

This section of the LMS describes the goals established by the Task Force and the current programs, policies and plans that support mitigation. In addition, a catalog of organizations with mitigation functions is provided.

Goals for the Mitigation Plan

The county has established a number of goals to guide its work in the development of this plan and focus the efforts of the group in the mitigation planning effort to achieve an end result that matches the unique needs, capabilities and desires of the participating jurisdictions. The goals selected by the Task Force for the planning process are those listed below in Table 5.1. They are related to the broad mitigation needs and capabilities of the communities involved, rather than addressing a specific hazard type or category. Therefore, the county’s mitigation goals, by definition, are “multi-hazard” in scope and can be described as statements of the desired “mitigation-related capabilities” that will be present in each participating jurisdiction in the future as the goals are achieved.”

In the planning approach used by the Task Force, the goals are established for the entire planning area and all of the participating jurisdictions in a process that can be described as follows: Each Task Force member was provided with a worksheet of potential county goals, extracted from other local planning documents and county’s 1999 LMS. In an effort to solicit input from the general public regarding mitigation goals, attendees of the Task Force were asked to develop their own goals if they were not listed on the worksheet. Task Force members ranked each goal from most important to least important, omitting goals that should not be part of the LMS planning process or revising goal wording to suit the county’s specific needs. Completed worksheets were returned to the Task Force support staff, which compiled the ranked goals. This approach clearly creates a framework for “goal-based” planning by the Task Force, focusing the group’s efforts on proposing and implementing mitigation initiatives intended to achieve the mitigation goals established by the county and municipalities.

As the LMS is reviewed and updated by the Task Force the goals are also reviewed to ensure they are still applicable to meeting the unique needs, interests and desires of the county.

Table # 5.1

Ranked Mitigation Goals

Ranking	Goal
# 1	Protect health, safety and welfare of the community’s residents and visitors will not be threatened by disasters.



# 2	Maintain the availability and functioning of the community's infrastructure will not be significantly disrupted by a disaster here.
# 3	The continuity of local government operations will not be significantly disrupted by disasters.
# 4	Maintain emergency response readiness.
# 5	Minimize property damage to homes, institutions, places of employment in the community.
# 6	Support effective hazard mitigation programming throughout the community with local government policies and regulations.
# 7	Local government will have the capability to develop, implement and maintain effective mitigation programs.
# 8	Coordinate with other government agencies to enhance regional mitigation efforts.
# 9	Seek preventative measures which would reduce loss and the need for response and recovery measures.
# 10	Promote community awareness of local hazards and the techniques to minimize vulnerability to those hazards.
# 11	Minimize government expenditures for public goods and services.
# 12	Promote the economic vitality of the community.
# 13	Maintain the condition of the riverine environment systems, especially those that provide natural protection and have economic value.
# 14	Protect scenic, historical and recreational community resources.

Table # 5.2 **Goals Identified in Existing Policy Objectives**

Mitigation Goals as Policy Objective	Source
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1. Protect the health, safety and welfare of the community's residents and visitors from disasters.	
Minimize suffering, loss of life, personal injury, and damage to property resulting from hazardous or emergency situations.	<u>Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan</u> Objective 1
Provide relief and promote short range and long-range recovery in disaster areas.	<u>Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan</u> Objective 3



<p>Avoid or reduce future losses of life and damage to property resulting from natural and manmade disasters (i.e. hurricanes, flooding, hazardous materials, etc.) with an emphasis on the equitable distribution of the impacts of such preventative measures.</p>	<p><u>Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan</u> Objective 4</p>
<p>2. Maintain the availability and functioning of the community's infrastructure during a disaster.</p>	
<p>Minimize disaster related resource shortages and service system disruptions that would have an adverse impact on the residents, the economy, and the general well being of the county.</p>	<p><u>Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan</u> Objective 2</p>
<p>3. The continuity of local government operations will not be significantly disrupted by disasters.</p>	
<p>To minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water, electricity, telephone and sewer lines, and streets and bridges located in the floodplains.</p>	<p><u>Floodplain Ordinance</u> Objective 5</p>
<p>4. Maintain emergency response readiness.</p>	
<p>To develop and adopt a post-disaster response and clean-up assistance procedures for redevelopment permitting and hazard mitigation measures.</p>	<p><u>Comprehensive Plan Conservation Element</u> Objective 15</p>
<p>5. Minimize property damage to homes, institutions and places of employment in the community.</p>	
<p>To help maintain a stable tax base by providing for sound land use and development in hazard prone areas in such a manner as to minimize areas of blight.</p>	<p><u>Floodplain Ordinance</u> Objective 6</p>
<p>6. Support effective hazard mitigation programming throughout the community with local government policies and regulations.</p>	
<p>County shall adopt standards, which shall facilitate the safe flow of motorized and non-motorized traffic.</p>	<p><u>Comprehensive Plan Traffic</u> Objective 1</p>



7. Local government will have the duty to develop, implement and maintain effective mitigation programs.	
8. Coordinate with other government agencies to enhance regional mitigation efforts.	
To establish an intergovernmental coordination program to manage resources affecting or affected by governments other than the county.	<u>Comprehensive Plan</u> Conservation Element Objective 21
9. Seek preventative measures that would reduce loss and the need for response and recovery measures.	
To provide information and assistance regarding state and federal housing programs to the private system of providing housing within the county.	<u>Comprehensive Plan</u> Housing Element Objective 11
10. Promote community awareness of local hazards and the techniques to minimize vulnerability to those hazards.	
To provide data from which hazard prone areas within the county may be identified to ensure that potential homebuyers are notified that property is in a hazard area.	<u>Floodplain Ordinance</u> Objective 7
11. Minimize government expenditures for public goods and services.	
To minimize expenditure of public money for costly hazard control projects.	<u>Floodplain Ordinance</u> Objective 2
To minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with disasters and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public.	<u>Floodplain Ordinance</u> Objective 3
12. Promote the economic vitality of the community.	
To minimize prolonged business interruptions.	<u>Floodplain Ordinance</u> Objective 4
13. Maintain the condition of riverine environmental systems, especially those that provide natural protection and have economic value.	
To protect and conserve mineral and soil resources. (Policy 10.1 requires consideration of erosion, flood hazards, wetlands, and aquifer recharge.)	<u>Comprehensive Plan</u> Conservation Element Objective 10



14. Protect scenic, historical, and recreational community resources.	
To maintain the amount of public access to natural resources.	<u>Comprehensive Plan</u> Conservation Element Objective 16
To identify historic resources within the area and establish development standards for the protection, preservation, and sensitive reuse of historic resources throughout the county.	<u>Comprehensive Plan</u> Conservation Element Objective 17

Organizations with Mitigation Functions

An essential part of getting things done is coordinating with others. This means knowing what agencies are available to help, what it is that those agencies do and how their operations are supposed to work with others. The following tables contain lists of federal, state, regional, local organizations and local utility companies with descriptions of the mitigation functions they perform.

Table # 5.3 **Federal Organizations and Mitigation Functions**

Organization	Mitigation Functions
US Army Corps of Engineers	Intercoastal waterways, dam maintenance, dredge and fill permitting, wetland permitting, emergency protection from erosion caused by flooding.
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Post-disaster relief and assistance, National Flood Insurance Program, Community Rating System, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Repair and Restoration of Disaster-Damaged Historic Properties program. Hazardous Materials Training Program for Implementation of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act makes funding available to provide training designed to improve emergency planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities associated with hazardous chemicals.
US Department of Defense	Post-disaster relief and assistance.
US Department of Commerce	Small Business Administration loans for individual relocation and repair or floodproofing. Fisheries Development and Utilization Research and Development Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program makes grants for enhancement of sustainable fishing industries.



US Department of Agriculture	Soil Conservation Service is a possible source for Wetland Reserve program, flood hazard studies, and levee infrastructure improvement funds. Rural Development program provides low cost loans to rural communities for public services and infrastructure.
US Environmental Protection Agency	Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Technical Assistance Grants Program provides funds for chemical accident prevention activities and emergency preparedness for chemical accidents. Pollution Prevention Grants Program provides grants to implement pollution prevention projects. Sustainable Development Challenge Grants encourage partnerships among community, business and government entities to work cooperatively to develop flexible, locally-oriented approaches that link environmental management and quality of life activities with sustainable development and revitalization.
US Department of Housing and Urban Development	The Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG), although administered by the state, originates from the HUD. The CDBG program provides funds to local governments under a variety of programs (neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization, economic development and housing rehabilitation). Congress may allocate additional funds for post-disaster recovery. All projects must benefit primarily (51%) low to moderate-income people.
General Services Administration	Disposal of Federal Surplus Real Property program provides equipment to local government at discounts up to 100%.

Table # 5.4 State Organizations and Mitigation Functions

Organization	Mitigation Functions
Governors Office of Planning and Budgeting	Review of federal assistance applications, intergovernmental coordination.
Florida Department of Community Affairs	Local planning assistance and review, comprehensive plan amendments and evaluation, disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.
Florida Communities Trust Program	Provides financial and technical assistance to acquire lands that conserve natural resources, correct undesirable development patterns, restore degraded natural areas, enhance resource values, restore deteriorated urban waterfronts, reserve lands for later purchase, use innovative land acquisition methods, and provide public access to surface waters. Land acquisition grants, loans, and matching



	grants are available through the P-2000 program.
Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)	Community project grants are awarded to applicants on a funds available basis according to a project score that depends on the degree the project benefits very low, low, and low to moderate-income populations within the community.
Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund (EMPA)	Provides competitive grants to state or regional agencies, local governments, and private non-profit organizations to implement projects that will further state and local emergency management objectives.
State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP)	Funding for improving local housing for low-income households.
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Environmental studies, water facilities (stormwater, potable water, wastewater), wetland permitting, landfill permitting. Drinking or waste water system loans. Fisheries management.
Florida Department of Transportation	Local transportation planning assistance, long-term (five year) state transportation planning.
Florida Department of Health	Public health services, septic tank permitting.
Florida National Guard	Post-disaster relief and assistance
Florida Division of Forestry	Forest management, prescribed burning, fire-fighting, agricultural support, fire hazard awareness programs, burn permits, fire-fighting equipment, aerial surveillance equipment.
Flood Mitigation Assistance	Federally funded state program providing 75% of cost to elevate or relocate repetitively damaged properties in NFIP communities.

Table # 5.5 Regional Organizations and Mitigation Functions

Organization	Mitigation Functions
Apalachee Regional Planning Council	Local planning assistance, grant writing assistance and grant program administration.
Northwest Florida Water Management District	Regional and local water studies / planning assistance, wetland permitting, dam / impoundment permitting. Payments in Lieu of Taxes Program provides compensation to counties.



Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).	Planning, regional coordination, education and awareness regarding hazardous materials public safety issues. LEPC is organized in conjunction with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council.
American Red Cross	Disaster planning, disaster awareness, disaster response training and post-disaster assistance.
Salvation Army	Post-disaster assistance.

Table # 5.6 **Local Organizations and Mitigation Functions**

Organization	Mitigation Functions
City of Marianna	Local land use planning and conduit for local hazard information.
County Sheriff's Office	Enforce laws, maintain order and coordinate with city commission and county emergency management.
County Community Development	Local land use planning and conduit for local hazard information.
County Building Department	Enforcement of local building codes including anchoring of manufactured housing, registration of mobile homes, elevation of structures in flood zones and site design to minimize stormwater.
County School District	Placement of schools and use of schools as shelters.
County Emergency Management Department	Coordination of local disaster preparation, response, recovery and mitigation activities.
County Road Department	Local road repair, culvert maintenance and debris removal.
County Volunteer Fire Departments	Fire fighting and first response to hazardous material spills.

Table # 5.7 **Utility Companies and Infrastructure Functions**

Utilities	Infrastructure Function
Gulf Power	Electric
Florida Public Utilities	Electric / Natural Gas
West Florida Electric Inc	Electric
Cottondale Water System	Water System



Grand Ridge Water System	Water System
Greenwood Water System	Water System
Malone Water Department	Water System
Sneads Water System	Water System
Jackson County Utilities Plant # 1	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Jackson County Utilities Plant # 2	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Sneads Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Marianna Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Malone Sewage System	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Marianna Wastewater Treatment Facility	Wastewater Treatment Plant

Plans, Programs and Policies Examination

Immediately following is a quick overview of the key policy issues with respect to mitigation that should be addressed in the LMS and eventually incorporated into the county’s long-term planning. Descriptions of state, regional and local (county and city) policies that pertain to hazard mitigation can be found in Appendix D: Evaluation of Mitigation Policies. Although these policies exist in source plans and documents, they have been summarized as an accessible support to mitigation planning and funding. Many grant applications require that proposed projects conform to existing policies. Thus, these policy summaries can be used to find the policy support needed for a local project or initiative. These mitigation policies have also been evaluated in terms of how well they are being implemented within each jurisdiction. These evaluations can serve as a review of LMS policy implementation.

Table # 5.8 **Summary of Goals and Objectives Pertaining to Hazard Mitigation**

Summary	
County Floodplain Ordinance Objectives	
# 1	To protect human life and health.
# 2	To minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects.
# 3	To minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding.
# 4	Generally undertaken at the expense of the general public; to minimize prolonged business interruptions.



# 5	To minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water, electricity, telephone and sewer lines, and streets and bridges located in the floodplains.
# 6	To help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of flood prone areas in such a manner as to minimize flood blight areas.
# 7	To provide data from which flood prone areas within the county may be identified to insure that potential homebuyers are notified that property is in a flood area.
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Objectives	
# 1	Minimize suffering, loss of life, personal injury and damage to property resulting from hazardous or emergency situations.
# 2	Minimize disaster related resource shortages and service system disruptions that would have an adverse impact on the residents, the economy, and the general well being of the county.
# 3	Provide relief and promote short range and long-range recovery in disaster areas.
# 4	Avoid or reduce future losses of life and damage to property resulting from natural and manmade disasters (i.e. hurricanes, flooding, hazardous materials etc.) with an emphasis on the equitable distribution of the impacts of such preventative measures.
Comprehensive Plan Objectives	
Traffic	
# 1	County shall adopt standards which shall facilitate the safe flow of motorized and non-motorized traffic.
Housing	
# 1	County will continue with the current private system of making housing available to residents of the county. The county shall have available a handbook describing current local, state and federal housing programs.
# 2	This handbook will describe the purpose of the programs, who is eligible for them, and how to apply for them. The county will maintain a list of programs and agencies on the federal and state level that provide housing assistance.
# 3	This list shall be available to prospective housing providers and developers to aid them.
Infrastructure	
# 1	Ensure the provision of public facilities in a timely, orderly, efficient and environmentally sound manner at an acceptable level of service for the county's population.



# 2	Restrictions on on-site wastewater treatment systems. The county shall prohibit the installation of septic tanks within 150 feet of wetlands and shorelines. Between 150 and 75 feet of wetlands and shorelines the only on-site sewage disposal systems allowed will be Class I aerobic systems with approved maintenance provisions in accordance with Chapter 10D-6, F.A.C.
# 3	<p>Potable Water Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The county shall adopt land development regulations that provide for the maintenance of aquifer recharge area functions. • The county shall restrict the alteration of natural drainage features.
Conservation Element	
# 1	Objective 2. The county will prohibit development which can be proved to damage the county's natural resources.
# 2	Policy 2.2. Prohibit high-density development adjacent to sensitive wetland areas.
# 3	Policy 2.9. Only minimal amount of back-fill allowed behind erosion control structures.
# 4	Policy 2.10. Protect natural reservations identified in Recreational Open Space Element.
# 5	Policy 4.6. Adopted Stormwater Ordinance.
# 6	Policy 4.9. Safe mosquito control methods
# 7	Policy 4.10. Safe aquatic weed control methods.
# 8	Policy 4.11. Stormwater infiltration techniques to minimize ill effects to water quality.
# 9	Objective 6. Establish waterside land use priorities
# 10	Objective 8. Protect air quality.
# 11	Objective 9. Protect water quality
# 12	Objective 10. Protect and conserve mineral and soil resources.
# 13	Objective 11. Develop and implement a hazardous waste program.
# 14	Objective 15. Post-Disaster Redevelopment. The county shall adopt a post disaster response and clean-up assistance, procedures for redevelopment permitting and hazard mitigation measures.
# 15	Objective 17. The county will identify historic areas and establish development standards for the protection, preservation, and sensitive reuse of historic resources throughout the county.



# 16	Objective 21. An intergovernmental coordination program will be established to manage resources affecting or affected by governments other than the County.
# 17	Policy 21.4. Prior to the adoption of any land development regulations developed pursuant to 163.3202 F.S., the county shall review and incorporate, where appropriate, policies recommended in the NFWFMD's Surface Water & Improvement Management Plan.
Recreation Element	
# 1	Objective 2. County shall ensure the adequate provision of open space.
# 2	Policy 2.2. Manage and protect open spaces through land development regulations requiring buffer zones, green belts, and other open spare provisions to insure incompatible land uses are avoided.
# 3	Objective 3. Shall provide public access to recreation sites including beaches and shores and freshwater beaches and shores identified in this element.

Table # 5.9 Evaluation of Local Policies Relating to Hazard Mitigation

Local Policies
National Flood Insurance Program
<p>The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) allows citizens and government to purchase relatively affordable flood insurance as long as the jurisdiction agrees to establish a floodplain ordinance and maintain development standards designed to minimize flood damage within the jurisdiction's designated floodplain area. The county's participation in the NFIP does not cover the two incorporated cities: Apalachicola and Carrabelle. Each city has its own adopted flood ordinance and participates in the NFIP independently of the county. The county's NFIP responsibilities increased with its participation in the Community Rating System (CRS), an enhancement of the NFIP. The CRS requires the county to institute additional flood hazard prevention measures in return for a discount in NFIP flood insurance rates. There are a variety of measures the county could take to increase the amount of discount to flood insurance rates. These measures could include raising the minimum amount of freeboard required above the base flood elevation, increasing flood hazard awareness programs, and submitting the LMS to the CRS program as a flood hazard management plan.</p>
Building Codes
<p>Codes are implemented and enforced by county's Planning and Building Department. It would be beneficial to formalize enhanced building codes to facilitate construction planning by contractors and allow the county to receive credit from the NFIP's Community Rating System.</p>



Post-Storm Redevelopment

Flood hazards and Stormwater Infrastructure: FIRM maps are fairly accurate and the planning staff is satisfied with floodplain ordinance and stormwater ordinance. Essentially all development is coastal and apparently federal, state, and local coastal regulations are sufficient and fairly well implemented. However, the majority of the inland portion of the county is unrated A-Zones subject to flooding. A more thorough stormwater plan may be necessary if inland development occurs.

The county's Subdivision Ordinance establishes standards for stormwater management facilities in all new subdivisions platted in the county. In any new subdivision stormwater management facilities must be designed in accordance with Chapter 17-25, F.A.C.. Any watercourse, drainage way, channel, or stream that traverses a subdivision must be provided with a stormwater easement of such width as will provide adequate drainage. Low-lying areas along watercourses shall be retained in their natural state as drainage ways. All of these easements shall be shown on the plat of the subdivision.

Non-Flood Hazards

The county's Comprehensive Plan addresses chemical and petroleum hazards from offshore extraction and river-based transportation of these materials.

