose sole responsibility will be to improve CRS throughout the state. DEM hired Danny Hinson, whose previous experiences included being Emergency Management Director for Nassau County and eighteen years with the Insurance Services Office, the organization responsible for the implementing the CRS Program. Danny is focused on two primary areas: enrolling every jurisdiction in the CRS program, and maximizing every community’s standing in the program. He will achieve this two ways: by maximizing the baseline points that every community can take credit for state-wide activities (such as a state-wide building code, outreach efforts, and notification systems), and by working with individual communities to help them maximize their efforts at the local level.

This program is still in its formative stages, but as additional staff and resources are applied, we will see continued progress as communities recognize the tremendous opportunity the program provides for their residents, and as Floridians become better educated about the process and urge their local elected officials to support it. The end result will be positive in all aspects: reduced premiums for policy-

holders, more resilient communities ready to deal with potential flood situations, and stakeholders who understand how each of them can contribute to the success of the program and who see tangible results from their participation. For more information about Florida’s CRS coordination, please contact Danny Hinson at danny.hinson@em.myflorida.com.



FEMA Partners in Mitigation 2014

By: Jared Jaworski

Early in the month of February 2014, FEMA Region IV held its Partners in Mitigation (PIM) Workshop in Atlanta, GA. This workshop is a forum for state and federal communication in both a formal and informal setting. Aside from the scheduled panels and presentations during the week-long event, PIM is a unique time to build one-on-one relationships with other state and federal players, which isn't always easy to build over phone/email. This year's PIM was all that and more as the chilling winds of the north descended upon the City of Atlanta.

Aside from being snowed out of our original location at the Georgia Tech Research Institute and FEMA having to quickly relocate to our Hotel's ballroom in one evening's time (sound system not included), I say it went off without too much of a hitch. The week's topics ranged from broad-picture trends to localized practices from different states, but overall the common thread was that mitigation is on the rise. The problem of sustainability is becoming an ever-growing elephant in the room when it comes to disaster recovery and community risk, with many states and elected officials discovering that mitigation is the only viable solution.

Legislation, like the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (BW-12), is a clear sign that the way recovery and risk has been dealt with is unsustainable. This legislation has brought out a resurgence of interest in the Community Rating System (CRS) and available mitigation dollars to reduce/eliminate flood insurance premiums. While we have yet to fully realize the reverses made by the Grimm-Waters legislation passed recently, the good news is that new policy changes from FEMA are making mitigation more

attractive to communities, and, in some ways, easier to implement.

One topic I had the pleasure of sharing with everyone at PIM was Florida's involvement in the Program Administration by States (PAS) Pilot Program. This new program allows states to assume additional responsibilities under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). These responsibilities include items such as: Review and approval of sub-applicant applications and amendment requests, approval of certain post-award scope of work modifications, and state approval of Local Mitigation Strategies. Each delegated activity is chosen by the state, per disaster, and is designed to eliminate duplication of effort with FEMA, which hastens the HMGP process. As of the date this article was written, Florida was the only state participating in the pilot program, with PAS operational agreements for the three most recent disasters (DR-4068 "TS Debby;" DR-4084 "H. Isaac;" DR-4138 "Severe Storms and Flooding").

Florida continues to be an example to the rest of the country when it comes to mitigation, and it comes from our strong relationship with both our local and federal counterparts. Without those strong links, I do not believe our state would be where it is today in regards to our advancement in mitigation. With Florida being the first and only state participating in PAS, a significant responsibility has been put on us to perform at a higher level of excellence than ever before. We are confident that Florida can meet the expectations of the PAS and set an example for other states wanted to adopt this program. Thank you for your efforts in making Florida a standard for the rest of the country.

Organizational Spotlight: Florida Preparedness Association

By: Eve Rainey

The Florida Emergency Preparedness Association's (FEPA's) membership includes more than 600 emergency management practitioners from all levels of government, all response disciplines, the private sector and volunteer and non-governmental agencies and organizations. FEPA enjoys a more than 50 year history of advocacy and service to enhance Florida's emergency management system and the emergency management profession.

FEPA supports statewide mitigation efforts through multiple programs and projects. The Association has a

standing Mitigation Committee that actively evaluates and analyzes mitigation related policies and initiatives at the state and federal levels. In addition, the Committee provides the full complement of FEPA members with access to subject matter experts in the field of mitigation. The FEPA Public Private Partnership Committee promotes mitigation in the private sector by recognizing and learning from business continuity programs and promoting public/private coordination to prevent and alleviate damage and disruption to businesses during times of emergency.

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

FEPA also supports mitigation through its training and professional development programs. The recently concluded 2014 FEPA Annual Meeting and Work Session featured the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Mitigation for Emergency Managers G-393 Course that attracted 48 students! In addition to the formal Mitigation training, the 2014 Annual Meeting included a workshop on the National Flood Insurance Program highlighting the Community Rating System and federal Mitigation Grant Programs as examples of how to reduce flood insurance premiums and flood losses. FEPA's Certification Program recognizes Mitigation in its required training hours and identifies



Mitigation activities as a Professional Contribution. FEPA's Advanced Emergency Management Academy's curriculum includes instruction on Mitigation program implementation at the local level with a focus on Local Mitigation Strategies and working groups.

FEPA is a proud partner with the Division of Emergency Management in promoting Mitigation practices and success stories and the continued development of a well trained professional cadre of mitigation practitioners. For more information on FEPA membership and programs, please visit the FEPA website at www.fepa.org

Hazard Profile: Wildfire

By: Todd Schroeder

Fire season has become a year-round reality in Florida, requiring firefighters and residents to be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire throughout the year.

As Florida's population has increased through the years so has the number of homes being built on the edge of forests or wildlands. This area commonly referred to as the Wildland/Urban Interface presents real challenges for the homeowner in managing wildfire risk. Each year, wildfires consume hundreds of homes nationally that are located in these areas.

Each year the Florida Forest Service implements fuel reduction projects designed to reduce or mitigate the buildup of natural fuels from around homes and communities. These projects target high wildfire risk areas and the work is primarily performed using prescribed fire.

Studies have shown that as many as 80% of the homes lost to wildfires could have been saved if their owners followed a few simple fire-safe practices. The reality today is that there are simply not enough fire engines or firefighters available to defend and save every home in a major wildfire. Today's homeowner in the Wildland/Urban Interface must take personal responsibility for himself, family and home by being proactive in reducing his wildfire risk. However,

many residents still don't have a full understanding of the impact that wildfire could have on their homes and properties.

The Florida Forest Service has been working to solve this problem through community outreach programs that teach homeowners and communities simple fire-safe concepts that will help them to manage their wildfire risk. The National Firewise program and the Ready, Set, Go program are both being currently implemented by the FFS throughout the State. Both programs highlight homeowner responsibility in protecting their homes from the threat of wildfire.

Firewise Concepts

- Provide for at least 30 ft. of defensible space in all directions around your home. (Nothing combustible)
 - Keep rooftops and gutters clean to avoid fire from ember collection.
 - Remove ladder fuels (shrubs that enable a fire to climb into the tree tops)
 - Keep yard free of dead vegetation
 - Don't store or locate combustible materials near home.
 - Use fire resistant building materials
 - Plant fire-resistant vegetation.



Above:
Wildfire in Avalon Park in Orange County in February burned close to residential areas.

Ready , Set, Go: Focuses on public education by teaching residents about wildfire preparation, prevention, evacuation, and what to do if trapped.

Continued from page 4

Ready – Be Firewise. Prepare before wildfire occurs (Family, yard, home)

Set – Have situational awareness when wildfire comes (Emergency supply kit, stay alert and stay tuned to local media)

Go – Leave early knowing that you prepared your family and home (Know when to leave, where to go, how to go, what to take)

It is everyone’s responsibility to be proactive about reducing wildfire risk. For more information about these educational programs and fuel reduction (mitigation) logon to:

- www.Firewise.org
- www.Wildlandfirersg.org
- www.Fireadapted.org
- www.FloridaForestService.com



Above:
A winter wildfire burns in Jacksonville, Florida near US 301 through the night and into the morning.



Above:
150-acre brush fire in Southwest Florida threatens road conditions on I-75.

Pin Point Announcements

HMGP applications for Severe Storms and Flooding (FEMA 4138 DR FL) must be postmarked on or before 3/28 or hand delivered before 5pm EDT on 3/28!

We want to share your mitigation successes! Please send info to DEM-SHMPAT@em.myflorida.com

DON'T MISS the mitigation trainings and workshops at this year's Governor's Hurricane Conference May 11-16 in Orlando!

Spring is near! Get prepared for upcoming flood (FMA) and wind (RMCP) mitigation grant cycles today!

Did you know www.FloridaDisaster.org/mitigation/SMF is a whole page of resources dedicated to helping communities substantiate their mitigation efforts?

Topics coming soon to a computer webinar near you!

- Using LMS plans to maximize CRS Section 510 points
- FDEM's new LMS review tool
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grants
- Residential Construction Mitigation Program (RCMP)

Want to know more about the topics in this issue? Contact us!

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Todd Shroeder

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Eve Rainey

erainey@fepa.org



You're Invited!

The next SHMPAT Meeting will be held on:

**June 10th, 2014
1:00- 4:00PM
Kelley Conference Room
Sadowski Building
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, FL**



A VISITOR'S GUIDE OF SEASONAL ATTIRE FOR FLORIDA.