

2023 Florida Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Crosswalk

**DESCRIPTION:**  
The Florida Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Crosswalk is informed by the FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide (effective April 19, 2023). Each requirement listed below is a required Element of the FEMA Policy Guide. There is a difference in formatting when comparing the FL Crosswalk with FEMA's Policy Guide Elements. This is to prevent the possibility of skipping various components of each FEMA requirement. You will notice the specific FEMA requirement is listed in parenthesis next to each FL Crosswalk Element (e.g., P1 in the FL Crosswalk is equivalent to FEMA Element A1-a). As such, multiple FL Crosswalk Elements may correspond to the same FEMA Element.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
Enter the requested information in each field below:  
1) In the FL Crosswalk Tab, please identify the "Location in Plan" using the corresponding page numbers for each requirement.  
2) In the Jurisdiction Checklist Tab, please add each of the "participating" jurisdictions.  
  
\*Please do not edit the following sections: *Met, Not Met, Reviewer Comments* . If revisions are required, the State reviewer will put revisions in the Required Revisions section. As revisions are made, please feel free to add comments about the revisions in the same section. **Do not remove any State comments.**  
\*Additionally, a Project List Template can be found in a separate tab below.

<b>Jurisdiction:</b>	Hardee County	<b>Title of Plan:</b>	Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy Plan
<b>Local Point of Contact:</b>	Lane Schneider, FAEM	<b>Address:</b>	404 W. Orange Street Wauchula, FL 33873
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<b>State Reviewers:</b>	Mitchell Budihas, Evan Jenkins, Sabrina Uribe, Angie Odell
<b>Date Received by FDEM:</b>	10/22/2024, 1/6/2025, 2/19/2025
<b>Date Plan Not Approved:</b>	10/28/2024, 1/15/2025, 3/10/2025
<b>Date Plan APA:</b>	
<b>Date Plan Approved:</b>	

Planning Process (FEMA Element A)		Location in Plan	Met	Not Met	Reviewer Comments	Required Revisions
P1 (A1-a)	The plan must document the current planning process.	Section II, p. 1-8	X		The plan accurately documents the current planning process, including the LMSWG and participation requirements for all stakeholders.	
P2 (A1-b)	The plan must list the jurisdiction(s) in the current plan that will seek approval.	Section I-4	X		The jurisdictions seeking approval are explicitly listed through out the plan in several places.	
P3 (A1-b)	The plan must list the representative from <b>each jurisdiction</b> that will seek approval and how they participated in the planning process. (At a minimum, it must identify the jurisdiction represented and the person's agency and title within the jurisdiction.)	Appendix A and Appendix C	X		List of Participants in Appendix A, Agency, Titles, and Names on pg 206-208	<del>The plan does document the participating jurisdictions seeking approval and the agency's involved, however the rosters are missing titles of the participants</del>
P4 (A2)	The plan must provide documentation of an opportunity for stakeholders to be involved in the current planning process. Documentation of this opportunity must identify how <b>each of the stakeholders</b> (see below) were presented with this opportunity, as applicable.	Section II, pg. 6-8; Appendix E	X		The plan documents in detail the opportunities afforded to the public in Hardee County to be involved in the planning update process. Several public meetings and open LMSWG meetings.	
P5 (A3)	The plan must document how the public had an opportunity to be involved in the current planning process and what that participation entailed, including how underserved communities and vulnerable populations within the planning area were provided an opportunity to be involved.	Section II, pg. 6-8; Appendix E	X			
P6 (A4)	The plan must document what existing plans, studies, reports and technical information were reviewed and how they were incorporated, if appropriate, into the development/update of the plan.	Section VI, p. 4-7	X			

Reviewer Notes
P2/P3. Ensure the list of participating jurisdictions is consistent throughout the Plan and listed fully on the Jurisdiction Checklist tab. Consider adding special districts, state agencies, WMDs, universities, and other eligible entities - any group that will have a project on the project list and apply for HMA grants. Note that if jurisdictions do not participate in the planning process but want to adopt/apply for grants later on, there are additional steps they will need to complete - it is best for them to be included from the beginning.
P4. The specific entities may be defined by each jurisdiction based on the unique characteristics of the local government, including special districts. The purpose of inviting input is to integrate natural hazard risk reduction across all community systems, as well as encourage implementation of mitigation actions. Discuss how organizations that provide support to underserved communities and vulnerable populations were given the opportunity to be involved.
<b>Community Lifelines:</b> Safety and Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health and Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Hazardous Materials; Water Systems
P5. Include information about how underserved communities and vulnerable populations were provided an opportunity to be involved in the planning process.
P6. Element may be met with a narrative of resources utilized (including bullet list) and citations used throughout or a bibliography. See examples in FEMA Guidance Notes section. Gaps and limitations may be addressed as actions in the mitigation strategy, in particular for items that require additional assistance.
P7. Regulatory flood maps are required to be in the Plan. This may be best located in the Risk Assessment section, however, it must be somewhere in the Plan.



**FEMA Guidance Notes:**  
Description means to provide a narrative description or definition.  
Location is defined as the unique geographic boundaries within the planning area, or assets that may be affected by the identified hazard. If maps are used, provide sufficient detail and scale to clearly identify the hazard locations within and/or affecting assets owned by the participating jurisdiction(s). If narrative descriptions are used, the must contain enough detail to clearly identify the area(s) that will be affected by the hazard.  
Extent is defined as the range of anticipated intensities of the identified hazards. Extent is most commonly expressed using various scientific scales. When using scales, the plan must document how the scale applies to each jurisdiction.  
Previous Occurrences should include an emphasis on significant events, as determined by the community.  
Probability can be defined as historical frequencies, statistical probabilities, hazard probability maps and/or general descriptors. It must include the effects of future conditions, including climate change (e.g., long-term weather patterns, average temperature and sea levels), on the type, location, and range of anticipated intensities of identified hazards.  
Impacts are the consequences of effects of each hazard on the identified assets. The narrative must include the **effects of climate change**, changes in population patterns, and changes in land use and development. Gaps and limitations may be addressed as actions in the mitigation strategy, in particular for items that require additional assistance.  
Vulnerability is the description of which assets, including structures, systems, populations and other assets, are at risk from the identified hazards. The description must include current and future assets (including people) and the risk that makes them susceptible to damage from the identified hazards.  
Assets are, but not limited to, people (underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations); structures (facilities, lifelines, critical infrastructure); systems (networks and capabilities); natural, historic, and cultural resources; activities that have value to the community.  
Changes in development means recent development, potential development, or conditions that may affect the risks and vulnerabilities of the jurisdictions or shifts in the needs of underserved communities or gaps in social equity. This can also include changes in local policies, standards, codes, regulations, land use regulations and other conditions.

Mitigation Strategy (FEMA Element C)	Location in Plan	Met	Not Met	Reviewer Comments	Required Revisions
S1 (C1-a)	The plan must describe how the existing authorities, policies, programs, funding, and resources of <b>each participant</b> are available to support the mitigation strategy. This must include a discussion of the existing building codes and land use and development ordinances or regulations. Capabilities may be described in a table or narrative.	Appendix C, PDF 88-99	X		<del>No description of how each participant supports the mitigation strategy. Gaps and lack of capability should be discussed.</del>
S2 (C1-b)	The plan must describe the ability of <b>each participant</b> to expand on and improve the capabilities described in the plan (see S1).	Appendix C, PDF 88-99	X		Describe ability of each participating jurisdiction to expand and improve capability throughout the planning cycle
S3 (C2-a)	The plan must describe participation in the NFIP for <b>each participant</b> , as applicable, in accordance with NFIP regulatory requirements (see reviewer notes).	Section I, p. 22-25		X	<del>Not included</del> <del>Discusses that someone is appointed, but who is responsible (position/title).</del> <del>Missing the SD/SI process. See Reviewer Notes for S3</del>
S4 (C3-a)	The plan must include <b>goals</b> to reduce the risk of the identified hazards.	PDF 49-51	X		The plan does a good job a identifying goals for the county and objectives for each goal
S5 (C4-a)	The mitigation strategy must include an analysis of a comprehensive range of actions or projects that the participants considered to specifically address vulnerabilities identified in the risk assessment.	PDF 56-65	X		Plan identifies and addresses mitigaiton activities to address vulnerabilities identified in the risk assessment
S6 (C4-b)	<b>Each plan participant</b> must identify one or more mitigation actions the participant(s) intends to implement for each hazard addressed in the risk assessment.	PDF pf 236	X		<del>Not included</del> <del>Bowling Green does not have a project on the PPL.</del>
S7 (C5-a)	The plan must describe the criteria used for prioritizing the implementation of the actions. The criteria must include an emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized, in relation to the associated costs of the action.	Section V, pg 22 - 23		X	<del>Describe prioritization criteria for projects</del> <del>States Polk County as the process, please correct</del>
S8 (C5-b)	The action plan must identify who is responsible for administering each action, along with the action’s potential funding sources and expected time frames for completion.	PDF pg 236	X		<del>Not included</del> <del>Missing funding sources</del>

Reviewer Notes
S1. Capabilities must be discussed for <u>each participating jurisdiction</u> . Gaps and lack of capability should be discussed as applicable.
S2. Describe the ability of <u>each participating jurisdiction</u> to expand and improve capability throughout the next planning cycle (5-years).
S3. The following information must be provided for each participant. <b>1.</b> Adoption of NFIP minimum floodplain management criteria via local regulation. <b>2.</b> Adoption of the latest effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), if applicable. <b>3.</b> Implementation and enforcement of local floodplain management regulations to regulate and permit development in SFHAs. <b>4.</b> Appointment of a designee or agency to implement the addressed commitments and requirements of the NFIP. <b>5.</b> Description of how participants implement the substantial improvement/substantial damage provisions of their floodplain management regulations after an event.
S5. The range of actions considered should include mitigation actions that benefit underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations. Actions must be clearly linked to the vulnerabilities and impacts identified in the risk assessment.
S6. Each participating jurisdiction should have a project on the project list. If this is not possible due to lack of capability, consider adding multi-jurisdictional projects, county-wide projects (such as planning/education), or something similar. If that is not feasible, include a narrative for the lack of capability within the Plan.
S8. Include the <b>position/office/department/agency</b> responsible for implementing the projects, potential funding sources, and a timeframe for completion. Generic terms should be avoided or defined (e.g., short-term, medium-term, and long-term).



**FEMA Guidance Notes:**  
Discussion means a narrative or other materials that provide context on a section of the plan. Describing current capabilities provides a rationale for which mitigation projects can be undertaken to address the vulnerabilities identified in the Risk Assessment.  
For C1-b: If participants do not have the ability or authority to expand and/or improve their capabilities, the plan must describe the lack of ability or authority.  
For C2-a: The following information must be provided for each participant: adoption of NFIP minimum floodplain management criteria via local regulation; adoption of the latest effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (if applicable); Implementation and enforcement of local floodplain management regulations to regulate and permit development in SFHAs; appointment of a designee or agency to implement the addressed commitments and requirements of the NFIP; and description of how participants implement the substantial improvement/substantial damage provisions of their floodplain management regulations after an event. Simply stating "The community will continue to comply with the NFIP" is not sufficient to meet the requirement.  
Goals are broad, long-term policy and vision statements that explain what is to be achieved by implementing the mitigation strategy. The goals must be consistent with the hazards identified in the plan. Goals may be presented as general statements applying to more than one hazard, or they may be itemized to each of the identified hazards.  
A mitigation action is a measure, project, plan, or activity proposed to reduce current and future vulnerabilities described in the risk assessment. These actions must be achievable and demonstrate how the mitigation activities reduce the risks identified in the risk assessment.  
Analyzing a comprehensive range means considering mitigation alternatives spanning all types of solutions. These may include local plan and regulations, structure and infrastructure projects, natural systems protection, and education and awareness programs.  
For C4-a: Actions considered must emphasize reducing risk to existing buildings, structures and infrastructure, as well as limiting risk to new development and redevelopment. The range of actions considered should include mitigation actions that benefit underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations.  
For C5-b: The plan must identify applicable potential funding sources, with details beyond generic terms such as "federal," "state" and/or "local." The plan must provide the **position, office, department, or agency** responsible for implementing/administrating the identified mitigation actions.

Plan Maintenance (FEMA Element D)		Location in Plan	Met	Not Met	Reviewer Comments	Required Revisions
M1 (D1-a)	The plan must describe how the participant(s) will continue to seek public participation after the plan has been approved and during the plan’s implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.	Section VI; Page VI-3	X		Strong emphasis on social media, advertising meetings in several publicatiois and locations, and use of news media to announce meetings for the public to engage in the process.	
M2 (D2-a)	The plan must identify how, when and by whom the plan will be tracked for implementation over its five-year cycle (monitoring).	Section VI; Page VI-1	X		LMS Chairperson is identified to monintor, maintain, and evaluate the LMS over the five-year cycle	
M3 (D2-b)	The plan must identify how, when and by whom the plan will be assessed for effectiveness at achieving its stated purpose and goals (evaluating).	Section VI; Page VI-1	X		LMSWG is identified to evaluate the effectiveness of the LMS plan at achieving the purpose and goals	
M4 (D2-c)	The plan must identify how, when and by whom the plan will be reviewed and revised at least once every five years (updating).	Section VI; Page VI-1	X		The LMSWG is identified to review and revise the LMS plan at least once every five years.	
M5 (D3-a)	The plan must describe the community’s process to integrate the plan’s data, information, and hazard mitigation goals and actions into other planning mechanisms.	Section VI; Pages VI-4 thru and VI-6 and Appendix C	X		The plan describes how the community integrates the information into other community planning mechanisms.	
M6 (D3-c)	A multi-jurisdictional plan must describe each participant's individual process for integrating information from the mitigation strategy into their identified planning mechanisms.	PDF 71-72	X		Provided due dates for each participant to integrate.	
M7 (D3-b)	The plan must identify the local planning mechanisms where hazard mitigation information/actions may be integrated. The identified list of planning mechanisms must be applicable to the plan participant(s) and not contradict the identified capabilities.	Section VI; Page V-5 thru V-7, V-10 thu V-19	X		The plan lists all community planning mechanism that will integrate data, objectives, and goals from the LMS	

**FEMA Guidance Notes:**  
For D1-a: The plan may contain a narrative description or an itemized list of steps, demonstrating the prescribed method that will be followed to obtain future public participation.  
Monitoring means tracking the implementation of the plan over time. For example, monitoring may include a system for tracking the status of the identified hazard mitigation actions.  
Evaluating means assessing the effectiveness of the plan at achieving its stated purpose and goals.  
Updating means reviewing and revising the plan at least once every five years.  
Integrate means to include hazard mitigation principles, vulnerability information and mitigation actions into other existing community planning to leverage activities that have co-benefits, reduce risk and increase resilience.  
Planning mechanisms refer to the governance structures used to manage local land use development and community decision-making.  
For a multi-jurisdictional integration plan, this element may be met with a general narrative description if the process is applicable to each of the plan participants; however, any participant who cannot apply the same process as other plan participants must include their unique process for integration.

Plan Update (FEMA Element E)		Location in Plan	Met	Not Met	Reviewer Comments	Required Revisions
U1 (E1-a)	The plan must describe changes in development that have occurred in hazard-prone areas and how they have increased or decreased the vulnerability of each jurisdiction since the previous plan was approved.	Sections III and IV		X	171 - appreciate the building permit map as it shows how development may actually be changing and increasing	Not found in plan See R10, these requirements correspond with each other
U2 (E2-a)	The plan must describe how it was revised due to a change in priorities for each jurisdiction.	PDF pg 33	X			

Reviewer Notes
M1. Examples of continued public involvement could include periodic presentations on the plan’s progress to elected officials, schools or other community groups, annual questionnaires or surveys, public meetings, postings on social media, and interactive websites.
M2/M3/M4. Discuss <b>who, when, and how</b> the plan will be <b>monitored, evaluated, and updated</b> (five-year update). Can be narrative or itemized list of steps demonstrating the prescribed method that will be followed to monitor the plan after plan approval and during the plan's implementation.
M5. We are looking for the <b>process</b> of how <u>each participating jurisdiction</u> integrates information from the LMS Plan into other planning mechanisms (e.g., CEMP, Comprehensive Plan, codes and regulations, hazard plans, resiliency plans, etc.).
M6. Is the process identified in M5 applicable to all participating jurisdictions? This element may be met with a general narrative description if the process is applicable to each of the plan participants; however, any participant who cannot apply the same process as other plan participants must include their unique process for integration.
M7. Related to M5, what are the planning mechanisms that information from the LMS Plan may be incorporated into? A narrative or bullet list will suffice. List planning mechanisms from each jurisdiction along with county plans.

Reviewer Notes
U1. This element is also linked to Element R10 in the risk assessment section. Make sure to discuss change in vulnerability (positive, negative, or none) to hazards from changes in development that has occurred over the last five years (planning cycle).
U2. How was the plan revised and was it due to a change in priority? Examples include new leadership, recent hazard events, input from the public, etc. We are usually referencing the goals and objectives, risk assessment, mitigation strategy, project prioritization method, or similar

sections of the plan when looking for this information.

U3. Include information about completed, deleted, or deferred projects from the previous version of the plan.

U4. This element is related to M5 and M7. To meet U4, discuss if any integration of information from the LMS into other planning mechanisms has occurred since the previous update, such as a recent update of the CEMP or in the jurisdictions' codes and ordinances. Think of integration within all participating jurisdictions.

**Reviewer Notes**

Ideally, all jurisdictions will formally adopt the Approved Pending Adoption (APA) plan before the current expiration date. This will depend on State review time and required revisions. Jurisdictions must adopt the LMS Plan within one year of APA status. Beyond one year, jurisdictions will need to validate the accuracy of their information within the Plan in order to receive FEMA approval.

## Reviewer Notes

These elements are optional, but are an eligibility requirement of the Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam Grant Program. Consider including this information in your LMS Plan if you have **high** hazard or **significant** hazard dams in the planning area. If there are any gaps or limitations, this should be discussed as applicable.

**FEMA Guidance Notes:**

**Note:** Ensure sensitive and/or personally identifiable information is protected.

Information shared by the state and/or local dam owners includes: inundation maps, EAP, Floodplain Plans, dam breach modeling software, as well as more detailed studies.

Risk and vulnerabilities can include potential cascading impacts of storms, wildfires, etc. on dams that may affect upstream and downstream flooding; potential significant economic, environmental or social impacts, as well as multi-jurisdictional impacts, from a dam incident; location and size of populations at risk, and potential impacts to institutions and critical infrastructure/facilities/lifelines; and/or methodology and/or assumptions for risk data and inundation modeling.

Specific actions include rehabilitating/removing dams; adopting and enforcing land use ordinances in inundation zones; elevating structures in inundation zones; and/or adding flood protection, such as berms, floodwalls or floodproofing, in inundation zones.