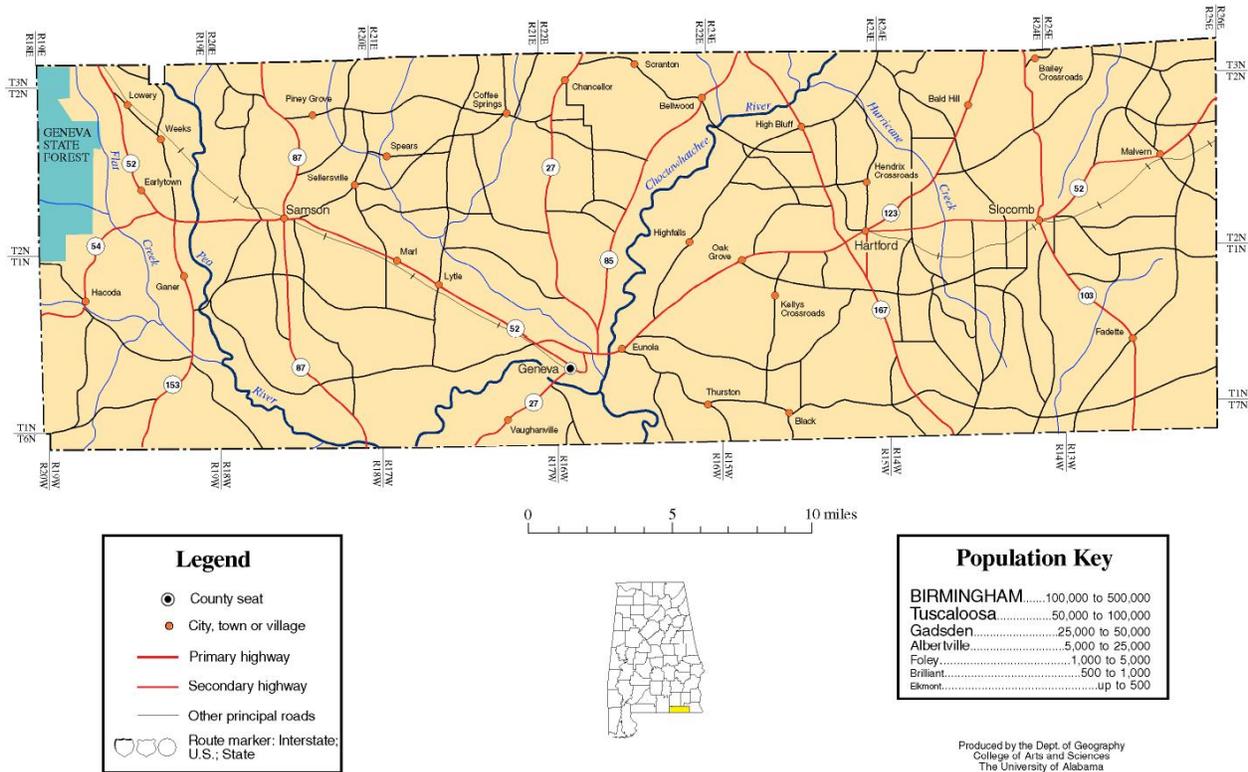


GENEVA COUNTY, AL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN



GENEVA COUNTY



Geneva County, Alabama

September 2009

Prepared under the direction of the:

Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

By:



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Section 2 - Executive Summary

2.1 Background

On October 30, 2000, the United States Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, also known as DMA2K. A copy of the Act is included as **Appendix A**. Among its other features, DMA2K established a requirement that in order to remain eligible for federal disaster assistance and grant funds, localities must develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans as a condition of receiving mitigation project grants under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program and the Post-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Program (HMGP). On February 26, 2002 (updated October 1, 2002 and October 28, 2003), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published an Interim Final Rule (the Rule) that provided the guidance and regulations under which such plans must be developed. The Rule provides detailed descriptions of both the planning process that localities are required to observe, as well as the contents of the plan that emerges. It is included as **Appendix B**.

In 2005, Geneva County officially adopted the initial Geneva County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan in response to the requirements of DMA2K and the Rule Section 201.6 (a). FEMA approved this plan. In addition Section 201.6 (3) mandates that a county update its plan every five years “to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities.” This plan update is in response to those requirements.

2.2 Organization of the Plan

The Geneva County mitigation plan is organized to parallel the structure provided in the Rule. The plan has ten sections.

Section 1	Table of Contents and Lists
Section 2	Executive Summary
Section 3	Approval and Adoption
Section 4	Planning Process
Section 5	Risk Assessment
Section 6	Mitigation Strategy
Section 7	Coordination of Local Planning
Section 8	Plan Maintenance
Section 9	Appendices

There are references to the Rule throughout the plan; where possible these provide specific section and subsection notations for the convenience of reviewers.

The plan reflects an updated basic structure from the 2005 Plan, as well as a new name of the *Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* (the Plan). In addition, each section now includes a table summarizing the significant changes made as part of the update to that section.

2.3 Highlights of the Plan

The purpose of the Plan is to rationalize the process of identifying and implementing appropriate hazard mitigation actions located in the county. The document includes a detailed characterization of natural hazards countywide; a risk assessment that describes potential losses to physical assets, people and operations; a set of goals, objectives, strategies and actions that will guide the county's mitigation activities, and a detailed plan for implementing and monitoring the required aspects of the plan. The following provides a brief summary of each section of the Plan.

2.3.1 Approval and Adoption

Section 3 of the Plan describes the Plan approval and adoption process and provides assurances as required by the Rule. It also includes documents related to Plan adoption, including an approval letter from the Director of the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency.

The *Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* was adopted by the jurisdictions through the authority delegated to the GCEMA and the Geneva County Commission. As noted elsewhere in the Plan (see **Section 4**), the County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) was provided a full draft copy of the Plan for review, comment and endorsement prior to adoption by the jurisdictions. The GCEMA retains the comments and changes.

The Plan was approved by the Director of the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency, through authority delegated by the Geneva County Commission.

Upon completion, this Plan update will be approved and adopted through the same mechanism as the 2005 Plan.

2.3.2 The Planning Process

Section 4 of the Plan includes a detailed description of the process and the individuals and agencies who were involved. The process used to develop the initial Plan was closely modeled on the State EMA Hazard Mitigation Plan and FEMA's "How-To" series for hazard mitigation planning.

As the process of developing the 2005 Plan began, the Geneva County Commission appointed the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee to participate in the process and reiterated the importance of the plan for the county. The Geneva County Commission delegated responsibility for overseeing development of the plan to the GCEMA. The GCEMA, in coordination with the Committee, put together the HMPC that served as the core group responsible for all decisions about planning process and content. The HMPC met three times during development of the plan to consider and approve/amend aspects of Plan. A list of the HMPC members and other agencies involved in the planning process is provided in **Appendix C**.

GCEMA developed a strategy for updating each section of the plan under a very constricted schedule. This strategy was discussed by the HMPC at its first meeting. GCEMA led the update of all sections of the plan. Subject matter experts on the HMPC were solicited for specific information regarding hazards, risks, capabilities and strategies. HMPC members were also



asked to review mitigation strategies from the 2005 Plan for which they were responsible and asked to provide new actions that they may pursue in the future. Certain HMPC members also provided interim reviews of draft sections as appropriate throughout the update process. After all sections were completed and comments incorporated, the Plan was submitted to AEMA and the FEMA for review. Another meeting will be held following the FEMA approval of the plan pending adoption.

2.3.3 Risk Assessment

Section 5 includes a detailed description of the process that was used to identify, assess and prioritize Geneva County's natural hazard risks.

As part of the Plan update process, the committee reevaluated its hazards based on new and current information and modified its risk assessments based on newly available data. The initial list of hazards was revised to reflect an improved understanding of its risks. These hazards were then evaluated based on newly acquired data and risk assessments were performed on the most threatening hazards to incorporate current data. Jurisdictions were then ranked based on their vulnerability and risk.

2.3.4 Mitigation Strategy

Section 6 is a description of the county's mitigation strategy, goals, actions and capabilities. The county's hazard mitigation strategy is straightforward.

Reduce risks through actions and policies that limit the effects of natural hazards on the physical assets and citizens of the county.

In support of this general strategy, the HMPC and GCEMA developed eight goals for hazard mitigation in 2005.

1. Prevention of loss of life and reduction in number and severity of injuries.
2. Reduction in severity and amount of property damage.
3. Efforts to locate funding for cost-effective mitigation efforts.
4. Implementation of hazard mitigation efforts prior to a natural hazard incident.
5. Implementation of a comprehensive hazard mitigation plan.
6. Incorporation of lessons learned during and after any incident recovery phase.
7. Protect new development from damage by the base flood.
8. Improve the quality of life in Geneva County.

The HMPC reviewed the county hazard mitigation goals developed as part of the 2005 Plan in light of recent disasters that have impacted the county and determined that these goals remained

relatively unchanged, but for the 2010 Plan the wording has been revised to better communicate their intent as noted in **Section 6, 6.3**. These goals are discussed in detail in **Section 6**, and are briefly reviewed below.

1. Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system.
2. Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards.
3. Reduce vulnerability of new and future development.
4. Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards.
5. Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation.

2.3.5 Coordination of Local Planning

Section 7 describes how the county provides assistance and guidance to local jurisdictions for developing their hazard mitigation plans, how information from the state and local plans are linked and integrated, and how the county prioritizes funding opportunities for local jurisdictions. As noted in numerous places throughout this document, the local hazard mitigation plans had the same deadline as the initial State Plan (November 1, 2004), so nearly all of them were being developed during the same time period. Because of this, AEMA and the HMPC had only very limited opportunities to incorporate important parts of the local plans into the 2004 state document. However, AEMA and members of the State Hazard Mitigation Team will interact closely with the GCEMA as this plan is developed.

This update discusses how the county facilitated the completion of the local plan, the current status of the local plan update process, and a summary of how the county has prioritized funding for local mitigation projects over the past five years.

2.3.6 Plan Maintenance

Section 8 describes how the Plan will be periodically evaluated and updated. The Rule requires that the County Hazard Mitigation Plan be updated and re-submitted to the AEMA and the FEMA for re-approval every five years. In addition to meeting this requirement, the county, under the direction of GCEMA, will review the plan annually, based on criteria that are described in **Section 8.2**. The criteria are:

1. Changes in risk
2. Changes in laws, policies, or regulations at the state and/or local level
3. Changes in county agencies or their procedures
4. Significant changes in funding sources or capabilities
5. Progress on mitigation actions or new mitigation actions that the county is considering

6. Changes in the composition of the HMPC
7. Major changes to the state multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan

In addition, the GCEMA may initiate the review process under the following conditions:

1. After a major disaster declaration
2. At the request of the County Commission or the State EMA
3. When significant new risks or vulnerabilities are identified

Section 8.2 describes the process that GCEMA will use to initiate and complete the periodic reviews and updates. It is expected that the HMPC will be re-convened periodically to consider any draft updates to the plan that are identified and developed by GCEMA. The interim reviews may be relatively simple, but the five-year update is expected to comprise a comprehensive update and multi-stage process similar to the initial development of the plan. Other parts of **Section 8** describe how the county will monitor mitigation activities and measure progress toward achieving the goals that are described in **Section 6**.

Section 3 - Plan Approval, Adoption and Assurances

This section of the Plan addresses requirements of Interim Final Rule (the Rule) Section 201.6. A copy of the Rule is provided for reference in **Appendix B** of this document.

Contents of this Section

- 3.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for the Plan Adoption Process
- 3.2 Plan Approval and Adoption Process
- 3.3 Formal Adoption Document(s)
- 3.4 Assurances

What has been updated?

Plan changed from “Risk Assessment” to “Plan Approval, Adoption and Assurances”

- 3.1 Plan changed to “Interim Final Rule Requirements for the Plan Adoption Process.”
- 3.2 Plan changed to “Plan Approval and Adoption Process.”
- 3.3 Plan changed to “Formal Adoption Documents.” Formal adoption documents will be provided after AEMA and FEMA’s review and conditional approval of the plan.
- 3.4 Plan changed to “Assurances.” The required assurances will be included as part of the formal adoption documents.

3.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for the Plan Adoption Process

The Rule 201.6 requires the County Hazard Mitigation Plan to include the following elements:

- i. *A Plan Adoption Process.* The plan must be formally adopted by the county’s jurisdictions prior to submittal to the AEMA and the FEMA for final review and approval.
- ii. *Assurances.* The Plan must include assurances that the county will comply with all applicable local/state/federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c). The county will amend the Plan, whenever necessary, to reflect changes in local/state/federal laws and statutes as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d).

3.2 Plan Approval and Adoption Process

3.2.1 Background

The HMPC approved this plan in 2005 and has been involved with the Plan Update process. Meeting notes document the presentation materials and discussions. Notes are provided in **Appendix I**.

Currently, the HMPC is in the process of reviewing each Plan section update and providing comments and feedback as appropriate for incorporation into the Plan. After comments are incorporated, the committee will be provided with a detailed briefing on all proposed changes and additions to the Plan. Each member of the HMPC will have a second opportunity to review and approve the document prior to submission to the AEMA.

3.2.2 GCEMA Review and Approval

After all comments are reviewed, compiled and incorporated, the Director of GCEMA will review the document for approval and formal adoption on behalf of the participating jurisdictions, as was the case in 2005.

3.3 Formal Adoption Document(s)

By agreement between the GCEMA and the AEMA, the official adoption documents will be provided after the AEMA and FEMA's final review and conditional approval of the Plan. Documents are included in **Appendix D** of this plan.

3.4 Assurances

The assurances required by the Rule, Section 201.6 and the GCEMA letter of approval from FEMA, is included in **Appendix D** of this plan.

Section 4 – The Planning Process

This section of the plan addresses requirements of Interim Final Rule (the Rule) Section 201.6. A copy of the Rule is provided for reference in **Appendix B** of this document.

Contents of this Section

- 4.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for the Planning Process
- 4.2 Coordination with Local and State Agencies, and Interested Groups
- 4.3 Integration into other Ongoing County Planning Efforts
- 4.4 Integration into other Local Mitigation Programs and Initiatives
- 4.5 Description of the Planning Process

Section 4 - What has been updated?

Plan changed from “Mitigation Strategy” to “The Planning Process”

- 4.1 Plan added “Interim Final Rule Requirements for the Planning Process.”
- 4.2 Plan changed from “Mitigation Goals” to “Coordination with Local and State Agencies, and Interested Groups.” This section provides a summary of the agency coordination utilized during initial plan development.

It also provides a discussion of how other entities participated in the Plan update process.
- 4.3 Plan changed from “Specific Mitigation Actions/Projects” to “Integration into other Ongoing County Planning Efforts.”

All mitigation related planning activities throughout the county were reviewed and evaluated. The section was revised to reflect current mitigation planning activities throughout the county.
- 4.4 Plan changed from “Prioritization/Implementation/Administration” to “Integration into other Local Mitigation Programs and Initiatives.” This section was revised to reflect all recent and ongoing mitigation initiatives and grant programs.

The section was updated to reflect current information and activities.
- 4.5 Plan changed from “Specific Jurisdictional Action Items and Recommendations” to “Description of Planning Process.” This section was updated to reflect both the initial Plan development process in 2004 - 2005 and the Plan update process in 2009.

This section also includes a summary of how each section of the Plan was revised as part of the update process.

4.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for the Planning Process

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) Subsection 201.6 states the following:

“The local mitigation plan is the representation of the jurisdiction's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards. Local plans will also serve as the basis for the State to provide technical assistance and to prioritize project funding.”

The IFR Subsection 201.6 (c) (1) requires that the plan include:

“Documentation of the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.”

4.2 Coordination with Local and State Agencies, and Interested Groups

As shown by the list of members in **Section 4.3.1** below, the county's HMPC is representative of those organizations and agencies in Geneva County area concerned with natural hazards. The HMPC worked to engage the public for participation and support to identify the natural hazards that pose a threat to their communities, provided information about the past hazardous events, identified the assets and potential losses in their communities, and identified the past and future mitigation measures throughout the county. In addition, various meetings and phone calls took place and emails were sent to the following agencies requesting their input and cooperation. These agencies helped provide information in regards to the hazard profiles, vulnerabilities assessment, potential losses, land use and development trends and mapping data.

4.2.1 Agency Coordination during Development of 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Most agency coordination was achieved by assembling the county's Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) (also referred to as the HMPC throughout this plan). Activities of these entities are more thoroughly discussed in **Section 4.5**. Beyond the activities of the HMPC, the following summarizes efforts to involve other agencies in the planning process.

The GCEMA coordinated with the local agencies in the county to gather information that could be incorporated into the Plan. GCEMA provided the local HMPC representatives with a questionnaire to determine local capabilities, hazards, risks, and mitigation goals and actions. All county jurisdictions were contacted and many responded. The information obtained was the starting point for revising the risk assessment and mitigation strategy of the 2010 Plan.

The Rule states that “The types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas” must be included in the Plan. GCEMA identified which county-level organizations might own or operate critical facilities, and contacted each directly to request information regarding their assets, operations, and risks. Each was provided with a questionnaire requesting information on agency background, critical facility hazard and risk assessment data, and potential mitigation actions. HAZUS 2007 along with

ArcGIS 9 software were utilized in the estimation of potential losses from disasters, as well as for data and maps.

The AEMA was closely involved with the revision of the Plan in 2010. AEMA also provided detailed technical assistance by interpreting the Rule planning requirements and assisting the GCEMA in integrating these requirements into the final product.

4.2.2 Agency Coordination for 2010 Plan Update

The initial Plan called for the HMPC to reconvene on an annual basis to review the plan. The GCEMA Director met with the HMPC members throughout the years and discussed any mitigation projects that were ongoing, completed, or should be included in the revised Plan of 2010. The revised Plan of 2010 is the result of a more official review and documentation of attendance is included in the plan.

During the planning process, public meetings were held. The first meeting was held on December 11, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Geneva County EOC. This meeting was to address the public input into the plan revision. The second meeting was held on May 14, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Geneva County EOC. This meeting was to address the draft plan revision. The date of the last meeting is dependent upon the plan being approved pending adoption. The last meeting was held on -, 2009 at the Geneva County EOC. This meeting was to provide an overview of the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan revision and to discuss the county commission's and local participating jurisdictions' adoption by resolution of the revised plan. Adoption resolutions are located in **Appendix D**.

All meeting announcements were published in the Geneva County Reaper, Hartford News Herald, and posted at the Geneva County Courthouse. Both Margaret Mixon, Director of the Geneva County EMA, and Lee Helms, owner of Lee Helms Associates, L. L. C. were present as facilitators of the meetings.

One of the purposes of the HMPC is to ensure coordination among various levels of government and a countywide planning effort. Activities and involvement of the HMPC are detailed in **Section 4.5**.

4.3 Integration into Other Ongoing County Planning Efforts

The following existing plans were reviewed and incorporated in the revision of the Geneva County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan:

- Geneva County EMA Emergency Operations Plan

These plans are administered through the Emergency Management Agency.



4.3.1 Summary

County level planning efforts related to hazard mitigation planning are primarily the responsibility of the GCEMA. This agency is responsible for the administrative and planning functions for hazard mitigation planning, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and disaster recovery planning. Other significant county-level planning efforts related to hazard mitigation are supported by local agencies and interested groups, all of which are represented on the HMPC.

4.3.2 Ongoing County Planning Efforts and Integration Process

In developing the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the GCEMA recruited assistance from Johnson & Reeves Engineering of Dothan, AL. The Engineering Group had an agreement in place with GCEMA to develop a local hazard mitigation plan. In 2008, the GCEMA received assistance from a consultant, Lee Helms Associates, (LHA) L. L. C. and an agreement was put into place to revise/update the original Plan. Details about the local hazard mitigation plan development and update process are included in **Section 7.2**. With a thorough knowledge of hazard mitigation planning, the consultant works with the local agencies to integrate hazard mitigation planning into local and regional comprehensive planning initiatives. GCEMA and LHA are continuing this process.

The GCHMPC is composed of representatives from government, private non-profit, and private organizations and others who also make up the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) that develops and maintains the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for Geneva County. These planning committees work together to integrate all planning efforts including land use, natural and man-made disaster response plans, regional planning commission projects, disaster recovery projects, etc. The EOP references the Hazard Mitigation Plan as well as other plans related to all potential threats. This Hazard Mitigation Plan update has been integrated with all of the above organizations in the planning process through meetings, discussions, and references in the plans.

The Geological Survey of Alabama (GSA) supports mitigation planning for geological hazards including sinkholes, earthquakes, and landslides. The GSA maintains maps of ecologic formations, with descriptions of characteristics, and prepares reports of findings and recommendations. The information and technical resources of the GSA are critical to the countywide risk assessment of this plan and the development of mitigation strategies that respond to pervasive geological hazards across the county. The GSA develops and maintains maps showing the distribution of known sinkholes, faults, underground mines, and landslides. It maintains records of historical earthquakes and monitors current seismic activity. The GSA also conducts public outreach through the distribution of educational brochures on geological hazards. Other hazard mitigation initiatives by federal agencies are described in **Section 6.9**. These are primarily funding mechanisms to augment state and local mitigation activities.

4.3.3 Potential Improvements

Geneva County has many opportunities to strengthen or improve the integration of its existing countywide planning initiatives. These opportunities include the following potential improvements:



- Continue NFIP and improve coordination and delivery of mitigation planning information to interested individuals throughout the county. Expanded and coordinated training is one of the best opportunities to ensure integration of planning initiatives among local, state, and other interest groups, and to best deliver hazard mitigation planning principles at the local level.
- Maintain documents and materials in a centralized location for printed distribution.
- Coordinate outreach services among countywide planning agencies. A coordinated public outreach program should more effectively communicate the complete plan and keep the public informed of risks and countywide efforts underway to mitigate those risks.

4.4 Integration into Other FEMA Mitigation Programs and Initiatives

4.4.1 Summary

GCEMA administers and oversees federal mitigation grant programs for Geneva County that are related to hazard mitigation, emergency management and disaster relief, as well as serving as the lead agency for the county in disaster mitigation efforts. GCEMA has the opportunity to integrate the dissemination of mitigation information to the AEMA with the FEMA grant application process for the programs listed in **Section 4.4.2**. The primary responsibilities of the local NFIP Coordinator include facilitating participation in the NFIP among county jurisdictions, providing technical support and training and encouraging participation in the Community Rating System (CRS) Program.

4.4.2 List of Ongoing FEMA Mitigation Programs and Initiatives

FEMA Grant Programs (see table in **Appendix F** for an overview of all FEMA grant programs and initiatives):

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM)
- Public Assistance Grant Program (PA)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)
- Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) Grant Program
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Grant Program
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- State and Local NFIP Coordination
- Community Rating System (CRS)

- Map Modernization Program (MMP)

4.4.3 Integration Process and Potential Improvements

The HMPC identified and reviewed the laws, regulations, policies and programs pertaining to mitigation and AEMA/FEMA sponsored programs and supporting regulations.

- FEMA Grant Programs

The Geneva County EMA administers AEMA/FEMA grant programs. It notifies communities and eligible applicants of the availability of program funds, provides briefings and technical assistance, and recommends funding to the Geneva County Commission. The AEMA serves as the grantee of AEMA/FEMA grant awards and oversees the implementation of funded projects by sub grantees (communities and other eligible applicants).

Consistency of project applications with local mitigation plans is required by the state and county EMA to assure integration of local mitigation activities with the hazard mitigation planning process.

The grant award process can be improved by adhering to an established prioritization criteria presented in the county plan.

- National Flood Insurance Program

The Local NFIP Coordinator should continue to provide countywide support for local participation in the NFIP, assisting with flood hazard prevention ordinance development and federal compliance, providing training and technical support to local floodplain ordinance administrators, encouraging the floodplain management practices of the NFIP, and promoting flood insurance.

The NFIP Coordinator should continue to regularly conduct Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) among NFIP participating communities throughout the county. During these visits the staff should not only check for program compliance but offer guidance and support for improved flood hazard mitigation practices.

In addition to regular NFIP participation, the NFIP Coordinator should encourage the Community Rating System (CRS) program participation by NFIP communities and assist current CRS communities to continually seek higher CRS classifications.

The NFIP Coordinator should continue working closely with the Geneva County EMA and the Alabama EMA to assure strong integration of local flood hazard mitigation practices into local and state hazard mitigation planning policies.

The GCEMA will continue its countywide flood map modernization program for the county, including the development of Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) that will readily provide flood GIS data for local risk assessments and hazard mitigation planning.



The Local NFIP Coordinator should continue to distribute technical publications to local floodplain administrators, building officials, public works engineers, planners, and local officials involved in hazard mitigation. The popular and regular course offering, *Managing Floodplain Development through the NFIP*, should be made available annually or as needed.

4.5 Description of the Planning Process

4.5.1 How the Plan was Prepared and Updated

The 2010 Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Plan was prepared in general accordance with the processes established in the How-To Guides produced by FEMA, and the requirements of the February 26, 2002 IFR.

- Established the HMPC (see **Appendix C** for full membership).
- Encouraged representatives from all local agencies to attend HMPC meetings.
- Directed all county agencies to participate in the development of the plan by providing services as directed by the HMPC.
- Encouraged agencies and other interested parties to participate in the planning process by providing comments and information via meetings, surveys, questionnaires and other means.
- Directed the HMPC to assist in the prioritizing of hazard and pre-disaster mitigation grant program project applications.
- Directed the HMPC to meet when called by the GCEMA and remain in place until the five-year update to the plan has been approved by the AEMA/FEMA.
- Directed the GCEMA to prepare the County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

In developing the initial risk assessment, the HMPC initially considered 9 hazards countywide based on primary research. Through a rating system (explained in detail in **Section 5**), the HMPC rated floods and high wind events create the most risks for the county. For each of these hazards, the detailed risk assessments were performed that included calculations of future expected damages expressed in dollars. From the results of the risk assessment, the HMPC developed a mitigation strategy composed of actions identified by the GCEMA, HMPC agencies, and the existing local plan. The plan was approved by the HMPC, adopted by the County Commission and county jurisdictions, and approved by FEMA.

As mentioned in **Section 4.2**, the initial plan called for the HMPC to reassemble on an annual basis to review and evaluate the plan in the following areas:

1. Changes in risk



2. Changes in laws, policies, or regulations at the local and state level
3. Changes in local agencies or their procedures that may affect mitigation programs or administration of funds
4. Changes in funding sources or capabilities
5. Changes in composition of the HMPC
6. Progress on mitigation actions and new mitigation actions being considered
7. Major changes to local hazard mitigation plan

Unfortunately, the annual HMPC meetings did not take place.

The GCEMA began working on the plan update and hired a consultant to facilitate the plan update process in 2008. A kickoff meeting was held on December 11, 2008 between GCEMA, the HMPC and the consultant team to determine an initial strategy for updating the plan. The first step of the process was to perform an analysis of the 2005 Plan. The consultant reviewed each section comparing it to the AEMA's revised plan as well as made site visits upon request.

The HMPC was reassembled on May 14, 2009. Results of the analysis were presented to the HMPC as well as the strategy for completing the county plan update. The HMPC concurred with the strategy. The review and update process for each section is detailed in **Section 4.5.4**. An initial draft of the completed portion of the plan was submitted to the GCEMA and the AEMA/FEMA for review during August 2009. The AEMA had 45 days to review the draft plan. The GCEMA received all comments and then incorporated them into the plan, where appropriate. A summary of comments is available in **Appendix H**. The plan was resubmitted on ----- for final review and approval. The date of the final meeting is dependent upon the plan being approved pending adoption.

4.5.2 Who was Involved in the Planning Process

The Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee was developed and is comprised of representatives from all participating jurisdictions and other members as noted in **Appendix C**. This committee facilitated development and revision of this plan.

Mitigation planning projects were reviewed and considered by the Geneva County Emergency Management Board. This board is a 14 person board comprised of the chairperson of the Geneva County Commission and representatives of the mayors of Black, Coffee Springs, Eunola, Geneva, Hartford, Malvern, Samson and Slocomb. This board provides oversight and guidance to the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and the agency director reports to the board.

The Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (GCHMPC) was originally formed by the Geneva County Emergency Management Board. The GCHMPC represents the four largest municipalities of Hartford, Geneva, Samson, and Slocomb, the remaining municipalities of Bellwood, Black, Chancellor, Coffee Springs, Eunola, and Malvern, as well as the county at large. Additional voluntary participation from other local agencies, local media and the general public was also encouraged and invited. The EMA Director Margaret Mixon was designated by the board to serve as both the county at large committee representative and as well as chairperson of the GCMPC. The mayors of the jurisdictions appointed their representatives.

The Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee's members serve for the entire five-year planning cycle of the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. The Hazard Mitigation Committee mission statement is as follows:

To develop and oversee a comprehensive natural hazard mitigation planning process that:

- Facilitates coordination among local, state, and federal agencies
- Monitors and evaluates the potential risks of hazards to life and property
- Actively mobilizes all available community resources and measures to mitigate the threats of hazards
- Implement programmed actions with specific results

Geneva County EMA Director, Margaret Mixon, devised a list of requirements and guidelines that must be adhered to by each committee member in order for them to remain a part of the multi jurisdictional plan. Each board member stated they fully understand and will abide by, the guidelines set forth by the Geneva County EMA. The requirements/guidelines are as follows:

- Conduct formal, periodic meetings to present, discuss, research and review the necessary data required for plan development.
- Attend all scheduled meetings. If extenuating circumstances prevent the designated committee member from attending a meeting, the designated committee member should ensure a representative from the jurisdiction attends the meeting.
- Communicate informally as frequently as required for project coordination.
- Represent the interest of each jurisdiction's citizens, research existing reports, studies and plans and prepare jurisdiction specific information for incorporation into the multijurisdictional plan.
- Develop a prioritized list of action plans/projects for their respective jurisdiction.

During the planning process the committee held two meetings. Documentation of these meetings in the form of sign-in sheets, meeting agendas and meeting minutes are contained in **Appendices I and J**. In the event a committee member was unable to attend a meeting, he or she was contacted by the GCEMA or the consultant by phone call, personal visit, email, fax or other correspondence. The committee was made aware of the results of the missed meeting and required to provide whatever pertinent information needed at the meeting. In this manner, participation by all jurisdictions was insured. The board's tasks were facilitated by various worksheets provided by the consultant that assisted in producing the plan.



Public Involvement

During the planning process two public meetings were held, one in December of 2008 and one in May 2009. One meeting was held to address public input into the plan and one was held for the purpose of reviewing the draft plan. The first public meeting was held on December 11, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Geneva County EOC. The meeting was published in the local newspaper, and posted at the Geneva County Courthouse. Local agencies as well as surrounding counties' representatives were in attendance at the meeting. No private citizens attended.

The second public meeting was held on May 14, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Geneva County EOC. Local agencies representatives were in attendance at the meeting. No private citizens or surrounding counties attended.

Additionally, a third public meeting was held on -----? The date of the third public meeting is dependent upon the plan being approved pending adoption. The third public meeting was published in the local newspaper, and posted at the Geneva County Courthouse. The purposes of this meeting were to provide an overview of the *Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* and discuss the procedures for the county commission and participating local jurisdictions adopt the plan by resolution. The *Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* was adopted by the Geneva County Commission on -----.

The questionnaire that was made available at each public meeting was also placed at the Geneva County EMA Office. A copy of the public questionnaire and any copies that were filled out can be found on file at the GCEMA. Also, a copy of each public meeting announcement and the sign in sheets from each meeting can be found in the **Appendix J**.

Continued Public Involvement

During June of each year for the annual review of the plan, a notice will be posted in the local media or at public facilities requesting input from the public for use in the five-year revision period. The notice will include contact information for the GCEMA for citizens to provide any input, as well as a mitigation fact sheet.

Interagency & Intergovernmental Coordination

Various meetings and phone calls took place; and e-mails were sent to the following agencies requesting their input and cooperation. These agencies helped provide information in regards to the hazard profiles, vulnerabilities assessment, potential losses, land use and development trends and mapping data.

Federal Agencies:

- > Federal Emergency Management Agency HAZUS 2007
- > National Weather Service - Birmingham Office
- > United States Geological Survey - Alabama District

State Agencies:

- > Alabama Emergency Management Agency
- > Geological Survey of Alabama



- > Alabama Forestry Commission
- > Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

Local Agencies:

- > Geneva County EMA

In addition, opportunity was provided for neighboring communities, agencies, businesses, academia, nonprofits, and other interested parties to participate in the hazard mitigation planning process through the public involvement meetings.

Participating Municipalities

Not all jurisdictions within Geneva County participated in the planning process; however, those that did participate have committed to adoption of the final plan by formal resolution. These jurisdictions include Coffee Springs, Geneva, Hartford, Malvern, Samson, Slocomb, and the Geneva County Commission, and are all continuing participating jurisdictions in the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The table below offers a brief summary of meetings held. Complete attendance lists of these meetings are provided in **Appendix I**. Meetings 1, 2, and 3 were held as part of the plan update process.

Table 4.5-1 Summary of Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Committee Meetings

Place/Date	Subject(s)	# in Attendance
Geneva County EOC/ December 11, 2008	Initial meeting of consultant and GCHMPC members 1. Introduce key participants in the planning process 2. Provide a context for the project and background information 3. Discuss the project work program and schedule 4. Explain tasks	13
Geneva County EOC/ May 14, 2009	Mid-term meeting of consultant and GCHMPC members 1. Update progress on tasks to date 2. Review action items from last meeting 3. Discussion about remainder of project	14

Other Local Agencies, Interested Groups, Including Private Non-Profits and Non-Governmental Organizations



Early in the planning process the HMPC and the GCEMA identified a list of entities that should be involved in the plan development process including local and state agencies, interested groups, private non-profits and non-governmental organizations. In the first stages of the process these groups were contacted and points of contact identified. Throughout development of the plan, these groups and the points of contact were informed of the planning process and its outcomes. The HMPC was the only body directly authorized to make decisions about what was included in the plan. However, at many points in the process, these other organizations were invited to review materials related to the plan and comment on them. Representatives from these agencies, groups, and organizations were invited to attend the HMPC meetings and participate in the plan update process.

The HMPC participated throughout development of the plan by providing representatives at the HMPC meetings, maintaining contact with the GCEMA and its consultant as the local mitigation plan was being updated, and interacting with the GCEMA and its consultant to provide information about the contents of the local plan. The HMPC assisted in the plan update process by facilitating coordination with local governments to obtain information regarding their local capabilities. Representatives from the HMPC also attended HMPC meetings and coordinated with the GCEMA in developing the discussion of local plan updates. The GCEMA provided assistance and support throughout development of this plan.

Consultant Assistance in Revising the Plan

In addition to the groups discussed above, the GCEMA secured the services of a professional consultant to facilitate the planning process and develop some technical materials. LHA, the consultant, assisted the GCEMA and the HMPC in a variety of ways:

- Development of an appropriate planning process
- Technical support in performing the risk and vulnerability assessments
- Development of written materials for meetings
- Presentations at HMPC meetings
- Facilitation of HMPC meetings, i.e. ensuring that discussions and products from meetings addressed plan elements
- Assembling information for inclusion in the plan
- Assisting with logistical functions to ensure that HMPC members were kept informed of progress and provided appropriate materials

For the plan update, the GCEMA secured the services of LHA which performed a variety of tasks similar to those performed for the 2005 Plan.

4.5.3 How Other Agencies Participated in the Planning Process



During development of the initial plan, all HMPC member agencies and those with points of contact identified in the HMPC and Committee Members received regular updates on plan progress via email, and all such agencies were invited to attend every general meeting of the HMPC, as well as the public workshops. These agencies participated in the planning process in several ways, but their primary means of doing so was by attending the HMPC meetings and participating in discussions and decisions about various plan procedures and components. The entire planning process was carefully documented. Documentation includes invitee lists, participants, materials provided, presentations, discussions, and decisions made by the planning team at the various meetings. A list of attendees is included in **Appendix I**.

As discussed in **Section 5** of this plan (Risk Assessment), local agencies with critical facilities were provided questionnaires intended to identify vulnerabilities and risks at their facilities and to describe any plans or actions in place or under consideration to reduce the risks. These contacts constitute key elements in the planning process because they provide a wide range of local agencies the opportunity to describe their risks and propose mitigation actions to address them.

A range of agencies was also identified in the creation of the GCHMPC. These agencies were invited to all planning meetings and were encouraged to provide input to all aspects of the plan. The GCEMA was established as the main point of contact for this purpose, and telephone numbers and email addresses were provided on communications with the consultant. Records of all communications (including addressees and subject matter) were carefully maintained throughout update of the plan. A list of all those in attendance is included in **Appendices I and J**.

4.5.4 Summary of Review, Analysis and Update of Each Section

The following provides a brief summary of the methodology utilized to review, analyze, and update each section of the plan.

Section 1 – Table of Contents, and Section 2 – Executive Summary: Changed from Chapter 1 – Background and Purposes of the Plan. The overall structure of the Plan was updated, most section titles were altered and some sections were added.

Section 3 – Plan Approval, Adoption, and Assurances: Changed from Chapter 2 – County Profile. These changes were made to reflect the plan review, approval, and adoption processes that were undertaken for the 2009 update.

Section 4 – The Planning Process: Changed from Chapter 4 – Risk Assessment. Generally speaking, this section now summarizes the information from the planning process of the 2005 Plan with new information added regarding the plan updates process. A comprehensive analysis was conducted on each section of the plan and a strategy for updating the plan. New countywide planning efforts were identified and added to the discussion in **Section 4.3**. In addition, the countywide planning efforts discussed in the 2005 Plan were re-evaluated to determine if they were still current and on-going. The discussion of these planning efforts was revised according to the findings. The same methodology was used to update **Section 4.4** which discusses local

mitigation programs and initiatives. The 2005 Plan section was reviewed and revised for currency while new programs and initiatives were added to the discussion. **Section 4.5** was revised to provide a summary of the plan development process from 2005, as well as the current plan update process. It documents agency coordination and involvement and summarizes meetings for both the plan development and the plan update.

Section 5 – Risk Assessment: Changed from Chapter 5 – Mitigation Strategies. At the start of the planning process, the list of identified hazards was reviewed by the GCEMA to determine if any changes should be made based on new information. A better understanding of hurricane impacts gained from its experiences with Hurricanes Ivan, Dennis, and Katrina led them to splitting hurricanes into two separate hazards, wind and flooding. The storm surge and inland flooding caused by hurricanes was included in the discussions of flooding while the high winds caused by hurricanes was grouped into the discussion of high winds associated with tornadoes. Man-made hazards and hazardous materials incidents were removed from the plan. Each of the profiles of the remaining hazards was reviewed to determine if more current information was available based on recent studies or actual hazard events. Any new information was included in this update.

The methodology for prioritizing these hazards for further analysis was reviewed by the GCEMA and the HMPC and determined to still be valid. Hazards were once again ranked according to several criteria discussed in **Section 5.3**. The results of this process were similar to the results in 2005; however, high winds from tornadoes and windstorms have been merged into a single hazard (high winds) and led to it receiving high ratings. The results called for detailed risk assessments for tornadoes and high winds.

The methodologies used in 2005 to develop the vulnerability assessment and potential loss estimates were reviewed to determine which were the most effective in producing usable information. The review of local risk assessments and potential loss estimates were analyzed for the selected hazards (flood, high winds, and earthquakes) using the identified methodologies and the most current data available as described in **Section 5.5**.

An additional section was added, **Section 5.7**, to discuss the impacts of development trends on vulnerability. This section addresses how the changes in population and economic development affect jurisdictions' vulnerability to natural hazards.

Section 6 – Mitigation Strategy: Changed from Chapter 6 – Community Mitigation Action Programs. During the summer of 2008, the HMPC reaffirmed the county's mitigation strategy that was identified in the 2005 Plan. HMPC members each completed a survey that requested input on the hazard mitigation goals and actions identified in the 2005 Plan. These were reviewed and it was determined that the goals were still applicable relevant to the update. In addition, each was asked to provide new actions that the agency was interested in pursuing and including in the plan update. These were incorporated into the updated section on mitigation actions (**Section 6.8**). A review of mitigation activities from 2010 was conducted and summarized in this section. The assessments of county capabilities and funding sources (**Section**

6.4 thru 6.6 and 6.9) were reviewed to determine what information was still current. Sections were revised to reflect this assessment.

Section 7 – Coordination of Local Planning: Changed from Chapter 7 – Plan Maintenance.

The Hazard Mitigation Committee or GCHMPC is representative of those organizations and agencies in Geneva County concerned with natural hazards. The HMPC worked to engage the public for participation and support identify the natural hazards that pose a threat to their communities, provide information about the past hazardous events, identify the assets and potential losses in their communities and identify the past and future mitigation measures throughout the county. Public meetings were conducted.

Section 8 – Plan Maintenance: Added in 2010 update. The method for monitoring, evaluating, and updating was revised slightly to reflect the plan maintenance activities that were proven to be effective since the 2005 Plan adoption. Much of this information was moved from Chapter 7 of the 2005 Plan to Section 8 of the 2010 Plan Update.

Section 9 – Appendices A – L: Added in 2010 update. Appendices A – CFR; B – IFR CFR 201; C – Committee Composition; D – Plan Approval; E – Glossary and Terms; F –FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs; G – Local Capabilities; I – Meeting Notes; and J – Sign-In Sheets are added as sources of additional information and documentation of planning process. Appendix H – Crosswalk was added as a source of Plan approval documentation, as well as review comments. Appendix K – Record of Changes was added as reference and documentation of changes to the Plan. Appendix L – Alabama Dam Security and Safety Act Draft of 2003 and Appendix M – Flood Warning Preparedness Plan remained the same information as in the 2005 Plan.

Section 5 - Risk Assessment

This section of the plan addresses requirements of Interim Final Rule (IFR) Section 201.6. A copy of the IFR is provided for reference in **Appendix B** of this document.

Contents of this Section

- 5.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Risk Assessments
- 5.2 Overview of Type and Location of All Natural Hazards that can affect the county
- 5.3 Methodology for Identifying Natural Hazards for Additional Analysis
- 5.4 General Discussion of Vulnerability and Risk
- 5.5 Vulnerability Assessment and Loss Estimation
- 5.6 Jurisdictions Most Threatened and Vulnerable to Damage and Loss
- 5.7 Impacts of Development Trends on Vulnerability

Section 5 - What has been updated?

Plan changed from “Plan Maintenance” to “Risk Assessment”

5.1 Plan changed to “Interim Final Rule Requirements for Risk Assessments.” IFR language pertaining to plan updates was added.

5.2 Plan changed to “Overview of Type and Location of All Natural Hazard that can affect the County.”

Divided hurricanes into two separate hazards, floods (includes storm surge) and high wind (includes hurricane winds and tornadoes)

Incorporated new hazard information and recent hazard events.

5.3 Plan changed to “Methodology for Identifying Natural Hazards for Additional Analysis.” The list of hazards evaluated for further analysis was revised to reflect the list identified and profiled in the updated Section 5.2.

Earthquakes received a medium rating based on new data and a better understanding of the county’s risk to them

5.4 Plan changed to “General Discussion of Vulnerability and Risk.”

5.5 Plan changed to “Vulnerability Assessment and Loss Estimation.”

A discussion of general countywide risk to natural hazards was added which includes information from local loss estimates.



The countywide risk assessment for flood was revised to reflect new, if any, NFIP Claims and Repetitive Loss data.

The countywide risk assessment for wind was restructured to reflect the combination of tornado and hurricane winds into a single hazard; the team used one method to assess vulnerability to tornadoes and one methodology to assess vulnerability to hurricane winds.

The tornado risk assessment focuses on updated NCDC records.

The hurricane risk assessment focuses on wind damages as predicted by HAZUS.

The earthquake risk assessment focuses on damages as predicted by HAZUS.

5.6 Plan changed to “Jurisdictions Most Threatened and Vulnerable to Damage and Loss.” This section was updated based on new risk data and analysis results.

5.7 Plan changed to “Impacts of Development Trends on Vulnerability.” This section was added to summarize the impacts of population growth, economic development, and transportation improvements on jurisdictions’ vulnerability.

5.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Risk Assessments

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) 201.6 (c) (2) requires the plan include: “*Risk Assessments* that provide the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Local risk assessments must provide sufficient information to enable the jurisdiction to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified (i) A description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction. The plan shall include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events. (ii) A description of the jurisdiction’s vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c) (2) (i) of this section. This description shall include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community. All plans approved after October 1, 2008 must also address NFIP insured structures that have been repetitively damaged by floods. The plan should describe vulnerability in terms of: (A) The types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas; (B) An estimate of the potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures identified in paragraph (c) (2) (i) (A) of this section and a description of the methodology used to prepare the estimate; and (C) Providing a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions. (iii) For multi-jurisdictional plans, the risk assessment section must assess each jurisdiction’s risks where they vary from the risks facing the entire planning area.

The IFR Subsection 201.6 (5) (d) (3) states: “*A local jurisdiction must review and revise its plan to reflect changes in development...*”

5.2 Overview of Type and Location of All Natural Hazards That Can Affect the County

In the initial phase of the planning process, the HMPC (Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee) considered 10 natural hazards and the risks they create for the citizens of Geneva County. These hazards were initially selected for inclusion in the plan by the GCEMA, and the list was later reviewed and approved by the HMPC in its general meeting on December 11, 2008 in Geneva, Alabama.

The hazards initially considered were:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Tornadoes | 6. Volcanoes/Tsunamis |
| 2. Winter Storms/Ice Storms | 7. Wildfires |
| 3. Drought/Heat Related Emergencies | 8. Landslides |
| 4. Hurricanes | 9. Dam Failure |
| 5. Floods | 10. Earthquakes |

This list was approved by both the HMPC and the GCEMA in 2005.

During the 2010 Plan update process, it was determined that floods are associated with hurricanes both by rainfall and by storm surge; high winds are associated with hurricanes, tornadoes, and windstorms; winter storms are associated with extreme cold events; and drought is associated with extreme heat events. It was also determined that landslides, sinkholes, and land subsidence have much in common. Therefore, these hazards have been combined. It was determined that hazardous materials and manmade hazards would not be considered a part of the scope of this update and they were removed from the plan. The hazards profiled in this section are:

1. Floods (Storm surge, riverine, flash floods, hurricane, etc.)
2. High Winds (tornadoes, hurricanes, and windstorms)
3. Winter Storms/Snow and Ice/Extreme Cold Events
4. Landslides/Sinkholes/Land Subsidence
5. Earthquakes
6. Drought/Extreme Heat Events
7. Hail
8. Wildfires
9. Lightning
10. Dam failure

The HMPC approved this updated hazard list at its December 11, 2008 meeting. The initial hazard identification cataloged potential hazards countywide and determined which have the most chance of significantly affecting the county and its citizens. The hazards include both ones that have occurred in the past as well as those that may occur in the future. A variety of sources were used in the investigation. These included national, regional, and local sources such as websites, published documents, databases, and maps. Some of the specific sources include:



- Alabama Emergency Management Agency
- United States Geological Survey (USGS)
- Alabama Forestry Commission
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- State of Alabama Geological Survey
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- FEMA HAZUS 2007
- ArcGIS 9

These sources were all revisited during the plan update process. An important source for identifying hazards that can affect the county is the NCDC Storm Events. Geneva County is mostly affected by high wind events, followed by floods, lightning, and hurricane events.

Table 5.2-1 Disaster/Emergency Events in Geneva County

132 event(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009 (High wind limited to speed greater than 0 knots).

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: Property Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
1 GENEVA	03/16/1956	0530	Tornado	F1	0	0	25K	0
2 GENEVA	07/04/1960	1800	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
3 GENEVA	11/23/1961	0350	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
4 GENEVA	03/11/1968	2240	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
5 GENEVA	03/22/1971	2000	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
6 GENEVA	05/08/1971	1430	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
7 GENEVA	05/08/1971	1440	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
8 GENEVA	05/29/1973	0200	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0



9	GENEVA	05/29/1973	0225	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
10	GENEVA	01/27/1974	0230	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
11	GENEVA	02/16/1974	0001	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
12	GENEVA	08/30/1974	1215	Tornado	F0	0	0	0K	0
13	GENEVA	05/26/1977	1540	Tornado	F1	0	0	3K	0
14	GENEVA	12/09/1978	0700	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
15	GENEVA	04/03/1980	1800	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
16	GENEVA	04/12/1980	0700	Tornado	F2	0	1	250K	0
17	GENEVA	04/12/1980	0730	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
18	GENEVA	04/13/1980	1645	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
19	GENEVA	06/23/1980	1230	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
20	GENEVA	03/22/1981	0321	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
21	GENEVA	02/01/1983	2030	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
22	GENEVA	07/02/1985	1445	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
23	GENEVA	07/02/1985	1515	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
24	GENEVA	10/28/1985	1010	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
25	GENEVA	10/28/1985	1550	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
26	GENEVA	10/31/1985	1110	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
27	GENEVA	09/22/1986	1530	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0



28	GENEVA	07/14/1987	1315	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
29	GENEVA	07/28/1987	1420	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
30	GENEVA	06/09/1988	1610	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
31	GENEVA	06/09/1988	1610	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
32	GENEVA	05/23/1989	1045	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
33	GENEVA	06/07/1989	1630	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
34	GENEVA	10/01/1989	0530	Tornado	F1	0	0	OK	0
35	GENEVA	11/08/1989	0735	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	3	0	0
36	GENEVA	11/08/1989	0800	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
37	GENEVA	11/08/1989	0930	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
38	GENEVA	04/01/1990	1840	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
39	GENEVA	05/21/1990	1640	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
40	GENEVA	07/08/1990	1545	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
41	GENEVA	08/30/1990	1140	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
42	GENEVA	12/03/1990	1105	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
43	GENEVA	12/03/1990	1130	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
44	GENEVA	06/04/1991	2000	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
45	GENEVA	07/09/1991	1810	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0



46	GENEVA	11/12/1992	1410	Tornado	F0	0	0	25K	0
47	GENEVA	11/22/1992	1410	Tornado	F0	0	0	25K	0
48	GENEVA	03/31/1993	0445	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
49	GENEVA	03/31/1993	0500	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
50	Slocomb & Hartford	05/15/1994	2145	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
51	Hartford	07/19/1994	0000	Lightning	N/A	0	0	50K	0
52	GENEVA	05/10/1995	0230	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0K	0
53	Geneva	06/01/1995	0935	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
54	Southeast Alabama	10/04/1995	0000	Hurricane Opal	N/A	0	0	20m	10m
55	Hartford	11/11/1995	0852	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
56	Samson	12/01/1996	04:40 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	5K	0
57	Hartford	01/24/1997	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	150K	0
58	Eunola	12/24/1997	07:39 AM	Tornado	F1	0	1	250K	0
59	Countywide	03/08/1998	06:35 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	10K	0
60	ALZ066>069	03/08/1998	12:00 PM	Flood	N/A	0	0	230.0M	0
61	Geneva	05/04/1998	01:30 AM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
62	Ganer	06/20/1998	04:40 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	15K	0
63	Slocomb	06/23/1998	03:00 PM	Tornado	F1	0	0	150K	0
64	ALZ065>069	09/02/1998	09:00 PM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	120K	0



65	Samson	09/28/1998	12:00 AM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	1.5M	0
66	Samson	09/29/1998	02:30 AM	Tornado	F1	0	3	100K	0
67	Geneva	09/29/1998	02:45 AM	Tornado	F1	0	0	50K	0
68	Bellwood	04/25/1999	04:55 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
69	Geneva	06/05/1999	04:15 PM	Lightning	N/A	0	0	150K	0
70	Geneva	06/05/1999	04:15 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	25K	0
71	Geneva	08/12/1999	03:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
72	Samson	04/03/2000	08:23 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	75K	0
73	Ganer	04/03/2000	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	20K	0
74	Samson	05/13/2000	06:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
75	Hartford	05/13/2000	06:32 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	15K	0
76	Chancellor	08/25/2000	03:30 PM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
77	Bellwood	11/09/2000	07:45 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	5K	0
78	Geneva	12/16/2000	11:34 AM	Tornado	F2	1	9	2.5M	0
79	Geneva	01/19/2001	12:05 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	600K	0
80	Countywide	03/03/2001	10:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
81	Samson	03/03/2001	10:00 PM	Flood	N/A	0	0	5K	0
82	Bellwood	05/27/2001	05:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0



83 Northeast Portion	07/11/2001	02:30 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	10K	0
84 ALZ065>069	08/05/2001	06:00 PM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	250K	0
85 Geneva	05/11/2002	04:05 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	25K	0
86 Chancellor	05/11/2002	04:25 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	5K	0
87 Geneva	07/20/2002	05:20 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	2K	0
88 Countywide	12/24/2002	07:40 AM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	10K	0
89 Hartford	03/20/2003	01:30 AM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	3K	0
90 Geneva	04/12/2004	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	10K	0
91 Bellwood	04/12/2004	08:35 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	100K	0
92 Coffee Spgs	05/31/2004	01:55 PM	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
93 Samson	05/31/2004	02:15 PM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	1K	0
94 Coffee Spgs	05/31/2004	02:20 PM	Tornado	F0	0	0	5K	0
95 Malvern	05/31/2004	02:40 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
96 Hartford	06/27/2004	03:45 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0
97 Countywide	07/15/2004	07:30 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	15K	0
98 ALZ065>069	09/15/2004	12:00 PM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	3.5M	0
99 Malvern	11/24/2004	11:30 AM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	30K	0
100 Bellwood	03/26/2005	04:20 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0



101 Chancellor	03/26/2005	04:30 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
102 Hacoda	03/26/2005	04:30 PM	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0	0
103 Malvern	03/26/2005	06:35 PM	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
104 ALZ065 >069	07/09/2005	06:00 PM	Hurricane/typhoon	N/A	0	0	1.5M	0
105 Hartford	04/08/2006	03:12 PM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
106 Geneva	05/10/2006	09:43 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	1K	0
107 Slocomb	05/10/2006	09:53 PM	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0	0
108 Samson	06/24/2006	04:45 PM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	20K	0
109 Geneva	06/25/2006	05:15 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	25K	0
110 Samson	07/16/2006	02:00 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	25K	0
111 Hartford	11/15/2006	13:10 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
112 Hartford	11/15/2006	15:00 PM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	5K	0K
113 Fadette	06/05/2007	12:58 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
114 Slocomb	07/20/2007	19:25 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	1K	0K
115 Geneva	12/15/2007	18:00 PM	Heavy Rain	N/A	0	1	0K	0K
116 Geneva	06/29/2008	14:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	45 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
117 Geneva	07/12/2008	14:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0K
118 Hartford	07/12/2008	16:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0K



119 ALZ065 >069	08/23/2008	00:00 AM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	30K	0K
120 Black	03/27/2009	06:00 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
121 Hartford	03/27/2009	22:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	15K	0K
122 Samson	03/28/2009	04:54 AM	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0K	0K
123 Geneva	03/28/2009	07:20 AM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	0K	0K
124 Samson	04/13/2009	06:33 AM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0K	0K
125 Marl	04/13/2009	06:45 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
126 Eunola	04/13/2009	06:58 AM	Funnel Cloud	N/A	0	0	0K	0K
127 Black	04/13/2009	07:00 AM	Tornado	F0	0	0	150K	0K
128 Slocomb	04/13/2009	07:00 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	25K	0K
129 Piney Grove	06/14/2009	14:30 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
130 Samson	06/14/2009	14:45 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
131 Marl	06/14/2009	14:50 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
132 Geneva	07/05/2009	16:06 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
TOTALS:					1	18	241.927M	10

Source: *NCDC/NOAA Storm Events*

The following subsections include the results of the hazard identification and profiling process. **Section 5.5** provides detailed risk assessments for the most significant hazards in the county, as identified through a process described in **Section 5.3**. The process used to identify these most significant hazards was reviewed and endorsed by the HMPC during its December 11, 2008 meeting.



Section 5.3 includes qualitative probability and mitigation potential ratings for all hazards addressed in this section. This qualitative rating is included at the end of each hazard's profile.

Hazard Profiles and Previous Occurrences

The hazards were examined methodically based on the following three aspects, with each aspect considered in detail for the hazards profiled:

General Description, Nature, and Extent of the Hazard: This topic provides basic information about the hazard to explain its nature and distinguish it from other hazards. It also provides a basis for leaders to understand the subsequent vulnerability assessment and loss estimates. The information for this section is drawn mainly from GCEMA, AEMA and other agencies. For the plan update, these sections were revised to give a general description of the hazard as it occurs in Geneva County, Alabama.

The extent of the hazard provides the range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by the county if such an event occurred. The hazard is classified using terms of major, minor, and minimum based on the probability of future damage estimates providing information on the range of magnitude or severity the county can anticipate from potential hazard events. A Major ranking requires continuous action and participations from the entire community and has a 100% or greater chance of an annual occurrence. A Minor ranking involves fewer people, effort, and area of the community and has a 50% - 99% chance of an annual occurrence. A Minimum ranking involves a small number of people and plans for a specific action and has a 49% or less chance of an annual occurrence.

History of the Hazard: This section provides background information about previous occurrences. The focus is on disasters and other events that have occurred in the county. The information in this section is drawn mainly from the database of historical hazard events in the county. In addition to querying the NCDC database and other standard hazard information sources, the plan update includes information on historical hazards that was collected from the representatives on the HMPC. The plan update includes discussions of the hazard events that have taken place since the initial plan adoption.

Probability of the Hazard: This section discusses the probability (frequency) of the various hazards. The information in this section is drawn from a combination of sources, expertise, and the NCDC Storm Event Database for Geneva County, Alabama. Where possible, the probability is discussed in terms of a commonly accepted design event, i.e., the 100-year flood. For the plan update, the probability of each hazard was reviewed and revised in cases where better information was available.

The probability (%) that an identified hazard will occur on an annual basis was determined using the following formula:

Number of historical or reported events in a time period divided by the number of years the incidents occurred within = Probability of Future Annual Event Occurrences



Example: 13 Extreme Temperature events experienced divided by a 6 year period; 13 divided 6 = >100%

A similar formula was used to determine an estimate of the expected damages from each event:

Total amount of damages (in dollars) for each historical or reported event divided by the number of damage causing events within the time period = Estimate of expected future damages

Example: \$172,000 total reported hail damage from 1960-2003 with 21 of those being reported as damage causing; $\$172,000/21=\$8,190$

5.2.1 Flooding (Includes Hurricanes)

General Description of the Hazard

Flooding is the accumulation of water within a water body (e.g., stream, river, lake, or reservoir) and the overflow of excess water onto adjacent floodplains. Floodplains are usually lowlands adjacent to water bodies that are subject to recurring floods.

Flooding is a great concern in Geneva County, as there have been many historical events that have occurred through either hurricanes/tropical storms or extended rain events that overload the river systems. Geneva County experiences flash and riverine flooding. Rivers that cause flooding in the county are Chattahoochee, Pea, West Fork Choctawhatchee, East Fork Choctawhatchee Rivers, and their tributaries.

Floods are natural events that are considered hazards only when people and property are affected. Nationwide, hundreds of floods occur each year, making them one of the most common hazards in the U.S. (FEMA, 1997). There are a number of categories of floods in the U.S., including the following:

- Riverine flooding, including overflow from a river channel, flash floods, alluvial fan floods, ice-jam floods and dam break floods
- Local drainage or high groundwater levels
- Fluctuating lake levels
- Coastal flooding, including storm surges
- Debris flows
- Subsidence

While there is no sharp distinction between riverine floods, flash floods, alluvial fan floods, ice jam floods, and dam-break floods, these types of floods are widely recognized and may be helpful in considering the range of flood risk and appropriate responses:

- The most common kind of flooding event is riverine flooding, also known as overbank flooding. Riverine floodplains range from narrow, confined channels in the steep valleys of mountainous and hilly regions, to wide, flat areas in plains and coastal regions. The amount of

water in the floodplain is a function of the size and topography of the contributing watershed, the regional and local climate, and land use characteristics. In steep valleys, flooding is usually rapid and deep, but of short duration, while flooding in flat areas is typically slow, relatively shallow, and may last for long periods of time.

- Flash floods involve a rapid rise in water level, high velocity, and large amounts of debris, which can lead to significant damage that includes the tearing out of trees, undermining of buildings and bridges, and scouring new channels. The intensity of flash flooding is a function of the intensity and duration of rainfall, steepness of the watershed, stream gradients, watershed vegetation, natural and artificial flood storage areas, and configuration of the streambed and floodplain. Dam failure and ice jams may also lead to flash flooding.
- Alluvial fan floods occur in the deposits of rock and soil that have eroded from mountainsides and accumulated on valley floors in the pattern of a fan. Alluvial fan floods often cause greater damage than overbank flooding due to the high velocity of the flow, amount of debris, and broad area affected. Human activities may exacerbate flooding and erosion on alluvial fans via increased velocity along roadway acting as temporary drainage channels or changes to natural drainage channels from fill, grading, and structures.
- Ice jam floods are primarily a function of the weather and are most likely to occur where the channel slope naturally decreases, culverts freeze solid, reservoir headwaters, natural channel constructions (e.g., bends and bridges), and along shallows.
- Dam-break floods may occur due to structural failures (e.g., progressive erosion), overtopping or breach from flooding, or earthquakes.

Local drainage floods may occur outside of recognized drainage channels or delineated floodplains for a variety of reasons, including concentrated local precipitation, a lack of infiltration, inadequate facilities for drainage and storm water conveyance, and/or increased surface runoff. Such events often occur in flat areas, particularly during winter and spring in areas with frozen ground, and also in urbanized areas with large impermeable surfaces. High groundwater flooding is a seasonal occurrence in some areas, but may occur in other areas after prolonged periods of above-average precipitation.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

Flooding is most extensive on the Pea River, Choctawhatchee River and Double Bridges Creek. Additionally in Geneva County there are 47 creeks and 41 branches that flow through it. Many of the smaller creeks experience flooding as well due to storm water runoff becoming bottlenecked at various locations along the major arteries. As a result, the storm water begins to rise and flood properties. In regard to the branches, some are large enough to be considered creeks and they also experience some flooding due to water being backed up along the major arteries. There are 6 creeks that can be considered major arteries in Geneva County, These creeks are Flat Creek, Double Bridges Creek, Spring Creek, Hurricane Creek, Wrights Creek and Bear Creek.



- The vast majority of storm water run off in Geneva County bottlenecks inside the City Limits of Geneva known as the “Junction” where the Pea River and Choctawhatchee River merge into one river before heading south into Florida.

- FEMA has not preformed specific Hydrologic Studies in any part of Geneva County except inside the City Limits of Geneva. Therefore, it is extremely difficult to determine the exact base flood elevations outside the City Limits of Geneva because there are not any Flood Maps that accurately delineate the floodway or the flood plain with specific elevations tied to known datums.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a flood event is minimum to minor.

Table 5.2-2 Flood History in Geneva County, Alabama

5 Flood Event(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: Property Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
1 ALZ066 >069	03/08/1998	12:00 PM	Flood	N/A	0	0	230.0M	0
2 Samson	09/28/1998	12:00 AM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	1.5M	0
3 Samson	03/03/2001	10:00 PM	Flood	N/A	0	0	5K	0
4 Hartford	11/15/2006	15:00 PM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	5K	0K
5 Geneva	03/28/2009	07:20 AM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	0K	0K
TOTALS:					0	0	231.510M	0

Source: NCDC/NOAA Storm Events

Non-Hurricane Related Flood History in Geneva County, Alabama

Geneva County consists of approximately 37,000 acres of farmlands, forests, wetlands and small communities. It also has a number of streams, branches, creeks and rivers that make their path



through the county along the way to the Gulf of Mexico. Therefore there are numerous acres of land that have a high potential for flooding. Additionally, smaller events happen throughout the year when associated with tropical systems. These events are on a short cycle and present a tremendous potential damage in areas near streams and other waterways. Specific areas that are in danger from 100-Year floods are mapped. Records indicate that flood damage varied from \$5,000 to \$230 million. The following is a list of the critical findings that is a result of flooding in Geneva County.

Historically, flood protection work has produced channels that are not visually appealing and have little water quality, habitat or recreational benefit. There is a lack of settlement control within Geneva County and neighboring Counties and Cities that discharge storm water runoff into the streams, branches, creeks and rivers that migrate through Geneva County. Construction of channel improvements has lowered but not eliminated the flood threat on some streams. While recent floods did not affect all of Geneva County's watersheds, they did cause considerable property damage where flooding occurred.

Floods also present hazards to safety, health and mental health. Geneva, Bellwood, Coffee Springs, and rural areas in the county are historically more prone to flooding than the City of Samson, Hartford, and Slocomb due to their proximity to rivers, creeks, streams, and branches.

Probability of Flooding in Geneva County, Alabama

Floods are described in terms of their extent (including the horizontal area affected and the vertical depth of floodwaters) and the related probability of occurrence. Flood studies use historical records to determine the probability of occurrence for different extents of flooding. The probability of occurrence is expressed in percentages as the chance of a flood of a specific extent occurring in any given year. It is also often referred to as the "100-year flood" since its probability of occurrence suggests it should only occur once every 100 years. This expression is, however, merely a simple and general way to express the statistical likelihood of a flood; actual recurrence periods are variable from place to place. Smaller floods occur more often than larger (deeper and more widespread) floods. Thus, a "10-year" flood has a greater likelihood of occurring than a "100-year" flood. **Table 5.2-3** shows a range of flood recurrence intervals and their probabilities of occurrence.

Geneva County experienced 5 flood events in an 11 year period resulting in a greater than 50% probability that a flood event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 5 flood events was \$231,510,000 with 5 flood events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$57,877,500 of expected annual damages from future events.

Table 5.2-3

Flood Probability Terms

Flood Recurrence Intervals	Percent Chance of Occurrence Annually
10-Year	10.0%
50-Year	2.0%
100-Year	1.0%
500-Year	0.2%

Source: FEMA, August 2001

Flood (Riverine and Flash) – Geneva County has experienced flood damages in the past. The damages reported to the National Weather Service were two flood and 3 flash flood types. These occurred in low-lying areas, which are in close proximity to the river, streams, creeks, or tributaries.

Hurricane/Tropical Storm Related Flood History in Geneva County, Alabama

On July 3, 1994, Tropical Storm Alberto made landfall in the Destin, Florida/Choctawhatchee Bay area. A lack of upper air movement caused the storm to stall over Alabama and Georgia until July 8. Because the storm did not move far from the Gulf or the Atlantic, it continued to bring moisture from both of these sources into the system. The effects of Tropical Storm Alberto can be compared to Hurricane Juan in 1985, which stalled and caused severe flood damage in Louisiana. The most serious and devastating flooding from Alberto occurred along the Choctawhatchee and Pea Rivers as one of the worst floods in Alabama history. In the modern period of record, only the Great Flood of March 1929 and the more recent flood in March 1990 have been more severe than this flood. Other significant flooding from the same event occurred along the Chattahoochee River, Shoal River, Yellow River, Conecuh River, and lower Tallapoosa River (NOAA, 1997). The ten southern counties affected in the July 1994 disaster declaration lie predominantly in the Choctawhatchee, Pea, Conecuh, and Chattahoochee River watersheds. These rivers are fed by tributaries, including the Little Choctawhatchee and Chipola Rivers, Whitewater, Patrick, Newton, Cowarts, Limestone, Beaver, Double Bridges, Wedowee, Frog Level, Murder, Uchee, Little Uchee, Hatchechubee, Otter, Shack, Hunter, Tomley, Cane, and Claybank Creeks.

In October 1995 Hurricane Opal rushed across the panhandle of Florida and into Alabama, resulting in a presidential disaster declaration for Geneva County on October 4, 1995. Heavy rains, accompanying Opal caused inland flooding.

Hurricane Ivan made landfall on September 16, 2004 near Gulf Shores in Baldwin County as a strong Category 3 hurricane. As Ivan moved ashore during the morning hours of September 16, the winds caused major damage to trees along and east of the track of the storm. Hurricane force winds were felt across the entire county causing trees to break and damage homes and vehicles. While some structural wind damage would have been expected, most of the major structural



damage that occurred over inland areas would not have been as substantial if it had not been for fallen trees. Power was out for over a week across the county. The entire county was declared a Federal Disaster Area and received both Individual Assistance and Public Assistance from the federal government.

Hurricane Dennis made landfall on July 10, 2005 at the Santa Rosa Sound in Florida, approximately 25 miles from the Florida-Alabama state line. As much as 10 inches of rain fell in some areas causing flash flooding in Geneva County and throughout the state.

Hurricane Katrina made landfall along the Louisiana-Mississippi border on August 29, 2005, approximately 80 miles east of the Mississippi-Alabama border. As Katrina moved inland, it dropped huge amounts of rain throughout Geneva County causing significant flash flooding.

General Description of the Hazard

Coastal Alabama borders a part of the northern Gulf of Mexico that has a high incidence of hurricanes causing wind and water damage in Geneva County. Studies of Hurricanes Hugo, Andrew, and Opal offer evidence that inland counties, including Geneva, can receive significant hurricane damage. Hurricanes often spawn tornadoes and cause flooding from intense rain. In this respect, hurricanes pose a threat to the entire county, with a minor to major effect.

Figure 5.2-1

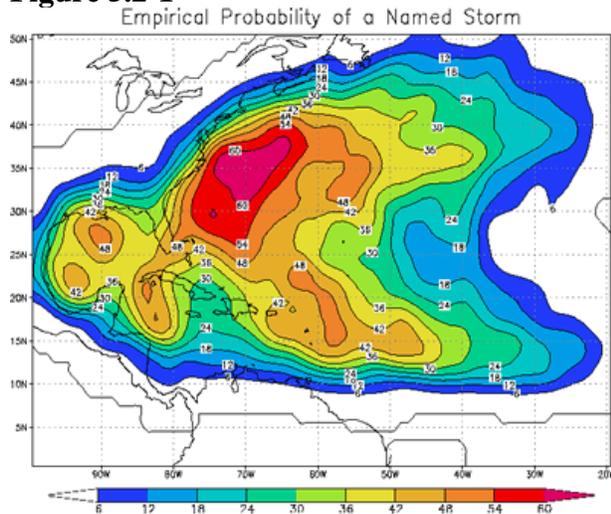


Figure 5.2-2

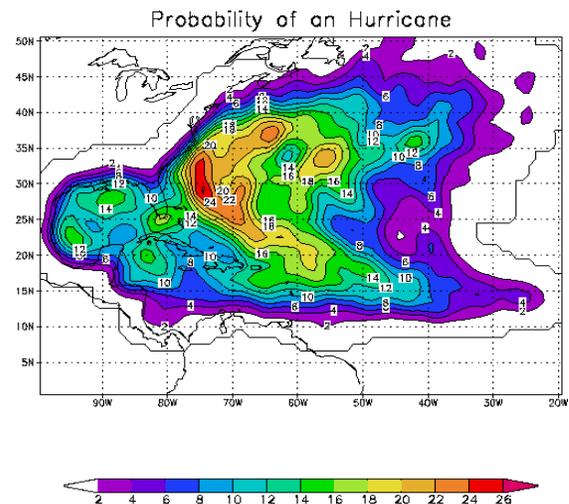
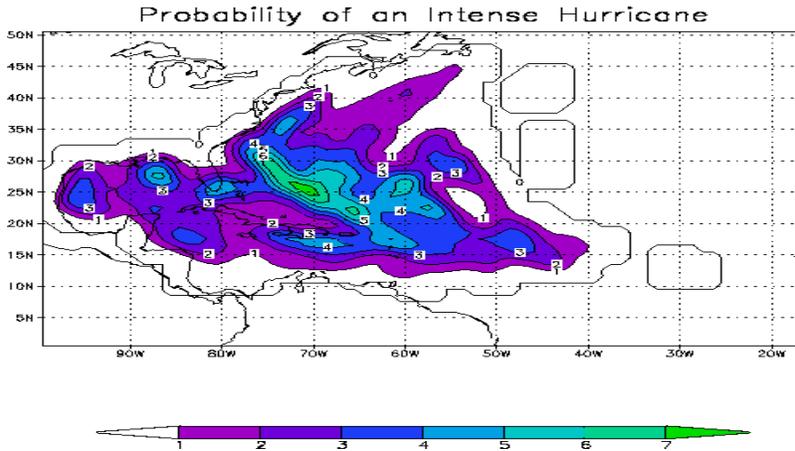


Figure 5.2-3



From 1944 – 1999, the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory performed analyses and counted hits when a hurricane or storm was within 100 miles of an area during the June to November hurricane season. Geneva County’s approximate likelihood of being affected by these events is shown in **Figure 5.2-1**. The same methodology was used to perform an analysis for the chance that a hurricane will directly affect an area within 60 miles and 30 miles. Geneva County’s risk zones are shown in **Figures 5.2-2** and **5.2-3**. This information indicates Geneva County to be at risk from these events.

Storm surge (storm tide) is perhaps the most dangerous aspect of a hurricane. It is a phenomenon that occurs when the winds and forward motion associated with hurricane pile water in the front as it moves toward the shore. Storm surge heights and associated waves are dependent upon the configuration of the continental shelf (narrow or wide) and the depth of the ocean bottom.

Table 5.2-4 Hurricane/Tropical Storm Damage for Geneva County, AL

6 Hurricane and Tropical Storm
 Event(s) were reported in Geneva
 County, Alabama between
 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: Property Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
1 Southeast Alabama	10/04/1995	0000	Hurricane Opal	N/A	0	0	20m	10m
2 ALZ065>	09/02/1998	09:00	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	120K	0



069		PM						
3 ALZ065> 069	08/05/2001	06:00 PM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	250K	0
4 ALZ065> 069	09/15/2004	12:00 PM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	3.5M	0
5 ALZ065> 069	07/09/2005	06:00 PM	Hurricane/typhoon	N/A	0	0	1.5M	0
6 ALZ065> 069	08/23/2008	00:00 AM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	30K	0K
TOTALS:					0	0	5.400M	10

Source: NCDC/NOAA Storm Events

5.2.2 Dam/Levee Failures

General Description of the Hazard

A dam is a barrier constructed across a watercourse in order to store, control, or divert water. Dams are usually constructed of earth, rock, concrete, or mine tailings. The water impounded behind a dam is referred to as the reservoir and is measured in acre-feet, with one acre-foot being the volume of water that covers one acre of land to a depth of one foot. Due to topography, even a small dam may have a reservoir containing many acre-feet of water. A dam failure is the collapse, breach, or other failure of a dam that causes downstream flooding. Dam failures may result from natural events, human-caused events, or a combination thereof. Due to the lack of advance warning, failures resulting from natural events, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, or landslides, may be particularly severe. Prolonged rainfall that produces flooding is the most common cause of dam failure (FEMA, 1997).

Dam failures usually occur when the spillway capacity is inadequate and water overtops the dam or when internal erosion through the dam foundation occurs (also known as piping). If internal erosion or overtopping cause a full structural breach, a high-velocity, debris-laden wall of water is released and rushes downstream, damaging or destroying whatever is in its path.

Dam failures may result from one or more the following:

- Prolonged periods of rainfall and flooding (the cause of most failures)
- Inadequate spillway capacity which causes excess overtopping flows
- Internal erosion erosions due to embankment or foundation leakage or piping
- Improper maintenance
- Improper design
- Negligent operation
- Failure of upstream dams
- Landslides into reservoirs
- High winds

□ Earthquakes

Dam safety, especially for small dams that are privately owned and poorly maintained, has been an ongoing hazard mitigation issue in the State of Alabama for the past decade. No state law currently exists to regulate any private dams or the construction of new private dams, nor do private dams require federal licenses or inspections. To date, there have been four attempts in the State of Alabama to pass legislation that would require inspection of dams on bodies of water over 50 acre-feet or dams higher than 25 feet. Enactment has been hampered by the opposition of agricultural interest groups and insurance companies. Approximately 1,700 privately owned dams statewide would fit into the category proposed by the law. In Geneva County, there are twenty High Density Polyethylene (HPDE) Dams. There are no high risk dams.

A dam failure is usually the result of neglect, poor design, or structural damage caused by a major event such as an earthquake. As a result of surveys undertaken by the Geneva County EMA, Geneva County Engineers Office, the City of Geneva Engineers Office and the National Resource Conservation Service, there are no significant dams to present a property or life risk in Geneva County. However, no full inventory of dam size, construction, ownership and inspection exists.

Hazard Profile. Historical records of dam/levee failures for Geneva County are not available.

Community Impact. When a dam fails, a large quantity of water is suddenly released downstream, destroying anything in its path. The area impacted by the water emitted by dam failure would encounter the same risks as those in a flood zone during periods of flooding. The area directly affected by the water released during a dam failure is not county wide.

Location and Extents. **Figure 5.2-4** depicts the locations of dams in Geneva County. According to the HAZUS 2007 database, there are 20 identified dams in Geneva County, no major dams of which have been categorized as having a high hazard classification (according to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration as shown in **Figure 5.2-5**). This classification is assigned to a dam depending upon the urban development directly downstream of the dam and whether or not failure would result in serious economic loss. The classification is not an indication of the quality of the dams' construction.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a dam failure event is equal to that of a flood event which is minimum to minor.

Probability of Future Occurrences. The risks associated with dam/levee failures are the same as those risks associated with flooding. Dam failure may be a factor in the inundation of an area of the county. Although all dams inventoried within Geneva County was considered low risk in terms of threatening lives and homes, this is an area for improvement because dam breaks can significantly impact the county's roadways.

Geneva County experienced 5 flood events in a 11 year period resulting in a greater than 50% probability that a flood event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 5 flood events was \$231,510,000 with 4 flood events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$57,877,500 of expected annual damages from future events.

Dam Failure History in Geneva County, Alabama

There have been no significant dam or levee failures reported in Geneva County.

Probability of Dam Failure in Alabama

The generally accepted safety standard for the design of dams is the Inflow Design Flood (IDF) which is "... the flood flow above which the incremental increase in water surface elevation downstream due to failure of a dam or other water retaining structure is no longer considered to present an unacceptable additional downstream threat" (Interagency Committee on Dam Safety, October 1998). The inflow design flood is the upper limit of the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF), which is the estimated flood flow from the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP). The PMP is "... the greatest depth of precipitation for a given duration that is physically possible over a given size storm area at a particular geographical location at a certain time of the year" (U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, June 1988). However, it must be noted that there are numerous dams in existence whose discharge capabilities were designed and built using methods that are now considered potentially unsafe. The areas impacted by a dam failure are analyzed on the basis of "sunny day" failures and failures under flood condition. Typically, the dam-break floodplain is more extensive than the floodplain used for land use development purposes, and few communities consider upstream dams when permitting development. The potential severity of a full or partial dam failure is influenced by two factors: the amount of water impounded, and the density, type, and value of development and infrastructure downstream.

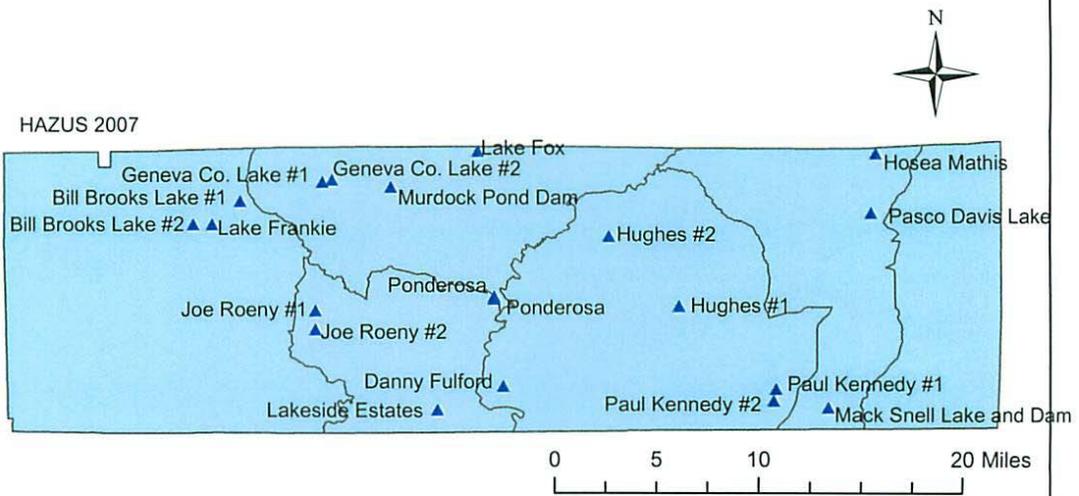
Alabama, including Geneva County, has no dam safety program and legislation. Individuals from Natural Resources, the Catfish Farmers Federation, Alabama Power Company and several other agencies have formed a committee to promote state dam safety legislation. A draft legislative instrument was written, and the Dam Safety initiative has been transferred to the Alabama Department of Economic Affairs. The Alabama Office of Water Resources is supporting the establishment of an Alabama Dam Security and Safety Program. The legislation to establish this program has been under development for several years, but was reemphasized in 2002 when OWR assumed overall management of dam safety and National Flood Insurance Program initiatives from the AEMA down to the local NFIP Coordinator. This legislation and ADECA's efforts are further discussed in **Section 4.3**.

Once established, the program will provide an up-to-date inventory of dams in Geneva County. A full inventory of dams will help to benefit public safety and emergency response operations in the event of a natural or other disaster. It will also provide for the inspection and permitting (certification) of certain dams in order to protect the citizens of Alabama by reducing the risk of failure of such dams.



The probability of future occurrences cannot be characterized on a statewide basis because of the lack of information available. The qualitative probability is rated low in **Section 5.3** because the overall area affected is low and impacts are localized. This rating is intended only for general comparison to other hazards that are being considered.

Figure 5.2-4
Dams in Geneva Co., AL



Legend

 Census Tracts



Section 5-24

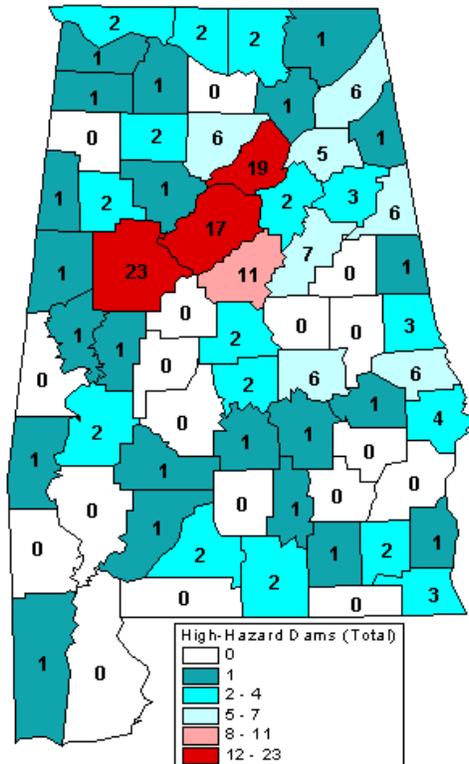


Figure 5.2-5

Geneva County – 0 High Hazard Dams

Source: National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, 1997

**5.2.3 Thunderstorm/High Winds (Tornadoes, Hurricanes, and Windstorms)
Thunderstorm/Windstorm Related High Wind History in Geneva County, AL**

Table 5.2-5 Geneva County Thunderstorm and High Wind Events

85 THUNDERSTORM AND HIGH WIND event(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: Property Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD



1	GENEVA	07/04/1960	1800	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
2	GENEVA	11/23/1961	0350	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
3	GENEVA	03/22/1971	2000	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
4	GENEVA	05/08/1971	1430	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
5	GENEVA	05/08/1971	1440	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
6	GENEVA	05/29/1973	0200	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
7	GENEVA	05/29/1973	0225	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
8	GENEVA	01/27/1974	0230	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
9	GENEVA	02/16/1974	0001	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
10	GENEVA	12/09/1978	0700	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
11	GENEVA	04/12/1980	0730	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
12	GENEVA	04/13/1980	1645	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
13	GENEVA	06/23/1980	1230	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
14	GENEVA	02/01/1983	2030	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
15	GENEVA	07/02/1985	1445	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
16	GENEVA	07/02/1985	1515	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
17	GENEVA	10/28/1985	1010	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
18	GENEVA	10/28/1985	1550	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0



19 GENEVA	10/31/1985	1110	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
20 GENEVA	09/22/1986	1530	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
21 GENEVA	07/14/1987	1315	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
22 GENEVA	07/28/1987	1420	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
23 GENEVA	06/09/1988	1610	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
24 GENEVA	06/09/1988	1610	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
25 GENEVA	05/23/1989	1045	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
26 GENEVA	11/08/1989	0735	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	3	0	0
27 GENEVA	11/08/1989	0800	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
28 GENEVA	11/08/1989	0930	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
29 GENEVA	04/01/1990	1840	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
30 GENEVA	07/08/1990	1545	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
31 GENEVA	08/30/1990	1140	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
32 GENEVA	12/03/1990	1105	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
33 GENEVA	12/03/1990	1130	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
34 GENEVA	06/04/1991	2000	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
35 GENEVA	03/31/1993	0445	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
36 GENEVA	03/31/1993	0500	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0



37 Slocomb & Hartford	05/15/1994	2145	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
38 GENEVA	05/10/1995	0230	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0K	0
39 Geneva	06/01/1995	0935	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	0	0
40 Hartford	11/11/1995	0852	Thunderstorm Winds	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
41 Samson	12/01/1996	04:40 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	5K	0
42 Hartford	01/24/1997	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	150K	0
43 Countywide	03/08/1998	06:35 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	10K	0
44 Ganer	06/20/1998	04:40 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	15K	0
45 Bellwood	04/25/1999	04:55 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
46 Geneva	06/05/1999	04:15 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	25K	0
47 Geneva	08/12/1999	03:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
48 Samson	04/03/2000	08:23 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	75K	0
49 Ganer	04/03/2000	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	20K	0
50 Samson	05/13/2000	06:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
51 Hartford	05/13/2000	06:32 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	15K	0
52 Bellwood	11/09/2000	07:45 AM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	5K	0
53 Geneva	01/19/2001	12:05 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	600K	0
54 Countywide	03/03/2001	10:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0



55 Bellwood	05/27/2001	05:00 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	1K	0
56 Northeast Portion	07/11/2001	02:30 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	10K	0
57 Geneva	05/11/2002	04:05 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	25K	0
58 Chancellor	05/11/2002	04:25 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	5K	0
59 Geneva	07/20/2002	05:20 PM	Tstm Wind	0 kts.	0	0	2K	0
60 Countywide	12/24/2002	07:40 AM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	10K	0
61 Hartford	03/20/2003	01:30 AM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	3K	0
62 Geneva	04/12/2004	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	10K	0
63 Bellwood	04/12/2004	08:35 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	100K	0
64 Samson	05/31/2004	02:15 PM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	1K	0
65 Hartford	06/27/2004	03:45 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0
66 Countywide	07/15/2004	07:30 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	15K	0
67 Malvern	11/24/2004	11:30 AM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	30K	0
68 Geneva	05/10/2006	09:43 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	1K	0
69 Samson	06/24/2006	04:45 PM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	20K	0
70 Geneva	06/25/2006	05:15 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	25K	0
71 Samson	07/16/2006	02:00 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	25K	0
72 Hartford	11/15/2006	13:10	Thunderstorm	60	0	0	10K	0K



		PM	Wind	kts.				
73 Fadette	06/05/2007	12:58 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
74 Slocomb	07/20/2007	19:25 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	1K	0K
75 Geneva	06/29/2008	14:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	45 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
76 Geneva	07/12/2008	14:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0K
77 Hartford	07/12/2008	16:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0K
78 Black	03/27/2009	06:00 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
79 Hartford	03/27/2009	22:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	15K	0K
80 Marl	04/13/2009	06:45 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
81 Slocomb	04/13/2009	07:00 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	25K	0K
82 Piney Grove	06/14/2009	14:30 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
83 Samson	06/14/2009	14:45 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
84 Marl	06/14/2009	14:50 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
85 Geneva	07/05/2009	16:06 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
TOTALS:					0	3	1.284M	0

Source: NOAA Storm Events

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a thunderstorm/high wind event is minor to major.

Geneva County experienced 85 thunderstorm/high wind events in a 49 year period resulting in a greater than 100% probability that a thunderstorm/high wind event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 85 thunderstorm/high wind events was \$1,284,000 with 40



thunderstorm/high wind events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$32,100 of expected annual damages from future events.

Tornado Related High Wind History in Geneva County, AL General Description of the Hazard

A tornado is a rapidly rotating funnel (or vortex) of air that extends toward the ground from a cumulonimbus cloud. Most tornadoes do not touch the ground, but when the lower tip of a tornado touches the earth, it can cause extensive damage. Tornadoes often form in convective cells such as thunderstorms or at the front of hurricanes. The formation of tornadoes from thunderstorms is explained in **Figure 5.2-6**.

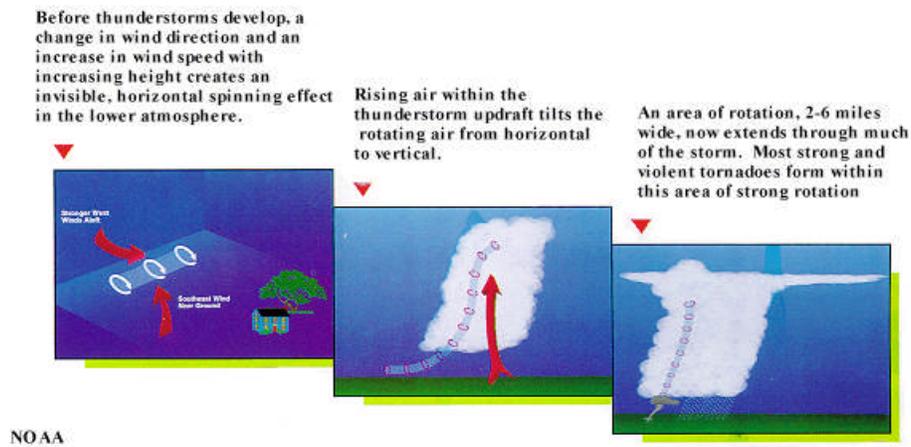


Figure 5.2-6
How Do Tornadoes Form?
Source: NWS Phoenix

Until February 1, 2007 Tornado damage severity was measured by the Fujita Tornado Scale, which assigns a numerical value of 0 to 5 based on wind speeds, as shown in **Table 5.2-6**. The letter F may precede the number (e.g., FO, F1, and F2). Most tornadoes last less than 30 minutes, but can exist for more than an hour. The path of a tornado can range from a few hundred feet to miles, and tornado widths may range from tens of yards to more than a quarter of a mile.

**Table 5.2-6
Fujita Tornado Scale**

Category	Wind Speed	Description of Damage
F0	40-72 mph	Light damage. Some damage to chimneys; break branches off trees; push over shallow-rooted trees; damage to sign boards.
F1	73-112 mph	Moderate damage. The lower limit is the beginning of hurricane speed. Roof surfaces peeled off; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos pushed off roads.
F2	113-157 mph	Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars pushed over; large trees snapped or uprooted; light-object missiles generated.
F3	158-206 mph	Severe damage. Roofs and some walls torn off well-constructed houses; trains overturned; most trees in forest uprooted; cars lifted off ground and thrown.
F4	207-260 mph	Devastating damage. Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundations blown off some distance; cars thrown and large missiles generated.
F5	261-318 mph	Incredible damage. Strong frame houses lifted off foundations and carried considerable distance to disintegrate; automobile-sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100-yards; trees debarked.

Source: FEMA, 1997

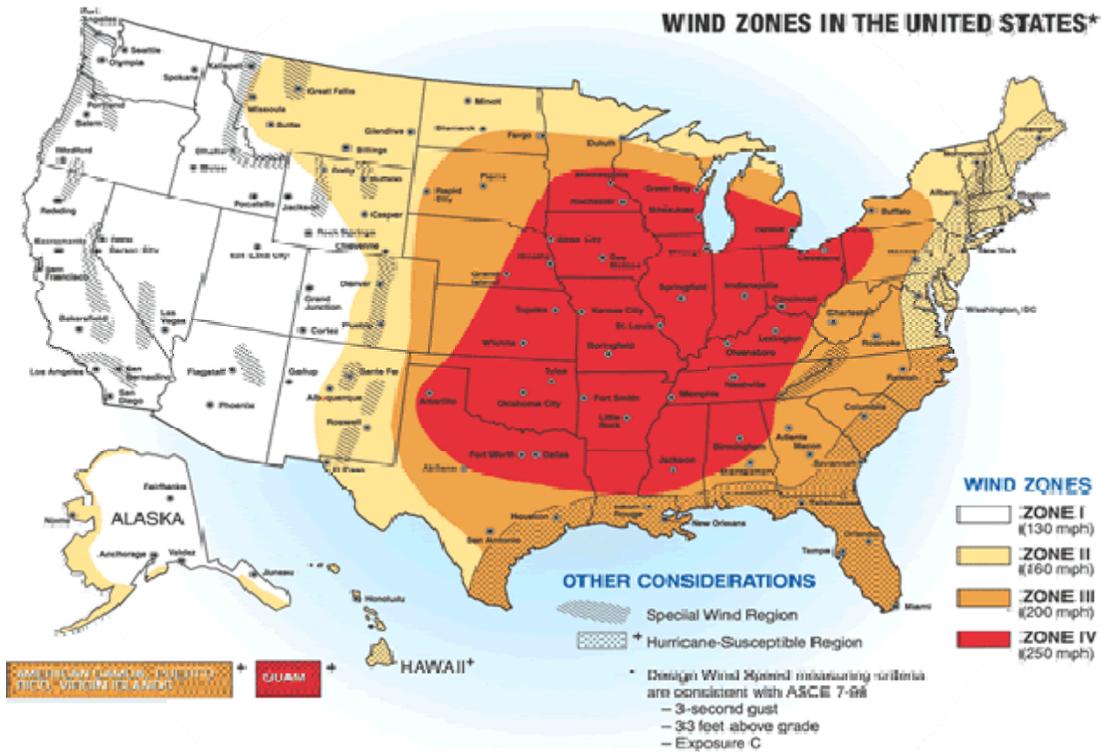
As of February 1, 2007, the Fujita Tornado Scale has since been revised and is now called the Enhanced Fujita (EF) Tornado Scale, as shown in **Table 5.2-7** and is a revision of the Fujita Scale to reflect better examinations of tornado damage surveys, so as to align wind speeds more closely with associated storm damage. The new scale takes into account quality of construction and standardizes different kinds of structures. The only differences between the Fujita Scale and the Enhanced Fujita Scale is adjusted wind speeds, measurements of which weren't used in previous ratings, and refined damage descriptors; to standardize ratings and to make it easier to rate tornadoes which strike few structures.

**Table 5.2-7
Enhanced Fujita Tornado Scale**

Category	Wind Speed	Description of Damage
EF0	65-85 mph	Light damage. Peels surface off some roofs; some damage to gutters or siding; branches broken off trees; shallow-rooted trees pushed over.
EF1	86-110 mph	Moderate damage. Roofs severely stripped; mobile homes overturned or badly damaged; loss of exterior doors; windows and other glass broken.
EF2	111-135 mph	Considerable damage. Roofs torn off well-constructed houses; foundations of frame homes shifted; mobile homes completely destroyed; large trees snapped or uprooted; light-object missiles generated; cars lifted off ground.
EF3	136-165 mph	Severe damage. Entire stories of well-constructed houses destroyed; severe damage to large buildings such as shopping malls; trains overturned; trees debarked; heavy cars lifted off the ground and thrown; structures with weak foundations blown away some distance.
EF4	166-200 mph	Devastating damage. Well-constructed houses and whole frame houses completely leveled; cars thrown and small missiles generated.
EF5	>200 mph	Incredible damage. Strong frame houses leveled off foundations and swept away; automobile-sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 m (109 yd); high-rise buildings have significant structural deformation; incredible phenomena will occur. So far only one EF5 tornado has been recorded since the Enhanced Fujita Scale was introduced on February 1, 2007.

Source: NOAA, NWS, Storm Prediction Center, 2007

According to the U. S. Wind Zone map below, Geneva County is located in Zone III. This map shows the frequency and strength of extreme windstorms across the U. S. The map is based on 40 years of tornado history and more than 100 years of hurricane history. Zone III has experienced both frequent and strong tornadoes, with wind speeds reaching 200 mph. Geneva County is at a medium risk of damage from these events.



Source: www.fema.gov

Figure 5.2-7

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, AL

Figure 5.2-8 shows the different wind zones throughout the State of Alabama used by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for determining design wind speeds. Design wind speeds are used by engineers to determine what type of winds (i.e. how strong) a building should be designed to withstand.

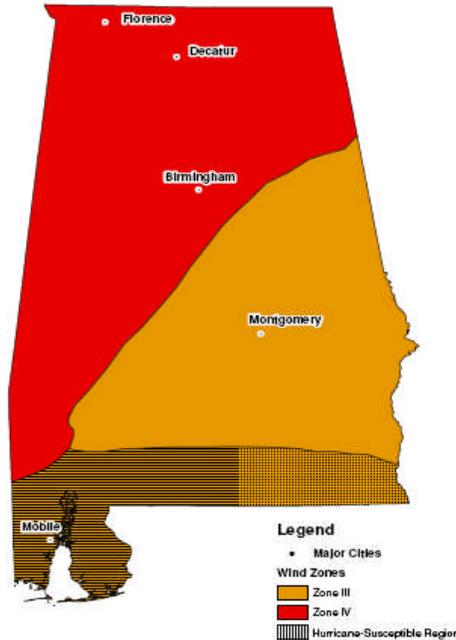


Figure 5.2-8
Design Wind Speeds (3 second gust)*
 Source: ASCE 7-98

***Zone 3 represents 200 mph; Zone 4 represents 250 mph**

Since 1950 there have been 14 tornadoes reported to the National Weather Service and NOAA for Geneva County. **Table 5.2-8** shows a summary of countywide tornado/thunderstorm/high wind activities, including deaths, injuries, and property and crop damages from 1950 thru 2009.

Table 5.2-8 Geneva County Tornado Events

14 TORNADO(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: PropertyDamage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
1 GENEVA	03/16/1956	0530	Tornado	F1	0	0	25K	0
2 GENEVA	08/30/1974	1215	Tornado	F0	0	0	0K	0
3 GENEVA	05/26/1977	1540	Tornado	F1	0	0	3K	0
4 GENEVA	04/12/1980	0700	Tornado	F2	0	1	250K	0

5	GENEVA	10/01/1989	0530	Tornado	F1	0	0	0K	0
6	GENEVA	11/12/1992	1410	Tornado	F0	0	0	25K	0
7	GENEVA	11/22/1992	1410	Tornado	F0	0	0	25K	0
8	Eunola	12/24/1997	07:39 AM	Tornado	F1	0	1	250K	0
9	Slocomb	06/23/1998	03:00 PM	Tornado	F1	0	0	150K	0
10	Samson	09/29/1998	02:30 AM	Tornado	F1	0	3	100K	0
11	Geneva	09/29/1998	02:45 AM	Tornado	F1	0	0	50K	0
12	Geneva	12/16/2000	11:34 AM	Tornado	F2	1	9	2.5M	0
13	Coffee Spgs	05/31/2004	02:20 PM	Tornado	F0	0	0	5K	0
14	Black	04/13/2009	07:00 AM	Tornado	F0	0	0	150K	0K
TOTALS:						1	14	3.533M	0

Tornado Related High Wind History and Extent in Geneva County, Alabama

Table 5.2-8 shows a summary of Geneva County annual tornado activity, including deaths, injuries, and property and crop damages from 1950 thru 2009.

Although exact tornado probability is impossible to determine, given the relatively long reporting period, it is reasonable to assume that the average annual countywide figure according to **Table 5.2-9** (0.3 per year) will remain relatively constant in the future. Note however, the numbers of deaths, injuries, and dollar amount of damages can fluctuate drastically depending on the severity of the tornados and the locations that they impact.

The entire county is vulnerable to high winds caused by tornadoes. The most likely time for tornadoes is during the spring months from March through April and into May, with a secondary peak of activity in November. Geneva County has identified tornadoes as hazards to which they are vulnerable.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a tornado event is minimum to minor.

Geneva County lies within the jurisdiction of the Standard Building Code and in a hurricane prone region. The Design Wind Speeds (three second gust) are per ASCE 7-98 is 100–110 MPH



depending upon the location within Geneva County. This makes the area at a high-risk area for structural damage due to severe thunderstorm, tornado or hurricane related winds.

In terms of probability, frequency of occurrence and potential for injury the tornado ranks as the highest probable natural disaster in Geneva County. Research has shown that Geneva County can expect a tornado causing damage every four years. However Geneva County has had as many as three tornados in a year.

Geneva County experienced 14 tornado events in a 53 year period resulting in a less than 50% probability that a tornado event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 14 tornado events was \$3,533,000 with 12 tornado events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$294,417 of expected annual damages from future events.

High Wind History in Geneva County, Alabama

Hurricane Related High Wind History and Extent in Geneva County, Alabama

In October 1995 Hurricane Opal rushed across the panhandle of Florida and into Alabama, resulting in a presidential disaster declaration for 38 counties (including Geneva County) on October 4, 1995. Wind speeds at landfall were 125 miles per hour. The affected counties were concentrated in the eastern half of Alabama, including Geneva County, and along the southern border westward to the Mississippi line.

Hurricane Ivan made landfall on September 16, 2004 near Gulf Shores in Baldwin County as a strong Category 3 hurricane. As Ivan moved ashore during the morning hours of September 16th, the winds caused major damage to trees along and east of the track of the storm. Hurricane force winds were felt across the entire county probably having hurricane force winds for two to four hours causing 100 year old trees to break and damage homes and vehicles. While some structural wind damage would have been expected, most of the major structural damage that occurred over inland areas would not have been as substantial if it had not been for fallen trees. Power was out for over a week across the county. Agricultural interests suffered a major loss with significant damages to the cotton, soybean, and pecan crops. In fact, the soybean and pecan crops were nearly destroyed. The entire county was declared a Federal Disaster Area.

On July 10, 2005, Hurricane Dennis made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane on the western Florida panhandle before rapidly deteriorating in organization and strength while moving across southwest Alabama. Most of the damage was a result of strong winds associated with Dennis' passing rain bands. Trees were knocked down, debris was scattered on roads and power outages were common throughout the State. Geneva County was declared a disaster.

Hurricane Katrina made landfall along the Louisiana and Mississippi Gulf Coasts on August 29, 2005 as a strong Category 3 hurricane before moving inland along the Mississippi-Alabama border. Katrina's winds had impacts that were widespread across Geneva County. Trees and power lines were brought down, minor to major structural damage occurred, and power outages were lengthy and widespread. Several locations remained without power for over a week. Geneva County was declared a disaster due to tropical storm winds.



As demonstrated in **Figure 5.2-9**, if a fast moving Category 4 hurricane hits the State of Alabama, Geneva County is capable of receiving winds greater than 109 mph.

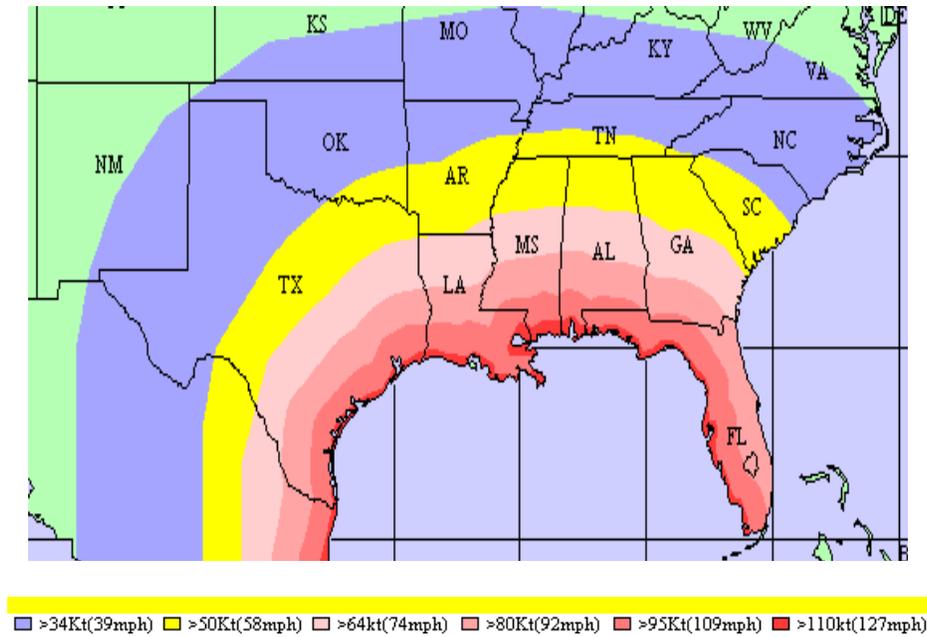


Figure 5.2-9
Extent of Inland Winds for a Category 4 Hurricane
Moving Forward at 25 mph
Source: National Hurricane Center

As demonstrated in **Figure 5.2-10**, even a typical Category 2 hurricane is capable of spreading tropical storm force winds in excess of 58 mph.

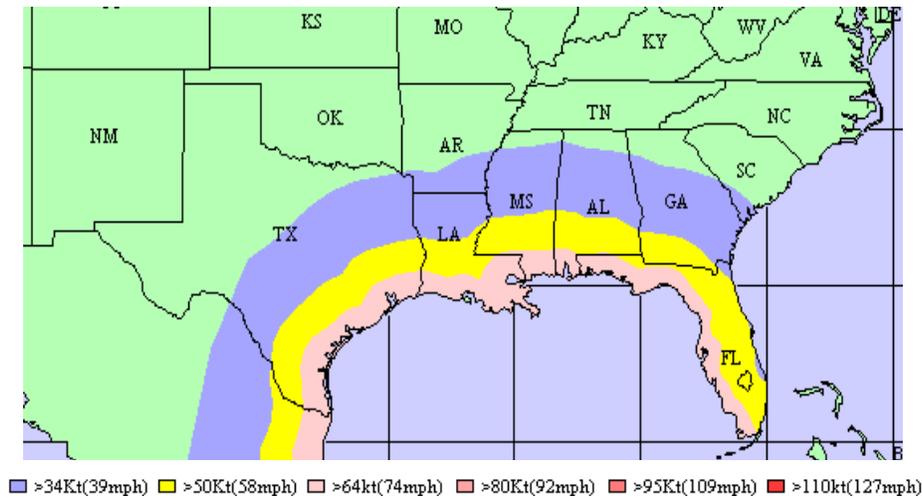


Figure 5.2-10
Extent of Inland Winds for a Category 2 Hurricane
Moving Forward at 14 mph
 Source: National Hurricane Center

Essentially the inland extent of winds as well as wind strength increases with the strength of the hurricane at landfall and the actual forward motion of the storm.

The entire county is vulnerable to high winds caused by hurricanes/tropical storms. Hurricane Season begins June 1 and ends November 30 of each year. Geneva County has identified hurricane/tropical storm winds and tornadoes as hazards to which they are vulnerable.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a high wind event from a hurricane/tropical storm is minimum to minor.

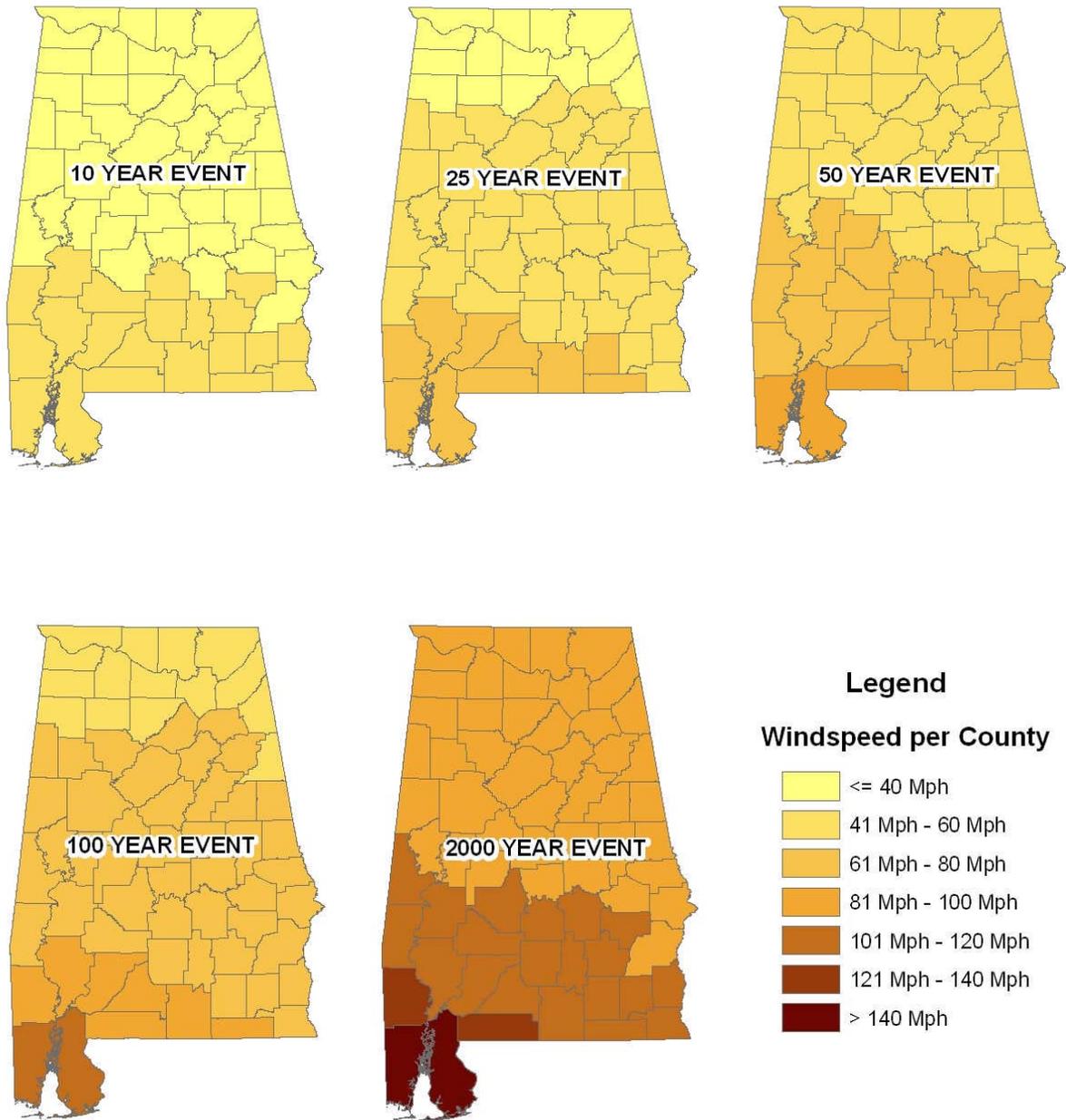
Geneva County experienced 6 hurricane/tropical storm events in a 13 year period resulting in a greater than 50% probability that a hurricane/tropical storm event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 6 hurricane/tropical storm events was \$5,400,000 with 6 hurricane/tropical storm events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$900,000 of expected annual damages from future events.

Probability of High Winds in Geneva County, Alabama

Geneva County has been significantly affected by high winds caused by tropical storms and hurricanes 6 times (i.e. disaster declared) in a 13 year period. All jurisdictions in Geneva County are susceptible to high wind hazards.

Figure 5.2-11 shows the maximum expected one-minute, open terrain, sustained wind speeds from hurricanes for 10, 25, 50, 100, and 200 year return periods as determined by FEMA. Because the impacts of these high winds are severe and events can occur throughout the county and can be widespread, the qualitative ranking for probability for high winds is high.

Figure 5.2-11 Probabilistic Maximum Sustained Wind Speeds



As shown in **Figure 5.2-11**, Geneva County wind speeds for a 10-year event are <= 41 mph – 60 mph; 25-year and 50-year events are 41 mph – 80 mph; 100-year event are 81 mph – 100 mph; and 200-year event is 101 mph – 120 mph.

5.2.4 Winter Storms/Snow and Ice Events/Extreme Cold Events

General Description of the Hazard

Winter storms vary in size and strength and include heavy snowstorms, blizzards, freezing rain, sleet, ice storms and blowing and drifting snow conditions. Extremely cold temperatures accompanied by strong winds can result in wind chills that cause bodily injury such as frostbite and death. Severe winter and ice storms can cause unusually heavy rain or snowfall, high winds, extreme cold, and ice storms throughout Geneva County.

Winter storm occurrences tend to be very disruptive to transportation and commerce. Trees, cars, roads, and other surfaces develop a coating or glaze of ice, making even small accumulations of ice extremely hazardous to motorists and pedestrians. The most prevalent impacts of heavy accumulations of ice are slippery roads and walkways that lead to vehicle and pedestrian accidents; collapsed roofs from fallen trees and limbs and heavy ice and snow loads; and felled trees, telephone poles and lines, electrical wires, and communication towers. As a result of severe ice storms, telecommunications and power can be disrupted for days. Such storms can also cause exceptionally high rainfall that persists for days, resulting in heavy flooding.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, AL

This section describes winter storms as they occur throughout the county. Winter storms in Geneva County are not as severe or common as winter storms in the northern states. Typically, a winter storm in Geneva County consists of freezing rain or a few inches of snow that may or may not be accompanied by frozen roadways. However, because the county and its citizens are unaccustomed to them, they tend to be very disruptive to transportation and commerce. Trees, cars, roads, and other surfaces develop a coating or glaze of ice, making even small accumulations of ice extremely hazardous to motorists and pedestrians. The most prevalent impacts of heavy accumulations of ice are slippery roads and walkways that lead to vehicle and pedestrian accidents; collapsed roofs from fallen trees and limbs and heavy ice and snow loads; and fell trees, telephone poles and lines, electrical wires, and communication towers. As a result of severe ice storms, telecommunications and power can be disrupted for days. Such storms can also cause exceptionally high rainfall that persists for days, resulting in heavy flooding.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to an extreme cold event is minimum to minor.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a winter storm/snow and ice event is minimum to minor.

Winter Storm/Snow and Ice/Extreme Cold Event History in Geneva County, Alabama

Hazards of these types could potentially create property damage by producing up to 2-3 inches of snow and ice that would incapacitate the entire county. Geneva County keeps very little equipment to react to winter weather events; therefore, the entire county would be incapacitated if such an event occurred.

Geneva County has not experienced winter storm/snow and ice related events nor extreme cold events since 1950.

Probability of Winter Storms in Geneva County, Alabama

In general, according to recent history winter storms are more likely to affect northern counties more often than southern counties. **Figure 5.2-12** below shows the average number of winter storms per year for each county from 1995-2006. Geneva County has on average 0.000 to 0.143 winter storms per year.

Geneva County experienced 0 extreme cold events in a 0 year period resulting in a 0% probability that an extreme cold event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 0 extreme cold events was \$0 with 0 extreme cold event causing damage resulting in an estimated \$0 of expected annual damages from future events.

Geneva County experienced 0 winter storm events in a 0 year period resulting in a 0% probability that a winter storm event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 0 winter storm events was \$0 with 0 winter storm event causing damage resulting in an estimated \$0 of expected annual damages from future events.

Figure 5.2-12 Alabama Winter Storm Return Interval by County

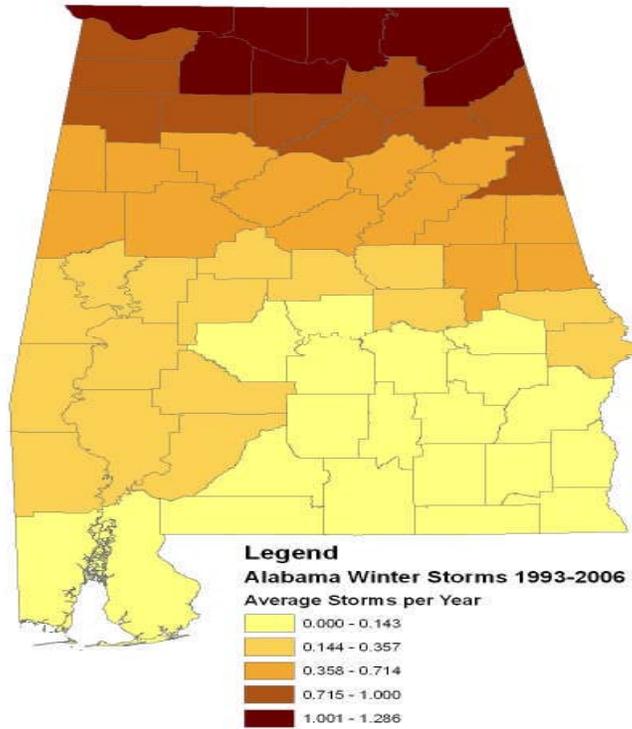


Table 5.2-9 shows a summary of countywide annual snow and ice activity, including deaths, injuries, and property and crop damages from 1950 thru 2009.

Table 5.2-9 Winter Storm/Snow and Ice/Extreme Cold Events

0 Winter Storm/Snow and Ice/Extreme Cold event(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: Property Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
0	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	0
TOTALS:					0	0	0	0

Source: NOAA Storm Events

5.2.5 Landslides/Land Subsidence/Sinkholes

General Description of the Hazards

Landslides are the downward and outward movement of slopes. The term refers to various kinds of events, including mudflows, mudslides, debris flows, rock falls, rockslides, debris avalanches, debris slides, and earth flows. Landslides may include any combination of natural rock, soil, or artificial fill, and are classified by the type of movement and the type of material. The types of movement are slides, flows, lateral spreads, and falls and topples (FEMA, 1997). A combination of two or more landslide movements is referred to as a complex movement. Below is a brief discussion of the various types of landslide movements.

Geneva County geology is susceptible to landslide/land subsidence/sinkhole events in some portions of the county; however, the county has a low incidence of landslide/land subsidence/sinkhole events occurring.

- Slides are downward displacements along one or more failure surfaces of soil or rock. The material may be a single intact mass or a number of pieces. The sliding may be rotational (turning about a point) or translational (movement roughly parallel to the failure surface).
- Flows are a form of rapid mass movement by loose soils, rocks, and organic matter, together with air and water that form slurry flowing rapidly downhill. Flows are distinguished from slides by high water content and velocities that resemble those of viscous liquids.
- Lateral spreads are large movements of rock, fine-grained soils (i.e., quick clays), or granular soils, distributed laterally. Liquefaction may occur in loose, granular soils, and can occur spontaneously due to changes in pore-water pressure or due to earthquake vibrations.
- Falls and topples are masses of rocks or material that detach from a steep slope or cliff that free-fall, roll, or bounce. Movements typically are rapid to extremely rapid. Earthquakes commonly trigger rock falls.

Almost any steep or rugged terrain is susceptible to landslides under the right conditions. The most hazardous areas are steep slopes on ridges, hill, and mountains; incised stream channels; and slopes excavated for buildings and roads. Slide potentials are enhanced where slopes are destabilized by construction or river erosion. Road cuts and other altered or excavated areas are particularly susceptible to landslides and debris flows. Rainfall and seismic shaking by earthquakes or blasting can trigger landslides.

Debris flows (also referred to as mudslides) generally occur during intense rainfall on water saturated soil. They usually start on steep hillsides as soil slumps or slides that liquefy and accelerate to speeds as great as 35 miles per hour. Multiple debris flows may merge, gain volume, and travel long distances from their source, making areas down slope particularly hazardous. Surface runoff channels along roadways and below culverts are common sites of debris flows and other landslides (USGS, 2000).

Landslides often occur together with other major natural disasters, such as the following, thereby exacerbating relief and reconstruction efforts:

- Floods and landslides are closely related and both involve precipitation, runoff, and ground saturation that may be the result of severe thunderstorms or tropical storms.
- Earthquakes may cause landslides ranging from rock falls and topples, to massive slides and flows.
- Landslides into a reservoir may indirectly compromise dam safety or a landslide may even affect the dam itself.
- Wildfires may remove vegetation from hillsides, significantly increasing runoff and landslide potential.

Land Subsidence/Sinkholes - There are three types of potential problems associated with the existence or formation of sinkholes: subsidence, flooding, and pollution. The term subsidence commonly involves a gradual sinking, but it also refers to an instantaneous or catastrophic collapse. In Geneva County, sinkholes are common where the rock below the land surface is limestone, dolomite, or salt that can naturally be dissolved by ground water. As the rock dissolves, cavities and caverns develop underground. Sinkholes may be dramatic if the land stays intact for some time until the underground spaces just get too big and a sudden collapse of the land surface occurs.

The change in the local environment affecting the soil mass causing subsidence and sinkholes collapse is called “triggering mechanism”. Water, is the main factor affecting the local environment that causes subsidence. The main triggering mechanisms for subsidence are:

- Water level decline,
- Changes in groundwater flow,
- Increased loading, and
- Deterioration (abandoned coalmines).

Water level decline can happen naturally or be human induced. Main factors in water decline are:

- Pumping of water from wells,
- Localized drainage from construction,
- Dewatering, and
- Drought

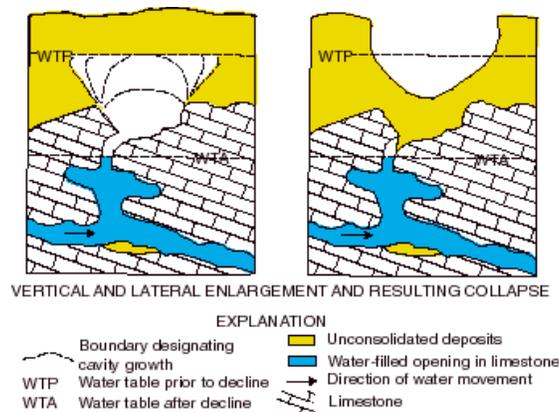


Figure 5.2-13
Water Level Decline

Source: Alabama Department of Transportation

Changes in the groundwater flow (as indicated in **Figure 5.2-13**) include an increase in the velocity of groundwater movement, increase in the frequency of water table fluctuations, and increased or reduced recharge. Increased loading causes pressure in the soil leading to failure of underground cavities and spaces. Vibrations caused by an earthquake, vibrating machinery and blasting, can cause structural collapse followed by surface settlement.

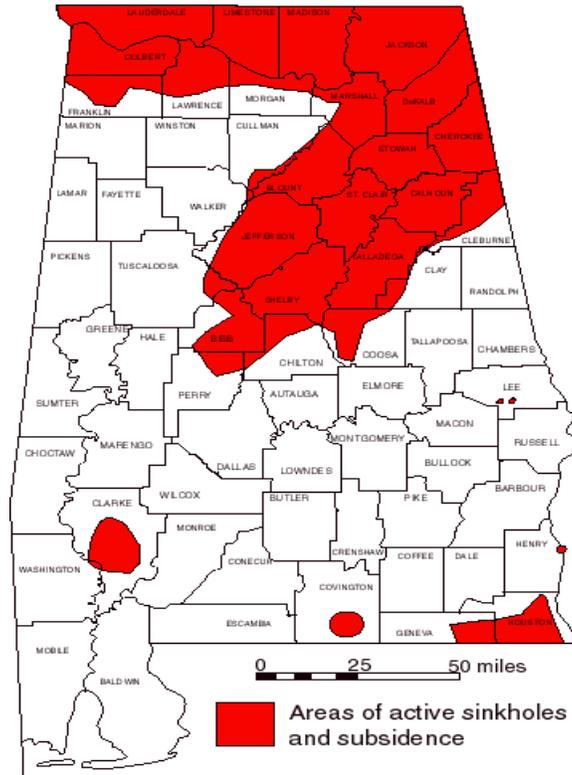
Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

A landslide is a geological phenomenon which includes a wide range of ground movement, such as rock falls, deep failure of slopes and shallow debris flows, which can occur in offshore, coastal and onshore environments. Although the gravity is the primary force for a landslide to occur, there are other contributing factors affecting the original slope stability. Typically, pre-conditional factors build up specific sub-surface conditions that make the area/slope prone to failure, whereas the actual landslide often requires a trigger before being released.

Land subsidence, the loss of surface elevation due to the removal of subsurface support, ranges from broad, regional lowering of the land surface to localized collapse. The primary cause of land subsidence is a direct result of human activity often in areas of karsts geology. The human activities that may trigger subsidence include mining and the withdrawal of groundwater and/or petroleum. The most dramatic form of subsidence is the collapse of superficial material into underground voids.

A sinkhole is a natural depression or hole in the surface topography caused by the removal of soil or bedrock, often both, by water. They may be formed gradually or suddenly. Sinkholes are common where the rock below the land surface is limestone, carbonate rock, salt beds, or rocks that can naturally be dissolved by circulating ground water. As the rock dissolves, spaces and caverns develop underground. These sinkholes can be dramatic because the surface land usually stays intact until there is not enough support. Then a sudden collapse of the land surface can occur. **Figure 5.2-14** shows the active sinkholes and land subsidence in Geneva County.

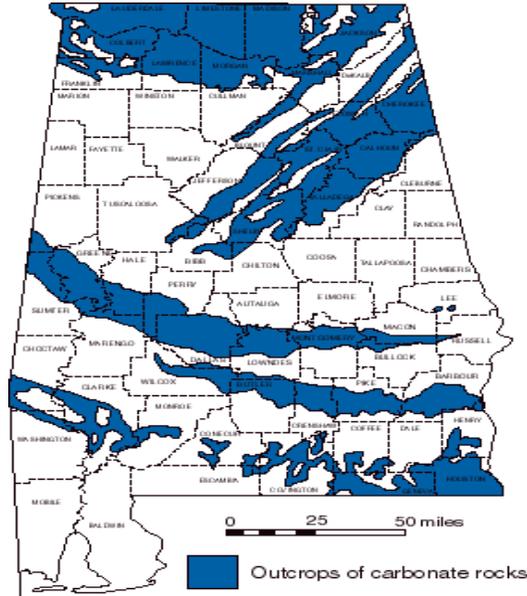
Figure 5.2-14 Active Sinkholes and Land Subsidence in Geneva County, Alabama



Source: The Geological Survey of Alabama

Hazard Profile. A south eastern portion of the county is susceptible to land subsidence as indicated in **Figure 5.2-14** from the Alabama Geological Survey. Historically, land subsidence or sinkhole events have not been well documented. Geneva County geology has a low susceptibility to landslide events. According to the Geological Survey of Alabama, there have been no landslides reported for the area. No reports of sinkholes have been documented for Geneva County.

Figure 5.2-15 Landslide Susceptibility in Geneva County, AL



Source: U. S. Geological Survey

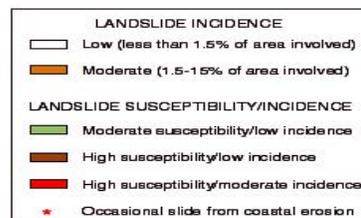
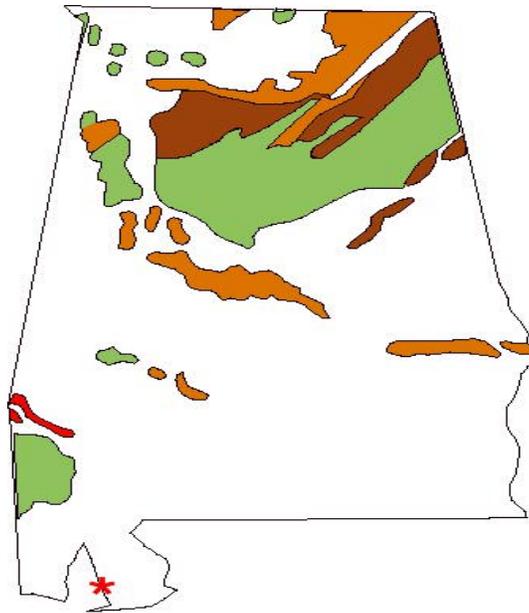
Distribution of Limestone Outcrops in Alabama

In Alabama, most sinkholes are caused by a loss of support, roof collapse, and/or raveling.

LANDSLIDE SUSCEPTIBILITY

Landslide incidences as shown in **Figure 5.2-16** are defined as the number of landslides that have occurred in a given geographic area. Susceptibility to land sliding is defined as the probable degree of response of geologic formations to natural or artificial cutting, to loading of slopes, or to unusually high precipitation. Generally, it can be assumed that unusually high precipitation or changes in existing conditions can initiate landslide movement in areas where rocks and soils have experienced numerous landslides in the past.

Figure 5.2-16 Landslide Incidences in Geneva County, AL



Source: U.S. Geological Survey

The map units are split into three incidence categories according to the percentage of the area affected by landslides. High incidence means greater than 15 percent of a given area has been involved in land sliding; medium incidence means that 1.5 to 15 percent of an area has been involved; and low incidence means that less than 1.5 percent of an area has been involved. High, medium, and low susceptibility are delimited by the same percentages used for classifying the incidence of land sliding. Susceptibility is not indicated where it is the same as or lower than incidence. Because the map above was prepared at a small scale using limited landslide and climate information, it is not intended for local planning or actual site selection.

Areas in Geneva County underlain by carbonate rocks and characterized by the presence of subsurface cavities, sinkholes, and underground drainage are called "karst terrains." It is these karst areas that are most susceptible to sinkhole development and subsidence.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a landslide/land subsidence/sinkhole event is minimum to minor based on the lack of historical records and detailed geologic studies.

Probability of Future Occurrences. The probability of future occurrences cannot be predicted due to a lack of historical records and detailed geologic studies. These are random events, which can be influenced by drought conditions.

The term landslide includes a wide range of ground movement, such as rock falls, deep failure of slopes, and shallow debris flows. Although gravity acting on an over steepened slope is the primary reason for a landslide, there are other contributing factors:

- Erosion by rivers, glaciers, or ocean waves creates over-steepened slopes
- Rock and soil slopes are weakened through saturation by snowmelt or heavy rains
- Earthquakes create stresses that cause or encourage the failure of weak slopes
- Earthquakes of magnitude 4.0 and greater have been known to trigger landslides
- Volcanic eruptions produce loose ash deposits, heavy rain, and debris flows
- Excess weight from accumulation of rain or snow, stockpiling of rock or ore from waste piles, or from man-made structures may stress weak slopes to fail

Probability of Landslides/Land Subsidence/Sinkholes in Geneva County, Alabama

Geneva County is located in a part of the state where the geology is low landslide incidence susceptibility to subsidence, as shown in **Figure 5.2-16**. Precise locations of susceptibility would require extensive and costly geologic studies, which are not available.

According to the Geological Survey of Alabama, the bauxite mines that spread across most of South and Central Geneva County pose the greatest threat for land subsidence. These ancient, pre-Cretaceous sinkholes have hardened, for the most part, lowering the risk of further land subsidence. However, there is a potential risk of smaller sinkholes forming in areas close in proximity to these mines. A sudden drop in the water level could possible trigger these smaller sinkholes. Despite these risks, few incidents of damage caused by these sinkholes have been reported, as they mostly occur far away from valuable property.

As development continues in rural areas of Geneva County it is likely that sinkholes will begin to have a greater impact on communities. When subsidence occurs in developed areas it can have a significant impact on communities including loss of property values, increased insurance costs and potential injuries.

In Geneva County, sinkholes are common where the rock below the land surface is limestone, dolomite, or salt that can naturally be dissolved by ground water. As the rock dissolves, cavities

and caverns develop underground. Sinkholes may be dramatic if the land stays intact for some time until the underground spaces just get too big and a sudden collapse of the land surface occurs.

Sinkholes and subsidence are also common in those areas of the county underlain by old abandoned coal and iron mines. Pillars left for roof support in the mines generally deteriorate over time and eventually collapse, removing roof support. This is particularly a problem where mines underlie more recently developed residential areas and roads.

Parts of the county are characterized by carbonate rocks, such as limestone and dolomite, which are vulnerable to solution in the humid southern climate. Areas in Geneva County characterized by the presence of subsurface cavities, sinkholes, and underground drainage are called “karst terrains.” It is these karst areas that are most susceptible to sinkhole development and subsidence. **Figure 5.2-18**, at the end of this section, illustrates the areas with outcrops of carbonate rocks susceptible to subsidence and the areas of active sinkholes and subsidence.

Geneva County is at a low risk for sinkholes. The probability of future occurrences cannot be predicted due to a lack of historical records and detailed geologic studies.

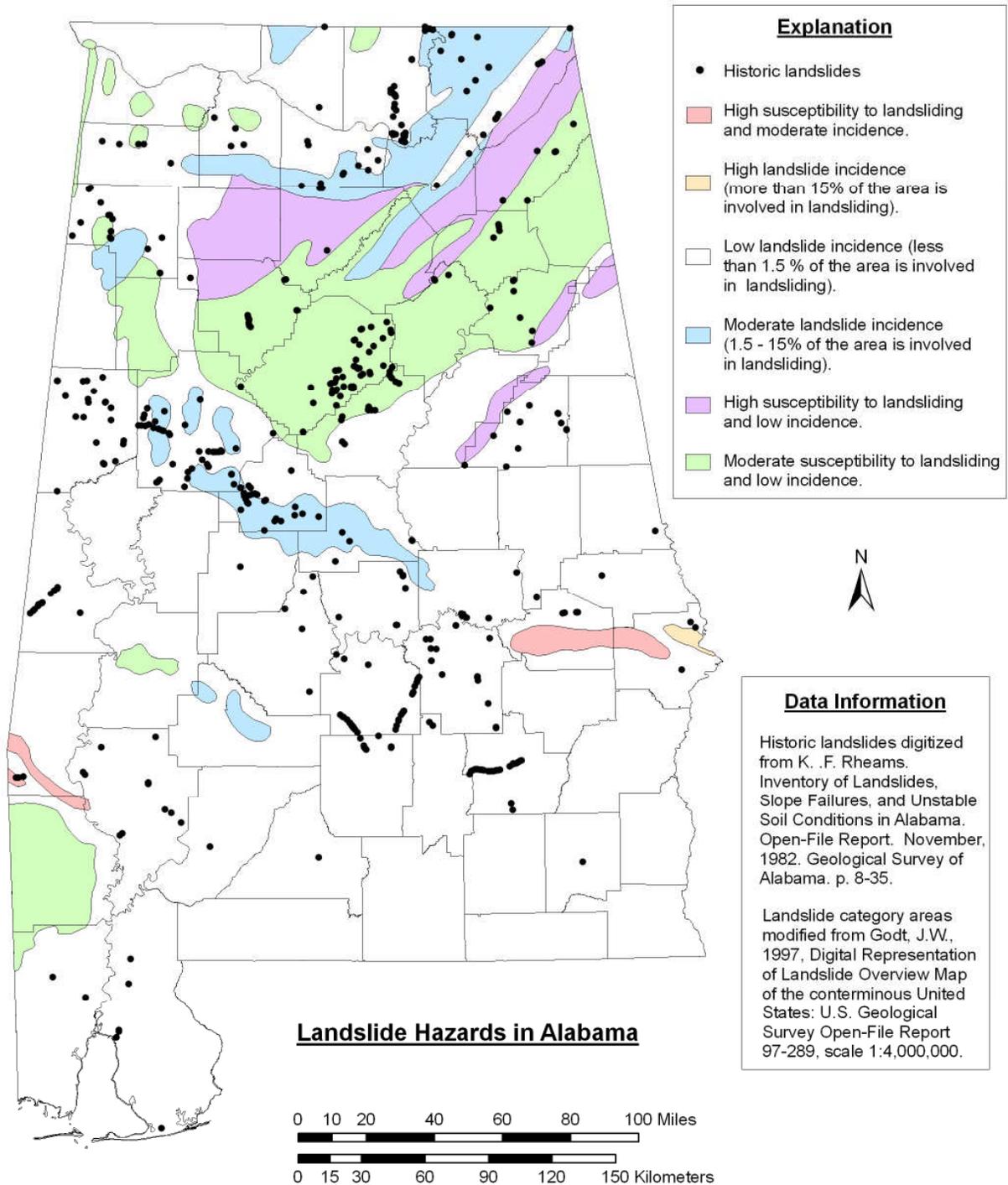


Figure 5.2-17
Statewide Landslide Incidence and Susceptibility by County
Sources: Geological Survey of Alabama

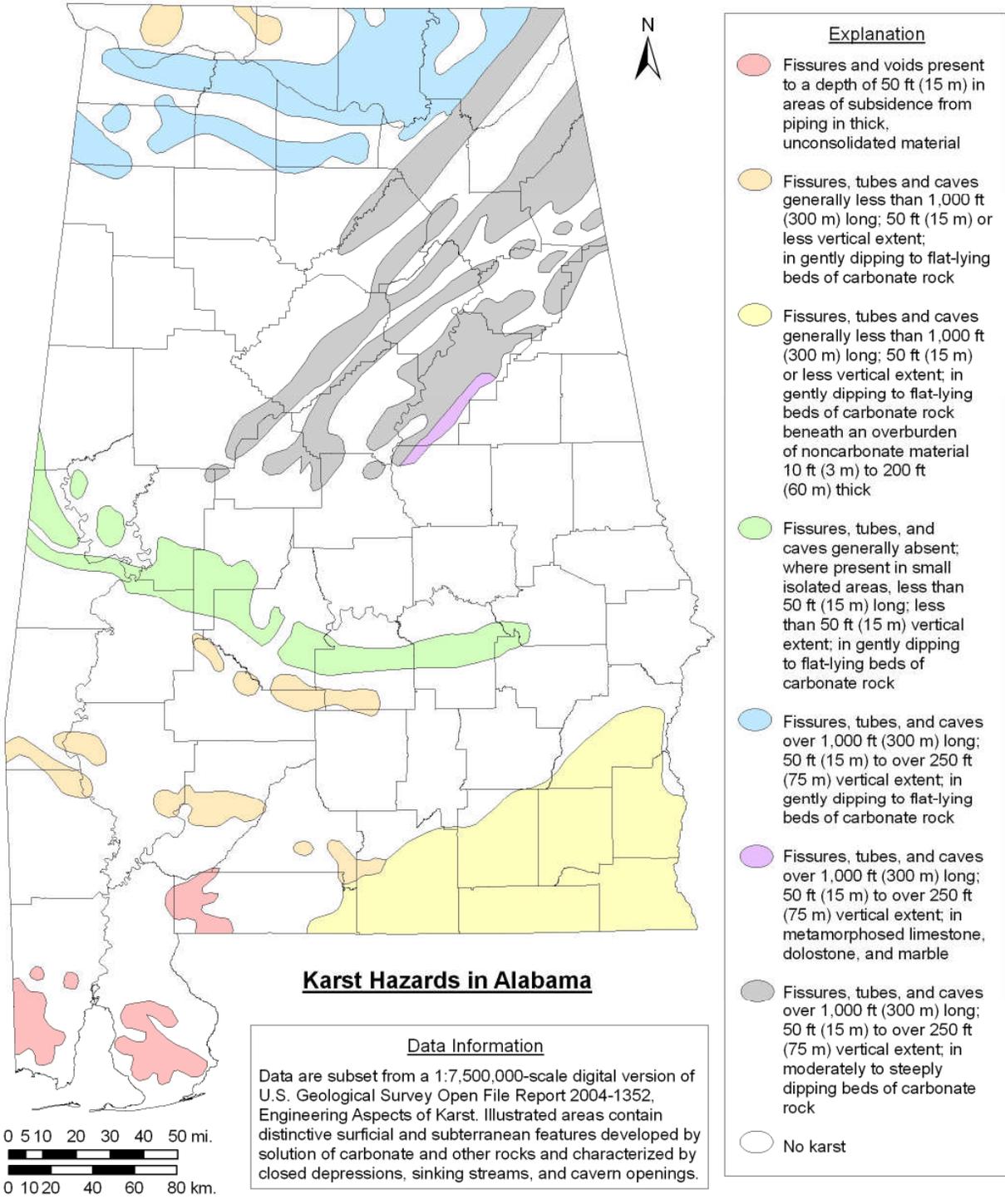


Figure 5.2-18
Karst Areas in Geneva County Most Likely to Experience Sinkholes and Subsidence

Source: Geological Survey of Alabama

5.2.6 Earthquakes

General Description of the Hazard

Geneva County is at a minimal risk for an earthquake to occur, though minor effects from the three seismic zones are not out of the question. An earthquake is "...a sudden motion or trembling caused by an abrupt release of accumulated strain in the tectonic plates that comprise the earth's crust." These rigid plates, known as tectonic plates, are some 50 to 60 miles in thickness and move slowly and continuously over the earth's interior. The plates meet along their edges, where they move away, past or under each other at rates varying from less than a fraction of an inch up to five inches per year. While this sounds small, at a rate of two inches per year, a distance of 30 miles would be covered in approximately one million years (FEMA, 1997).

The tectonic plates continually bump, slide, catch, and hold as they move past each other which causes stress to accumulate along faults. When this stress exceeds the elastic limit of the rock, an earthquake occurs, immediately causing sudden ground motion and seismic activity. Secondary hazards may also occur, such as surface faulting, sinkholes, and landslides. While the majority of earthquakes occur near the edges of the tectonic plates, earthquakes may also occur at the interior of plates.

The vibration or shaking of the ground during an earthquake is described by ground motion. The severity of ground motion generally increases with the amount of energy released and decreases with distance from the fault or epicenter of the earthquake. Ground motion causes waves in the earth's interior, also known as seismic waves, and along the earth's surface, known as surface waves. The following are the two kinds of seismic waves:

- P (primary) waves are longitudinal or compression waves similar in character to sound waves that cause back-and-forth oscillation along the direction of travel (vertical motion), with particle motion in the same direction as wave travel. They move through the earth at approximately 15,000 mph.
- S (secondary) waves, also known as shear waves, are slower than P waves and cause structures to vibrate from side-to-side (horizontal motion) due to particle motion at right angles to the direction of wave travel. Unreinforced buildings are more easily damaged by S waves. There are also two kinds of surface waves, Raleigh waves and Love waves. These waves travel more slowly and typically are significantly less damaging than seismic waves.

Seismic activity is commonly described in terms of magnitude and intensity. Magnitude (M) describes the total energy released and intensity (I) subjectively describes the effects at a particular location. Although an earthquake has only one magnitude, its intensity varies by location.

Magnitude is the measure of the amplitude of the seismic wave and is expressed by the Richter scale. The Richter scale is a logarithmic measurement, where an increase in the scale by one whole number represents a tenfold increase in measured amplitude of the earthquake.

Intensity is a measure of the strength of the shock at a particular location and is expressed by the Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) scale.

Another way of expressing an earthquake's severity is to compare its acceleration to the normal acceleration due to gravity. If an object is dropped while standing on the surface of the earth (ignoring wind resistance), it will fall towards earth and accelerate faster and faster until reaching terminal velocity. The acceleration due to gravity is often called "g" and is equal to 9.8 meters per second squared (980 cm/sec/sec). This means that every second something falls towards earth, its velocity increases by 9.8 meters per second. Peak ground acceleration (PGA) measures the rate of change of motion relative to the rate of acceleration due to gravity. For example, acceleration of the ground surface of 244 cm/sec/sec equals a PGA of 25.0 percent. It is possible to approximate the relationship between PGA, the Richter scale, and the MMI, as shown in **Table 5.2-10**. The relationships are, at best, approximate, and also depend upon such specifics as the distance from the epicenter and depth of the epicenter. An earthquake with 10.0 percent PGA would roughly correspond to an MMI intensity of V or VI, described as being felt by everyone, overturning unstable objects, or moving heavy furniture.

**Table 5.2-10
Earthquake PGA, Magnitude and Intensity Comparison**

PGA (%g)	Magnitude (Richter)	Intensity (MMI)	Description (MMI)
<0.17 – 1.4	1.0 – 3.0	I	Not felt except by a very few under especially favorable conditions.
0.17 – 1.4	3.0 – 3.9	II - III	II. Felt only by a few persons at rest, especially on upper floors of buildings. III. Felt quite noticeably by persons indoors, especially on upper floors of buildings. Many people do not recognize it as an earthquake. Standing motor cars may rock slightly. Vibrations similar to the passing of a truck. Duration estimated.
1.4 – 9.2	4.0 – 4.9	IV - V	IV. Felt indoors by many, outdoors by few during the day. At night, some awakened. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed; walls make cracking sound. Sensation like heavy truck striking building. Standing motor cars rock noticeably. V. Felt by nearly everyone; many awakened. Some dishes, windows broken. Unstable objects overturned. Pendulum clocks may stop.
9.2 - 34	5.0 – 5.9	VI – VII	VI. Felt by all, many frightened. Some heavy furniture moved; a few instances of fallen plaster. Damage slight. VII. Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction; slight to moderate in well-built ordinary structures; considerable damage in poorly built or badly designed structures; some chimneys broken.

PGA (%g)	Magnitude (Richter)	Intensity (MMI)	Description (MMI)
34 – 124	6.0 – 6.9	VIII - IX	VIII. Damage slight in specially designed structures; considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse. Damage great in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned. IX. Damage considerable in specially designed structures; well-designed frame structures thrown out of plumb. Damage great in substantial buildings, with partial collapse. Buildings shifted off foundations.
>124	7.0 and higher	VIII or Higher	X. Some well-built wooden structures destroyed; most masonry and frame structures destroyed with foundations. Rails bent. XI. Few, if any (masonry) structures remain standing. Bridges destroyed. Rails bent greatly. XII. Damage total. Lines of sight and level are distorted. Objects thrown into the air.

Source: Wald, Quitariano, Heaton, and Kanamori, 1999.

Earthquake-related ground failure, due to liquefaction, is a common potential hazard from strong earthquakes in the central and eastern United States. Liquefaction occurs when seismic waves pass through saturated granular soil, distorting its granular structure, and causing some of the empty spaces between granules to collapse. Pore-water pressure may also increase sufficiently to cause the soil to behave like a fluid (rather than a soil) for a brief period and causing deformations. Liquefaction causes lateral spreads (horizontal movement commonly 10-15 feet, but up to 100 feet), flow failures (massive flows of soil, typically hundreds of feet, but up to 12 miles), and loss of bearing strength (soil deformations causing structures to settle or tip). Sands blows were common following major New Madrid earthquakes in the central United States.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

A major earthquake in Geneva County could result in great loss of life and property damage in the billions of dollars. Adding to the danger is the fact that structures in the area were not built to withstand earthquake shaking. Construction of many buildings on steep slopes susceptible to landslides and in karst terrains susceptible to sinkholes will be a major contributing factor to damage from future earthquakes in the county.

Three zones of frequent earthquake activity affecting Alabama are the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ), the Southern Appalachian Seismic Zone (SASZ) (also called the Eastern Tennessee Seismic Zone), and the South Carolina Seismic Zone (SCSZ). The NMSZ lies within the central Mississippi Valley, extending from northeast Arkansas through southeast Missouri, western Tennessee, and western Kentucky, to southern Illinois. The SASZ extends from near Roanoke in southwestern Virginia southwestward to central Alabama. Considered a zone of moderate risk, the SASZ includes the Appalachian Mountains. Most of the earthquakes felt in



Alabama are centered in the SASZ. The hypocenters of earthquakes in this zone are on deeply buried faults. The SCSZ is centered near Charleston South Carolina and encompasses nearly the whole State. Geneva County is not especially at risk from earthquakes, although minor effects from the three aforementioned seismic zones are not out of the question.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to an earthquake event is minimum to minor based on the lack of historical records and detailed geologic studies.

Probability of Earthquakes in Geneva County, Alabama

Earthquakes occurring in Geneva County are predominantly low magnitude events so the qualitative probability in **Section 5.3** is low. However, there is growing concern that a high magnitude event is inevitable and earthquakes are becoming a much larger concern to the county. GSA is currently working to better define seismic hazards and impacts throughout the county. **Figure 5.2-19** shows the Percent Ground Acceleration (PGA) with two percent 50 year exceedance probability. There is insufficient data to predict the future probability of an earthquake occurring in Geneva County. The risk of a significant, damage-causing earthquake in Geneva County is very small. Although no earthquake has been documented for Geneva County, Alabama, the entire county is equally at risk.

In accordance with FEMA guidelines, an area with 3% or greater probability of exceedance in 50 years should be further assessed for vulnerability. Geneva County's risk falls at approximately the 4-6% probability of exceedance. Since the adoption of the hazard mitigation plan of 2005, no earthquake activity has been recorded in Geneva County. Additional assessment for vulnerability is impossible without data to be used to determine an increased risk.

The probability of future occurrences cannot be predicted due to a lack of historical records and detailed geologic studies. Additional assessment for vulnerability is impossible without data to be used to determine an increased risk.

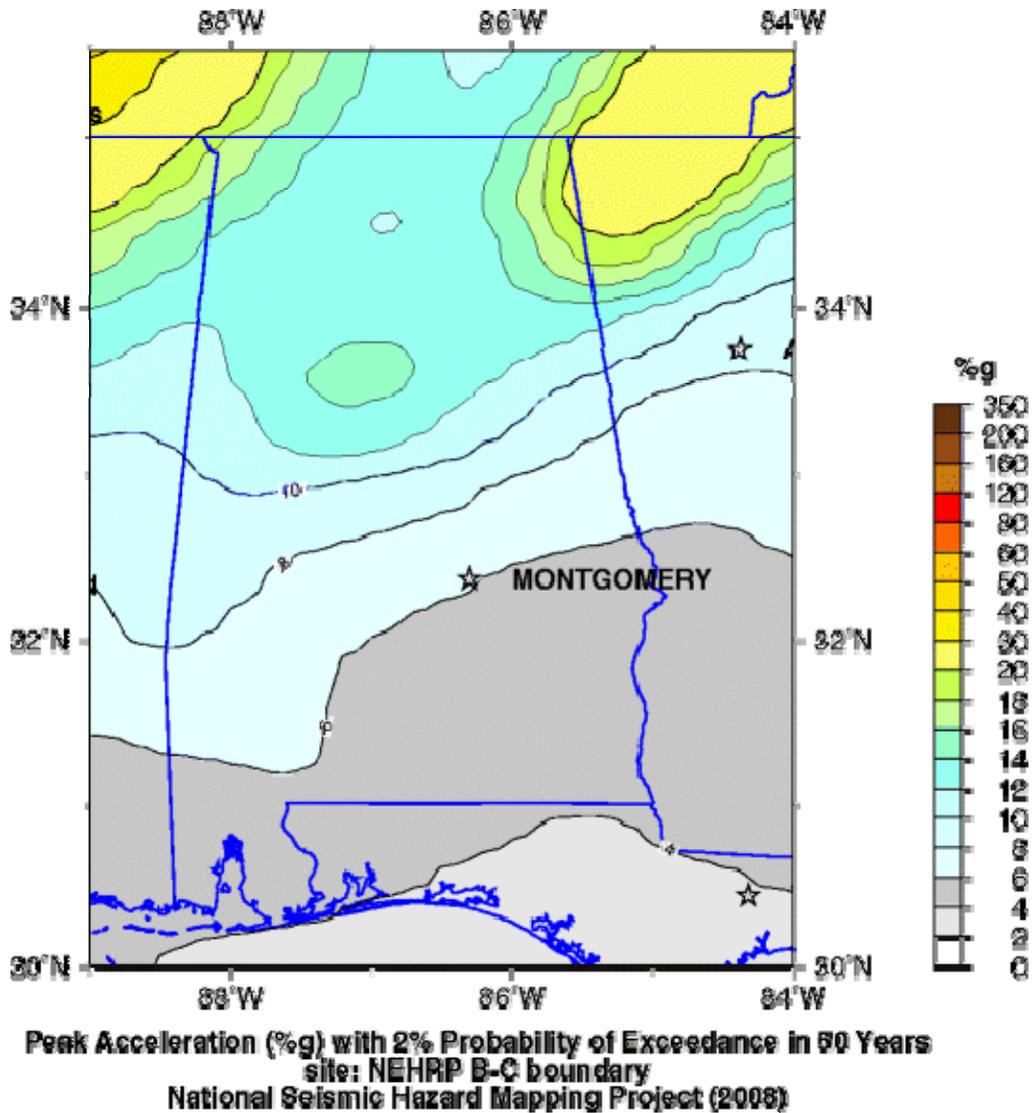


Figure 5.2-19

Source: United States Geological Survey, 2008

5.2.7 Drought/Extreme Heat Events

General Description of the Hazard

Drought is a normal part of virtually every climate on the planet, including areas of both high and low normal rainfalls. Drought is the result of a natural decline in the expected precipitation over an extended period of time, typically one or more seasons in length. The severity of drought can be aggravated by other climatic factors, such as prolonged high winds and low relative humidity (FEMA, 1997). Drought is a complex natural hazard which is reflected in the following four definitions commonly used to describe it:

- Meteorological drought is defined solely on the degree of dryness, expressed as a departure of actual precipitation from an expected average or normal amount based on monthly, seasonal, or annual time scales.
- Hydrological drought is related to the effects of precipitation shortfalls on stream flows and reservoir, lake, and groundwater levels.
- Agricultural drought is defined principally in terms of soil moisture deficiencies relative to water demands of plant life, usually crops.
- Socioeconomic drought associates the supply and demand of economic goods or services with elements of meteorological, hydrologic, and agricultural drought. Socioeconomic drought occurs when the demand for water exceeds the supply as a result of weather-related supply shortfall.

They may also be called a water management drought. A drought's severity depends on numerous factors, including duration, intensity, and geographic extent as well as regional water supply demands by humans and vegetation. Due to its multidimensional nature, drought is difficult to define in exact terms and also poses difficulties in terms of comprehensive risk assessments.

Drought differs from other natural hazards in three ways. First, the onset and end of a drought are difficult to determine due to the slow accumulation and lingering of effects of an event after its apparent end. Second, the lack of an exact and universally accepted definition adds to the confusion of its existence and severity. Third, in contrast with other natural hazards, the impact of drought is less obvious and may be spread over a larger geographic area. These characteristics have hindered the preparation of drought contingency or mitigation plans by many governments.

Extreme summer heat is the combination of very high temperatures and exceptionally humid conditions. If such conditions persist for an extended period of time, it is called a heat wave (FEMA, 1997). Heat stress can be indexed by combining the effects of temperature and humidity, as shown in **Table 5.2-11**. The index estimates the relationship between dry bulb temperatures (at different humidity) and the skin's resistance to heat and moisture transfer. The higher the temperature or humidity, the higher the apparent temperature.

Droughts may cause a shortage of water for human and industrial consumption, hydroelectric power, recreation, and navigation. Water quality may also decline and the number and severity of wildfires may increase. Severe droughts may result in the loss of agricultural crops and forest products, undernourished wildlife and livestock, lower land values, and higher unemployment.

Geneva County has not experienced extreme heat or drought incidences; placing them in a low susceptibility to these types of hazards.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

Drought is a natural event that, unlike floods or tornadoes, does not occur in a violent burst but gradually happens; furthermore, the duration and extent of drought conditions are unknown because rainfall is unpredictable in amount, duration and location.

The Draft Alabama Drought Management Plan (DMP), developed by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs – Office of Water Resources (ADECA-OWR), defines drought in terms of several indices that describe the relative amounts of surface water flow, groundwater levels, and recent precipitation as compared to localized norms. Because drought is defined in relative terms, it can be stated that all areas of the county are susceptible to drought. When drought occurs in Geneva County, the social, economic, and environmental impacts have the potential to be severe and widespread. A few of these impacts are listed below:

- Damage to livestock and crops;
- Increase local vulnerabilities to sinkholes and wildfire;
- Create water usage conflicts;
- Speed up coastal erosion;
- Damage fisheries; and
- Inflate energy prices due to loss of hydro-power.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a drought event is minimum to minor.

Temperatures that hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region and last for several weeks are defined as extreme heat. Humid or muggy conditions occur when a “dome” of high atmospheric pressure traps hazy, damp air near the ground. The combination of high temperatures and humid conditions increase the level of discomfort and the potential for danger to humans. A sibling to the heat wave is the drought. Droughts occur when a long period passes without any substantial rainfall. A heat wave combined with a drought is a very dangerous situation.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to an extreme heat event is minor to major.

Hazard Profile. Geneva County has no experiences of temperature extremes and droughts.

Community Impacts. The human risks associated with extreme heat include heatstroke, heat exhaustion, heat syncope, heat cramps. A description of each of these conditions follows:

- Heatstroke is considered a medical emergency and is often fatal. It exists when rectal temperature rises above 105°F as a result of environmental temperatures. Patients may be delirious, stuporous, or comatose. The death to care ratio in reported cases averages about 15%.

- Heat Exhaustion is much less severe than heatstroke. The body temperature may be normal or slightly elevated. A person suffering from heat exhaustion may complain of dizziness, weakness or fatigue. The primary cause of heat exhaustion is fluid and electrolyte imbalance. The normalization of fluids will typically alleviate the situation.
- Heat Syncope is typically associated with exercise by people who are not acclimated to exercise. The symptom is a sudden loss of consciousness. Consciousness returns promptly when the person lies down. The cause is primarily associated with circulatory instability as a result of heat. The condition typically causes little or no harm to the individual.
- Heat Cramps are typically a problem for individuals who exercise outdoors but are unaccustomed to heat. Similar to heat exhaustion it is thought to be a result of a mild imbalance of fluids and electrolytes.

In 1979 R. G. Steadman, a meteorologist, developed the heat index, which is a relationship between dry bulb temperatures (at different humidity) and the skin's resistance to heat and moisture transfer. Utilizing Steadman's heat index, the following table was developed to show the risk associated with ranges in apparent temperature or heat index.

Table 5.2-11 Heat Index/Heat Disorders

Danger Category	Heat Disorder	Apparent Temperature (°F)
IV Extreme Danger	Heatstroke or sunstroke imminent.	>130
III Danger	Sunstroke, heat cramps, or heat exhaustion likely, heat stroke possible with prolonged exposure and physical activity.	105-130
II Extreme Caution	Sunstroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion possible with prolonged exposure and physical activity.	90-105
I Caution	Fatigue possible with prolonged exposure and physical activity.	80-90

Source: National Weather Service, 1997

Risks associated with drought include, effects to the water supply, impact on agriculture, increase in wildfires, negative impact on hydroelectric power, and other activities dependent upon water such as recreation and navigation.

Location and Extents. Droughts and heat waves would have a county-wide impact.

Probability of Future Occurrences. The climate of Geneva County is best described as being a humid subtropical climate. Generally, Geneva County has very hot summers and mild winters.

History of Drought/Extreme Heat Events in Geneva County, Alabama

Heat Wave – Geneva County has not experienced droughts and extreme heat events.

According to the NCDC, there were 0 droughts events and 0 excessive heat events from 1950 through 2009. There have been dry periods without substantial rainfall. No damages, deaths, or injuries were reported.

Table 5.2-12 Drought and Excessive Heat Events for Geneva County

0 DROUGHT and 0 EXTREME HEAT event(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: Property Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
Geneva	N/A	N/A	Excessive Heat/ Drought	N/A	0	0	0	0

Source: NOAA Storm Events

Probability of Drought/Extreme Heat Events in Geneva County, Alabama

The future incidence of drought is highly unpredictable, conditions may be localized or widespread, and not much historical data is available making it difficult to determine the future probability of drought conditions with any accuracy. Using the information that is available, the qualitative probability rating for drought in **Section 5.3** is low.

Normally, rainfall occurs consistently throughout the year. This type of hazard could affect Geneva County’s agricultural uses and contribute to wildfire incidents. Extreme heat and drought conditions could potentially affect the entire county by stressing citizens and the municipal and agricultural water supply.

Geneva County experienced 0 drought events in a 0 year period resulting in a 0% probability that a drought event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 0 drought events was \$0 with 0 drought events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$0 of expected annual damages from future events.



Geneva County experienced 0 extreme heat event in a 0 year period resulting in a 0% probability that an extreme heat event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 0 extreme heat event was \$0 with 0 extreme heat events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$0 of expected annual damages from future events.

5.2.8 Hail

General Description of the Hazard

Geneva County is at a severe risk of experiencing hail. Hail is an outgrowth of severe thunderstorms and develops within a low-pressure front as warm air rises rapidly in to the upper atmosphere and is subsequently cooled, as shown in **Figure 5.2-20**, leading to the formation of ice crystals. These are bounced about by high-velocity updraft winds and accumulate into frozen droplets, falling as precipitation after developing enough weight (FEMA, 1997).

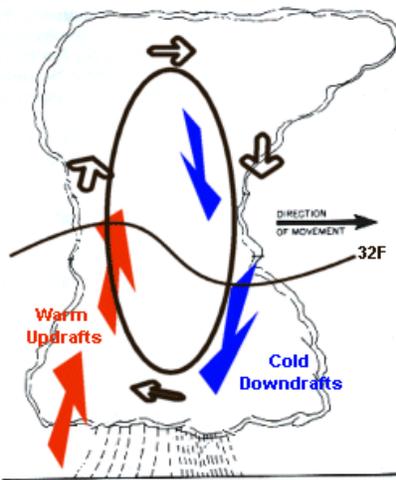


Figure 5.2-20

How Hail Is Formed

Source: NWS, January 10, 2003

The National Weather Service (NWS) defines severe thunderstorms as those with downdraft winds in excess of 58 miles an hour and/or hail at least 3/4 inches in diameter. While only about 10 percent of thunderstorms are classified as severe, all thunderstorms are dangerous because they produce numerous dangerous conditions, including one or more of the following: hail, strong winds, lightning, tornadoes, and flash flooding (National Weather Service – Flagstaff). The size of hailstones varies and is related to the severity and size of the thunderstorm that produced it. The higher the temperatures at the Earth’s surface, the greater the strength of the updrafts, and the greater the amount of time the hailstones are suspended, giving the hailstones more time to increase in size. Hailstones vary widely in size, as shown in **Table 5.2-13**. Note that penny size (3/4 inches in diameter) or larger hail is considered severe.

Table 5.2-13 Estimating Hail Size

Size	Inches in Diameter
Pea	¼ inch
Marble/mothball	½ inch
Dime/Penny	¾ inch
Nickel	7/8 inch
Quarter	1 inch
Ping-Pong Ball	1 ½ inch
Golf Ball	1 ¾ inch
Tennis Ball	2 ½ inch
Baseball	2 ¾ inch
Tea Cup	3 inches
Grapefruit	4 inches
Softball	4 ½ inches
Source: NWS, January 10, 2003	

Hailstorms occur most frequently during the late spring and early summer, when the jet stream moves northward across the Great Plains. During this period, extreme temperature changes occur from the surface up to the jet stream, resulting in the strong updrafts required for hail formation.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

Hailstorms occur throughout Geneva County and most frequently during the late spring and early summer, when the jet stream moves northward across the Great Plains. During this period, extreme temperature changes occur from the surface up to the jet stream, resulting in the strong updrafts required for hail formation. As explained below, it is rare that a hailstorm in Geneva County causes significant damages. The entire county is susceptible to hailstorms.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a hail event is minimum to minor.

Hail History in Geneva County, Alabama

Severe storms include thunderstorms/high winds, flooding, lightning, and hail. According to the National Weather Service, Geneva County has experienced each of these natural hazard events, resulting in both property and crop damage. The expectation of future occurrences necessitates profiling and a mitigation plan for each of these events.

From 1950 to 2009, 64 hail storm events caused approximately \$133,000 in property damages and \$6,000 in crop damages in Geneva County. This damage was caused by severe hail storm events that had hail with a diameter of .75 inches up to 2.5 inches. No deaths or injuries were reported due to hail storms. **Table 5.2-14** shows pertinent information relating to the 64 hail events in Geneva County.



Table 5.2-14 Hail Disaster/Emergency Events in Geneva County

18 HAIL event(s) were reported in **Geneva County, Alabama** between **01/01/1950** and **07/31/2009**.

Magnitude
Mag: Deaths
Dth: Injuries
Inj: Property
PrD: Damage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
1 GENEVA	03/11/1968	2240	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
2 GENEVA	04/03/1980	1800	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
3 GENEVA	03/22/1981	0321	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
4 GENEVA	06/07/1989	1630	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
5 GENEVA	05/21/1990	1640	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
6 GENEVA	07/09/1991	1810	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
7 Geneva	05/04/1998	01:30 AM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
8 Chancellor	08/25/2000	03:30 PM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
9 Coffee Spgs	05/31/2004	01:55 PM	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
10 Malvern	05/31/2004	02:40 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
11 Bellwood	03/26/2005	04:20 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
12 Chancellor	03/26/2005	04:30 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0



13	Hacoda	03/26/2005	04:30 PM	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0	0
14	Malvern	03/26/2005	06:35 PM	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
15	Hartford	04/08/2006	03:12 PM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
16	Slocomb	05/10/2006	09:53 PM	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0	0
17	Samson	03/28/2009	04:54 AM	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	OK	OK
18	Samson	04/13/2009	06:33 AM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	OK	OK
TOTALS:						0	0	0	0

Hailstorm Probability in Geneva County, Alabama

As discussed above, hailstorms occur in some form or fashion on a very regular basis in Geneva County. The annual probability of hail occurring somewhere in the county is clearly quite high. However, the site-specific incidence of hail is considered low because of the localized nature of the hazard. There is an average number of 2.3 hailstorms per year in Geneva County.

Geneva County experienced 18 hail events in a 41 year period resulting in a less than 50% probability that a hail event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 18 hail events was \$0 with 0 hail events causing damage resulting in an estimated \$0 of expected annual damages from future events.

5.2.9 Wildfire

General Description of the Hazard

Geneva County is at a slight to moderate risk of a wildfire. A wildfire is an uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels, exposing and possibly consuming structures. They often begin unnoticed, spread quickly, and are usually signaled by dense smoke that may fill the area for miles around. Wildfires can be human-caused through acts such as arson or campfires, or can be caused by natural events such as lightning. Wildfires can be categorized into 3 types:

1. **Wild land fires** occur in very rural areas and are fueled primarily by natural vegetation. In Alabama, the vast majority of these fires occur on privately owned land. (94 percent of Alabama's forestlands are privately owned.) Wild land fire suppression is the responsibility of the State of Alabama, through the Alabama Forestry Commission.

2. **Interface fires** occur in areas where homes or other structures are endangered by the wildfires. The fires are fueled by both natural vegetation and man-made structures. These are often referred to as Wild land Urban Interface fires and form the majority of wildfires in



Alabama. Interface fire suppression is the responsibility of the Alabama forestry Commission, working closely with local volunteer fire departments.

3. **Firestorms** occur during extreme weather (e.g., high temperatures, low humidity, and high winds) with such intensity that fire suppression is virtually impossible. These events typically burn until the conditions change or the fuel is exhausted.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

The vast majority of wild land fires occur on privately owned lands. Additionally, the majority of the fires occur in areas where homes or structures are endangered. These areas are known as the wild land urban interface and are defined as areas where development meets wild land vegetation, both of which provide fuel for fires. The wild land urban interface areas have increased significantly throughout the county, and now face the risk of major losses from wildfires. In Geneva County, most wild land urban interface areas are considered “intermixed.”

Instead of having large forest areas surrounding an isolated town, Geneva County contains many scattered homes and farms spread across the forest areas.

The following two factors contribute significantly to wildfire behavior in Geneva County:

1. **Fuel:** The type of fuel and the fuel loading (measured in tons of vegetative matter per acre) have a direct impact on fire behavior. Fuel types vary from light fuels (grass) to moderate fuels (Southern Rough) to heavy fuels (slash). The type of fuel and the fuel load determines the potential intensity of the wildfire and how much effort must be expended to contain and control it.

2. **Weather:** The most variable factor affecting wildfire behavior is weather. Important weather variables are precipitation, humidity, and wind. Weather events ranging in scale from localized thunderstorms to large cold fronts can have major effects on wildfire occurrence and behavior. Extreme weather, such as extended drought and low humidity can lead to extreme wildfire activity.

In addition to affecting people, wildfires may severely impact livestock inflicting a severe economic impact on farmers. Timber loss to fire creates an economic loss to both the private landowner and the county’s economy. Wildfires in Geneva County generally are moderate in intensity, resulting in destruction of undergrowth and some timber. The soil surface layer of the forest recovers quickly, minimizing erosion and water quality impacts. The entire Geneva County is vulnerable to wildfires.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a wildfire event is minimum to minor.

Wildfire History in Geneva County, Alabama

The frequency and severity of wildfires is dependent on weather and on human activity. Nearly all wildfires in Geneva County are human caused (only a very small percent are caused by lightning), with arson and careless debris burning being the major causes of wildfires. If not promptly controlled, wildfires may grow into an emergency or disaster. Even small fires can threaten lives, damage forest resources and destroy structures. **Table 5.2-15** shows the number of fires and acres burned during the period 1995 to 2006, as recorded by the Alabama Forestry Commission. Geneva County had a total of 188 fires during this 11 year period, affecting a total of 1,005.3 acres.

Table 5.2-15 Wildfires in Geneva County 1995-2006

Wildfires in Geneva County 1995-2006					
County	Total # of Fires	Average # of Fires	Total Acres Burned	Average Acres Burned	Average Fire Size
Geneva	188	15.7	1,005.3	83.8	5.3

Source: Alabama Forestry Commission

Probability of Wildfires in Geneva County, Alabama

Geneva County is located in an area where the current fire danger conditions are low to moderate, according to the fire danger map provided by the U. S. Forestry Service. Wildfires are not a significant threat in Geneva County as the county is heavily cultivated.

Wildfires are an ongoing threat to both rural Alabama and wild land urban interface communities at risk. As with most natural hazards, wildfires are strongly influenced by weather phenomena, although their risk and impacts are also related to other factors such as the number of structures that are near forested areas, and so forth. Wildfire probability can be expected to remain relatively constant over the long run, assuming that weather patterns do not change significantly.

The total acres burned by wildfires from 1995 – 2006 in Geneva County are 764.1 – 3032.2.

Source: Alabama Forestry Commission

The average number of fires per year per square mile 1995 – 2006 in Geneva County is between 0.0158 – 0.0308. Source: Alabama Forestry Commission

Geneva County experienced 188 wildfire events in a 11 year period resulting in a greater than 100% probability that a wildfire event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of acres burned for the 188 wildfire events was 83.8 resulting in an estimated 2.2 acres burned per wildfire event.

5.2.10 Lightning

General Description of the Hazard

Lightning typically occurs as a by-product of a thunderstorm. The action of rising and descending air in a thunderstorm separates positive and negative charges, with lightning the result of the buildup and discharge of energy between positive and negative charge areas.

Water and ice particles may also affect the distribution of the electrical charge. In only a few millionths of a second, the air near a lightning strike is heated to 50,000°F, a temperature hotter than the surface of the sun. Thunder is the result of the very rapid heating and cooling of air near the lightning that causes a shock wave.



Figure 5.2-21
Formation of Lightning

Source: University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR)

The hazard posed by lightning is significantly underrated. High winds, rainfall, and a darkening cloud cover are the warning signs for possible cloud-to-ground lightning strikes. While many lightning casualties happen at the beginning of an approaching storm, more than half of lightning deaths occur after a thunderstorm has passed. The lightning threat diminishes after the last sound of thunder, but may persist for more than 30 minutes. When thunderstorms are in the area, but not overhead, the lightning threat can exist when skies are clear. Lightning has been known to strike more than 10 miles from the storm in an area with clear sky above.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), an average of 20 million cloud-to-ground flashes has been detected every year in the continental United States. About half of all flashes have more than one ground strike point, so at least 30 million points on the ground is struck on the average each year. In addition, there are roughly 5 to 10 times as many cloud-to-cloud flashes as there are to cloud-to-ground flashes (NOAA, July 7, 2003).

Lightning is the most dangerous and frequently encountered weather hazard that most people in the United States experience annually. Lightning is the second most frequent killer in the U.S.,

behind floods and flash floods, with nearly 100 deaths and 500 injuries annually. These numbers are likely to underestimate of the actual number of casualties because of the under reporting of suspected lightning deaths and injuries. Cloud-to-ground lightning can kill or injure people by either direct or indirect means. The lightning current can branch off to strike a person from a tree, fence, pole, or other tall object. It is not known if all people are killed who are directly struck by the flash itself. In addition, electrical current may be conducted through the ground to a person after lightning strikes a nearby tree, antenna, or other tall object. The current also may travel through power lines, telephone lines, or plumbing pipes to a person who is in contact with an electric appliance, telephone, or plumbing fixture. Lightning may use similar processes to damage property or cause fires.

Geneva County is at a low risk of lightning incidences.

Nature and Extent of the Hazard in Geneva County, Alabama

Lightning typically occurs as a by-product of a thunderstorm. Occasionally, thunderstorms are severe with frequent lightning and large hail. The entire Geneva County is susceptible to lightning events.

The extent/range of magnitude or severity that could be experienced by Geneva County due to a lightning event is minimum to minor.

Probability of Lightning in Geneva County, Alabama

The probability of a lightning strike causing damage somewhere in Geneva County is low, because the impacts are so localized.

Geneva County experienced 2 lightning events in a 5 year period resulting in a less than 50% probability that a lightning event will occur on an annual basis. The total amount of damages for the 2 lightning events was \$200,000 with 2 lightning event causing damage resulting in an estimated \$100,000 of expected annual damages from future events.

Table 5.2-16 Geneva County Lightning Events

2 LIGHTNING event(s) were reported in Geneva County, Alabama between 01/01/1950 and 07/31/2009.

Mag: Magnitude
Dth: Deaths
Inj: Injuries
PrD: PropertyDamage
CrD: Crop Damage

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
1 Hartford	07/19/1994	0000	Lightning	N/A	0	0	50K	0



2 Geneva	06/05/1999	04:15 PM	Lightning	N/A	0	0	150K	0
TOTALS:					0	0	200K	0

Source: NOAA Storm Events

5.3 Methodology for Identifying Natural Hazards for Additional Analysis

Although the Interim Final Rule (see **Appendix B**) requires that all natural hazards affecting the county must be included in a detailed overview, it is not practical or desirable to perform detailed countywide risk assessments on all these hazards. This is because many of the hazards have little probability of affecting the county and/or it is difficult to mitigate their effects. Because of this, the GCEMA concurred with the State EMA and determined that it would be desirable to reduce/combine the initial list of hazards to those that have the most potential for damaging the county or its citizens in the future.

To reduce the overall number of hazards that will be given detailed risk assessments, the GCEMA mirrored the AEMA on the rating system that uses the following five criteria to rate each hazard in two categories: relative probability of occurrence, and capacity for mitigation. The term “relative” probability of occurrence is used here because the determination is less rigorous than the one used in the full risk assessment. The purpose of this ranking methodology is to rate Geneva County risks relative to each other, in order to identify the most significant ones, and concentrate the risk assessment on these. The hazards are given low, medium or high ratings in the two categories. This method was initially suggested to the AEMA by FEMA Region IV, at a February 26, 2004 SHMT meeting and Geneva County concurs. The criteria used were:

1. History - High rating indicates that the hazard has affected the county often in the past, and that the hazard has occurred often and/or with widespread or severe consequences.
2. Presence of susceptible areas - High rating indicates that the county has numerous facilities, operations, or populations that may be subjected to damage from the hazard.
3. Data availability - High rating indicates that sufficient quality data is available to permit an accurate and comprehensive risk assessment.
4. Federal disaster declarations - High rating indicates that the county has received numerous disaster declarations for the particular hazard.
5. Potential for mitigation - High rating indicates that there are ways to address the hazard, and that the methods are technically feasible and have the potential to be cost-effective (i.e. mitigation measures are available at a reasonable

cost, and damages to property, lives and/or community functions would be reduced or eliminated).

The committee determined that all hazards included in **Table 5.3-1** will be given a general description, nature and extent of the hazard, probability of the hazard, and a history of the hazard in prior subsections. Additional information pertaining to risk assessments on flooding, high winds, and earthquakes are provided in following subsections. Those that received medium or low ratings in either category may or may not be provided additional risk assessment information based on available data, but are in some cases included as risks to county-owned facilities and are also included in mitigation goals, objectives, strategies and actions. The hazard that received a high rating in each category is high wind (which includes high winds from hurricanes, windstorms, and tornadoes) and is profiled and provided additional information on risk assessment. High Wind hazards are the main focus of Geneva County in terms of affecting the county the most. **Table 5.3-1** shows all of the hazards considered in this methodology, and the ratings assigned by the committee. The hazards' disposition in the plan is based upon available information, regardless of the hazards' ratings.

**Table 5.3-1 Qualitative Rankings of 10 Hazards,
based on Probability of Occurrence and Mitigation Potential**

Hazard	Data Sources	Probability Rating	Mitigation Potential Rating
1. Flooding (includes storm surge, riverine, flash flooding, & hurricanes)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Storm Events Database National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Alabama Coastal Hazards Assessment National Weather Service Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)	M	H
2. High Winds (Includes hurricanes, tornados and windstorms)	NOAA Storm Events and Alabama Coastal Hazards Assessment National Weather Service Alabama Disaster Center	H	H
3. Winter Storms/ Snow and Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperatures	NOAA Storm Events and Alabama Coastal Hazards Assessment Alabama Disaster Center	L	L
4. Landslides/Land Subsidence/ Sinkholes	Geological Survey of Alabama United States Geological Survey (USGS)	L	L
5. Earthquakes	NOAA Alabama Coastal Hazards Assessment National Seismic Hazard Mapping Project map, USGS Geological Survey of Alabama	L	L
6. Drought/ Extreme Heat Temperatures	NOAA	L	L
7. Hail	NOAA	M	L
8. Wildfire	Alabama Forestry Commission	L	L
9. Lightning	NOAA National Weather Service	M	L
10. Dam Failures	AL Dept. of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) NOAA	M	H



5.4 General Discussion of Vulnerability and Risk

Prior to reading the following sections about countywide risk, it is important to understand the meanings of several terms that appear in the federal/state/local hazard mitigation planning rules and this plan. The terms *risk* and *vulnerability* appear many times in both places, and the terms are defined below and given some context in terms of this plan.

5.4.1 Definition of Risk

In the context of hazard mitigation planning, *risk* is defined as the expected future losses to a community, business or county from the effects of natural events. The concept has several other concepts embedded in it. These are described below.

Probability is the likelihood that events of particular severities will occur. The ability of scientists and engineers to calculate probability varies considerably depending on the hazard in question. In many areas of the country, flood studies of various kinds can provide reasonably accurate estimates of how often water will reach particular places and elevations. On the other hand, tornadoes and earthquakes are nearly impossible to predict, except in the most general sense.

Probability is a key element of risk because it determines how often the events are likely to happen. It is important to note that risk is cumulative. This means that although natural hazards may not affect a place in any particular year, the probability of one or more events (in some places multiple events) occurring “adds up” over time. Risk calculations incorporate all expected future events – usually with some limit on the time horizon that is considered – in order to account for both repetitive events and for the probabilities that accumulate over time. For example, although earthquakes are infrequent in most places, there is some possibility of an earthquake occurring in any year. Therefore, the possibility of an earthquake occurrence increases over time.

Severity is the measure of “how bad” a hazard event is. Severity is measured in various ways, depending on the hazard. For example, floods can be measured in terms of depth, velocity, duration, contamination potential, debris flow, and so forth. Tornadoes are measured primarily in terms of wind speed, although their duration on the ground can also be an important factor in their destructiveness.

Vulnerability is the extent to which something is damaged by a hazard. Vulnerability is very often measured using “damage functions.” These are based on studies of how buildings perform when they are exposed to hazards. Similar functions are available for infrastructure and other physical assets. Injury and mortality functions (how many people are injured or die during events) are also sometimes used as indicators of vulnerability, but these are generally not as reliable as functions for physical assets because there are many more variables.

Value is how much it would cost to replace an asset that may be damaged or lost due to the impact of a natural hazard. There are many sources of this information, including standard cost estimating guides, experience of local officials, and statistical studies.

Risk is expressed in dollars of future expected losses. It is calculated in this way so that different kinds of losses can be adequately compared. For example, without a common basis for comparison, it would be virtually impossible to determine if the risk of injury from future earthquakes is greater than damage to vehicles in future floods. When the expected losses are converted to and expressed in dollars, the damages can be compared and prioritized. In combination with the concepts discussed above, almost any kind of hazard can be quantified and its risk expressed. The exceptions to this idea are *infrequent* or *highly unpredictable* events such as meteors impacting the earth, or manmade hazards such as terrorism. In these cases, the element of probability is virtually impossible to characterize, and the risk calculus cannot be accurate without it. Risk calculations often start with an annualized (yearly) loss figure, which is then projected into the future for some pre-determined period of time, then *discounted* to today's value using a discount rate. This is a standard economic methodology that is required by the federal government for analyses of many of its programs, including FEMA's mitigation initiatives. Those who are interested can read more about the required methodology, which is described in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A - 94.

The risk calculation techniques that were used as the basis for this plan are carefully described in the sections that follow, and conform to standard methodologies that FEMA/AEMA /Local EMA and other federal/state/local agencies have been using for many years. A discount rate of 7 percent and a 30 year time horizon is used in all calculations unless otherwise specified. The 7 percent discount rate was the OMB-mandated rate at the time this plan was developed, and the 30 year horizon is a medium-term figure that blends the expected life of a variety of potential mitigation actions. The sections in the plan dealing with specific mitigation activities use other time horizons as indicated, but the discount rate always remains at 7 percent.

5.5 Vulnerability Assessment and Loss Estimation Background

Because it forms the basis of the county's hazard mitigation plan, the county-level risk assessment should be as comprehensive as possible. As discussed in **Section 5.3**, the GCEMA developed an initial list of hazards that were identified and profiled in **Section 5.2**. The GCEMA then used a ranking methodology to determine which of these would be further analyzed to determine countywide potential losses. The ranking methodology used five criteria to determine if each hazard should be included in the plan as explained in **Section 5.3**.

As explained in **Section 5.4**, the risk assessment is a determination of expected future losses, and is analogous to the term "loss estimation" in this document. Risk assessment/loss estimation is based on several closely related factors, including the probability and severity of hazards, and the vulnerability of assets countywide, including property, people, and functions such as businesses and government operations. Although it is possible to determine hazard probability and severity with some accuracy, vulnerability assessments are best conducted on an asset-specific basis,

something that is not possible given the scope of this plan. Because of this, the results of the vulnerability assessments and loss estimates in this section should be considered general in nature, and most accurate relative to each other. The methods used for risk calculations vary by hazard. The methodologies are discussed in detail in the subsections below.

See **Figures 5.5-1 through 5.5-6** for critical facilities located in Geneva County, AL.

Figure 5.5-1 Educational Facilities in Geneva County, AL

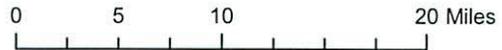


HAZUS 2007



Legend

-  School
-  Census Tracts



Section 5-76



Section 5-77

Figure 5.5-2 Fire Department Facilities in Geneva County, AL



Legend

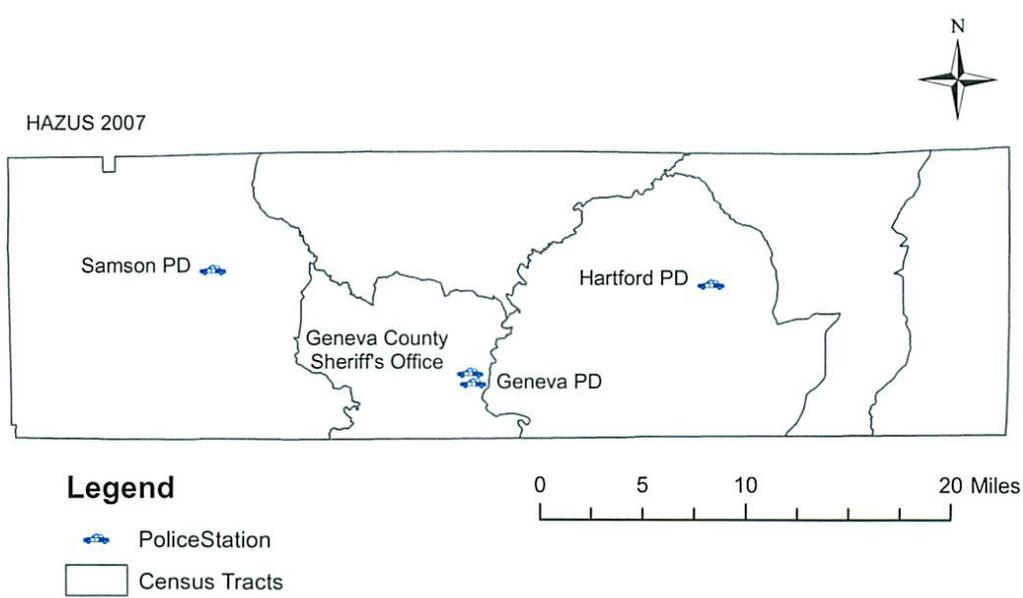
- Fire Station
- Census Tracts

0 5 10 20 Miles



Section 5-77

Figure 5.5-3 Law Enforcement Facilities in Geneva County, AL



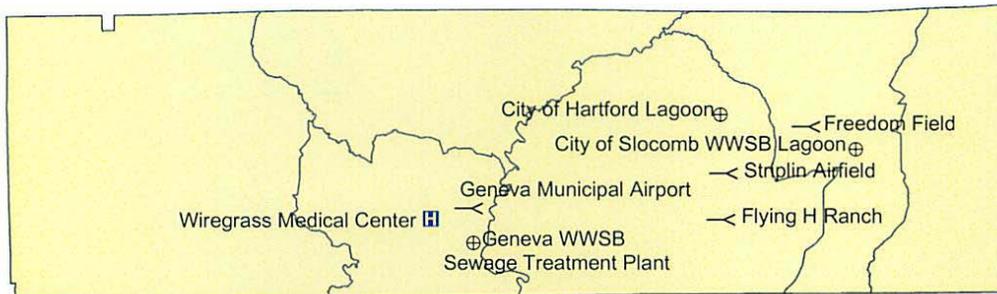
Section 5-78



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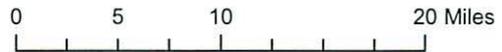
Figure 5.5-4 Waste Water Facilities, Airport/Runway Facilities, and Medical Facilities in Geneva Co., AL

HAZUS 2007



Legend

- ⊕ Waste Water Facility
- ← Airport/Runway
- ▣ Medical Facility
- Census Tracts

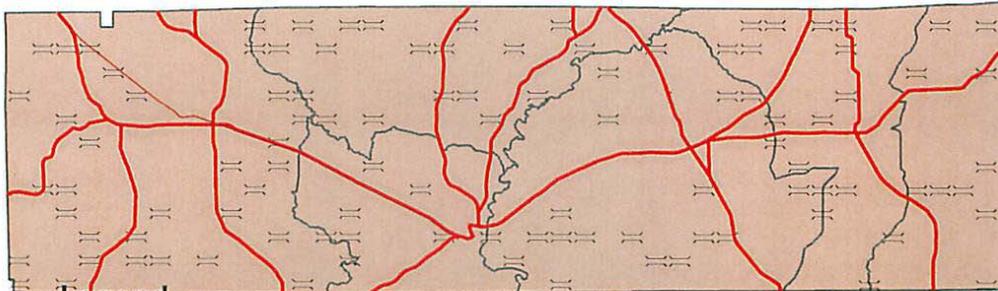


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Figure 5.5-5 Transportation in Geneva Co., AL



HAZUS 2007



Legend

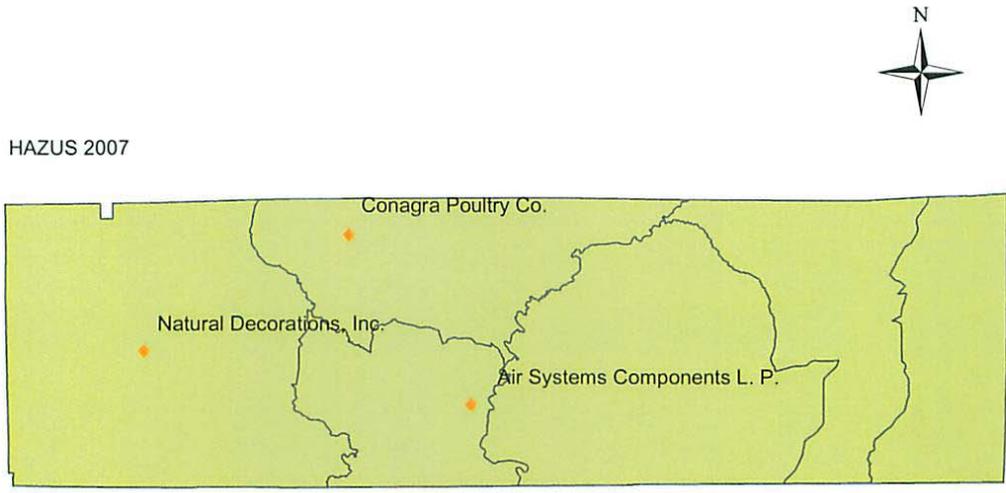
-  RailwaySegment
-  HighwaySegment
-  HighwayBridge
-  Census Tracts

0 5 10 20 Miles



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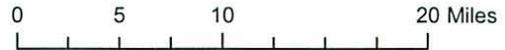
Figure 5.5-6 Hazmat Facilities in Geneva Co., AL



HAZUS 2007

Legend

- ◆ Hazmat
- Census Tracts

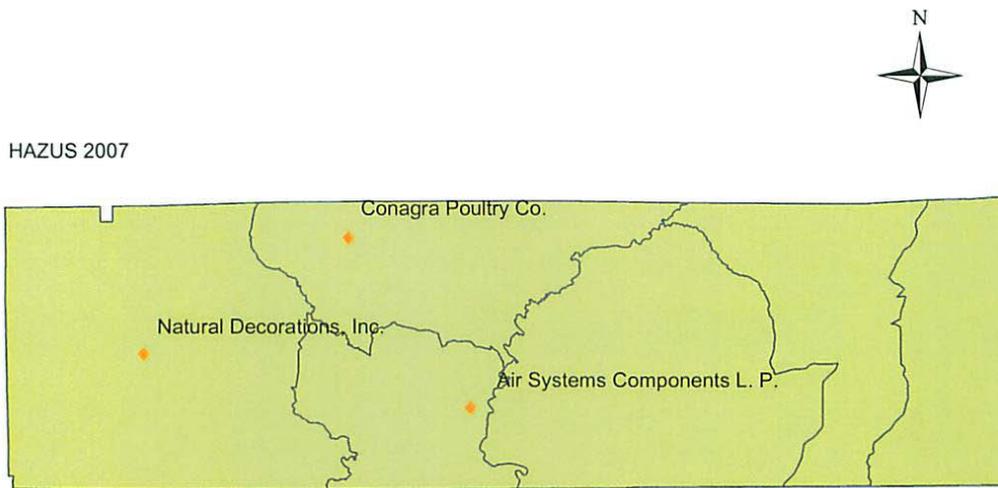


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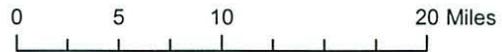
Section 5-82

Figure 5.5-6 Hazmat Facilities in Geneva Co., AL



Legend

- ◆ Hazmat
- Census Tracts



Section 5-81



5.5.1 General Risk

Methodology 1 - Risk Estimates

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii) of the IFR states that “a description of an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community” shall be included in the plan.

Table 5.5-1 below summarizes the risk determinations for Geneva County. This review process is explained in greater detail in **Section 7.3**.

Table 5.5-1 Summary of Annual Potential Loss Estimates for Specific Hazards

Summary of Annual Potential Loss Estimates for Specific Hazards					
County	Flood	Hurricane	Tornado	Wind (from Thunderstorm Wind)	Total Estimated Risk
Geneva	\$57,877,500	\$900,000	\$294,417	\$32,100	\$59,104,017

Source: NCDC/NOAA

Strengths, Biases and Limitations of Methodology 1

As hazard mitigation planning matures and the local plan is reviewed and updated over time, the risk assessment methodologies and results will improve.

Methodology 2 –

5.5.2 Flood Risk

Floods are the most extensively studied natural hazard in most parts of the U.S. For most areas of moderate or greater population density and known flooding, detailed flood studies exist that show where floodwaters are likely to go and the frequency with which they are likely to occur. There is also an array of experimental data about the damages floods have caused in many areas. There are also various sources of information about how many people and structures are located in various areas. This information can be obtained from U.S. Census reports. These three sources of information were all used in determining countywide risk from floods. The techniques used and the results are discussed in the paragraphs below.

5.5.2.1 Summary of Local Risk Assessments

Potential loss estimates can be found in **Section 5.5.1**.

5.5.2.2 Countywide Risk Assessment

Because of the availability of data, four separate methods were used to estimate flood risk countywide. These are discussed in turn below.

Methodology 1 – Analysis of NFIP Claims Data

This method is based on a straightforward analysis of historic National Flood Insurance Program claims data in the county. **Table 5.5-2** shows the history of flood insurance claims in the county, from 1978 to 2007, as well as information from the State NFIP Coordinator as of October 7, 2009. Most of the columns are self-explanatory. The risk estimate (Column H) was determined



using the average annual loss and multiplying the figure by the standard present value coefficient for a 7 percent discount rate (required by OMB) over a 30 year horizon.

Table 5.5-2 Summary of Flood Insurance Claims Statistics for Geneva County

County	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
	# of Flood Ins. Policies	# of Flood Ins. Claims	# of Claims per Policy	Total \$ Value Amt. of All Claims	# of Claims per Year	Avg. \$ Value Amt. per Claim	Avg. Annual # of Claims County-wide	Total Risk Projection Over a 30-Year Horizon	# of Repetitive Loss Properties	Types of Repetitive Loss Properties
Geneva	133	112	0.84	\$2,079,052	3.86	\$18,563	\$71,691	\$889,691	16	Residential

Source: FEMA Region IV NFIP Query from State Plan/State NFIP Coordinator as of 10/07/2009

Certain other results may be interesting as points of analysis (aside from the total number and amount of claims), such as the number of claims per policy and the average amount of claims. Geneva County is selected for a High Risk with past damages of \$2,079,052 and future risk of \$889,691.

Strengths, Biases and Limitations of Methodology 1

This analysis uses FEMA/NFIP flood insurance claim data obtained from FEMA Region IV in May 2007 and from the State NFIP Coordinator in October 2009. The data includes a large enough sample over a sufficient period of time to be statistically reliable for the purpose of assessing relative flood risk countywide. This data cannot be considered a pure indication of risk because the repetitive loss properties are identified via insurance claims, so risk to uninsured property is not represented in the data.

Methodology 2 – Analysis of NFIP Repetitive Loss Claims Data

The second flood risk assessment method is based on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) repetitive loss insurance claims over a period of about 29 years (the data begins in 1978). The claims information was obtained from FEMA Region IV in May 2007 and located in the State Plan. The data was sorted to count both the numbers of claims over the period and the amount of claims in dollars. These figures were then each divided by the reporting period to determine an annual number of claims and dollar losses (**Table 5.5-2**). This is the annualized figure discussed in the previous section on risk definitions. The annualized dollar loss figure was then projected out 30 years using the FEMA present-value coefficient from the benefit-cost-analysis software. Use of the present value coefficient performs the discounting required by OMB Circular No. A - 94 guidance. The 7 percent figure was current at the time this plan was produced and had been in effect for more than 10 years prior.

According to the FEMA/National Flood Insurance Program as noted in the state plan, Geneva County has experienced 27 repetitive loss claims with a 30-year horizon repetitive loss amount of \$320,216 for the past 10 years.



According to the State NFIP Coordinator, Geneva County had 9 repetitive losses, the City of Geneva had 7 repetitive losses, and the City of Hartford, Town of Malvern, City of Samson, and the City of Slocomb experienced zero repetitive loss structures as of October 7, 2009. Geneva County has 128 flood policies.

Strengths, Biases and Limitations of Methodology 2

This analysis uses FEMA/NFIP repetitive loss flood claim data obtained from FEMA Region IV in May 2007 and from the State NFIP Coordinator in October 2009. The criteria for determining which properties qualify as repetitive loss status naturally introduces certain biases into the resulting data. This data cannot be considered a pure indication of risk because the repetitive loss properties are identified via insurance claims, so risk to uninsured property is not represented in the data. The raw numbers of properties in the table above also do not address the issue of flood risk at individual insured sites because data is aggregated at the county level. The data can, however, provide insight into the relative flood risk in the county, accepting the bias noted previously.

Methodology 3 – GIS Analysis of Census Data and Digital Flood Maps

Note: Census data regarding population and Q3 floodplain boundary coverage have not changed since the 2005 version of the Plan, so this information is considered still valid and the discussion has not changed from the initial Plan.

The third method is based on a process in which U.S. Census block population data is overlaid on base maps that show the boundaries of the 100-year floodplain, from FEMA flood hazard boundary maps (also known as Q3 maps.) This method shows the percentage of each census block group that is in the floodplain. This information can then be used to infer the number of people and structures that are exposed to flooding. Only 19 counties in Alabama have Q3 floodplain maps available. There is a FEMA Q3 floodplain map available for Geneva County that indicates a population of 3,110 in the 100-year floodplain. This list should be updated as part of the plan maintenance process, as new maps become available.

Strengths, Biases and Limitations of Methodology 3

This method is based on data considered reliable because it comes from public sources such as the U.S. Census and FEMA floodplain maps. The method provides a reasonable way to correlate the other hazard and risk data obtained in Methods 1 and 2, but should not be considered reliable as an independent method to calculate risk. Although the data underlying the census block group figures can be considered reliable, the exact distribution of people and structures within the individual block group areas is not known. As noted above, GIS technology was used to calculate the percentage of individual block groups that are in the flood plain. This method assumes that populations and structures are evenly distributed across block groups. The accuracy of this assumption cannot be tested within the scope of this plan.

Methodology 4 – Analysis of FEMA HAZUS-MH Data

HAZUS-MH is a nationally applicable standardized methodology and software program that contains models for estimating potential losses from earthquakes, floods, and hurricane winds.



HAZUS-MH was developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under contract with the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS). The NIBS maintains committees of wind, flood, earthquake and software experts to provide technical oversight and guidance to HAZUS-MH development. Loss estimates produced by HAZUS-MH are based on current scientific and engineering knowledge of the effects of hurricane winds, floods, and earthquakes. Estimating losses is essential to decision-making at all levels of government, providing a basis for developing mitigation plans and policies, emergency preparedness, and response and recovery planning.

HAZUS-MH provides estimates of hazard-related damage before a disaster occurs and takes into account various impacts of a hazard event. The impacts include the following:

- Physical damage – damage to residential and commercial buildings, schools, critical facilities and infrastructure.
- Economic loss – lost jobs, business interruptions, repair and reconstruction costs.
- Social impacts – impacts to people, including requirements for shelters and medical aid.

HAZUS-MH uses state-of-the-art geographic information system (GIS) software to map and display hazard data and the results of damage and economic loss estimates for buildings and infrastructure. It also allows users to estimate the impacts of hurricane winds, floods, and earthquakes on populations. HAZUS-MH will be fast-running to facilitate use in real time to support response and recovery following a natural disaster.

HAZUS-MH provides for three levels of analysis:

- A Level 1 analysis yields a rough estimate based on the nationwide database and is a great way to begin the risk assessment process and prioritize high-risk communities.
- A Level 2 analysis requires the input of additional or refined data and hazard maps that will produce more accurate risk and loss estimates. Assistance from local emergency management personnel, city planners, GIS professionals, and others may be necessary for this level of analysis.
- A Level 3 analysis yields the most accurate estimate of loss and typically requires the involvement of technical experts such as structural and geotechnical engineers who can modify loss parameters based on to the specific conditions of a community. This level analysis will allow users to supply their own techniques to study special conditions such as dam breaks and tsunamis. Engineering and other expertise are needed at this level.

Three data input tools have been developed to support data collection. The Inventory Collection Tool (InCAST) helps users collect and manage local building data for more refined analyses than



are possible with the national level data sets that come with HAZUS. InCAST was released in 2002 with expanded capabilities for multi-hazard data collection. HAZUS-MH includes an enhanced Building Inventory Tool (BIT) allows users to import building data and is most useful when handling large datasets (over 100,000 records), such as tax assessor records. The Flood Information Tool (FIT) helps users manipulate flood data into the format required by the HAZUS flood model.

**Table 5.5-3
Flood Risk to Geneva County Critical Facilities based on FEMA HAZUS Data**

County	Police	Schools	Fire	EOCs	Total
Geneva	\$149,184	\$351,837	\$79,920	\$?	\$580,941

Source: HAZUS 2007

5.5.2.3 County-owned Facilities in Flood Hazard Areas

From the time the initial version of this plan was developed up to the present plan revision time, no reliable list of county-owned facilities existed outside FEMA’s HAZUS software, which does not discriminate between state and locally-owned public facilities. As part of the planning process, local agencies were asked about their flood risk, but the answers to this query cannot be considered an accurate determination of flood risk. An ongoing recommendation is that the county performs an inventory of its facilities, and then gathers basic information about them to support more detailed and accurate risk assessments. Since the original plan was developed, priorities were necessarily shifted and this inventory has not been developed. Part of the county’s longer-term effort in this update is to initiate the process of inventorying and prioritizing county facilities for more detailed risk assessments, for flood, wind and earthquake hazards. GCEMA expects this process to be completed by the next plan update in 2015. The inventory and prioritization process will use (1) the county’s risk management database, which includes a complete inventory of the county’s facilities and (2) the NFIP insurance claims databases, which will provide some insight into the loss history. The process of developing this prioritized list has not yet been fully detailed, but will include a combination of use, value, criticality, maximum occupancy, structure type (where applicable) and loss history. After the prioritized list is developed, the county intends to perform risk assessments using standard methodologies that incorporate a range of facility-specific data, loss histories, and engineering information to calculate potential future losses from natural hazards. After this effort is complete, the county will update this plan to include the inventory process and risk assessment results from the detailed studies.

5.5.2.4 Potential Dollar Losses to County Facilities in Flood Hazard Areas

Flood risk assessment Method 4 (above), and **Tables 5.5-4** provide estimated dollar losses to essential facilities due to floods. The inventory of facilities and the loss calculation were performed using the FEMA HAZUS tool, as well as local records. Facilities included police and fire stations, emergency operations centers, schools, and hospitals. As noted elsewhere, it is unlikely that HAZUS provides a comprehensive inventory of county-owned facilities. Numerous roads and other public infrastructure may be at risk from floods and other hazards, and are not



included in this plan because of a lack of reliable data. It should also be noted that the facilities in the HAZUS output shown in **Table 5.5-4** is not necessarily all county-owned and/or operated facilities. In some cases the assets may be owned or operated by local, regional, or state authorities. This part of the risk assessment is intended to provide supporting data for the overall result.

As noted elsewhere in this plan, at the time these risk assessments were performed there was no comprehensive inventory of county-owned and/or operated facilities that included sufficient data to allow detailed risk assessment. After completion of this plan update, the county intends to develop a prioritized inventory of county-owned critical facilities.

5.5.3 Wind Risk

As discussed throughout this document, the committee decided early in the plan updates process that it would separate the wind and flood elements of hurricanes into separate hazards. The committee then combined thunderstorms and high wind elements (tornadoes and hurricanes) into a single wind hazard.

5.5.3.1 Summary of Local Risk Assessments

Potential loss estimates for wind events can be found in **Section 5.5.1**.

5.5.3.2 Countywide Risk Assessment for Wind

Tornado Methodology - Analysis of Historic Data Obtained from NOAA

As described in **Section 5.2**, tornadoes are prevalent over the entire Geneva County. NOAA maintains a database of tornadoes that extends back about 50 years. The database includes tornado strength, dollar damages and numbers of injuries and deaths. The NOAA database subdivides the information so it is possible to report the numbers of tornadoes and the injuries and casualties at the county level.

The NOAA data provided numbers of tornadoes by Fujita Class, damages in dollars, and injuries and deaths. The data are provided by year of occurrence. To determine countywide tornado risk, the NOAA data was first sorted by county and year. The figures for injuries and casualties were reported as raw numbers, so the data were converted to dollar figures using the values shown in **Table 5.5-4** below.

Table 5.5-4 Values used for Monetary Conversion of Tornado Injuries and Deaths

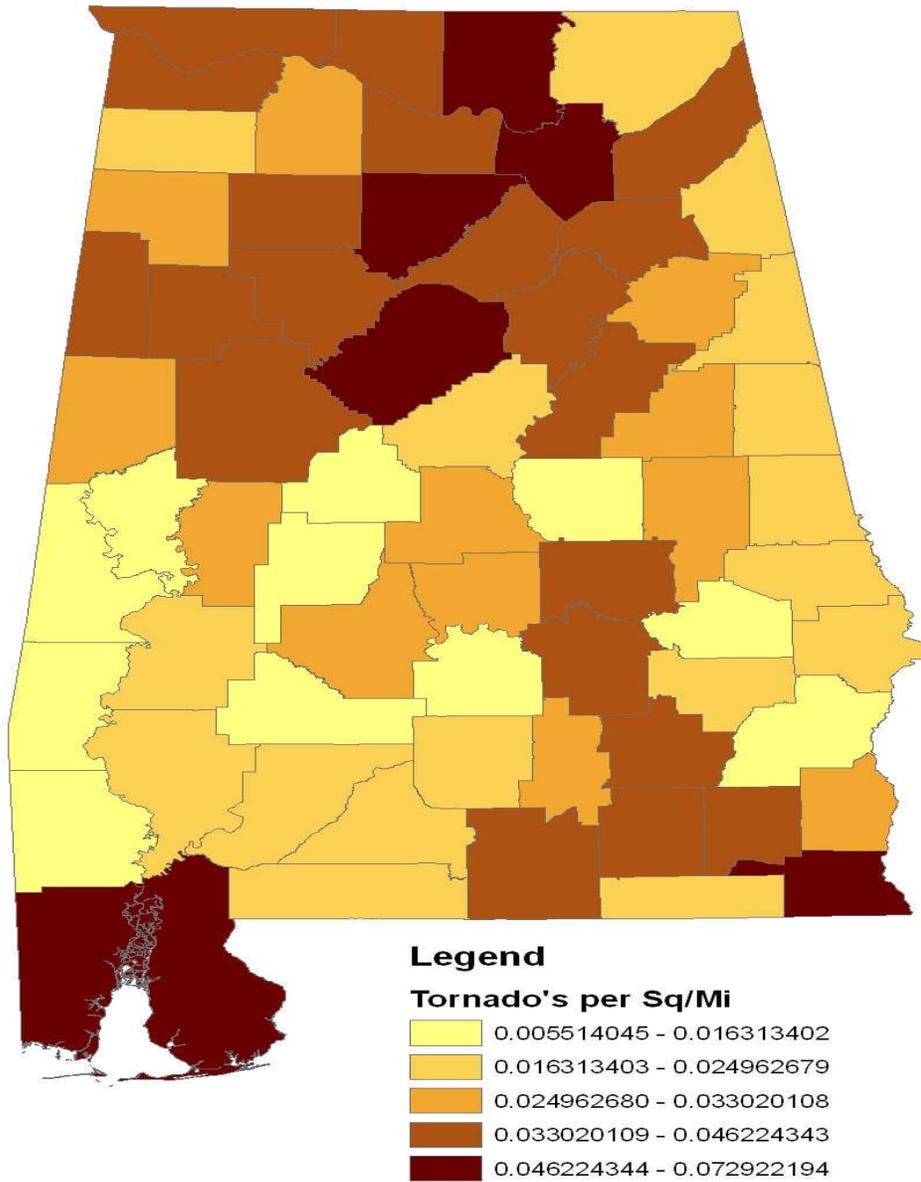
Damage Category	Value for Monetary Conversion
Injury (blended major and minor)	\$12,500
Death	\$2,200,000

The figures used for valuation of deaths and injuries are approximations based on FEMA guidance used in benefit-cost analysis of hazard mitigation measures. Major and minor injuries are combined in the NOAA data, so it was necessary to use a blended number in the valuation. The county damage, injury and casualty data were then projected to a 30-year horizon and

discounted using a 7% discount rate, in accordance with OMB guidance (Circular No. A-94). The resulting data was subsequently disaggregated to separate damages related to injuries and deaths from other damages. This was done because deaths cause a strong bias in the outcome due to their extremely high value.



Figure 5.5-7 Tornadoes per Square Mile, 1950-2006



Source: National Climatic Data Center

Table 5.5-5 Summary of Tornado Risk in Geneva County

County Name	# of Tornadoes	Tornadoes (Damage Only)			Tornadoes (Damage, Injuries + Casualties)		
		Total	Annual Average	30-Year NPV	Total	Annual Average	30-Year NPV
Geneva County	14	\$3,815,640	\$71,993	\$752,996	\$6,190,640	\$102,821	\$1,281,628

Source: National Climatic Data Center

Note: The term NPV in the table stands for Net Present Value, which is the total expected future losses (risk) based on an annualized damage figure, a 30-year time horizon, and a 7% discount rate, as required by OMB guidance.

It should be noted that tornado probability is not perfectly analogous to risk, because risk is created only when assets or operations will be negatively impacted by the hazard. **Table 5.5-5** above includes separate calculations of physical damages and casualties based on past tornado occurrences. Note that including casualties adds significantly to the risk, as is the case with all hazards that can result in deaths or injuries. Although the potential dollar losses appear very large, it is important to consider that tornadoes are almost impossible to predict in a particular place more than a very short period in advance and there is a relatively small range of cost-effective mitigation options available to protect against more severe events.

Table 5.5-6 Geneva County Tornado Damages and Future Risk by Category in Thousands of Dollars through August 2009

Damage Category	Annual Average	30-Year Future Risk
Damage, Injuries and Casualties	\$71,993	\$752,996

Source: National Climatic Data Center

Strengths, Biases and Limitations of the Methodology

Geneva County, Alabama has a well-established history of tornadoes, and the NOAA database is large enough that it is reasonable to use past occurrences as a general indicator of future risk, at least on a countywide basis. Clearly, as with all risks, the presence of vulnerable assets (including people) in particular areas increases risk because of the potential for damage, injury and death. Because tornadoes occur relatively quickly (as opposed to floods and hurricanes, both of which are usually preceded by long-lead time warnings and predictions about their severity) several additional factors must be considered in assessing risk, including: the presence and effectiveness of warning systems, public knowledge about what to do if a tornado does occur, the willingness of the population to take appropriate action, and the availability of adequate shelter (both in terms of its proximity to potential users, structural characteristics, and potential occupancy level).



Using past occurrence data to estimate future risk can be particularly problematic for tornadoes, except in the most general sense. It is important to understand that tornadoes are a widespread phenomenon in Geneva County. Much of the record of tornado events is based on *observations* of tornadoes forming or touching the ground, or on after-the-fact experimental observations of the damage they caused. Because of this, it is appropriate to assume that the probabilities are somewhat higher than what is suggested by the data – in many cases tornadoes occur in unpopulated places where they are neither observed nor cause any damage or injuries.

Tornado probabilities are primarily influenced by weather and topography, and can be expected to remain relatively static over a long period of time, although actual year-to-year occurrences may vary. The NOAA database indicates that Geneva County experienced 14 tornadoes from 1956 to 2009, an average of 0.3 per year countywide. Of these, the majority were Fujita class F0 to F1. (F0 = 5; F1 = 7; F2 = 2). As with the other hazards, it is important to note that tornado probability and tornado risk are not the same, although probability is a key determinant of risk. Although tornadoes clearly have great potential to damage physical assets, the most significant damage they cause is in the form of injuries and casualties. Because of this, all other factors being equal, the *risk* from tornadoes is highly correlated with population density, the presence and efficiency of warning systems, and the availability and proximity of appropriate shelter.

Hurricane Methodology – HAZUS Calculation of Losses

Hurricanes mainly affect the coastal areas of Alabama, although their effects may be felt a considerable distance inland as well, in the form of rain and wind. Typically, hurricane wind speeds decay markedly as storms move away from the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico. As noted in previous sections, hurricane damages usually result from a combination of wind and flooding. This can result in difficulties disaggregating data about flood damages because flood and hurricane damage databases often overlap. There is a National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) database of hurricanes, but a review of the data seems to indicate that it may be somewhat unreliable in terms of the reported dollar damages. It is clear that hurricanes present a serious risk because of their potential severity and large scale. FEMA’s HAZUS-MH software was used for the analysis in this section. The figures in **Table 5.5-7** are annual losses in the *Direct*, *Business* and *Total Loss* columns. The *Future Loss* column is the estimated future losses over a 30-year horizon, consistent with the other analyses in this section.

Table 5.5-7 HAZUS Calculation of Dollar Losses
(Note all figures are in thousands)

County	Annual Direct Loss	Annual Business Loss	Annual Total Loss	Future Loss – 30-Year Horizon
Geneva County	\$2,106	\$429	\$2,534	\$31,451

Source: FEMA/HAZUS 2007

Geneva County is at a minimum to minor risk for losses.





Strengths, Biases and Limitations of the Methodology

These results are based on a default-data risk assessment from FEMA's HAZUS software. The patterns in the result are as predicted, and the most current version of HAZUS was used in the assessment, so the results are presumed to be reasonably reliable. Like any software, HAZUS is only as good as the information in its database.

5.5.3.3 Potential Dollar Losses to County Facilities in High Wind Hazard Areas

As noted elsewhere in this plan, at the time these risk assessments were performed there was no comprehensive inventory of county-owned and/or operated facilities that included sufficient data for a detailed risk assessment. Without facility-, population- and operation- specific information, it is not presently possible to estimate losses to county facilities with sufficient accuracy to make the estimates that would be useful in prioritizing mitigation activities. As noted in the previous sub-section, the county will initiate the data-gathering process with an inventory of its most important facilities; prioritize these by potential risk, then gather the data that would be required to perform a formal risk assessment. **Section 5.5.4** of this plan provides a brief additional assessment of this issue, and specific actions that the county is contemplating or already undertaking to address data insufficiencies.

Upon completion of this inventory, the county will be able to combine this with high wind hazard maps to delineate which facilities are in the high wind hazard areas. The county will also conduct detailed risk assessment on a subset of these facilities based on the prioritization process. The result of this work will be incorporated into this risk assessment.

Although there is clearly some tornado risk differential across the county due to the influences of climate and topography, the primary determinants of risk are population, availability of shelter, warning, and asset-specific characteristics (for example, building structural system, etc.). As a starting point, the county will use the prioritized inventory noted above as the basis for developing an inventory of data required for detailed risk assessment. The need for the data, as well as its utility, will be influenced by other factors as well, but it is possible to develop a basic set of common data points applicable to tornado risk without the requirement for very complex analysis.

Table 5.5-8 Select Geneva County’s Critical Facilities’ Estimated Replacement Values
(DATA GATHERING IN PROCESS)

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Bellwood	
Water Facility with 10,000 gallon tank	\$200,000
Post Office	\$100,000
Fire Station	\$75,000
W. M. Donnell Trucking Co.	\$500,000
Total	\$875,000
Black	
Town Hall	\$30,000
Fire Station	\$110,000
Water Well, Tank and Well House	\$150,000
Community Center/Senior Citizen Building	\$90,000
Post Office	\$65,000
Total	\$445,000
Chancellor	
Water Facility	\$350,000
Post Office	\$100,000
Water Tank, 10,000 gallon	\$25,000
Total	\$475,000
Eunola	
City Hall	\$50,000
Total	\$50,000

Table 5.5-9 Select Coffee Springs Critical Facilities’ Estimated Replacement Values
(DATA GATHERING IN PROCESS)

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Town Hall	\$300,000
Water Well	\$250,000
Water Tank	\$250,000
Fire and Rescue	\$315,000
Senior Citizens Centers	\$150,000
Total	\$1,265,000

**Table 5.5-10 Select Geneva (City and County) Critical Facilities’
Estimated Replacement Values**

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Wiregrass Medical Center & Nursing Home	\$15,000,000
Water Works & Sewer (wells, tanks, and waste water treatment plant)	\$6,054,000
Rescue Squad	\$350,000
Fire Station	\$343,089
City Hall/Police Department	\$934,782
City Maintenance Building	\$112,551
Geneva County Court House	\$2,500,000
City Schools (High, Middle, and Elementary)	\$25,000,000
National Guard Armory	\$1,300,000
City Yard & Gas Tanks	\$750,000
Senior Citizen Building	\$540,244
Library	\$633,386
Airport Runway and Facilities	\$3,000,000
Levee	\$100,000,000
Paved Streets	\$48,000,000
Community Center	\$733,220
Recreation Facility	\$1,333,000
Rescue Building	\$140,689
Total	\$206,724,961

Source: City/County of Geneva

Table 5.5-11 Select Hartford Critical Facilities' Estimated Replacement Values

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Hartford Health Care, Retirement Village, Medical Clinic	\$5,950,000
County School System (High, Middle, and Elementary)	\$10,500,000
City Hall	\$350,000
Police Department	\$200,000
Rescue Squad Building	\$750,000
Utility Department	\$550,000
Senior Center	\$400,000
Hughes Community Center	\$1,300,000
Recreation Facilities, Building and Pavilion	\$82,000
Electrical Substation 1 & 2 (Storage, lines, and poles)	\$4,000,000
Wiregrass Electric	\$2,200,000
Water Tank 1 & 2, Well 1, 2, & 3	\$3,000,000
Ten Sewer Pump Stations	\$500,000
Sewer Lagoon System	\$1,200,000
Total	\$30,982,000

Source: City of Hartford

Table 5.5-12 Select Malvern Critical Facilities' Estimated Replacement Values
(DATA GATHERING IN PROCESS)

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Town Hall	\$60,000
Volunteer Fire Department	\$80,000
Maintenance Building	\$80,000
Water Well #1 (Garner Road)	\$600,000
Water Well #2 (Purvis Road)	\$600,000
Storage Tank (Purvis Road)	\$500,000
Storage Tank (County Road 70)	\$500,000
Water Distribution Lines	\$1,500,000
Community Building	\$40,000
Park Facilities	\$100,000
Total	\$26,232,000

Table 5.5-13 Select Samson Critical Facilities' Estimated Replacement Values
(DATA GATHERING IN PROCESS – for six-inch water main)

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Fire and Rescue Building	\$130,000
Equipment and Vehicles	\$1,500,000
Police Department	\$175,000
City Hall	\$180,000
National Guard Armory	\$2,000,000
County School System (High, Middle, and Elementary)	\$8,000,000
Senior Citizen Center	\$250,000
City Shop	\$125,000
Old National Guard	\$600,000
Water Well #1 (S. Jordan St.) & Water Well #3 (N. Johnson Street) \$275,000 each	\$550,000
Six-inch Water Main (\$8 per linear foot)	\$?
One 250,000 gal storage and one 200,000 gal storage tanks (\$300,000 each)	\$600,000
Lagoon and Four Lift Stations	\$500,000
Covington Electric Cooperative	
Headquarters Facility	\$645,600
Electrical Facilities	\$2,575,127
Total	\$17,830,727

Source: Covington Electric Cooperative/HAZUS 2007

Table 5.5-14 Select Slocomb Critical Facilities' Estimated Replacement Values
(DATA GATHERING IN PROCESS)

FACILITY TYPE	REPLACEMENT VALUE
Water System (two wells & two tanks)	\$4,500,000
Schools (High, middle, and Elementary)	\$10,000,000
City Hall/Fire and Rescue	\$10,000,000
Senior Citizen Center	\$500,000
Adult Day Care Center	\$6,500,000
Power Sub Station	\$15,000,000
Lagoons and Collection	\$16,000,000
Two Propane Storage Facilities	\$400,000
Total	\$62,900,000

Table 5.5-15 Critical Roadways Vulnerable to Flooding and Landslides
(DATA GATHERING IN PROCESS)

CRITICAL ROADWAYS		
NAME	TYPE	FLOOD TYPE
State Route 52	Major Transportation Route	
State Route 27	Major Transportation Route	
State Route 196	Major Transportation Route	

5.5.4 Seismic Risk

The county used FEMA's HAZUS software to determine risk in Geneva County.

5.5.4.1 Summary of Local Risk Assessments

There are no potential loss estimates for earthquakes due to a lack of data and historical damages.

5.5.4.2 Countywide Risk Assessment for Earthquakes

Earthquake Methodology – HAZUS Calculation of Losses

FEMA's HAZUS software was used to estimate seismic risk for Geneva County in Alabama. The methodology uses HAZUS default data about seismic hazards across the county in conjunction with countywide essential facility information, and the software's standard algorithms. The calculation algorithms estimate annual seismic risk (expected losses) using information about "shake" probabilities and soil characteristics, among other parameters. To convert the estimated annual losses, the methodology uses a present value coefficient of 12.41 multiplied by the annual losses. The coefficient combines the required 7 percent discount rate with a standard 30-year time horizon to calculate future losses probable losses over that period.

Strengths, Biases and Limitations of the Methodology



This analysis uses FEMA's HAZUS software to calculate estimated seismic losses for Geneva County. The utility of these results is limited by several factors. First, the shake and soils data is in the process of being updated. Estimates will be more accurate if the new data can be incorporated into the next iteration of HAZUS calculations (or via another methodology). Second, facility-specific HAZUS data is limited to the defaults in the software providing a fairly reliable initial estimate. However, more detailed information about buildings (structure type, use, size, occupancy, etc.), will facilitate a much more detailed and accurate calculation. As a secondary part of its long-term plan update and maintenance processes, the county will be undertaking detailed risk assessments for critical county facilities; if possible, this work will include data collection for seismic risk calculations. The calculations will be introduced into a future plan update.

5.5.4.3 Potential Dollar Losses to County Facilities in Seismic Hazard Areas

As noted elsewhere in this plan, at the time these risk assessments were performed there was no comprehensive inventory of county-owned and/or operated facilities that included sufficient data for a detailed risk assessment. Without facility-, population- and operation-specific information, it is not presently possible to estimate losses to county facilities with sufficient accuracy to make the estimates that would be useful in prioritizing mitigation activities. As noted in the previous sub-section, the county will initiate the data-gathering process with an inventory of its most important facilities; prioritize these by potential risk, then gather the data that would be required to perform a formal risk assessment. **Section 5.5.4** of this plan provides a brief additional assessment of this issue, and specific actions that the county is contemplating or already undertaking to address data insufficiencies. Upon completion of this inventory, the county will be able to combine seismic risk maps to delineate which facilities are in the earthquake high hazard areas. The county will also conduct detailed risk assessment on a subset of these facilities based on the prioritization process. The result of this work will be incorporated into this risk assessment. Of note is that the northern portions of the state clearly have more risk than the southern portions. This is due to these areas being located in closer proximity to the NMSZ, SASZ, and SCSZ (seismic zones described in **Section 5.2.6**).

5.5.5 General Summary and Recommendations

As anticipated, data for countywide risk determinations was mostly available for flood hazards, although information related to wind risk has improved markedly since the last version of the plan. A reasonable amount of information regarding past occurrences and dollar damages for high-wind hazards presently exists. Accurate risk assessments for any of the hazards require site- and facility- specific data, including information about both the hazards themselves, as well as the performance of physical and operational elements. The information presented in this plan will be used as the basis for the county to prioritize its mitigation actions in the immediate future, and to determine additional measures it will undertake to improve its ability to identify and address risks. As described in **Section 2**, risk is a function of probability, vulnerability and the value of community elements (including people) that may be impacted by floods. Notably, almost all flood risk is related to the built environment, and the expected result of defining risk in this way is that places with the most structures, infrastructure and people tend to have the most risk, particularly if the probability of flooding is high. Logically, in places where there are high

probabilities of events occurring combined with relatively large populations and infrastructure, risk is the greatest. As noted in the body of this section, because of their very high monetary value, casualties can dominate risk assessments. Although it is usually appropriate to include casualties in such an assessment, it is very important to recognize that risk is only one of many factors that must be considered in developing and prioritizing mitigation efforts. For example, although heavily populated areas have high risk from tornadoes (because there are many people), any assessment of a mitigation project would have to consider this information as well as contemplate the presence and effect of warning systems, the availability of shelter, and the ability of people to get to shelter in time to avoid a tornado. Similar considerations apply to all hazards and potential mitigation activities. The most important action at this point is to develop a comprehensive and reliable database of its facilities. Ultimately, this information is the basis of formal detailed risk assessments for all hazards, which can in turn be used to update the county's future mitigation plans. As noted in several places earlier in this section, as part of the 2010 plan update (as was in the 2005 Plan), the county plans to perform an inventory and prioritization of county-owned facilities as the first step in detailed risk assessments for a subset of the most critical facilities. The results of this work will be incorporated into this part of the plan when they are completed.

5.6 Jurisdictions Most Threatened and Vulnerable to Damage and Loss

IFR Subsection 201.6 (c) (2) (ii) requires that the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan include “a description of the jurisdiction’s vulnerability to the hazards...” This part of the Plan addresses that requirement. **Table 5.6-1 through Table 5.6-7** lists each jurisdiction’s vulnerability to hazards, as identified by the GCHMPC. **Table 5.6-9** lists the Direct Physical Losses to Structures and Contents in Geneva County (In Thousands of Dollars) as a result of hazards.

The City of Geneva is unique because it is located behind a levee system. The city leadership has worked closely with the state, FEMA, and the Army Corp of Engineers to secure funding for levee rehabilitation. Those efforts resulted in a 16.6 million dollar project that has been completed. Additionally, the city has requested the Army Corp of Engineers undertake a snagging and clearing operation for those nearby waterways with the potential to impact Geneva. The Army National Guard has completed similar, smaller projects in the past.

The vulnerability overview basically remains the same as stated in the previously approved plan with exceptions being to the data gathering and to the below items:

- Expected damages are noted in each hazard’s profile using this formula: Total amount of damages (in dollars) for each historical or reported event divided by the number of damage causing events within the time period = estimate of expected future damages.
- Vulnerable populations, to include the number of people and housing units potentially impacted in natural hazard events, were identified using the U. S. Census (2000) through Easy Analytic Software, Inc. (EASI Demographics) for the year 2009.

- Repetitive Loss Property information was identified through the State NFIP Coordinator and FEMA’s Repetitive Losses/BCX Claims record.
- Critical facilities are essential to the daily operation of Geneva County. The loss of use of these facilities could impose a severe impact on Geneva County, its municipalities, and its residents. Figures in this plan were gathered using the most current HAZUS-MH 2007 information; however, the county has not completed a detailed loss estimate of property/critical facilities to include in the HAZUS software. The estimated values of buildings exposed to hazards were provided locally and are continuing to be updated.
- Probability of Occurrence is noted in each hazard’s profile using this formula: Number of historical or reported events in a time period divided by the number of years the incidents occurred within = probability of future annual event occurrences. Also in **Table 5.6-1** through **Table 5.6-7**, an adjective description (Highly, Likely, and Possible) is used to state the Likelihood of Occurrence based on the above formula.
 - Highly = 100% or greater likelihood that the hazardous event will occur on an annual basis
 - Likely = 50% or greater likelihood that the hazardous event will occur on an annual basis
 - Possible = 1% or greater likelihood that the hazardous event will occur on an annual basis
- Location Size of Impact is noted in **Table 5.6-1** through **Table 5.6-7** using a percentage of the location size of impact a hazard could have on Geneva County and its jurisdictions. This description takes into account the land size at risk in relation to the entire county. This formula is used on a countywide basis.
- Impact of Hazard is noted in **Table 5.6-1** through **Table 5.6-7** using an adjective description (Critical, Limited, and Minimal) of the potential impact a hazard could have on Geneva County or a jurisdiction. This description takes into account the population, property, commerce, infrastructure, and services at risk in relation to the entire county.
 - Critical = The total population, property, commerce, infrastructures and services of the county or jurisdiction are uniformly exposed to the effects of a hazard of a potentially great magnitude.
 - Limited = The total population, property, commerce, infrastructures, and services of the county or jurisdiction are uniformly exposed to the effects of a hazard of a moderate influence.

- Minimal = A limited area or segment of the population, property, commerce, infrastructures, and services of the county or jurisdiction are uniformly exposed to the effects of a hazard of a minimal influence.
- Rank is noted in **Table 5.6-1** using 1 through 8 (and can have hazards that are equally ranked). This rank takes into account the percentage and dollar amount of an annual future occurrence, the likelihood of occurrence, the location size of impact, and the impact of the hazard. The hazards are ranked only by countywide.

Table 5.6-1
Geneva County’s Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard	Rank
Flooding	Likely	33.3%	Critical	2
High Wind	Highly	100%	Critical	1
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	100%	Limited	5
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	1%	Minimal	8
Earthquakes	Possible	5%	Minimal	7
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	100%	Limited	5
Hail	Possible	100%	Minimal	6
Wildfire	Possible	100%	Minimal	6
Lightning	Possible	100%	Limited	4
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	33.3%	Critical	3

**Table 5.6-2
Coffee Spring's Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard
Flooding	Likely	0.3%	Limited
High Wind	Highly	1.0%	Critical
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	1.0%	Limited
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	0.01%	Minimal
Earthquakes	Possible	0.05%	Minimal
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	1.0%	Critical
Hail	Possible	1.0%	Limited
Wildfire	Possible	1.0%	Minimal
Lightning	Possible	1.0%	Limited
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	0.3%	Critical

**Table 5.6-3
City of Geneva's Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard
Flooding	Likely	5.1%	Limited
High Wind	Highly	15.4%	Critical
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	15.4%	Limited
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	0.2%	Minimal
Earthquakes	Possible	0.8%	Minimal
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	15.4%	Critical
Hail	Possible	15.4%	Limited
Wildfire	Possible	15.4%	Minimal
Lightning	Possible	15.4%	Limited
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	5.1%	Critical

**Table 5.6-4
Hartford's Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard
Flooding	Likely	3.0%	Limited
High Wind	Highly	8.2%	Critical
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	8.2%	Limited
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	0.1%	Minimal
Earthquakes	Possible	0.4%	Minimal
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	8.2%	Critical
Hail	Possible	8.2%	Limited
Wildfire	Possible	8.2%	Minimal
Lightning	Possible	8.2%	Limited
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	3.0%	Critical

**Table 5.6-5
Malvern's Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard
Flooding	Likely	1.7%	Limited
High Wind	Highly	5.0%	Critical
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	5.0%	Limited
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	0.1%	Minimal
Earthquakes	Possible	0.3%	Minimal
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	5.0%	Critical
Hail	Possible	5.0%	Limited
Wildfire	Possible	5.0%	Minimal
Lightning	Possible	5.0%	Limited
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	1.7%	Critical

**Table 5.6-6
Samson's Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard
Flooding	Likely	3.0%	Limited
High Wind	Highly	9.0%	Critical
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	9.0%	Limited
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	0.1%	Minimal
Earthquakes	Possible	0.5%	Minimal
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	9.0%	Critical
Hail	Possible	9.0%	Limited
Wildfire	Possible	9.0%	Minimal
Lightning	Possible	9.0%	Limited
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	3.0%	Critical

**Table 5.6-7
Slocomb's Vulnerability to Damage and Loss from Hazards**

Hazard	Likelihood of Occurrence	Location Size of Impact	Impact of Hazard
Flooding	Likely	3.0%	Limited
High Wind	Highly	9.0%	Critical
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	Possible	9.0%	Limited
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	Possible	0.1%	Minimal
Earthquakes	Possible	0.5%	Minimal
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	Possible	9.0%	Critical
Hail	Possible	9.0%	Limited
Wildfire	Possible	9.0%	Minimal
Lightning	Possible	9.0%	Limited
Dam/Levee Failure	Possible	3.0%	Critical

5.6.1 Jurisdictions Most Vulnerable to Damage and Loss from Floods

The following table summarizes the results from the county risk assessment for floods and names the jurisdictions most at risk. The jurisdictions ranked three are all equally at risks for flooding according to State Flood Insurance records on repetitive loss properties. According to the State NFIP Coordinator, all repetitive loss properties were residential properties.



**Table 5.6-8
Rank Based on the Number of Repetitive Loss Properties,
According to State Flood Insurance Program Records**

Jurisdiction	Rank	# Repetitive Loss Properties
Coffee Springs	3	0
Geneva County	1	9
City of Geneva	2	7
Hartford	3	0
Malvern	3	0
Samson	3	0
Slocomb	3	0

**Table 5.6-9 Direct Physical Losses to Structures and Contents in Geneva County
(In Thousands of Dollars)**

County	Structure	Building	Contents	Total
Geneva	Residential	\$904,327	\$ 454,378	\$1,358,705
	Commercial	\$168,145	\$ 172,003	\$ 340,148
	Industrial	\$ 27,995	\$ 34,898	\$ 62,893
	Agricultural	\$ 13,804	\$ 15,160	\$ 28,964
	Religious	\$ 39,742	\$ 39,559	\$ 79,301
	Governmental	\$ 10,602	\$ 13,049	\$ 23,651
	Educational	\$ 13,365	\$ 13,540	\$ 26,905
Total		\$1,177,980	\$742,587	\$1,920,567
<i>Source: HAZUS 2007</i>				

As noted in **Section 5.5** there are important differences in the source data and calculation methods that have a large influence on risk, i.e. the dollar amount of future damages. The most significant outcome of these calculations and tables is the repeated high rankings of certain jurisdictions in the calculations, not the specific dollar amounts of future risk.

5.6.2 Jurisdictions Most Vulnerable to Damage and Loss from High Winds

It is important to note that tornado wind risk is not the same as probability. Risk is the result of probability, severity, vulnerability, and value (see **Section 5.4**). The probability and severity of tornadoes is fairly well established and likely to remain constant.

Table 5.6-10 Potential Tornado Damage for Geneva County

County Name	# of Tornadoes	Damage Only		
		Total	Annual Average	30-Year NPV
Geneva	14	\$3,815,640	\$71,993	\$752,996

Source: National Climatic Data Center

Note: The term NPV in the table stands for Net Present Value, which is the total expected future losses (risk) based on an annualized damage figure, a 30-year time horizon, and a 7% discount rate, as required by OMB guidance.

As with the other hazards in this section, it is important to note that hurricane wind risk is not the same as probability. Risk is the result of probability, severity, vulnerability, and value (see **Section 5.4**). The probability and severity of hurricanes in Geneva County is fairly well established and likely to remain constant, notwithstanding the potential effects of global warming on weather patterns.

5.6.3 Jurisdictions Most Vulnerable to Damage and Loss from Earthquakes

Severe earthquakes are relatively unlikely in Geneva County, which explains the lack of risk figures.

5.6.4 Jurisdictions Most Vulnerable to Damage and Loss from Three Most Significant Hazards Countywide

There are two methods by which the vulnerability to damage and loss can be compared countywide. The first of these is to add the calculated risks from the three hazards, and then simply rank them from most future risk to least. However, for the reasons discussed in **Section 5.5**, these figures can be somewhat misleading, particularly because of the disproportionate influence of deaths (primarily for the tornado hazard) have on the numerical outcome.

This ranking should be considered only a general indication of risk countywide. As noted elsewhere in this plan, accurate risk assessments and information about the performance and costs of mitigation measures (including policy changes), are the primary bases of mitigation planning. In order to be truly accurate, risk assessments must be highly localized, often addressing a single asset or operation. Because of this, the county-level risk assessment should be considered only a guide that identifies where the most risk is at a county level. In all cases the county will determine mitigation priorities based on the best available data, regardless of its source.

5.7 Impacts of Development Trends on Vulnerability

Development trends, particularly population shifts and land use changes created by major economic development expansions and infrastructure improvements of countywide significance, are important considerations to effective mitigation planning. These trends must be continually monitored and analyzed to keep abreast of changing vulnerabilities of jurisdictions and the

increasing exposure of growing populations, new buildings, and enlarged infrastructure to natural hazards. As growth and development patterns change over time, the risks to property damage and lives also change. This section examines the projected growth trends and other impacts of countywide significance that are expected to affect the location and extent of natural hazards vulnerability over time.

This plan fully recognizes that changes in development for jurisdictions in hazard prone areas are on-going issues that must be constantly monitored and addressed in the local planning process. Changing development trends and the on-going growth and shift of population can increase levels of vulnerability. The potential impacts of these changes can have adverse impacts, such as those noted here:

- Increasing demands for developable land area to accommodate new growth can push new development to previously undeveloped flood plains.
- New development and associated parking, roads, and other impermeable surfaces can increase urban runoff, exacerbating flooding hazards.
- New construction in previously rural areas can push the wildland-urban interface, increasing exposure to wildfires.
- New housing may be constructed inadequately to withstand the damaging wind threats of high winds and tornadoes.
- Increased population can stretch the demand for limited water resources in times of drought.
- More development in widespread areas subject to sinkholes can increase the probability of property and infrastructure damages.

Geneva County is mostly a rural county. The county relies on the Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission for assistance in land use development. The following is acreage usage in order of most use to least use in Geneva County: Commercial, Transportation, Industrial, Public, Agriculture, Residential, and Forest.

By measuring total land area, Geneva encompasses a total area of 576 square miles. The land areas has a of low average area density of 45 persons per square mile, in 2005. In Geneva County, the real estate market was made up of 12,368 homes in the year 2005. This county has gone through a moderate level of growth, adding a sum of 83 homes since 2001, or 0.7 percent. Geneva County recorded a median home value in 2000 of \$55,900, reported by the Decennial Census. This value is less than the Alabama 2000 home median value of \$85,100 and less than home value of \$119,600 across the nation during that year.

In the State of Alabama, Geneva County is positioned 59 of 67 by percent in growth of new residential structures. The county places 2,797 of 3,141, in terms of residential real estate percentage change in the United States. It can be understood that there is a large amount of affordable housing in Geneva County, Alabama. In 2000, 93.6 percent of owner-occupied dwellings were valued under \$125K.

Employment Report for Geneva County, Alabama -- Annual 2005 Industry states the Transportation and Warehousing has seen the largest decrease in industry presence in Geneva County since the year 2001. The industry went from accounting for 7.1 percent of total employment for the year 2001 to 0 percent of total employment in the year 2005. In Geneva County, Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and the Health care and social assistance sectors are the largest industries, in terms of total number of jobs in 2005.

The Manufacturing is the major employer in the county making up 30.8 percent of all jobs throughout the county, totaling 1,334 employees. The Retail Trade and Health care and social assistance industries total 18.8 and 8.5 percent of the total jobs, respectively. Manufacturing has seen the highest growth in employment from the years 2001-2005 in Geneva County, rising by 76.5 percent. This is greater than the industry employment change in the United States of -13.4 percent. The State of Alabama experienced a sector employment shift of -8.3 percent, in the recent period of 2001-2005. Manufacturing has the largest employers in Geneva County, with the industry averaging 51 employees per business. This is greater than the industry's average at the national level of 39 and less than the Alabama establishments' size average of 52 for the Manufacturing industry.

In Geneva County, Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, Manufacturing and Retail Trade are the three industries with the highest location quotients. The Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry has an LQ of 6.37. This means the percent of total employment in the Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting sector is 6.37 times more than the average percent in the United States, revealing signs that Geneva specializes in Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting.

As of February 23, 2007, employment for all industries has increased by 14.6 percent since the 2nd Quarter figures of 2001. This change is greater than growth in the State of Alabama, which went through a gain of 3.3 percent from the 2nd Quarter of 2001. The gains were greater than the gain felt at the national level of 2.6 percent.

The *Nonresidential building construction* industry has gone through the largest job growth by percent, increasing by 908.3 percent from 2001 to 2006. This industry in Geneva County has expanded faster than the industry has grown in the State of Alabama, where the industry felt a loss of 13.5 percent. The *Nonresidential building construction* industry in Geneva County outpaced the nation in terms of industry employment growth. During this period, the nation lost 1.6 percent in this industry.

Given the industries in the area, the *General freight trucking* industry witnessed the largest drop in employment, losing a total of 85 jobs. The declines in the *General freight trucking* industry make up 37.3 percent of the jobs lost during the period in Geneva County, Alabama. Out of the 27 industry sectors (4-digit NAICS) with employment figures reported by the BLS in each quarter, 14 showed an escalation in the number employed, while 13 industry sectors reported declines during the time period.

Total employment has increased by 2 percent from the reported values in 2005. These values are less than percent in Alabama, which went through a gain of 2.0 percent from 2005 (2nd Quarter). The gains the area experienced were equal to than the gain experienced overall in the US of 2.0 percent.

The *Unclassified* industry has seen the largest percentage job growth, expanding by 80.8 percent from 2005 (2nd quarter) to 2006 (2nd quarter). This industry sector in Geneva County has increased employment faster than the industry job growth experienced in Alabama, where this industry saw a gain of 7.6 percent. The *Unclassified* industry in Geneva County outpaced the national average, which felt a gained 12.1 percent in this industry.

The *Consumer goods rental* industry has lost the largest percent of jobs, losing 46.6 percent of the jobs from 2005 to 2006. These have declined faster than the industry has seen in the Alabama, where the industry felt a loss of 4.2 percent. The losses in the *Consumer goods rental* industry in Geneva County outpaced the losses of nation as a whole in the industry. In this time period, the nation lost 4.6 percent in terms of employees in the *Consumer goods rental* industry.

The *Grocery stores* industry experienced most substantial job loss, losing 75 jobs during the time period. The jobs lost in the *Grocery stores* industry make up 25.8 percent of the employment lost during the period in Geneva County, Alabama. In Geneva County, Alabama, the entire sum of jobs in all industries overall has increased by 351 jobs from mid-2005 to mid-2006. From the 80 4-digit NAICS industries, 35 described an expansion of jobs throughout the time period, while 43 industries reported employment loss in the period.

Of the industries (4-digit NAICS) in the area, the *Child day care services* industry has added the most employment with 37 total jobs brought in during the period. The growth in the *Child day care services* industry makes up 9.1 percent of the growth in Geneva County.

When compared to other counties (and parishes) throughout the United States, Geneva County had a relatively low household income of \$30,944 (Adjusted to 2005 Dollars). This is 29.1 percent lower than the household income median in State of Alabama of \$39,938 and this is 58.8 percent lower than the median household income level in the US of \$49,133. Evaluated with other counties (or parishes) across the nation, Geneva County, Alabama can be understood to have a relatively high poverty rate amongst the population, with a poverty rate of 19.6 percent with a family income under the 1999 poverty level. The *American Indian and Alaska Native* race/ethnicity population category holds the highest rate of poverty with 49.7 percent of the population in 2000 living in poverty. Individuals aged 5 years are witness to the most percent living in poverty in Geneva County, having 32.2 percent of this age cohort living in poverty.

5.7.1 Population Growth Trends and the Impact on Vulnerability

Census 2000 recorded a population of over 25 thousand residents in Geneva County. Overall, the county has experienced slow growth from 2000 to 2008. The total population increased .4 percent for the 2000 to 2008 time period as presented in **Table 5.7-1**.

Table 5.7-1 Geneva County's Population Growth from 2000-2008

County	POPULATION ESTIMATES									CENSUS 2000
	July 1, 2008	July 1, 2007	July 1, 2006	July 1, 2005	July 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2001	July 1, 2000	April 1, 2000
Geneva County	25,882	25,694	25,749	25,584	25,458	25,478	25,455	25,527	25,789	25,764

Source: U. S. Census Bureau 2000

Geneva County is ranked number 41 in population among the 67 Alabama Counties as shown in the **Table 5.7-2**.

Table 5.7-2 Geographical Rank of Geneva County

Rank	Geographic Area	Population	Housing Units	Area in Square Miles			Density per Square Mile of Land Area	
				Total Area	Water Area	Land Area	Population	Housing Units
41	Geneva County	25,764	12,115	578.90	2.62	576.28	44.7	21.0

Source: U. S. Census Bureau 2000

Population Density for Geneva County, Alabama in 2000

Given the importance of population shifts over time, successful mitigation planning requires a look at future trends to assess future vulnerability. Population projections show that Geneva County is expected to increase in size by approximately 11.9 percent by the year 2025. The population projections for the county are presented in **Table 5.7-3**.

Table 5.7-3 Geneva County 2000 Population and Future Population Projections

County	Census 2000	Projections					Change 2000-2025	
		2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	Number	Percent
Geneva	25,764	26,651	27,411	28,009	28,496	28,836	3,072	11.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, August 2001.

Note: Projections in this series are based on trends between the 1990 and 2000 censuses as noted in the State Plan.

Geneva County, Alabama has a less-educated population, with 8.6 percent of the population (+25) having received at least a Bachelors Degree, as reported in the Decennial Census of 2000. Geneva was reported to have a lower percent of population with high education level than the State of Alabama's proportion of 19 percent and a lower percent than the U.S. proportion of 24.4 percent.



Since the year 2000, a low amount of people have migrated to Geneva from outside the country. The immigration into Geneva totals 0.2 percent of immigration into the State of Alabama. This percent of immigration can be considered low when comparing levels of immigration per population in 2005.

The U.S. Census Bureau, in the year 2005, estimated a median age in Geneva County, Alabama to be 41.2 years of age. The median age in Geneva is greater than the median age in Alabama of 37.4. Since 2000, the area has experienced an increase in the median, when the median age was 39.4 years old. With a total of 21.9 percent of the 2005 population being made up of children and youth younger than 18, Geneva can be understood as having a medium-low percent of individuals under 18.

The working age population group (18-64) has a medium-low representation within the population, making up 60.9 percent of the population makes up this age category. The retirement (65 and over) age group comprises 17.2 percent of the population. When compared to other counties in the United States, this represents a medium-high proportion of the area population base.

Geneva County, Alabama had an estimated population of 25,735 in 2005. The total population has decreased, since the 2000 total population of 25,801. The decline shows a decrease of -0.3 percent. Geneva ranks 28 of 67 counties by growth in total population in Alabama and the county ranks 2,057 of 3,141 counties when calculating the total change in county population across the US.

Geneva County is exposed to some risk of property damage or loss of life during a natural hazard. It is important to monitor the plan regularly in order to track the types and properties at risk. Mitigation goals and strategies of this plan update have been reviewed and reprioritized based on the rate and amount of development that has occurred in high risk and highly vulnerable areas. **Figure 5.7-1** depicts the population density distributions of the urban and rural subsections across the county. **Table 5.7-4** through **Table 5.7-10** depict the population affected by each hazard per participating jurisdiction.

Table 5.7-4 Geneva County’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards

Geneva County’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	8,588	2,863
High Wind	25,764	10,477
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	25,764	10,477
Landslide/Land Subsidence/ Sinkhole	258	86
Earthquake	1,288	429
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	25,764	10,477
Hail	25,764	10,477
Wildfire	25,764	10,477
Lightning	25,764	10,477
Dam/Levee Failure	8,588	2,863

Source: Easidemographics

Table 5.7-5 Coffee Springs’ Population Vulnerable to Hazards

Coffee Springs’ Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	446	145
High Wind	1,339	558
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	1,339	558
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	13	5
Earthquake	67	22
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	1,339	558
Hail	1,339	558
Wildfire	1,339	558
Lightning	1,339	558
Dam/Levee Failure	446	145

Table 5.7-6 City of Geneva’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards

City of Geneva’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	1,328	443
High Wind	3,985	2,120
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	3,985	2,120
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	40	13
Earthquake	199	66
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	3,985	2,120
Hail	3,985	2,120
Wildfire	3,985	2,120
Lightning	3,985	2,120
Dam/Levee Failure	1,328	443

Table 5.7-7 Hartford’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards

Hartford’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	1,795	598
High Wind	5,386	2,167
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	5,386	2,167
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	54	18
Earthquake	269	90
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	5,386	2,167
Hail	5,386	2,167
Wildfire	5,386	2,167
Lightning	5,386	2,167
Dam/Levee Failure	1,795	598

Table 5.7-8 Malvern’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards

Malvern’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	396	132
High Wind	1,187	545
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	1,187	545
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	12	4
Earthquake	59	20
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	1,187	545
Hail	1,187	545
Wildfire	1,187	545
Lightning	1,187	545
Dam/Levee Failure	396	132

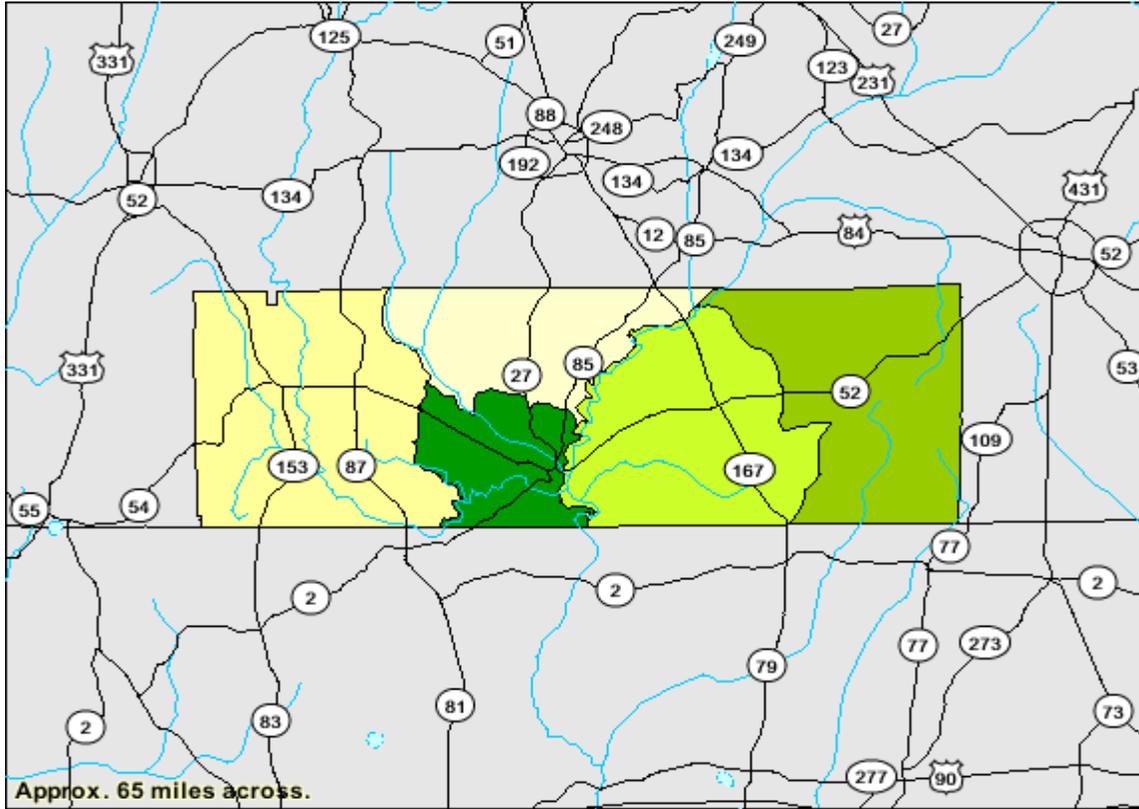
Table 5.7-9 Samson’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards

Samson’s Population Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	1,591	530
High Wind	4,774	1,982
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	4,774	1,982
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	48	16
Earthquake	239	80
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	4,774	1,982
Hail	4,774	1,982
Wildfire	4,774	1,982
Lightning	4,774	1,982
Dam/Levee Failure	1,591	530

Table 5.7-10 Slocomb's Population Vulnerable to Hazards

Slocomb's Population Vulnerable to Hazards		
Hazard	Total Population	Households Occupied and Vacant
Flood	2,098	699
High Wind	6,294	2,503
Winter Storm/Snow & Ice/ Extreme Cold Temperature	6,294	2,503
Landslide/Land Subsidence/Sinkhole	63	21
Earthquake	315	105
Drought/Extreme Heat Temperature	6,294	2,503
Hail	6,294	2,503
Wildfire	6,294	2,503
Lightning	6,294	2,503
Dam/Levee Failure	2,098	699

Figure 5.7-1 Persons per Square Mile by Subsections of the County



Source: U. S. Census Bureau 2000

Legend

Bellwood/Coffee Springs – 29 persons/sq mile
Sansom – 30 persons/sq mile
Hartford - 43 persons/sq mile
Slocomb – 54 persons/sq mile
Geneva - 93 persons/sq mile

Data Classes

Persons/Sq Mile

- 29 - 29
- 30 - 30
- 43 - 43
- 54 - 54
- 93 - 93

Features

- Major Road
- Street
- Stream/Waterbody
- Stream/Waterbody

Items in graytext
are not visible
at this zoom level

5.7.2 Economic Development and Transportation Improvement Impacts on Vulnerability

The county will continue to monitor development trends and adjust its mitigation responses accordingly. This plan update reflects the changes in population and growth patterns since the 2005 Plan, and future updates will address continuing changes over time.

Section 6 – Mitigation Strategy

This section of the plan addresses requirements of Interim Final Rule (IFR) Section 201.6 (c) (3). A copy of the IFR is provided for reference in **Appendix B** of this document.

Contents of this Section

- 6.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Mitigation Strategy
- 6.2 County Mitigation Strategy
- 6.3 County Hazard Mitigation Goals
- 6.4 Discussion of County Pre- and Post- Disaster Hazard Management Policies, Programs and Capabilities
- 6.5 Evaluation of County Laws, Regulations, Policies and Programs related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas
- 6.6 County Funding Capabilities for Hazard Mitigation Projects
- 6.7 General Description and Analysis of the Effectiveness of Local Mitigation Policies, Programs and Capabilities
- 6.8 Identification, Evaluation and Prioritization of Mitigation Actions
- 6.9 Identification of Funding Sources

Section 6 - What has been updated?

- 6.1 Plan added “Interim Final Rule Requirements for Mitigation Strategy”

IFR language pertaining to plan updates was added

- 6.2 Plan Changed from “Mitigation Strategy” to “County Mitigation Strategy”

Reaffirmed the County of Alabama’s hazard mitigation strategy during 2009 plan update

- 6.3 Plan changed from “Mitigation Goals” to “County Hazard Mitigation Goals”

Verified and refined the six mitigation goals

Updated the planning process to reflect the efforts undertaken in 2010

- 6.4 Plan Changed from “Specific Mitigation Actions/Projects” to “Discussion of County Pre- and Post-Disaster Hazard Management Programs”

This section was moved and re-evaluated and new information was added based on the events of the last five years.

- 6.5 “Evaluation of County Laws, Regulations, Policies and Programs related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas” was added to the Plan
- 6.6 “County Funding Capabilities for Hazard Mitigation Projects” was added to the Plan
- 6.7 “General Description and Analysis of the Effectiveness of Local Mitigation Policies, Programs and Capabilities” was added to the Plan
- 6.8 Plan changed from “Prioritization/Implementation/Administration” to “Identification, Evaluation and Prioritization of Mitigation Actions” was added to the Plan

Mitigation Objectives and Actions were reviewed and completed, deleted, and deferred actions documented

Objectives and actions were refined based on additional input from the 2010 Process

New objectives and actions were added as a result of the 2010 plan update

Prioritization of the actions was re-evaluated

Provided a Mitigation Action Plan based on the revised objectives and actions

- 6.9 Plan changed from “Specific Jurisdictional Action Items and Recommendation” to “Identification of Funding Sources” was added to the Plan

6.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Mitigation Strategy

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) Subsection 201.6 (c) (3) requires the county hazard mitigation plan to include a Mitigation Strategy. “(The Mitigation Strategy shall provide) the jurisdiction’s blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment...” This section shall include: (i) A description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards (ii) A section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard...” (iii) An action plan describing how the actions identified in paragraph (c) (2) (ii) of this section will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction (iv) For multi-jurisdictional plans, there must be identifiable action items specific to the jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval or credit of the plan. Additionally, the Interim Final Rule (IFR) Subsection 201.6 (5) (d) (3) requires that the plan be updated on a regular basis. Specifically, “(A local jurisdiction must review and revise its plan to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit for approval within 5 years in order to continue to be eligible for mitigation project grant funding.”

6.2 County Mitigation Strategy

During the update planning process in December of 2008, the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (also referred to as the committee or GCHMPC) reaffirmed the county's overall hazard mitigation strategy: Reduce risks through actions and policies that limit the effects of natural hazards on the physical assets and citizens of Geneva County. Subsequent subsections of **Section 6** provide detailed descriptions of the county's hazard mitigation goals, objectives, and implementation strategies.

6.3 County Hazard Mitigation Goals

The 2005 plan identified eight goals supporting the Geneva County's overall mitigation strategy. During December of 2008, the committee met and reviewed the goals to assess if they were still valid. Additionally, questionnaires were sent to the committee to obtain detailed feedback on the pertinence and validity of the original goals. At the time of this update, all feedback received reaffirmed the applicability of the goals from the 2005 Plan to the county's updated mitigation strategy. It should be noted that comments were received stating that the plan should focus additional attention on man-made and technological hazards. However, because the IFR pertains only to natural hazards at this time, it was decided that the hazard mitigation plan's primary focus would remain natural hazards. Discussions pertaining to man-made and technological hazards would be tabled until future plan revisions when further information is available to the committee. The update process has afforded the county the opportunity to refine the wording of the goals to better communicate their intent. These refined goals are:

1. Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system
2. Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards
3. Reduce vulnerability of new and future development
4. Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards
5. Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation

These goals are accompanied by objectives and actions that are designed to support the implementation of the goals. A multi-stage process was used to identify, evaluate, and prioritize the goals, objectives, and actions. The process is described in **Section 6.8**.

The Community Rating System (CRS) Program implemented by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) allows policy holders within participating communities to receive a discount on NFIP policies. Any NFIP community may apply for inclusion in the CRS Program and be credited for a range of flood hazard mitigation activities that exceed NFIP minimum standards. Through the Insurance Services Office (ISO), a community applicant is graded based on criteria set forth in CRS guidelines for flood hazard mitigation. The grade assigned to each community results in a CRS classification. The CRS class determines the applicable insurance discount for the policy holders within the community. The CRS class rating is a scale of one through ten, with Class 1 communities receiving a 45 percent discount and Class 10 communities receiving no discount.



Table 6.4-1 summarizes each CRS class and the applicable discount

Table 6.4-1 CRS Class and Discount

CRS Class	Discount	CRS Class	Discount
1	45%	6	20%
2	40%	7	15%
3	35%	8	10%
4	30%	9	5%
5	25%	10	0%

According to data compiled by FEMA through October 1, 2006, Alabama has 12 communities participating and three communities whose eligibility was rescinded for non-compliance with continuing program eligibility requirements. All remaining NFIP communities are deemed Class 10. Geneva County is a participant in the NFIP.

According to FEMA, each community must submit a recertification document by October 1 each year to maintain eligibility for the program. The recertification requirement includes documentation that mitigation program activities initially credited to the community have continued, in addition to documenting any new strategies implemented since the previous October 1. Any community that has received a Class 9 or better classification will revert to Class 10 on the following May 1 unless it submits the signed recertification worksheet by October 1 of each year. If the recertification does not include all the needed documentation, the community may lose enough points to cause a retrograde in its CRS classification. A repetitive loss community that fails to submit a copy of its annual outreach project or a community that fails to submit its annual progress report will revert to a Class 10.

Post-Disaster Hazard Management Policies

In 2005, the Geneva County Commission signed the updated Geneva County EMA Emergency Operations Plan. This plan supersedes any previous emergency management/civil defense plans promulgated by the county for this purpose. It provides a framework in which the departments of each city, town, and the county can plan and perform their respective emergency functions during a disaster or national emergency. This plan recognizes the need for ongoing Emergency Management Planning by all jurisdictions of government within Geneva County.

This plan attempts to be all inclusive in combining the four phases of Emergency Management, which are (1) Mitigation: Those activities which eliminate or reduce the probability of disaster; (2) Preparedness: Those activities which government, organizations, and individuals develop to save lives and minimize damage; (3) Response: To prevent loss of lives and property and provide emergency assistance; and (4) Recovery: Short-term and long-term activities which return the community to normal or with improved standards.



This plan is in accordance with existing federal, state, and local statutes. It has been concurred by the Geneva County Commission and the State Emergency Management Agency. It will be revised and updated as required. This EOP is based upon guidelines contained in the National Response Plan (NRP, now known as the NRF – National Response Framework). The NRP, as a core plan for national incident management, is linked to an array of incident or hazard-specific federal contingency plans that are designed to implement the specific statutory authorities and responsibilities of various departments and agencies. Therefore, Geneva County operates under the same guidelines to ensure complete and comprehensive coordination.

Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) to the EOP are functional and expand upon the concept of operations contained in the Basic Plan. Annexes provide specific responses for local agencies and define their responsibilities.

The Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) required for the implementation of the County EOP are not included because of their voluminous nature. SOGs are the general operating guidelines for departments and agencies and are maintained by those departments and agencies. An annual review of the EOP will be undertaken by the GCEMA Director and those agencies and departments of the county having emergency assignments. The GCEMA director will insure that a list of all plan holders is maintained at the GCEMA Office and that updates are sent to each one of these individuals.

This plan requires fair and equal treatment to all regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. First priority will always be to save lives, second is protection of the environment, and third is mitigation of damage to property.”

6.4 Discussion and Evaluation of County Pre- and Post-Disaster Hazard Management Programs

Pre-Disaster Hazard Management Programs

In addition to the programs noted above, Geneva County actively pursues natural hazard mitigation opportunities, primarily through AEMA/FEMA grant programs (**Appendix F**) and technical assistance. The county, primarily through the GCEMA and the NFIP Coordinator, encourages communities and potential sub-grantees to participate in the FEMA programs, and offers technical assistance and support in developing project applications.

Post-Disaster Hazard Management Programs

Post-disaster management programs in Geneva County are established primarily at the local level. The Geneva County EMA manages the Geneva County Emergency Operations Plan aimed at post-disaster response and mitigation. Geneva County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) – The EOP is designed for county level response to local emergencies. The county plan recognizes the role of the state and federal governments in major natural disasters, and contains procedures to request and utilize local, state, and federal assistance. The plan ties the federal, state, and local roles in regard to preparedness, response and recovery. The plan also delineates the chain of command for each section of disaster management. Some mitigation initiatives also



appear in the plan. Some but not all of the ESFs within the EOP contain a continuity of government section.

6.4.1 Discussion and Evaluation of County Pre- and Post-Disaster Hazard Management Capabilities

Pre-Disaster Hazard Management Capabilities

Geneva County has, through a variety of programs and funding sources, established a record of accomplishment on behalf of the citizens of the county. The capability of the county to manage hazards is demonstrated by its success in formulating projects and securing local matching funding for pre- and post- disaster mitigation projects. Financing of hazard mitigation has been accomplished through several primary, AEMA/FEMA-based funding mechanisms over many years. The county relies exclusively on a local matching approach to secure appropriate levels of funding. Pre- and post disaster mitigation activities are promoted and facilitated by the county. The county functions largely in an administrative and coordinating role only through its EMA. The county's EOP coordinates the response effort.

Most of the county's EMA capability has evolved in the development and stewardship of hazard management and mitigation projects initiated in conjunction with several key programs. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) continues to be the focal point of most GCEMA capability.

Post-Disaster Hazard Management Capabilities

The EOP, basic plan Section VI, includes continuity of operations.

6.5 Evaluation of County Laws, Regulations, Policies and Programs Related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas

6.5.1 Evaluation of County Laws Related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas

The following is a review of the county laws of pre-disaster and post-disaster hazard management. The GCEMA was established under the authority of Alabama Code – Section 31-9-10 and by resolution of the Geneva County Commission. The AEMA was established through Section 4 of the Alabama Emergency Management Act of 1955 (Public Law 31-9), Act 47, June 1955. Section 10, Alabama Law, 1955 Act No. 47, directs the establishment of local organizations for emergency management in accordance with the state emergency management plan and programs. The local organizations have the responsibility of coordinating the disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery efforts of local governments. Under this legislation, each county is required to have an emergency management organization, either individually or jointly. Appropriate ordinances and/or resolutions are required to establish each local organization and must provide for the organization, powers, duties, divisions, services and staff of the agency.

One of the most significant state enabling statutes related to hazard mitigation can be found in Title 11, Chapter 52, *Planning, Zoning, and Subdivisions* of the Code of Alabama. Section 11-52

et seq is the state planning enabling legislation for municipalities only. First enacted in 1935, the statute provides municipalities' broad powers for comprehensive planning, capital improvements programming and the regulation of land use, development, and conservation of land areas through zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations. It permits municipalities to create planning commissions to oversee planning and land use controls, and Boards of Adjustments to hear appeals. It is the basis for floodplain management regulations within all municipalities and provides additional powers to control the location and types of development activities that might be affected by other natural hazards, including landslides and land subsidence.

Unincorporated areas of counties in Alabama are severely restricted by the lack of a state planning enabling statute. Only three counties statewide – Baldwin, Jefferson, and parts of Shelby County – are permitted to establish zoning ordinances by special acts adopted by the state. County regulation of subdivisions within unincorporated areas, however, is granted by Title 11, Chapter 24 of the Code of Alabama. County commissions are permitted to regulate the subdivision of land and the construction of streets and utilities with the advice of an advisory board. Municipalities may enforce subdivision regulations within its police jurisdictions, which extend two miles beyond the municipal boundaries within unincorporated areas of a county. Code of Alabama, Title 11, Chapter 19, Sections 11-19-1 through 11-19-24, entitled *The Comprehensive Land Use Management Act* was enacted to prevent economic and human loss in flood-prone areas and permit counties to manage floodplain development within unincorporated areas. This act provides the established county commission the authority to create a comprehensive land-use management program for floodplain management, in accordance with the NFIP criteria. As a result, unincorporated communities are eligible for flood insurance through the NFIP. The program helps mitigate damages caused by floods by controlling land use and development and improving the long-range management of flood prone areas. The statute authorizes each county commission to adopt floodplain management ordinances for unincorporated areas. County Planning Commissions are granted broad authority to control development in flood-prone zones by adopting ordinances and Flood Insurance Rate Maps that delineate the various flood zones controlled by the adopted ordinances. Each county must appoint an administrator of the program and provide for a Board of Adjustment to hear appeals to the ordinance requirements. **Table 6.4-2** identifies the NFIP participating communities in Geneva County.

Table 6.4-2 Geneva County Communities Participating in the NFIP

Communities Participating in the National Flood Program						
CID	Community Name	Initial FHBM Identified	Initial FIRM Identified	Current Eff. Map Date	Reg-Emer Date	Tribal
010258#	Bellwood	(a community; part of Geneva County)				
	Black					
010258#	Chancellor	(a community; part of Geneva County)				
	Coffee Springs					
010258#	Eunola	(no longer a town; now is part of Geneva County)				
010085#	Geneva, City of	03/29/74	07/02/80	02/20/08	07/02/80	No
010258#	Geneva County*	02/20/76	05/01/95	02/20/08	05/01/95	No
010086#	Harford	06/28/74	07/22/77	02/20/08(M)	07/22/77	No
010087#	Malvern	12/06/74	02/24/78	02/20/08(M)	02/24/78	No
010088#	Samson	06/07/74	02/24/78	02/20/08	06/17/77	No
010089#	Slocomb	05/24/74	12/16/77	02/20/08(M)	12/16/77	No
<i>Source: FEMA Community Status Book Report</i> <i>M = No Elevation Determined – All Zone A, C, and X</i> <i>L = Original FIRM by Letter – All Zone A, C, and X</i>						

The GCEMA shall act as the coordinating agency for the county in the event of an incident/accident involving a leak, spill, release of hazardous material, or threat of same. GCEMA shall develop, in cooperation with other departments and agencies of the county, the necessary plans, rules and procedures for responding to these incidents/accidents. GCEMA will be responsible for ensuring that these plans, rules and procedures are implemented and carried out in Geneva County.

In 2005, the Geneva County EMA appointed a County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee. The committee’s mission is to develop and oversee a comprehensive natural hazard mitigation planning process that facilitates federal, state, regional and local agencies’ coordination; constantly monitors and evaluates the potential risks of hazards to life and property; actively mobilizes all available community resources and measures to mitigate the threats of hazards; and, results in programmed actions with specific results. The committee is directed to develop the plan, and to assist in prioritizing and selecting of hazard and pre-disaster mitigation grant program project applications. The committee is appointed for the duration of plan development, and remains in place until the five year plan revision of the hazard mitigation plan has been approved by FEMA.



6.5.2 Evaluation of County Regulations Related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas

Much of the authority to perform pre-disaster planning and mitigation through development regulations is allocated to the local level and municipalities. A key state regulation addressing pre-disaster mitigation planning at the county level is overseen by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and implemented by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The program consists of comprehensive management policies and guidance for the protection and enhancement of the quality, quantity, and viability of coastal resources and the management of the uses of these resources. While the plan is fairly comprehensive, the enforcement component should be further considered relevant to development regulations such as land-use plans and no-build zones.

Alabama has granted localities very limited authority to regulate development through its planning enabling legislation. Based on the New York City Zoning Ordinance of 1925, Alabama's 1935 enabling legislation has remained virtually unchanged to this day. It restricts enabling authority to cities and towns only, requiring counties to seek special acts to extend zoning controls to unincorporated communities. "Smart Growth" efforts have recently begun to examine and modernize the state legislation to better promote improved land development practices.

Alabama enacted the Comprehensive Land Use Management Act to give individual counties the right to establish commissions to control development in flood-prone and hazard areas through land use planning and zoning. Each commission has the right to establish and enforce zoning and construction limits in flood-prone areas. While this method is a reasonable approach for permitting floodplain management within unincorporated areas, a county-wide program to enable localities to plan for and manage the full range of land use and development in all areas. Both incorporated and unincorporated areas should be considered.

6.5.3 Evaluation of County Policies Related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas

To prevent the introduction of new risks from hazards throughout the county, current county hazard mitigation policies mandate an appropriate level of county and local organization and coordination for an effective and programmatic approach to identifying projects to reduce and manage hazards. While appropriate policies appear to be in place, funding mechanisms are substantially reliant on federal funding with local match requirements. To achieve the desired result of what appears to be fundamentally sound policies some additional dedicated county funding source may be beneficial from a management, enforcement, and implementation standpoint. Current policies describe comprehensive organizational responsibilities and interactive capabilities between state and local authorities, coordinating agencies and local populations. Disaster response policies are particularly established.

6.5.4 Evaluation of County Programs Related to Hazard Mitigation and Development in Hazard Prone Areas

In the past, primary responsibility for coordination and facilitation of hazard mitigation activities was assigned to the GCEMA, with the primary focus on responding to local requests from private citizens, citizen groups, planning agencies, and municipal governments for assistance with grant applications and coordination with AEMA/FEMA for judgment on applicability and justification. Transition from a reactive to a more pre-emptive hazard mitigation protocol currently is underway, as local plans are developed and updated and more specific and detailed risk assessment models are developed in accordance with ongoing county plan initiatives.

While FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants are available, county reliance is heaviest on the HMGP, with some focus on Public Assistance and other facilitating programs. In most cases, specific hazard mitigation funding is requested through a local agency that seeks funding for a specific, and generally, post-disaster defined mitigation project through submittal to GCEMA to the AEMA/FEMA. The most active areas of grant use are as follows: Prevention - The City of Geneva HMGP Project #1438-008, Acquisition of the Baptist Bottoms Community Center in December 2003 (\$45,315) and Coffee Springs acquisition in January 2005 (\$51,597.42). Property Protection – In 2005 completed an overhead imagery project to identify structures in the floodplain and their relative elevation (\$126,000). Emergency Services Protection – Installed nine warning sirens in 2008 (\$27,037). Structural Projects - Installed ten individual storm shelters in 2008 (\$17,500). Other Programs –Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Plan Revision.

6.6 County Funding Capabilities for Hazard Mitigation Projects

This section describes the county's designated authority and enabling mechanisms for funding of hazard mitigation projects. In Geneva County, the County Commission has designated the Director of the GCEMA as the officer of the county authorized to accept federal funding for emergency management purposes. Funds received are deposited by the County Administrator and disbursed by the County Administrator, subject to requisition by the GCEMA Director.

Funding for local emergency management organizations is authorized by Code of Ala. 1975, §31-9-10, §31-9-24. Budgets are submitted as required by the political subdivision, and as specified in paragraph V.C.2c (2) of the *Alabama Emergency Management Agency Administrative Manual*, dated October 1, 1985, and revised December 15, 1988. Accounts to manage local funding are established within the local government's existing accounting system.

Under the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program, funds are provided by FEMA as authorized in Public Law 81-920 for the purpose of increasing operational capability at the local level. These funds can be expended for necessary and essential personnel and administrative expenses, including but not limited to salaries, benefits, travel, office supplies, equipment and administrative communications. The local governments must match, on a one-for-one basis, financial assistance provided for EMGP purposes. To be eligible to receive EMGP funds to support a local emergency management program, a political subdivision must meet the

criteria as referenced in the *Alabama Emergency Management Agency Administrative Manual*, dated October 1, 1985, and revised December 15, 1988.

Local jurisdictions desiring project application funds and maintenance and services funds must follow the criteria as outlined in the *Alabama Emergency Management Agency Administrative Manual*, dated October 1, 1985, and revised December 15, 1988. County and local agencies will maintain such accounts, records, papers and other pertinent supporting materials, which will permit an accurate determination of the status of federal and other contributions as outlined in the *Alabama Emergency Management Agency Administrative Manual*, dated October 1, 1985, and revised December 15, 1988.

The Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan documents the county's process for administering HMGP funds. While specifically intended as the primary guidance for county management of HMGP activities only, it represents the current administrative model for the county's acquisition and stewardship of funding mechanisms generally. The plan defines applicant eligibility criteria, the application process, and management procedures for distribution of funding under the program. These plans are used by the County EMA Staff and the county's Hazard Mitigation Committee.

The county's current strategy is to access federal funds for qualifying initiatives and facilitate development of local funding sources through municipal and county entities to fund local match requirements. To date, Geneva County has continually met the local match requirements associated with funding of federally sponsored programs, due in part to the continual financial support of the hazard mitigation programs and initiatives by local city and county governments. The county mitigation plan is also an umbrella for the local plans required for future mitigation grant programs. Mitigation planning begins at the local level, in communities, towns, and cities where impacts of damaging events are first felt, and the current county plan addresses this issue. Local mitigation planning focuses community attention on development issues prior to a disaster, ensuring participation in a more proactive sense. Active hazard mitigation in a community also contributes to public safety and welfare, economic development, and environmental protection. Following adoption of the initial County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Geneva County began pre- and post-disaster mitigations by accessing (or continuing to access) some of the following vehicles using local matching monies: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) - Some of the most significant mitigation in the county has been accomplished with the HMGP. FEMA uses a sliding scale to determine the amount of HMGP funds that it provides after a disaster. FEMA provides 15 percent of the first \$2 billion spent in overall assistance. FEMA then provides 10 percent of each dollar between \$2 billion and \$10 billion and 7.5 percent for each dollar between \$10 billion and \$35.3 billion. If a state has an approved "enhanced" state hazard mitigation plan, it is eligible to receive up to 20 percent of the overall assistance. The Alabama EMA is presently working toward an approved Enhanced Plan.

HMGP funding, while not sufficient to accomplish all of the desired projects, continues to be the centerpiece of the county's hazard mitigation strategy. In Geneva County, local governments



and/or participating agencies are currently the prime source of funding for the local match associated with this program.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) – The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program was authorized by §203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act (Stafford Act), 42 USC, as amended by §102 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Funding for the program is provided through the National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund to assist local governments (to include Indian Tribal governments) in implementing cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program.

The Public Assistance Program provides supplemental federal disaster grant assistance for the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain Private Non-Profit (PNP) organizations. The federal share of assistance is at least 75 percent of the eligible cost for emergency measures and permanent restoration. The state determines how the non-federal share (up to 25 percent) is split with the applicants. Eligible applicants include the local governments, Indian tribes and certain PNP organizations. The state EMA is the grant administrator for all funds provided under the Public Assistance Program. As grantee, the AEMA is responsible for administering the programmatic and grants management requirements of the Public Assistance Program. Key among the programmatic requirements is informing the applicants of the assistance available to them: what is eligible and how to apply for it. Grant management includes applying for federal assistance, monitoring and closing out the grant. The GCEMA, AEMA, and FEMA work in partnership to provide prompt and consistent service to all applicants. Under the new Public Assistance Program, the state will have many of the same roles and responsibilities as under the present system. AEMA recognizes that counties have different capabilities to perform their assigned duties. AEMA intends to work in partnership with those counties requiring technical assistance to serve the needs of their applicants. Once insurance requirements are established, FEMA will reduce otherwise eligible costs by the actual or anticipated insurance recoveries the applicant receives. The GCEMA must notify AEMA/FEMA of any entitlement to insurance settlement or recoveries for a facility and its contents. For insurable buildings located in a special flood hazard area and damaged by flood, the reduction is the maximum amount of insurance proceeds the applicant would have received had the building and its contents been fully covered by a standard flood insurance policy under the National Insurance Program. The applicant is required to buy insurance in the amount of the eligible damages for flood and general hazards. For small projects, a grant is based on an estimate of the cost of the work. For large projects, a final grant is based on actual eligible costs. In large projects, the state disburses progress payments, as required. The dollar amount of a small or large project changes each fiscal year and is based on the Consumer Price Index. *The Economic Adjustment (Title IX) Program* helps local areas design and implements strategies for adjustments due to changes in their economic situation that are causing, or are threatening to cause, serious structural damage to the underlying economic base. Such changes may occur suddenly or over time, and result from, for example, industrial or corporate restructuring, new local/state/federal laws or requirements, reductions in EMA expenditures, and the depletion of natural resources.



By law, PDM project grants are dependent upon the local governments' demonstration that a comprehensive management process is in place after designated calendar dates. After November 1, 2003, AEMA/FEMA-approved local mitigation plans have been required as a condition of receiving PDM grants for local mitigation projects. A local government that does not have a plan in place is not eligible to receive project grants funded under the annual PDM appropriations. After November 1, 2004, the AEMA/FEMA-approved Standard County Mitigation Plan was required as a condition of receiving PDM project grants for local mitigation activities. The Standard County Mitigation Plan is also required for nonemergency assistance provided under the Stafford Act following a presidentially declared disaster, including Public Assistance restoration of damaged facilities (Categories C through G) and HMGP funding. Therefore, the development, maintenance, and updating of local multi-hazard mitigation plans is critical to maintaining eligibility for future FEMA funding.

6.7 General Description and Analysis of the Effectiveness of Local Mitigation Policies, Programs and Capabilities

The county began the process of local mitigation plan development in 2004 through planning. As a result of this effort, the GCEMA is the central coordinating agency for local hazard mitigation planning. Planning funds have been awarded to the GCEMA to update plans and develop advanced risk assessments and other mitigation planning analysis tools to strengthen local mitigation programs. Details on the status of local planning are contained in **Section 7.2**. The results of the mitigation plan development program in the county have tremendously increased the capabilities for local mitigation and community awareness.

The farmers of Alabama's 1901 Constitution designed a system of state government that concentrates power at the state level. Alabama is not a "home rule" state - local authority must be granted by state acts, special legislation, or constitutional amendments. Due to the restraints placed in the Alabama Constitution, all but seven counties (Jefferson, Lee, Mobile, Madison, Montgomery, Shelby, and Tuscaloosa) in the state have little to no home rule. Instead, most counties in the state (including Geneva County) must lobby the Local Legislation Committee of the state legislature to get simple local policies such as waste disposal to land use zoning. Despite the constitutional limitations on home rule, local governments have been able to function adequately. As further described in **Section 6.5**, legislation has been enacted over the years to allow localities with the capabilities to implement planning and regulatory tools for hazard mitigation. In 1935, the state passed legislation that empowered any municipality to establish planning commissions, pursue comprehensive planning, and enforce zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations, among other planning activities. This planning enabling legislation, however, did not include unincorporated areas of counties. Only Jefferson, Shelby, and Baldwin Counties, have authority by special legislation to extend planning and zoning regulations into unincorporated areas of these counties only. By state act, all local governments have authority to enact floodplain management ordinances, building codes, and subdivision regulations. (See **Section 6.5** for more detailed explanation of those authorities). The capabilities of the localities to perform local mitigation measures and implement mitigation projects vary significantly among local governments. As part of the 2009 county plan revision, a table summarizing local

capabilities has been developed and included in **Appendix G**. The summary table lists all municipalities of the county and notes various criteria for evaluating the capabilities of each of these localities, as follows:

- **Adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan –**
 - Has the jurisdiction adopted a hazard mitigation plan that has been approved by FEMA?
- **National Flood Insurance Program –**
 - Is the jurisdiction a regular member of the National Flood Insurance Program?
- **Community Rating System –**
 - Does the jurisdiction participate in the Community Rating System Program, and if so, what is its class?
- **Comprehensive Plan –**
 - Does the jurisdiction have a comprehensive plan that has been adopted in the last five years or is an update in progress?
- **Zoning –**
 - Does the jurisdiction administer a zoning ordinance?
- **Subdivision Regulations –**
 - Does the jurisdiction administer subdivision regulations?
- **Building Codes –**
 - Does the jurisdiction administer building codes?
- **Capital Improvements Plan –**
 - Does the jurisdiction program its annual capital expenditures on a multi-year capital improvements plan?
- **Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule –**
 - What is the ISO classification of the jurisdiction under the Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule?
- **Property Protection Classification –**
 - What is the ISO classification of the jurisdiction under the Property Protection Classification for fire protection?
- **Planner on Staff –**
 - Does the jurisdiction have a full-time professional planner on staff?
- **Engineer on Staff –**
 - Does the jurisdiction have a full-time professional engineer on staff?
- **Building Inspector on Staff –**
 - Does the jurisdiction have a full-time building inspector on staff?
- **Certified Floodplain Manager –**
 - Does the jurisdiction have a Certified Floodplain Manager on staff to administer its floodplain management ordinance?
- **Mitigation Project Experience –**
 - What is the jurisdiction’s level of experience with mitigation projects funded through a FEMA grant program?

For the most part, Geneva County and its municipal jurisdictions have rural populations and limited revenue resources. Consequently, capabilities in the county are typically moderate. However, Geneva County is very proactive in the hazard mitigation program projects.

Another nationwide community preparedness program that Alabama communities participate in is the National Weather Service's (NWS) Storm Ready Program (SRP). SRP helps communities develop plans to handle all types of severe weather, including, but not limited to tornadoes and tsunamis. By providing emergency managers with clear guidelines on how to improve their hazardous weather operations, SRP encourages communities to take a proactive approach toward improving their weather operations. These guidelines help communities implement procedures that reduce the potential for disastrous, weather related consequences. To become a Storm Ready community, several guidelines must be met. The guidelines include the following:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts and to alert the public
- Create a system that monitors weather local weather conditions
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars and other outreach methods
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan to include training severe weather spotters and conducting emergency exercises.

Some benefits of being a Storm Ready community include increased scores on the Community Rating System (CRS) which in turn can lower NFIP insurance rates, along with maintaining local plans and increased public awareness and preparedness. Counties, communities, and supporters must be recertified every three years. Geneva County is not a Storm Ready Community.

6.8 Identification, Evaluation and Prioritization of Mitigation Actions

This section describes the county's process for identifying, evaluating and prioritizing the county's hazard mitigation goals, objectives and actions. Several local agencies provided recommendations for goals, objectives, and actions to be included in the plan. In 2008, the hazard mitigation committee was reconvened in order to update the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Plan. This process is discussed in more detail in **Section 4 – Planning Process**. While the representative individuals on the committee remained the same, agencies/organizations participating in the 2010 plan update varied from the 2005 Planning process. Additionally, agencies were provided lists of the actions and associated objectives identified in the 2005 Plan for their review and comment. Agencies provided feedback on completed, in progress, deferred, and/or deleted actions. Further, the planning committee reviewed the local plan to verify that goals and objectives identified within the plan were compatible with the goals and objectives identified at the state level. In turn, county goals and objectives were determined to be reflective of state goals, objectives, and actions. This local plan review is discussed in greater detail in **Section 7.3**.



6.8.1 Identification and Evaluation of Mitigation Actions

The process employed during the 2010 update of the County Hazard Mitigation Plan's mitigation actions was similar to that employed in 2004. First, the committee determined that each agency represented on the committee (and the various other organizations that were included in, and informed of, committee activities – see **Section 4**) should be allowed to provide input on goals, objectives, etc. at both the countywide level as well as from the standpoint of the organizations they represent. To accomplish this, the GCEMA developed a questionnaire based on the goals, objectives, and actions from the 2005 Plan and provided the document to the committee. This questionnaire was sent to all members of the committee and the other contact organizations, with a request to respond within approximately forty-five days. The various organizations provided feedback as to whether the goals from the 2005 Plan were relevant in 2010. Further, comments were solicited from the committee as to the potential need for additional goals to address any changing conditions. Secondly, the committee provided input on the status of the actions identified in the 2005 Plan. To accomplish this, another questionnaire was developed for each agency listed as a responsible agency in the 2005 Plan. The questionnaire contained the goals, objectives, and specific actions identified in the plan and requested information from the agency on the progress made in implementing the project, including whether or not the project was completed or on-going, or if the action was deferred and if there were any specific reasons why it was deferred. Additionally, the agencies were requested to provide additional actions that they would like to see included in the 2010 update. The results of this input were compiled and included in the plan revision, currently under review by the committee. Thirdly, GCEMA compiled existing information from the local level and reviewed them to identify goals, objectives, strategies, etc. The identification of mitigation actions has been shaped by the events that occurred over the past five years. Because of these events, the prioritization of actions has also changed and been re-evaluated. The updated prioritization of these mitigation actions are below.

The GCHMPC reviewed all mitigation measures, adjusted the priority based upon actions that were previously identified, and reevaluated the grant funding programs. The committee assessed the availability of grant funds and the state/federal governments' prioritization of these potential grants as well as the projected costs of the project in order to establish the priorities for Geneva County's planning strategy.

- A High ranking requires continuous action and participations from the entire community.
- A Medium ranking involves fewer people, effort, and area of the community.
- A Low ranking involves a small number of people and plans for a specific action.

6.8.2 Mitigation Actions

How Recent Events have Influenced Mitigation Actions

Since the 2005 Plan was adopted, Geneva County was faced with a series of potential natural hazard threats. Geneva County pursued, and continues to pursue, a variety of natural hazard

mitigation measures that reduced the potential impact of these threats and the impact of future threats.

Since adoptions of the 2005 Plan, there have been 42 events in Geneva County (see **Table 6.8-1 on next page**).

Table 6.8-1 Recent Disasters in Geneva County (2004 – 2009)

Alabama								
Location or County	Date	Time	Type	Mag	Dth	Inj	PrD	CrD
90 Geneva	04/12/2004	08:30 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	10K	0
91 Bellwood	04/12/2004	08:35 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	100K	0
92 Coffee Spgs	05/31/2004	01:55 PM	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
93 Samson	05/31/2004	02:15 PM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	1K	0
94 Coffee Spgs	05/31/2004	02:20 PM	Tornado	F0	0	0	5K	0
95 Malvern	05/31/2004	02:40 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
96 Hartford	06/27/2004	03:45 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0
97 Countywide	07/15/2004	07:30 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	15K	0
98 ALZ065>069	09/15/2004	12:00 PM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	3.5M	0
99 Malvern	11/24/2004	11:30 AM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	30K	0
100 Bellwood	03/26/2005	04:20 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
101 Chancellor	03/26/2005	04:30 PM	Hail	2.75 in.	0	0	0	0
102 Hacoda	03/26/2005	04:30 PM	Hail	2.00 in.	0	0	0	0



103	Malvern	03/26/2005	06:35 PM	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0	0
104	ALZ065>069	07/09/2005	06:00 PM	Hurricane/ typhoon	N/A	0	0	1.5M	0
105	Hartford	04/08/2006	03:12 PM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0	0
106	Geneva	05/10/2006	09:43 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	1K	0
107	Slocomb	05/10/2006	09:53 PM	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0	0
108	Samson	06/24/2006	04:45 PM	Tstm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	20K	0
109	Geneva	06/25/2006	05:15 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	25K	0
110	Samson	07/16/2006	02:00 PM	Tstm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	25K	0
111	Hartford	11/15/2006	13:10 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
112	Hartford	11/15/2006	15:00 PM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	5K	0K
113	Fadette	06/05/2007	12:58 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
114	Slocomb	07/20/2007	19:25 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	1K	0K
115	Geneva	12/15/2007	18:00 PM	Heavy Rain	N/A	0	1	0K	0K
116	Geneva	06/29/2008	14:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	45 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
117	Geneva	07/12/2008	14:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0K
118	Hartford	07/12/2008	16:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	2K	0K
119	ALZ065>069	08/23/2008	00:00 AM	Tropical Storm	N/A	0	0	30K	0K
120	Black	03/27/2009	06:00 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	10K	0K



121	Hartford	03/27/2009	22:00 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	15K	0K
122	Samson	03/28/2009	04:54 AM	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0K	0K
123	Geneva	03/28/2009	07:20 AM	Flash Flood	N/A	0	0	0K	0K
124	Samson	04/13/2009	06:33 AM	Hail	0.75 in.	0	0	0K	0K
125	Marl	04/13/2009	06:45 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	10K	0K
126	Eunola	04/13/2009	06:58 AM	Funnel Cloud	N/A	0	0	0K	0K
127	Black	04/13/2009	07:00 AM	Tornado	F0	0	0	150K	0K
128	Slocomb	04/13/2009	07:00 AM	Thunderstorm Wind	60 kts.	0	0	25K	0K
129	Piney Grove	06/14/2009	14:30 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
130	Samson	06/14/2009	14:45 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
131	Marl	06/14/2009	14:50 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	55 kts.	0	0	0K	0K
132	Geneva	07/05/2009	16:06 PM	Thunderstorm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	0K	0K

Source: NOAA/NCDC Storm Events

These disasters played a significant role in shaping the hazard mitigation priorities within Geneva County over the last five years. Each disaster revealed strengths and weaknesses within the hazard mitigation program, and the county adjusted its subsequent mitigation actions to address these weaknesses accordingly.

The county began the process of increasing shelter capacity. In the past five years, ten individual shelter projects have been awarded using HMGP funds.

Mitigation Implementation (2005-2010)

Mitigation Measures are listed in **Table 6.8-2** highlighting the core group of mitigation actions (listed in **Tables 6.8-3 through 6.8-16**) pursued by the county and municipalities using HMGP funds, to include those from 2005 and for 2010. Mitigation Measures include those listed in the



2005 Plan, as well as new ones for the 2010 Revised Plan. Mitigation Actions are separated by Actions of 2005 Plan and Actions of 2010 Plan.

Legend for the Mitigation Measure # as listed in the following tables:

1st # = Type #:

- 1 for Prevention
- 2 for Property Protection
- 3 for Public Education and Awareness
- 4 for Natural Resource Protection
- 5 for Emergency Services Protection
- 6 for Structural Projects

2nd # = Goal #:

- 1 for “Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system”
- 2 for “Reduce Geneva County’s risk from natural hazards”
- 3 for “Reduce vulnerability of new and future development”
- 4 for “Reduce Geneva County’s vulnerability to natural hazards”
- 5 for “Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation”

3rd # = Measures: The number of mitigation measures with the same type # and goal #

Those shaded in gray have been completed.

Table 6.8-2 Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
1.1.1	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Watershed Plans. Prepare master flood protection plans using the models and mapping developed pursuant to the previous action item. Each plan should include an evaluation of structural and property protection services (and combinations of those measures) that will protect existing development in the watershed, including locations for regional detention facilities. These plans should be coordinated with open space planning with the objective of acquiring properties in the floodway that will result in open space or greenways that will benefit the entire community.
1.1.2	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive	Identify structures in the floodplain and determine their elevation in relation to

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
		countywide hazard mitigation system	the floodplain and surrounding terrain through an overhead imagery project. Completed in 2005 (\$126,000).
1.1.3	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	The County's procedures for administering regulations on the floodplain construction should be streamlined with clear lines of responsibility between the Engineering and Inspection Divisions to be sure all requirements are met.
1.1.4	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	The most effective approaches to managing storm water runoff in any particular location are best determined by a storm water management master plan. The county needs federal funding to initiate such a plan.
1.1.5	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Flood Plain Mapping. Prepare watershed models and flood plain maps for all of the County's flood prone areas to be the basis for regulations and watershed plans along both rivers and the major creeks. These would include hydrologic and hydraulic computer models of the surface water flows in the watershed that can be used to evaluate alternative flood protection measures and the impact of new development on drainage and flooding and a flood stage forecast map for emergency response planning.
1.1.6	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Pilot Flood Response Plan. Prepare a pilot flood response for one flood plain using a flood stage forecast map and evaluate the benefits and costs of a flood warning system.
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Mosquito spraying to prevent a West Nile virus outbreak.
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard	Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan as prepared by the

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
		mitigation system	Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority.
1.1.9	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Lift stations can be bypassed, a sump-pump connected and pumped directly into the main.
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP.
1.1.11	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Adopt and update a comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, floodplain management regulations, storm water management regulations, building-related codes, fire prevention codes, wetlands protection regulations, water quality regulations, stream-dumping regulations, and the preservation of open space as preventative measures that protect existing and future buildings, infrastructure and critical facilities.
1.2.1	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Inspect and correct storm drain systems.
1.2.2	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Install safety equipment in the Town Hall, Maintenance Building, Community Building, and Park Facilities.
1.3.1	Prevention	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	Geneva County encourages all utilities to be located underground in new subdivisions, which reduces damage during hurricanes and tornadoes.
1.3.2	Prevention	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	Geneva County along with the State of Alabama has adopted the Standard Building Code which requires commercial structures to be designed for wind gusts from 100 to 110 miles per hour.
1.3.3	Prevention	Reduce vulnerability of new and future	Establish a building department of inspectors to review plans and inspect

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
		development	property prior to and during construction to comply with codes.
1.4.1	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Fire & Rescue, put up a temporary building until a new one can be built, also obtain assistance from out-lying towns.
1.4.2	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Police Dept., put up temporary building until a new one can be built and contract with the County Sheriff for police protection if needed.
1.4.3	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	City Shop, put up temporary building until a new one can be built.
1.4.4	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	City Hall, open temporary office space until a new location can be found.
2.1.1	Property Protection	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Flood Plain Regulations. Ensure that the county meets all required regulatory provisions and review the flood plain regulations and identify construction standards that are more appropriate for Geneva County's flood conditions. Review and upgrade regulatory standards and procedures for new development.
2.1.2	Property Protection	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Storm Water Management Regulations. Review the Subdivision Regulations and the Storm Water Management Manual to determine appropriate standards and procedures that will ensure the post development flows leaving a development will not cause increased damage to downstream properties.
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Drainage Maintenance Program. Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures. Include streamside residents and interested organizations in the preparation of the procedures and incorporate maintenance standards and procedures that will protect sensitive areas and

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
			habitat. Inspect and correct storm drain systems.
2.2.2	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Corp of Engineers will run hydrology tests on the Pea and Choctawhatchee Rivers as well as major creeks and streams to set the base flood elevation throughout all property with the hazard for flooding.
2.3.1	Property Protection	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	The Greenway Plan, zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations are Geneva County's primary tools used to manage development in the floodplain. Other potential tools, such as an open space plan, are not currently used. Acquiring and clearing the floodway, expanding parks and greenways should be utilized.
2.3.2	Property Protection	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	A program to reduce damage to existing properties should focus on the floodway and flood plain, where there are 64 improved properties in this area that are in the deepest and swiftest flooding. The floodway should be the initial focus for acquisition of projects where the acquired land can be converted to open space greenways.
2.4.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	The County's standards for storm water detention cannot be considered effective in managing runoff from greater than the 10-year storm. The 10-year storm is an appropriate standard for the minor drainage system, but the first floor of buildings should be protected from larger floods through proper design of the major drainage system and detention.
2.4.2	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Geneva County in conjunction with the NRCS/USDA is involved in the Crop Rotation Plan (CRP). Currently the trend is taking more and more land out of agriculture and putting it into the CRP for planted pines. This reduces storm water runoff in open fields and

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
			reduces settlement and erosion on property that goes downstream and causes flooding due to settlement being deposited into streams and rivers.
2.5.1	Property Protection	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Critical Facilities Plans. Identify the critical facilities that are affected by flooding. Work with their managers to determine any special flood warning and response they may need from the County and encourage them to prepare their own response plans.
3.1.1	Public Education & Awareness	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Research all available information to acquire data to complete and improve future risk analysis efforts.
3.5.1	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	One-on one advice and assistance on flood protection measures.
3.5.2	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Educate the public of the various ways they can protect their property.
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Educate the public of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance.
3.5.4	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Provide map and flood hazard information to inquirers.
3.5.5	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Incorporate a flood protection web page in the County's Web Page.
3.5.6	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Prepare a homeowner's flood protection manual.
3.5.7	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Conduct an annual mailing to flood plain addresses.
3.5.8	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Pursue measures to disclose the flood hazards to house buyers.
3.5.9	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Provide real estate agents with flood hazard information.

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Notify owners of the various ways they can protect their own property from flooding.
3.5.11	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued.
3.5.12	Public Education and Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Ensure the hazard mitigation plan is implemented by increasing the stakeholders' awareness about the identified hazards.
3.5.13	Public Education and Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Provide references to the library.
3.5.14	Public Education and Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Issue news releases and news articles.
3.5.15	Public Education and Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Make presentations at meetings/ associations and interested groups.
3.5.16	Public Education and Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Publicize property protection projects in Geneva County.
3.5.17	Public Education and Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Educate the public on being prepared for disaster situations and provide the closest route for evacuation.
5.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Purchase outdoor warning siren systems. The lack of these systems places rural residents, including those at sporting events, in danger from severe weather or other phenomena. The county plans to improve the current four outdoor warning siren systems located in Hartford, Geneva, Samson and Slocomb with the addition of new sirens located in Flat Creek, Eunola, Geneva, Hacoda Community, City of Samson, Town of Coffee

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
			Springs, Chancellor Community, Bellwood Community, Town of Black , Eunola Community, Town of Malvern, and Fadette Community.
5.4.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities. This includes for the fire department in Samson.
6.1.1	Structural Projects	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Geneva County to require all structures to be elevated 2 feet above the 100-Year Flood Plain elevation.
6.2.1	Structural Projects	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters. Currently Geneva County has 9 underground shelters funded by the AEMA strategically located throughout the county. There are approximately 100 underground shelters planned.
6.2.2	Structural Projects	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Upgrade/rehabilitate Levee as necessary (Corp of Engineers Project currently underway)
6.2.3	Structural Projects	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Build a dam around the sewer lagoon area to contain waste.
6.4.1	Structural Projects	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Continue to provide structural projects such as wind retrofits, drainage improvements, reservoirs and retention or detention basins which store excess waters, levees and floodwalls which place barriers between the source of flooding and damage-prone properties, channeling modifications: widening, straightening, or removing bridge and culvert restrictions so the channel can convey more water or carry it faster, diversions that redirect high flows to another location and channel maintenance: keeping streams, ditches, and storage basins clear. This is to include the following projects: Bridge

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Mitigation Measure
			51-a timber deck bridge in the western end of the county just off CR 10; Bridges 10,11,13, 112, 92, 122, and 139; Bridges 81, 92, 96, 106, and 110 just west of Geneva along Sandy Creek.

**Table 6.8-3 Geneva County
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Geneva County				
Type	Goal #	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.2 Identify structures in the floodplain and determine their elevation	Flood	Completed
	1	1.1.3 Establish responsibilities of the Engineering and Inspection Divisions for administering floodplain	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.5 Prepare flood plain mapping and watershed plans	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.6 Prepare a pilot flood response plan	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.9 Connect a sump pump in order to bypass the lift station	Flood	Ongoing
	2	1.2.1 Inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
	2	1.2.2 Install safety equipment in the Town Hall, Maintenance Building, Community Building, and Park Facilities	All	Ongoing
	3	1.3.1 Locate all utilities in new subdivision underground	All	Ongoing
	3	1.3.2 Commercial structures must be designed to withstand wind gusts from 100 to 110 mph	All	Ongoing
	3	1.3.3 Establish a building department with inspectors	All	Ongoing
	4	1.4.1 Create a temporary fire and rescue building until a new one can be built	All	Ongoing



Geneva County				
Type	Goal #	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
	4	1.4.2 Create a temporary police department with security until a new one can be built	All	Ongoing
	4	1.4.3 Create a temporary city shop until a new one can be built	All	Ongoing
	4	1.4.4 Open a temporary office space for the City Hall until a new location can be found	All	Ongoing
Property Protection	1	2.1.1 Review and upgrade flood plain regulations	Flood	Ongoing
	1	2.1.2 Review the Storm Water Management Manual, especially having to do with subdivision regulations	Flood	Ongoing
	1	2.1.3 Acquire properties in floodway and flood plain areas and convert the acquired land to open space greenways	Flood	Ongoing
	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and Inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
	2	2.2.2 Corp of Engineers will run hydrology tests on the Pea and Choctawhatchee Rivers as well as major creeks and streams to set the base flood elevation throughout all property with the hazard for flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	3	2.3.1 Utilize the Greenway Plan in acquiring and clearing the floodway and expanding parks and greenways.	Flood	Ongoing
	4	2.4.1 Protect the first floor of buildings from larger floods through proper design of the major drainage system and detention.	Flood	Ongoing
	4	2.4.2 Continue involvement with the CRP	Flood	Ongoing
	5	2.5.1 Identify the critical facilities that are affected by flooding and encourage warning and response plans to include any special needs	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.1 Provide one-on-one advice and assistance on flood protection measures	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.2 Educate the public of the various ways to protect their property	All	Ongoing



Geneva County				
Type	Goal #	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
	5	3.5.3 Educate the public of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.4 Provide maps and flood hazard information to inquirers	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.6 Prepare a homeowner's flood protection manual	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.7 Conduct an annual mailing to flood plain addresses	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.8 Pursue measures to disclose the flood hazards to house buyers	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.9 Provide real estate agents with flood hazard information	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.13 Provide references to the library	All	Ongoing
	5	3.5.14 Issue news releases and articles	All	Ongoing
	5	3.5.15 Make presentations at meetings/ associations and interested groups	All	Ongoing
	5	3.5.16 Publicize property protection projects in Geneva County	All	Ongoing
	5	3.5.17 Educate the public on being prepared for disaster situations and provide them with the closest evacuation route	All	Ongoing
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	1	6.1.1 All structures are to be elevated 2 feet above the 100-Year Flood Plain elevation	Flood	Ongoing
	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing
	2	6.2.2 Upgrade/rehabilitate Levee as necessary	Flood	Completed
	2	6.2.3 Build a dam around the sewer lagoon area to contain waste	Flood	Ongoing
	4	6.4.1 Continue to provide structural projects such as wind retrofits, drainage	Flood	Ongoing

Geneva County				
Type	Goal #	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
		improvements, reservoirs and retention or detention basins which store excess waters, levees and floodwalls which place barriers between the source of flooding and damage-prone properties, channeling modifications: widening, straightening, or removing bridge and culvert restrictions so the channel can convey more water or carry it faster, diversions that redirect high flows to another location and channel maintenance: keeping streams, ditches, and storage basins clear. This is to include the following projects: Bridge 51-a timber deck bridge in the western end of the county just off CR 10; Bridges 10,11,13, 112, 92, 122, and 139; Bridges 81, 92, 96, 106, and 110 just west of Geneva along Sandy Creek		

**Table 6.8-4 Geneva County
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Geneva County				
Type	Goal #	New Actions for the 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP.	Flood	2010-2015
	1	1.1.11 Adopt and update a comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, floodplain management regulations, storm water management regulations, building-related codes, fire prevention codes, wetlands protection regulations, water quality regulations, stream-dumping regulations, and the preservation of open space as preventative measures that protect existing and future buildings, infrastructure and critical facilities.	Flood	2010-2015



Geneva County				
Type	Goal #	New Actions for the 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Public Education & Awareness	3	3.3.1 Research all available information to acquire data to complete and improve future risk analysis efforts.	All	2010-2015
	5	3.5.5 Incorporate a flood protection web page in the county's web page	Flood	2010-2015
	5	3.5.12 Ensure the hazard mitigation plan is implemented by increasing the stakeholders awareness about the identified hazards	All	2010-2015

**Table 6.8-5 Coffee Springs
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Coffee Springs				
Type	Goal #	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
Property Protection	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and Inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.3 Notify owners of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance.	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-6 Coffee Springs
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Coffee Springs				
Type	Goal #	New Actions for the 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP	Flood	2010-2015

**Table 6.8-7 City of Geneva
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

City of Geneva				
Type	Goal #	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.9 Lift stations can be bypassed, a sump-pump connected and pumped directly into the main	Flood	Ongoing
Property Protection	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and Inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.3 Notify owners of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing
	2	6.2.3 Build a dam around the sewer lagoon area to contain waste	All	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-8 City of Geneva
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

City of Geneva				
Type	Goal #	New Actions for 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP	Flood	2010-2015

**Table 6.8-9 Hartford
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Hartford				
Type	Goal	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.11 Adopt and update a comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, floodplain management regulations, storm water management regulations, building-related codes, fire prevention codes, wetlands protection regulations, water quality regulations, stream-dumping regulations, and the preservation of open space as preventative measures that protect existing and future buildings, infrastructure and critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Property Protection	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and Inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.3 Notify owners of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities. This includes for wells, tanks, and sewer lagoon pumps.	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-10 Hartford
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Hartford				
Type	Goal	New Actions for the 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP.	Flood	2010-2015
	1	1.1.11 Adopt and update a comprehensive plan, zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, floodplain management regulations, storm water management regulations, building-related codes, fire prevention codes, wetlands protection regulations, water quality regulations, stream-dumping regulations, and the preservation of open space as preventative measures that protect existing and future buildings, infrastructure and critical facilities	Flood	2010-2015

**Table 6.8-11 Malvern
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Malvern				
Type	Goal	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
	2	1.2.2 Install safety equipment in the Town Hall, Maintenance Building, Community Building, and Park Facilities	All	Ongoing
Property Protection	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.3 Notify owners of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.17 Educate the public on being prepared for disaster situations and provide them with the closest evacuation route	All	Ongoing
	5			
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-12 Malvern
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Malvern				
Type	Goal	New Actions from 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP	Flood	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-13 Samson
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Samson				
Type	Goal	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
	1	1.1.9 Connect a sump pump in order to bypass the lift station	Flood	Ongoing
	4	1.4.1 Create a temporary fire and rescue building until a new one can be built	All	Ongoing
	4	1.4.2 Create a temporary police department with security until a new one can be built	All	Ongoing
	4	1.4.3 Create a temporary city shop until a new one can be built	All	Ongoing
	4	1.4.4 Open a temporary office space for the City Hall until a new location can be found	All	Ongoing
Property Protection	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.3 Notify owners of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-14 Samson
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Samson				
Type	Goal	New Actions for 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/ continue to participate in the NFIP	Flood	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-15 Slocomb
Completed/Ongoing Actions from the 2005 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Slocomb				
Type	Goal	Completed/Ongoing Actions from 2005 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.7 Spray for mosquitoes due to West Nile virus	All	Ongoing
	1	1.1.8 Utilize the Choctawhatchee, Pea, and Yellow Rivers flood warning preparedness plan	Flood	Ongoing
	2	1.2.1 Inspect and correct storm drain systems. This includes the Pine Log Branch, a main ditch with many tributaries within the city limits. Pine Log Branch runs from East (behind the old Alabama Farmer's Market) all the way westward over State Highway 103, continuing westward to CR 9 and on to CR16.	Flood	Ongoing
Property Protection	2	2.2.1 Prepare new drainage system maintenance procedures and. Inspect and correct storm drain systems	Flood	Ongoing
Public Education & Awareness	5	3.5.10 Notify owners of ways to protect their property from flooding	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.3 Notify owners of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance.	Flood	Ongoing
	5	3.5.11 Make the public aware of what to do when a flood warning is issued	Flood	Ongoing
Emergency Services Protection	2	5.2.1 Purchase outdoor warning siren systems	All	Ongoing
	4	5.4.1 Purchase/update emergency generators for post-disaster mitigation and conduct routine tests for critical facilities	All	Ongoing
Structural Projects	2	6.2.1 Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters	All	Ongoing

**Table 6.8-16 Slocomb
New Actions for the 2010 County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Slocomb				
Type	Goal	New Actions for 2010 Plan	Hazard Addressed	Status
Prevention	1	1.1.10 Make application and/or commit/continue to participate in the NFIP	Flood	2010-2015



Mitigation Successes in Geneva County

All mitigation projects have contributed to the effectiveness of Geneva County’s recovery and mitigation. Geneva County continues working with the local communities to identify critical needs in the mapping update. At the end of the initial implementation of the state’s map modernization program, each county’s FIRMs will be converted to a common digital format, allowing for wider and easier access by individuals. Nine warning sirens and ten individual storm shelters have been installed using HMGP awarded funds.

Mitigation – 2010 and Beyond

At this time, Geneva County has completed the imagery project (1.1.2), the levee update project (6.2.2), and a portion of outdoor warning systems (5.2.1) that includes the Hacoda Community; City of Samson; Town of Coffee Springs; Chancellor Community; Bellwood Community; Town of Black; Eunola Community; Town of Malvern; and the Fadette Community. All other projects remain from 2005 for future consideration. **Table 6.8-2** through **Table 6.8-16** indicates completed and/or ongoing, as well as new mitigation measures. New actions identified by the committee and others during the plan update process are included in the 2010 Plan Update. New actions and objectives were obtained by distributing a questionnaire to get feedback on existing objectives, and ideas for new ones, as well as, through site visits. The updated mitigation action plan showing all actions deferred from the 2005 Plan as well as new actions identified for the 2010 plan update are shown in **Tables 6.8-17** through **6.8-23**.

Table 6.8-17 Geneva County Mitigation Action Program

GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.2	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	Completed	HMGP
1.1.3	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ LOCAL
1.1.5	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide	High	City/County Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		hazard mitigation system					
1.1.6	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local
1.1.9	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
1.1.11	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	EMA	All	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
1.2.1	Prevention	Reduce	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		Geneva County's risk from natural hazards					ADECA
1.2.2	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
1.3.1	Prevention	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	Low	City/County Government	All	Continuing	Local
1.3.2	Prevention	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	Local
1.3.3	Prevention	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	Local
1.4.1	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City/County Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
1.4.2	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City/County Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
1.4.3	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
1.4.4	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to	High	City/ County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		natural hazards					
2.1.1	Property Protection	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
2.1.2	Property Protection	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	County Extension Office	Flood	Continuing	Local
2.2.2	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	Engineers	Flood	Continuing	Local
2.3.1	Property Protection	Reduce vulnerability of new and future development	High	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
2.4.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local/ HMGP
2.4.2	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	EMA	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local/ NRCS/ USDA
2.5.1	Property Protection	Foster public support and acceptance of	High	Corp. of Engineers	Flood	Continuing	HMGP



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		hazard mitigation					
3.3.1	Public Education & Awareness	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	EMA	All	2015/New	Local
3.5.1	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	Local
3.5.2	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	EMA	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.4	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	High	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.5	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	County IT	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
3.5.6	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	County IT	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.7	Public Education	Foster public support and	Medium	EMA	Flood	Continuing	Local



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	& Awareness	acceptance of hazard mitigation					
3.5.8	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.9	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.12	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	High	EMA	All	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
3.5.13	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.14	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	High	EMA	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.15	Public Education	Foster public support and	High	EMA	All	Continuing	Local



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	& Awareness	acceptance of hazard mitigation					
3.5.16	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	Local
3.5.17	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	Local
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.1.1	Public Education & Awareness	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/City/ County Government/ EMA	All	Continuing	Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.2.2	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Completed	HMGP
6.2.3	Structural	Reduce	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/



GENEVA COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Type	Goal	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	Projects	Geneva County's risk from natural hazards					CDBG
6.4.1	Structural Projects	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	NFIP/City/County Government/EMA	Flood	Continuing	HMGP

Table 6.8-18 Coffee Springs Mitigation Action Program

COFFEE SPRINGS MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	County Extension Office	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local



COFFEE SPRINGS MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local

Table 6.8-19 City of Geneva Mitigation Action Program

CITY OF GENEVA MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local
1.1.9	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation	Medium	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP



CITY OF GENEVA MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		system					
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	County Extension Office	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services	Reduce Geneva	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/



CITY OF GENEVA MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	Protection	County's risk from natural hazards					Local
6.2.3	Structural Projects	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ CDBG

Table 6.8-20 Hartford Mitigation Action Program

HARTFORD MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
1.1.11	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	EMA	All	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
2.2.1	Property	Reduce	Medium	County	Flood	Continuing	Local



HARTFORD MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	Protection	Geneva County's risk from natural hazards		Extension Office			
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local

Table 6.8-21 Malvern Mitigation Action Program

MALVERN MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM



Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
1.2.2	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	County Extension Office	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education &	Foster public support and acceptance of	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local



MALVERN MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	Awareness	hazard mitigation					
3.5.17	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	Local
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local

Table 6.8-22 Samson Mitigation Action Program

SAMSON MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local



SAMSON MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		system					
1.1.9	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
1.4.1	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City/County Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
1.4.2	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City/County Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
1.4.3	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City Government	All	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
1.4.4	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	High	City/ County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Homeland Security
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk	Medium	County Extension Office	Flood	Continuing	Local



SAMSON MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
		from natural hazards					
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA/ Local

Table 6.8-23 Slocomb County Mitigation Action Program

SLOCOMB COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source



SLOCOMB COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
1.1.7	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	City/County Government	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
1.1.8	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	Medium	City/County Government/ NFIP	All	Continuing	Local
1.1.10	Prevention	Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system	High	NFIP/EMA	Flood	2015/New	HMGP/ Local
1.2.1	Prevention	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ ADECA
2.2.1	Property Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	County Extension Office	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.3	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	HMGP/ Local
3.5.10	Public Education & Awareness	Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local
3.5.11	Public Education	Foster public support and	Medium	NFIP Manager	Flood	Continuing	Local



SLOCOMB COUNTY MITIGATION ACTION PROGRAM							
Mitigation Measure #	Goal	Program Objective	Priority	Lead Responsibility	Hazard(s)	Timeline	Possible Funding Source
	& Awareness	acceptance of hazard mitigation					
5.2.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ADECA/Local
5.4.1	Public Education & Awareness	Reduce Geneva County's vulnerability to natural hazards	Medium	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ADECA/Local
6.2.1	Emergency Services Protection	Reduce Geneva County's risk from natural hazards	High	EMA	All	Continuing	HMGP/ADECA/Local

6.9 Identification of Funding Sources

Because the county plan addresses a broad spectrum of mitigation issues there is a need for a variety of funding sources. Funding often comes from an assortment of sources, including the federal, state, and local governments in addition to private funding opportunities. As previously discussed, the large majority of funding used to implement activities in the mitigation strategy since approval of the initial plan has been obtained from AEMA/FEMA's HMGP program. This funding has gone towards an array of planning and non-planning projects (see **Section 6.8**).

6.9.1 Federal

Federal funding sources include funding programs available through FEMA, the USACE, HUD, the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources and Conservation (NRCS), and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The following is a list of applicable federal assistance programs:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Program authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Act, providing grants to local governments involved in long term hazard mitigation planning and measures following a presidentially declared disaster. The federal share of any project shall not exceed 75 percent of the total eligible program costs.



5 percent HMGP Initiative (existing source of funding) – Initiated by FEMA in 1996. This program/policy established that up to 5 percent of the total HMGP funds for open and future disaster declarations are made available for the county to use on hazard mitigation measures that are difficult to evaluate against traditional program cost-effectiveness criteria. Currently, all available 5 percent HMPG funds for the State of Alabama are being utilized to fund a statewide warning and communication project, resulting in enhanced warning, communication and response capabilities statewide.

7.5 percent Public Assistance Funding (existing source of funding) – Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Act was amended by the Hazard Mitigation and Relocation Assistance Act of 1993. Later, in 2003, as a result of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, the amount of available funding for mitigation projects became 7.5 percent of the public and individual assistance programs.

7 percent Planning Grants (existing source of funding) – For all Federal Disaster Declarations with open application periods on or after November 13, 1999, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 authorizes grantees to use up to 7 percent of HMGP funds available to develop local or tribal government mitigation plans.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants (PDM) (existing source of funding) Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants focus primarily on planning and mitigation activities implemented prior to a disaster. All PDM applicants, if they have been identified through the NFIP as having a Special Flood Hazard Area, must participate in the NFIP, to be eligible for funding. Grants are available for two types of actions; mitigation planning and mitigation projects.

Disaster Resistant University Grants (existing source of funding) The Federal Register states “FEMA will provide PDM funds to assist universities, through state and local governments, to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to facilities, research assets, students and faculty.”

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA) (existing source of funding) The National Flood Mitigation Fund provides grants to local jurisdictions on a 75/25 cost share basis, for planning and implementation of mitigation projects. Examples of mitigation projects include acquisition, elevation, relocation, flood-proofing, and technical assistance. The enabling legislation specifically excludes large scale structural flood control projects from receiving this type of funding.

Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Grants (existing source of funding) This relatively new grant program, established by the Flood Insurance Reform Act (FIRA) of 2004, provides funding to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to severe repetitive loss (SRL) structures insured under the NFIP. Flood mitigation can include flood-proofing of historical properties and relocation, elevation, acquisition, or reconstruction of eligible residential properties. In order for a property to be eligible, a certain minimum number of claims must be filed over a prescribed

period or the amount of claims must exceed the value of the property. Funding for FY 2004 through 2009 has been set at \$40 million nationwide.

Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) Grants (existing source of funding) Also established by FIRA, the RFC grant program provides funds for acquisition or relocation of repetitive flood loss residential properties that cannot meet the 25 percent match required under the Flood Mitigation Assistance program. Up to 100 percent funding is available for each property. Current funding levels are \$10 million nationally.

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

The USACE provides several federal assistance programs applicable to hazard mitigation including:

General Investigation Studies (potential source of funding) These studies require local cost sharing of 50 percent. At the time of this plan revision, qualified projects can receive up to 75 percent federal funding.

Continuing Authorities (potential source of funding) This program allows the USACE to take action on water resource projects under a specific dollar amount. For these projects, a feasibility study would be performed. Local cost shares for these studies vary from 0 to 50 percent. Projects deemed cost-effective in which a federal interest is established could qualify for up to 75 percent federal funding. Specific Continuing Authorities programs applicable to hazard mitigation include:

Section 204 – For dredging associated with authorized navigation projects, protects, restores and creates aquatic and/or wetland habitats. Study costs include: Initial appraisal – 100 percent federal share; Feasibility Study – 65 federal share/35 Non-Federal Share Project costs include: If less than 35 percent, all necessary lands and relocations required for construction provided by non-federal source and cash contribution. Non-Federal entity operates and maintains the project.

Section 205 – General small flood drainage/control projects. Study costs include: First \$100,000 – 100 percent Federal Share; Any amount over \$100,000 – 50/50 Federal/Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: 35-50 percent of total project costs paid by Non-Federal – 5 percent in cash; \$7,000,000 maximum federal cost. Non-Federal entity operates and maintains the project.

Section 206 – Aquatic Ecosystem restoration and protection projects, including design, planning and construction. Study costs include: 65/35 Federal/Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: 35 percent of total project costs paid by Non-Federal; \$5,000,000 maximum federal costs. Non-Federal entity operates and maintains the project.

Section 208 – Waterway clearing and snagging projects. Study costs include: First \$40,000 – 100 percent Federal Share; Any amount over \$40,000 – 65 Federal Share/35 Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: 35 percent - 50 percent of total project costs paid by Non-Federal – 5



percent in cash; \$500,000 maximum federal costs. Non-Federal entity operates and maintains the project.

Section 107 – Small river and harbor improvement projects. Study costs include: First \$100,000 – 100 percent Federal Share; Any amount over \$100,000 – 50/50 Federal/Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: 10 percent of general navigation costs during construction paid by Non-Federal; 10 percent of general navigation costs over a 30 year period paid by Non-Federal; \$4,000,000 maximum federal costs.

Section 14 – Emergency stream bank and shoreline protection. Study costs include: First \$40,000 – 100 percent Federal Share; Any amount over \$40,000 – 65/35 Federal/Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: 35 percent of total project costs paid by Non-Federal – 5 percent in cash; 65 percent of total project costs paid by federal; \$1,000,000 maximum federal costs. Non-Federal entity operates and maintains the project.

Section 1135 – Environment restoration projects where a USACE project contributed to the deprivation of the environment. Study costs include: 75/25 Federal/Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: 25 percent of total project costs paid by Non-Federal; \$5,000,000 maximum federal costs; Non-Federal entity operates and maintains the project.

Floodplain Management Services – Education and planning services for flood hazards and floodplain management. Study costs include: 100 percent Cost Recovery from non-water resource agencies and private sector. 0 percent cost to state, regional, local governments and non-federal public agencies. Project costs include: Studies generally cost \$10,000 - \$25,000.

Planning Assistance to County – Comprehensive Plan development relating to the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. Study costs include: 50/50 Federal/Non-Federal Share. Project costs include: Federal Share generally \$25,000-\$75,000; \$500,000 maximum annual federal allotment per county/tribe.

Congressional Authorization (Major Civil Works Projects) (potential source of funding) Feasibility studies for major civil works projects undertaken by the USACE that indicate federal interests (benefit/cost ratio greater than 1:1) may be funded through Congressional Authorization of the proposed program.

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD maintains several funding sources that can be used towards furthering mitigation including: *Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)* (existing source of funding) This program allows for the distribution of grant money for the development of viable communities, principally for low and moderate income communities and neighborhoods. Community development can be accomplished through housing, suitable living environments and the expansion of economic opportunities. Activities that are eligible for funding under state administered CDBG include, but are not limited to: acquisition of property for public purposes; construction of public facilities; and planning activities.



The Disaster Relief Initiative for Hurricane Katrina was a special Congressional appropriation through the CDBG to aid recovery efforts. An initial allocation of \$74 million was distributed to affected communities through the ADECA, and an additional \$21 million was added as a supplemental fund. This appropriation provided funds to aid disaster relief, long-term recovery efforts, and restoration of infrastructure in distressed areas of Alabama most affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Section 312 Loan Program (potential source of funding) This program provides funds for the rehabilitation of residential and non-residential properties, including flood repair and flood proofing.

Rental Rehabilitation Program (potential source of funding) Through this program, funds are made available for rehabilitation of rental properties including flood proofing and repair of flood damage.

United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service

Emergency Watershed Protection (potential source of funding) In watersheds damaged by severe natural events, this program provides assistance to reduce hazards to life and property. If funds are available, NRCS can provide 100 percent of the cost of exigency situations and 80 percent of the cost of non-exigency situations.

Office of Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

The Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) (existing and potential sources of funding) This program is a partnership with states in which the federal government provides funding, technical assistance and oversight to ensure compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. Federal grants are provided on an equal cost-share basis with the County.

Section 303 (potential source of funding) This program focuses on the protection of natural resources that mitigate wind and flooding impacts including beaches, dunes, and barrier islands. Federal funding is available.

Section 305 (potential source of funding) States developing coastal programs are eligible to receive funding under this section of the Coastal Zone Management Program.

Section 306 Funding is primarily provided through implementation grants to administer county programs, including staff salaries, equipment purchases, Public Education and Awareness, enhancement of public access and the undertaking of projects that monitor and/or enhance elements of the regulatory program.

Section 309 This section provides detailed objectives calling for counties to prevent or significantly reduce threats in high hazard areas or manage development in other hazard areas. A portion of this section is the Coastal Zone Enhancement Program (CZEP).



Coastal Zone Enhancement Program – This program allows states to compete for additional funding by creating enhancements to the existing County Coastal Zone Management Program in eight priority areas including coastal hazard mitigation, wetlands protection, and the control of cumulative and secondary impacts of development.

United States Economic Development Administration (EDA)

Public Work Grants (potential source of funding) These grants are given to public and private non-profit organizations as well as to Indian Tribes for the building or expansion of public facilities that are essential to industrial and commercial growth.

Technical Assistance Grants (potential source of funding) Funding is made available through these grants to communities and firms for economic feasibility studies of resource development in the establishment of jobs. The funding also provides on-site support for innovative economic development techniques.

Planning Grants (potential source of funding) Funding is available through planning grants help to pay for the expertise needed to plan, coordinate and implement comprehensive economic development programs.

University Center Program Grants (potential source of funding) These grants are awarded to colleges and universities to utilize available resources to provide technical assistance to clients and address the economic development problems and opportunities of their service area.

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants (potential source of funding) This funding is aimed at helping depressed areas overcome specific capital market gaps and to encourage greater private sector participation in economic development activities. In concert with private leaders, RLF grantees make fixed asset and/or working capital loans to area businesses.

Economic Adjustment Program Grants (potential source of funding) Assist county and local governments in solving recent and anticipated severe adjustment problems, resulting in abrupt and serious job losses and to help areas implement strategies to reverse and halt long-term economic deterioration, i.e. natural disasters and military installation closures.

6.9.2 State and Local Funding

The State of Alabama currently funds three county agencies that are involved in hazard mitigation activities.

Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) (existing source of funding) AEMA receives state funds for efforts related to the administration and operations of the federal disaster funding programs at a county level, in addition to disaster response.

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) (existing source of funding) The Office of Water Resources (OWR) currently administers the NFIP program and related CRS program for the State of Alabama. OWR receives funding from the state for the NFIP. Currently, the federal/local share split is 75 percent Federal/25 percent State. The State of Alabama provides the 25 percent match through cash or in-kind contributions. ADECA also administers the CDBG program. Funds from this program have been used as a local match for HMGP funds.

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR), Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) (existing source of funding) ADCNR receives funding from the State of Alabama for the administration and daily operations of the Coastal Zone Management Program. Local municipalities (counties and incorporated cities) actively participate in funding hazard mitigation projects. Local counties and cities provide local match funding for federal programs to fund hazard mitigation activities. For example, local municipalities provide the local match share for FEMA HMGP and PDM grants as well as for USACE Section 205 and 206 grants.

Section 7 – Coordination of Local Planning

Contents of this Section

- 7.1 IFR Requirement for Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning
- 7.2 County process for developing local mitigation plans
- 7.3 Process by which local plans are reviewed, coordinated, linked to the State Plan
- 7.4 Criteria for prioritizing jurisdictions to receive funds under existing programs

Section What has been updated?

- 7.1 Plan added “IFR Requirement for Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning” IFR languages pertaining to plan updates were added.
- 7.2 Plan changed to “County Process for Developing Local Mitigation Plans” describing status of, and process for, developing local mitigation plans. Describes the process and timeframe for local mitigation plan approval and adoption.
- 7.3 Plan changed to “Process by which local plans are reviewed, coordinated, linked to the State Plan.” Describes process for reviewing and incorporating all local plans into this update. Describes plans to further integrate, coordinate, and link the state and local plans.
- 7.4 Plan changed to “Criteria for prioritizing jurisdictions to receive funds under existing programs”

7.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) Subsection 201.6 (c) (4) requires the local Hazard Mitigation Plan to include a section on the plan maintenance process that includes the following:

- (i) A section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.
- (ii) A process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.
- (iii) Discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.

7.2 Development and Update of Local Mitigation Plan

This section describes the ongoing efforts to assist in the completion of the development of local mitigation plan as well as the initial efforts being undertaken to begin the plan update process at the local level.

7.2.1 Development of Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Geneva County Emergency Management Agency (GCEMA) made a concerted effort to assist with local plan development by providing:

- Local In-Kind (among GCHMPC members) Funding for plan development
- Coordination with the State and Federal Emergency Management Agency on local plan development and review issues

GCEMA oversaw the development of the local Hazard Mitigation plan through agreements with a contractor, Lee Helms Associates (LHA), L. L. C. LHA was chosen to assist in this process because of their established planning expertise, knowledge of local and regional issues within Alabama, and their rapport with local county and city representatives and stakeholders.

The purpose of the HMPC is to coordinate local mitigation planning efforts across the county. The committee exchanges information, knowledge and experiences regarding local plan development. The GCEMA actively participated in the local HMPC providing ongoing assistance to the consultant and attending meetings.

In addition to local in-kind funding, the GCEMA provided assistance to the consultant as well as the local participants. Prior to and during the revision of the local plan, the GCEMA conducted Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee Meetings. Representatives of Lee Helms Associates, L. L. C. attended a Mitigation Plan Review workshop in Clanton, Alabama at the AEMA.

In addition to assistance provided by the GCEMA, the AEMA provided a review process and timeframe for draft local plan development. The state will review the county plan for applicability to the IFR requirements prior to FEMA's formal review. The process and timeframe employed by the state for review is:

- Step 1: The initial draft of a local county plan is sent to the AEMA for review within a 45 day timeframe and then forwarded with AEMA comments to FEMA.
- Step 2: FEMA completes its review within 45 days and forwards their comments to AEMA. AEMA immediately forwards AEMA and FEMA review comments to the county.
- Step 3: The county has a 30-day period to address both AEMA and FEMA comments. The county submits the corrected final draft to the AEMA.
- Step 4: Within 30 days, the AEMA checks the corrected final draft and forwards it to FEMA for review of corrections.



- Step 5: FEMA completes its second review within 45 days and if all comments were satisfactorily addressed in the corrected final draft of the plan, a letter stating that the plan is adoptable is mailed to AEMA and the county. In the cases where comments have not been addressed satisfactorily, the county again addresses the comments and repeats the process, thereby delaying the timeframe for approval and adoption.
- Step 6: The plan is then formally adopted by all participating jurisdictions within the county within a reasonable period that allows for local review, public participation, legal notices, public hearings, and governing body adoptions. The local adoption process should be completed within a 30 to 60-day timeframe.
- Step 7: The plan is officially approved. The timeframe from the county’s submission of the initial draft plan to adoption of the final approved plan can take over 210 days to complete.

7.2.2 Update of Local Hazard Mitigation Plans

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K) and the IFR require local hazard mitigation plans to be updated every five years in order for the local jurisdiction to remain eligible for mitigation funds. The first of the initial plans was approved and adopted in 2005 indicating that the first updates would not be required until 2010. The GCEMA works to improve the county’s risk assessments and strengthen their mitigation strategies. **Table 7.2-1**, below, summarizes local efforts to update their plans.

Table 7.2-1 Status of Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Revision

Alabama Association of Regional Councils			Responsible Entity for Local Plan Revision
Region	Council Name/ County Name	Status of Funding as of 2008	
7	Southeast Alabama Regional Planning Commission/ Geneva County	1605-HMGP Funds Approved	Local EMA/Lee Helms Associates, L. C.

7.3 Process for Reviewing, Coordinating and Linking the State and Local Plans

This section provides a description of the county’s process and timeframe for reviewing, coordinating, and linking local plans to the state plan during the initial plan development process and the ongoing plan updates process as well as plans to ensure that this coordination continues into the future.

7.3.1 Review and Incorporation of Local Plan Information into Initial State Plan



In the development of the county plan, the GCEMA was aware of the importance of on-going local planning efforts and the need for the county plan to be reflective of the state plan. The process utilized in the development of the initial county plan builds upon local risks, goals, strategies and actions to encompass the range of hazards, mitigation strategies and actions identified across the entire county. As previously discussed in **Section 7.2**, the state plan revision has been developed and approved by FEMA; therefore, the county plan is mirrored after the state plan.

Local Questionnaire

The local plan questionnaire was developed and distributed to all committee attendees at the December 11, 2008 meeting. Responses were received and used to acquire an understanding of local risk assessments and local mitigation strategies and actions. To accomplish this, the responses from the questions relevant to risk assessment and mitigation strategies were analyzed and utilized to develop a general idea of the hazards that affect the county and the associated risks, as well as the mitigation actions and strategies being considered to mitigate those risks.

Evaluation of Local Plans

The results were utilized as the basis for the countywide hazard identification and risk analysis, as well as the development of the countywide mitigation goals, strategy, and actions. This ensured that the county plan was reflective of additional local plans.

Coordination with GCHMPC

As discussed in **Section 7.2**, a large majority of the plan was developed through the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and the consultant. The consultant and the GCEMA was included as part of the committee and served as a conduit for information sharing between the locals and the state to ensure that the local plan was being developed in coordination with the revised state plan. The consultant also facilitated coordination by allowing local and state planners to share information and maintain an open dialogue regarding local and statewide risks and potential mitigation strategies.

Public Meetings

In addition to the above noted process, the GCEMA sponsored public meetings to discuss the results of the county planning efforts. The meetings had two objectives:

- Involve the public in the county process
- Obtain concurrence and/or feedback on the information garnered from the local participants

7.3.2 Review and Incorporation of Local Plan Information into the State Plan Update Hazard Identification and Profiles

GCEMA reviewed the hazard identification and profile sections of the present hazard mitigation plan. The range of hazards identified in the present plan varies slightly. An initial review was conducted to identify all hazards mentioned in the local plan. These included:

- Flood



- Tornado
- Severe Storms/Hail, High Wind, etc.
- Hurricanes/Coastal Storms
- Winter Storms/Freezes
- Landslides
- Sinkhole/Expansive Soils
- Earthquake
- Drought/Extreme Heat
- Wildfire
- Dam/Levee Failure
- Avalanche

Coastal storms were combined with hurricanes; therefore, coastal storms were removed from local plans accordingly. The local plan was reviewed again to determine which hazards are identified, profiled, and have the potential to impact the county. The results of this review are summarized in **Table 7.3-1** below which shows the hazards that impact the county.

Table 7.3-1 Local Hazard Identification and Profiles

County	FL	TOR	HW	HU	WS	LS	S&S	EQ	DR	HAIL	WF	ET	LT	DF	TS
Geneva	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

Notes: **FL**=Flood; **TOR**=Tornadoes; **HW**=High Wind and Windstorms; **HU**=Hurricane; **WS**=Winter Storms; **LS**=Landslides; **S&S**=Subsidence and Sinkholes; **EQ**=Earthquake; **DR**=Drought; **HAIL**=Hail; **WF**=Wildfire; **ET**=Extreme Temperatures; **LT**=Lightning; **DF**=Dam Failure; **TS**=Tsunamis

Potential Loss Estimates

GCEMA conducted an initial review of the loss estimates contained in the local plan to identify common elements that could be extracted and incorporated into this plan update. The initial review indicated that a wide range of methodologies to determine these potential loss estimates and were only able to include loss estimates for hazards for which there was ample historical data. Typically, these hazards were floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, winter storms/extreme cold events, drought/extreme heat events, hail, and lightning. The results of this review are summarized in **Table 7.3-2** below. All figures were converted to dollar losses per year.



**Table 7.3-2
Projected Annual Loss Estimates**

County	Floods (Hurricanes)	High Winds (Thunderstorms/ Hurricanes/Tornadoes/ Windstorms)	Lightning	Hail	Drought/ Ext. Heat	Winter Storms/ Ext. Cold
Geneva	\$58,777,500	\$1,226,517	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Mitigation Goals and Actions

Lastly, GCEMA reviewed the mitigation strategy, goals, and actions of the local plan. The Plan was reviewed to determine if the actions in the local plan met the goals as defined in the state plan and conversely, to determine if the county hazard mitigation goals were reflective of state goals, objectives and actions. The county hazard mitigation goals (see **Section 6.3**) are as follows:

1. Establish a comprehensive countywide hazard mitigation system
2. Reduce Barbour County’s risk from natural hazards
3. Reduce vulnerability of new and future development
4. Reduce Barbour County’s vulnerability to natural hazards
5. Foster public support and acceptance of hazard mitigation

Goals 1-5 mirror Goals 1-5 of the State Plan. The State Plan has Goal 6 – “Establish interagency hazard mitigation cooperation” that is similar to Goal 5 of Geneva County’s Plan – “Foster public support...”

This review demonstrated the local mitigation goals, objectives and actions are consistent with the state mitigation goals; and conversely, that the state hazard mitigation goals are reflective of the local goal, objectives and actions.

7.3.3 Future Local Plan Review and Incorporation

The review and incorporation of local plan information during the development of the initial county plan (**Section 7.3.1**), as well as this plan update (**Section 7.3.2**), resulted in this plan update being reflective of local hazard, risks, goals, mitigation strategies and actions. However, these evolve over time. In addition, DMA2K and the IFR require local plans to be updated every five years. In fact, as discussed in **Section 7.2**, local plans are currently being updated in light of the natural disasters that have occurred over the last five years. Future county plan updates, which will be performed on a five-year cycle, will continue to incorporate the latest information regarding local risk assessment and mitigation actions.

7.4 Criteria for Prioritizing Jurisdictions to Receive Funds under Existing Programs

Background



IFR subsection 201.6 (c)(3)(iii) states that the County Hazard Mitigation Plan must include “An action plan describing how the actions identified in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction. Prioritization shall include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of the proposed projects and their associated costs.” The sub-sections below discuss the state’s four criteria.

Applicants must demonstrate that their risk is sufficient to merit grant funds, particularly when compared to the project cost, but there is often considerable uncertainty in risk determinations. For this and other reasons, the State considers a variety of factors in addition to risk and benefit-cost (BC) analysis in determining its priorities for mitigation grants.

At the time of adoption of the initial State Plan in 2004, no formal procedures or criteria were in place to prioritize projects for funding. However, the State considered a variety of factors, such as local needs, vulnerability to natural hazards, NFIP status, CRS participation, risk to critical facility, and adopted regulatory tools, among others. The 2004 Plan recommended that a “more rigorous” process is developed. Following the State’s HMGP allocation under Hurricane Katrina (Federal Disaster Declaration 1605) in 2005, AEMA adopted an annex to the mitigation section of the State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The annex to the State EOP established an HMGP Administrative Plan.

This plan document has been incorporated as a separate annex to the mitigation section of the State Emergency Operation Plan and is the State of Alabama's process for administering the hazard mitigation grants funded under the provisions of Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), Public Law 100-707, as implemented by 44 CFR, Part 206. This Administrative Plan defines the eligibility criteria for an applicant, describes the application process, and outlines resources and procedures for management of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) projects and their associated program funding.

The Administrative Plan presents a process for review and prioritizing projects, as follows: *Applications... may be forwarded to the Project Application Review Committee (PARC) for technical review and prioritization. ...*

- a. Jurisdictions with the highest risk*
- b. Cost effectiveness of the project or action (usually through benefit-cost analysis)*
- c. Commitment of community to mitigation*
- d. Inclusion of (flood) repetitive loss properties as identified through NFIP records*
- e. Participation in Community Rating System (CRS)*
- f. Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)*
- g. Status of Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*
- h. Consideration of long-term economic development*
- i. Development pressure on the community*
- j. Adoption and enforcement of zoning and building codes*



- k. Priority of the project as identified in Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*
- l. General conformance with the mitigation strategy for reducing risk as identified in Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*

7.4.1 Jurisdictions with Highest Risk

One of the primary purposes of this Plan is to identify the areas within the county with the highest risk of damage from natural hazards. As described in detail in the Risk Assessment (**Section 5**), jurisdictions, mostly those with the greatest populations and numbers of structures (especially critical facilities) are at the greatest risk.

Although the county does not have a formal system established to evaluate and prioritize potential mitigation projects on the basis of risk, this plan update is partly intended to identify those jurisdictions with the greatest risk. In general, the county will continue to direct mitigation grant funds to the areas with the highest risk. However, in many cases, more localized risk assessments (often produced in the local mitigation planning process), as well as risk assessments and BC analyses done in support of applications, could demonstrate many cases of high vulnerability outside the higher-risk jurisdictions identified in this plan.

Most successful mitigation projects are products of both risk and the effectiveness of a project in mitigating that risk. Although risk is clearly a good initial indicator of mitigation potential, the county will also carefully consider the cost effectiveness and the potential beneficial impacts of projects in determining funding priorities.

7.4.2 Repetitive Loss Properties

Although the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), Severe Repetitive Loss (SLR), and Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) programs emphasize repetitive loss properties, FEMA currently has no formal requirement that grants funded through the HMGP or PDM address repetitive losses. However, in response to the federal emphasis on reducing the burden of repetitive losses on the NFIP, the county/state presently considers the repetitive loss status of properties in determining the grants it will support (i.e. forward to FEMA for consideration and funding). The FMA program and the new SLR and RFC programs mandate that grant funds be directed to NFIP repetitive loss properties, and the county/state will continue to comply with this requirement, as they have since the inception of the FMA program. The National Flood Insurance Reform Act (NFIRA) of 2004 was signed into law by the president on June 30, 2004. NFIRA reforms the NFIP to create a disincentive to property owners to live in repetitively flooded areas. Rather than continue to rebuild, the program would provide repeatedly flooded homeowners assistance in either elevating or moving their homes away from flood waters. Those who refuse mitigation assistance would incur the long term losses associated with living in high risk areas.

7.4.3 Most Intense Development Pressure

As mentioned earlier in this section, at the time the initial version of this Plan developed in 2005, Alabama had no formal process for evaluating potential mitigation grants. It has since developed a more rigorous review and recommendation process that includes development pressure as a review criterion. Development pressure is clearly a potential factor in any risk determination, however, development undertaken in accordance with effective comprehensive planning and plan implementation tools, such as building codes, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, floodplain management ordinances, and capital improvements programming should in many cases be less risky than existing developed areas. The county/state recognizes that increased

development does cause new population settlements, construction of new buildings, and expansion of infrastructure. These development pressures could increase exposure of population, buildings, and infrastructure to the risks of natural hazards. Although development and growth are in themselves not risks, local mitigation planning fully integrated into a community's comprehensive planning and regulatory program can reduce exposure of new development to natural hazards risks. A community's planning responses to manage growth and development is essential to effective local mitigation, and these factors are carefully considered by the county in their project review process.

7.4.4 Maximizing Benefits According to Benefit-Cost Review of Local Projects

The regulations that apply to all FEMA mitigation grant programs require all mitigation projects to be cost effective. Under some pre-established conditions, certain projects may be exempt from this regulation, but in most cases projects are provided a benefit-cost analysis either prior to submission to AEMA and FEMA for funding consideration, or during the grant evaluation process. The PDM program, instituted in 2003-2004, further emphasizes the role of cost effectiveness by making the benefit-cost ratio the single most important criterion in project rating and evaluation.

For the HMGP, FMA, SRL, and RFC programs, the regulations require only that proposed mitigation projects are cost-effective, not that they are the most cost-effective of projects that the County/State/FEMA is considering. In most cases, grant applications are either accompanied by a BC analysis, or AEMA or FEMA perform one in accordance with FEMA and OMB regulations. Projects that do not achieve the required 1.0 BC ratio and are not exempt from BC analysis are rejected from funding consideration. This is the case for all FEMA mitigation grant programs.

The GCHMPC considered the benefits that would result from the mitigation actions versus the cost of those actions. The following were considered: 1) Assessing the economic impact of one action compared to another; 2) Considering how one type of action costs more than another to achieve the same benefit; 3) Assessing the availability of funding for the projects; and 4) Demonstrating which projects better serve the economic goals of the community.

7.4.5 Prioritization of Communities to Receive Planning Grants

In determining priorities for which communities will receive mitigation planning grants, AEMA considers the following criteria:

1. Quality and completeness of the community's existing mitigation plan. Communities whose mitigation plans need the most work will be given priority.
2. The degree of risk in the community, as determined by identifying the potential effects of natural hazards on population, buildings, and infrastructure.
3. Existing capability, (i.e. if the community resources to create or update its plan and to implement the plan).
4. Potential for the Plan to support or enhance community mitigation efforts.

These criteria consider the most important factors for determining the expenditure of limited funds to most effectively help communities improve their mitigation planning activities.



Section 8 – Plan Maintenance

This section of the Plan addresses requirements of Interim Final Rule (IFR) Section 201.6 and (d). A copy of the IFR is provided for reference in **Appendix B** of this document.

Contents of this Section

- 8.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Plan Maintenance Process
- 8.2 Method for Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating the Plan
- 8.3 System for Monitoring Mitigation Measures and Project Closeouts
- 8.4 System for Reviewing Progress on Achieving Goals
- 8.5 System for Reviewing Progress on Activities and Projects in the County Mitigation Strategy

Section What has been updated?

- 8.1 Section has been added.
- 8.2 Plan changed from “Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating” to Method for Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating the Plan.” This section was added to reflect lessons learned regarding the plan maintenance and update process in the last five years
- 8.3 Plan changed from “Plan Incorporation” to “System for Monitoring Mitigation Measures and Project Closeouts.” This section has been added to reflect how the GCEMA currently monitors mitigation projects
- 8.4 Plan changed from “Public Awareness/Participation” to “System for Reviewing Progress on Achieving Goals.” Section has been added.
- 8.5 This section has been added to reflect the restructured annual plan evaluation process described in **Section 8.2**.

8.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for Plan Maintenance Process

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) Subsection 201.6 (c) (4) requires the County Hazard Mitigation Plan to include a section that describes the Plan Maintenance Process. “(The County Hazard Mitigation Plan shall include a) section on the *Plan Maintenance Process* that includes:

- (i) “A section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.
- (ii) A process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.
- (iii) Discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.”

The IFR Subsection 201.6 (d) (3) (4) requires the County Hazard Mitigation Plan to be revised and updated every five years. “A local jurisdiction must review and revise its plan to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit it for approval within 5 years in order to continue to be eligible for mitigation project grant funding.....Managing states will review the plans within 45 days of receipt of the plans, whenever possible, and provide a copy of the approved plans to the Regional Office.”

8.2 Method for Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating the Plan

8.2.1 Background

The Geneva County Emergency Management Agency (GCEMA) is responsible for maintaining the local Hazard Mitigation Plan, including all monitoring, evaluation, and updating activities. As part of this plan update process, the GCEMA reviewed the strategy detailed in the 2005 Plan for monitoring, evaluating, and updating the plan and compared it to the plan maintenance activities that actually occurred since plan adoption in 2005.

The 2005 Plan calls for GCEMA to initiate an annual review of the county plan by the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (GCHMPC). The GCHMPC reviewed the plan to include the mitigation goals, priorities and actions as part of this plan update process, and it was determined that the mitigation priorities of the county had not been substantially altered and are still valid. This process has been revised to provide greater flexibility to the GCEMA and Geneva County in their efforts to maintain the plan. This section of the plan describes the method by which the GCEMA will accomplish this task.

8.2.2 Method for Monitoring the Plan

Regular plan monitoring will be achieved through GCEMA’s efforts to track mitigation activities. These activities are described in **Sections 8.3** through **8.5** below. The GCEMA Director is the responsible person for the review of the plan to include monitoring, evaluating, and updating of the plan, reconvening the committee only if additional information is available or the EMA Director requires assistance. The annual review of the plan will take place in June of each year. Although the entire plan’s progress will be monitored, evaluated, and updated on a continuous basis throughout the five-year timeframe, the annual review will begin by the GCEMA Director emailing a survey form to the GCHMPC members asking them for their input and giving them a two-week deadline on returning the information to the GCEMA Director. Following the two-week deadline, the GCEMA Director will consolidate the survey forms and act upon the findings as needed and in the methods described below.

8.2.3 System for Evaluating the Plan

The GCEMA will conduct an annual evaluation of the plan, reconvening the committee only if additional information is available or the EMA Director requires assistance. The GCEMA Director will document the annual evaluation and note the findings. The evaluation will consider several basic factors including:

1. Changes in the level of risk to the county and its citizens



2. Changes in laws, policies, or regulations at the local or state level
3. Changes in state or local agencies or their procedures that will affect how mitigation programs or funds are administered
4. Significant changes in funding sources or capabilities
5. Changes in the composition of the Hazard Mitigation Committee
6. Progress on mitigation actions (including project closeouts) and new mitigation actions that the county is considering
7. Major changes to the multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan

Additionally, as described separately in **Section 7.2**, GCEMA will contact local agencies (and other individuals and organizations as appropriate) to determine if updates have been made to certain elements of the local plans as part of the annual review process. The purpose of this effort is to ensure that local information about risk, goals, projects, and mitigation strategies included in the plan remains current.

In the event modifications to the plan are warranted as a result of the annual review or other conditions, the Committee will oversee and approve all revisions to the plan. Conditions which might warrant revisions to this plan would include, but not be limited to, special opportunities for funding, a response to a natural disaster, and changes in jurisdictions' capabilities to implement the plan. Before any revisions are submitted to the jurisdictions for adoption, a notice will be placed in the local newspaper or publicly posted, allowing an opportunity for the public to review the proposed amendments at the EMA offices, submit written comments, and present comments at a public meeting. The Committee will then submit all revisions for adoption by jurisdictions affected by the changes. A copy of the plan revisions will be submitted to all holders of the original plan in a timely manner.

8.2.4 System for Updating the Plan

The plan will be updated and re-submitted to AEMA/FEMA for re-approval every five years, as required by law. The plan may also be subject to interim updates if any of the following conditions apply:

1. At the request of the EMA Director.
2. The nature, magnitude, and/or type of risks have changed.
3. If the findings of the annual/post-disaster review and evaluation warrant an update.
4. There are implementation problems, such as technical, political, legal, or coordination issues with other agencies.

The two sub-paragraphs below describe the procedures for interim and five-year updates, respectively.

Updates Resulting from Interim Evaluations

The nature of plan updates will be determined by the evaluation process described above. In general, GCEMA will notify the HMPC that the agency is initiating an interim plan update, and describe the circumstances that created the need for the update. GCEMA will determine if the



full committee should be consulted regarding the potential changes. If it is determined that the committee should be involved, the nature of the involvement will be at the discretion of GCEMA.

When interim updates are completed, GCEMA will advise all HMPC members that the plan has been updated, and describe the nature of the update.

Updates Related to the Required Five-year Plan Review (by FEMA)

As required by law, every five years the plan will be updated for re-submission and re-approval by AEMA/FEMA. In those years, the evaluation process will be substantially more rigorous, and will examine all aspects of the plan in detail. It is anticipated that several meetings of the committee will be required, and that the plan will be formally readopted by the commission. Based on the 2010 deadline for this plan update, GCEMA anticipates that the submission date for the next plan update will be 2015. Between 6 and 12 months prior to 2015, GCEMA will initiate the plan update process by contacting committee members and other appropriate agencies and organizations to determine a schedule and process for updating the plan.

The update process will involve a detailed and structured re-examination of all aspects of the original plan, followed by recommended updates. The recommendations will be presented to the committee for consideration and approval.

8.3 System for Monitoring Mitigation Measures and Project Closeouts

The GCEMA uses the following system for monitoring mitigation measures and project closeouts.

8.3.1 Monitoring Mitigation Measures

Mitigation projects are generally monitored as follows:

- Each mitigation project or activity (such as planning) has an established period of performance that GCEMA and AEMA monitor throughout the development and execution of the activity.
- Every calendar quarter, GCEMA sends a quarterly report to the AEMA on all open projects (i.e. ones that have been funded but are not completed), that includes a project progress update and percent completed.

8.3.2 Monitoring Project Closeouts

Mitigation project closeouts occur in the following sequence. These procedures were established in accordance with FEMA HMGP guidelines as set out in the HMGP Desk Reference and the State of Alabama HMGP Administrative Plan.

- Sub-grantee indicates in a quarterly project progress report that a mitigation project is 100 percent complete.
- AEMA reconciles FEMA Smart Link account for the project (by disaster).



- AEMA initiates an internal financial audit of the project.
- AEMA resolves any issues discovered in the audit.
- AEMA sends FEMA Region IV a closeout letter that delineates the final eligible cost of the project, and delineates any de-obligations that are required, as well as any monies that will be recovered from the sub-grantee.

8.4 System for Reviewing Progress on Achieving Goals

In order to track progress on achieving the goals identified in this plan, GCEMA will ensure that both the annual and five-year plan evaluations include a review and analysis of the goals, and the various actions that are intended to achieve them. This process will be substantially more rigorous and detailed during the formal plan update process. **Section 6** of the plan describes hazard mitigation goals, and includes a detailed table that lists various strategies and actions that the county is undertaking or considering addressing the goals. As part of this plan update, this table has been modified to include a column indicating the status of the various actions and a general indication of progress.

The system for reviewing progress on achieving goals will remain the same as it has proved successful over the last five years.

8.5 System for Reviewing Progress on Activities and Projects in the Local Mitigation Strategy

As part of the annual evaluation, GCEMA will conduct a preliminary review and analysis of progress on activities listed in the mitigation strategy section. The results of this review will be included in brief summary report submitted to the committee.

As part of the five-year update to the plan, GCEMA will initiate a more detailed review and evaluation of all activities and projects noted in the mitigation strategy. GCEMA will report its findings to the committee at meetings held as part of the plan update process. The results of these findings will be included in the table of mitigation goals and actions included in **Section 6**.

Section 9 - APPENDICES



**Appendix A - Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
(106-390-October 30, 2000)**

114 STAT. 1552 PUBLIC LAW 106–390—OCT. 30, 2000
Public Law 106–390
106th Congress

An Act

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize a program for predisaster mitigation, to streamline the administration of disaster relief, to control the Federal costs of disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.”

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PREDISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION

Sec. 101. Findings and purpose

Sec. 102. Predisaster hazard mitigation

Sec. 103. Interagency task force

Sec. 104. Mitigation planning; minimum standards for public and private structures

TITLE II—STREAMLINING AND COST REDUCTION

Sec. 201. Technical amendments

Sec. 202. Management costs

Sec. 203. Public notice, comment, and consultation requirements

Sec. 204. State administration of hazard mitigation grant program

Sec. 205. Assistance to repair, restore, reconstruct, or replace damaged facilities

Sec. 206. Federal assistance to individuals and households

Sec. 207. Community disaster loans

Sec. 208. Report on State management of small disasters initiative

Sec. 209. Study regarding cost reduction



TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 301. Technical correction of short title
- Sec. 302. Definitions
- Sec. 303. Fire management assistance
- Sec. 304. Disaster grant closeout procedures
- Sec. 305. Public safety officer benefits for certain Federal and State employees
- Sec. 306. Buy American
- Sec. 307. Treatment of certain real property
- Sec. 308. Study of participation by Indian tribes in emergency management

TITLE I—PREDISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION

SEC. 101 FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that— 42 USC 5133 note. 42 USC 5121 note. Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Oct. 30, 2000 [H.R. 707]

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(1) natural disasters, including earthquakes, tsunamis, tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding, and wildfires, pose great danger to human life and to property throughout the United States

(2) greater emphasis needs to be placed on—

(A) identifying and assessing the risks to States and local governments (including Indian tribes) from natural disasters

(B) implementing adequate measures to reduce losses from natural disasters

(C) ensuring that the critical services and facilities of communities will continue to function after a natural disaster

(3) expenditures for postdisaster assistance are increasing without commensurate reductions in the likelihood of future losses from natural disasters

(4) in the expenditure of Federal funds under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), high priority should be given to mitigation of hazards at the local level

(5) with a unified effort of economic incentives, awareness and education, technical assistance, and demonstrated Federal support, States and local governments (including Indian tribes) will be able to—

(A) form effective community-based partnerships for hazard mitigation purposes



- (B) implement effective hazard mitigation measures that reduce the potential damage from natural disasters
- (C) ensure continued functionality of critical services
- (D) leverage additional non-Federal resources in meeting natural disaster resistance goals
- (E) make commitments to long-term hazard mitigation efforts to be applied to new and existing structures

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this title is to establish a national disaster hazard mitigation program—

- (1) to reduce the loss of life and property, human suffering, economic disruption, and disaster assistance costs resulting from natural disasters
- (2) to provide a source of predisaster hazard mitigation funding that will assist States and local governments (including Indian tribes) in implementing effective hazard mitigation measures that are designed to ensure the continued functionality of critical services and facilities after a natural disaster

SEC. 102. PREDISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Title II of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 203. PREDISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION

“(a) **DEFINITION OF SMALL IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITY.**—In this section, the term ‘small impoverished community’ means a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals that is economically disadvantaged, as determined by the State in which the community is located and based on criteria established by the President.

“(b) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**—The President may establish a program to provide technical and financial assistance to States and local governments to assist in the implementation of President. 42 USC 5133. 114 STAT. 1554 PUBLIC LAW 106–390—OCT. 30, 2000 predisaster hazard mitigation measures that are cost-effective and are designed to reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property, including damage to critical services and facilities under the jurisdiction of the States or local governments.

“(c) **APPROVAL BY PRESIDENT.**—If the President determines that a State or local government has identified natural disaster hazards in areas under its jurisdiction and has demonstrated the ability to form effective public-private natural disaster hazard mitigation partnerships, the President, using amounts in the National Predisaster Mitigation Fund established under subsection

(i)(referred to in this section as the ‘Fund’), may provide technical and financial assistance to the State or local government to be used in accordance with subsection (e).

“(d) **STATE RECOMMENDATIONS.**—



“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Governor of each State may recommend to the President not fewer than five local governments to receive assistance under this section.

“(B) DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION.—The recommendations under subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the President not later than October 1, 2001, and each October 1st thereafter or such later date in the year as the President may establish.

“(C) CRITERIA.—In making recommendations under subparagraph (A), a Governor shall consider the criteria specified in subsection (g).

“(2) USE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), in providing assistance to local governments under this section, the President shall select from local governments recommended by the Governors under this subsection.

“(B) EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.—In providing assistance to local governments under this section, the President may select a local government that has not been recommended by a Governor under this subsection if the President determines that extraordinary circumstances justify the selection and that making the selection will further the purpose of this section.

“(3) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO NOMINATE.—If a Governor of a State fails to submit recommendations under this subsection in a timely manner, the President may select, subject to the criteria specified in subsection (g), any local governments of the State to receive assistance under this section.

“(e) USES OF TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Technical and financial assistance provided under this section—

“(A) shall be used by States and local governments principally to implement predisaster hazard mitigation measures that are cost-effective and are described in proposals approved by the President under this section; and “(B) may be used— “(i) to support effective public-private natural disaster hazard mitigation partnerships; “(ii) to improve the assessment of a community’s vulnerability to natural hazards; or President.

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“(iii) to establish hazard mitigation priorities, and an appropriate hazard mitigation plan, for a community.

“(2) DISSEMINATION.—A State or local government may use not more than 10 percent of the financial assistance received by the State or local government under this section for a fiscal year to fund activities to disseminate information regarding cost-effective mitigation technologies.

“(f) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—The amount of financial assistance made available to a State (including amounts made available to local governments of the State) under this section for a fiscal year—

“(1) shall be not less than the lesser of—

“(A) \$500,000; or

“(B) the amount that is equal to 1.0 percent of the total funds appropriated to carry out this section for the fiscal year;



“(2) shall not exceed 15 percent of the total funds described in paragraph (1)(B); and

“(3) shall be subject to the criteria specified in subsection (g).

“(g) CRITERIA FOR ASSISTANCE AWARDS.—In determining whether to provide technical and financial assistance to a State or local government under this section, the President shall take into account—

“(1) the extent and nature of the hazards to be mitigated;

“(2) the degree of commitment of the State or local government to reduce damages from future natural disasters;

“(3) the degree of commitment by the State or local government to support ongoing non-Federal support for the hazard mitigation measures to be carried out using the technical and financial assistance;

“(4) the extent to which the hazard mitigation measures to be carried out using the technical and financial assistance contribute to the mitigation goals and priorities established by the State;

“(5) the extent to which the technical and financial assistance is consistent with other assistance provided under this Act;

“(6) the extent to which prioritized, cost-effective mitigation activities that produce meaningful and definable outcomes are clearly identified;

“(7) if the State or local government has submitted a mitigation plan under section 322, the extent to which the activities identified under paragraph (6) are consistent with the mitigation plan; “(8) the opportunity to fund activities that maximize net benefits to society;

“(9) the extent to which assistance will fund mitigation activities in small impoverished communities; and

“(10) such other criteria as the President establishes in consultation with State and local governments.

“(h) FEDERAL SHARE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Financial assistance provided under this section may contribute up to 75 percent of the total cost of mitigation activities approved by the President.

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“(2) SMALL IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the President may contribute up to 90 percent of the total cost of a mitigation activity carried out in a small impoverished community.

“(i) NATIONAL PREDISASTER MITIGATION FUND.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President may establish in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the ‘National Predisaster Mitigation Fund’, to be used in carrying out this section.

“(2) TRANSFERS TO FUND.—There shall be deposited in the Fund—

“(A) amounts appropriated to carry out this section, which shall remain available until expended; and

“(B) sums available from gifts, bequests, or donations of services or property received by the President for the purpose of predisaster hazard mitigation.



“(3) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—Upon request by the President, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer from the Fund to the President such amounts as the President determines are necessary to provide technical and financial assistance under this section.

“(4) INVESTMENT OF AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall invest such portion of the Fund as is not, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, required to meet current withdrawals. Investments may be made only in interestbearing obligations of the United States.

“(B) ACQUISITION OF OBLIGATIONS.—For the purpose of investments under subparagraph (A), obligations may be acquired—

“(i) on original issue at the issue price; or

“(ii) by purchase of outstanding obligations at the market price.

“(C) SALE OF OBLIGATIONS.—Any obligation acquired by the Fund may be sold by the Secretary of the Treasury at the market price.

“(D) CREDITS TO FUND.—The interest on, and the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and form a part of the Fund.

“(E) TRANSFERS OF AMOUNTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The amounts required to be transferred to the Fund under this subsection shall be transferred at least monthly from the general fund of the Treasury to the Fund on the basis of estimates made by the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(ii) ADJUSTMENTS.—Proper adjustment shall be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the extent prior estimates were in excess of or less than the amounts required to be transferred.

“(j) LIMITATION ON TOTAL AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.— The President shall not provide financial assistance under this section in an amount greater than the amount available in the Fund.

“(k) MULTHAZARD ADVISORY MAPS.—

“(1) DEFINITION OF MULTHAZARD ADVISORY MAP.—In this subsection, the term ‘multihazard advisory map’ means a map on which hazard data concerning each type of natural disaster is identified simultaneously for the purpose of showing areas of hazard overlap.

“(2) DEVELOPMENT OF MAPS.—In consultation with States, local governments, and appropriate Federal agencies, the President shall develop multihazard advisory maps for areas, in

not fewer than five States, that are subject to commonly recurring natural hazards (including flooding, hurricanes and severe winds, and seismic events).

“(3) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—In developing multihazard advisory maps under this subsection, the President shall use, to the maximum extent practicable, the most cost-effective and efficient technology available.

“(4) USE OF MAPS.—

“(A) ADVISORY NATURE.—The multihazard advisory maps shall be considered to be advisory and shall not require the development of any new policy by, or impose any new policy on, any government or private entity.



“(B) AVAILABILITY OF MAPS.—The multihazard advisory maps shall be made available to the appropriate State and local governments for the purposes of—

“(i) informing the general public about the risks of natural hazards in the areas described in paragraph(2);

“(ii) supporting the activities described in subsection (e); and

“(iii) other public uses.

“(l) REPORT ON FEDERAL AND STATE ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this section, the President, in consultation with State and local governments, shall submit to Congress a report evaluating efforts to implement this section and recommending a process for transferring greater authority and responsibility for administering the assistance program established under this section to capable States.

“(m) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority provided by this section terminates December 31, 2003.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Title II of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131 et seq.) is amended by striking the title heading and inserting the following:

“TITLE II—DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION ASSISTANCE”. SEC. 103. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.

Title II of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131 et seq.) (as amended by section 102(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 204. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish a Federal interagency task force for the purpose of coordinating the implementation of predisaster hazard mitigation programs administered by the Federal Government. 42 USC 5134. Deadline.President.

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“(b) CHAIRPERSON.—The Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall serve as the chairperson of the task force.

“(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The membership of the task force shall include representatives of—

“(1) relevant Federal agencies;

“(2) State and local government organizations (including Indian tribes); and

“(3) the American Red Cross.”.

SEC. 104. MITIGATION PLANNING; MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STRUCTURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5141 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 322. MITIGATION PLANNING.

“(a) REQUIREMENT OF MITIGATION PLAN.—As a condition of receipt of an increased Federal share for hazard mitigation measures under subsection (e), a State, local, or tribal



government shall develop and submit for approval to the President a mitigation plan that outlines processes for identifying the natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities of the area under the jurisdiction of the government.

“(b) LOCAL AND TRIBAL PLANS.—Each mitigation plan developed by a local or tribal government shall—

“(1) describe actions to mitigate hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities identified under the plan; and

“(2) establish a strategy to implement those actions.

“(c) STATE PLANS.—The State process of development of a mitigation plan under this section shall—

“(1) identify the natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities of areas in the State;

“(2) support development of local mitigation plans;

“(3) provide for technical assistance to local and tribal governments for mitigation planning; and

“(4) identify and prioritize mitigation actions that the State will support, as resources become available.

“(d) FUNDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal contributions under section 404 may be used to fund the development and updating of mitigation plans under this section.

“(2) MAXIMUM FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—With respect to any mitigation plan, a State, local, or tribal government may use an amount of Federal contributions under section 404 not

to exceed 7 percent of the amount of such contributions available to the government as of a date determined by the government.

“(e) INCREASED FEDERAL SHARE FOR HAZARD MITIGATION MEASURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If, at the time of the declaration of a major disaster, a State has in effect an approved mitigation plan under this section, the President may increase to 20 percent, with respect to the major disaster, the maximum percentage specified in the last sentence of section 404(a).

“(2) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In determining whether to increase the maximum percentage under paragraph (1), the President shall consider whether the State has established— President. 42 USC 5165.

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“(A) eligibility criteria for property acquisition and other types of mitigation measures;

“(B) requirements for cost effectiveness that are related to the eligibility criteria;

“(C) a system of priorities that is related to the eligibility criteria; and

“(D) a process by which an assessment of the effectiveness of a mitigation action may be carried out after the mitigation action is complete.

“SEC. 323. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STRUCTURES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receipt of a disaster loan or grant under this Act—



“(1) the recipient shall carry out any repair or construction to be financed with the loan or grant in accordance with applicable standards of safety, decency, and sanitation and in conformity with applicable codes, specifications, and standards; and

“(2) the President may require safe land use and construction practices, after adequate consultation with appropriate State and local government officials.

“(b) EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE.—A recipient of a disaster loan or grant under this Act shall provide such evidence of compliance with this section as the President may require by regulation.”.

(b) LOSSES FROM STRAIGHT LINE WINDS.—The President shall increase the maximum percentage specified in the last sentence of section 404(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c(a)) from 15 percent to 20 percent with respect to any major disaster that is in the State of Minnesota and for which assistance is being provided as of the date of the enactment of this Act, except that additional assistance provided under this subsection shall not exceed \$6,000,000. The mitigation measures assisted under this subsection shall be related to losses in the State of Minnesota from straight line winds.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 404(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c(a)) is amended—

(A) in the second sentence, by striking “section 409” and inserting “section 322”; and

(B) in the third sentence, by striking “The total” and inserting “Subject to section 322, the total”.

(2) Section 409 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5176) is repealed.

TITLE II—STREAMLINING AND COST REDUCTION

SEC. 201. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Section 311 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5154) is amended in subsections (a)(1), (b), and (c) by striking “section 803 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965” each place it appears President. 42 USC 5165a. 114 STAT. 1560 PUBLIC LAW 106–390—OCT. 30, 2000 and inserting “section 209(c)(2) of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3149(c)(2))”.

SEC. 202. MANAGEMENT COSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5141 et seq.) (as amended by section 104(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 324. MANAGEMENT COSTS.

“(a) DEFINITION OF MANAGEMENT COST.—In this section, the term ‘management cost’ includes any indirect cost, any administrative expense, and any other expense not directly chargeable to a specific project under a major disaster, emergency, or disaster preparedness or mitigation activity or measure.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF MANAGEMENT COST RATES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including any administrative rule or guidance), the President shall by



regulation establish management cost rates, for grantees and subgrantees, that shall be used to determine contributions under this Act for management costs.

“(c) REVIEW.—The President shall review the management cost rates established under subsection (b) not later than 3 years after the date of establishment of the rates and periodically thereafter.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), subsections (a) and (b) of section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (as added by subsection (a)) shall apply to major disasters declared under that Act on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) INTERIM AUTHORITY.—Until the date on which the President establishes the management cost rates under section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (as added by subsection (a)), section 406(f) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172(f)) (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act) shall be used to establish management cost rates.

SEC. 203. PUBLIC NOTICE, COMMENT, AND CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS.

Title III of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5141 et seq.) (as amended by section 202(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 325. PUBLIC NOTICE, COMMENT, AND CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT CONCERNING NEW OR MODIFIED POLICIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall provide for public notice and opportunity for comment before adopting any new or modified policy that—

“(A) governs implementation of the public assistance program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency under this Act; and “(B) could result in a significant reduction of assistance under the program. President. 42 USC 5165c. 42 USC 5165b note. Deadline. Regulations. 42 USC 5165b.

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“(2) APPLICATION.—Any policy adopted under paragraph (1) shall apply only to a major disaster or emergency declared on or after the date on which the policy is adopted.

“(b) CONSULTATION CONCERNING INTERIM POLICIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Before adopting any interim policy under the public assistance program to address specific conditions that relate to a major disaster or emergency that has been declared under this Act, the President, to the maximum extent practicable, shall solicit the views and recommendations of grantees and subgrantees with respect to the major disaster or emergency concerning the potential interim policy, if the interim policy is likely—

“(A) to result in a significant reduction of assistance to applicants for the assistance with respect to the major disaster or emergency; or



“(B) to change the terms of a written agreement to which the Federal Government is a party concerning the declaration of the major disaster or emergency.

“(2) NO LEGAL RIGHT OF ACTION.—Nothing in this subsection confers a legal right of action on any party.

“(c) PUBLIC ACCESS.—The President shall promote public access to policies governing the implementation of the public assistance program.”.

SEC. 204. STATE ADMINISTRATION OF HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION BY STATES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State desiring to administer the hazard mitigation grant program established by this section with respect to hazard mitigation assistance in the State may submit to the President an application for the delegation of the authority to administer the program.

“(2) CRITERIA.—The President, in consultation and coordination with States and local governments, shall establish criteria for the approval of applications submitted under paragraph

(1). The criteria shall include, at a minimum—

“(A) the demonstrated ability of the State to manage the grant program under this section;

“(B) there being in effect an approved mitigation plan under section 322; and

“(C) a demonstrated commitment to mitigation activities.

“(3) APPROVAL.—The President shall approve an application submitted under paragraph (1) that meets the criteria established under paragraph (2).

“(4) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—If, after approving an application of a State submitted under paragraph (1), the President determines that the State is not administering the hazard

mitigation grant program established by this section in a manner satisfactory to the President, the President shall withdraw the approval.

“(5) AUDITS.—The President shall provide for periodic audits of the hazard mitigation grant programs administered by States under this subsection.”. President.

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SEC. 205. ASSISTANCE TO REPAIR, RESTORE, RECONSTRUCT, OR REPLACE DAMAGED FACILITIES.

(a) CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) CONTRIBUTIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may make contributions—



“(A) to a State or local government for the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of a public facility damaged or destroyed by a major disaster and for associated expenses incurred by the government; and

“(B) subject to paragraph (3), to a person that owns or operates a private nonprofit facility damaged or destroyed by a major disaster for the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of the facility and for associated expenses incurred by the person.

“(2) ASSOCIATED EXPENSES.—For the purposes of this section, associated expenses shall include—

“(A) the costs of mobilizing and employing the National Guard for performance of eligible work;

“(B) the costs of using prison labor to perform eligible work, including wages actually paid, transportation to a worksite, and extraordinary costs of guards, food, and lodging; and

“(C) base and overtime wages for the employees and extra hires of a State, local government, or person described in paragraph (1) that perform eligible work, plus fringe benefits on such wages to the extent that such benefits were being paid before the major disaster.

“(3) CONDITIONS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE NONPROFIT FACILITIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may make contributions to a private nonprofit facility under paragraph (1)(B) only if—

“(i) the facility provides critical services (as defined by the President) in the event of a major disaster; or

“(ii) the owner or operator of the facility—

“(I) has applied for a disaster loan under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.

636(b)); and

“(II)(aa) has been determined to be ineligible for such a loan; or

“(bb) has obtained such a loan in the maximum amount for which the Small Business Administration determines the facility is eligible.

“(B) DEFINITION OF CRITICAL SERVICES.—In this paragraph, the term ‘critical services’ includes power, water (including water provided by an irrigation organization or facility), sewer, wastewater treatment, communications, and emergency medical care.

“(4) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Before making any contribution under this section in an amount greater than \$20,000,000, the President shall notify—

“(A) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate; PUBLIC LAW 106-390—OCT. 30, 2000 114 STAT. 1563

“(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

“(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

“(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.”.

(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—



“(1) MINIMUM FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Federal share of assistance under this section shall be not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost of repair,

restoration, reconstruction, or replacement carried out under this section.

“(2) REDUCED FEDERAL SHARE.—The President shall promulgate regulations to reduce the Federal share of assistance under this section to not less than 25 percent in the case of the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of any eligible public facility or private nonprofit facility following an event associated with a major disaster—

“(A) that has been damaged, on more than one occasion within the preceding 10-year period, by the same type of event; and

“(B) the owner of which has failed to implement appropriate mitigation measures to address the hazard that caused the damage to the facility.”.

(c) LARGE IN-LIEU CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) LARGE IN-LIEU CONTRIBUTIONS.—

“(1) FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a State or local government determines that the public welfare would not best be served by repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing any public facility owned or controlled by the State or local government, the State or local government may elect to receive, in lieu of a contribution under subsection (a)(1)(A), a contribution in an amount equal to 75 percent of the Federal share of the Federal estimate

of the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing the facility and of management expenses.

“(B) AREAS WITH UNSTABLE SOIL.—In any case in which a State or local government determines that the public welfare would not best be served by repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing any public facility owned or controlled by the State or local government because soil instability in the disaster area makes repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement infeasible, the State or local government may elect to receive, in lieu of a contribution under subsection (a)(1)(A), a contribution in an amount equal to 90 percent of the Federal share of the Federal estimate of the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, for replacing the facility and of management expenses.

“(C) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds contributed to a State or local government under this paragraph may be used— President. Regulations.

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“(i) to repair, restore, or expand other selected public facilities;

“(ii) to construct new facilities; or

“(iii) to fund hazard mitigation measures that the State or local government determines to be necessary to meet a need for governmental services and functions in the area affected by the major disaster.

“(D) LIMITATIONS.—Funds made available to a State or local government under this paragraph may not be used for—



“(i) any public facility located in a regulatory floodway (as defined in section 59.1 of title 44, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)); or

“(ii) any uninsured public facility located in a special flood hazard area identified by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

“(2) FOR PRIVATE NONPROFIT FACILITIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a person that owns or operates a private nonprofit facility determines that the public welfare would not best be served by repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing the facility, the person may elect to receive, in lieu of a contribution under subsection (a)(1)(B), a contribution in an amount equal to 75 percent of the Federal share of the Federal estimate of the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing the facility and of management expenses.

“(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds contributed to a person under this paragraph may be used—

“(i) to repair, restore, or expand other selected private nonprofit facilities owned or operated by the person;

“(ii) to construct new private nonprofit facilities to be owned or operated by the person; or

“(iii) to fund hazard mitigation measures that the person determines to be necessary to meet a need for the person’s services and functions in the area affected by the major disaster.

“(C) LIMITATIONS.—Funds made available to a person under this paragraph may not be used for—

“(i) any private nonprofit facility located in a regulatory floodway (as defined in section 59.1 of title 44, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)); or

“(ii) any uninsured private nonprofit facility located in a special flood hazard area identified by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).”

(d) ELIGIBLE COST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

“(e) ELIGIBLE COST.—

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“(1) DETERMINATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this section, the President shall estimate the eligible cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing a public facility or private nonprofit facility—

“(i) on the basis of the design of the facility as the facility existed immediately before the major disaster; and

“(ii) in conformity with codes, specifications, and standards (including floodplain management and hazard mitigation criteria required by the President or under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)) applicable at the time at which the disaster occurred.

“(B) COST ESTIMATION PROCEDURES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the President shall use the cost estimation procedures established under paragraph (3) to determine the eligible cost under this subsection.



“(ii) APPLICABILITY.—The procedures specified in this paragraph and paragraph (2) shall apply only to projects the eligible cost of which is equal to or greater than the amount specified in section 422.

“(2) MODIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE COST.—

“(A) ACTUAL COST GREATER THAN CEILING PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED COST.—In any case in which the actual cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing a facility under this section is greater than the ceiling percentage established under paragraph (3) of the cost estimated under paragraph (1), the President may determine that the eligible cost includes a portion of the actual cost of the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement that exceeds the cost estimated under paragraph (1).

“(B) ACTUAL COST LESS THAN ESTIMATED COST.—

“(i) GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO FLOOR PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED COST.—In any case in which the actual cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing a facility under this section is less than 100 percent of the cost estimated under paragraph (1), but is greater than or equal to the floor percentage established under paragraph (3) of the cost estimated under paragraph (1), the State or local government or person receiving funds under this section shall use the excess funds to carry out cost-effective activities that reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, or suffering from a major disaster.

“(ii) LESS THAN FLOOR PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED COST.—In any case in which the actual cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing a facility under this section is less than the floor percentage established under paragraph (3) of the cost estimated under paragraph (1), the State or local government or person receiving assistance under this section shall reimburse the President in the amount of the difference.

“(C) NO EFFECT ON APPEALS PROCESS.—Nothing in this paragraph affects any right of appeal under section 423.

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“(3) EXPERT PANEL.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the President, acting through the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall establish an expert panel, which shall include representatives from the construction industry and State and local government.

“(B) DUTIES.—The expert panel shall develop recommendations concerning—

“(i) procedures for estimating the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing a facility consistent with industry practices; and

“(ii) the ceiling and floor percentages referred to in paragraph (2).

“(C) REGULATIONS.—Taking into account the recommendations of the expert panel under subparagraph

(B), the President shall promulgate regulations that establish—

“(i) cost estimation procedures described in subparagraph (B)(i); and

“(ii) the ceiling and floor percentages referred to in paragraph (2).

“(D) REVIEW BY PRESIDENT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of promulgation of regulations under subparagraph (C) and periodically thereafter, the President shall review the cost estimation procedures and the ceiling and floor percentages established under this paragraph.



“(E) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of promulgation of regulations under subparagraph

(C), 3 years after that date, and at the end of each 2-year period thereafter, the expert panel shall submit to Congress a report on the appropriateness of the cost estimation procedures.

“(4) SPECIAL RULE.—In any case in which the facility being repaired, restored, reconstructed, or replaced under this section was under construction on the date of the major disaster, the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing the facility shall include, for the purposes of this section, only those costs that, under the contract for the construction, are the owner’s responsibility and not the contractor’s responsibility.”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) takes effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and applies to funds appropriated after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that paragraph (1) of section 406(e) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (as amended by paragraph (1)) takes effect on the date on which the cost estimation procedures established under paragraph

(3) of that section take effect.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172) is amended by striking subsection (f).

SEC. 206. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended to read as follows: 42 USC 5172 note. Deadline. President.

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“SEC. 408. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.—In accordance with this section, the President, in consultation with the Governor of a State, may provide financial assistance, and, if necessary, direct services, to individuals and households in the State who, as a direct result of a major disaster, have necessary expenses and serious needs in cases in which the individuals and households are unable to meet such expenses or needs through other means.

“(2) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—Under paragraph (1), an individual or household shall not be denied assistance under paragraph (1), (3), or (4) of subsection (c) solely on the basis that the individual or household has not applied for or received any loan or other financial assistance from the Small Business Administration or any other Federal agency.

“(b) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) ELIGIBILITY.—The President may provide financial or other assistance under this section to individuals and households to respond to the disaster-related housing needs of individuals and households who are displaced from their predisaster primary residences or whose predisaster primary residences are rendered uninhabitable as a result of damage caused by a major disaster.

“(2) DETERMINATION OF APPROPRIATE TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall determine appropriate types of housing assistance to be provided under this section to individuals and households described in subsection (a)(1) based on considerations of cost effectiveness, convenience to the individuals and households, and



such other factors as the President may consider appropriate.

“(B) MULTIPLE TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—One or more types of housing assistance may be made available under this section, based on the suitability and availability of the types of assistance, to meet the needs of individuals and households in the particular disaster situation.

“(c) TYPES OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) TEMPORARY HOUSING.—

“(A) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide financial assistance to individuals or households to rent alternate housing accommodations, existing rental units, manufactured housing, recreational vehicles, or other readily fabricated dwellings.

“(ii) AMOUNT.—The amount of assistance under clause (i) shall be based on the fair market rent for the accommodation provided plus the cost of any transportation, utility hookups, or unit installation not provided directly by the President.

“(B) DIRECT ASSISTANCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide temporary housing units, acquired by purchase or lease, directly to individuals or households who, because of a lack of available housing resources, would be unable President.

114 STAT. 1568 PUBLIC LAW 106–390—OCT. 30, 2000 to make use of the assistance provided under subparagraph (A).

“(ii) PERIOD OF ASSISTANCE.—The President may not provide direct assistance under clause (i) with respect to a major disaster after the end of the 18- month period beginning on the date of the declaration of the major disaster by the President, except that the President may extend that period if the President determines that due to extraordinary circumstances an extension would be in the public interest.

“(iii) COLLECTION OF RENTAL CHARGES.—After the end of the 18-month period referred to in clause (ii), the President may charge fair market rent for each temporary housing unit provided.

“(2) REPAIRS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide financial assistance for—

“(i) the repair of owner-occupied private residences, utilities, and residential infrastructure (such as a private access route) damaged by a major disaster to a safe and sanitary living or functioning condition; and

“(ii) eligible hazard mitigation measures that reduce the likelihood of future damage to such residences, utilities, or infrastructure.

“(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided under this paragraph shall not be required to show that the assistance can be met through other means, except insurance proceeds.

“(C) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—The amount of assistance provided to a household under this paragraph shall not exceed \$5,000, as adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor.

“(3) REPLACEMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide financial assistance for the replacement of owner-occupied private residences damaged by a major disaster.



“(B) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—The amount of assistance provided to a household under this paragraph shall not exceed \$10,000, as adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor.

“(C) APPLICABILITY OF FLOOD INSURANCE REQUIREMENT.— With respect to assistance provided under this paragraph, the President may not waive any provision of Federal law requiring the purchase of flood insurance as a condition of the receipt of Federal disaster assistance.

“(4) PERMANENT HOUSING CONSTRUCTION.—The President may provide financial assistance or direct assistance to individuals or households to construct permanent housing in insular areas outside the continental United States and in other remote locations in cases in which—

“(A) no alternative housing resources are available; and

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“(B) the types of temporary housing assistance described in paragraph (1) are unavailable, infeasible, or not cost-effective.

“(d) TERMS AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) SITES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any readily fabricated dwelling provided under this section shall, whenever practicable, be located on a site that—

“(i) is complete with utilities; and

“(ii) is provided by the State or local government, by the owner of the site, or by the occupant who was displaced by the major disaster.

“(B) SITES PROVIDED BY THE PRESIDENT.—A readily fabricated dwelling may be located on a site provided by the President if the President determines that such a site would be more economical or accessible.

“(2) DISPOSAL OF UNITS.—

“(A) SALE TO OCCUPANTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a temporary housing unit purchased under this section by the President for the purpose of housing disaster victims may be sold directly to the individual or household who is occupying the unit if the individual or household lacks permanent housing.

“(ii) SALE PRICE.—A sale of a temporary housing unit under clause (i) shall be at a price that is fair and equitable.

“(iii) DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the proceeds of a sale under clause (i) shall be deposited in the appropriate Disaster Relief Fund account.

“(iv) HAZARD AND FLOOD INSURANCE.—A sale of a temporary housing unit under clause (i) shall be made on the condition that the individual or household purchasing the housing unit agrees to obtain and maintain hazard and flood insurance on the housing unit.

“(v) USE OF GSA SERVICES.—The President may use the services of the General Services Administration to accomplish a sale under clause (i).

“(B) OTHER METHODS OF DISPOSAL.—If not disposed of under subparagraph (A), a temporary housing unit purchased under this section by the President for the purpose of housing disaster victims—

“(i) may be sold to any person; or



“(ii) may be sold, transferred, donated, or otherwise made available directly to a State or other governmental entity or to a voluntary organization for the sole purpose of providing temporary housing to disaster victims in major disasters and emergencies if, as a condition of the sale, transfer, or donation, the State, other governmental agency, or voluntary organization agrees—

“(I) to comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of section 308; and

“(II) to obtain and maintain hazard and flood insurance on the housing unit.

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“(e) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS OTHER NEEDS.—

“(1) MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND FUNERAL EXPENSES.—The President, in consultation with the Governor of a State, may provide financial assistance under this section to an individual or household in the State who is adversely affected by a major disaster to meet disaster-related medical, dental, and funeral expenses.

“(2) PERSONAL PROPERTY, TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHER EXPENSES.—The President, in consultation with the Governor of a State, may provide financial assistance under this section to an individual or household described in paragraph (1) to address personal property, transportation, and other necessary expenses or serious needs resulting from the major disaster.

“(f) STATE ROLE.—

“(1) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS OTHER NEEDS.—

“(A) GRANT TO STATE.—Subject to subsection (g), a Governor may request a grant from the President to provide financial assistance to individuals and households in the State under subsection (e).

“(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—A State that receives a grant under subparagraph (A) may expend not more than 5 percent of the amount of the grant for the administrative costs of providing financial assistance to individuals and households in the State under subsection (e).

“(2) ACCESS TO RECORDS.—In providing assistance to individuals and households under this section, the President shall provide for the substantial and ongoing involvement of the States in which the individuals and households are located, including by providing to the States access to the electronic records of individuals and households receiving assistance under this section in order for the States to make available any additional State and local assistance to the individuals and households.

“(g) COST SHARING.—

“(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Federal share of the costs eligible to be paid using assistance provided under this section shall be 100 percent.

“(2) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS OTHER NEEDS.— In the case of financial assistance provided under subsection (e)—

“(A) the Federal share shall be 75 percent; and

“(B) the non-Federal share shall be paid from funds made available by the State.

“(h) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No individual or household shall receive financial assistance greater than \$25,000 under this section with respect to a single major disaster.

“(2) ADJUSTMENT OF LIMIT.—The limit established under paragraph (1) shall be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor.



“(i) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The President shall prescribe rules and regulations to carry out this section, including criteria, standards, and procedures for determining eligibility for assistance.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 502(a)(6) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5192(a)(6)) is amended by striking “temporary housing”. President.

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(c) ELIMINATION OF INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY GRANT PROGRAMS.— Section 411 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5178) is repealed.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 207. COMMUNITY DISASTER LOANS.

Section 417 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5184) is amended—

(1) by striking “(a) The President” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President”;

(2) by striking “The amount” and inserting the following:

“(b) AMOUNT.—The amount”;

(3) by striking “Repayment” and inserting the following:

“(c) REPAYMENT.—

“(1) CANCELLATION.—Repayment”;

(4) by striking “(b) Any loans” and inserting the following:

“(d) EFFECT ON OTHER ASSISTANCE.—Any loans”;

(5) in subsection (b) (as designated by paragraph (2))—

(A) by striking “and shall” and inserting “shall”; and

(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, and shall not exceed \$5,000,000”;

and

(6) in subsection (c) (as designated by paragraph (3)), by adding at the end the following:

“(2) CONDITION ON CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY.—A local government shall not be eligible for further assistance under this section during any period in which the local government is in arrears with respect to a required repayment of a loan under this section.”.

SEC. 208. REPORT ON STATE MANAGEMENT OF SMALL DISASTERS INITIATIVE.

Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the State Management of Small Disasters Initiative, including—

(1) identification of any administrative or financial benefits of the initiative; and

(2) recommendations concerning the conditions, if any, under which States should be allowed the option to administer parts of the assistance program under section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5172).

SEC. 209. STUDY REGARDING COST REDUCTION.



Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall complete a study estimating the reduction in Federal disaster assistance that has resulted and is likely to result from the enactment of this Act. Deadline.

42 USC 5121 note. Deadline. 42 USC 5121 note. 42 USC 5174 note.

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TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 301. TECHNICAL CORRECTION OF SHORT TITLE.

The first section of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 note) is amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

“This Act may be cited as the ‘Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act’.”.

SEC. 302. DEFINITIONS.

Section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122) is amended— (1) in each of paragraphs (3) and (4), by striking “the Northern” and all that follows through “Pacific Islands” and inserting “and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands”;

(2) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

“(6) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘local government’ means—

“(A) a county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government;

“(B) an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or Alaska Native village or organization; and

“(C) a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity, for which an application for assistance is made by a State or political subdivision of a State.”; and

(3) in paragraph (9), by inserting “irrigation,” after “utility,”.

SEC. 303. FIRE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 420 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5187) is amended to read as

“SEC. 420. FIRE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to provide assistance, including grants, equipment, supplies, and personnel, to any State or local government for the mitigation, management, and control of any fire on public or private forest land or grassland that threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster.

“(b) COORDINATION WITH STATE AND TRIBAL DEPARTMENTS OF FORESTRY.—In providing assistance under this section, the President shall coordinate with State and tribal departments of forestry.



“(c) ESSENTIAL ASSISTANCE.—In providing assistance under this section, the President may use the authority provided under section 403. President.

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“(d) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The President shall prescribe such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 304. DISASTER GRANT CLOSEOUT PROCEDURES.

Title VII of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 705. DISASTER GRANT CLOSEOUT PROCEDURES.

“(a) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no administrative action to recover any payment made to a State or local government for disaster or emergency assistance under this Act shall be initiated in any forum after the date that is 3 years after the date of transmission of the final expenditure report for the disaster or emergency.

“(2) FRAUD EXCEPTION.—The limitation under paragraph (1) shall apply unless there is evidence of civil or criminal fraud.

“(b) REBUTTAL OF PRESUMPTION OF RECORD MAINTENANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In any dispute arising under this section after the date that is 3 years after the date of transmission of the final expenditure report for the disaster or emergency, there shall be a presumption that accounting records were maintained that adequately identify the source and application of funds provided for financially assisted activities.

“(2) AFFIRMATIVE EVIDENCE.—The presumption described in paragraph (1) may be rebutted only on production of affirmative evidence that the State or local government did not maintain documentation described in that paragraph.

“(3) INABILITY TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTATION.—The inability of the Federal, State, or local government to produce source documentation supporting expenditure reports later than 3 years after the date of transmission of the final expenditure report shall not constitute evidence to rebut the presumption described in paragraph (1).

“(4) RIGHT OF ACCESS.—The period during which the Federal, State, or local government has the right to access source documentation shall not be limited to the required 3-year retention period referred to in paragraph (3), but shall last as long as the records are maintained.

“(c) BINDING NATURE OF GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—A State or local government shall not be liable for reimbursement or any other penalty for any payment made under this Act if—

“(1) the payment was authorized by an approved agreement specifying the costs;

“(2) the costs were reasonable; and

“(3) the purpose of the grant was accomplished.”.

SEC. 305. PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL AND STATE EMPLOYEES.



(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796b) is amended by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following: “(7) ‘public safety officer’ means— 42 USC 5205. 42 USC 5187 note. President.

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“(A) an individual serving a public agency in an official capacity, with or without compensation, as a law enforcement officer, as a firefighter, or as a member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew;

“(B) an employee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency who is performing official duties of the Agency in an area, if those official duties—

“(i) are related to a major disaster or emergency that has been, or is later, declared to exist with respect to the area under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); and

“(ii) are determined by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to be hazardous duties; or

“(C) an employee of a State, local, or tribal emergency management or civil defense agency who is performing official duties in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in an area, if those official duties—

“(i) are related to a major disaster or emergency that has been, or is later, declared to exist with respect to the area under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); and

“(ii) are determined by the head of the agency to be hazardous duties.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) applies only to employees described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 1204(7) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (as amended by subsection (a)) who are injured or who die in the line of duty on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 306. BUY AMERICAN.

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH BUY AMERICAN ACT.—No funds authorized to be appropriated under this Act or any amendment made by this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity, in expending the funds, complies with the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a et seq.).

(b) DEBARMENT OF PERSONS CONVICTED OF FRAUDULENT USE OF “MADE IN AMERICA” LABELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency determines that a person has been convicted of intentionally affixing a label bearing a “Made in America” inscription to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in America, the Director shall determine, not later than 90 days after determining that the person has been so convicted, whether the person should be debarred from contracting under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

(2) DEFINITION OF DEBAR.—In this subsection, the term “debar” has the meaning given the term in section 2393(c) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 307. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Flood Disaster Deadline. 42 USC 5206. 42 USC 3796b note.



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Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4002 et seq.), or any other provision of law, or any flood risk zone identified, delineated, or established under any such law (by flood insurance rate map or otherwise), the real property described in subsection (b) shall not be considered to be, or to have been, located in any area having special flood hazards (including any floodway or floodplain).

(b) REAL PROPERTY.—The real property described in this subsection is all land and improvements on the land located in the Maple Terrace Subdivisions in the City of Sycamore, DeKalb County, Illinois, including—

- (1) Maple Terrace Phase I;
- (2) Maple Terrace Phase II;
- (3) Maple Terrace Phase III Unit 1;
- (4) Maple Terrace Phase III Unit 2;
- (5) Maple Terrace Phase III Unit 3;
- (6) Maple Terrace Phase IV Unit 1;
- (7) Maple Terrace Phase IV Unit 2; and
- (8) Maple Terrace Phase IV Unit 3.

(c) REVISION OF FLOOD INSURANCE RATE LOT MAPS.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall revise the appropriate flood insurance rate lot maps of the agency to reflect the treatment under subsection (a) of the real property described in subsection (b).

SEC. 308. STUDY OF PARTICIPATION BY INDIAN TRIBES IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

(a) DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBE.—In this section, the term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

(b) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall conduct a study of participation by Indian tribes in emergency management.

(2) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—The study shall— (A) survey participation by Indian tribes in training, predisaster and postdisaster mitigation, disaster preparedness, and disaster recovery programs at the Federal and State levels; and

(B) review and assess the capacity of Indian tribes to participate in cost-shared emergency management programs and to participate in the management of the programs.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the Director shall consult with Indian tribes.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit a report on the study under subsection (b) to—

- (1) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;
- (2) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;
- (3) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and Deadline. 42 USC 5121 note.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 707 (S. 1691): HOUSE REPORTS: No. 106–40 (Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure). SENATE REPORTS: No. 106–295 accompanying S. 1691 (Comm. on Environment and Public Works).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 145 (1999): Mar. 4, considered and passed House.

Vol. 146 (2000): July 19, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Oct. 3, House concurred in Senate amendment with an amendment.

Oct. 5, Senate concurred in House amendment with an amendment.

Oct. 10, House concurred in Senate amendment. ® (4) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives. Approved October 30, 2000.



APPENDIX B – INTERIM FINAL RULE (44 CFR PART 201)

Title 44: Emergency Management and Assistance

PART 201—MITIGATION PLANNING

Section Contents

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Authority: Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 through 5206; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, 43 FR 41943, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 329; Homeland Security Act of 2002, 6 U.S.C. 101; E.O. 12127, 44 FR 19367, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 376; E.O. 12148, 44 FR 43239, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 412; E.O. 13286, 68 FR 10619, 3 CFR, 2003 Comp., p. 166.

Source: 67 FR 8848, Feb. 26, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

§ 201.1 Purpose.

(a) The purpose of this part is to provide information on the policies and procedures for mitigation planning as required by the provisions of section 322 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5165.

(b) The purpose of mitigation planning is for State, local, and Indian tribal governments to identify the natural hazards that impact them, to identify actions and activities to reduce any losses from those hazards, and to establish a coordinated process to implement the plan, taking advantage of a wide range of resources.

§ 201.2 Definitions.

Administrator means the head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or his/her designated representative, appointed under section 503 of the Post-Katrina



Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109–295). The term also refers to the Director as discussed in part 2 of this chapter.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) means the program authorized by section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4104c, and implemented at parts 78 and 79.

Grantee means the government to which a grant is awarded, which is accountable for the use of the funds provided. The grantee is the entire legal entity even if only a particular component of the entity is designated in the grant award document. Generally, the State is the grantee. However, after a declaration, an Indian tribal government may choose to be a grantee, or may act as a subgrantee under the State. An Indian tribal government acting as grantee will assume the responsibilities of a “state”, as described in this part, for the purposes of administering the grant.

Hazard mitigation means any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) means the program authorized under section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5170c, and implemented at part 206, subpart N of this chapter.

Indian tribal government means any Federally recognized governing body of an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community that the Secretary of Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe under the Federally Recognized Tribe List Act of 1994, 25 U.S.C. 479a. This does not include Alaska Native corporations, the ownership of which is vested in private individuals.

Local government is any county, municipality, city, town, township, public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; any Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or Alaska Native village or organization; and any rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.

Managing State means a State to which FEMA has delegated the authority to administer and manage the HMGP under the criteria established by FEMA pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5170c(c). FEMA may also delegate authority to tribal governments to administer and manage the HMGP as a Managing State.



Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) means the program authorized under section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5133.

Regional Director is a director of a regional office of FEMA, or his/her designated representative.

Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) program means the program authorized under section 1323 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4011, which provides funding to reduce flood damages to individual properties for which 1 or more claim payments for losses have been made under flood insurance coverage and that will result in the greatest savings to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in the shortest period of time.

Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) program means the program authorized under section 1361(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4102a, and implemented at part 79 of this chapter.

Severe Repetitive Loss properties are defined as single or multifamily residential properties that are covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and:

(1) That have incurred flood-related damage for which 4 or more separate claims payments have been made, with the amount of each claim (including building and contents payments) exceeding \$5,000, and with the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeding \$20,000; or

(2) For which at least 2 separate claims payments (building payments only) have been made under such coverage, with cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the market value of the property.

(3) In both instances, at least 2 of the claims must be within 10 years of each other, and claims made within 10 days of each other will be counted as 1 claim.

Small and impoverished communities means a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals that is identified by the State as a rural community, and is not a remote area within the corporate boundaries of a larger city; is economically disadvantaged, by having an average per capita annual income of residents not exceeding 80 percent of national, per capita income, based on best available data; the local unemployment rate exceeds by one percentage point or more, the most recently reported, average yearly national unemployment rate; and any other factors identified in the State Plan in which the community is located.



The Stafford Act refers to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5121–5206).

State is any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

State Hazard Mitigation Officer is the official representative of State government who is the primary point of contact with FEMA, other Federal agencies, and local governments in mitigation planning and implementation of mitigation programs and activities required under the Stafford Act.

Subgrantee means the government or other legal entity to which a subgrant is awarded and which is accountable to the grantee for the use of the funds provided. Subgrantees can be a State agency, local government, private non-profit organizations, or Indian tribal government. Indian tribal governments acting as a subgrantee are accountable to the State grantee.

[67 FR 8848, Feb. 26, 2002, as amended at 72 FR 61747, Oct. 31, 2007]

§ 201.3 Responsibilities.

(a) *General.* This section identifies the key responsibilities of FEMA, States, and local/tribal governments in carrying out section 322 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5165.

(b) *FEMA.* The key responsibilities of the Regional Director are to:

- (1) Oversee all FEMA related pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation programs and activities;
- (2) Provide technical assistance and training to State, local, and Indian tribal governments regarding the mitigation planning process;
- (3) Review and approve all Standard and Enhanced State Mitigation Plans;
- (4) Review and approve all local mitigation plans, unless that authority has been delegated to the State in accordance with §201.6(d);
- (5) Conduct reviews, at least once every three years, of State mitigation activities, plans, and programs to ensure that mitigation commitments are fulfilled, and when necessary, take action, including recovery of funds or denial of future funds, if mitigation commitments are not fulfilled.



(c) *State*. The key responsibilities of the State are to coordinate all State and local activities relating to hazard evaluation and mitigation and to:

(1) Prepare and submit to FEMA a Standard State Mitigation Plan following the criteria established in §201.4 as a condition of receiving non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grants. In addition, a State may choose to address severe repetitive loss properties in their plan as identified in §201.4(c)(3)(v) to receive the reduced cost share for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) programs, pursuant to §79.4(c)(2) of this chapter.

(2) In order to be considered for the 20 percent HMGP funding, prepare and submit an Enhanced State Mitigation Plan in accordance with §201.5, which must be reviewed and updated, if necessary, every three years from the date of the approval of the previous plan.

(3) At a minimum, review and update the Standard State Mitigation Plan every 3 years from the date of the approval of the previous plan in order to continue program eligibility.

(4) Make available the use of up to the 7 percent of HMGP funding for planning in accordance with §206.434.

(5) Provide technical assistance and training to local governments to assist them in applying for HMGP planning grants, and in developing local mitigation plans.

(6) For Managing States that have been approved under the criteria established by FEMA pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5170c(c), review and approve local mitigation plans in accordance with §201.6(d).

(7) If necessary, submit a request from the Governor to the Director of FEMA, requesting an extension to the plan deadline in accordance with §201.4(a)(2).

(d) *Local governments*. The key responsibilities of local governments are to:

(1) Prepare and adopt a jurisdiction-wide natural hazard mitigation plan as a condition of receiving project grant funds under the HMGP, in accordance with §201.6.

(2) At a minimum, review and update the local mitigation plan every 5 years from date of plan approval of the previous plan in order to continue program eligibility.



(e) *Indian tribal governments.* The key responsibilities of the Indian tribal government are to coordinate all tribal activities relating to hazard evaluation and mitigation and to:

(1) Prepare and submit to FEMA a Tribal Mitigation Plan following the criteria established in §201.7 as a condition of receiving non-emergency Stafford Act assistance as a grantee. This plan will also allow Indian tribal governments to apply through the State, as a subgrantee, for any FEMA mitigation project grant. Indian tribal governments with a plan approved by FEMA on or before October 1, 2008 under §201.4 or §201.6 will also meet this planning requirement. All Tribal Mitigation Plans approved after that date must follow the criteria identified in §201.7. In addition, an Indian tribal government may choose to address severe repetitive loss properties as identified in §201.4(c)(3)(v) as a condition of receiving the reduced cost share for the FMA and SRL programs, pursuant to §79.4(c)(2) of this chapter.

(2) Review and update the Tribal Mitigation Plan at least every 5 years from the date of approval of the previous plan in order to continue program eligibility.

(3) In order to be considered for the increased HMGP funding, the Tribal Mitigation Plan must meet the Enhanced State Mitigation Plan criteria identified in §201.5. The plan must be reviewed and updated at least every 3 years from the date of approval of the previous plan.

[67 FR 8848, Feb. 26, 2002, as amended at 67 FR 61515, Oct. 1, 2002; 69 FR 55096, Sept. 13, 2004; 72 FR 61748, Oct. 31, 2007]

§ 201.4 Standard State Mitigation Plans.

(a) *Plan requirement.* States must have an approved Standard State Mitigation Plans meeting the requirements of this section as a condition of receiving non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grants. Emergency assistance provided under 42 U.S.C. 5170a, 5170b, 5173, 5174, 5177, 5179, 5180, 5182, 5183, 5184, 5192 will not be affected. Mitigation planning grants provided through the Pre-disaster Mitigation (PDM) program, authorized under section 203 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5133, will also continue to be available. The mitigation plan is the demonstration of the State's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards and serves as a guide for State decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards.

(b) *Planning process.* An effective planning process is essential in developing and maintaining a good plan. The mitigation planning process should include coordination with other State agencies, appropriate Federal agencies, interested groups, and be



integrated to the extent possible with other ongoing State planning efforts as well as other FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives.

(c) *Plan content.* To be effective the plan must include the following elements:

(1) Description of the *planning process* used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how other agencies participated.

(2) *Risk assessments* that provide the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy portion of the mitigation plan. Statewide risk assessments must characterize and analyze natural hazards and risks to provide a statewide overview. This overview will allow the State to compare potential losses throughout the State and to determine their priorities for implementing mitigation measures under the strategy, and to prioritize jurisdictions for receiving technical and financial support in developing more detailed local risk and vulnerability assessments. The risk assessment shall include the following:

(i) An overview of the type and location of all natural hazards that can affect the State, including information on previous occurrences of hazard events, as well as the probability of future hazard events, using maps where appropriate;

(ii) An overview and analysis of the State's vulnerability to the hazards described in this paragraph (c)(2), based on estimates provided in local risk assessments as well as the State risk assessment. The State shall describe vulnerability in terms of the jurisdictions most threatened by the identified hazards, and most vulnerable to damage and loss associated with hazard events. State owned or operated critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas shall also be addressed;

(iii) An overview and analysis of potential losses to the identified vulnerable structures, based on estimates provided in local risk assessments as well as the State risk assessment. The State shall estimate the potential dollar losses to State owned or operated buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas.

(3) A *Mitigation Strategy* that provides the State's blueprint for reducing the losses identified in the risk assessment. This section shall include:

(i) A description of State goals to guide the selection of activities to mitigate and reduce potential losses.



(ii) A discussion of the State's pre- and post-disaster hazard management policies, programs, and capabilities to mitigate the hazards in the area, including: an evaluation of State laws, regulations, policies, and programs related to hazard mitigation as well as to development in hazard-prone areas; a discussion of State funding capabilities for hazard mitigation projects; and a general description and analysis of the effectiveness of local mitigation policies, programs, and capabilities.

(iii) An identification, evaluation, and prioritization of cost-effective, environmentally sound, and technically feasible mitigation actions and activities the State is considering and an explanation of how each activity contributes to the overall mitigation strategy. This section should be linked to local plans, where specific local actions and projects are identified.

(iv) Identification of current and potential sources of Federal, State, local, or private funding to implement mitigation activities.

(v) A State may request the reduced cost share authorized under §79.4(c)(2) of this chapter for the FMA and SRL programs, if it has an approved State Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of this section that also identifies specific actions the State has taken to reduce the number of repetitive loss properties (which must include severe repetitive loss properties), and specifies how the State intends to reduce the number of such repetitive loss properties. In addition, the plan must describe the strategy the State has to ensure that local jurisdictions with severe repetitive loss properties take actions to reduce the number of these properties, including the development of local mitigation plans.

(4) A section on the *Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning* that includes the following:

(i) A description of the State process to support, through funding and technical assistance, the development of local mitigation plans.

(ii) A description of the State process and timeframe by which the local plans will be reviewed, coordinated, and linked to the State Mitigation Plan.

(iii) Criteria for prioritizing communities and local jurisdictions that would receive planning and project grants under available funding programs, which should include consideration for communities with the highest risks, repetitive loss properties, and most intense development pressures. Further, that for non-planning grants, a principal criterion for prioritizing grants shall be the extent to



which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of proposed projects and their associated costs.

(5) A *Plan Maintenance Process* that includes:

(i) An established method and schedule for monitoring, evaluating, and updating the plan.

(ii) A system for monitoring implementation of mitigation measures and project closeouts.

(iii) A system for reviewing progress on achieving goals as well as activities and projects identified in the Mitigation Strategy.

(6) A *Plan Adoption Process*. The plan must be formally adopted by the State prior to submittal to us for final review and approval.

(7) *Assurances*. The plan must include assurances that the State will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c) of this chapter. The State will amend its plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in State or Federal statutes and regulations as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d) of this chapter.

(d) *Review and updates*. Plan must be reviewed and revised to reflect changes in development, progress in statewide mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities and resubmitted for approval to the appropriate Regional Director every three years. The Regional review will be completed within 45 days after receipt from the State, whenever possible. We also encourage a State to review its plan in the post-disaster timeframe to reflect changing priorities, but it is not required.

[67 FR 8848, Feb. 26, 2002, as amended at 67 FR 61515, Oct. 1, 2002; 69 FR 55096, Sept. 13, 2004; 72 FR 61565, 61738, Oct. 31, 2007]

§ 201.5 Enhanced State Mitigation Plans.

(a) A State with a FEMA approved Enhanced State Mitigation Plan at the time of a disaster declaration is eligible to receive increased funds under the HMGP, based on twenty percent of the total estimated eligible Stafford Act disaster assistance. The Enhanced State Mitigation Plan must demonstrate that a State has developed a comprehensive mitigation program, that the State effectively uses available mitigation funding, and that it is capable of managing the increased funding. In order for the State



to be eligible for the 20 percent HMGP funding, FEMA must have approved the plan within three years prior to the disaster declaration.

(b) Enhanced State Mitigation Plans must include all elements of the Standard State Mitigation Plan identified in §201.4, as well as document the following:

(1) Demonstration that the plan is integrated to the extent practicable with other State and/or regional planning initiatives (comprehensive, growth management, economic development, capital improvement, land development, and/or emergency management plans) and FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives that provide guidance to State and regional agencies.

(2) Documentation of the State's project implementation capability, identifying and demonstrating the ability to implement the plan, including:

(i) Established eligibility criteria for multi-hazard mitigation measures.

(ii) A system to determine the cost effectiveness of mitigation measures, consistent with OMB Circular A-94, Guidelines and Discount Rates for Benefit-Cost Analysis of Federal Programs, and to rank the measures according to the State's eligibility criteria.

(iii) Demonstration that the State has the capability to effectively manage the HMGP as well as other mitigation grant programs, including a record of the following:

(A) Meeting HMGP and other mitigation grant application timeframes and submitting complete, technically feasible, and eligible project applications with appropriate supporting documentation;

(B) Preparing and submitting accurate environmental reviews and benefit-cost analyses;

(C) Submitting complete and accurate quarterly progress and financial reports on time; and

(D) Completing HMGP and other mitigation grant projects within established performance periods, including financial reconciliation.

(iv) A system and strategy by which the State will conduct an assessment of the completed mitigation actions and include a record of the effectiveness (actual cost avoidance) of each mitigation action.



(3) Demonstration that the State effectively uses existing mitigation programs to achieve its mitigation goals.

(4) Demonstration that the State is committed to a comprehensive state mitigation program, which might include any of the following:

(i) A commitment to support local mitigation planning by providing workshops and training, State planning grants, or coordinated capability development of local officials, including Emergency Management and Floodplain Management certifications.

(ii) A statewide program of hazard mitigation through the development of legislative initiatives, mitigation councils, formation of public/private partnerships, and/or other executive actions that promote hazard mitigation.

(iii) The State provides a portion of the non-Federal match for HMGP and/or other mitigation projects.

(iv) To the extent allowed by State law, the State requires or encourages local governments to use a current version of a nationally applicable model building code or standard that addresses natural hazards as a basis for design and construction of State sponsored mitigation projects.

(v) A comprehensive, multi-year plan to mitigate the risks posed to existing buildings that have been identified as necessary for post-disaster response and recovery operations.

(vi) A comprehensive description of how the State integrates mitigation into its post-disaster recovery operations.

(c) *Review and updates.*

(1) A State must review and revise its plan to reflect changes in development, progress in statewide mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit it for approval to the appropriate Regional Director every three years. The Regional review will be completed within 45 days after receipt from the State, whenever possible.

(2) In order for a State to be eligible for the 20 percent HMGP funding, the Enhanced State Mitigation plan must be approved by FEMA within the three years prior to the current major disaster declaration.



§ 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans.

The local mitigation plan is the representation of the jurisdiction's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards. Local plans will also serve as the basis for the State to provide technical assistance and to prioritize project funding.

(a) *Plan requirements.*

(1) A local government must have a mitigation plan approved pursuant to this section in order to receive HMGP project grants. The Administrator may, at his discretion, require a local mitigation plan for the Repetitive Flood Claims Program. A local government must have a mitigation plan approved pursuant to this section in order to apply for and receive mitigation project grants under all other mitigation grant programs.

(2) Plans prepared for the FMA program, described at part 79 of this chapter, need only address these requirements as they relate to flood hazards in order to be eligible for FMA project grants. However, these plans must be clearly identified as being flood mitigation plans, and they will not meet the eligibility criteria for other mitigation grant programs, unless flooding is the only natural hazard the jurisdiction faces.

(3) Regional Directors may grant an exception to the plan requirement in extraordinary circumstances, such as in a small and impoverished community, when justification is provided. In these cases, a plan will be completed within 12 months of the award of the project grant. If a plan is not provided within this timeframe, the project grant will be terminated, and any costs incurred after notice of grant's termination will not be reimbursed by FEMA.

(4) Multi-jurisdictional plans (e.g. watershed plans) may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as each jurisdiction has participated in the process and has officially adopted the plan. State-wide plans will not be accepted as multi-jurisdictional plans.

(b) *Planning process.* An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan. In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include:

(1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;



(2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and

(3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

(c) *Plan content.* The plan shall include the following:

(1) Documentation of the *planning process* used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

(2) A *risk assessment* that provides the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Local risk assessments must provide sufficient information to enable the jurisdiction to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified hazards. The risk assessment shall include:

(i) A description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction. The plan shall include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events.

(ii) A description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section. This description shall include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community. All plans approved after October 1, 2008 must also address NFIP insured structures that have been repetitively damaged by floods. The plan should describe vulnerability in terms of:

(A) The types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas;

(B) An estimate of the potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures identified in paragraph (c)(2)(i)(A) of this section and a description of the methodology used to prepare the estimate;

(C) Providing a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions.



(iii) For multi-jurisdictional plans, the risk assessment section must assess each jurisdiction's risks where they vary from the risks facing the entire planning area.

(3) A *mitigation strategy* that provides the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools. This section shall include:

(i) A description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.

(ii) A section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure. All plans approved by FEMA after October 1, 2008, must also address the jurisdiction's participation in the NFIP, and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate.

(iii) An action plan describing how the actions identified in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction. Prioritization shall include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of the proposed projects and their associated costs.

(iv) For multi-jurisdictional plans, there must be identifiable action items specific to the jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval or credit of the plan.

(4) A *plan maintenance process* that includes:

(i) A section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.

(ii) A process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.

(iii) Discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.

(5) *Documentation* that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County



Commissioner, Tribal Council). For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.

(d) *Plan review.*

(1) Plans must be submitted to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) for initial review and coordination. The State will then send the plan to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office for formal review and approval. Where the State point of contact for the FMA program is different from the SHMO, the SHMO will be responsible for coordinating the local plan reviews between the FMA point of contact and FEMA.

(2) The Regional review will be completed within 45 days after receipt from the State, whenever possible.

(3) A local jurisdiction must review and revise its plan to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit it for approval within 5 years in order to continue to be eligible for mitigation project grant funding.

(4) Managing States that have been approved under the criteria established by FEMA pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5170c(c) will be delegated approval authority for local mitigation plans, and the review will be based on the criteria in this part. Managing States will review the plans within 45 days of receipt of the plans, whenever possible, and provide a copy of the approved plans to the Regional Office.

[67 FR 8848, Feb. 26, 2002, as amended at 67 FR 61515, Oct. 1, 2002; 68 FR 61370, Oct. 28, 2003; 69 FR 55096, Sept. 13, 2004; 72 FR 61748, Oct. 31, 2007]

§ 201.7 Tribal Mitigation Plans.

The Indian Tribal Mitigation Plan is the representation of the Indian tribal government's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards.

(a) *Plan requirement.*

(1) Indian tribal governments applying to FEMA as a grantee must have an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of this section as a condition of receiving non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grants. Emergency assistance provided under 42 U.S.C. 5170a, 5170b, 5173, 5174, 5177, 5179, 5180, 5182, 5183, 5184, 5192 will not be affected. Mitigation planning grants



provided through the PDM program, authorized under section 203 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5133, will also continue to be available.

(2) An Indian tribal government may choose to address severe repetitive loss properties in their plan, as identified in §201.4(c)(3)(v), to receive the reduced cost share for the FMA and SRL programs.

(3) Indian tribal governments applying through the State as a subgrantee must have an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of this section in order to receive HMGP project grants. The Administrator, at his discretion may require a local mitigation plan for the Repetitive Flood Claims Program. A tribe must have an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan in order to apply for and receive FEMA mitigation project grants, under all other mitigation grant programs.

(4) Multi-jurisdictional plans (e.g. county-wide or watershed plans) may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as the Indian tribal government has participated in the process and has officially adopted the plan. Indian tribal governments must address all the elements identified in this section to ensure eligibility as a grantee or as a subgrantee.

(b) An effective planning process is essential in developing and maintaining a good plan. The mitigation planning process should include coordination with other tribal agencies, appropriate Federal agencies, adjacent jurisdictions, interested groups, and be integrated to the extent possible with other ongoing tribal planning efforts as well as other FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives.

(c) *Plan content.* The plan shall include the following:

(1) Documentation of the *planning process* used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved. This shall include:

(i) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval, including a description of how the Indian tribal government defined “public;”

(ii) As appropriate, an opportunity for neighboring communities, tribal and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia, and other private and nonprofit interests to be involved in the planning process;



(iii) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, and reports; and

(iv) Be integrated to the extent possible with other ongoing tribal planning efforts as well as other FEMA programs and initiatives.

(2) A *risk assessment* that provides the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Tribal risk assessments must provide sufficient information to enable the Indian tribal government to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified hazards. The risk assessment shall include:

(i) A description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the tribal planning area. The plan shall include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events.

(ii) A description of the Indian tribal government's vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section. This description shall include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the tribe. The plan should describe vulnerability in terms of:

(A) The types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas;

(B) An estimate of the potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures identified in paragraph (c)(2)(i)(A) of this section and a description of the methodology used to prepare the estimate;

(C) A general description of land uses and development trends within the tribal planning area so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions; and

(D) Cultural and sacred sites that are significant, even if they cannot be valued in monetary terms.

(3) A *mitigation strategy* that provides the Indian tribal government's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools. This section shall include:

(i) A description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.



(ii) A section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure.

(iii) An action plan describing how the actions identified in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the Indian tribal government.

(iv) A discussion of the Indian tribal government's pre- and post-disaster hazard management policies, programs, and capabilities to mitigate the hazards in the area, including: An evaluation of tribal laws, regulations, policies, and programs related to hazard mitigation as well as to development in hazard-prone areas; and a discussion of tribal funding capabilities for hazard mitigation projects.

(v) Identification of current and potential sources of Federal, tribal, or private funding to implement mitigation activities.

(vi) An Indian tribal government may request the reduced cost share authorized under §79.4(c)(2) of this chapter of the FMA and SRL programs if they have an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of this section that also identify actions the Indian tribal government has taken to reduce the number of repetitive loss properties (which must include severe repetitive loss properties), and specifies how the Indian tribal government intends to reduce the number of such repetitive loss properties.

(4) A *plan maintenance process* that includes:

(i) A section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan.

(ii) A system for monitoring implementation of mitigation measures and project closeouts.

(iii) A process by which the Indian tribal government incorporates the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as reservation master plans or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.

(iv) Discussion on how the Indian tribal government will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.



(v) A system for reviewing progress on achieving goals as well as activities and projects identified in the mitigation strategy.

(5) *Plan Adoption Process.* The plan must be formally adopted by the governing body of the Indian tribal government prior to submittal to FEMA for final review and approval.

(6) *Assurances.* The plan must include assurances that the Indian tribal government will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with §13.11(c) of this chapter. The Indian tribal government will amend its plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in tribal or Federal laws and statutes as required in §13.11(d) of this chapter.

(d) *Plan review and updates.*

(1) Plans must be submitted to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office for formal review and approval. Indian tribal governments who would like the option of being a subgrantee under the State must also submit their plan to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for review and coordination.

(2) The Regional review will be completed within 45 days after receipt from the Indian tribal government, whenever possible.

(3) Indian tribal governments must review and revise their plan to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities, and resubmit it for approval within 5 years in order to continue to be eligible for non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grant funding, with the exception of the Repetitive Flood Claims program.

[72 FR 61749, Oct. 31, 2007]



Appendix C - Composition of Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (GCHMPC)

The Geneva County EMA directed the following individuals and agencies to serve as members of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee:

- Geneva County EMA/HS
- Geneva County Firefighters Association
- Mayor of Black or Representative
- Mayor of Coffee Springs or Representative
- Mayor of Eunola or Representative
- Mayor of Geneva or Representative
- Mayor of Hartford or Representative
- Mayor of Malvern or Representative
- Mayor of Samson or Representative
- Mayor of Slocomb or Representative

The Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee appointed members for the entire five-year planning cycle of the 2004 Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

The following agencies helped provide information in regards to the hazard profiles, vulnerability assessments, potential losses, land use and development trends, and mapping data:

Federal:

National Weather Service – Birmingham Office
United States Army Corps of Engineers
United States Geological Survey – Alabama District

State:

Alabama Associations of Regional Councils
Alabama Emergency Management Agency
Alabama Forestry Commission
Geological Survey of Alabama

Regional:

Geneva City Schools
Geneva County Dept. of Human Resources
Geneva County Board of Education
Geneva Water Works
Geneva County Commission



Appendix D - APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION

The purpose of hazard mitigation is to implement action that eliminate the risk from hazards, or reduce the severity of the effects of hazards on people and property. Mitigation actions are both short-term and long-term activities that reduce the cause or occurrence of hazards; reduce exposure to hazards; or reduce effects of hazards through various means to include preparedness, response and recovery measures.

This plan update applies to all local agencies, boards, commissions, and departments assigned mitigation responsibilities, and to others as designated by the Geneva County Commission or Director of the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency.

The Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was prepared in compliance with Public Law 106-390, *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*, as amended. This plan update implements hazard mitigation measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters throughout Geneva County, and was developed in a joint and cooperative venture by members of the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee.

Geneva County will comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 13.11c. Geneva County will amend its plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in local/state and/or federal laws and statutes as required in 44 CFR, 13.11d. At a minimum, the CCEMA will review and if necessary, update the plan every five years from the date of approval in accordance with 44 CFR, 201.6 (5) (d) (3) in order to continue program eligibility.

As the Director of the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency, I hereby adopt this plan update in accordance to the powers delegated to me and accept this plan update for implementation in order to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Geneva County, Alabama.

Date

Margaret Mixon, Director
Geneva County Emergency Management Agency



Town of Black

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that the Town of Black adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor, Town of Black



Chancellor, AL

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that the Town of Chancellor adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor, Town of Chancellor



Town of Coffee Springs/Bellwood
2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Coffee Springs/Bellwood participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Coffee Springs/Bellwood is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Coffee Springs/Bellwood has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that the Town of Coffee Springs/Bellwood adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor, Town of Coffee Springs/Bellwood



City of Geneva

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City of Geneva adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the City Council.

Mayor, City of Geneva



Town of Eunola

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Eunola participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Eunola is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Eunola has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that the Town of Eunola adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor, Town of Eunola



City of Hartford

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hartford participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hartford is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hartford has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City of Hartford adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the City Council.

Mayor, City of Hartford



Town of Malvern

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Malvern participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Malvern is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Malvern has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that the Town of Malvern adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the Town Council.

Mayor, Town of Malvern



City of Samson

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the City of Samson participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Samson is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Samson has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City of Samson adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the City Council.

Mayor, City of Samson



City of Slocomb

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, the City of Slocomb participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Slocomb is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Slocomb has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City of Slocomb adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ __ at the meeting of the City Council.

Mayor, City of Slocomb



Geneva County Commission

2010 Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Resolution of Adoption

WHEREAS, the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with FEMA requirements at 44 C.F.R. 201.6; and

WHEREAS, Geneva County participated in the preparation of a multi-jurisdictional plan, Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, Geneva County is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the plan and the actions in the plan; and

WHEREAS, Geneva County has reviewed the plan and affirms that the plan will be updated no less than every five years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission that Geneva County adopts the Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the plan.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at the meeting of the County Commission.

Chairman, Geneva County Commission



Appendix E - Glossary of Acronyms and Terms

AACC	Alabama Association of County Commissioners
AARC	Alabama Association of Regional Councils
ACAMP	Alabama Coastal Area Management Plan
ADCNR	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
ADECA	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
ADEM	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
ADHR	Alabama Department of Human Resources
ADPS	Alabama Department of Public Safety
AEMA	Alabama Emergency Management Agency
AFC	Alabama Forestry Commission
AGIC	Alabama Geographic Information Council
AHC	Alabama Historical Commission
ALDOT	Alabama Department of Transportation
ALM	Alabama League of Municipalities
ARC	American Red Cross
CIAP	Coastal Impact Assistance Program
CPYRWMA	Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority
CRS	Community Rating System
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Plan
EO 19	Executive Order 19
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FMA	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
GSA	Geological Survey of Alabama
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
IFR	Interim Final Rule
MMP	Map Modernization Program
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWS	National Weather Service
OWR	Office of Water Resources
PA	Public Assistance
PDM	Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program
RPC	Regional Planning Commission
SHMO	State Hazard Mitigation Officer
SHMT	State Hazard Mitigation Team
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers



Term Definition

Acquisition of Hazard-

Prone Structures

Local governments can acquire lands in high hazards areas through conservation easements, purchase of development rights, or outright purchase of property.

Base Flood Elevation (BFE)

The elevation of the Base Flood in relation to a specified datum, such as the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929. The Base Flood Elevation is used as a standard for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Base Flood is the flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The Base Flood is also referred to as the 100-Year Flood.

Benefit-cost Analysis (BCA)

Benefit-cost analysis is a systematic, quantitative method of comparing the projected benefits to projected costs of a project or policy. It is used as a measure of cost effectiveness.

Capability Assessment

An assessment that provides a description and analysis of a community or state's current capacity to address the threats associated with hazards. The capability assessment attempts to identify and evaluate existing policies, regulations, programs, and practices that positively or negatively affect the community or state's ability to address specific hazards or threats.

Coastal Zone

The area along the shore where the ocean meets the land as the surface of the land rises above the ocean. This land / water interface includes barrier islands, estuaries, beaches, coastal wetlands, and land areas with direct drainage to the ocean.

CoBRA Coastal Barrier Resources Act in 1982.

The CoBRA, while not prohibiting privately financed development prohibits most new Federal financial assistance, including flood insurance, within an area designated as part of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS).

Community Rating System (CRS)

An incentive-based program for NFIP participating communities that implement flood mitigation programming above the NFIP minimum measures that reduce flood hazard risk. In return for enhanced flood mitigation programming, policy holders in participating communities enjoy discounted flood insurance premiums.

Cost-Effectiveness

One evaluation criteria for federal grant programs. FEMA defines a cost-effective project as one whose long-term benefits exceed its costs. That is, a project should prevent more expected financial loss than it costs initially to fund the effort. Benefit-cost analysis is one way to illustrate that a project is cost-effective.



Critical Facilities

Facilities vital to the health, safety, and welfare of the population and that are especially important following hazard events. Critical facilities include, but are not limited to, shelters, police and fire stations, utility facilities, and hospitals.

Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)

DMA 2000 (Public Law 106-390) is the latest legislation to improve the planning process. Signed into law on October 30, 2000, this legislation reinforces the importance of mitigation planning and emphasizes planning for disasters before they occur.

Earthquake

A sudden motion or trembling that is caused by a release of strain accumulated within or along the edge of earth's tectonic plates.

Elevation of Structures

Term used in conjunction with floodplain management. Raising structures above the base flood elevation to protect structures located in areas prone to flooding.

Erosion

Wearing away of the land surface by detachment and movement of soil and rock fragments, during a flood or storm or over a period of years, through the action of wind, water, or other geologic processes.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Agency created in 1979 to provide a single point of accountability for all federal activities related to disaster mitigation and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. FEMA is now part of the Department of Homeland Security.

Flood

A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from (1) the overflow of inland or tidal waters, (2) the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source, or (3) mudflows or the sudden collapse of shoreline land.

Flood Elevation

Elevation of the water surface above an established datum, e.g. National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929, North American Vertical Datum of 1988 or Mean Sea Level.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)

Map prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency showing both the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and the risk premium zones applicable in a given community.



Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program

A program created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994. FMA provides funding to assist communities and states in implementing actions that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other NFIP insurable structures, with a focus on repetitive loss properties.

Floodplain

Any land area, including watercourse, susceptible to partial or complete inundation by water from any source.

Floodproofing

Actions that prevent or minimize future flood damage. Making the areas below the anticipated flood level watertight (dry flood proofing) or intentionally allowing floodwater to enter the interior to equalize flood pressures are examples of flood proofing (wet flood proofing).

Flood Zone

A geographical area shown on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) that reflects the severity or type of flooding in the area.

Frequency

A measure of how often events of a particular magnitude are expected to occur. Frequency describes how often a hazard of a specific magnitude, duration, and/or extent typically occurs, on average. Statistically, a hazard with a 100-year recurrence interval is expected to occur once every 100 years on average, and would have a 1% chance of happening in any given year.

Geographic Information System (GIS)

A computer software application that relates physical features on the earth to a database to be used for mapping and analysis.

Goals

General guidelines that express desired results. They are usually broad policy type statements, long term in nature and represent global visions.

Hazard

A source of potential danger or adverse condition. Hazards include naturally occurring events such as floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, tsunamis, coastal storms, landslides, and wildfires that strike populated areas and have the potential to harm people and property.

Hazard Mitigation

Sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from hazards and their effects.



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Authorized under Section 404 of the Roger T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, HMGP is administered by implementing hazard mitigation actions after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the program is to reduce the loss of life and property due to disasters and to enable mitigation activities to be implemented as a community recovers from a disaster.

Hazard Profile

A description of the physical characteristics of hazards and a determination of various descriptors including magnitude, duration, frequency, probability, and extent.

HAZUS, HAZUS-MH

A GIS-based, nationally standardized, loss estimation tool developed by FEMA. HAZUS-MH is the new multi-hazard version that includes earthquake, wind, hurricane, and flood loss estimate components.

Hurricane

An intense tropical cyclone, formed in the atmosphere over warm ocean seas, in which wind speeds reach 74 miles-per-hour or more and blow in a large spiral around a relatively calm center or “eye”. Hurricane circulation is counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere.

Hydrology

The study of water’s overland flow characteristics. A flood discharge is developed by a hydrologic study.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure includes communication technology such as phone lines or internet access, vital services such as public water supplies and sewer treatment facilities, and transportation systems such as airports, highways, bridges, tunnels, roadbeds, overpasses, railways, bridges, rail yards, depots, waterways, and canals.

Lowest Floor

Under the NFIP, the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement) of a structure.

Magnitude

Measures the strength of a hazard event. The magnitude (also referred to as severity) of a given hazard event is usually determined using technical measures specific to the hazard.

Mitigation Plan

The document that articulates results from the systematic process of identifying hazards and evaluating vulnerability, identifying goals, objectives, and actions to reduce or eliminate the effects of identified hazards, and an implementation plan for carrying out the actions.



National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

A Federal program created by Congress in 1968 that provides federally backed flood insurance in communities that enact minimum floodplain management regulations in 44 CFR 60.3.

National Weather Service (NWS)

Prepares and issues flood, severe weather, and coastal storm warnings and can provide technical assistance to Federal and state entities in preparing weather and flood warning plans.

Nor'easter

An extra-tropical cyclone producing gale-force winds and precipitation in the form of heavy snow and rain.

Objectives

Objectives define strategies or implementation steps to attain identified goals. Unlike goals, objectives are specific and measurable.

Open Space Preservation

Preserving undeveloped areas from development through any number of methods, including low-density zoning, open space zoning, easements, or public or private acquisition. Open space preservation is a technique that can be used to prevent flood damage in flood-prone soils, and can enhance the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains.

Post-Disaster Recovery Planning

The process of planning those steps the jurisdiction will take to implement long-term reconstruction with a primary goal of mitigating its exposure to future hazards. The post-disaster recovery planning process can also involve coordination with other types of plans and agencies, but it is distinct from planning for emergency operations.

Probability

In terms of natural hazards, the likelihood a hazard event will occur in a given time period.

Repetitive Loss Property

A property that is currently insured that has two or more NFIP losses (occurring more than ten days apart) of at least \$1,000 each and has been paid within any 10-year period since 1978.

Replacement Value

The cost of rebuilding a structure. This is usually expressed in terms of cost per square foot, and reflects the present-day cost of labor and materials to construct a building of a particular size, type and quality. This is not the same as market value.



Risk

The estimated impact that a hazard would have on people, services, facilities and structures in a community; the likelihood of a hazard event resulting in an adverse condition that causes injury or damage. Risk is often expressed in relative terms such as high, moderate or low likelihood of sustaining damage above a particular threshold due to a specific type of hazard event. It also can be expressed in terms of potential monetary losses associated with the intensity of the hazard.

Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

An area within a floodplain having 1% or greater chance of flood occurrence in any given year (100-year floodplain); represented on Flood Insurance Rate Maps by darkly shaded areas with zone designations that include the letter A or V.

Stakeholders

Individuals or groups, including businesses, private organizations, and citizens, that will be affected in any way by an action or policy.

State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO)

The representative of state government who is the primary point of contact with FEMA, other state and Federal agencies, and local units of government in the planning and implementation of pre- and post disaster mitigation activities.

Storm Surge

Rise in the water surface above normal water levels on the open coast.

Sub-Tropical Depression

A weather system that has some characteristics of a tropical cyclone and some characteristics of an extra tropical cyclone.

Subdivisions and Development Regulations

Regulations and stands governing the division of land for development for sale. Subdivision regulations can control the configuration of parcels, set standards for developer-built infrastructure, and set standards for minimizing runoff, impervious surfaces, and sedimentation during development. They can be used to minimize exposure of buildings and infrastructure to hazards.

Tornado

A violently rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground.

Tropical Cyclone

A generic term or a cyclonic, low-pressure system over tropical or subtropical waters.

Tropical Depression

A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of less than 39 mph.



Tropical Storm

A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds greater than 39 mph and less than 74 mph.

Vulnerability Assessment

The study of the extent of injury and damage that may result from a hazard event of a given magnitude in a given areas. Vulnerability assessments typically address impacts of hazard events on the existing and future built environment.

Zoning Ordinances

Designation of allowable land use and intensities for local jurisdiction. Zoning ordinances consist of two components: a zoning text and a zoning map.

Appendix F - Overview of FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs

GRANT PROGRAM COMPARISON Mitigation Division Grant Programs

During FY 2007, FEMA will offer five hazard mitigation assistance programs – the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, the Flood Mitigation Assistance program, the Severe Repetitive Loss pilot program and the Repetitive Flood Claims program. Although all five programs have unique statutory authorities, program requirements and triggers for funding, all of the programs also have the common goal of providing funds to states and local communities to reduce the loss of life and property from future natural hazard events. The information below will help explain the similarities and differences among the grant programs.

(Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – HMGP; Flood Mitigation Assistance – FMA; Pre-Disaster Mitigation – PDM; Repetitive Flood Claims – RFC; and Severe Repetitive Loss – SRL Pilot Program)

Authorities

HMGP - Authorized by §404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5170c

FMA - Section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (NFIA, or “the Act”); 42 USC 4104c, as amended by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (NFIRA), Public Law 103-325; and the FIRA 2004, Public Law 108- 264.

PDM - Authorized by §203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5133

RFC - Section 1323 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 4030, as amended by the FIRA 2004, Public Law 108-264.

SRL - Section 1361A of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 4102a, as amended by the FIRA 2004, Public Law 108-264.

Purpose

HMGP - To provide funds to states, territories, Indian Tribal governments, and communities to significantly reduce or permanently eliminate future risk to lives and property from natural hazards. HMGP funds projects in accordance with priorities identified in state, tribal or local hazard mitigation plans, and enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the recovery from a disaster.

FMA - To implement cost-effective measures that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).



PDM - To provide funds to states, territories, Indian Tribal governments, and communities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. Funding these plans and projects reduces overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

RFC - To reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that have had one or more claim payment(s) for flood damages.

SRL - To reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to severe repetitive loss residential properties and the associated drain on the National Flood Insurance Fund (NFIF) from such properties.

FY 2007 Priorities

HMGP - HMGP priorities are set by the state under each disaster declaration that includes authorized HMGP assistance.

FMA - Mitigation activities that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to insured properties.

PDM - Provide funds to states, territories, Indian Tribal governments, and communities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event.

RFC - Acquisition of insured properties that have had one or more NFIP claims.

SRL - Mitigation activities that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to severe repetitive loss properties.

Applicant Eligibility

HMGP - (Grantee) State emergency management agencies or a similar state office (i.e., the office that has primary emergency management or floodplain management responsibility), the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and federally recognized Indian Tribal governments. Each State, Territory, or Tribal government shall designate one agency to serve as the Grantee for the program.

FMA - State emergency management agencies or a similar state office (i.e., the office that has primary emergency management or floodplain management responsibility), the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Federally recognized Indian Tribal governments. Each state, territory, or tribal government shall designate one agency to serve as the Applicant for the program.



PDM - State emergency management agencies or a similar state office (i.e., the office that has emergency management responsibility) of the state, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as well as federally recognized Indian Tribal governments.

RFC - Same as FMA, but only those states or communities that cannot meet the requirements of the FMA program for either cost share or capacity to manage the activities.

SRL - Same as FMA.

Sub-Applicant Eligibility

HMGP - (Applicant/Sub-grantee) state and local governments, certain private non-profit organizations or institutions. Indian Tribes or authorized tribal organizations, and Alaska native villages or organizations. Individuals or businesses may not apply directly to the state or FEMA, but eligible local governments or private non-profit organizations may apply on their behalf.

FMA - State-level agencies, federally recognized Indian Tribal governments, and local communities (to include state-recognized Indian Tribes, authorized Indian Tribal organizations, and Alaska Native villages) are eligible to apply to the Applicant for assistance. Private individuals and private non-profit (PNP) organizations are not eligible sub-applicants. However, a relevant state agency or local government may apply to the Applicant for assistance to mitigate private or private non-profit (PNP) structures.

PDM - State-level agencies including state institutions (e.g., state hospital or university); federally recognized Indian Tribal governments; local governments, including state recognized Indian Tribes, authorized Indian Tribal organizations, and Alaska Native villages; public colleges and universities; and Indian Tribal colleges and universities. Private non-profit (PNP) organizations and private colleges and universities are not eligible Sub-applicants; however, an eligible, relevant state agency or local government may apply to the Applicant as the Sub-applicant for assistance to benefit the private entity.

RFC - Same as FMA, but only those states or communities that cannot meet the requirements of the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program for either cost share or capacity to manage the activities.

SRL – Same as FMA.

Eligible Project Grants

HMGP - The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, as long as the project fits within state and local government mitigation strategies to address areas of risk, and complies with program guidelines.



Examples of projects include:

- Acquiring and relocating structures from hazard-prone areas
- Retrofitting structures to protect them from floods, high winds, earthquakes, or other natural hazards
- Constructing certain types of minor and localized flood control projects
- Constructing safe rooms inside schools or other buildings in tornado-prone areas

FMA - Project grants are available for:

- Acquisition, structure demolition, or structure relocation with the property deed restricted for open space uses in perpetuity
- Elevation of structures
- Dry flood-proofing of nonresidential structures
- Minor structural flood control activities

All properties must be insured at the time of application.

PDM - Project grants are available for:

- Voluntary acquisition of real property (i.e. structures and land, where necessary) for open space conversion
- Relocation of public or private structures
- Elevation of existing public or private structures to avoid flooding
- Structural and non-structural retrofitting (e.g., storm shutters, hurricane clips, bracing systems) of existing public or private structures to meet/exceed applicable building codes
- Construction of safe rooms (tornado and severe wind shelters) for public and private structures that meet requirements in FEMA 320 and FEMA 361
- Hydrologic and Hydraulic studies/analyses, engineering studies and drainage studies for the purpose of project design and feasibility determination directly related to the proposed project
- Vegetation management for natural dune restoration, wildfire, or snow avalanche
- Protective measures for utilities (e.g. electricity, gas); water and sanitary sewer systems and/or infrastructure (e.g. roads and bridges)



- Storm water management projects (e.g., culverts, retention basins) to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from flood hazards
- Localized flood control projects (certain ring levees, bank stabilization, floodwall systems) that are designed specifically to protect critical facilities and that do not constitute a section of a larger flood control system

RFC - Project grants are available for:

- Acquisition, structure demolition, or structure relocation with the property deed restricted for open space uses in perpetuity.

All properties must be insured at the time of application.

SRL - Project grants for flood mitigation activities such as:

- Acquisition, structure demolition, or structure relocation with the property deed restricted for open space uses in perpetuity;
- Elevation of structures
- Dry flood-proofing of historic structures
- Minor physical localized flood control projects
- Mitigation Reconstruction (Demolition and rebuilding of structures)

All properties must be insured at the time of application.

Eligible Planning Grants Planning

HMGP Planning grants are available for:

- Developing state, local, or tribal mitigation plans
- Funding is available for up to 7% of total state grant

FMA Planning grants are available for:

Flood mitigation planning activities.

PDM Planning grants are available for:

- New Plan development
- Plan upgrades
- Comprehensive Plan Revisions



RFC Planning grants are not available

SRL Planning grants are not available

Eligible Management Costs

HMGP - The HMGP provides three categories of "direct administrative costs:" state management, grantee administrative and sub-grantee administrative.

FMA - Management Costs (also known as Technical Assistance Grants) allowed to support planning and project activities. See FY 2007 Program Guidance.

PDM - Management costs are available to support the planning and project sub-applications; Grantees up to 10%, Sub-grantees up to 5%.

RFC - Same as FMA, except only available for project activities. Grantees up to 10%, Sub-grantees up to 5%.

SRL - Management costs available to support project sub-applications. Grantees up to 10%, Sub-grantees up to 5%.

Planning Requirements

HMGP - Applicants must have a FEMA approved local mitigation plan in accordance with 44 C.F.R. Parts 201.6 and 206.434(b) to be eligible to receive project grant funding under the HMGP. All activities submitted for consideration must be consistent with the grantee's state/tribal standard or enhanced hazard mitigation plan and the Applicant's tribal/local/university hazard mitigation plan for the local jurisdiction in which the activity is located.

FMA - Local Flood Mitigation Plan meeting 44 CFR Part 78.5 required prior to award as condition of receiving project grants. There is no state plan requirement.

PDM - In order to receive project grants, all Applicants **MUST** have a FEMA approved state/tribal standard or enhanced hazard mitigation plan in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201 by the application deadline. In addition, all Sub-applicants **MUST** have a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201 to be eligible to receive project grant funding under the PDM program. PDM planning grants will continue to be available to Applicants and Sub-applicants that do not have a FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan to enable them to meet the planning requirements.

RFC - State/Tribal Standard or Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA in accordance with 44 C.F.R. Part 201 required by application deadline. There is no local plan requirement.



SRL - State/Tribal Standard or Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA in accordance with 44 C.F.R. Part 201 required by application deadline. Local plan requirements will be addressed in Regulations.

Application Process

HMGP - The primary responsibility for selecting and administering mitigation activities resides with the state. The state sets mitigation priorities and selects project applications that are developed and submitted by local jurisdictions. Although individuals may not apply directly to the state for assistance, local governments may sponsor an application on their behalf. After its eligibility review, the state forwards applications consistent with state mitigation planning objectives to FEMA for review and approval.

FMA - Applicants must apply electronically via FEMA's eGrants application, available at <https://portal.fema.gov>. Sub-applicants apply directly to the state, tribal, or territory applicant, who reviews and prioritizes sub-applications. The Applicant submits the grant application with sub-applications to FEMA for review and approval.

PDM - Applicants must apply electronically via FEMA's eGrants application, available at <https://portal.fema.gov>. Sub-applicants apply directly to the state, tribal, or territory applicant, who reviews and prioritizes sub-applications. The Applicant submits the grant application with sub-applications to FEMA for review and approval.

RFC - Applicants must apply using paper OMB and FEMA forms, including the eGrants project sub-application, available at www.fema.gov/government/grant/rfc or www.grants.gov. Sub-applicants apply directly to the state, tribal, or territory applicant, who reviews and prioritizes sub-applications. The Applicant submits the grant application with sub-applications to FEMA for review and approval.

SRL – To be described in Regulations.

FY 2007 Available Funds

HMGP - Federal funding under the HMGP is available following a major disaster declaration, if requested by the Governor. As of October 4, 2006, if a state has a FEMA-approved *Standard* State Mitigation Plan, HMGP funds are available based on up to 15% for amounts not more than \$2 Billion of the total of Public and Individual Assistance funds authorized for the disaster; up to 10% for amounts of \$2 Billion to not more than \$10 Billion; 7.5% for amounts of \$10 Billion to not more than \$35.333 Billion. If a state has a FEMA-approved *Enhanced* Mitigation Plan, HMGP funds are available based on up to 20% of the total of Public and Individual Assistance funds authorized for the disaster.

FMA - \$31 million

PDM - \$100 Million



RFC - \$10 million

SRL - FEMA is combining the \$40 million FY 2006 and \$40 million FY 2007 funds for a total of \$80 million available.

Cost-Share Requirements

HMGP - HMGP grant funds may be used to pay up to 75 % of the eligible project costs. The non-federal match does not need to be cash; in-kind services or materials may be used.

FMA - Up to 75% federal, with a minimum of 25% non-federal match required. Of the total non-federal share, not more than one-half may be provided from in-kind contributions. Reduced match (10% non-federal) allowed for states with approved state mitigation plans meeting the hazard mitigation planning requirements under section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165) that specifies how the state reduces the number of repetitive loss properties.

PDM - Up to 75% federal with a minimum of 25% non-federal match required. Small, impoverished communities may be eligible for up to a 90% federal cost-share.

RFC - Up to 100% federal (no non-federal match requirement).

SRL - Up to 75% federal with a minimum of 25% non-federal match required. Reduced match (10% non-federal) allowed for states with approved state mitigation plans meeting the hazard mitigation planning requirements under section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165) that specifies how the State reduces the number of repetitive loss properties.

Distribution of Funds

HMGP - The HMGP is administered by the state. The mitigation planning and application development process begins at the local level. States prioritize local applications and select projects for funding.

FMA - Allocations to eligible Applicants (state or territory) based on the number of NFIP-insured properties and the number of repetitive loss properties in each state or territory. Set-aside amount reserved for Indian Tribal governments or communities that cannot apply through the state or territory.

PDM - PDM grants are awarded on a competitive basis and without reference to state allocations, quotas, or other formula-based allocation(s) of funds.

RFC - Awarded nationally without reference to state allocations, quotas, or other formula-based allocation(s) of funds. Grants will be awarded in the order of the greatest savings to the NFIF. In 2007 this will be demonstrated by the verified benefit-cost analysis of submitted projects.



SRL - Allocations to eligible applicants (state or territory) based on the number of severe repetitive loss properties in each state or territory. Set-aside amount (10%) reserved for communities that receive little or no assistance under the allocation formula.

Application Deadline

HMGP - Generally, applications (FMA; PDM; RFC) must be submitted to the state for consideration within 12 months following a disaster declaration. SRL - To be determined.

Application Review

HMGP –

- Eligibility and Completeness Review, Mitigation Planning requirement
- Technical Review: including Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), Engineering Feasibility, for Project Ranking
- Environmental and Historic Preservation Reviews

FMA -

- Eligibility and Completeness Review, Mitigation Planning requirement
- Technical Review: including Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), for Project and Property Ranking
- Environmental and Historic Preservation Reviews

PDM –

- Eligibility and Completeness Review, including Applicant/Sub-Applicant eligibility, Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), and Mitigation Planning requirements
- National Ranking, FEMA will score all eligible planning and project sub-applications on the basis of predetermined, objective, quantitative factors to calculate a National Ranking Score.
- National Evaluation—National panels chaired by FEMA and composed of representatives from FEMA Headquarters and Regions, other federal agencies, states, federally-recognized Indian Tribal governments, Territories, and local governments convene to evaluate planning and project sub-applications on the basis of additional pre-determined qualitative factors.
- Technical Review—FEMA conducts technical reviews for Benefit Cost and Engineering Feasibility on the highest scoring project sub-applications representing approximately 150% of available funding.

RFC –

- Eligibility and Completeness Review, Mitigation Planning requirement
- Technical Review: including Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), for Project and Property Ranking
- Environmental and Historic Preservation Reviews

SRL -

- Eligibility and Completeness Review, Mitigation Planning requirement
- Technical Review: including Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), for Project and Property Ranking
- Environmental and Historic Preservation Reviews



Deadline to Award Funding

HMGP - Generally, HMGP funding must be obligated at the state within 24 months of a disaster declaration. Obligated grant funds must be utilized within the period of performance for the grant award.

FMA - See Program Guidance.

PDM - Available until expended.

RFC - See Program Guidance.

SRL - To be determined.



APPENDIX G – Table of Local Capabilities

KEY:

(NOTE: Data collection in progress)

JURISDICTION:	Black
TYPE:	Town
COUNTY:	Geneva
REGN:	Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP:	2004/2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP:	Not a member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS:	Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE:	? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG:	? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE:	? Building and technical codes adopted
BCEGS:	? Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule rating assigned by ISO
PPC:	? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN:	? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP:	? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP:	1 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING:	1 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION:	Coffee Springs
TYPE:	Town
COUNTY:	Geneva
REGN:	Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP:	2004/2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP:	Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS:	Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE:	? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG:	? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE:	? Building and technical codes adopted
BCEGS:	? Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule rating assigned by ISO
PPC:	? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN:	? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP:	? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP:	1 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING:	1 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION:	Geneva
TYPE:	City
COUNTY:	Geneva
REGN:	Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP:	2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP:	Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS:	Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE:	? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG:	? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE:	? Building and technical codes adopted
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PPC:	? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN:	? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP:	? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP:	2 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING:	3 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION:	Hartford
TYPE:	Town
COUNTY:	Geneva
REGN:	Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP:	2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP:	Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS:	Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE:	? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG:	? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE:	? Building and technical codes adopted
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PPC:	? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN:	? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP:	? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP:	1 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING:	1 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION: Malvern
TYPE: Town
COUNTY: Geneva
REGN: Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP: 2004/2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP: Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS: Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE: ? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG: ? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE: ? Building and technical codes adopted
BCEGS: ? Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule rating assigned by ISO
PPC: ? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN: ? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP: ? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP: 1
 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR: The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING: 1
 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION: Samson
TYPE: Town
COUNTY: Geneva
REGN: Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP: 2004/2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP: Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS: Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE: ? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG: ? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE: ? Building and technical codes adopted
BCEGS: ? Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule rating assigned by ISO
PPC: ? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN: ? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP: ? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP: 1
 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR: The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING: 1
 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION: Slocomb
TYPE: Town
COUNTY: Geneva
REGN: Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP: 2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP: Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS: Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE: ? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG: ? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE: ? Building and technical codes adopted
BCEGS: ? Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule rating assigned by ISO
PPC: ? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN: ? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP: ? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP: 1
 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR: The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP: ? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING: 1
 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



JURISDICTION:	Geneva
TYPE:	County
COUNTY:	Geneva
REGN:	Region 7 – Southeast AL Regional Planning and Development Council
HMP:	2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan Approved by FEMA and Adopted by jurisdictions; 2009 Plan Revision in Progress
NFIP:	Member of the National Flood Insurance Program
CRS:	Community Rating System (CRS) Program class 10 (class 10 assigned to communities not in CRS or dropped from CRS)
ZONE:	? Zoning ordinance adopted
SUB REG:	? Subdivision regulations adopted
BLDG CODE:	? Building and technical codes adopted
BCEGS:	? Building Code Effectiveness Grade Schedule rating assigned by ISO
PPC:	? Property Protection Classification rating assigned by ISO
COMP PLAN:	? A comprehensive plan to guide the community’s long-term (10- to 25-year) growth and development has been adopted within the last five years or its preparation or update is in progress
CIP:	? A mid-range (5- to 6-year) capital improvement plan or program guides the jurisdiction’s annual capital improvements budget
MIT PROJ EXP:	1 Note: The level of experience the community has in successfully implementing mitigation projects funded through one of FEMA’s mitigation grant programs (0 = no experience, 1 = limited experience, 2 = moderate experience, 3 = significant experience)
PLNR:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional planners on staff
ENGR:	The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time professional engineers on staff
CFM:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time Certified Floodplain Managers on staff
BLDG INSP:	? The jurisdiction employs one or more, full-time building inspectors on staff
CAPAB RATING:	1 Note: The community’s overall capabilities to carry out mitigation activities, based on the above criteria (1 = very limited capabilities, 2 = limited capabilities, 3 = moderate capabilities, 4 = substantial capabilities, 5 = very substantial capabilities)



LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK FOR REVIEW OF LOCAL MITIGATION PLANS

Attached is a Plan Review Crosswalk based on the **Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance**, published by FEMA in July, 2008. This Plan Review Crosswalk is consistent with the *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act* (Stafford Act), as amended by Section 322 of the *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000* (P.L. 106-390), the *National Flood Insurance Act of 1968*, as amended by the *National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004* (P.L. 108-264) and *44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 201 – Mitigation Planning*, inclusive of all amendments through October 31, 2007.

SCORING SYSTEM

N – Needs Improvement: The plan does not meet the minimum for the requirement. Reviewer's comments must be provided.

S – Satisfactory: The plan meets the minimum for the requirement. Reviewer's comments are encouraged, but not required.

Each requirement includes separate elements. All elements of a requirement must be rated "Satisfactory" in order for the requirement to be fulfilled and receive a summary score of "Satisfactory." A "Needs Improvement" score on elements shaded in gray (recommended but not required) will not preclude the plan from passing.

When reviewing single jurisdiction plans, reviewers may want to put an N/A in the boxes for multi-jurisdictional plan requirements. When reviewing multi-jurisdictional plans, however, all elements apply. States that have additional requirements can add them in the appropriate sections of the *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance* or create a new section and modify this Plan Review Crosswalk to record the score for those requirements. Optional matrices for assisting in the review of sections on profiling hazards, assessing vulnerability, and identifying and analyzing mitigation actions are found at the end of the Plan Review Crosswalk.

The example below illustrates how to fill in the Plan Review Crosswalk.:

Assessing Vulnerability: Overview				
<i>Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii): [The risk assessment shall include a] description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section. This description shall include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community.</i>				
Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan include an overall summary description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to each hazard?	Section II, pp. 4-10	The plan describes the types of assets that are located within geographically defined hazard areas as well as those that would be affected by winter storms.		<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Does the new or updated plan address the impact of each hazard on the jurisdiction?	Section II, pp. 10-20	The plan does not address the impact of two of the five hazards addressed in the plan. Required Revisions: • Include a description of the impact of floods and earthquakes on the assets. Recommended Revisions: This information can be presented in terms of dollar value or percentages of damage.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
SUMMARY SCORE			<input type="checkbox"/>	

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW SUMMARY

The plan cannot be approved if the plan has not been formally adopted. Each requirement includes separate elements. All elements of the requirement must be rated "Satisfactory" in order for the requirement to be fulfilled and receive a score of "Satisfactory." Elements of each requirement are listed on the following pages of the Plan Review Crosswalk. A "Needs Improvement" score on elements shaded in gray (recommended but not required) will not preclude the plan from passing. Reviewer's comments must be provided for requirements receiving a "Needs Improvement" score.

Prerequisite(s) (Check Applicable Box)	NOT MET	MET
1. Adoption by the Local Governing Body: §201.6(c)(5) OR	X	
2. Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Adoption: §201.6(c)(5) AND	X	
3. Multi-Jurisdictional Planning Participation: §201.6(a)(3)		X
Planning Process	N	S
4. Documentation of the Planning Process: §201.6(b) and §201.6(c)(1)		X
Risk Assessment	N	S
5. Identifying Hazards: §201.6(c)(2)(i)		X
6. Profiling Hazards: §201.6(c)(2)(i)	X	
7. Assessing Vulnerability: Overview: §201.6(c)(2)(ii)		X
8. Assessing Vulnerability: Addressing Repetitive Loss Properties. §201.6(c)(2)(ii)		X
9. Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Structures, Infrastructure, and Critical Facilities: §201.6(c)(2)(ii)(B)	X	
10. Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses: §201.6(c)(2)(ii)(B)	X	
11. Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends: §201.6(c)(2)(ii)(C)	X	
12. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment: §201.6(c)(2)(iii)	X	

*States that have additional requirements can add them in the appropriate sections of the *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance* or create a new section and modify this Plan Review Crosswalk to record the score for those requirements.

SCORING SYSTEM

Please check one of the following for each requirement.

N – Needs Improvement: The plan does not meet the minimum for the requirement. Reviewer's comments must be provided.

S – Satisfactory: The plan meets the minimum for the requirement. Reviewer's comments are encouraged, but not required.

Mitigation Strategy	N	S
13. Local Hazard Mitigation Goals: §201.6(c)(3)(i)	X	
14. Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions: §201.6(c)(3)(ii)		X
15. Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions: NFIP Compliance. §201.6(c)(3)(ii)		X
16. Implementation of Mitigation Actions: §201.6(c)(3)(iii)		X
17. Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Actions: §201.6(c)(3)(iv)		X
Plan Maintenance Process	N	S
18. Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan: §201.6(c)(4)(ii)		X
19. Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms: §201.6(c)(4)(ii)		X
20. Continued Public Involvement: §201.6(c)(4)(iii)		X
Additional State Requirements*	N	S
Insert State Requirement		
Insert State Requirement		
Insert State Requirement		

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN APPROVAL STATUS

PLAN NOT APPROVED

See Reviewer's Comments

PLAN APPROVED

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

Local Mitigation Plan Review and Approval Status

Jurisdiction: Geneva County	Title of Plan: Geneva County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan	Date of Plan: Sept. 2009
Local Point of Contact: Margaret Mixon	Address: 200 S. Commerce P O Box 430 Geneva AL 36340	
Title: EMA Director		
Agency: EMA		
Phone Number: 334-684-5677	E-Mail: mixonm@genevacoboe.org	

State Reviewer: Zakiya Darby Zakiya Darby (2 nd submittal)	Title: Mitigation Planner	Date: 10/21/09 12/29/09
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FEMA Reviewer:	Title:	Date:
Date Received in FEMA Region [Insert #]		
Plan Not Approved		
Plan Approved		
Date Approved		

Jurisdiction:	DFIRM**		NFIP Status*			
	In Plan	NOT in Plan	Y	N	N/A	CRS Class
1. Geneva County			X			
2. Coffee Springs				X		
3. Geneva			X			
4. Hartford			X			
5. Malvern			X			
6. Samson			X			

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

7. Slocomb			X			
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* Notes: Y = Participating N = Not Participating N/A = Not Mapped

** FEMA ONLY

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

PREREQUISITE(S)

1. Adoption by the Local Governing Body

Requirement §201.6(c)(5): [The local hazard mitigation plan **shall** include] documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County Commissioner, Tribal Council).

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			NOT MET	MET
A. Has the local governing body adopted new or updated plan?		The local governing body will adopt the plan after receiving an approved pending adoption notification from FEMA	X	
B. Is supporting documentation, such as a resolution, included?		Documentation will be provided after adoption	X	
SUMMARY SCORE			X	

2. Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Adoption

Requirement §201.6(c)(5): For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan **must** document that it has been formally adopted.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			NOT MET	MET
A. Does the new or updated plan indicate the specific jurisdictions represented in the plan?	Sect 4 Pg 11	The plan update indicates the following jurisdictions are represented in the plan; Coffee Springs, Geneva, Hartford, Malvern, Samson, Slocomb, and Geneva County.		X
B. For each jurisdiction, has the local governing body adopted the new or updated plan?		The local governing body will adopt the plan after receiving an approved pending adoption notification from FEMA	X	
C. Is supporting documentation, such as a resolution, included for each participating jurisdiction?		Documentation will be provided after adoption	X	
SUMMARY SCORE			X	

3. Multi-Jurisdictional Planning Participation

Requirement §201.6(a)(3): Multi-jurisdictional plans (e.g., watershed plans) may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as each jurisdiction has participated in the process ... Statewide plans will not be accepted as multi-jurisdictional plans.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			NOT MET	MET
A. Does the new or updated plan describe how each jurisdiction participated in the plan's development?	Sect 4 Pg 10-13	The plan update states that representatives from the participating jurisdictions were members of the Geneva County Emergency Management Board (GCEMB) and the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (GCHMPC). The GCEMB was responsible for reviewing the mitigation planning projects. The GCHMPC facilitated the development		X

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

<p>B. Does the updated plan identify all participating jurisdictions, including new, continuing, and the jurisdictions that no longer participate in the plan?</p>	<p>Sect 4 Pg 11</p>	<p>and revision of the plan update. The plan update does not identify all participating jurisdictions including new, continuing, and the jurisdictions that no longer participate in the plan. Required Revision: The updated plan must identify all participating jurisdictions. Corrected Revisions: The plan update states that all participating jurisdictions are continuing from the original plan.</p>		<p>X</p>
SUMMARY SCORE				<p>X</p>

PLANNING PROCESS: §201.6(b): *An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan.*

4. Documentation of the Planning Process

Requirement §201.6(b): *In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include:*

- (1) *An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;*
- (2) *An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and*
- (3) *Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.*

Requirement §201.6(c)(1): *[The plan shall document] the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.*

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
<p>A. Does the plan provide a narrative description of the process followed to prepare the new or updated plan?</p>	<p>Sect 2 Pg 2-3 Sect 4 Pg 2-8</p>	<p>The plan update states that the HMPC met on an annual basis to discuss the plan update and progress. Required Revisions: The plan update makes numerous references to the plan update process used for the development of the original plan. The plan update shall describe the process used to develop the plan update. A comprehensive description of the planning process informs citizens and other readers about the plan's development. The plan update provides dates for meetings held during the 5 year update time frame, but refers to the planning process used during the original plan development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan update makes reference to the 2004 Geneva County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and 2009 update, but the original plan was not approved until </p>		<p>X</p>

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

4. Documentation of the Planning Process

Requirement §201.6(b): In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process **shall** include:

- (1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;
- (2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and
- (3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

Requirement §201.6(c)(1): [The plan **shall** document] the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

Location in the		SCORE
		<p>2005. The 2004 date needs to be changed to 2005 and 2009 needs to be changed to 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On page 2-2 the plan update refers to developing the 2004 Plan. The plan update shall refer to the process used to develop the 2009 plan update. • On page 2-3 the plan update states that the HMPC met to discuss the plan review, but there is no date. That portion of the sentence has been highlighted in yellow and has dashes instead of a date. Include the date the meeting was held or the plan should state that a meeting will be held following FEMA approval of the plan pending adoption. • On page 4-2, the plan update refers to the planning process in 2004. The plan update needs to contain the current planning process. The plan does not need to contain the process for the original plan. • On page 4-3, the plan update does not provide a date for when the last meeting was held. If the date of this meeting is dependent upon the plan being approved pending adoption, the plan needs to state that the final meeting will take place once this happens. • On page 4-3, the plan update includes a sentence that says, "A more official review plan will be included in the revised Plan of 2009 and documentation of attendance will be included in the next review." A review of the plan should be included in this update and documentation of the review should be included in this plan update. <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 25</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update has corrected the above revisions. The plan update describes the process used</p>

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

4. Documentation of the Planning Process

Requirement §201.6(b): In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process **shall** include:

- (1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;
- (2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and
- (3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

Requirement §201.6(c)(1): [The plan **shall** document] the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

	Location in the		SCORE	
		to prepare the plan update.		
B. Does the new or updated plan indicate who was involved in the current planning process? (For example, who led the development at the staff level and were there any external contributors such as contractors? Who participated on the plan committee, provided information, reviewed drafts, etc.?)	Sect 4 Pg 8 Appendix C	The plan update states that representatives from the participating jurisdictions were members of the Geneva County Emergency Management Board (GCEMB) and the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (GCHMPC).		X
C. Does the new or updated plan indicate how the public was involved? (Was the public provided an opportunity to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to the plan approval?)	Sect 4 Pg 3	The plan update states that 3 public meetings were held to allow the public the opportunity to provide comments on the plan. Required Revisions: The plan update refers to a 3 rd meeting, but does not provide a date for the meeting. If the date of this meeting is dependent upon the plan being approved pending adoption, the plan needs to state that the final meeting will take place once this happens. Corrected Revisions: The plan update states that the last meeting will be held once the plan has been approved pending adoption. A date for that meeting will be inserted at the time.		X
D. Does the new or updated plan discuss the opportunity for neighboring communities, agencies, businesses, academia, nonprofits, and other interested parties to be involved in the planning process?	Sect 4 Pg 10-12	The plan update states that various meetings and phone calls took place and emails were sent to various Federal, State and Local Agencies requesting their input and cooperation. Neighboring communities, agencies, businesses, academia, nonprofits, and other interested parties were given the opportunity to participate through the public involvement meetings.		X
E. Does the planning process describe the review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information?	Sect 4 Pg 3	The plan update states that the Geneva County EMA Emergency Operations Plan was reviewed and incorporated into the mitigation plan update.		X
F. Does the updated plan document how the planning team reviewed and analyzed each section of the plan and whether each section was revised as part	Sect 4 Pgs 13-15 Beginning of each section	The plan update provides a summary of review, analysis and update of each section.		X

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

4. Documentation of the Planning Process

Requirement §201.6(b): In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process **shall** include:

- (1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;
- (2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and
- (3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

Requirement §201.6(c)(1): [The plan **shall** document] the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

Location in the		SCORE	
of the update process?			
		SUMMARY SCORE	X

RISK ASSESSMENT: §201.6(c)(2): The plan shall include a risk assessment that provides the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Local risk assessments must provide sufficient information to enable the jurisdiction to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified hazards.

5. Identifying Hazards

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i): [The risk assessment **shall** include a] description of the type ... of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan include a description of the types of all natural hazards that affect the jurisdiction?	Sect 5 Pgs 13-73	<p>The plan update provides a description of all natural hazards.</p> <p>Recommended Revisions: Instead of making the general description of hazards that affect Geneva County an Appendix of the plan, include the descriptions in section 5. This keeps the plan reader from having to flip back and forth through the document.</p> <p>Required Revisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 5-3 provides 2 different lists for the profiled hazards. The plan update states that the first list that contains 9 identified hazards that were approved by the HMPC at the first meeting held 12/11/08. The second list that contains 17 identified hazards are those that will be profiled in the plan update. There are 4 hazards that have deleted next to them. If they are not going to be profiled, they should be removed from the list if they 		X

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

		<p>are not to be profiled. These hazards were not profiled in the original; what are they being deleted from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Appendix F, pages 4-8; the plan update provides a description for tornadoes and windstorms, but hurricanes are profiled separately. According to page 5-3, hurricanes would be divided into two separate hazards that are associated with hurricanes: flooding (both by rainfall and by storm surge) and high winds. Tornadoes and windstorms are also included in the high wind profile section and risk assessment. If these hazards are to be profiled as described on page 5-3, these discrepancies need to be addressed. The hazards need to be addressed the same throughout the plan. • On page 5-3 and 5-93 the Plan states:” At the request of both AEMA and the National Weather Service, tsunamis were added to the list of hazards to be profiled”. The “Risk Assessment should be based upon: The Interim Final Rule (IFR) 201.6 (c) (2) requires the plan include: <i>“Risk Assessments</i> that provide the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Local risk assessments must provide sufficient information to enable the jurisdiction to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified (i) A description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction. The plan shall include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events. (ii) A description of the jurisdiction’s vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c) (2) (i) of this section. This description shall include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community. If tsunamis would not impact any jurisdiction in Geneva County the hazard should not be profiled. • On page 5-3, the plan identifies land subsidence as a natural hazard. In Appendix F page 11, the plan identifies sinkholes and land subsidence. The identified hazards listed on page 5-3 need to coincide with the hazards described in Appendix F. This also applies to winter storms. • The portion of the plan titled Landslides on pages 5-32 		
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LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

		<p>– 37 provides a narrative describing landslides, land subsidence and sinkholes. According to the identified hazards listed on page 5-3 – 4, sinkholes will not be profiled and landslides and land subsidence will be profiled as separate hazards. If the County feels these hazards are similar in nature, they should be profiled together and the list of profiled hazard should be updated accordingly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sinkholes are described on pages 5-38 – 39, but it is not listed on page 5-3 – 4 as an identified hazard. This hazard should be listed as an identified hazard or included with land subsidence and landslides. In Appendix F, it is combined with land subsidence. • Table 5.2-3 on page 5-14 is a chart of Hurricane/High Winds/Tropical Storm Damage for Geneva County, AL. This chart is included in the part of the plan that describes floods in Geneva County. If this table is included to illustrate that these events caused flooding Geneva County, a narrative description needs to be included with an explanation. If these events did not cause flooding to Geneva County, the table needs to be removed and inserted in the section that explains High Winds. • Table 5-2.2 on page 5-14 and table 5-2.5 on page 5-18 are the same tables. • Drought and Extreme Temperatures have been listed as separate hazards on pages 5-3 – 4. However on pages 5-41 to 5-43, drought is the described hazard, but a chart of previous occurrences describes drought and extreme heat. On pages 5-46 – 5-49, extreme temperature is the profiled hazard, but the narrative refers to drought. Since these hazards co-exist with each other, they should possibly be profiled together and the list on pages 5-3 – 4 should be updated to reflect any change. • In section 5 page 5-15 and in Appendix F page 2, the plan update states 'While recent floods did not affect all of Geneva County's watersheds, they did cause considerable property damage where flooding occurred. On the following page is a map of the watersheds'. However, no map is on the following page. The map needs to be added or the reference removed. 		
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LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

		<p><i>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 29-31</i></p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Appendix F has been removed as a part of hazard profiling. The plan update has corrected the above required revisions and correctly identified the hazards that affect Geneva County and the participating jurisdictions.</p>		
SUMMARY SCORE				X

6. Profiling Hazards

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i): [The risk assessment **shall** include a] description of the ... location and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction. The plan **shall** include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the risk assessment identify the location (i.e., geographic area affected) of each natural hazard addressed in the new or updated plan?	Sect 5 Pg 13-73	<p>The plan update identifies the location of the identified natural hazards.</p> <p>Required Revisions: The following corrections must be made to the hazard identification in order for this element to be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The description for hail and lightning does not describe the location affected by the hazard. The narrative mainly discusses how the hazard affects the entire state of Alabama and not Geneva County. The location in the community that would be affected must be identified. If a hazard location cannot be geographically determined the plan must describe the entire planning area that can be affected by the hazard. The plan update states that figure 5.2-12 depicts the locations of dams in Geneva County. However, figure 5.2-12 is not attached. <p><i>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 32-34</i></p> <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met. The plan</p>	X	X

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

		<p>update states that the entire county is susceptible to lightning and hail.</p> <p>Required Revision: The plan update states that figure 5.2-12 depicts the locations of dams in Geneva County on page 5-22. However, figure 5.2-12 shows the average number of winter storms per year for each county from 1995-2006. The correct figure needs to be added and the narrative portion needs to be corrected to match the corresponding figure.</p> <p>Figure 5.2-12 depicts Winter Storm Return Intervals by County. Corrections have been made.</p>		
<p>B. Does the risk assessment identify the extent (<i>i.e.</i>, magnitude or severity) of each hazard addressed in the new or updated plan?</p>	<p>Sect 5 Pg 13-73</p>	<p>The plan update identifies the extent for the following hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter storms – page 5-30 and Appendix F page 9 • Earthquake – Appendix F page 14 • Drought – page 5-42 and Appendix F page 15-16 • Extreme Temperatures – page 5-46 – 47 and Appendix F page 18-19 • Lightning – Appendix F page 20-21 • Tsunami – Appendix F Page 23 <p>Required Revision: The plan update does not identify the extent for the following hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floods • High Winds (Hurricanes, tornadoes and windstorms) – the plan update identifies the extent of tornadoes, but not the other two portions of high winds. Tornadoes are demonstrated using the fujita scale. • Landslides • Land subsidence • Earthquake • Hail • Wildfires • Dam failure <p>Required Revision: The updated plan must clearly define any classification method to illustrate the extent. Extent is not necessarily determined by historical data. This element asks “How bad CAN it get?”</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pgs 32-34</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

		<p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met. The corresponding descriptions in the appendix have been removed and included in section 5. The plan update identifies extent by ranking the severity with major, minor or minimum.</p>		
<p>C. Does the plan provide information on previous occurrences of each hazard addressed in the new or updated plan?</p>	<p>Sect 5 Pg 13-73</p>	<p>The plan update provides information on previous occurrences of each identified hazards. Table 5.2-1 provides a historic overview of events in Geneva County. For each identified hazard, the plan update provides a detailed chart or narrative description of the previous occurrences.</p> <p>Required Revisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table 5.2-1 on page 5-5 is titled Federal Disaster Declarations in Geneva County. All of the listed events in the table were not federally declared disasters. The table should include only federally declared disasters or change the title of the table. • On page 5-21, the plan update states that there have been 20 tornadoes reported to the National Weather Service and NOAA for Geneva County, but the accompanying table 5.2-6 only accounts for 13. This conflict needs to be explained or corrected. • According to page 5-30, Geneva County experienced a blizzard in 1993 and large snowfall in the early 1970s. However, the accompanying table 5.2-8 no winter/ice storms have occurred. This conflict needs to be explained or corrected. <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 32-35</p> <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met. The above required revisions have been corrected.</p>		<p>X</p>

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<p>D. Does the plan include the probability of future events (i.e., chance of occurrence) for each hazard addressed in the new or updated plan?</p>	<p>Sect 5 Pg 13-73</p>	<p>On page 5-13, in the narrative description of the probability of the hazard, it states that this section discusses the probability of the various hazards and provides a mathematical formula that will be used to determine the probability of future annual event occurrence. The plan update does not address the probability of future events for each hazard addressed in the plan. The narrative portion of each hazard that is dedicated to future probability does not use the formula mentioned on page 5-13. The narrative portion also provides more information about the hazards affect on the entire state as opposed to Geneva County.</p> <p>Required Revisions: The probability is a statistical measure of the likelihood that the hazard event would occur in an area. The plan update shall provide a narrative or statistical measure for the probability. The plan update should note any data limitations and identify and include in the mitigation strategy actions for obtaining the data to complete and improve future risk analysis efforts.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 32-34</p> <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met. The plan update includes the probability of future events for each hazard. For those hazards that didn't have the calculated probability, the plan update addresses this by stating the sufficient data was not available.</p>		<p>X</p>
SUMMARY SCORE			<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>

7. Assessing Vulnerability: Overview

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii): [The risk assessment **shall** include a] description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section. This description **shall** include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S

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<p>A. Does the new or updated plan include an overall summary description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to each hazard?</p>	<p>Sect 5 Pg 73-120</p>	<p>The plan update provides a rating for how vulnerable the county is to each hazard on Table 5.3-1. The rankings are low, medium or high based on a set of predetermined criteria.</p> <p>Required Revision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan update states that Figures 5.5-1 to 5.5-6 on pages 5-62 to 5-67 will show the critical facilities located in Geneva County, but these pages are blank. • The information in tables 5.7-4 to 5.7-13 on pages 5-88 to 5-93 show the population that would be affected by each jurisdiction. For every hazard the tables show that the entire population in each jurisdiction would be affected except for land subsidence and landslides. The plan needs to examine the population vulnerable to dam failure, flood and tsunami. These are hazards that would not affect every citizen. Slocomb and Hartford state that every citizen would be affected by all hazards. • Table 5.7-11, Malvern's population vulnerable to hazards, is incomplete. • Geneva is a participating jurisdiction, but there is no population table completed for the City of Geneva. • Table 5.7-8 is the population for Eunola, however Eunola was not identified as a participating jurisdiction on page 4-10 to 4-11. If the Town is a participating jurisdiction, they should be added to the list of participating jurisdictions. <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 36-37</p> <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met. The maps of critical facilities have been added. The population tables have been updated.</p>		<p>X</p>
<p>B. Does the new or updated plan address the impact of each hazard on the jurisdiction?</p>	<p>Sect 5 Pg 13-73</p>	<p>The plan update discusses the impact of each hazard in the previous occurrence and Federal Disaster Declarations table.</p> <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly</p>		<p>X</p>

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		identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.		
		Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met.		
SUMMARY SCORE				X

8. Assessing Vulnerability: Addressing Repetitive Loss Properties

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii): [The risk assessment] **must** also address National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) insured structures that have been repetitively damaged floods.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of repetitive loss properties located in the identified hazard areas?	Sect 5 Pgs 107-108	<p>The plan update provides a summary of flood insurance claims statistics for Geneva County on page 5-76.</p> <p>Required Revisions: The information in the table on page 5-76 does not address the types and numbers of repetitive loss properties. The plan update states that the repetitive loss properties are identified via insurance claims. Insurance claims are not an indication of repetitive loss properties. The plan update must address repetitive loss structures in the risk assessment by describing the types and estimate the numbers of repetitive loss properties located in identified flood hazard areas. This information can be obtained from the state flood plain administrator.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 39</p> <p>Note: This requirement becomes effective for all local plans approved after October 1, 2008.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update identifies the types and numbers of repetitive loss structures in narrative and table form. There are a total of 16 repetitive loss structures and they are all residential.</p>		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

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9. Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Structures

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii)(A): The plan **should** describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard area

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of existing buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas?	Sect 5 Pg 79-82	<p>Note: A "Needs Improvement" score on this requirement will not preclude the plan from passing.</p> <p>The plan update describes vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of existing structures for each participating jurisdiction on table 5.5-8 to 5.5-17.</p> <p>Required Revision: Table 5.5-12 for Eunola, however Eunola was not identified as a participating jurisdiction on page 4-10 to 4-11. If the Town is a participating jurisdiction, they should be added to the list of participating jurisdictions.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update has removed the table for Eunola, it is not a participating jurisdiction.</p>		X
B. Does the new or updated plan describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas?	Not Addresses	<p>Note: A "Needs Improvement" score on this requirement will not preclude the plan from passing.</p> <p>The plan update does not address the types and numbers of future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas.</p>	X	
SUMMARY SCORE			X	

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10. Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii)(B): [The plan **should** describe vulnerability in terms of an] estimate of the potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures identified in paragraph (c)(2)(ii)(A) of this section and a description of the methodology used to prepare the estimate

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan estimate potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures?	Sect 5 Pgs 95-100	<p>Note: A "Needs Improvement" score on this requirement will not preclude the plan from passing.</p> <p>The plan update describes potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures for each participating jurisdiction on table 5.5-8 to 5.5-15 for high wind hazard areas.</p> <p>Recommended Revision: The values provided are the same as the values provided in the original plan. These values should be updated. The plan update should also state how these values were derived.</p> <p>Recommended Revision: The plan update should provide a general dollar loss to vulnerable structures for all hazards. These values can be obtained from appraisal and insurance reports.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 45-46</p> <p>This section remains the same. This data is in progress; however, there are some figures that have been gathered and noted by source.</p>	X	
B. Does the new or updated plan describe the methodology used to prepare the estimate?	Sect 5 Pgs 95-100	<p>Note: A "Needs Improvement" score on this requirement will not preclude the plan from passing.</p> <p>The plan update states that at the time the risk assessments were performed there was no comprehensive inventory of county owned and/or operated facilities that included sufficient data. The current provided estimates came from the original plan.</p> <p>Recommended Revision: The potential dollar losses can be obtained through insurance values and appraisal reports.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning</p>	X	

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		<p><i>Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 45-46</i></p> <p>This section remains the same. Sources have been noted on the data that has been gathered to date.</p>		
SUMMARY SCORE			X	

11. Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii)(C): [The plan **should** describe vulnerability in terms of] providing a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan describe land uses and development trends?	Sect 5 Pgs 109-112	<p>Note: A "Needs Improvement" score on this requirement will not preclude the plan from passing.</p> <p>The plan update describes what impacts changes in development can have on jurisdictions in general. The plan update provides a chart for population estimates. The plan update does not discuss the land uses and development trends specific to Geneva County and the participating jurisdictions.</p> <p>Recommended Revision: The plan should provide a general overview of land uses and types of development occurring within each community participating in the plan.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 47-48</p> <p>This section remains the same. All information pertaining to land use and development trends that can be gathered has been noted in Section 5.7.</p>	X	
SUMMARY SCORE			X	

12. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(iii): For multi-jurisdictional plans, the risk assessment **must** assess each jurisdiction's risks where they vary from the risks facing the entire planning area.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan include a risk	Sect 5 Pgs 73-	On page 5-55 the plan update states that it is not practical or	X	X

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<p>assessment for each participating jurisdiction as needed to reflect unique or varied risks?</p>	<p>112</p>	<p>desirable to perform detailed countywide risk assessments on all natural hazards affecting the county. The plan update states that many of the hazards have little probability of affecting the county and/or it is difficult to mitigate their effects. The plan update states that the county has reduced the list of hazards to those that have the most potential for damaging the county. The County used a rating system that gave each hazard a rating of low, medium or high. The county only provided a detailed risk assessment of the hazards with a rating of high. The plan states that floods, high winds and earthquakes will be profiled for a risk assessment.</p> <p>Required Revisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According the table 5.3-1 on page 5-57 – 58, earthquakes received a rating of low in both categories. If earthquakes are to be profiled for risk assessment the plan update needs to address why it received a low rating and the other hazards that received a low rating are not being profiled. • On page 5-84, the plan update states that a description of the jurisdictions most vulnerable to damage and loss from floods, high winds and earthquakes are included, but the descriptions are not included. The plan update provides numerous definitions and explanations concerning risk and vulnerability, but nothing specific for Geneva County and the participating jurisdictions. On page 5-84 the plan update states that for floods the following four tables summarize the risk assessments for floods, but the following tables do not report that information. The narrative description of earthquakes on page 5-86 provides information for earthquakes as it relates to the state of Alabama and not Geneva County and its jurisdictions. <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 50</p> <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met.</p>	
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		<p>Required Revisions: According to the narrative description provided on page 5-74 under 5.3 Methodology for Identifying Natural Hazards for Additional Analysis, the plan update will provide detailed and comprehensive risk assessments in later subsections for hazards that received a high rating in both probability and ease of mitigation. Those that received medium or low ratings in either category may or may not be provided detailed risk assessments due to lack of available data, but are in some cases included as risks to county-owned facilities and are also included in mitigation goals, objectives, strategies and actions. The hazard that received a high rating in each category was high wind (which includes high winds from hurricanes, windstorms, and tornadoes). Table 5.3-1 shows all of the hazards considered in this methodology, and the rankings assigned by the committee. According to table 5.3-1, the hazards that will be profiled with a risk assessment are: Flooding, High Winds (including hurricanes, tornados and windstorms), Winter Storms/Snow and Ice/Extreme Cold Events, Drought/Extreme Heat, Hail and Lightning. However, the narrative portion only provides risk assessments for floods and high winds. The plan update also includes a risk assessment for earthquakes, but table 5.3-1 states that earthquakes will be profiled, not part of detailed risk assessment due to lack of available data. The narrative and table 5.3-1 do not agree with each other. The plan update shall correct these discrepancies in order for the plan to be met. Narratives and Table 5.3-1 have been revised.</p>		
SUMMARY SCORE			X	X

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MITIGATION STRATEGY: §201.6(c)(3): *The plan shall include a mitigation strategy that provides the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools.*

13. Local Hazard Mitigation Goals

Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(i): *[The hazard mitigation strategy shall include a] description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.*

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A Does the new or updated plan include a description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards?	Sect 6 Pg 3	The plan update includes 6 goals that apply to the county and the participating jurisdictions. Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met. Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met.	X	X
SUMMARY SCORE			X	X

14. Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions

Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii): *[The mitigation strategy shall include a] section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure.*

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each hazard?	Sect 6 Pg 19-27	The plan update identifies a range of actions and projects. Required Revisions: The mitigation measure number and the goal do not coincide with the goal numbers listed on page 6-3. The mitigation actions and projects should coincide with the identified goals. Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 56-60 Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.		X

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		Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met. The plan update includes on page 6-20 a legend o for the mitigation measure number. The legend corrects the above required revisions.		
B. Do the identified actions and projects address reducing the effects of hazards on new buildings and infrastructure?	Sect 6 Pg 19-27	<p>The plan update addresses new buildings and infrastructures. Some examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geneva County encourages all utilities to be located underground in new subdivisions, which reduces damage during hurricanes and tornadoes. • Purchase outdoor warning siren systems. • Install individual safe rooms and/or community shelters. <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met.</p>		X
C. Do the identified actions and projects address reducing the effects of hazards on existing buildings and infrastructure?	Sect 6 Pg 19-27	<p>The plan update addresses existing buildings and infrastructure. Some examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a dam around the sewer lagoon area to contain waste. • Inspect and correct storm drain systems. • Acquire properties in floodway and flood plain areas and convert the acquired land to open space greenways <p>Required Revision: Since the hazards are not clearly identified in Element 5A, and are inconsistent throughout the document, these disasters cannot be properly assessed; therefore, this requirement cannot be met.</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: Element 5A has been met.</p>		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

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15. Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions: National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Compliance

Requirement: §201.6(c)(3)(ii): [The mitigation strategy] must also address the jurisdiction's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan describe the jurisdiction (s) participation in the NFIP?	Sect 6 Pg 8	The plan update lists the jurisdictions that are participants in the NFIP. Note: This requirement becomes effective for all local mitigation plans approved after October 1, 2008.		X
B. Does the mitigation strategy identify, analyze and prioritize actions related to continued compliance with the NFIP?	Sect 6 Pg 19-27	The plan update identifies actions related to continued compliance with the NFIP for the jurisdictions that participate in the NFIP. Some examples are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the county meets all required regulatory provisions and review the flood plain regulations and identify construction standards that are more appropriate for Geneva County's flood conditions. • Pursue measures to disclose the flood hazards to house buyers. • Educate the public of the availability and coverage provided by flood insurance. Note: This requirement becomes effective for all local mitigation plans approved after October 1, 2008.		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

16. Implementation of Mitigation Actions

Requirement: §201.6(c)(3)(iii): [The mitigation strategy section **shall** include] an action plan describing how the actions identified in section (c)(3)(ii) will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction. Prioritization **shall** include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of the proposed projects and their associated costs.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated mitigation strategy include how the actions are prioritized ? (For example, is there a discussion of the process and criteria used?)	Sect 6 Pg 15-16 & 41-59	The plan update ranks each mitigation action as low, medium or high in Tables 6.8-17 – 6.8-23 Required Revision: The plan update does not provide the criteria for each ranking of low, medium or high. The plan update shall describe the method for prioritizing the order in		X

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		<p>which the actions will be implemented. The plan update states that the updated prioritization of these mitigation actions can be found in section 6.8.6. However, there is no section 6.8.6.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 63-64</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update includes how the actions were prioritized on page 6-16. The charts on pages 6-47 – 6-55 identify the priority for each action.</p>		
B. Does the new or updated mitigation strategy address how the actions will be implemented and administered, including the responsible department, existing and potential resources and the timeframe to complete each action?	Sect 6 Pg 41-59	<p>The plan update provides the lead responsibility, timeline and possible funding sources for each mitigation action in tables 6.8-17 – 6.8-23.</p>		X
C. Does the new or updated prioritization process include an emphasis on the use of a cost-benefit review to maximize benefits?	Sect 7 Pg 9	<p>The plan update does not include the use of a cost-benefit review by the County to maximize benefits. On page 7-9, the plan update provides a narrative description of what benefit cost is and which of the HMA programs are required to use benefit cost analysis.</p> <p>Required Revisions: The plan update shall discuss what factors of cost benefit were considered when the county was discussing the identified mitigation actions and projects.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 63-64</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update provides a list of criteria that were used when analyzing the cost-benefit of each action.</p>		X
D. Does the updated plan identify the completed, deleted or deferred mitigation actions as a benchmark for progress, and if activities are unchanged (<i>i.e.</i> , deferred), does the updated plan describe why no changes occurred?	Sect 6 Pg 28-40	<p>The plan update identifies the completed, deleted and deferred mitigation actions.</p>		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

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17. Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Actions

Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iv): For multi-jurisdictional plans, there **must** be identifiable action items specific to the jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval or credit of the plan.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan include identifiable action items for each jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval of the plan?	Sect 6 Pg 28-40	<p>The plan update provides mitigation actions for each jurisdiction except for Black, Bellwood and Chancellor.</p> <p>Required Revision: The plan must link the proposed mitigation actions to the applicable jurisdictions. Any jurisdiction within the planning area requesting approval for the plan must be able to point to specific actions to be pursued.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 65-66</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update includes action items for only the participating jurisdictions.</p>		X
B. Does the updated plan identify the completed, deleted or deferred mitigation actions as a benchmark for progress, and if activities are unchanged (<i>i.e.</i> , deferred), does the updated plan describe why no changes occurred?	Sect 6 Pg 28-40	The plan update identifies the completed, deleted and deferred mitigation actions.		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

PLAN MAINTENANCE PROCESS

18. Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan

Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i): [The plan maintenance process **shall** include a] section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan describe the method and schedule for monitoring the plan, including the responsible department?	Sect 8 Pg 2	<p>The plan update states that the plan will be reviewed annually by the GCEMA on page 2-4.</p> <p>Required Revision: The local jurisdiction shall describe how, when, and by whom the plan will be</p>		X

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		<p>monitored. The plan update will need to indicate how Geneva County will monitor the entire plan's progress and not just the actions and projects. AEMA will not be responsible for monitoring the plan for the county.</p> <p>The plan update states that the BCEMA Director is the responsible person for the review of the plan to include monitoring the plan, reconvening the committee only if additional information is available or the EMA Director requires assistance. The BCEMA Director will email a survey form to the BCHMPC members asking them for their input and giving them a two-week deadline on returning the information to the BCEMA Director.</p>		
B. Does the new or updated plan describe the method and schedule for evaluating the plan, including how, when and by whom (<i>i.e.</i> the responsible department)?	Sect 8 Pg 2-3	The plan update states that the GCEMA will conduct annual evaluations of the plan. The committee will reconvene only if additional information is available or the EMA Director requires assistance. The plan update also lists several basic factors that will be considered when evaluating the plan.		X
C. Does the new or updated plan describe the method and schedule for updating the plan within the five-year cycle?	Sect 8 Pg 3-4	The plan update states that the plan will be updated every five years. The plan update also lists conditions that may warrant an interim update during the five year period.		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

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19. Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms

Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii): [The plan **shall** include a] process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan identify other local planning mechanisms available for incorporating the mitigation requirements of the mitigation plan?	Sect 4 Pg 3	The plan update identified the Geneva County EMA Emergency Operations Plan for incorporating the mitigation plan.		X
B. Does the new or updated plan include a process by which the local government will incorporate the mitigation strategy and other information contained in the plan (e.g., risk assessment) into other planning mechanisms, when appropriate?	Sect 4 Pg 4	<p>The plan update does not include a process by which the local government will incorporate the mitigation strategy and other information contained in the plan into other planning mechanisms.</p> <p>Required Revisions: The plan shall specify how the mitigation strategy and actions will be incorporated into other planning mechanisms, when appropriate.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 70-72</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update states that the EOP references the Hazard Mitigation Plan as well as other plans related to all potential threats. This Hazard Mitigation Plan update will be integrated in the planning process through meetings, discussions, and references in the plans.</p>		X
C. Does the updated plan explain how the local government incorporated the mitigation strategy and other information contained in the plan (e.g., risk assessment) into other planning mechanisms, when appropriate?	Not Addressed	<p>The plan update does not explain how the local government incorporated the mitigation strategy and other information contained in the plan into other planning mechanisms.</p> <p>Required Revisions: The updated plan must explain how the local government incorporated the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, when appropriate.</p> <p>Reference: Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, July 1, 2008: pg 70-72</p> <p>Corrected Revisions: The plan update states that the</p>		X

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		EOP references the Hazard Mitigation Plan as well as other plans related to all potential threats. This Hazard Mitigation Plan update has been integrated in the planning process through meetings, discussions, and references in the plans.		
SUMMARY SCORE				X

20. Continued Public Involvement

Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii): [The plan maintenance process **shall** include a] discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.

Element	Location in the Plan (section or annex and page #)	Reviewer's Comments	SCORE	
			N	S
A. Does the new or updated plan explain how continued public participation will be obtained? (For example, will there be public notices, an on-going mitigation plan committee, or annual review meetings with stakeholders?)	Sect 8 Pg 3 Sect 4 Pg 10	The Updated Plan states in Section 8: "Before any revisions are submitted to the jurisdictions for adoption, a notice will be placed in the local newspaper, allowing an opportunity for the public to review the proposed amendments at the EMA offices, submit written comments, and present comments at a public meeting." The plan update also states that during June of each year for the annual review of the plan, the public will have an opportunity to participate.		X
SUMMARY SCORE				X

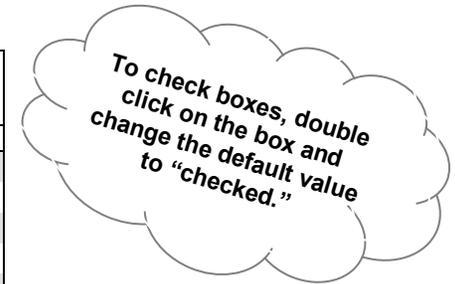
LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

MATRIX A: PROFILING HAZARDS

This matrix can assist FEMA and the State in scoring each hazard. Local jurisdictions may find the matrix useful to ensure that their plan addresses each natural hazard that can affect the jurisdiction. **Completing the matrix is not required.**

Note: First, check which hazards are identified in requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i). Then, place a checkmark in either the N or S box for each applicable hazard. An “N” for any element of any identified hazard will result in a “Needs Improvement” score for this requirement. List the hazard and its related shortcoming in the comments section of the Plan Review Crosswalk.

Hazard Type	Hazards Identified Per Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i)	A. Location		B. Extent		C. Previous Occurrences		D. Probability of Future Events	
	Yes	N	S	N	S	N	S	N	S
Avalanche	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dam Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earthquake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expansive Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Levee Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hailstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hurricane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land Subsidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landslide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Severe Winter Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tornado	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tsunami	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volcano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Windstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Legend:

§201.6(c)(2)(i) Profiling Hazards

- A. Does the risk assessment identify the location (*i.e.*, geographic area affected) of each hazard addressed in the **new or updated** plan?
- B. Does the risk assessment identify the extent (*i.e.*, magnitude or severity) of each hazard addressed in the **new or updated** plan?
- C. Does the plan provide information on previous occurrences of each natural hazard addressed in the **new or updated** plan?
- D. Does the plan include the probability of future events (*i.e.*, chance of occurrence) for each hazard addressed in the plan?

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

MATRIX B: ASSESSING VULNERABILITY

This matrix can assist FEMA and the State in scoring each hazard. Local jurisdictions may find the matrix useful to ensure that the new or updated plan addresses each requirement. **Completing the matrix is not required.**

Note: First, check which hazards are identified in requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i). Then, place a checkmark in either the N or S box for each applicable hazard. An "N" for any element of any identified hazard will result in a "Needs Improvement" score for this requirement. List the hazard and its related shortcoming in the comments section of the Plan Review Crosswalk. Note: Receiving an N in the shaded columns will not preclude the plan from passing.

To check boxes, double click on the box and change the default value to "checked."

Hazard Type	Hazards Identified Per Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i)	A. Overall Summary Description of Vulnerability				B. Hazard Impact				A. Types and Number of Existing Structures in Hazard Area (Estimate)				B. Types and Number of Future Structures in Hazard Area (Estimate)				A. Loss Estimate				B. Methodology			
	Yes	N		S		N		S		N		S		N		S		N		S		N		S	
Avalanche	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dam Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earthquake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expansive Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Levee Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hailstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hurricane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land Subsidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landslide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Severe Winter Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tornado	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tsunami	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volcano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Windstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Legend:

§201.6(c)(2)(ii) Assessing Vulnerability: Overview

- A. Does the **new or updated** plan include an overall summary description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to each hazard?
- B. Does the **new or updated** plan address the impact of each hazard on the jurisdiction?

- B. Does the **new or updated** plan describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas?

§201.6(c)(2)(ii)(A) Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Structures

- A. Does the **new or updated** plan describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of existing buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas?

§201.6(c)(2)(ii)(B) Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses

- A. Does the **new or updated** plan estimate potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures?
- B. Does the **new or updated** plan describe the methodology used to prepare the estimate?

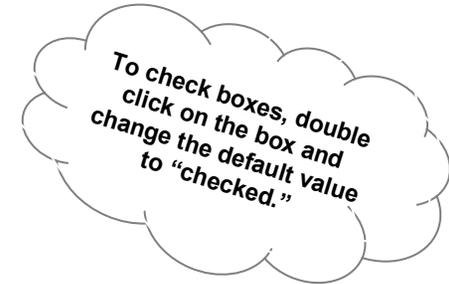
LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW CROSSWALK

MATRIX C: IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF MITIGATION ACTIONS

This matrix can assist FEMA and the State in scoring each hazard. Local jurisdictions may find the matrix useful to ensure consideration of a range of actions for each hazard. **Completing the matrix is not required.**

*Note: First, check which hazards are identified in requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i). Then, place a checkmark in either the N or S box for each **applicable** hazard. An “N” for any identified hazard will result in a “Needs Improvement” score for this requirement. List the hazard and its related shortcoming in the comments section of the Plan Review Crosswalk.*

Hazard Type	Hazards Identified Per Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i)	A. Comprehensive Range of Actions and Projects	
	Yes	N	S
Avalanche	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dam Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earthquake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expansive Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Levee Failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hailstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hurricane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land Subsidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landslide	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Severe Winter Storm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tornado	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tsunami	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volcano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Windstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Legend:

§201.6(c)(3)(ii) Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions

A. Does the **new or updated** plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each hazard?

Appendix I – Meeting Notes

Date: December 11, 2008

Subject: Initiation Meeting for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

BACKGROUND

On December 11, 2008, representatives of the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency [GCEMA] and Lee Helms Associates, L. L. C. held an initial meeting at 10 a.m. at the Geneva County EMA's EOC to begin the process of revising the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan of 2004/2005.

Attendees:

The meeting was attended by the following people:

Vicky Marsh, City of Hartford
Reggie Marsh, Town of Malvern
James Dixon, Geneva Water Works
Wynnton Melton, City of Geneva, Mayor
Margaret Mixon, Geneva County EMA
Fred Hamic, Geneva County Commission
Jim Bixby, Geneva City Schools
Leola E. Aycock, Coffee Springs, Mayor
Hazel McGowan, City Clerk, Samson
Susie Parrish, Geneva County DHR
Sue Hays, Geneva Co. DHR
Ralph Riley, Geneva County BOE
Lee Helms, Lee Helms Associates, L. L. C.

Purpose of the Meeting

The meeting had several purposes.

1. Introduce key participants in the planning process
2. Provide a context for the project and background information
3. Discuss the project work program and schedule
4. Explain tasks

Materials Provided and Discussed at the Meeting

A bound booklet with the agenda and technical details of the work was distributed to all attendees.

Attendees reviewed the requirements for the revised mitigation plan. A number of immediate action items were identified, as well as the need to start gathering data and information for the baseline assessments.



GENEVA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Property Protection:

- ❖ Relocating
- ❖ Acquiring Property
- ❖ Elevating
- ❖ Barriers
- ❖ Retrofitting

Natural Resource Protection Activities:

- ❖ Wetland Protection
- ❖ Habitat Protection
- ❖ Erosion and Management Control
- ❖ Stream Dumping
- ❖ Shoreline Barrier Protection
- ❖ Forestry Practices

Emergency Services Measures:

- ❖ Hazard Warning
- ❖ Emergency Response
- ❖ Critical Facilities Protection
- ❖ Health and Safety Maintenance
- ❖ Post-Disaster Mitigation

Structural Projects:

- ❖ Reservoirs
- ❖ Levees and Floodwalls
- ❖ Channeling Modifications
- ❖ Diversions
- ❖ Channel Maintenance

Public Involvement Activities:

- ❖ Map Information
- ❖ Outreach Projects
- ❖ Library
- ❖ Technical Assistance
- ❖ Real Estate Disclosure
- ❖ Environmental Education



HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN REVISIONS

Lee Helms Associates (LHA), L. L. C. will need information on the following items in order to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan for your county:

1. A List of the Following:
 - a) Fire Departments
 - b) Town and City Buildings
 - c) Utility Buildings
 - d) Airport Listings
 - e) Highways
 - f) Economy
 - g) Utility Companies
 - h) Infrastructures
2. Each department/agency must submit any new projects/goals and include Action Plans for each.
3. Data concerning recent hazards in order to update previous statistics.
4. A current census.
5. Vulnerability updates must be assessed.
6. A list of any highway changes will be needed to revise plan.
7. Update any economy changes (businesses and etc.) to update the economy section of the plan.
8. Update utility company information for the county.
9. Update any changes to the critical infrastructures within the county.

Please have this information by **January 5, 2009**. Send information to LHA at 236 Town Mart, Clanton, AL 35045; email to renee@leehelmsllc.com; or by fax to 205.280.0543.



Date: May 14, 2009

Subject: Mid-Term Meeting for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

BACKGROUND

On May 14, 2009, representatives of the Geneva County Emergency Management Agency [GCEMA] and Lee Helms Associates, L. L. C. held a mid-term meeting at 2 p.m. at the Geneva County EMA's EOC to discuss the draft revision of the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan of 2009.

Attendees:

The meeting was attended by the following people:

Vicky Marsh, City of Hartford
Hazel McGowan, City of Samson
Danielle Reed, Sysco
John Rainey, Wiregrass Medical Center
Wynnton Melton, City of Geneva
Gloria McGowan, Wiregrass Medical Center
Ralph Riley, Geneva County Board of Education
Margaret Mixon, Geneva County EMA
Roger Wise, FGHR VFD (Flat Creek)
Andy Hovey, Hartford Fire Rescue
Libby Babington, Hartford Fire and Rescue
James Dixon, Geneva Water Works
Fred Hamic, Geneva County Probate Judge/Chairman
Lee Helms, Lee Helms Associates, L. L. C.

Purpose of the Meeting

1. Update progress on tasks to date
2. Review action items from last meeting
3. Discussion about remainder of project

Materials Provided at the Meeting

1. Meeting agenda; sign-in sheets; in-kind contribution forms
2. Preliminary draft of hazard identification section of plan

The following represents the major discussion points from the meeting.

1. Reviewed the specific potential projects by jurisdiction
2. Identified a timeframe to complete detailed project information
3. Provided status of draft plan completion



Appendix J – Sign-In Sheets for HMPC Meetings



Original Message -----

From: [Ms Margaret Mixon](#)

To: [Greg Fleming](#) ; [Ralph Riley](#) ; [Mark Shehee](#) ; [Kristi Stamnes](#) ; [John Tallas](#) ; [Jim Bixby](#) ; [Glenda Sue Hays](#) ; [David Snell](#) ; [Clark Mathews](#) ; [Ray Minshew](#) ; [Larry Everett](#) ; [Fred Hamic](#) ; [Johnny Windham](#) ; [City of Slocomb/ Peggy Armstrong](#) ; [City of Samson/ Hazel McGowan](#) ; [Lisa Johnson/City of Geneva](#) ; [Town of Malvern/Fancis Harrison](#) ; [Town of Coffee Springs](#) ; [Town of Black](#) ; [City of Hartford/Vickie Marsh](#)

Cc: Susan.Parrish@dhr.alabama.gov ; [Martha Harrell](#) ; [Debbie Peery](#) ; [Brett Howard](#)

Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2008 3:41 PM

Subject: Planning Meeting

Dear Committee Members:

As a requirement of The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, all counties in Alabama were required to establish an all Hazards Mitigation Plan and have in place by 2004, in order to continue to receive and apply for Hazard Mitigation Grants. Our plan has been in place since such time as required. The planning Committee was established at that time. A requirement is to revise the plan at least every 5 years.

Therefore, the local Official or designated participant of each Municipality shall sit on the local planning committee, attend all meetings as the plan is revised, gather and submit documentation for their municipality and sign the plan after the revision is completed.

A meeting has been scheduled for December 11, 2008, at 10:00 am in the EMA Office located in the basement of the County Courthouse. At which time Lee Helms Associates will be there to assist us with the revision of the plans. Your participation is highly recommended.

Sincerely,
Margaret Mixon
Director/HS POC
Geneva County Emergency Management Agency



GENEVA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 2008

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME	AGENCY/DEPARTMENT	PHONE/FAX	E-MAIL
Vicky Marsh	City of Hartford	334-588-2245 334-588-3826	hartfordcityof@centurytel.net
Reggie Marsh	Town of Malvern	334-793-6537	malvern@sw.rc.com
JAMES DIXON	GENEVA WATER WORKS	774-684-9554 774-684-6944	JDixon@AAAWWA.com
Dwight Melton	City of Geneva Mayor	684-9500 cell - 360-0250	
Margaret Nixon	Geneva Co. EMA	334-684-5677 888-294-3934	nixonm@genevacol.org
Fred Hamic	Geneva Co. Commission	333-684-5641	fred@geneva.org



GENEVA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 2008

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME	AGENCY/DEPARTMENT	PHONE/FAX	E-MAIL
Jim Bixby	Geneva City Schools	(334) 684-1091	BixbyJ@genovacityschools.com
Leala E Aycock	Mayor Coffee Springs	334-684-8181	coffee@centurytel.net
Hazel McLowan	City Clerk Samson	334-898-7541	cityofsamson@centurytel.net
Susie Parrish	Geneva CODHR	334-684-5833	Susan.parrish@dhr.alabama.gov
Sue Hays	Geneva Co. DHR	(334) 684-5838	glenda.hays@dhr.alabama.gov
Ralph Riley	Geneva County AEF	334-684-5707 684-5609	riley@genevacobaec.org





APPENDIX J – (Sign-In Sheets)

2009

loc

Of Local Importance

Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee Meeting

Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will meet at 10:30 a.m. on April 2, 2009 at the Emergency Management Agency, located in the basement of the Geneva County Courthouse, 200 N. Commerce St. The meeting is open to the general public and all interested citizens are welcome to attend and give input regarding existing projects and/or new projects that need to be addressed. As a federal/state requirement, a meeting must be held in order to receive government funding.

The focus of this meeting, as well as future meetings, is to develop a long-term plan for natural hazards that might impact Geneva County. Such hazards include but are not limited to tornadoes, severe weather, floods, winter storms, and droughts. According to federal and state regulations, funding for projects in the county cannot be issued unless the projects are addressed in an approved county plan.

The current hazard mitigation planning board consists of the following agencies: Geneva County EMA/Homeland Security; Geneva County Commission; Geneva County Sheriff's Department; Geneva County 911; Geneva County Fire/EMS; Geneva County/City School Board; municipalities of Samson, Coffee Springs, Geneva, Black, Hartford, Slocomb, Malvern; and private, nonprofit organizations.

In order to ensure that Geneva County meets all federal and state requirements, Lee Helms Associates (LHA), L. C. of Clanton, Ala. has been contracted. Lee Helms of LHA will conduct these meetings and update the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Plan that was developed in 2004.

Rescheduled for May 14, 2009
due to flooding.



APPENDIX J – (Sign-In Sheets)

PUBLIC INFORMATION/MEDIA RELEASE

**Geneva County Hazard Mitigation
5677 or
Planning Committee Meeting
280-3027**

**POC: Margaret Nixon 334-684-
LEE HELMS ASSOCIATES, L. L. C. 205-
280-3027**

Geneva, AL, May 4, 2009 – The Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will meet at 2:00 p.m. on May 14, 2009 at the Geneva County Emergency Management office. The meeting is open to the general public and all interested citizens are welcomed to attend and give input regarding existing projects and/or new projects that need to be addressed. As a federal/state requirement, a meeting must be held in order to receive government funding.

The focus of this meeting as well as future meetings is to develop a long term plan for natural hazards that might impact Geneva County. Such hazards include but are not limited to tornadoes, severe weather, floods, winter storms, and droughts. According to federal and state regulations, funding for projects in the county cannot be issued unless the projects are addressed in an approved county plan. The current hazard mitigation planning board consists of the following agencies: Geneva County EMA/Homeland Security; Geneva County Commission; Geneva County Sheriffs' Department; Geneva County 911; Geneva County Fire/EMS; Geneva County/City School Board; all Geneva County municipalities, AL; and private nonprofit organizations.

In order to ensure that Geneva County meets all federal and state requirements, Lee Helms Associates (LHA), L. L. C. of Clanton, Alabama has been contracted. Mr. Lee Helms of LHA will conduct these meetings and update the Geneva County Hazard Mitigation Plan that was developed in 2004.



**GENEVA COUNTY
MID-TERM HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING MEETING**

MAY 14, 2009 2:00 P.M.

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME	AGENCY/DEPARTMENT	PHONE/FAX	E-MAIL
Vicky Marsh	City of Hartford	334-588-2245 334-588-3826	hartfordcityof@centurytel.net
Hazel McGowan	City of Samson	334-898-7541 334-898-2955	cityofsamson@centurytel.net
Danielle Reed	Sysco	334-684-4007	reed.danielle@gc.sysco.com
John Rainey	Wiregrass Medical Center	334-684-3655	raineyj@wiregrassmedicalcenter.org
Wynnton Melton	City of Geneva	884-684-9500 684-2909	City of Geneva & Panhandle RR, com
GLORIA McGowan	Wiregrass Med. Cntr.	(334)684-3655 x-5111	mcgowan.g@wiregrassmedicalcenter.org
Ralph Riley	Geneva County Board of ED	(334) 684-5707 (334) 684-5609	riley.r@genevacolbae.org
Margaret Nixon	Geneva Co. EMA	(334) 684-5677 (334) 684-5736	Nixon.m@genevacolbae.org



**GENEVA COUNTY
MID-TERM HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING MEETING**

MAY 14, 2009 2:00 P.M.

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME	AGENCY/DEPARTMENT	PHONE/FAX	E-MAIL
Roger WISE	FGHR VFD (Flat Creek)	334-898-1999	chief@flatcreekfire.com
Andy Hovey	Hartford Fire Rescue	334-588-0906	ah5205@gmail.com
Libby Babin	Hartford Fire Rescue	334-588-0906	libbymedic@gmail.com
JAMES DIXON	GENEVA WATER WORKS	334-684-9574 334 684 6844	JDixon@GENEVAWATERWORKS.COM
Fred Hamie	Geneva Co. Probate Judge / Chairman	334-684-5641	fred@genvala.com



Appendix L – Alabama Dam Security and Safety Act

January 6, 2003



1 **ALABAMA DAM SECURITY AND SAFETY ACT -DRAFT**

2 **AN ACT**

3 To provide for the inspection and Certification of Dams; to
4 provide a short title; to state the purpose of this Act; to
5 define the term "Dam"; to define certain other terms
6 associated with safe dams; to provide that no action for
7 damages shall be brought against the State or any employee of
8 the State by reason of any action taken or not taken by
9 employees of the State pursuant to this Act; to authorize the
10 promulgation of Rules and Regulations; to provide that it
11 shall be unlawful to Own, Alter, Abandon, Breach, Construct,
12 Operate or Remove a Dam except in accordance with this Act
13 and the Rules and Regulations, orders, and Certificates
14 established pursuant thereto; to require a Certificate to
15 Operate or Construct a Dam; to provide a procedure to apply
16 for and obtain a Certificate; to exempt certain Dams from the
17 certification requirements of this Act; to authorize the
18 establishment of Certificate conditions issued pursuant to
19 this Act; to require certain documents to accompany
20 Certificate applications; to provide that certain conditions
21 be met prior to the issuance of Certificates for the
22 Operation of Dams in existence or being constructed as of the
23 effective date of the Rules and Regulations; to authorize

January 06, 2003

2





DRAFT

1 contracts; to provide for the revocation, suspension or
2 modification of Certificates; to provide a procedure for
3 Abandonment, Breach or Removal of Dams; to authorize the
4 issuance of administrative orders to Owners of Dams when such
5 Dams are not in compliance with this Act or the Rules and
6 Regulations; to authorize Emergency action by the State with
7 regard to Dams that are an immediate threat to human life or
8 property; to provide for rights of investigation, entry,
9 access and inspection; to provide for administrative and
10 judicial review; to provide for the powers and duties of the
11 Agency; to provide for the powers and duties of the Director;
12 to provide that a violation of this Act shall constitute a
13 misdemeanor; to provide for civil penalties for a violation
14 of this Act or any Certificate or administrative order issued
15 pursuant to this Act; to provide a procedure for imposing
16 civil penalties; to provide for injunctive relief; to provide
17 for severability; to provide for an effective date; to repeal
18 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

19
20
21
22
23

January 06, 2003

3



1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

2

3 00-00-01. Short title.

4

5 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Alabama
6 Dam Security and Safety Act of 2003."

7

8 00-00-02. Declaration of purpose.

9

10 It is the purpose of this Act to provide for the inspection
11 and certification of certain Dams in order to protect the
12 health, safety, and welfare of all the citizens of the State.
13 The inspection and certification of certain Dams is properly
14 a matter for regulation under the police powers of the State.

15

16 00-00-03. Definitions.

17

18 As used in this Act, the term:

19

20 (1) "Abandon" or "Abandonment" means to render a Dam non-
21 impounding by dewatering and making the Dam incapable of
22 impounding water.

23

January 06, 2003

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1 (2) "Adverse Consequences" means negative impacts that may
2 occur upstream, downstream, or at locations remote from the
3 Dam as a direct and proximate result of the existence or
4 operation of such Dam. The primary concerns are loss of
5 human life, loss of critical infrastructure, property damage
6 and lifeline disruption.

7

8 (3) "Agency" means the Office of Water Resources, a division
9 of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
10 or its successor.

11

12 (4) "Alterations" or "Repairs" means Alterations,
13 modifications, or Repairs to existing Dam and Appurtenant
14 Works as may directly affect the safety of the Dam or
15 Reservoir, as determined by the Agency.

16

17 (5) "Approval" means authorization in writing issued by the
18 Director to an Owner who has applied to the Agency for
19 permission to Construct, Reconstruct, Enlarge, Repair, alter,
20 modify, Remove, maintain, Operate or Abandon a Dam and which
21 specifies the conditions or limitations under which work is
22 to be performed by the Owner or under which approval is
23 granted.

January 06, 2003

5



1

2 (6) "Appurtenant Works" include, but are not limited to, such
3 structures as spillways, either in the Dam or separate
4 therefrom; the Reservoir and its rim; low-level outlet works;
5 and liquid conduits such as tunnels, pipelines or penstocks,
6 either through the Dam or its abutments.

7

8 (7) "Breach" means partial Removal of a Dam, creating a
9 channel through the Dam.

10

11 (8) "Certificate" means for a High Hazard Potential Dam a
12 written authorization to Construct and/or Operate a Dam
13 issued by the Director. A Certificate means for all other
14 Dams a written acknowledgement of Dam Construction or Removal
15 solely for inventorying purposes.

16

17 (9) "Construct" or "Construction" means the design,
18 building, Alteration, or Reconstructing of any Dams, together
19 with Appurtenant Works, for the Impoundment or diversion of
20 water or liquid substances and shall include any activity
21 which, other than routinely as part of an approved
22 maintenance program, Repairs or restores the Dam, or Alters

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6



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1 its design, shape, or structural characteristics, and shall
2 also include any Enlargement of such.

3

4 (10) "Critical Infrastructure" means systems and assets
5 associated with or impacted by dams or impoundments, whether
6 physical or virtual, so vital to Alabama that the incapacity
7 or destruction of such systems and assets would have a
8 debilitating impact on security, economic stability, public
9 health or safety, or any combination of those matters,
10 consistent with the "Critical Infrastructures Protection Act
11 of 2001."

12

13 (11) "Dam" shall mean any artificial barrier, including
14 Appurtenant Works, which impounds or diverts water,
15 wastewater, or liquid borne materials and which:

16

17 a. Has an impounding capacity at Maximum Water
18 Storage Elevation of at least 50 acre-feet; or

19

20 b. Is 25 feet or more in height; or

21

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7



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1 c. Will create a Probable Loss of Human Life in the
2 event of failure or improper operation, regardless
3 of height or storage capacity; or

4
5 d. Will create a Probable Loss of Critical
6 Infrastructure in the event of failure or improper
7 operation, regardless of height or storage
8 capacity.

9
10 (12) "Dam Safety Program" means the program established by
11 the Agency, pursuant to this Act.

12
13 (13) "Days" used in establishing deadlines, means calendar
14 Days, including Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays.

15
16 (14) "Director" means the Director of the Office of Water
17 Resources or his/her designee. The Director of the Office of
18 Water Resources or designee must be an Engineer. In
19 addition, the Director of the Office of Water Resources must
20 have a current license to practice engineering in the State
21 of Alabama.

22

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1 (15) "Emergency" includes, but is not limited to, Breaches
2 and all conditions leading to or causing a Breach,
3 overtopping, or any other condition in a Dam and its
4 Appurtenant Works that may be construed as unsafe or
5 threatening to human life or Critical Infrastructure;

6

7 (16) "Emergency Action Plan" means the plan to determine when
8 an Emergency with the Dam exists and what to do to prevent or
9 mitigate the consequences of a failure to protect against
10 Probable Loss of Human Life and/or Critical Infrastructure.

11

12 (17) "Engineer" means a qualified professional Engineer. The
13 term "qualified professional Engineer" as used in this Act is
14 intended to mean an individual who has a background in civil
15 engineering and;

16

17 a. Is a licensed professional Engineer in the
18 State; and

19
20

21 b. Is competent in areas related to Dam
22 investigation, design, Construction, and Operation
23 for the type of Dam being investigated, designed,
Constructed or Operated; and

January 06, 2003

9



1

2 c. Has at least seven (7) years of relevant
3 experience in areas such as investigation, design,
4 Construction, Reconstruction, Enlargement, Repair,
5 Alteration, maintenance, Operation, Breach, Removal
6 or Abandonment of Dams; and

7

8 d. Understands adverse Dam incidents, failures and
9 the potential causes and consequences of failures;
10 or

11

12 e. Is the State Conservation Engineer of the
13 Natural Resources Conservation Service.

14

15 (18) "Enlarge" or "Enlargement" means any change in or
16 addition to an existing Dam or Impoundment, which raises or
17 may raise the Maximum Water Storage Elevation of the liquid
18 impounded by the Dam or Reservoir.

19

20 (19) "Hazard Potential" means possible Adverse Consequences
21 that result from the release of water or stored contents due
22 to failure or improper Operation of the Dam or Appurtenant
23 Works. The Hazard Potential classification of a Dam does not

DRAFT

1 reflect in any way on the current condition of the Dam and
2 its Appurtenant Works (e.g. safety, structural integrity,
3 flood routing capacity).

4

5 (20) "Height" means the distance from the natural bed of the
6 Impoundment, stream or watercourse measured at the downstream
7 toe of the Dam to the Maximum Water Storage Elevation or
8 means the distance from the lowest elevation of the outside
9 limit of the Dam, if the Dam is not across a stream channel
10 or watercourse, to the Maximum Water Storage Elevation.

11

12 (21) "High Hazard Potential Dam" means a Dam assigned the
13 high Hazard Potential classification where failure or mis-
14 Operation will cause Probable Loss of Human Life.

15

16 (22) "Local Unit of Government" means any political
17 subdivision of this state including, but not limited to, a
18 county, city, town, or municipality, if the political
19 subdivision provides local government services in a
20 geographically limited area of this state as its primary
21 purpose and it has the power to act primarily on behalf of
22 that area.

23

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11



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1 (23) "Low Hazard Potential Dam" means a Dam not assigned the
2 Moderate or High Hazard Potential classification.

3

4 (24) "Maximum Water Storage Elevation" means the elevation of
5 the top of the Dam.

6

7 (25) "Moderate Hazard Potential Dam" means a Dam assigned the
8 Moderate Hazard Potential classification where failure or
9 improper Operation results in no Probable Loss of Human Life
10 but will cause Probable Loss of Critical Infrastructure.

11

12 (26) "Operate" or "Operation" means to take actions to
13 control the Impoundment or diversion of a liquid substance by
14 a Dam.

15

16 (27) "Owner" means any Person who owns, controls, Operates,
17 maintains, manages, or proposes to Construct, Reconstruct,
18 Enlarge, Repair, Alter, Remove or Abandon a Dam or Reservoir.

19

20 (28) "Person" means any and all Persons, natural or
21 artificial, including any individual, entity, firm,
22 association, organization, partnership, business, trust,
23 corporation, company, any federal agency, authority, or

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1 corporation created by the United States of America, and the
2 State and all political subdivisions, regions, districts,
3 municipalities, counties, and public agencies thereof.

4

5 (29) "Probable Loss of Critical Infrastructure" means that
6 the loss of critical infrastructure will likely occur, is
7 reasonably expected to occur, or is realistic as a result of
8 any action or inaction.

9

10 (30) "Probable Loss of Human Life" means that the loss of
11 human life will likely occur, is reasonably expected to
12 occur, or is realistic as a result of any action or inaction.

13

14 (31) "Reconstruction" means Removal and replacement of an
15 existing Dam.

16

17 (32) "Remove" or "Removal" means complete elimination of the
18 Dam embankment and/or Appurtenant Works.

19

20 (33) "Reservoir" or "Impoundment" means any basin, which
21 contains or will contain impounded water, wastewater, or
22 liquid-borne materials by virtue of its having been impounded
23 by a Dam.

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13



1

2 (34) "Responsible Authority" means those state, county, city
3 or other offices that are charged with maintaining public
4 safety and that are listed in any Emergency Action Plan
5 required by this Act or the Rules and Regulations.

6

7 (35) "Rules and Regulations" means the most recent policies,
8 requirements, regulations, rules or standards adopted by the
9 Agency pursuant to the provisions of the Alabama
10 Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 22, Title 41, as
11 amended, in order to enforce this Act.

12

13 (36) "State" means the State of Alabama.

14

15 (37) "Surface Mining Act" means Chapter 16, Title 9 of the
16 Code of Alabama, as amended.

17

18 (38) "Water Storage Capacity" means the maximum volume of
19 liquid, which can be stored by the Dam or Reservoir.

20

21 **00-00-04. General Provisions.**

22

January 06, 2003

14



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1 It shall be unlawful for any Person to Own, Construct,
2 Operate, Abandon, Breach or Remove a Dam that is subject to
3 this Act except in conformance with this Act, Rules and
4 Regulations and administrative orders established and issued
5 under this Act.

6

7

8 **00-00-05. Duties and Authorities.**

9

10 (1) In addition to any other powers and duties provided for
11 in this Act, the Director shall have and may exercise the
12 following powers and duties:

13

14 a. To exercise general supervision over the
15 administration and enforcement of this Act and the
16 Rules and Regulations;

17

18 b. The authority to advise, consult, cooperate,
19 contract, and enter into cooperative agreements
20 with Persons, Local Units of Government, and other
21 governmental agencies or committees, including, but
22 not limited to, the State Soil and Water
23 Conservation Committee, the Alabama Department of

January 06, 2003

15



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1 Environmental Management, the Natural Resources
2 Conservation Service, the Alabama Department of
3 Transportation, the Alabama Association of
4 Conservation Districts, or the United States Army
5 Corps of Engineers for the purposes of carrying out
6 this Act;

7

8 c. To take such other actions as may be necessary
9 to carry out this Act;

10

11 d. To approve or deny the Impoundment of a liquid
12 substance by a High Hazard Potential Dam, pursuant
13 to this Act and the Rules and Regulations;

14

15 e. To issue Certificates for the Construction and
16 Operation of Dams;

17

18 f. To issue Approvals for and specify conditions
19 under which Dams may be Abandoned, Breached or
20 Removed;

21

22 g. To specify conditions under which any employee
23 of the Agency or its agents may enter upon lands of

January 06, 2003

16



1 Owners of Dams;

2

3 h. To require information or written reports from
4 the Owner for the purpose of complying with this
5 Act;

6

7 i. To direct, conduct and supervise
8 investigations, as the Director may deem necessary
9 to carry out the Director's duties as prescribed in
10 this section;

11

12 j. Upon request of the governing authority of a
13 Local Unit of Government to provide technical
14 assistance to that Local Unit of Government
15 relative to Dams within their jurisdiction. The
16 assistance may include, but shall not be limited to
17 visual inspections, written reports on any
18 structural inadequacies discovered during
19 inspections, written descriptions of the potential
20 Dam failure flood plain, technical advice on
21 procedures to correct structural inadequacies, and
22 assistance in the development of Dam safety
23 ordinances;

January 06, 2003

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k. To impose conditions upon the issuance of any Certificate to ensure compliance with this Act and the Rules and Regulations and may require the submission of plans, specifications and other information as may be deemed necessary prior to the issuance of a Certificate for the Construction and Operation of a High Hazard Potential Dam;

l. To require the submission of documentation, such as plans, specifications, drawings, and other information as the Director may deem necessary by the Engineer who undertakes the design of a High Hazard Potential Dam to be Constructed after the effective date of this Act; and

m. To issue administrative orders to Owners of Dams when such Dams are not in compliance with this Act or the Rules and Regulations.

(2) In the performance of its duties, the Agency shall:

a. Establish by Rules and Regulations such



DRAFT

1 policies, requirements, conditions or standards
2 governing the design, Construction, Operation,
3 maintenance, Abandonment, Breach and Removal of
4 Dams which are Certified or required to be
5 Certified under this Act, including, but not
6 limited to, the following:

7
8 i. Establish by Rules and Regulations
9 requirements for record retention by Dam Owners;
10 and

11
12 ii. Establish by Rules and Regulations the
13 minimum criteria for the hydrologic, hydraulic
14 and other design requirements of High Hazard
15 Potential Dams.

16
17 b. Establish by rules or regulations the criteria
18 to be included in Dam application forms;

19
20 c. Establish by rules or regulations the standards
21 to govern inspection of Dams;

22

January 06, 2003

19



DRAFT

1 d. Direct and conduct investigations regarding
2 Construction, Reconstruction, Enlargement,
3 Alteration, Repair, Operation, Abandonment, Breach,
4 or Removal of any Dam as the Agency may reasonably
5 deem necessary to carry out its duties as
6 prescribed in this Act and Rules and Regulations.
7 Provided, however, any proprietary or confidential
8 information concerning business activities
9 collected by the Agency will solely be utilized for
10 the purposes of this Act and will not be
11 distributed to the public;

12
13 e. Establish by rules or regulations the standards
14 for an Emergency Action Plan for Dams;

15
16 f. Adopt, modify, repeal, and promulgate other
17 rules or regulations as are necessary and proper to
18 carry out the purposes of this Act and other
19 applicable provisions of the Code of Alabama;

20
21 g. Establish by rules or regulations the criteria
22 by which the Agency will take Emergency action,
23 when necessary;

January 06, 2003

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h. Apply for, accept, and disburse advances, loans, grants, contributions, and any other form of assistance from the federal government, the state or other public body, or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this Act, and enter into and carry out contracts or agreements in connection therewith, and include in any contract for financial assistance with the federal government such conditions imposed pursuant to federal laws as deemed reasonable and appropriate and which are not inconsistent with the purposes of this Act;

i. Develop Rules and Regulations for the disbursement of funds to Owners to bring their Dams into compliance with this Act and Rules and Regulations;

j. Report required Dam information to the National Performance of Dams Programs; and



1 k. Report inventory and other necessary information
2 to the National Inventory of Dams as requested.

3

4 **00-00-06. Inventory and classification.**

5

6 (1) It shall be the duty of the Agency to inventory the Dams
7 in the state and to classify each Dam into one of the
8 following categories:

9

- 10 a. Low Hazard Potential;
- 11 b. Moderate Hazard Potential; or
- 12 c. High Hazard Potential.

13

14 (2) The initial inventory required by this Act shall be
15 completed within five (5) years of the effective date of the
16 Rules and Regulations, unless otherwise extended by the
17 Director. The Agency shall reinventory and reclassify, if
18 necessary, the Dams in the State at least once every five (5)
19 years after the completion of the initial inventory. It may
20 be necessary for the Agency to gather updated information
21 regarding the characteristics of the Dam and its surroundings
22 in order to verify classification.

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1 (3) The following Low Hazard Potential Dams are not required
2 to be included in the inventory of Dams maintained pursuant
3 to this Act:

4

5 a. Any Dam which is less than six (6) feet in
6 height, regardless of its storage capacity; or

7

8 b. Any Dam which has an impounding storage
9 capacity at Maximum Water Storage Elevation of less
10 than 15 acre feet, regardless of its height.

11

12 (4) The Agency is authorized to use information furnished to
13 the Agency by other Persons, to accomplish the purposes of
14 this section, including, but not limited to, the
15 classification of Dams as set forth in subsection (1) of this
16 section.

17

18 **00-00-07. Certificate, Application and Notification**

19

20 (1) The following provisions apply to all Dams:

21

22 a. Any Owner, unless otherwise exempt by this Act,
23 who desires to Construct a Dam for the purpose of

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1 impounding or diverting liquid, but has not
2 commenced the Construction as of the effective date
3 of the Rules and Regulations, shall do the
4 following:

5
6 i. Request of the Agency, and the Agency shall
7 furnish the Person with, based on information
8 provided to the Agency by the requestor, an
9 initial opinion as to whether the proposed Dam,
10 if Constructed, would be classified as a Low,
11 Moderate or High Hazard Potential Dam for the
12 purposes of this Act; and

13
14 ii. Submit a Certificate application to the
15 Agency. Certificates issued for the Construction
16 of Dams pursuant to this section shall also
17 authorize the Operation of the Dams Constructed
18 in accordance with the Certificate.

19
20 b. Any Owner who is operating an existing Dam
21 prior to the effective date of the Rules and
22 Regulations or who is in the physical process of

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1 constructing a Dam as of the effective date of the
2 Rules and Regulations, shall do the following:

3
4 i. Request of the Agency, and the Agency shall
5 furnish the Person with, based on information
6 provided to the Agency by the requestor, an
7 initial opinion as to whether the Dam would be
8 classified as a Low, Moderate or High Hazard
9 Potential Dam for the purposes of this Act,
10 provided that the Person may continue to Operate
11 or Construct the Dam pending classification by
12 the Agency; and

13
14 ii. Submit a Certificate application to the
15 Agency provided that the Owner may continue to
16 Operate or Construct the Dam pending final
17 action by the Agency on the application for a
18 Certificate. Certificates issued for the
19 Construction of Dams pursuant to this section
20 shall also authorize the Operation of the Dams
21 Constructed in accordance with the Certificate.
22

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1 c. If the Agency reclassifies a Dam because of
2 either alterations in the Dam or changed
3 circumstances that would modify the classification
4 of the Dam, the Agency shall give notice to the
5 Owner as to the determination regarding the
6 reclassification of the Dam and issue a revised
7 Certificate outlining the requirements of the new
8 classification.

9
10 (2) The following provisions apply to High Hazard Potential
11 Dams:

12
13 a. Construction, Reconstruction, Enlargement,
14 Alteration, Repair, Abandonment, Breach, or Removal
15 of High Hazard Potential Dams and the supervision
16 of Construction shall be under the supervision and
17 charge of an Engineer;

18
19 b. Prior to Construction of a High Hazard
20 Potential Dam, the Owner shall provide to the
21 Agency the names and addresses of the Person(s)
22 owning the Dam and the Person(s) having direct
23 responsibility for the Operation of the Dam;

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c. The Owner shall record the location of the High Hazard Potential Dam on the official land plat for the county or counties in which the High Hazard Potential Dam is located;

d. The Engineer who undertakes the design of a High Hazard Potential Dam to be Constructed after the effective date of the Act must submit to the Director documentation, such as plans, specifications, drawings, and other information as required by the Rules and Regulations;

e. The supervising Engineer of a High Hazard Potential Dam Construction project shall submit progress reports as required by the Rules and Regulations;

f. Certificate applications for the Construction of a High Hazard Potential Dam shall be accompanied by certification from an Engineer stating that he/she is responsible for the design of the Dam and that the design meets all standards established by the



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1 Agency in the Rules and Regulations. As an
2 alternative to a certificate from an Engineer, the
3 Agency may accept a Certificate application
4 accompanied by a certificate from the State
5 Conservation Engineer of the United States Natural
6 Resources Conservation Service stating that the
7 design of the Dam meets all standards established
8 by the Agency and the Rules and Regulations;

9
10 g. If the Director disapproves an application for
11 Construction of a High Hazard Potential Dam, a copy
12 of the application shall be returned to the
13 applicant with a statement of the reasons for the
14 disapproval. The applicant may reapply for a
15 Certificate after incorporating the changes
16 required by the Director; and

17
18 h. The Director may revoke, suspend, or modify any
19 Certificate issued pursuant to this Act or deny the
20 issuance of a Certificate for cause including, but
21 not limited to, the following:
22

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1 i. Violation of any condition of the
2 Certificate;

3
4 ii. Obtaining a Certificate by misrepresentation
5 or by failure to disclose fully all material
6 facts;

7
8 iii. Violation of any provision of this Act or
9 the Rules and Regulations; or

10
11 iv. Change in any condition of the Dam that
12 requires revocation, suspension, or modification
13 of a Certificate in order to ensure compliance
14 with this Act or the Rules and Regulations.

15
16 (3) The following provisions apply to Moderate Hazard
17 Potential Dams:

18
19 a. The certification requirements for a Moderate
20 Hazard Potential Dam will be for the Owner of the
21 Dam to maintain an Operation and Maintenance Plan,
22 an Emergency Action Plan and to notify the Agency
23 of Alterations or Removal of the Dam; and



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b. The application and certification process is not discretionary by the Agency. Upon notification to the Agency through an application, the Agency shall issue a Certificate which will solely recognize the Dam as part of the inventory.

(4) The following provisions apply to Low Hazard Potential Dams:

a. The certification requirements for a Low Hazard Potential Dam will be notification to the Agency of Alterations or Removal of the Dam; and

b. The application and certification process is not discretionary by the Agency. Upon notification to the Agency through an application, the Agency shall issue a Certificate which will solely recognize the Dam as part of the inventory.

00-00-08. Exemptions.

(1) Notwithstanding other provisions of this Act, the following Dams shall be exempt from all requirements of this



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1 Act except those necessary to maintain the inventory provided
2 herein below:

3 a. Any Dam owned and Operated by any department
4 or agency of the United States government, provided
5 those Dams are regulated in a manner that meets or
6 exceeds the requirements of this Act;

7
8 b. Any Dam licensed by the Federal Energy
9 Regulatory Commission, or for which a license
10 application is pending with the Federal Energy
11 Regulatory Commission;

12
13 c. Any Dam as otherwise defined by this Act shall
14 be exempt from the provisions of this Act for so
15 long as the Dam is regulated and permitted under
16 the Surface Mining Act. However, if the Dam so
17 Constructed is classified by the Director as a High
18 Hazard Potential Dam, the Owner shall, upon the
19 completion of the mining activity in connection
20 with which the Dam was Constructed, either drain
21 and reclaim the Impoundment formed by the Dam
22 pursuant to the mined land use plan approved under
23 the Surface Mining Act or stabilize the Impoundment

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1 as a lake pursuant to the mined land use plan and
2 the Rules and Regulations. If the Impoundment is
3 reclaimed as a lake and the Dam which created the
4 Impoundment remains in place as a High Hazard
5 Potential Dam, then, before the lake is deemed to
6 be reclaimed so as to release the Owner from
7 his/her obligations under the Surface Mining Act,
8 the Owner shall certify to the Director and the
9 Owner(s) of the property (ies) on which the High
10 Hazard Potential Dam is located that the High
11 Hazard Potential Dam is in full compliance with the
12 provisions of this Act and the Rules and
13 Regulations; and

14
15 d. Any Dam Owner who can show proof that the
16 structure is already required to be regulated may
17 be exempt, upon a determination by the Director
18 that those regulatory requirements meet or exceed
19 the requirements of this Act and the Rules and
20 Regulations.
21

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1 (2) Exempt Dams shall be required to submit information to
2 the Agency in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for
3 purposes of maintaining the inventory.

4

5 **00-00-09.Dam Removal.**

6

7 (1) It shall be unlawful for the Owner of any High Hazard
8 Potential Dam, to Abandon, Breach or Remove the Dam without
9 the prior written approval of the Director, or as may be
10 provided for under the Rules and Regulations.

11

12 (2) Within sixty (60) Days after the receipt of a completed
13 application for Abandonment, Breach or Removal of a High
14 Hazard Potential Dam, the Director shall approve, or approve
15 subject to appropriate conditions, the applicant's request
16 for Abandonment, Breach or Removal. The Abandonment, Breach
17 or Removal of a Dam shall follow the requirements set out in
18 the Approval.

19

20 (3) The Director has the authority to request Moderate and
21 Low Hazard Potential Dam Owners to notify the Agency of the
22 Abandonment, Breach or Removal of any Dam, for the purpose of
23 removing that Dam from the inventory.

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2 00-00-10. Inspection of Dams.

3

4 (1) The following provision applies to all Dams:

5

6 a. It shall be unlawful for any Person to refuse
7 entry or access to any authorized representative of
8 the Agency who requests entry for purposes of
9 fulfilling the requirements of this Act and who
10 presents appropriate identification. It shall also
11 be unlawful to obstruct, hamper, or interfere with
12 any representative while in the process of carrying
13 out his/her official duties, such as classification
14 determination, pursuant to this Act and the Rules
15 and Regulations.

16

17 (2) The following provisions apply to High Hazard Potential
18 Dams:

19

20 a. The Director, or any authorized agency or
21 Contractor, is authorized and shall be permitted by
22 the Owner to make a visual inspection of High
23 Hazard Potential Dams. After visual inspection, and



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1 upon a finding by the Director or the Agency that a
2 Dam is not in compliance with any provision of this
3 Act or the Rules and Regulations, the Director may
4 issue an administrative order to the Owner of the
5 Dam requiring the Owner to undertake, at the
6 Owner's expense, the maintenance, Alteration,
7 Repair, Reconstruction, change in Construction or
8 location, or Removal as may be deemed necessary by
9 the Director which may include the draining or
10 lowering of the liquid level of the Dam, within the
11 time period specified in the administrative order;

12
13 b. Based upon a visual inspection of a High Hazard
14 Potential Dam, if the Director determines that the
15 Dam is not in compliance with this Act or the Rules
16 and Regulations, and there is not sufficient time
17 to issue an administrative order, the Director may
18 immediately take measures as may be necessary to
19 provide Emergency protection to human life,
20 including lowering the Reservoir level or
21 destroying the Impoundment, in whole or in part.
22 The costs of the Emergency measures may be
23 recovered by the Agency; and

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c. This Act shall not be construed as exempting any existing Dam, prior to the issuance of a Certificate authorizing the Operation of the Dam, from compliance with the design standards established pursuant to this Act and the Rules and Regulations. Further, in the event a visual inspection provided for in the Rules and Regulations reveals that distress of the Dam is indicated by various conditions including, but not limited to, lack of adequate maintenance, seepage, surface cracks, settlement, movement, or erosion, or when the inspection indicates that the Dam was not designed or constructed in accordance with the requirements of this Act and the Rules and Regulations, a Certificate may be issued only after the Director has received a detailed engineering study as provided for in this Act and the Rules and Regulations. Based upon a review of the study, the Director shall deny the Certificate or issue the Certificate subject to conditions necessary to bring the Dam into compliance with this Act and the Rules and Regulations.

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1

2 (3) The following provision applies to Moderate and Low
3 Hazard Potential Dams:

4

5 a. The Agency will not be required to perform
6 structural inspections of Moderate and Low Hazard
7 Potential Dams. It may be necessary for the Agency
8 to gather updated information regarding the
9 characteristics of the Dam and its surroundings in
10 order to verify classification.

11

12 **00-00-11. Emergency Action Plan.**

13

14 (1) The Owner of a High Hazard Potential Dam shall develop
15 an Emergency Action Plan, that must be approved by the
16 Director and provided to the Agency. The plan shall include,
17 but not be limited to, the notification of the Agency and
18 Responsible Authorities of any conditions which threaten the
19 safety of the High Hazard Potential Dam, including, but not
20 limited to, erosion, surface cracks, seepage, settlement, or
21 movement of the High Hazard Potential Dam and the actions to
22 be taken to protect against loss of human life. A

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1 certificate may be issued only after the Director has
2 approved and received the Emergency Action Plan.

3

4 (2) The Owner of a Moderate Hazard Potential Dam shall
5 maintain an Emergency Action Plan. The Emergency Action Plan
6 shall be provided to the Agency upon request.

7

8 **00-00-12. Operations and Maintenance.**

9 (1) The Owner of a High Hazard Potential Dam shall develop
10 and implement a plan for operation and maintenance of the
11 High Hazard Potential Dam that must be approved by the
12 Director and provided to the Agency. A certificate may be
13 issued only after the Director has approved and received the
14 operation and maintenance plan.

15

16 (2) The Owner of a Moderate Hazard Potential Dam shall
17 develop and implement a plan for operation and maintenance of
18 the Moderate Hazard Potential Dam. The operation and
19 maintenance plan shall be provided to the Agency upon
20 request.

21

22 **00-00-13. Administrative and judicial review.**

23

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1 Any Person who is aggrieved or adversely affected by an order
2 or action of the Director or the Agency may seek review of
3 such order or action in accordance with the Alabama
4 Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 22, Title 41, as
5 amended, in order to enforce this Act.

6

7 **00-00-14. Injunctive relief.**

8

9 Whenever in the judgment of the Director, any Person who has
10 engaged in or is about to engage in any act or practice which
11 constitutes or will constitute an unlawful action under this
12 Act, the Director may make application to the circuit court
13 of the county in which the unlawful act or practice has been
14 or is about to be engaged in, or in which jurisdiction it is
15 appropriate, for an order enjoining the act or practice, or
16 for an order requiring compliance with this Act or the Rules
17 and Regulations. Upon a showing by the Director that the
18 Person has engaged in or is about to engage in any such act
19 or practice, a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining
20 order, or other order shall be granted without the necessity
21 of showing lack of an adequate remedy at law and without the
22 requirement of establishing bond by the circuit court in
23 which the relief is sought.

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2 **00-00-15. Liability for damages.**

3

4 (1) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to constitute a
5 waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, or the Agency.

6

7 (2) No action shall be brought against the State, the
8 Agency, the Director or any member, officer, or employee of
9 the State or the Agency for damages sustained through the
10 partial or total failure of any Dam or for any act or
11 responsibility pursuant to this Act, including specifically,
12 but not limited to, any action taken or not taken by the
13 Agency, the Director or the Agency's employees, officers or
14 representatives.

15

16 (3) Nothing in this Act and any order, action, or advice of
17 the Director or the Agency or any representative thereof
18 shall be construed to relieve an Owner of the legal duties,
19 obligations, or liabilities incident to the Ownership or
20 Operation of the Dam.

21

22 **00-00-16. Criminal and civil penalties.**

23

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1 (1) Any Person who engages in any action made unlawful by
2 this Act or the Rules and Regulations shall be guilty of a
3 misdemeanor. Each day of continued violation shall
4 constitute a separate offense.

5

6 (2) As an alternative to criminal enforcement pursuant to
7 subsection (1) of this section, the Director may impose civil
8 penalties in accordance with the following provisions:

9

10 a. Any Person violating any provision of this Act
11 or any Certificate condition or limitation
12 established pursuant to this Act or negligently or
13 willfully failing or refusing to comply with any
14 final order of the Director issued as provided in
15 this Act shall be liable for a civil penalty not to
16 exceed \$5000.00 for the violation and an additional
17 civil penalty not to exceed \$1000.00 for each day
18 during which the violation continues;

19

20 b. Whenever the Director has reason to believe
21 that any Person has violated any provision of this
22 Act, the Rules and Regulations, or any Certificate
23 condition or limitation established pursuant to

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1 this Act or has negligently or willfully failed or
2 refused to comply with any final order of the
3 Director, the Director may cause a hearing to be
4 conducted before a hearing officer appointed by the
5 Agency. Upon a finding that the Person has
6 violated any provision of this Act, the Rules and
7 Regulations or any Certificate condition or
8 limitation established pursuant to this Act or has
9 negligently or willfully failed or refused to
10 comply with a final administrative order of the
11 Director, the hearing officer shall issue a written
12 decision imposing the civil penalties as are
13 provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection. The
14 hearing and any administrative or judicial review
15 thereof shall be conducted in accordance with
16 applicable Alabama law; and

17
18 c. All civil penalties recovered under this
19 section by the Agency or the Attorney General shall
20 be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit
21 of the General Fund, except that portion that
22 represents the reasonable costs incurred by the
23 Agency or the Attorney General to recover such

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1 penalties which shall be deposited to the credit of
2 the operating fund of the Agency or the Attorney
3 General, whichever incurred such costs.

4

5 **00-00-17. Severability.**

6

7 The provisions of this Act are severable. If any part of
8 this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, that
9 declaration shall not affect the part that remains.

10

11 **00-00-18. Repeal of Provisions in Conflict with this Act.**

12

13 All laws or parts of laws that conflict with this Act are
14 repealed.

15

16 **00-00-19. Effective Date.**

17

18 This Act shall become effective immediately upon its passage
19 and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.
20 Any Owner who desires to construct a Dam but who has not
21 commenced such construction as of the effective date of this
22 Act shall be required to comply with this Act and the Rules
23 and Regulations. Any Owner whose Dam is in existence as of

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1 the effective date of this Act will be required to comply
2 with this Act and the Rules and Regulations once notification
3 has been given as to the classification of the Dam by the
4 Agency. Owners of High Hazard Potential Dams will have five
5 (5) years after notification to bring those High Hazard
6 Potential Dams into compliance pursuant to this Act.

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Appendix M –

**Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow River
Watershed Management Authority**

Troy, Alabama

Flood Warning Preparedness Plan

Revised February 2004



FLOOD WARNING PREPAREDNESS PLAN

OUTLINE

- I. Identify areas/communities within the flood plain of the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers and other streams within these basins
- II. Develop and maintain a current list of community and/or county clients that will benefit from potential flood data
- III. Implement a plan to disseminate potential flood data to responsible agencies or communities
- IV. Provide on-going training to key clients that utilize the flood warning system
- V. Flood recovery

**CHOCTAWHATCHEE, PEA AND YELLOW RIVERS
FLOOD WARNING PREPAREDNESS PLAN**

I.

FLOOD PLAIN AREAS

The overall purpose for the flood warning system is to provide a timely, reliable, and accurate warning to persons residing along the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers that could be subject to flooding conditions during periods of heavy inclement weather.

The flood warning system implemented in the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers was a cooperative effort by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, and the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers Watershed Management Authority (CPYRWMA) (referred to as the Authority). It is the responsibility of the Authority to operate and maintain all components of the flood warning system to ensure that the system is fully capable of identifying and forecasting potential flood conditions.

The flood warning system consists of seventeen gauging sites along or near rivers or streams in the previously mentioned river basins. These gauges electronically monitor, individually or in combination, rainfall, stream levels or depths, or stream flow in cubic feet per second. Base computers located in Geneva, Elba, and New Brockton, Alabama receive data from the field gauges and provide this information to base operators. This data can be disseminated real time to local agencies that may request this information. It can also be used to make forecasts of stream levels.



Primary areas of concern for potential flood threats in the Choctawhatchee-Pea Rivers basin are the towns of Elba, Geneva, Ariton, Newton, and Daleville, Alabama. Levees are in place around Elba and Geneva to provide protection from flooding. Floods or potential flood conditions that have occurred during the past decade have escalated the need for modern enhancements to provide forewarnings of threatening flood conditions to these communities.

Although the aforementioned towns receive primary benefits from the flood warning system, other areas and communities along these streambanks that are subject to flooding benefit also. The system is designed to provide city or county agencies with the necessary information to forewarn all citizens that may be affected by potential flood conditions.

II.

SUPPORTING AGENCIES

GENEVA, ALABAMA AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY:	TELEPHONE:
Margaret Mixon	EMA Director	(334) 684-5677
Karen Simmons	Mayor	(334) 684-2485
Greg Ward	Sheriff	(334) 684-5660
Frankie Lindsey	Police Chief	(334) 684-2777
Harry Adkison	County Commission Chairman	(334) 684-5610
Roy Powell	County Engineer	(334) 684-3450



ELBA, ALABAMA AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY:	TELEPHONE:
John Tallas	EMA Director	(334) 894-5415
Charles Webb	E 911	(334) 894-5242
James Grimes	Mayor	(334) 897-2333
Ben Moates	Sheriff	(334) 894-5535
Ronnie Whitworth	Police Chief	(334) 897-2555
Wilson Mobley	County Administrator	(334) 894-5556
Robert Stephens	County Commission Chairman	(334) 894-5556
Randall Tindell	County Engineer	(334) 894-6112
Lt. John Nelson	Elba Police Dept.	(334) 897-3881

DALE COUNTY AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY:	TELEPHONE:
Ray Phillips	EMA Director	(334) 774-2214
Bryant Mixon	Sheriff	(334) 774-2335/7996
Probate Judge Eunice Hagler	County Commission Chairman	(334) 774-6025
Duane Dunn	County Engineer	(334) 774-5875
Jimmy Danner	Mayor of Ariton	(334) 762-2266
Mike Byrd	Mayor of Newton	(334) 299-3361
Wes Etheredge	Mayor of Daleville	(334) 598-2345

COVINGTON COUNTY AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY	TELEPHONE:
Susan Carpenter	EMA Director	(334) 427-4911
Anthony Clark	Sheriff	(334) 428-2640
Greg White	County Commission Chairman	(334) 428-2610
Darren Capps	County Engineer	(334) 428-2620
T. C. Boyett	Mayor of Florida	(334) 858-3612/6442
Earl V. Johnson	Mayor of Andalusia	(334) 222-3313
Jerry Boothe	Mayor of Opp	(334) 493-4571



PIKE COUNTY AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY	TELEPHONE:
Larry Davis	EMA Director	(334) 670-6600
Russell Thomas	Sheriff	(334) 566-4347
Larry Meeks	County Commission Chairman	(334) 566-6374
Herbert E. Huner	County Engineer	(334) 566-4508
Jimmy Lunsford	Mayor of Troy	(334) 566-0177
James T. Ramage, III	Mayor of Brundidge	(334) 735-3333
Anthony Everage	Police Chief – Troy	(334) 566-0500
Moses Davenport	Police Chief – Brundidge	(334) 735-3333

BULLOCK COUNTY AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY	TELEPHONE:
Joyce Perrin	EMA Director	(334) 738-3838
Raymond Rodgers	Sheriff	(334) 738-2670
Ronald W. Smith	County Commission Chairman	(334) 738-3883
Fred Hollon	County Engineer	(334) 738-3883
J. Earl Hinson	Mayor of Union Springs	(334) 738-2720
Ernest Love	Police Chief – Union Springs	(334) 738-3883

BARBOUR COUNTY AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY	TELEPHONE:
Hugh Boyd	EMA Director	(334) 687-1521
Marshall J. Williams, Jr.	Sheriff	(334) 775-1103
Fred Straughn, Jr.	County Commission Chairman	(334) 775-3203
Patrick McDougald	County Engineer	(334) 775-3420
Rebecca Beasley	Mayor of Clayton	(334) 775-9176
James Grant	Mayor of Louisville	(334) 266-5210
Jamey Williams	Police Chief – Clayton	(334) 775-8011
Jack Frost, Jr.	Police Chief – Louisville	(334) 266-5210



HENRY COUNTY AREA

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY	TELEPHONE:
Paul Brown	EMA Director	(334) 585-6702
Lawton E. Armstrong	Sheriff	(334) 585-3131
Lamar Turner	County Commission Chairman	(334) 585-3708
Chris Champion	County Engineer	(334) 585-2735
Dan Blalock	Mayor of Abbeville	(334) 585-6444

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - Tallahassee, Florida

NAME:	TITLE/AGENCY	TELEPHONE:
Joel Lanier	NWS	(850) 942-8837
	Website	www.srh.noaa.gov/tlh

CHOCTAWHATCHEE, PEA AND YELLOW RIVERS

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

NAME:	TITLE:	TELEPHONE:
Don Hyde	Flood Warning System Specialist	(334) 894-6705
Barbara Gibson	Executive Director	(334) 670-3780
Elba Computer Room		(334) 897-2358

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

NAME:	TITLE:	TELEPHONE:
Charles Owens	Project Manager	(251) 690-3254
Douglas Otto, Jr. P.E.	Team Leader	(251) 690-2718
Cheryl Hrabovsky	Hydraulic Engineer	(251) 694-4018



OTHER SUPPORTING AGENCIES

NAME:	TITLE:	TELEPHONE:
David Ford Consulting Engineers		(916) 447-8779
OneRain	Don Van Wie, CEO	(303) 774-2033
		(303) 258-0170
OneRain	Lou Torrence	(703) 200-6955
U.S.G.S.	Rick Treec	(334) 213-2332, Ext. 22

III.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION PLAN

The flood warning system, with the home base unit located in the EMA office in New Brockton, Alabama, will be kept in a continual state of readiness. During periods of heavy weather that could pose a threat of possible flood conditions, the Flood Warning System Specialist or someone fully capable of assisting this position will man the flood warning system. The system will be monitored constantly and data from the system will be distributed to the National Weather Service, local EMA offices, as well as, other agencies that would benefit from this information. During a possible flood event, rainfall and river stage data will be given to local EMA offices by telephone or by radio communications provided by the EMA network. EMA officials will provide this information to the local towns or communities that are in their respective county.

Instructions for responding to flood threats in Elba, Geneva, Daleville, Newton, Ariton, Covington County or other surrounding areas in the river basins are developed by EMA staffs, County or City governing bodies, and local law enforcement organizations. The EMA staffs and local authorities rely on warning



sirens, local radio, other news media, and personal contact to disseminate information and instructions to the public for their response to impending flood emergencies.

The local Flood Warning System Specialist will issue no flood warnings. The National Weather Service has the formal and legal authority to monitor potential flood threats and to issue formal flood warnings in the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow River systems. The National Weather Service or the respective Emergency Management Agency offices will issue all warnings or bulletins.

IV.

TRAINING

Training on the flood warning system is normally provided by vendors when upgrades or enhancements are made to the system. Whenever feasible, supporting agencies that benefit from the system will be included in vendor training sessions. If supporting agencies are unable to be involved in vendor training, the Authority will provide a training session for these clients.

Tailgate training will be given to key clients by the Flood Warning System Specialist whenever visits are made to the base field sites. The time frame for this training will be quarterly.



V.

FLOOD RECOVERY

Flood recovery plans for the areas of the Choctawhatchee, Pea and Yellow Rivers are a coordinated effort of the respective State EMA offices, FEMA, and local communities. The Authority has no jurisdiction over flood recovery plans already in place should an event occur. The Authority actively participates in on-going meetings and planning activities related to flood plans in the area.



RIVER GAUGING SITES

LOCATION	DEVICE	MONITORS	SITE LOCATION	RAIN	STAGE	COUNTY	FLOW
GENEVA	2000	CHOCTAWHATCHEE	HWY. 52 BRIDGE	Y	Y	GENEVA	Y
SELLARSVILLE	4020	DOUBLE BRIDGES CK.	CO. RD. 40	Y	Y	GENEVA	
DALEVILLE	2020	CLAYBANK CR.	HWY. 84	Y	Y	DALE	
NEWTON	2040	CHOCTAWHATCHEE	HWY. 134	Y	Y	DALE	Y
SKIPPERVILLE	1000	CHOCTAWHATCHEE	HWY. 105	Y	Y	DALE	
TEXASVILLE	1020	CHOCTAWHATCHEE	HWY. 131	Y	Y	BARBOUR	
STAR HILL	1040	PEA	HWY. 239	Y		BULLOCK	
SHILOH	1060	PEA	HWY. 130	Y		PIKE	
TROY	3080	WHITEWATER CK.	TROY ST. CAMPUS	Y		PIKE	
ARITON	3060	PEA RIVER	HWY. 231	Y	Y	DALE	Y
FOLSOM BRIDGE	3020	PEA RIVER	HWY. 167	Y	Y	COFFEE	
LOWERY BRIDGE	3040	WHITEWATER CK.	CO. RD. 215	Y	Y	COFFEE	
BIG CREEK	3000	BIG CREEK	HWY. 87	Y	Y	COFFEE	
ELBA	4000	PEA RIVER	HWY. 84 @ LEVEE	Y	Y	COFFEE	Y
NEW BROCKTON	4040		FARM CENTER	Y		COFFEE	
YELLOW RIVER	5020	YELLOW RIVER	HWY. 55	Y	Y	COVINGTON	
CURRENTON BR.	1080	E. FORK CHOC.	HWY. 27	Y	Y	HENRY	