

**FLORIDA NATURAL HAZARDS  
INTERAGENCY WORK GROUP  
F.S. 252.3655  
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

January 1, 2021

Prepared by  
Florida Division of Emergency Management

Ron DeSantis  
Governor

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Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ..... 3

STATUTE REVIEW ..... 3

FLORIDA ENHANCED STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2018 UPDATE ..... 3

ANNUAL ACTIONS ..... 3

AGENCY ASSESSMENTS ..... 9

    Agency for Health Care Administration ..... 11

    Agency for Persons with Disabilities ..... 12

    Department of Business and Professional Regulation ..... 14

    Department of Children and Families ..... 16

    Department of Citrus ..... 17

    Department of Corrections ..... 19

    Department of Economic Opportunity ..... 20

    Department of Education ..... 24

    Department of Elder Affairs ..... 26

    Department of Environmental Protection ..... 29

    Department of Health ..... 34

    Department of Juvenile Justice ..... 36

    Department of Lottery ..... 38

    Department of Management Services ..... 39

    Department of Military Affairs/Florida National Guard ..... 41

    Department of State ..... 42

    Department of Transportation ..... 44

    Division of Emergency Management ..... 48

    Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission ..... 50

    Public Service Commission ..... 51

    Northwest Florida Water Management District ..... 54

    South Florida Water Management District ..... 56

    Southwest Florida Water Management District ..... 59

    St. Johns River Water Management District ..... 61

    Suwannee River Water Management District ..... 63

ONGOING EFFORTS ..... 66

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document satisfies subsection 252.3655(2)(a) Florida Statutes (F.S.), by providing an annual progress report on the implementation of the state’s hazard mitigation plan including an assessment of agency efforts to address the impacts of natural hazards and to strategize and prioritize ongoing efforts to address the impacts of natural hazards. This report refers to activities occurring between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

## STATUTE REVIEW

In July 2017, Florida Statute 252.3655 went into effect. The statute mandates an interagency workgroup to share information on the current and potential impacts of natural hazards throughout the state, to coordinate the ongoing efforts of state agencies in addressing the impacts of natural hazards, and to collaborate on statewide initiatives to address the impacts of natural hazards. Each agency within the executive branch of state government, each water management district, and the Florida Public Service Commission is required to designate an agency liaison to the workgroup, while the director of DEM or designee will serve as the liaison and coordinator of the workgroup. Each liaison is required to provide information from his or her respective agency regarding the current and potential impacts of natural hazards to his or her agency, agency resources available to mitigate against natural hazards, and efforts made by the agency to address the impacts of natural hazards. DEM is also required to submit an annual progress report regarding the implementation of the SHMP, beginning on January 1, 2019.

Since the membership and purpose of this new Natural Hazards Interagency Workgroup was similar to two other statewide mitigation groups – the State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team (SHMPAT) and the Silver Jackets team – the Mitigation Bureau decided to combine the three groups into one, and title it Mitigate FL. This was done to avoid duplication of efforts and to leverage resources more effectively.

## FLORIDA ENHANCED STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2018 UPDATE

The Mitigation Bureau is responsible for updating, maintaining, and implementing the State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) in accordance with 44 C.F.R. Part 201 and 42 U.S.C. 5165. The SHMP was updated and submitted for approval to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on February 23, 2018 and was subsequently approved by FEMA on June 11, 2018. The 2018 Enhanced SHMP went into effect on August 24, 2018 and will expire on August 23, 2023. The SHMP is “Enhanced,” per 44 C.F.R. Part 201.5, which allows Florida to receive increased funds for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) specifically 20 percent of total estimated eligible federal disaster assistance. Non-Enhanced states receive only 15 percent of disaster assistance for the HMGP program. Florida achieved “Enhanced” status by developing a comprehensive mitigation program, effectively using available mitigation funding, and managing the increased funding. Furthermore, Florida has been delegated certain authorities to manage portions of the mitigation program on behalf of FEMA, under the Program Administration by States (PAS). For example, the Mitigation Bureau reviews project applications, completes benefit-cost analyses, approves scope of work modifications, and reviews and approves county Local Mitigation Strategy plans. This allows Florida to have increased control and oversight over mitigation projects and shortens the standard 24-month grant obligation timeline.

## ANNUAL ACTIONS

On March 9, 2020, the Florida Governor declared a state of emergency for the entire state of Florida as a result of COVID-19. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly

discovered coronavirus, which is a virus in humans causing respiratory illness which can be spread person-to-person. This disease became a pandemic in 2020 and significantly impacted the state of Florida. Many state agencies had a large role in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) has been at a Level 1 since March 2020. The pandemic impacted all aspects of life, including the missions of state agencies, with state agencies working virtually and supporting the pandemic response. The impact of the pandemic upon 2020 mitigation efforts is acknowledged within the 2020 update section of the agency profiles.

The Director of DEM designated a workgroup coordinator in the Mitigation Bureau. This coordinator communicates with state agencies regularly and schedules quarterly meetings, which were announced in the Florida Administrative Register and on the DEM website. Below are the dates of the meetings.

- March 10, 2020
- June 9, 2020
- September 8, 2020
- December 8, 2020

Meeting materials, including the meeting presentation and meeting minutes are available on the DEM website.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, the table below provides an outline of topics discussed at each meeting.

March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Hardening and Harm Mitigation Presentation by Department of Education</li> <li>• HMGP Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Completed DR-4399 Applicant Workshops</li> <li>○ DR-4399 Application Deadline extended to May 1, 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Non-Disaster Grants Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Submitted 15 FMA applications and 13 PDM applications totaling over \$18 million in project applications</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Proposed Rule Change Notice</li> <li>• Insurance Sector Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NFIP Risk Rating 2.0 will not go into effect until October 2021</li> <li>○ Private Market Flood Insurance</li> <li>○ Florida Legislative Updates</li> <li>○ NFIP Flood Risk Map Release Updates</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mitigation Outreach Subcommittee             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Outreach Toolkit coming soon</li> <li>○ Overview of recent #MitigationMonday social media posts</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Bulletin – updated newsletter</li> <li>• LMS Updates             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plan Update Cycle</li> <li>○ Upcoming Trainings</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Attendees: 92</li> </ul>
June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HMGP Update – beginning reviews of DR-4399 applications</li> <li>• Non-Disaster Grants Update</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> <https://portal.floridadisaster.org/mitigation/MitigateFL/External/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

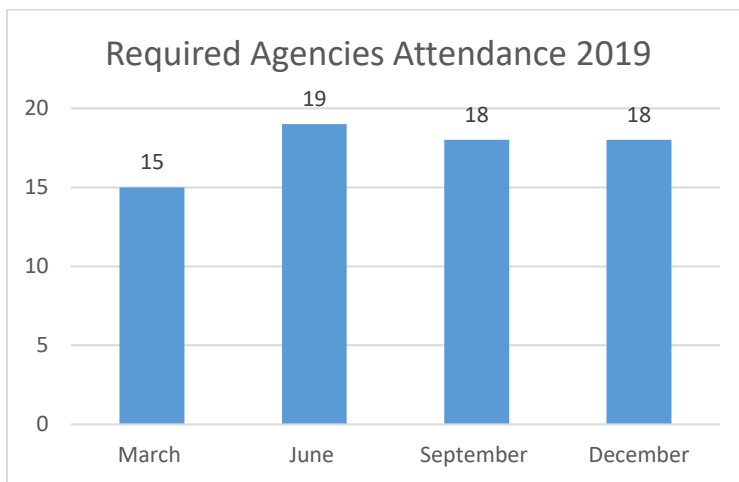
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Of the 28 applications Florida submitted, 8 were selected (4 from FMA, 4 from PDM)</li> <li>○ FEMA will replace PDM with BRIC in 2020</li> <li>● Floodplain Management             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Coordinating with Florida Association of Counties to develop Floodplain Management Training for Elected Officials</li> <li>○ Developing a Post-Disaster Floodplain Management Roles and Responsibilities Tabletop Exercise to be held at the annual Florida Floodplain Managers Association conference</li> <li>○ Florida achieved #1 in the Nation for FEMA’s new Floodplain Management Tiered State Framework</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Insurance Section Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FEMA Memo W-20002: addresses extension on 30-day grace period for policy renewals due to COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>○ Florida Office of Insurance Regulation Memo OIR-20-02M: encourage payment flexibility and virtual inspections due to COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>○ Florida Office of Insurance Regulation Memo OIR-20-02M: recommended all insurers update Business Continuity Plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Silver Jackets Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Inland Resilience Pilot Project</li> <li>○ SAFE YARDS Program – educational outreach program</li> <li>○ H&amp;H Analysis Support for Lake Martin</li> </ul> </li> <li>● LMS Updates             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plans under review</li> <li>○ Trainings cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Attendees: 136</li> </ul>
<p>September 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HMGP Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed Rule Change Notice</li> <li>○ Continuing reviews of DR-4399 applications</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Non-Disaster Grant Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FEMA expects to have all subapplications awarded by September 30, 2020</li> <li>○ FY 2020 Notices of Funding Opportunity                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FMA: \$160 million available nationwide</li> <li>▪ BRIC: \$500 million available nationwide</li> <li>▪ Florida Application period for both grants ends on November 12, 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ BRIC overview</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Insurance Sector Update             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ First Street Foundation launched Flood Factor Tool to determine past, present, and future flood risk of every home in contiguous US</li> </ul> </li> <li>● LMS Updates             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plans under review</li> <li>○ 21 plans have been approved this update cycle</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Attendees: 165</li> </ul>
<p>December 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 252.3655 Florida Statute Annual Report             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will be posted on the website</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New methodology to give each required agency a Mitigation Implementation Rating</li> <li>● HMGP Update       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 27P-22 F.A.C. changes are live as of 11/24/2020           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Notable changes included:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Application update</li> <li>● County proportion timeframe changes</li> <li>● Annual LMS update language changes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Upcoming Notice of Funding Availability releases for 2021           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FM-5307 Fire Declaration</li> <li>▪ DR-4468 Hurricane Dorian</li> <li>▪ DR-4564 Hurricane Sally</li> <li>▪ Format of Applicant Workshops will change to virtual</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Non-Disaster Grants Update       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Application period for FMA and BRIC closed in mid-November</li> <li>○ Flood Mitigation Assistance           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subapplications received: 22</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subapplications received 68</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Subapplications are under review and subapplicants will be receiving Requests for Information</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Insurance Sector Update       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Federal Housing Authority – proposed Rule would allow federally backed lenders to begin accepting private flood insurance policies for single-family insured loans for homes located in the SFHA zones</li> <li>○ House Resolution 8616 Build for Future Disasters Act of 2020 – would eliminate subsidies for flood insurance coverage under the NFIP for new construction</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Mitigation Outreach Campaign       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ #MitigationMonday is back</li> <li>○ Outreach Toolkit coming in 2021           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will include social media content and other materials for your reference</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Silver Jackets       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Inland Resilience Pilot Project           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guidebooks finalized for Columbia and Highlands counties</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ H&amp;H Study Support for Lake Martin</li> </ul> </li> <li>● LMS Updates       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New LMS Liaison</li> <li>○ Annual LMS Updates per 27P-22 F.A.C.</li> <li>○ Plans are under review</li> <li>○ 27 plans have been approved this cycle</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Attendees: 211</li> </ul>
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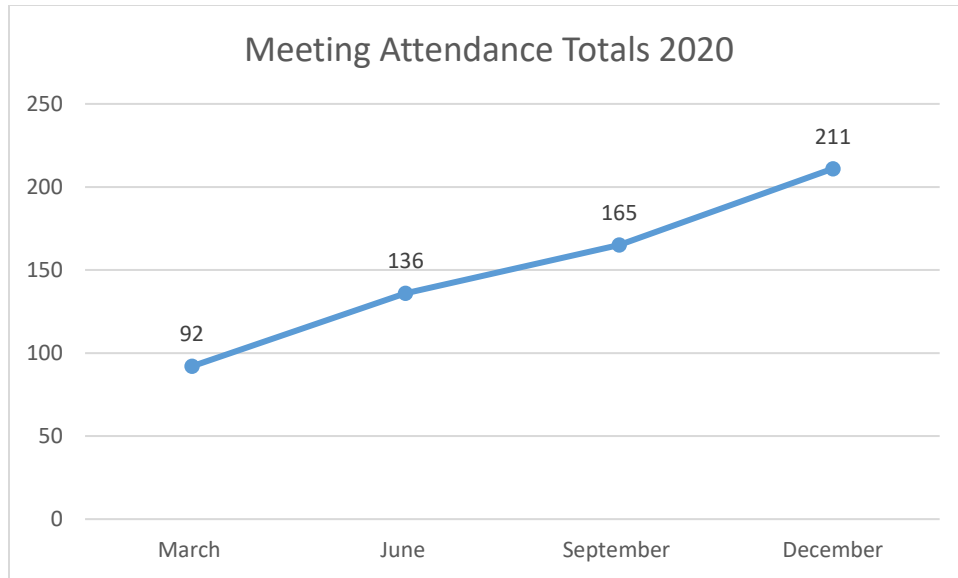
Attendance at the quarterly Mitigate FL meetings in 2020 was between 92 and 211 people in person and via webinar. There are twenty-five agencies required by 252.3655 Florida Statutes. The attendance percentages of those agencies are listed below. Thirteen agencies attended all four meetings and twelve attended three or fewer meetings.

Number of Agencies	Percentage of Meetings Attended
5	0%
0	25%
3	50%
4	75%
13	100%

While there are twelve agencies that attended zero to three meetings, this is likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic response. Fewer agencies attended the meeting in March when the pandemic began, but attendance from required agencies was steady throughout the remainder of the year.



The twenty-five statutorily required agencies are not the only members invited to the meetings. Other agencies invited include other state agencies, county Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group coordinators, federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and members of the private and academic sectors. Attendance at Mitigate FL meetings in 2020 fluctuated each meeting, with nearly 100 attendees at each, including both in person and webinar attendees. The graph below displays the number of attendees at each quarterly meeting, with December 2020 having the highest attendance and March 2020 having the lowest attendance.



In 2021 the workgroup coordinator will focus on increasing and maintaining attendance rates of the statutorily required state agencies, as well as other partners. The workgroup coordinator also intends to add more partners to ensure comprehensive collaboration regarding mitigation and resiliency in Florida.

In 2019, the Mitigation Outreach Subcommittee was established. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most outreach on social media was related to the disease, not to natural hazard mitigation. Because of this, the Mitigation Outreach Subcommittee did not meet in 2020. There are plans to resume the natural hazard mitigation outreach on social media and to county partners in 2021.

The Silver Jackets group continued to meet virtually in 2020 with meetings held on March 12, June 16, and November 16, 2020. In 2019, the Army Corps of Engineers approved the Florida Silver Jackets team to develop Community Resiliency Guidebooks for two inland counties, Columbia and Highlands, which were completed and published in December 2020.



**AGENCY ASSESSMENTS**

Below is an assessment of each state agency within the executive branch, the Florida Public Service Commission, and each of the five Water Management Districts. There is a summary for each agency that discusses the applicable programs, as well as a Mitigation Implementation Rating.

The Mitigation Implementation Rating is determined by first scoring each agency based upon its mitigation efforts in terms of three criteria: relevance, level, and significance. Each agency receives one to three points for relevance, level, and significance of its mitigation efforts. The scale is defined below.

<b>Agency Assessment Scale</b>			
Points	Relevance	Level	Significance
1 point	<b>Relevance: Not Relevant</b> • Agency mission and programs are not related to mitigation	<b>Level: Low</b> • No programs or projects each year	<b>Significance: Not Significant</b> • Agency not working to accomplish mitigation due to mission
2 Points	<b>Relevance: Somewhat Relevant</b> • Agency mission and programs are somewhat related to mitigation	<b>Level: Medium</b> • Some programs or projects each year	<b>Significance: Somewhat Significant</b> • Supporting agency assisting to accomplish mitigation
3 Points	<b>Relevance: Very Relevant</b> • Agency mission and programs are very related to mitigation	<b>Level: High</b> • Many programs or projects each year	<b>Significance: Very Significant</b> • Primary agency accomplishing mitigation

These points are then added to provide each agency with an overall Mitigation Implementation Rating of Standard, Above Standard, or Exceptional. These ratings are defined below.

<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating Scale</b>		
3-4 points: STANDARD	5-7 points: ABOVE STANDARD	8-9 points: EXCEPTIONAL
• Rarely have mitigation projects or projects with mitigation or resiliency aspects • Mitigation or resiliency is not part of the agency mission	• Occasionally have mitigation projects or projects with mitigation or resiliency aspects • Mitigation or resiliency is part of the agency mission	• Consistently have mitigation projects or projects with mitigation or resiliency aspects • Mitigation or resiliency is a core aspect of the agency mission

These ratings are intended to demonstrate which agencies, required per 252.3655 Florida Statute, are most relevant when completing mitigation actions. These ratings are not intended to claim that certain agencies are not doing enough mitigation projects, but rather the ratings serve to demonstrate that some agencies may not have mitigation as a core mission.

Below is a summary of the agency ratings, followed by a detailed summary, 2020 update, and analysis of each agency.

<b>Florida Statute 252.3655 Executive Agency Mitigation Assessment</b>				
<b>Agencies</b>	<b>Relevance</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Significance</b>	<b>Total Mitigation Score</b>
Agency for Health Care Administration	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
Agency for Persons with Disabilities	1	1	1	<b>3</b>
Department of Business and Professional Regulation	2	1	2	<b>5</b>
Department of Children and Families	1	1	1	<b>3</b>
Department of Citrus	1	1	1	<b>3</b>
Department of Corrections	1	2	1	<b>4</b>
Department of Economic Opportunity	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Department of Education	1	2	1	<b>4</b>
Department of Elder Affairs	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
Department of Environmental Protection	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Department of Health	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
Department of Juvenile Justice	1	2	2	<b>5</b>
Department of Lottery	1	2	1	<b>4</b>
Department of Management Services	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
Department of Military Affairs/FLNG	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
Department of State	1	2	1	<b>4</b>
Department of Transportation	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Division of Emergency Management	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
Northwest Florida Water Management District	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Public Service Commission	2	2	2	<b>6</b>
South Florida Water Management District	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Southwest Florida Water Management District	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
St. Johns River Water Management District	3	3	3	<b>9</b>
Suwannee River Water Management District	3	3	3	<b>9</b>

Agency for Health Care Administration

AHCA is responsible for health policy and planning in the state, including the Medicaid program, licensing health care facilities, and sharing of health care data. The Division of Health Quality Assurance oversees healthcare facilities in Florida, including hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities (ALF). AHCA requires that each of Florida’s 67 counties review and approve Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans (CEMP) for hospitals, nursing homes, and ALFs. AHCA also requires that all nursing homes and ALFs have generators.

Florida Administrative Code 59A-36.025 (formerly 58A-5.036) and Florida Administrative Code 59A-4.1265 were enacted to reduce vulnerability of ALFs and Nursing Homes to power outages. Each assisted living facility and nursing home is required to prepare a detailed plan to serve as a supplement to its CEMP to address emergency environmental control in the event of the loss of primary electrical power. The plan must include information about the acquisition of a sufficient alternate power source, such as a generator, to ensure that ambient air temperatures are maintained at or below 81 degrees Fahrenheit for minimum of 96 hours in the event of the loss of primary electrical power. If a facility violates any part of this rule, AHCA may revoke or suspend the license or impose administrative fines.

2020 Update

AHCA continues to enhance the Emergency Status System database to ensure continued communication with facilities during emergencies, including information related to alternate sources of power and fuel status as well as COVID-19 specific information. Additionally, AHCA is continuing to monitor health care facility preparedness and response to emergency events and emergency power.

The number of ALFs and nursing homes that have onsite emergency power or arrangements to bring in a power source onsite within 24 hours of a declared emergency can be accessed online at <http://fl-generator.com/>. All Nursing Homes and ALFs currently have a generator onsite, although some facilities are still addressing documentation and final approvals.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Agency for Health Care Administration	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 5 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Brian Kenyon Chief of General Services Agency for Health Care Administration 850-412-3899 <a href="mailto:Brian.Kenyon@ahca.myflorida.com">Brian.Kenyon@ahca.myflorida.com</a>	Chuck Merck General Services Coordinator Agency for Health Care Administration 850-412-3924 <a href="mailto:Chuck.Merck@ahca.myflorida.com">Chuck.Merck@ahca.myflorida.com</a>

*Agency for Persons with Disabilities*

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD/Agency) serves more than 57,800 Floridians with developmental disabilities to include severe forms of autism, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, Phelan-McDermid syndrome, and Prader-Willi syndrome who are eligible for agency services. Over 35,000 of these individuals are served on the iBudget Florida Home and Community-Based Services waiver (also known as the iBudget waiver), over 22,800 individuals are on the waiting list for waiver services, and over 600 individuals are served in agency operated facilities. The Agency operates statewide through six regions, two developmental disability centers (DDCs) licensed by AHCA, and the Developmental Disabilities Defendant Program (DDDP). The agency is responsible for three major service delivery systems as described in Florida statute:

1. Services provided in the least restrictive and most community-integrated setting available (Chapter 393, Florida Statutes);
2. Care, habilitation, and rehabilitation provided at state-owned and operated facilities 24/7: Tacachale in Gainesville and Sunland in Marianna (Chapter 393, Florida Statutes); and
3. Competency restoration services provided at the Developmental Disabilities Defendant Program (DDDP), a 146-bed secure facility on the grounds of Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee, and a satellite program in Marianna. to individuals accused of a felony and deemed incompetent to stand trial (Chapter 916, Florida Statutes).

APD licenses over 2,100 community-based residential facilities throughout the state. Individuals on the waiver must select a Waiver Support Coordinator (WSC) to assist them with managing their budget and services, or enroll in a self-directed program called Consumer-Directed Care Plus (CDC+). This program provides payroll management for certain Medicaid providers, and has its own emergency payroll protocols during a disaster.

All three APD operated facilities and all APD-licensed residential facilities are required to maintain Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans (CEMPs). APD has developed a CEMP template and guidance document to be used by providers of residential Group Home The DDCs and DDDP must also maintain Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans, with the intention that staff will remain on site with clients and they will shelter in place.

APD meets regularly with the APD-operated and licensed facilities and their providers about emergency management practices including mitigation, and makes sure the facility, staff, and clients have their own disaster plans. APD's website maintains a disaster and recovery toolkit <https://apd.myflorida.com/news/toolkit.htm> which links to [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) and is updated regularly. APD Waiver Support Coordinators, clients, providers, stakeholders, and staff utilize this informational site.

The agency encourages all staff and clients to be personally prepared, provides annual training, and has provided a personal disaster plan template to be completed and updated annually. APD has found that utilizing the Everbridge emergency notification system to notify staff and providers of impending disasters has been beneficial. The Agency will continue to refine the process protocols for use of this system. Working with DEM, the agency has also identified the number of clients and licensed facilities that live or are located within flood zones.

2020 Update

APD facilities affected by Hurricanes Irma and Michael received numerous repairs, renovations, and upgrades to their facilities and infrastructure during Fiscal Year 2020. For example, the Gainesville DDC replaced hot water boilers and air handler units, and installed emergency generators that meet Intermediate Care Facility standards required by AHCA. In addition, the Marianna DDC has also made facility improvements by repairing HVAC Systems, repairing roofs damaged by the hurricane, and by adding portable air coolers to assist with responding to campus emergencies.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Agency for Persons with Disabilities	1	1	1	3
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 3 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Karen Hagan Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) Agency Persons with Disabilities 850-412-0085 <a href="mailto:Karen.Hagan@apdcares.org">Karen.Hagan@apdcares.org</a>	Eddie Kay Harris Alternate ECO Agency Persons with Disabilities 850-274-1458 <a href="mailto:Eddie.Harris@apdcares.org">Eddie.Harris@apdcares.org</a>

Department of Business and Professional Regulation

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) licenses and regulates more than one million businesses and professionals in the State of Florida, including accountants, architects and interior designers, asbestos consultants, athlete agents, auctioneers, barbers, building code administrators and inspectors, community association managers, construction contractors, cosmetologists, electrical contractors, employee leasing companies, geologists, home inspectors, landscape architects, mold assessors and remediators, pilot commissioners, real estate appraisers and brokers, and veterinarians, as well as businesses dealing in alcoholic beverages, tobacco, food service, public lodging, pari-mutuel wagering, and condominiums, timeshares, and other cooperative residential arrangements.

Through the Florida Building Commission (Commission), a regulatory body administered under the jurisdiction of DBPR, the Department facilitates the processes related to adoption and advancement of state building codes and standards. Section 553.77(1)(b), Florida Statutes, requires the Commission to make a continual study of the operation of the Florida Building Code (FBC) or laws relating to the design, construction, erection, alteration, modification, repair, or demolition of public or private buildings, structures and facilities to determine the effect upon the cost of construction and the effectiveness of their provisions. Under this requirement and corresponding annual appropriations, the Commission funds research on specific FBC issues and topics for the purpose of providing solutions to a specific problem or guidance on future code changes. Many of these technical studies are informative references for broader mitigation planning relating to the impacts of natural hazards on various structures.

The Division of Hotels & Restaurants and Division of Regulation with DBPR are also active in agency activities related to natural disasters, particularly in mitigating post-disaster risks associated with unlicensed construction activity and food safety at impacted commercial food service locations.

DBPR facilitates the agency's broad business and professional licensing functions through twenty statewide field offices, which are leased from the state Department of Management Services, from counties, or from private companies. DBPR does not own the buildings where these offices are located, and accordingly, does not manage the mitigation responsibilities associated with these structures. However, the agency maintains active planning for Emergency Management (EM) and Continuity of Operations (COOP) to ensure the continuity of regulatory services following a natural disaster.

2020 Update

DBPR liaisons to the workgroup have been proactive in identifying mitigation opportunities and have participated in the Mitigation Outreach Subcommittee.

In FY 2020-21, the Commission conducted technical research related to: the investigation of wind induced loads on roof overhangs and updates to the Florida Building Code's extreme rainfall projections.

In FY 2019-20, the Commission is undertaking technical research related to: investigation of optional enhanced construction techniques for the wind, flood, and storm surge provisions of the Florida Building Code; GIS technical assistance in preparing local wind speed maps; experimental evaluation of pressure equalization factors and wind resistance of vinyl siding systems; and wind-driven rain tests of building envelope systems up to hurricane strength. These studies are valuable reference points for both the Commission and broader state interest in mitigation planning.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Business and Professional Regulation	2	1	2	5
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 5 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Will Dance Emergency Coordinating Officer Department of Business and Professional Regulation 850-443-8128 <a href="mailto:Will.Dance@myfloridalicense.com">Will.Dance@myfloridalicense.com</a>	Patti Broadway Alternate Emergency Coordinating Officer Department of Business and Professional Regulation 850-717-1066 <a href="mailto:Patti.Broadway@myfloridalicense.com">Patti.Broadway@myfloridalicense.com</a>

Department of Children and Families

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is tasked with protecting the vulnerable, promoting strong and economically self-sufficient families, and advancing personal and family recovery and resiliency. There are three primary program areas, Child Welfare, Substance Abuse and Mental Health, and Economic Self-Sufficiency, and five Assistance Secretaries, which are each responsible for several programs. Additionally, there are six operational regions where most program delivery occurs. There are also three state mental health treatment facilities, as well as five contracted treatment facilities. DCF owns, operates, and maintains the three mental health treatment facilities. There is aging infrastructure on these campuses, and more than general maintenance is needed to truly mitigate the facilities. Additionally, DCF has various Emergency Management (EM) and Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans in place for the various programs they implement to ensure continuity of services post-disaster.

2020 Update

DCF has actively built mitigation and resiliency on a facility and programmatic level. Agency emergency plans have been updated to include several new topics not considered before. This includes incorporation into agency emergency plans of reporting mechanisms at the Department and service provider level to ensure safety, well-being, and location of clients in care before and after incidents, as well as full facility profiles and evacuation plans for all Mental Health Treatment Facilities to facilitate decision-making pre-incident. These mechanisms have been tested and improved during the 2020 hurricane season.

Furthermore, in response to damages incurred at Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee during Hurricane Michael, FEMA Public Assistance projects are nearing completion. These projects include mitigation efforts which will increase resiliency of the facility. Specifically, mitigation measures include retrofitting roof structures, upgrading materials, and construction type to better withstand future incidents. As of November 2020, the projects in progress total over \$10 million and are in the final stages of completion.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Dept of Children and Families	1	1	1	3
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 3 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Matt Howard General Services Director Dept. of Children and Families 850-717-4017 <a href="mailto:Matthew.Howard@myflfamilies.com">Matthew.Howard@myflfamilies.com</a>	Jimmie Padgett Government Operations Consultant II Dept. of Children and Families 850-717-4303 <a href="mailto:Jimmie.Padgett@myflfamilies.com">Jimmie.Padgett@myflfamilies.com</a>



Department of Citrus

The Florida Department of Citrus (FDOC) is an executive agency of Florida government charged with the marketing, research, and regulation of the Florida citrus industry. Its activities are funded by an assessment paid by growers on each box of citrus that moves through commercial channels. The FDOC also has extensive regulatory responsibilities, covering every aspect of the industry, including research, production, maturity standards, licensing, transportation, labeling, packing and processing. The FDOC conducts a wide variety of programs involving industry regulation, scientific, market and economic research, advertising, merchandising, public and industry relations and consumer promotions.

The FDOC is governed by the Florida Citrus Commission (FCC), a nine-member board appointed by the Governor of Florida to represent citrus growers, processors, and packers. The FCC is dedicated to overseeing and guiding the activities of the Florida Department of Citrus, conducting a variety of industry programs, and regulating the quality standards of citrus grown in Florida. It is responsible for setting the annual amount of the excise tax as well as quality standards for all citrus grown, packed, or processed in Florida.

2020 Update

The Florida Citrus industry is facing significant challenges to production since the introduction of Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening disease. The disease has affected tens of thousands of citrus acres around the state since it was first detected in Florida citrus crops in 2005. In addition, the industry incurred further losses when Hurricane Irma crossed through the majority of Florida’s citrus producing regions in September 2017.

The toll from citrus greening suggests a downward forecasted trend of sales over the short to medium term, which have been compounded by the losses sustained due to Hurricane Irma. The industry is fighting for its survival with hundreds of millions of industry, state, and federal dollars going toward research to find a cure for the devastating greening disease.

While the FDOC does not have a direct responsibility for mitigating hazards such as disease and weather, the agency does provide whatever support is necessary to assist industry stakeholders in securing funding for both disease research and disaster relief. However, maintaining demand for Florida citrus in the short-term and positioning global markets for growth in the long-term is imperative to the success of the Florida Citrus industry – an industry that, despite its current challenges, still generates an economic impact of over \$8.6 billion dollars for the State of Florida and supports 45,000 jobs. The FDOC’s investments in marketing are equally important to preserve established markets for Florida.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Citrus	1	1	1	3
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 3 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Dianne Screws Director of Purchasing and Support Services Department of Citrus 863-537-3984 <a href="mailto:dscrews@citrus.myflorida.com">dscrews@citrus.myflorida.com</a>	Christine Marion Deputy Executive Director of Administration and Finance Department of Citrus 863-537-3961 <a href="mailto:cmarion@citrus.myflorida.com">cmarion@citrus.myflorida.com</a>

Department of Corrections

There are two programmatic areas of the Department of Corrections (FDC), Institutions and Community Corrections. There are 144 institutions (State operated & private partner) statewide which incarcerate approximately 96,000 inmates convicted and sentenced to more than one year. The Community Corrections mission is to protect the community by supervising approximately 166,000 offenders and reporting non-compliance to the sentencing or releasing authority. DOC has strong Emergency Management (EM) and Continuity of Operations (COOP) programs because they are responsible for the safety of inmates and offenders and because of the security threat within institutions and community corrections offices. Additionally, DOC conducts routine maintenance, including some basic mitigation measures.

2020 Update

The Cross City Correctional Institution now has pumps readily available to mitigate localized flooding.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Corrections	1	2	1	4
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 4 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Richard Comerford Assistant Deputy Secretary of Institutions Florida Department of Corrections 850-717-3037 <a href="mailto:Richard.Comerford@fdc.myflorida.com">Richard.Comerford@fdc.myflorida.com</a>	Todd Sharpe Assistant Bureau Chief-Emergency Management Florida Department of Corrections 850-717-3330 <a href="mailto:Todd.Sharpe@fdc.myflorida.com">Todd.Sharpe@fdc.myflorida.com</a>

*Department of Economic Opportunity*

DEO is tasked with advancing Florida's economy by championing the state's economic development vision and administering state and federal programs and initiatives to help residents, communities, businesses, and visitors. These programs and activities directly and indirectly mitigate disasters.

*Ongoing Community Development Mitigation Activities*

DEO's Division of Community Development manages several programs, including reviews of Comprehensive Plans and plan amendments to ensure that peril of flood planning requirements are included, per section 163.3178(2)(f)(1-6), Florida Statutes. Specifically required is the inclusion of development and redevelopment principles, strategies and engineering solutions that reduce flood risk in coastal areas from high tide events, storm surge, flash floods, storm water runoff and related impacts of sea level rise. These amendments also include references to the Community Rating System and Local Mitigation Strategies.

Staff also assists with other planning elements such as:

- Coastal management planning including coastal high hazard areas, adaptation planning, and coastal redevelopment to reduce the risks of coastal flooding and related impacts to sea level rise;
- Evacuation planning to ensure development within a county evacuation zone accounts for the time it takes those additional people to evacuate;
- Post-Disaster Redevelopment Planning; and
- Military installation coordination with local governments to prevent encroachment.

The Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant Program helps municipalities and counties in creating economic development strategies, addressing critical planning issues and promoting innovative planning solutions. For FY 2020-2021 these grants have been provided to nineteen municipalities, three counties and five regional planning councils whose projects will benefit additional communities.

The Areas of Critical State Concern program provides oversight and assistance to the five identified areas of critical state concern. Program oversight includes reviewing and approving amendments to comprehensive plans and land development regulations and reviewing development orders adopted or issued by local governments within the designated areas. An area of critical state concern is an area containing, or having a significant impact upon, environmental or natural resources of regional or statewide importance, including, but not limited to, state or federal parks, forests, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, aquatic preserves, major rivers and estuaries, state environmentally endangered lands, Outstanding Florida Waters, and aquifer recharge areas, the uncontrolled private or public development of which would cause substantial deterioration of such resources. The five identified areas of critical state concern are Big Cypress Swamp, the Green Swamp, the Florida Keys Area, the City of Key West, and the City of Apalachicola.

The Division also implements the Weatherization Assistance Program, which provides grant funding to reduce the monthly energy burden on low-income households by improving the energy efficiency of a home. These improvements sometimes include mitigation measures.

*Rebuild Florida*

DEO manages the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grant program through its Office of Disaster Recovery. CDBG-DR funding becomes available post-disaster through a congressional allocation and includes consideration for mitigation actions, such as retrofitting, hardening and resiliency projects.

*Rebuild Florida*, a partnership of DEO and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, launched in September 2018 to use federal funding for Florida's long-term disaster recovery efforts from the devastating impacts of Hurricane Irma and subsequent disasters.

DEO's Rebuild Florida Voluntary Home Buyout Program dedicated \$75 million in CDBG-DR funding for local government programs to purchase residential properties from low- to moderate-income (LMI) citizens in high flood-risk areas and assist them to relocate outside of flood prone areas. Land acquired must be deed restricted after acquisition to green space making them resilient to impacts from future storms. Approved local governments may receive 100% funding for voluntary home buyouts or leverage match funding from the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program's (HMGP) land acquisition program.

DEO's Rebuild Florida Housing Repair and Replacement Program assists eligible homeowners impacted by Hurricane Irma by repairing, rebuilding or replacing damaged homes across the hardest-hit communities. DEO has dedicated \$346,186,147 in CDBG-DR funding for these efforts. All repairs or reconstruction must meet or exceed Florida Building Code and applicable local building standards, including meeting Florida's hurricane protection and "wind-borne debris region" standards, ensuring resilience against future storms. Replacement of any manufactured and mobile homes older than five years or sustaining more than \$15,000 in damages with a new HUD Compliant model to ensure resilience to future storms.

Additional Resilient Home Construction Standards were implemented to provide increased resilience to future storms for applicant's homes. These measures are in addition to those repairs needed to provide for an applicant's basic unmet need. Resiliency measures include:

- Complete replacement of entire roofing system (decking, shingles and underlayment) and addition of hurricane roof strappings, if more than 20% of roof is damaged.
- Replacement of all exterior windows and doors (including garage doors) with hurricane resistant impact windows.

### 2020 Update

#### *Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation Program*

In April 2018, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that the State of Florida would receive \$633,485,000 in funding to support long-term mitigation efforts following declared disasters in 2016 and 2017 through HUD's Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) program. Awards will be distributed by DEO on a competitive basis, targeting HUD-designated Most Impacted and Distressed Areas and benefiting Low-to-Moderate Income individuals. The CDBG-MIT Action Plan was drafted with input gathered from community meetings throughout the state and comments received during a 45-day public comment period; the plan was approved by HUD on April 3, 2020.

DEO has apportioned the Federal Award to include the following initiatives: Critical Facility Hardening Program \$75,000,000; General Planning Support Program \$20,000,000; General Infrastructure Program

\$475,000,000; and State Planning and Administration \$63,485,000 including a \$20,000,000 General Planning Support Program.

<b>Allocation of CDBG-MIT Funds</b>		
Program	Allocation	Percent of Funding
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>\$550,000,000</b>	<b>87%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program</li> </ul>	\$475,000,000	75%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program</li> </ul>	\$75,000,000	12%
<b>Planning and Administrative Costs</b>	<b>\$83,485,000</b>	<b>13%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebuild Florida General Planning Support Program</li> </ul>	\$20,000,000	3%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DEO Administration</li> </ul>	\$31,674,250	5%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DEO Planning</li> </ul>	\$31,810,750	5%
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>\$633,485,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### *Rebuild Florida Critical Facility Hardening Program*

The Critical Facility Hardening Program (CFHP) was the first of three CDBG-MIT programs to be launched. The CFHP application opened on April 15, 2020 and closed on June 30, 2020. Through this program, DEO allocated \$75,000,000 for critical facilities, which are defined as structures that serve a public safety purpose for local communities. Eligible activities included: dry proofing, wet proofing, retrofitting building exteriors, and anchoring roof-mounted heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning units. DEO received 359 applications from cities and counties. Currently, the CFHP has scored all applications and is performing 63 site visits before subrecipient agreements can be formed with individual applicants.

#### *Rebuild Florida General Planning Support Program*

The General Planning Support Program (GPS) was the second of three CDBG-MIT programs to be launched. The GPS application opened on May 15, 2020 and closed on July 31, 2020. Through this program, DEO allocated \$20,000,000 to improve state and local planning mechanisms. Eligible activities included: mitigation and resiliency planning; upgrading mapping, data, and other capabilities to better understand evolving disaster risks; and education and outreach programs designed to alert communities and prospective beneficiaries to opportunities to further mitigate identified risks. DEO received 121 applications from cities, counties, non-profits, and educational institutions. Currently, the GPS program has scored all applications and is ready to announce awards.

#### *Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program*

The General Infrastructure Program (GIP) was the third CDBG-MIT program to be launched and will be implemented in three rounds. The first round of GIP applications opened on June 15, 2020 and closed on September 15, 2020. Through this program, DEO allocated \$475,000,000 for infrastructure projects that demonstrably increase community resilience. The first round of funding made \$150,000,000 available; the second round will allocate \$175,000,000; and the third round will allocate \$150,000,000. Eligible activities include: restoration of critical infrastructure; renourishment of protective coastal dune systems and state beaches; building or fortifying buildings that are essential to the health, safety and welfare of a community; rehabilitation or construction of stormwater management systems; improvements to drainage facilities; reconstruction of lift stations and sewage treatment plants; road repair and improvement; and bridge strengthening. DEO received 403 applications from cities and counties for the first round of funding. Currently, the GIP has scored all applications and it ready to proceed to the site visit stage of the scoring process.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Economic Opportunity	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Dan Evans Planning Analyst Department of Economic Opportunity 850-717-8484 <a href="mailto:Dan.Evans@deo.myflorida.com">Dan.Evans@deo.myflorida.com</a>	Joseph Oglesby Business Economic Recovery Manager Department of Economic Opportunity 850-717-8465 <a href="mailto:Joseph.Oglesby@deo.myflorida.com">Joseph.Oglesby@deo.myflorida.com</a>

Department of Education

The Department of Education works to increase the proficiency of all students and to maintain an accountability system to measure student progress. DOE is comprised of several divisions and offices including the State Board of Education, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Division of Blind Services, the Board of Governors, and the Office of Early Learning. The Office of Early Learning has a dedicated liaison to the group, in addition to the DOE liaison.

DOE conducts an annual safety fair to promote and educate employees on best practices to utilize in the workplace. Past representatives have included Leon County Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Cyber Security Unit, Tallahassee Police Department, Florida State Fire Marshal, Tallahassee Fire Department, Florida Department of Transportation, DOE Emergency Management, DOE Office of Safe Schools, DOE Safety Committee, and the Division of Risk Management. Event partners typically share free resources, information, and activities to promote situational awareness.

DOE works closely with the Domestic Security State Working Group Campus Security committee to promote the use of State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant funds to enhance emergency communication systems for several campuses across the state. DOE has a dedicated Interagency Fusion Liaison (IFL) and two Executive Advisory Board (EAB) members embedded in the Florida Fusion Center (FFC), which provides the department situational awareness. DOE encourages school districts to participate in the Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF). Schools are encouraged to incorporate the Statewide Policy for Strengthening Domestic Security in Florida Public Schools into their annual district self-assessments. DOE also promotes online Active Shooter training throughout the department making it a mandatory requirement.

The Office of Safe Schools was created after the tragic event in Parkland, Florida in 2018. The Office of Safe Schools requires school districts to complete vulnerability and security assessments on each individual site, while district-wide assessments are optional.

DOE rents most of their offices from DMS, counties, or private owners. However, the agency does own the Daytona School for the Deaf and Blind; which is a critical facility. DOE conducted a vulnerability assessment for this facility, which has resulted in additional security measures.

In the event of an imminent threat, K-12 schools are often used as shelters, as required by Florida Statute 252. The DOE Facilities Office, in coordination with the Office of Emergency Management, conducts an annual review of the Statewide Shelter Plan and provides recommendations to school districts.

Ensuring vulnerability assessments occur at the local level and conducting assessments on DOE facilities is important and helps to identify opportunities for future mitigation. DOE is also able to provide limited state and federal funding to school districts for such opportunities.

2020 Update

In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schools were closed temporarily but are now open, offering a variety of educational methods including in person education.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management participated in the Florida Department of Education's School Hardening and Harm Mitigation Workgroup (Workgroup) in 2019 and 2020. The Workgroup, composed of individuals with subject matter expertise on school campus hardening best practices, was



convened as directed by the Florida Legislature pursuant to s. 1001.212, F.S. meet as necessary to review school hardening and harm mitigation policies, including, but not limited to, the target hardening practices implemented in other states; the school safety guidelines developed by organizations such as the Partner Alliance for Safer Schools; the tiered approach to target campus hardening strategies identified in the initial report submitted by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission pursuant to s. 943.687(9); and the Florida Building Code for educational facilities construction to determine whether the building code may need to be modified to strengthen school safety and security.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management contributed insight to the Workgroup regarding Local Mitigation Planning and associated grant opportunities. The Workgroup contemplated certain elements of hazard mitigation which can also apply to school hardening measures. The Workgroup provided its final report to the Director of the Office of Safe Schools on July 31, 2020.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Education	1	2	1	4
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 4 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Peter Newman Director of the Office of Emergency Management Department of Education 850-245-9989 <a href="mailto:Peter.Newman@fldoe.org">Peter.Newman@fldoe.org</a>	Zoie Justice Safety Manager Department of Education <a href="mailto:Zoie.Justice@fldoe.org">Zoie.Justice@fldoe.org</a>

Department of Elder Affairs

During an emergency event, needs and resources are managed at the local level and state emergency operations assist as and when needed – all emergencies are local. This locally focused operational structure required of the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) and the community providers of the Aging Network in an emergency is essentially the same as the day-to-day operational structure of the Aging Network. So, although disasters bring their own unique set of challenges, this structure provides a solid platform for successfully dealing with the varying degrees of impacts that a disaster can have on a community. It should be noted that the Aging Network providers are also responsible for identifying all elders, not just the clients they serve but elders located in the general population, who may be at risk due to disruption of services caused by a disaster (e.g., lack of food, power, water, sewer, medicine, fire protection, emergency medical service, law enforcement, and/or continuity of care). Since it is critical that the number of elders who may be affected by a disaster/emergency in any given area is known, DOEA developed a set of geographic maps that are overlaid with demographic information to display those populations who might be at risk when a disaster strikes – including geographically vulnerable areas like flood zones or storm surge risks. It is important that this information be available before an emergency, so that when an event occurs or is about to occur, roles and tasks are clearly defined and understood to provide optimal care for older Floridians.

Additionally, DOEA produces an annual [Disaster Resource Guide](#) for seniors, families, and emergency management offices and organizations regarding disaster preparedness. Within this guide, there is information about mitigation, such as encouraging the purchase of flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and other important preparations to take before an emergency event. DOEA supports all 11 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) throughout the state. The AAA provides local information and resources to the states aging population including local mitigation efforts that are specific to their counties and region.

2020 Update

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs has continued to provide support to Florida's Aging population throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by working in concert with federal, state, local, and community-based partners, and the 11 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to increase COVID-19 Mitigation as well as the impacts from Hurricane Sally. DOEA has coordinated with the AAA regularly to make sure mitigation is taking place at the local level.

Florida's Aging Network has shown incredible resourcefulness during their most challenging times. Beginning in March, DOEA and its affiliated agencies turned all immediate attention to ensuring basic needs for older adults were met. This included activities such as meeting needs for steep increases in home-delivered meals, safely recruiting and mobilizing volunteers, and staffing grocery and prescription delivery services.

The agency helped develop several programs to mitigate the exposure of COVID-19 and combat the impacts of social isolation and confinement on the aging population. The 11 Area Agencies on Aging created new business models to increase all home-delivered meal services, including the launch of the new restaurant meal initiative, when congregate meal sites closed. They worked tirelessly to bring new solutions to new demands. In fact, home-delivered meals increased by over 200 percent compared to the same time last year. And DOEA delivered over 13 million meals during a seven-month period. Ingenuity

among local providers allowed the new partnership with the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association to be self-sustaining, and the program is scalable as it moves into the future.

An additional example includes DOEA's partnership with Scent Evidence K9 to distribute an initial 5,000 Scent Preservation Kits® to caregivers of those living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ARD). The kits were distributed through 17 Memory Disorder Clinics throughout the state. Older adults with ARD may have an increased tendency to wander and become lost. If that happens, proactive family safety measures, such as the Scent Preservation Kit®, are providing effective response systems to locate missing persons and return them to safety. These kits provide K9 responders with uncontaminated scent articles that significantly reduce the time it takes to locate someone.

DOEA worked with the Aging Network and the Aging and Disability Resource Centers to step up telephone reassurance calls and averaged more than 50,000 calls a month over a three-month period through both responsive and proactive calls to check on the unmet needs, well-being, and safety of older residents.

Another solution to breaking social isolation is through the therapeutic robotic companion pets initiative. DOEA partnered with Ageless Innovation's Joy for All® Companion Pets to enhance meaningful interactions among older adults, their caregivers, and family members. The interactive companion pets help combat loneliness or depression by improving overall mood and quality of life. Robotic pets remain available through DOEA's online application and are available for any older adult. DOEA has distributed over 4,000 robotic pets.

DOEA launched the Florida SAFE Survey in August. Over 12,000 individuals have visited [www.FloridaSAFESurvey.com](http://www.FloridaSAFESurvey.com). By taking the survey, respondents discover how their behaviors affect their own health and the health of those around them. The survey is free and may be taken multiple times so a person can see how different actions may impact their risk factors and SAFE behavior scores. The survey itself is adaptable to changing situations, includes a mental health section, and the most recent additions to the survey include questions on how an individual will spend the holidays.

DOEA's Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE) provided over 1,000 Virtual Medicaid Outreach Events, reaching more than 28,000 people. Since the beginning of May 2020, SHINE provided 785 Virtual Medicare Group Outreach Events reaching 19,865 individuals, and 380 Virtual Medicare Media Outreach Events, reaching an estimated 8,770 individuals. The virtual Medicare classes resulted in dozens of Senior Medicare Patrol cases where beneficiaries have reported being a victim of suspected Medicare fraud, waste, and abuse. SHINE then followed up with each senior to obtain the necessary details to report the cases to the proper authorities.

Throughout 2020, DOEA has remained committed to proactive information sharing because it can help older adults cope with social isolation and any accompanying sense of grief or stress. The innovations and new programs provided by DOEA have provided outreach and links to helpful resources that can reduce feelings of loneliness and replace them with a sense of inclusion.

#### Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Elder Affairs	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 4 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Joshua Register General Services Manager/ECO Department of Elder Affairs 850-414-2148 <a href="mailto:RegisterJ@elderaffairs.org">RegisterJ@elderaffairs.org</a>	VACANT Title Department of Elder Affairs Phone Email

Department of Environmental Protection

DEP is responsible for environmental management and stewardship, protecting our air, water, and land. There are three primary areas including land and recreation, regulatory, and ecosystem restoration.

The Land and Recreation program area has two Divisions: Recreation and Parks, and State Lands. The Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources, under the Division of Recreation and Parks, is responsible for providing technical and professional services to preserve and manage natural and cultural resources in state parks. Another program under the Division of Recreation and Parks is the Land Acquisition and Administration program which identifies, evaluates, and establishes priorities for the land acquisition program. The Division of State Lands is responsible for the acquisition of new land and administration of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (BOT) owned lands which includes approximately 3,000,000 acres of BOT uplands; 6,000,000 acres of territorial waters; 1,235,000 acres of lakes and 260,000 acres of rivers.

The Regulatory Program has six divisions: Air Resource Management, Water Resource Management, Waste Management, Florida Geological Survey, Law Enforcement and Regulatory District Offices. Many DEP mitigation related programs are within the Division of Water Resource Management. The Engineering, Hydrology and Geology Program oversees relevant programs including Dam Safety Program, Hydrology and Hydraulics Support, Mining and Mitigation Technical Support and Storm Water Support.

The Dam Safety Program coordinates statewide dam safety activities and provides technical support for permitting, inspection, evaluation, condition assessment, and Emergency Action Plans (EAP) for dams. This program is critical in statewide mitigation because dams are water control structures and provide protection to large numbers of people from flooding.

The Hydrology and Hydraulics Support staff reviews hydrographic assessments submitted in support of environmental resource permits.

The Mining and Mitigation Technical Support staff assist the Mining and Mitigation Program with completeness reviews regarding the technical aspects of stormwater management systems proposed for mine and reclamation projects to ensure that water quality and quantity meet state statutes and rules. The Mining and Mitigation Program regulates mining and reviews environmental resource permit applications and reclamation plans for mines. In this program the term "mitigation" refers to mitigating mines, not general risk reduction actions.

The Storm Water Support staff serves as a reference for statewide consistency in review of the stormwater portion of environmental resource permits and provides stormwater and engineering expertise for rulemaking efforts, Basin Management Action Plans, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program, and the Non-Point Source Section 319(h) and Total Maximum Daily Load grant selections. Staff assists the district offices on complex projects seeking environmental resource permit authorizations. The NPDES Stormwater Program regulates point water source discharges from three potential sources: municipal separate storm sewer systems, construction activities, and industrial activities. The program also develops policy to minimize and prevent pollutants in stormwater discharges.

The Division of Water Resource Management (DWRM) is also responsible for implementing state laws providing for the protection of the quality of Florida's drinking water, ground water, rivers, lakes, estuaries and wetlands; and the reclamation of mined lands. It is comprised of several programs that

perform water facilities regulation, and operational support services and functions. The majority of division staff is located in Tallahassee; however, its Mining & Mitigation and Oil & Gas programs have staff operating in satellite offices throughout the state. The division also serves as Florida's central point of contact for federally delegated water programs, such as NPDES Stormwater, Drinking Water and Underground Injection Control (UIC), and has regulatory oversight of certain functions of water and wastewater facilities throughout Florida. Additionally, the division regulates the environmental resource permitting of mines and mitigation banks.

The Division of Waste Management implements state and federal laws to protect the environment from improper handling and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes, manages programs for waste facilities and pollutant storage systems, and conducts non-regulatory activities like financial and technical assistance for recycling and waste reduction.

The Florida Geological Survey (FGS) focuses on proactive environmental problem solving for geologic hazards as they relate to public health and safety. For example, FGS maps topographic depressions across the state. FGS partnered with DEM under a mitigation grant to conduct a study to determine the geologic favorability to sinkhole development across the state. That study was used to complete the Sinkhole Risk Assessment in the SHMP and is included as an appendix to the plan. The FGS also led a project to assess economic benefits of a statewide LiDAR data collection. The report informed elected officials during the state budgetary process. Funds were authorized and the data are now being collected through DEM administration. FGS is also an active participant in the Florida Coastal Mapping Project (FCMaP), the mission of which is "Accessible, high resolution seabed data of Florida's coastal waters to support infrastructure, habitat mapping, restoration projects, resource management, emergency response, and coastal resiliency and hazard studies for the citizens of Florida." The DEP Geographic Information Officer is an FCMaP co-chair and the State Geologist serves on the FCMaP Steering Committee. The goal of FCMaP is to facilitate acquisition and availability of high-resolution bathymetry from Florida's shoreline to the edge of the continental shelf. Such data can improve coastal flooding models.

The Ecosystem Restoration program area has several divisions described below. The Office of Ecosystem Projects has a key role in restoring America's everglades, which is the largest environmental restoration project in the world. The Office also ensures implementation of Everglades Forever Act, and focuses on improving water quality, and restoring hydrology and ecology of Florida's ecosystems.

The Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection coordinates the protection of Florida's coastal resource, including submerged lands and coastal uplands, aquatic preserves and national estuarine research reserves, and coral reef resources. The State Buffer Preserve Program works to conserve and preserve the natural values of ecosystems. The Florida Resilient Coastlines Program provides technical assistance to communities to develop coastal management strategies and plans. The Program achieves this through grant funding. The Coastal Management Program also developed the Adaptation Guidebook to assist communities in sea level rise and adaptation planning. The Coastal Engineering and Geology Program prepares annual reports on critically eroded beaches, which are Appendices to the SHMP; develops inlet management plans; conducts post-storm erosion and damage assessments; provides technical expertise regarding coastal engineering, coastal hydrodynamics and morphology, beach erosion control, coastal sediment processes, coastal structures design and construction, and coastal geology and sedimentology. The Beaches, Inlets, and Ports Program processes Joint Coastal permit applications and environmental resource permit applications. The Coastal Construction Control Line Program regulates structures and

activities which can cause beach erosion, destabilize dunes, damage upland properties, or interfere with public access.

The Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration has several purposes including surface water and groundwater quality standards; assesses bodies of water to identify pollution problems; adopts water quality restoration targets known as Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs); develops and implements Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs), Reasonable Assurance Plans, and Nutrient Reduction Plans; provides training on stormwater, erosion, and sedimentation control inspections; and works to protect and restore springs. The Division compiles reports from the Water Management Districts to develop an annual report on TMDLs, BMAPs, recovery, and prevention strategies. Projects to restore basins and water quality often include mitigation projects.

The Division of Water Restoration Assistance provides grants and loans for projects to improve the state's water quality, quantity, and which define the benefit to the environment and local communities. There are three funding programs: Springs Restoration Funding, Nonpoint Source Funds, and the Revolving Funds which are divided into the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Projects from the Nonpoint Source Funds are those that reduce water pollution from sources like Stormwater, which may also be mitigation projects. The Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds programs are designed to plan, design, build, or upgrade wastewater, stormwater, or drinking water facilities. The Office of Water Policy addresses statewide water management issues in coordination with the Water Management Districts.

The Sustainable Initiatives Program is a voluntary, non-regulatory program in DEP to assist Florida industry and residents, in order to protect Florida's environment and promote sustainability.

### 2020 Update

#### *Engineering, Hydrology, and Geology Program*

FEMA provides annual funding to the Dam Safety Program. In 2020 approximately \$111,000 was used to fund:

- No-Dam Break Inundation studies for a complex system of four Florida High Hazard Potential (HHP) dams
- Survey mapping for two HHP dams
- Dam Owners' Workshop for 34 attendees
- Online technical seminar for anticipated 60+ attendees will be held on December 2 and 3, 2020
- 10 dam site visits and condition assessments
- Emergency management, computer modeling, and dam safety technical training for the State Dam Safety Officer

#### *Chief Resilience Officer*

In 2019, the Governor of Florida appointed Dr. Julia Nesheiwat to the position of Chief Resilience Officer (CRO). DEP, particularly the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, coordinates with the CRO regularly. The CRO began this task by identifying the changing impacts of water on the state as the most immediate and pressing resilience issue to address. The CRO's 2019 Annual Report specifically highlighted the changing impacts of sea level rise (SLR) and storm events on our coastline, as well as recurrent flooding

throughout the state. In 2020, the Governor appointed Secretary Valenstein as the acting CRO to fulfill this important role through continued coordination and advocating for resilience planning by Florida's local, regional and state entities. Additionally, Secretary Valenstein and DEP initiated the necessary steps to implement Senate Bill 178, regarding public financing of construction projects within Florida's coastal zone. This law will require a public entity that commissions or manages a construction project within the coastal building zone, using funds appropriated from the state, to conduct a sea level impact projection (SLIP) study prior to commencing construction. In implementing this law, DEP will be establishing, by rule, for the first time on a statewide level, standards for the SLIP study including sea level rise projections, increased storm risk, and the chance of substantial flood damage over the life of the structure and will also provide ways to adapt to those risks. DEP has begun work to develop a web-based tool that will not only serve to help entities subject to the requirement to conduct a SLIP study but also serve as an educational tool for the public to help Florida become more resilient. DEP has engaged stakeholder groups for input on implementation of this new law and initiated formal rulemaking which will continue into and be finalized in 2021.

#### *Coastal Engineering, and Geology Program*

The Critically Eroded Beaches in Florida report was updated in July 2020 and states that there are 422.7 miles of critically eroded beach, 9.1 miles of critically eroded inlet shoreline, 88.7 miles of non-critically eroded beach, and 3.2 miles of non-critically eroded inlet shoreline statewide. Additional studies of shoreline conditions since Hurricane Irma have concluded that small segments in Flagler County (1.6 miles), Collier County (0.6 mile) and Sarasota County (0.7 mile) are now critical. Also, studies of shoreline changes in Franklin County since Hurricane Michael have concluded changes in both non-critical and critical areas on St. Vincent Island.

#### *Beach Management Funding Assistance Program*

BMFA has an annual recurring appropriation of \$50 million to assist with erosion control and the nourishment of Florida's sandy shorelines fronting the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and Straits of Florida. Pursuant to Chapter 161, F.S., DEP was tasked with the development of a long-term repair and maintenance strategy of Florida's comprehensive, statewide program for beach erosion control, preservation, restoration, nourishment, and hurricane protection. The funds will be used to provide financial assistance to local governments and special taxing authorities for beach and dune restoration, beach nourishment, inlet sand bypassing, regional sediment management, erosion control activities, and other innovative projects from the feasibility and design stage through post-construction monitoring. The partnerships between local, state, and federal agencies for these management projects contributes to the continued implementation of the Statewide Strategic Beach Management Plan (SBMP) and the Long-Range Budget Plan. Rule revisions for the program's beach and inlet project ranking criteria and methodology were completed in August 2020, following statutory updates in 2019. The project funding applications received for FY21/22 were evaluated using the updated rule chapter 62B-36, F.A.C. The FY 20/21 Beach and Inlet Appropriations are listed by project and can be found on the program's website.<sup>2</sup>

#### Agency Mitigation Assessment

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<sup>2</sup> <https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/Beaches%20FY%2019-20%20Funding%20Appropriation.pdf>



This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Environmental Protection	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Cory Dilmore, P.E. Environmental Administrator Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) 850-245-8811 <a href="mailto:Cory.Dilmore@floridadep.gov">Cory.Dilmore@floridadep.gov</a>	Whitney Gray Administrator, Florida Resilient Coastlines Program Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) 850-245-2098 <a href="mailto:Whitney.Gray@dep.state.fl.us">Whitney.Gray@dep.state.fl.us</a>

Department of Health

The mission of the Florida Department of Health is to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida, through integrated state, county, and community efforts. The FDOH actively works to achieve its mission through the activities and functions of its various Divisions.

The Divisions in FDOH are: Children's Medical Services; Public Health Statistics and Performance Management; Emergency Preparedness and Community Support; Community Health Promotion; Disease Control and Health Protection; Medical Quality Assurance; Disability Determinations; and Administration.

The FDOH Office of County Health Systems provides oversight for the sixty-seven county Health Departments, which are responsible for creating and maintaining conditions that contribute to their community's health. Each county health department office investigates health problems and health threats and leads planning and response activities for public health emergencies. Local county health department offices prevent, minimize, and contain adverse health effects from communicable diseases, disease outbreaks from unsafe food and water, chronic diseases, environmental hazards, injuries, and risky health behaviors.

Through the actions of its Divisions, several DOH programs are administered that directly support the overall health of Florida's communities.

In the Emergency Preparedness and Community Support Division, the Healthcare System Preparedness program ensures there is capacity and capability for the provision of critical public health and medical services in order to reduce the potential for adverse health outcomes during a disaster. In this Division, the Bureau of Preparedness and Response provides departmental expertise and leadership in the public health and medical component of all-hazards planning; preparation (including training and exercises); coordination; and the provision of funding, staff and material support for potential catastrophic incidents that may threaten the health of our communities and compromise the ability of the healthcare system to deliver needed health care services. During activation of the State Emergency Response Team, the Bureau provides the Department's primary support for Emergency Support Function 8 (Health and Medical), including the agency's emergency coordinating officer. The Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight creates and sustains a continuum of care that integrates injury prevention, emergency medical services, trauma, rehabilitation and community reintegration into an inclusive health care system that engages all stakeholders and partners as part of a cohesive health care and injury prevention community.

The Division of Community Health Promotion implements the Built Environment Program. The built environment includes all buildings, spaces, and products that are created or modified by people. The built environment impacts our physical and social environments and subsequently our health and quality of life. The State Health Improvement Plan includes Environmental Health objectives including integrating health-related language into local government Comprehensive Plans, increasing the number of jurisdictions with Complete Streets policies to provide for safe travel irrespective of the mode of transportation, and share best practices to promote biking, walking, and using public transportation. These objectives are related to risk and vulnerability reduction. Another program in the Division of Community Health Promotion, Community Resilience, works to develop informed, empowered, and resilient healthcare systems and residents. Resilient healthcare systems incorporate mitigation techniques and approaches.

The Division of Disease Control and Health Protection implements the Environmental Health program, which works to prevent disease of environmental origin. Within this programmatic area, the Climate and Health program assess the impacts of climate on human health; for example, Florida faces natural hazards such as severe storms, flooding, and tropical cyclones. Additionally, the Environmental Health program partners with Florida State University to help Build Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE) to improve the ability of the public health sector to respond to health effects related to climate variability. This is a form of vulnerability reduction.

2020 Update

On March 9, 2020, the Florida Governor declared a state of emergency for the entire state of Florida as a result of COVID-19. COVID-19 is a highly infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus that can cause severe respiratory illness and is readily spread person-to-person. This disease became a pandemic in 2020. The Department of Health is the lead agency for the state response to the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore all agency assets were focused on response and mitigation of the disease.

In 2019 DOH identified several projects that would contribute to the resiliency of the County Health Department’s and the FDOH Central Office and support the community healthcare system in a post-disaster scenario. These projects include: a whole-building generator for the central office building in Tallahassee that houses the Bureau of Preparedness and Response and the Department’s network hub, flood mitigation at the Public Health Lab in Jacksonville, and a medical surge asset to support damaged health care facilities (hospitals) post-hurricane impact and increase community resiliency by helping to keep the healthcare workforce and public in the affected area. All of these projects were completed in 2019 or early 2020.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Health	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 6 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Jeff Bielling Planning Unit Manager Department of Health 850-294-0190 <a href="mailto:Jeffery.Bielling@flhealth.gov">Jeffery.Bielling@flhealth.gov</a>	VACANT Title Department of Health Phone Email

Department of Juvenile Justice

The Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is tasked with increasing public safety by reducing juvenile delinquency through effective prevention, intervention, and treatment services that strengthen families and turn around the lives of troubled youth. The General Services Bureau is responsible for facility management. There are 45 Residential and Correctional Facilities and 21 Juvenile Detention Centers. The General Services Bureau takes an active role in the emergency management and mitigation of the facilities. For example, in 2017 Hurricane Irma caused flooding at a DJJ facility. Damages were repaired, but now DJJ is reviewing options to mitigate future flooding. DJJ and this facility are engaged with the water management district and DEM. Furthermore, DJJ has completed other mitigation type projects on their facilities using maintenance funds and any new construction considers mitigation options.

2020 Update

The Hastings Youth Academy was built in a coastal plain environment and is 700 feet west of Deep Creek, a tributary of the St. John’s River. The facility is in a .2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area Flood Zone X and at closest approach is less than 500 feet from the Flood Zone AE “Riverine Floodway in Combined Riverine and Coastal Zone.” Peak elevation of the facility is six feet. Per the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), the base flood elevation for the facility varies between 4.0 and 4.4 feet.

Rain and wind driven rain from Hurricane Irma overwhelmed the existing stormwater drainage capabilities which led to catastrophic flooding and inundation of the Hastings building and grounds. As a result, each of the five buildings on campus experienced substantial and significant damage. It cost over \$2,800,000 to bring the facility back to pre-disaster condition. To prevent or reduce damages from future similar events, the agency requested FEMA Public Assistance 406 mitigation funding to implement a three-phase, comprehensive, dry flood-proofing plan to protect the campus. Measures included in the scope of work include replacing and upgrading sealants on all buildings; design and construction of a floodwall around the entire campus; and design and installation of a stormwater lift station with discharge pumps and outlets. The estimated cost of this project is \$2,676,581.

FEMA has approved \$2,676,581.80 in 406 Hazardous Mitigation Planning funding to complete the project. The project will begin once DJJ receives final approval from the Recovery Bureau at DEM.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Juvenile Justice	1	2	2	5
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 5 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Roger Kesling General Services Chief Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) 850-717-2740 <a href="mailto:Roger.Kesling@djj.state.fl.us">Roger.Kesling@djj.state.fl.us</a>	Gregory Davis Support Services Manager Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) 850-717-22772 <a href="mailto:Gregory.Davis@djj.state.fl.us">Gregory.Davis@djj.state.fl.us</a>

Department of Lottery

The Florida Lottery was created to allow the people of the state to benefit from significant additional moneys for education, while playing the best lottery games available. The mission of the Florida Lottery is to maximize revenues in a manner consistent with the dignity of the state and the welfare of its citizens.

Lottery dollars have funded School Recognition and Merit Programs for improved schools and have even helped build and renovate schools through the Classrooms First and Classrooms for Kids programs.

2020 Update

More than \$37 billion transferred to the Education Enhancement Trust Fund (EETF) since the Lottery’s inception in 1988. For the 18th consecutive year, the Florida Lottery transferred more than \$1 billion to the EETV – including over \$1.9 billion in FY 2019 – 2020.

Florida’s public schools (Pre-K, K-12 programs, and school construction) received more than \$20.3 billion since the Lottery’s inception – including over \$1 billion in FY 2018-19.

Florida’s public colleges and universities received a combined total of more than \$9.9 billion since the Lottery’s inception – including over \$581 million in FY 2018-19.

The Florida Lottery contributed more than \$6.8 billion to the Bright Futures Scholarship program – including over \$618 million in FY 2019-20 – allowing over 880,000 students to attend college.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Florida Lottery	1	2	1	4
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 4 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Loren Lowers Deputy Director of Operations Florida Lottery 850-487-7777 <a href="mailto:LowersL@flalottery.com">LowersL@flalottery.com</a>	Cory Williams Special Agency Supervisor Florida Lottery 850-487-7777 <a href="mailto:WilliamsCo@flalottery.com">WilliamsCo@flalottery.com</a>

Department of Management Services

The Department of Management Services supports sister agencies as well as current and former state employees with workforce and business-related functions so that agencies can focus on their core missions. The Division of Real Estate Development and Management (REDM) is responsible for overall management of the Florida Facilities Pool (FFP), as well as other facilities and structures DMS has been given the responsibility to manage, which totals 112 structures. The Division also manages the Fixed Capital Outlay (FCO) fund appropriated by the Florida Legislature and oversees repairs and renovations of DMS-managed facilities with those funds. These projects involve mitigation in the form of code compliance. The Building Construction Bureau oversees construction of public buildings statewide. The Operations and Management Bureau is responsible for the daily operations of DMS managed facilities. When requested and funded by sister agencies, DMS may assist with code compliance for other state facilities.

The Florida State Owned Lands and Records Information System (FL-SOLARIS) is a database owned by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to maintain an inventory of all real property and facilities owned by the State. DEP is responsible for the maintenance of all real property records (land). State agencies, water management districts, Board of Governors Universities, FCS colleges, and the judicial branch, not including Department of Transportation facilities, are responsible for maintaining respective facility data within FL-SOLARIS. The database includes more than 20,000 facilities owned and maintained by sixty-five different entities. Each of these entities is responsible for maintenance and mitigation efforts for their facilities. The FL-SOLARIS database was used to complete the Risk Assessment within the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The location of the 20,000 facilities were overlaid with risk and vulnerability maps to determine whether the facilities may be vulnerable or at risk. The mitigation efforts conducted by DMS are in the form of code compliance for facilities in the FFP, which could impact the continuity of operations and continuity of government at each of these facilities. Through general operations and maintenance, as well as the FCO projects, DMS completes mitigation projects annually for 112 structures. Additionally, the DMS database FL-SOLARIS is crucial to accurate risk and vulnerability mapping and analysis in the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

2020 Update

DMS had a large role in the COVID-19 pandemic response with staff supporting many functions in the SEOC and virtually.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Management Services	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 6 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Virgil Howard Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) Department of Management Services (DMS) 850-488-4946 <a href="mailto:Virgil.Howard@dms.myflorida.com">Virgil.Howard@dms.myflorida.com</a>	Hank Stephens Alternate ECO – ESF-2 Department of Management Services (DMS) 850-294-5620 <a href="mailto:Hank.Stephens@dms.myflorida.com">Hank.Stephens@dms.myflorida.com</a>



Department of Military Affairs/Florida National Guard

The Florida Department of Military Affairs (DMA) provides management oversight of the Florida National Guard (FLNG) and provides units and personnel ready to support national security objectives, protect the public, and contribute to national, state, and community programs. The DMA and FLNG operate together within policy guidance and fiscal framework of federal and state authorities. The DMA/FLNG is headquartered at St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine, Florida. The joint headquarters is responsible for more than one billion dollars in state property, armories in fifty-five communities in Florida, and more than 73,000 acres in training lands. The DMA/FLNG is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of over 800 buildings, which often includes retrofitting and hardening. For example, the DMA/FLNG partnered with other agencies, including the City of St. Augustine, to complete a mitigation project. An existing historic seawall runs along the coast, protecting historic districts, residential and commercial structures, and the DMA/FLNG headquarters. Over time, the historic seawall has deteriorated and no longer provides adequate protection. The project involves reinforcing and stabilizing the seawall, waterward of the historic seawall, to protect the area from Category 1 storm surge.

2020 Update

The historic seawall preservation and reinforcement project is currently underway. DMA and USACE recently completed a scoping meeting to fine tune the overall project requirements. It is anticipated that the construction portion of the project will begin during the summer of 2021. DMA continues reviewing sites within our inventory that are subject to flooding in order to strategize long term construction plans to include acquiring land less susceptible to floods. After Hurricane Michael hit Panama City, an Armory which was located near the Gulf of Mexico sustained significant damage. To mitigate the probability of future flooding and wind damage, DMA sought out and acquired land near the Airport well off of the coast.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Dept of Military Affairs/ Florida National Guard	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 6 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
LTC Ryan Leonard Facility Plans and Programs Manager Dept of Military Affairs/Florida National Guard 904-823-0270 <a href="mailto:Ryan.A.Leonard.Civ@mail.mil">Ryan.A.Leonard.Civ@mail.mil</a>	Dana Harmon Director Property & Accountability Dept of Military Affairs/Florida National Guard 904-827-8565 <a href="mailto:Dana.M.Harmon.NFG@mail.mil">Dana.M.Harmon.NFG@mail.mil</a>

Department of State

The Department of State's (DOS) mission is to improve the quality of life for all Floridians through the agency's critical functions and programs. The Division of Historic Resources (DHR) is responsible for identifying, evaluating, preserving, and interpreting historic and cultural resources. DHR has several programs to accomplish this objective, including the Florida Main Street Program and the Architectural Preservation Services program. The Florida Main Street Program provides technical assistance to revitalize historic downtowns and encourage economic development. The program developed a manual to assist communities with integrating historic preservation into disaster preparedness, called Disaster Mitigation for Historic Structures: Protection Strategies. DHR also conducts compliance reviews for all project types and provides technical assistance to ensure compliance with state and federal preservation laws which mandate consideration of a project's impact on historic and archaeological properties. DHR also manages the Architectural Preservation Services program which provides architectural technical assistance to the public on historic rehabilitation projects, as well as architectural support for all programs and grant project applications reviews. The Architectural Preservation Services program developed the Disaster Mitigation and Recovery for Historic Properties Guide which assists communities with improving coordination between emergency management and historic preservation efforts, as well as identifying funding sources and providing best practices for mitigation. These and other related guidebooks are provided to local emergency managers. DHR's Bureau of Archaeological Research conducts surveys and excavations and provides specialized damage assessments after hazards have impacted an area, such as flooding, high winds, and forest fires.

The Division of Library and Information Services oversees the Records Management Program, including the State Records Center. The State Records Center offers government agencies low cost storage in a secure facility. The Records Management Program provides Disaster Recovery support, including information on recovery techniques and handling guidance regarding records that have been impacted by floods, fires, and other hazards, as well as secure vault storage for microfilm master and backup copies of vital records and 24/7/365 emergency access to system backups.

2020 Update

DOS was active in the response to Hurricane Sally and the continuing recovery efforts for Hurricane Michael and Irma to ensure recovery and resiliency in the impacted areas. For example, in the Compliance and Review Program, responses to historic properties and archaeological sites and project reviews were expedited to ensure timely recovery. The program consulted with Tyndall Air Force Base regarding recovery efforts and is coordinating with Tyndall AFB to develop a Programmatic Agreement (PA) to streamline redevelopment of the base. The program is consulted with the Florida Department of Economic Development and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to develop a PA to streamline the review process for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery projects. The program is consulting with FEMA to develop a new PA to continue expedited review for FEMA funded projects and replace the expiring 2014 FEMA agreement. The program also provided technical assistance regarding proper treatment of damaged historic structures and archaeological sites from impacts due to Hurricane Sally and Hurricane Michael. The Architectural Preservation Services program provided technical assistance regarding damaged historic buildings from Hurricane Michael. The Archaeological Research team consulted on damaged museum collections. The Underwater archaeology program worked with a local informant and the National Park Service to identify archaeological material discovered at Gulf Islands National Seashore following hurricane Sally. Underwater staff also worked with

a local Carrabelle resident to record and monitor historic ship timbers exposed because of Hurricane Michael. Finally, the Florida Master Site File staff shared information with FEMA to assist in identifying damaged properties or those at risk during response and recovery.

The Florida Main Street Program serves as a conduit to Main Street communities across Florida to provide information regarding state and federal disaster guidance, including Covid-19 response. The program also continues to encourage communities to review existing Comprehensive Plans and land development regulations to incorporate mitigation and resiliency where applicable. Using the Hurricane Irma Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF), the Division of Historical Resources issued an RFP for a pair of documents to provide updated guidance and best practices for disaster preparation and recovery policy and hands-on resiliency measures. The Division is also administering a sub-grant program for Hurricane Irma and Michael ESHPPF for direct disaster recovery assistance for historic and archaeological resources.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of State	1	2	1	4
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 4 – Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
John Boynton Department Operations Officer/ECO Department of State 850-245-6692 <a href="mailto:John.Boynton@dos.myflorida.com">John.Boynton@dos.myflorida.com</a>	Jason Aldridge Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Department of State 850-245-6344 <a href="mailto:Jason.Aldridge@dos.myflorida.com">Jason.Aldridge@dos.myflorida.com</a>

Department of Transportation

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) provides a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhanced economic prosperity, and preserves the quality of our environment and communities.

The Office of Environmental Management, within the Engineering and Operations Office integrates environmental and stewardship principles into all Department plans and programs, and balance natural, human, cultural, and physical considerations with sound engineering principles, with the goal of preserving the quality of our environment and communities. This Office provides statewide technical expertise in all areas related to natural and community resource considerations in association with transportation actions in all phases of project development. These considerations include wildlife and habitat, wetlands and mitigation, historic, archeological, tribal, socio-cultural, and public involvement. Also within the Engineering and Operations section is the Chief Engineer, who oversees the Office of Design, Office of Maintenance, Office of Construction, Office of Materials, Office of Right of Way, Traffic Engineering and Operations, the Program Management Office, and the Emergency Management Office.

The Office of Design develops policy, procedures, criteria, and standards for the design of roadways, bridges, and other structures. This includes drainage design procedures involving hydrology, hydraulics, pipe material selection, bridge scour, coastal engineering, stormwater management, and erosion and sediment control. The Office developed the Drainage Manual as guidance for communities that want their infrastructure to be built to the same standard as the Department's. These design policies and procedures include mitigation efforts.

The Office of Maintenance implements the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater program, which provides statewide oversight and coordination with FDOT Districts.

The Emergency Management Office coordinates and oversees disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts for the Department. It also works closely with the Florida Division of Emergency Management and FEMA on the Department's federal reimbursement.

The Office of Policy Planning develops and coordinates implementation of the Florida Transportation Plan, a single overarching statewide plan guiding Florida's transportation future. The Florida Transportation Plan includes several goals, objectives, and strategies related to mitigation, and ensuring resilient transportation infrastructure is central to the plan.

Related Goals, Objectives, and Strategies from the FTP:

*Goals*

- Safety and security for residents, visitors, and business
- Agile, resilient, and quality transportation infrastructure
- Transportation systems that enhance Florida's communities
- Transportation solutions that enhance Florida's environment

*Objectives*

- Eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries
- Reduce the number of crashes and other safety incidents on the transportation system

- Reduce the frequency and severity of transportation-related public health, safety, and security risks
- Improve emergency response and recovery times
- Increase the resilience of infrastructure
- Reduce transportation's impact on water, critical lands, and habitats
- Improve transportation system connectivity
- Increase the energy efficiency of transportation

#### *Key Strategies*

- Identify and mitigate risks to Florida's transportation system
- Strategically complete transportation systems and networks
- Integrate land use & transportation decisions
- Develop transportation systems to protect and enhance air quality, water quality and quantity, critical lands, and habitats

Florida will place a high priority on identifying risks to its transportation system and the customers that use it. Florida will incorporate these risks into planning and management decisions for all modes, including steps to:

- Identify vulnerabilities to hazards and implement actions to reduce or prepare the system to withstand these risks
- Improve the agility of the transportation system during emergencies and disruptions
- Expand asset management decisions to address the long-term costs of known vulnerabilities
- Adapt transportation design, construction, and maintenance techniques to reduce vulnerability and improve resilience of transportation infrastructure
- Identify and implement approaches for coordinating environmental management, land use, and urban design decisions
- Establish long-term approach to incentivize, where appropriate, the transition of infrastructure and development away from vulnerable areas
- Update emergency management plans covering preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation to reflect changing conditions

The Systems Implementation Office implements the Strategic Intermodal System, a network of high priority transportation facilities, through development of needs, cost feasibility, and Ten-Year Project Plans. The Research Center at FDOT conducts research regarding resilience and hazards. FDOT is a partner in the current LiDAR data acquisition project, along with the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) and US Geological Survey.

#### 2020 Update

The agency is currently updating the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP). The plan includes considerations of hazards, vulnerability, risk assessments, mitigation, and resiliency. The FTP update process incorporated a wide range of stakeholders through its Resiliency Sub-committee. The FTP includes four elements: Vision Element, Policy Element, Implementation Element, and Performance Element.

FDOT's Resiliency Policy focuses on sea level rise, flooding, and storm events and identifies implementation strategies through planning, project development, design, construction, operations, and maintenance of transportation facilities.

The agency is conducting several research projects, including one focused on incorporating climatic and hydrologic non-stationarity and deep uncertainty into FDOT planning and design guidelines & processes. The research project includes planning for agile, resilient, and quality transportation infrastructure, focused on moving from a stationarity assumption (past climate indicates what is to be expected in the future) to a non-stationarity environment characterized by rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns and floods, stronger and/or more frequent tropical storms, changing land use/land cover, and rising groundwater tables.

FDOT is developing tools and guidance to address sea level rise and enhance the resilience of transportation infrastructure.

- FDOT has created the Sea Level Scenario Sketch Planning Tool to identify impacts of sea level rise and storm surge to transportation infrastructure.
- The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Resiliency Study is used for identifying impacts to SIS facilities from numerous hazards and developing a Resiliency Action Plan.
- The agency continues to implement design criteria to prioritize vulnerable road corridors and bridges by considering groundwater elevations as a result of sea level rise, flood storm events, wave force resistance, scour, wind, erosion, and durability.
- Projected sea levels and tides are analyzed in design of bridge replacement projects.
- Corrosion free products such as stainless steel and Fiber reinforced polymers (FRP) are used in vulnerable areas to extend facility service life.

The agency coordinates closely with various local, state, and federal agencies, including the FDEP Coastal Resilience Forum and Chief Resilience Officer Working Group.

FDOT is designing and building infrastructure to enhance readiness and respond to storm events through design and construction of a range of adaptation measures such as armoring projects, seawalls, articulating concrete blocks (ACBs), and rubble rip-rap which absorb wave forces, during hurricane events.

#### *Storm event response and recovery*

- A great deal of pre-storm preservation and preparation takes place in advance of a storm event. FDOT conducts pre-event staging for early response from neighboring Districts, lowers high-mast lights, secures maintenance yards and construction sites, and checks and clears drainage areas, inlets and other locations that historically flood. Additional activities include staging generators at rest areas, locking-down movable bridges and wind speed monitoring.
- Emergency Shoulder Use (ESU) was a key strategy first implemented during Hurricane Irma evacuations along the I-75 and I-4 corridors. The ESU strategy was developed to increase traffic capacity during major hurricane evacuations. ESU plans have been developed for key corridors (I-4, I-10, I-75, I-95, and Florida's Turnpike).
- Pursuant to recent state legislation, Florida's Turnpike is incorporating staging areas along its facilities and service plazas for emergency response and recovery efforts.

- Advanced procurement for traffic signal generators and repairs, sign and roadway lighting repairs, and debris monitoring and cut-and-toss operations help residents to return to their homes and businesses and allow for critical repairs to utilities, aiding a quicker and comprehensive community and economic recovery.

*Project Examples: Tamiami Trail*

- Tamiami Trail highway, which runs across the southern Everglades: Restoring the Everglades is critical to protecting the health and quality of our state’s unique environment and by raising the roadway on concrete pillars the department is able to improve water conveyance, roadway safety, and stormwater treatment in the area.
- Phase 2 of the Everglades Restoration project will begin later this year and will focus on raising and reconstructing the remaining 6.7 miles of the eastern Tamiami Trail.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Transportation	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Irene Cabral Emergency Coordination Officer Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) 850-445-7111 <a href="mailto:Irene.Cabral@dot.state.fl.us">Irene.Cabral@dot.state.fl.us</a>	Brian Richardson Emergency Management Coordinator – Planning Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) 850-544-8359 <a href="mailto:Brian.Richardson@dot.state.fl.us">Brian.Richardson@dot.state.fl.us</a>

Division of Emergency Management

The Mitigation Bureau within the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) is the lead agency for mitigation efforts in the state of Florida. 252.3655 Florida Statutes designates DEM as the coordinator of the Natural Hazards Interagency Working Group.

The Mitigation Bureau is responsible for developing, updating, maintaining, and implementing the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP). The SHMP is approved as an Enhanced plan because criteria in addition to standard plan criteria have been met, which authorizes Florida to receive additional funding for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). This has resulted in nearly an additional \$170 million. The Mitigation Bureau is also responsible for implementing the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) program. Each county is required to develop, maintain, update, and implement a county mitigation plan to be eligible for federal mitigation funds. These plans must include specific criteria according to 44 CFR Part 201 and Florida Administrative Code 27P-22. Florida has been authorized to review and approve LMS plans on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) behalf, under the Program Administration by States (PAS) program.

The Mitigation Bureau provides three mitigation grants from FEMA, the HMGP, the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program, and the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program. The HMGP is managed by the Bureau under the FEMA PAS program which allows increased oversight over mitigation projects and shortens the standard 24-month grant obligation timeline. DEM also developed a first-of-its-kind agreement with FEMA to allow DEM employees to serve as non-federal representatives to conduct environmental and historic preservation (EHP) reviews at the federal level. This has also shortened the typical length of application reviews.

The Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund allocates funding for the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program which is managed by the Bureau. The program conducts mitigation projects on mostly residential properties.

The State Floodplain Management Office is within the Mitigation Bureau and implements the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) by ensuring communities adopt and adhere to various codes and ordinances through conducting Community Assistance Visits (CAVs).

The Technical Unit provides support to the four grant programs by reviewing local project applications before they are approved and funded, for criteria such as cost effectiveness, technical feasibility, and environmental and historical compliance.

DEM is also responsible for disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery, which are managed by the Preparedness Bureau, Recovery Bureau, and Response Bureau, respectively.

2020 Update

On March 9, 2020, the Florida Governor declared a state of emergency for the entire state of Florida as a result of COVID-19. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus, which is a virus in humans causing respiratory illness which can be spread person-to-person. This disease became a pandemic in 2020 and significantly impacted the state of Florida. DEM took a large role in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) has been at a Level 1 since March 2020. The Mitigation Bureau supported this effort by providing staff for several functions in the SEOC including the Operations Support Branch, Planning



Section, Human Services Branch, Lab Reporting Task Force, and Field Operations Branch. Despite fulfilling needs in the SEOC for the COVID-19 response, Mitigation staff have continued to fulfill the daily responsibilities of the Mitigation Bureau. For example, the Planning Unit reviewed and approved over 30 county LMS plans in 2020, while the State Floodplain Management Office conducted 164 Community Assistance Visits. Additionally, the State Floodplain Management Office received the 2020 Tom Lee State Award for Excellence in Floodplain Management from the Association of State Flood Plain Managers (ASFPM) and placed first in the nation under FEMA’s newly implemented Tiered State Framework, which ranks state floodplain programs based on performance.

The Mitigation Bureau was also able to close several Non-Disaster mitigation grants from previous years including two Flood Mitigation Assistance grants, five Pre-Disaster Mitigation grants, and six other flood mitigation grants. Additionally, the Mitigation Bureau closed four grants under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program from previous disasters. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program staff also made great strides in reviewing and approving projects for Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Michael, as well as managing projects and reimbursements for ongoing grants.

Throughout 2020, work has continued on the Florida Peninsular LiDAR project, which involved the final acquisition and post-processing of data. This is a jointly funding project by FDEM and the US Geological Survey. FDEP and FDOT were also involved in the initial project collaboration and scope, along with the Water Management Districts who have also contributed to the post-processing review of data. This project will help improve GIS mapping capabilities and analysis across multiple business functions throughout the State. The project is scheduled to be completed with final deliverables provided by the end of 2021.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Division of Emergency Management	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
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Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) mission is to manage fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people. With headquarters in Tallahassee and five regional offices across the state, FWC protects and manages more than 575 species of wildlife, more than 200 native species of freshwater fish, and more than 500 native species of saltwater fish. The FWC also balances the needs of these species with the needs of Florida residents and visitors who share the land and water with Florida’s wildlife. In addition to the five regional offices, FWC also has 76 field offices and facilities. Furthermore, there are six divisions and nine offices within FWC. The divisions applicable to natural hazards and mitigation are the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, Hunting and Game Management, Freshwater Fisheries Management, Law Enforcement, Habitat and Species Conservation, and Marine Fisheries Management.

2020 Update

FWC has developed and implemented a State Wildlife Action Plan ([Action Plan](#)). Florida’s Wildlife Action Plan is continuously updated and a comprehensive, statewide plan for conserving the state's wildlife and vital natural areas for future generations. It outlines native wildlife and habitats in need, why they are in need and, most importantly, conservation actions for protecting them. Florida’s vast landscape, diverse climate, rising sea-level, endangered species, urban sprawl, and conservation management are topics that provide a comprehensive plan to mitigate risk and foster resiliency.

Also, in response to Hurricane Sally, the FWC Division of Law Enforcement deployed 48 officers, including personnel from the Northwest and North Central Special Operation Group teams, to multiple counties in the Panhandle to assist local, state and federal agencies with search and rescue operations, conduct evacuations and provide security where needed. With widespread moderate to major river flooding, officers provided shallow water capability and force protection swift water incident response teams utilizing 4x4 pick-up trucks and shallow draft vessels. FWC personnel were directly responsible for several rescues and evacuations from flooded areas.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 6 – Above Standard</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
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Public Service Commission

The Public Service Commission's (PSC) mission is to facilitate the efficient provision of safe and reliable utility services at fair prices. The PSC achieves this through economic regulation, regulatory oversight, service regulation, and consumer assistance.

For electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utility companies, the PSC oversees service territories, regulates rates and earnings, and requires utilities to provide service to all who request it. For telecommunications companies, the PSC is responsible for encouraging and promoting fair and reasonable growth within the industry. The PSC is designated as the Lead Response Agency for power (electric) and natural gas emergencies for the Office of the Governor.

In addition to the oversight described above, for regulated electric utilities, the PSC is responsible for reviewing storm protection activities, construction standards, and emergency planning and operations. Annual Distribution Reliability reports submitted to the PSC by electric utility companies provide insight into service reliability and compliance with requirements, such as vegetation management and hardening of existing structures. The PSC also reviews regulated utilities' Ten-Year Site Plans to assess how utilities plan to meet Florida's energy needs over a ten-year planning horizon.

For the natural gas industry, PSC staff conducts safety compliance evaluations annually on all natural gas systems. When violations are found, a non-compliance letter is issued to the operator. This letter details the issue(s) found and informs the operator of the date in which their response to the issue(s) is required. All violations must be corrected or scheduled for corrective action pursuant to the PSC's enforcement procedures.

The PSC's website and publications provide information explaining the rules that keep utilities prepared for storms and also highlight the PSC's statutory obligation to protect consumers by ensuring public safety. The PSC also participates in a variety of outreach events such as consumer forums, community meetings, and customer meetings and hearings, by presenting pertinent information and distributing a variety of consumer publications.

2020 Update

In support of sharing individual hurricane preparation activities among IOUs, Municipals, and Cooperatives, the PSC has held annual Hurricane Season Preparation Workshops since 2006. The workshops provide an opportunity for electric utilities to discuss their storm preparation and restoration processes including the following PSC-mandated initiatives:

- Facility inspections, maintenance, and repairs;
- Vegetation management;
- Flooding and storm surge mitigation;
- Wooden pole inspections; and
- Coordination with other utilities, government, and community groups.

The 2020 Hurricane Preparedness Workshop was held on May 19, 2020. Other topics of discussion at the Workshop included lessons learned from the previous hurricane season and process changes resulting from the 2019 Novel Coronavirus.

Following legislation passed in 2019, the PSC created rules requiring Florida’s investor-owned utilities (IOUs) to file 10-year Storm Protection Plans outlining initiatives to strengthen infrastructure to withstand extreme weather for PSC approval. Florida’s IOUs already have storm hardening programs financed through utility base rates. The new rules establish a separate cost recovery mechanism for storm protection activities. In August of 2020, the PSC approved agreements related to Storm Protection Plans for Florida’s four largest IOUs - Florida Power & Light Company, Gulf Power Company, Duke Energy Florida, LLC, and Tampa Electric.

In addition to the activities described above, the PSC provides information to consumers regarding storm preparedness, such as hurricane survival kits, portable generator safety, and ways to prepare your home before a storm. In the event of a storm, links to current Florida Division of Emergency Management information are highlighted on the PSC website ([www.floridapsc.com](http://www.floridapsc.com)), as well as links to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Hurricane Center. All of this information is distributed via the PSC’s Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/floridapsc>) at appropriate times throughout the year.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Public Service Commission	2	2	2	6

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
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### History of Water Management Districts in Florida

Due to extreme drought and shifting public focus on resource protection and conservation, legislators passed four major laws in 1972: the Environmental Land and Water Management Act, the Comprehensive Planning Act, the Land Conservation Act, and the Water Resources Act. Collectively, these policy initiatives reflected the philosophy that land use, growth management and water management should be joined. Florida's institutional arrangement for water management is unique. The Florida Water Resources Act of 1972 (WRA) (Chapter 373, F.S.) granted Florida's five water management districts broad authority and responsibility. Two of the five districts existed prior to the passage of the WRA (South Florida and Southwest Florida), primarily as flood control agencies. Today, however, the responsibilities of all five districts encompass four broad categories: water supply (including water allocation and conservation), water quality, flood protection and floodplain management, and natural systems.

The five regional water management districts, established by the Legislature and recognized in the Florida Constitution, are set up largely on hydrologic boundaries. Water management districts are funded by ad valorem taxes normally reserved for local governments using taxing authority which emanates from a constitutional amendment passed by Floridians in 1976. The water management districts are governed regionally by boards appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. There is also general oversight at the state level by the Department of Environmental Protection.

In Florida, water is a resource of the state, owned by no one individual, with the use of water overseen by water management districts acting in the public interest. Florida law recognizes the importance of balancing human needs for water with those of Florida's natural systems.

Northwest Florida Water Management District

The Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) works to implement Chapter 373, F.S., with four areas of responsibility: Water Supply, Water Quality, Flood Protection and Floodplain Management, and Natural Systems Protection. There are three applicable divisions at NFWFMD: Regulatory Services, Resource Management, and Asset Management.

The Division of Regulatory Services implements regulatory programs to better protect and manage the region's water resources. This is achieved through permitting for water use, environmental resources, dam safety, well construction, agricultural surface water projects, and minor forestry works. Some of these permits are involved in mitigation projects. Environmental Resource Permitting helps reduce flooding risks associated with new development, and it protects wetlands and water quality.

The Division of Resource Management implements programs that span all of the District's areas of responsibility. For example, this division develops minimum flows and minimum water levels to prevent harm to the water resources or the ecology of an area. The Surface Water Improvement and Management program provides the planning framework based on major riverine-estuarine watersheds for addressing watershed protection and restoration. This is achieved through implementing cooperative projects, such as wetland and aquatic habitat restoration and stormwater retrofits to improve water quality and flood protection. The District's springs program helps implement the state's priority for spring restoration and protection in northwest Florida through such projects as extension of central sewer service to connect areas served by septic systems, the agricultural cost-share program, and spring bank habitat restoration, which may also reduce flood risk. This program is conducted cooperatively with local governments and agricultural producers. Through the agricultural cost-share program, the District provides cost-share funding to help farmers implement best management practices that improve water use efficiency and reduce nutrient application in a manner that protects springs and other water resources.

The regional wetland mitigation program provides wetland mitigation services to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for road projects with unavoidable wetland impacts in areas not currently served by private mitigation banks. Some of the FDOT mitigation projects restore hydrology to restore connectivity of wetlands and floodplains, helping reduce flood risks within affected basins.

The NFWFMD works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and affected communities to develop floodplain maps, called Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), through the RiskMAP program. Additionally, the District provides technical assistance to state agencies and local governments to help respond to waterbody impacts and flooding associated with major storms and natural disasters.

The Division of Asset Management is responsible for acquisition and management of WMD lands and facilities. The District manages conservation lands to maintain and protect vital water functions and natural systems, such as floodplains. The District's protection of floodplains and other lands important for water resources help to maintain floodplain functions and natural hydrology and, in so doing, reduces risks to human communities associated with flooding.

2020 Update

The NFWFMD is conducting a comparative analysis of hydrologic responses of selected streams to hurricanes Sally (2020) and Michael (2018), as well as a major rainfall event in 2016. This evaluation will consider the effects of debris deposited by Hurricane Michael and subsequent debris removal operations.

This work follows a previously completed approximate H&H study that modeled effects of debris in channels and floodplains in Econfina Creek and the Chipola River.

Preliminary FIRMs for Bay County were issued on October 25, 2019 and for the Chipola Watershed on May 8, 2020. Revised Preliminary FIRMs were issued for Walton County on March 24, 2020 and the Lower Ochlockonee Watershed on August 26, 2020. Flood Insurance Rate Maps will be effective for Walton County on December 30, 2020 and Gulf County and Okaloosa County on March 9, 2021.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Northwest Florida WMD	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Jerrick Saquibal Chief, Bureau of Resource Projects & Planning Northwest Florida WMD 850-539-2619 <a href="mailto:Jerrick.Saquibal@nfwfwater.com">Jerrick.Saquibal@nfwfwater.com</a>	Paul Thorpe Deputy Director, Resource Management Northwest Florida WMD 850-539-2643 <a href="mailto:Paul.Thorpe@nfwfwater.com">Paul.Thorpe@nfwfwater.com</a>

South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District is responsible for managing and protecting water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality, and natural systems.

The SFWMD operates and maintains a regional water management system known as the Central and Southern Florida Project, which was authorized over sixty years ago to protect residents and businesses from floods and droughts by more effectively managing floodwaters during heavy rains.

Stormwater Treatment Areas are constructed wetlands that improve water quality, like reducing phosphorus levels in the Everglades. The SFWMD conducts many ecosystem restoration projects to protect and preserve unique ecosystems, such as the Everglades, the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, and coastal watersheds. These restoration projects are often implemented via federal partnerships with Foundation projects and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) with projects like the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) and Indian River Lagoon South (IRL-S) projects and state initiatives such as the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP), Restoration Strategies Program and Dispersed Water Management Projects.

To fulfill the need of long-term flood protection for basins throughout the 16-county region, a flood protection level of service (FPLOS) program has been established. This program identifies and prioritizes long-term infrastructure improvement needs, and to develop an implementation strategy to assure that each basin can maintain and improve its designated FPLOS in response to population growth, land development, sea level rise and changed climate conditions. The SFWMD has developed a prioritization of basins to study, a methodology and suite of tools for evaluating structures and canals in selected watersheds, and a framework for establishing the level of service. The FPLOS is being implemented in a phased approach in a 10-year cycle. Each basin will be evaluated, and actions taken as necessary on a 10-year cycle, to ensure that the level of service is maintained. In 2016, the SFWMD completed the first phase of the FPLOS study in the C-4 Basin in Miami-Dade County. In 2017 and 2018, Phase I and Phase II studies of the C-7 Basin and the Big Cypress Basin were completed, and Phase III projects have been identified.

SFWMD is also evaluating the feasibility of improvements to the L-31E Levee System for a higher level of storm surge protection, a curtain wall in South Dade to reduce groundwater seepage to the east, and resiliency improvements to coastal structures for storm surge protection.

SFWMD provides regulatory guidance to assist FDOT and communities through the permitting process for projects involving preventative and restoration measures to address the impacts from natural hazards. SFWMD issues Environmental Resource permits to applicants seeking to construct and operate a surface water management system. The permit authorizes activities that are not harmful to the water resources or inconsistent with public interest. Applicants must identify any activity that would affect wetlands, alter surface water flows, or contribute to water pollution.

The Land Mitigation Program involves the modification of a project to avoid or minimize wetland impacts and compensation for wetland impacts that are unavoidable. These acquired lands are used to encourage establishment of private and public mitigation banks and off-site regional mitigation areas.



2020 Update

Current projects include:

- Foundation Projects – C111 South Dade Hydrologic Improvements, Kissimmee River Restoration and floodplain improvement, and Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park – Tamiami Trail Bridge and Road Raising
- CERP – C43 Reservoir, Indian River Lagoon South - C44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area, Picayune Strand Restoration, Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands, Broward County Water Preserve Areas, Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration, Western Everglades Restoration, and Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration projects
- CEPP – New Water Components: Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area
- CEPP – South Components: S333N, Old Tamiami Trail Removal, S-356 Pump Station Replacement, L-67A Culverts, L-67C Gaps, and L-67 Extension Backfill
- CEPP – North Components: Moving forward with all components
- NEEPP – Lakeside Ranch STA and S191A Pump Station, Nubbin Slough STA Repairs, Lake Hicpochee FEB Expansion, C43 Water Quality, BOMA FEB, and Dispersed Water Storage Projects
- Restoration Strategies Projects – STA-1W Expansion #2, C139 Flow Equalization Basin, STA-1E Enhancements, and G341 Conveyance Improvements
- C139 Annex Wetland Restoration, STA-3/4 Energy Dissipaters, STA-1W Enhancements, and STA-2 Refurbishments
- Managing, refurbishing and replacing water control structures that provide flood control during the wet season and water supply during the dry season in the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control System and Big Cypress Basin
- Vegetation and tree removal projects along canal rights of way to reduce the impacts to flood protection – ongoing tree removal project on the 100A, C51, C24, C16, C1 and S20 canals. Phase 1 and Phase 2 tree removal project planned to begin for Golden Gate 1 canal (Collier County), and Spring and Hickey Creeks (Lee County).

Flood Protection Level of Service (FPLOS)

The Phase I studies of the C-8 and C-9 were completed in 2020. Phase I studies of South Miami Dade and Broward County and Phase III assessments for BCB canals are underway.

The Phase II study of C8 and C9 watersheds and two Phase I FPLOS assessment projects covering C2, C3W, C5, C6, C-111 COASTAL, C-111 SOUTH, C-111 AG, MODEL LAND, and L-31NS watersheds in Miami-Dade County are planned for 2021.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
South Florida WMD	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
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Southwest Florida Water Management District

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) mission is to protect water resources, minimize flood risks, and ensure the public's water needs are met. This is achieved by focusing on the four core mission areas: water supply, water quality, natural systems protection, and flood protection.

The Environmental Resource Permitting Program, per § 373.403 – 373.468, Fla. Stat. (2020), is responsible for permitting construction and operation of surface water management systems. This permitting effort mitigates risks associated with stormwater runoff, flash floods, inland flooding, and coastal flooding. Additionally, the SWFWMD administers a Water Use Permitting Program, per § 373.403 – 373.468, Fla. Stat. (2020), which regulates the consumptive use of water for public supply, agriculture, commercial, industrial, and recreational uses. This permitting effort mitigates risks associated with drought. Similarly, the SWFWMD administers a Water Shortage Plan, per § 373.246, Fla. Stat. (2020), which protects waters of the District from serious harm, prevents undue hardship, and ensures equitable distribution of available water resources during times of shortages. This plan contributes to mitigation of risks from drought.

The District has adopted a process to create and maintain an Asset Management Program consisting of four main components: Capital Improvements and Planning (CIP), Maintenance Management, Life Cycle Management, and Breakdown & Repair Management for its flood control structures. This strategy will mitigate flood risks associated with these facilities and ensure they continue to function and protect life and property, as designed. The SWFWMD has six dam facilities classified by the Florida Dam Safety Program of the DEP as High-Hazard Potential Dams. As a result, the District has and maintains Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to mitigate flood risk associated with these facilities. The SWFWMD maintains all its dams, levees, and canals to state and federal standards to mitigate flood risks associated with these facilities and ensure they continue to function to protect life and property, as designed. These facilities include but are not limited to the Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area/Tampa Bypass Canal, Lake Tarpon Outfall, Medard Reservoir, Inglis Main Dam and Bypass Spillway, and G-90.

The SWFWMD has a proactive prescribed burning program that applies fire to over 30,000 acres of conservation land annually. This land management approach is an efficient and effective way to maintain and restore natural systems, but also contributes significantly to the mitigation of wildfire risks.

The District takes a watershed approach to managing water and related resources through the Watershed Management Program. The program evaluates the capacity of the watershed to protect, enhance, and restore water quality and natural systems, while also achieving flood protection. The Cooperative Funding Initiative program works with local governments to implement flood protection and water quality projects to reduce the risk of flooding and improve water quality.

The SWFWMD, along with the US Army Corps of Engineers, continues to evaluate, and maintain operational guidelines for 15 of the flood control structures and water conservation structures. These documents provide general guidelines for the routine operation of the structures to ensure the environmental health, recreational and aesthetic value of the lakes, and in response to specific weather events or conditions. Operational guidelines are updated every 10 years and include input from the public and other agencies and municipalities.

The SWFWMD partners with FEMA to provide information to update federal floodplain maps through the RiskMAP program.

The Minimum Flows and Levels program establishes minimum flows and levels to prevent damage to water resources, including effects of saltwater intrusion. The SWFWMD has a minimum aquifer level in the most impacted area, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota counties, of the Southern Water Use Caution Area specifically to slow down the rate of saltwater intrusion that has been observed in this region.

The Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program focuses on water quality and natural systems restoration projects. Many SWIM projects restore natural shorelines, such as Rock Ponds Ecosystem Restoration Project, which restored more than sixteen miles of Tampa Bay Shoreline along with creating artificial reefs, intertidal marshes and tidal channels and lagoons. These coastal restoration projects contribute to mitigating risks associated with sea level change, high tides, storm surge, and flooding.

2020 Update

FEMA is currently performing RiskMAP updates for coastal counties within the SWFWMD including Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties. There are three Watershed Management Plans (WMP) that are being incorporated into the coastal map updates within Sarasota County and one being incorporated within Manatee County. Pasco County map updates were completed and became effective in June 2020. Final mapping was also completed for Citrus and Hernando Counties and those maps are anticipated to be effective in January 2021. There were four Watershed Management Plans (WMP) completed and approved by the SWFWMD Governing Board in fiscal year 2020. Those watersheds include Curlew Creek and Smith Bayou in Pinellas County, City of Arcadia in DeSoto County, Fort Meade in Polk County, as well as an update to the Alafia River watershed in Hillsborough County.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Southwest Florida WMD	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Joel Brown Senior Government & Community Affairs Manager – Tampa Bay Region Southwest Florida WMD 813-363-5758 <a href="mailto:Joel.Brown@watermatters.org">Joel.Brown@watermatters.org</a>	Jerry Mallams Operations Bureau Chief & Emergency Manager Southwest Florida WMD 727-457-1628 <a href="mailto:Jerry.Mallams@swfwmd.state.fl.us">Jerry.Mallams@swfwmd.state.fl.us</a>

St. Johns River Water Management District

The mission of St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) is to protect natural resources and support Florida's growth by ensuring sustainable use of Florida's water for the benefit of the people of the District and the State. To meet that mission statement, the District's work is focused on four core missions: water quality, water supply, flood protection, and natural systems protection.

The SJRWMD Division of Regulatory Services works to protect and manage water resources by permitting in a manner that will prevent adverse flooding, manage surface water, and protect water quality, wetlands, and other surface waters. SJRWMD partners with FDOT and communities to develop annual FDOT Mitigation Plans, pursuant to F.S. 373.4137(4), for wetland impacts associated with FDOT roadway projects.

The Office of Real Estate Services acquires lands for flood control, water quality protection, and natural resource conservation. Similarly, the Bureau of Land Resources provides oversight for many district lands for water resource protection. Important activities include hydrologic restoration of altered drainage, protection of floodplains, and the use of prescribed fire for restoration and wildfire prevention.

The Division of Projects has oversight for district-led and partnership projects that help to meet the core missions. For example, the Division is responsible for operating and maintaining more than 100 major and minor water control structures, including eleven spillways, three navigational locks, approximately 300 miles of levees, and thirty pump stations. The Division is also responsible for the construction of projects aimed at protecting water supplies, improving water quality, and restoring natural systems, as well as providing flood protection through practices such as improved stormwater drainage or storage.

2020 Update

SJRWMD implemented the following:

- Land Management: Mitigation of wildfire risk through 61 prescribed burns totaling 16,638 acres on 21 conservation areas.
- Flood Protection Partnerships: Flood protection is one of the District's four core missions and the District has assisted local governments with cost-share funding towards the construction of beneficial flood protection projects. In fiscal year 2019-2020, the District awarded \$3.6 million in funding for five projects; partnering with Clay, Duval, Flagler, and St. Johns Counties to improve stormwater retention and flood protection in their communities. These projects included inlet improvements, increased stormwater treatment capacity, and flood plain and stream channel restoration.
- Flood Control Structure improvements: Rehabilitated S96C, replaced S-161A hydraulic lift system with a drum a cable lift system, inspected of all minor water control structures, levee improvements on L-75 and L73, Section 1, culvert maintenance, installation of security/monitoring cameras at major water control structures, and refurbished two airboat crossings on levee systems.
- Water supply planning: Water supply is one of the District's four core missions. As part of the District's work to ensure adequate and sustainable water supplies are available to meet future needs while protecting the environment, the district prepares regional water supply plans (RWSPs). RWSPs include assessments of saltwater intrusion and methods to mitigate impacts. The District, in partnership with others, completed the draft Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI)

RWSP in FY 2019-2020 (which was then approved in November 2020). In addition, the District continued development of both the Central Springs East Coast (CSEC) and North Florida RWSPs.

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
St. Johns River WMD	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Dave Dickens Office of Transportation, Facilities, and Safety Services Director/ Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) St. Johns River WMD 386-643-1914 <a href="mailto:DDickens@sjrwmd.com">DDickens@sjrwmd.com</a>	Brian Emanuel Bureau of Land Resources Chief/ Alternate ECO St. Johns River WMD 386-329-4377 <a href="mailto:BEmanuel@sjrwmd.com">BEmanuel@sjrwmd.com</a>

*Suwannee River Water Management District*

The Suwannee River Water Management District (District) manages water and related natural resources in North Central Florida, as set forth in Section 373, F.S., with four core missions: Water Supply, Water Quality, Flood Protection, and Natural Systems. These missions are the responsibilities of the District's Water and Land Resources Program and Business and Community Services Program.

The Water and Land Resources Program includes the Office of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels and the Office of Water Supply, which ensure water availability and prevent significant harm to the area's natural resources by setting Minimum Water Levels. Additionally, through the Office of Land Management, following an approved land management plan, District lands are managed under a multiple-use policy that emphasizes water resource protection, maintenance and restoration of the land's natural state and condition, and provisions for public access and recreation.

The Business and Community Services Program includes the Office of Engineering/ERP and the Office of Environmental Compliance, which protects and manages water resources through permitting in a manner that will prevent adverse flooding, manage surface water runoff, and protect water quality, wetlands, and other surface waters. Staff in these offices partner with FDOT and communities to develop annual FDOT Mitigation plans for wetland impacts associated with FDOT roadway projects, pursuant to subsection 373.4137(4), F.S., and additionally partners with FDOT to implement the ETAT program. Also within the Business and Community Services Program, is the Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects which has oversight for district-led and partnership projects that help protect water supplies, improve water quality, and restore natural systems, as well as providing flood protection through practices such as improved stormwater drainage or storage.

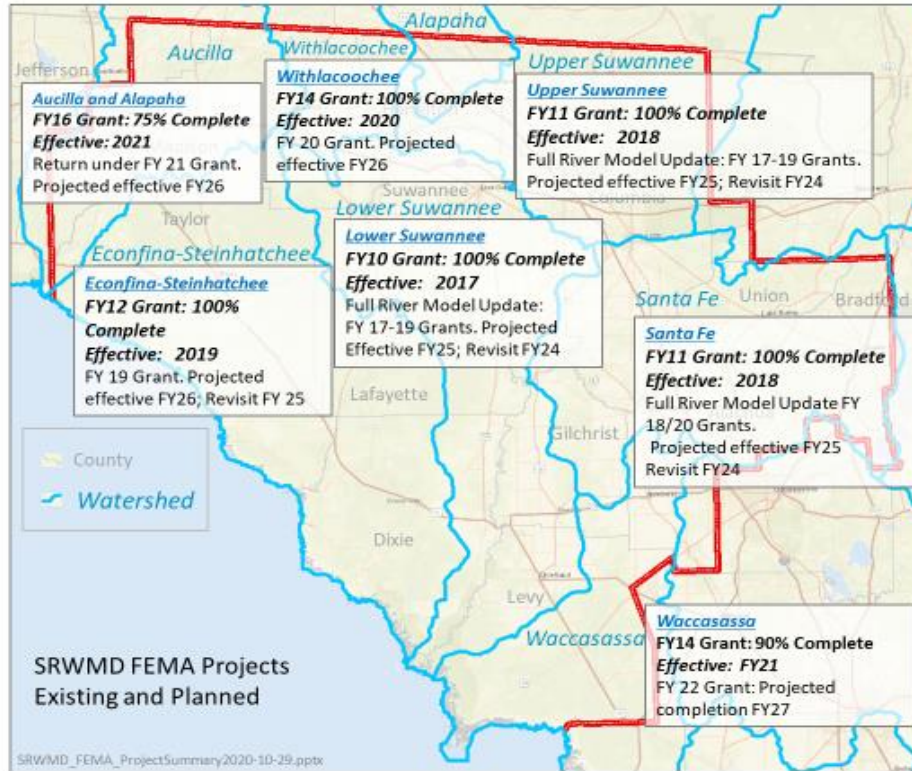
2020 Update*Office of Engineering/ERP*

District staff have been involved in ETAT activities and with MCORES meetings. As a FEMA Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP), the District has been actively implementing the Risk MAP program through mapping and outreach activities and attending FEMA meetings such as the CTP Community of Practice bi-annual meeting and CTP Virtual Roundtable meeting. District staff attended Mitigate Florida as well as Silver Jackets meetings via webinar in 2020. District staff have also been assisting NOAA with the SRWMD Flood Mapping efforts, participating in the statewide Watershed Master Plan Initiative led by FDEM and assisting with the Guidebook for Columbia County to Increase Community Resilience Project by Silver Jackets. Additionally, District staff met with the State Dam Safety Officer in July of 2020.

Other meetings and conferences SRWMD staff attended include:

- Virtually held the Preliminary DFIRM Community Coordination meeting for Levy County in May 2020
- Virtually held the Public Preliminary Map Open House meeting for Levy County in October 2020
- Virtually held the Public Outreach Prior to Preliminary Map Release meeting for Hamilton County in November of 2020

SRWMD staff continue to provide project management services for active FEMA grants, which are in various stages of completion (see map below).



*Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects*

District staff have been working diligently to complete projects this year, including four septic to sewer projects; two wastewater treatment system upgrades; three agricultural conservation projects; two natural system restoration projects; and one flood protection/stormwater treatment project.

Below are the natural hazards projects that were completed during the year

Project Name	Mission	Natural Hazard Mitigation Risk
Educational and High School Grants	Water Supply	Drought
2014 Springs Projects: Task 3 Dairy Lagoon Expansion (S0796)	Water Supply	Drought
2014 Springs Projects: Task 2 WC Through Pivots (S0796)	Water Supply	Drought
Rum Island Park	Natural Systems	Stormwater runoff
Pot Springs Restoration	Natural Systems	Stormwater runoff
Hill Dam Breach analysis and permanent breach design (aka County Club Rd)	Flood Protection	Stormwater runoff, Inland flooding
Alleviate Flooding in Mayo	Flood Protection	Inland Flooding



2016 Springs Projects: Dairy Wastewater System Improvements

Water Quality/Supply

Drought

Agency Mitigation Assessment

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described in the beginning of this section on page 9.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Suwannee River WMD	3	3	3	9
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 9 – Exceptional</b>				

Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Leroy Marshall, P.E., PMP, CFM Chief Professional Engineer Suwannee River WMD 386-647-3124 <a href="mailto:Leroy.Marshall@srwmd.org">Leroy.Marshall@srwmd.org</a>	Tim Alexander Community Affairs Manager Suwannee River WMD 386-647-3127 <a href="mailto:Tim.Alexander@srwmd.org">Tim.Alexander@srwmd.org</a>

**ONGOING EFFORTS**

Each agency will continue the efforts discussed above, as well as continue to integrate mitigation and resilience principles into their own planning mechanisms, identify new mitigation opportunities, and promote mitigation and resiliency internally and externally.

In 2020, the Natural Hazards Interagency Work Group, and the entire Mitigate FL group, aimed to achieve the tasks below. The column to the left represents the status of that action.

<b>Task</b>	<b>2020 Status</b>	<b>2021 Status</b>
Provide grant management and technical assistance for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, Flood Mitigation Assistance program, and Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program	Implemented	Ongoing
Mitigation education and outreach to all levels of government, the private sector, and the public, specifically focusing on homeowner mitigation and flood insurance topics	Implemented	Ongoing
Continue the Watershed Planning Initiative to develop and update all watershed plans in the state of Florida	Implemented	Ongoing
Provide mitigation training, like G-393, G-318, and FL-391 to state and local agencies	Implemented	Ongoing
Provide mitigation planning technical assistance to local entities, including local planning mechanisms such as Local Mitigation Strategy, local Comprehensive Plans and redevelopment plans, coastal resiliency, historical preservation plans, local Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans, etc.	Implemented	Ongoing
Implement the SCORE CAVs pilot program to conduct a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) in each community every three years	Implemented	Ongoing
Manage the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in Florida	Implemented	Ongoing
Continue LiDAR data collection and analysis projects	Implemented	Ongoing
Hold Quarterly Silver Jackets Meetings	New	Ongoing
Develop Community Resilience Toolkit for two Inland Counties, per USACE Silver Jackets project	New	Ongoing
Coordinate with Florida Chief Resiliency Officer	New	Ongoing
Add new partners to the Mitigate FL workgroup	New	Ongoing
Consider establishing other subcommittees to address specific tasks or needs	New	Ongoing
Establish State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Subcommittee and begin update process		New