



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## FLORIDA NATURAL HAZARDS INTERAGENCY WORKGROUP 252.3655 FLORIDA STATUTES 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

January 1, 2024

Prepared by  
Florida Division of Emergency Management

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis, Governor**

**Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director**

## Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	3
STATUTE REVIEW.....	3
FLORIDA ENHANCED STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2023 UPDATE .....	3
ANNUAL ACTIONS.....	4
MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE COORDINATION.....	5
ONGOING EFFORTS.....	7
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 .....	17
DEPARTMENT OF CITRUS.....	18
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.....	19
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (FLORIDACOMMERCE) .....	21
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.....	25
DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS .....	27
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION .....	29
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH .....	33
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE .....	35
DEPARTMENT OF LOTTERY.....	37
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES .....	39
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS/FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD .....	41
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.....	43
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION .....	46
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.....	52
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.....	55
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION .....	57
NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT .....	60
SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT .....	63
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT .....	68
ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT .....	70
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT .....	73

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

CONCLUSION..... 76

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document satisfies subsection 252.3655(2)(a), Florida Statutes, by providing an annual progress report on the implementation of the state’s hazard mitigation plan, an assessment of agency efforts to address the impacts of natural hazards and ongoing efforts to address the impacts of natural hazards. This report refers to activities between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023.

## STATUTE REVIEW

In July 2017, 252.3655, Florida Statutes, 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 the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) or designee will serve as the liaison and coordinator of the workgroup. Each liaison is required to provide information from their 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 State Hazard Mitigation Plan (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 combined the three groups into one and named it Mitigate FL. This was to avoid duplication of efforts and to leverage resources more effectively.

## FLORIDA ENHANCED STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2023 UPDATE

The Mitigation Bureau is responsible for updating, maintaining, and implementing the SHMP in accordance with 44 C.F.R. Part 201 and 42 U.S.C. 5165. 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. 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 oversight over mitigation projects and shortens the standard 24-month grant obligation timeline.

The Mitigation Planning Team began the 2023 SHMP update in 2021. For this update, the SHMP was converted to an all-online format with the goal of making it more accessible and user-friendly. This website replaces the previous 500-page document (1,500 pages with the appendices) and can be viewed at the following link: [flshmp-floridadisaster.hub.arcgis.com/](https://flshmp-floridadisaster.hub.arcgis.com/). The 2023 SHMP updated version was completed and submitted for approval to the

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on June 1, 2023 and was subsequently approved by FEMA on August 10, 2023. The 2023 Enhanced SHMP went into effect on August 23, 2023 and will expire on August 23, 2028.

## ANNUAL ACTIONS

On August 26, 2023, the Governor signed EO-23-171 declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida for Invest 93L, later named Hurricane Idalia. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activated to a Level 1 on August 28th, with full staffing from many of the participating Mitigate FL agencies. Hurricane Ian made landfall in the Florida Big Bend region as a Category 3 storm on August 30th. Following the immediate response efforts for Hurricane Idalia, discussions and efforts of recovery and mitigation began and at no time did the mitigation efforts of DEM and other agencies stop altogether.

In 2017, the DEM Director designated a workgroup coordinator in the Mitigation Bureau. The coordinator communicates with state agencies regularly and schedules quarterly meetings, which were announced in the Florida Administrative Register and on the [DEM website](#). Also available are the meeting materials, which include the meeting presentation and minutes. Listed below are the dates of the Mitigate FL meetings held in 2023, along with a brief summary of the meetings.

- March 14, 2023
- June 13, 2023
- September 12, 2023
- December 12, 2023

### March 2023 Meeting

At the March 2023 Mitigate FL meeting, the DEM Mitigation Bureau provided updates related to mitigation grants, a notice of proposed rulemaking, floodplain management, the insurance industry, Florida Silver Jackets, and the SHMP 2023 Update. A guest speaker from the Florida Housing Coalition also spoke on Housing Resilience. There were 179 attendees at this meeting.

### June 2023 Meeting

The June 2023 Mitigate FL meeting included updates related mitigation grants, Silver Jackets, and the 2023 SHMP Update progress. There was also a guest speaker on harmful algal blooms from AECOM. There were 178 attendees at this meeting.

### September 2023 Meeting

The September 2023 Mitigate FL meeting included information on Community Disaster Resilience Zones, updates to mitigation grants, Silver Jackets, the upcoming Mitigate FL Annual Report, and the SHMP. There was also a guest speaker on the CDBG-DR Grant Match Program from FloridaCommerce. There were 170 attendees at this meeting.

### December 2023 Meeting

The December 2023 Mitigate FL meeting included a year review of the Bureau's mitigation grants, floodplain management, Silver Jackets, and mitigation planning efforts. There were 147 attendees at this meeting.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

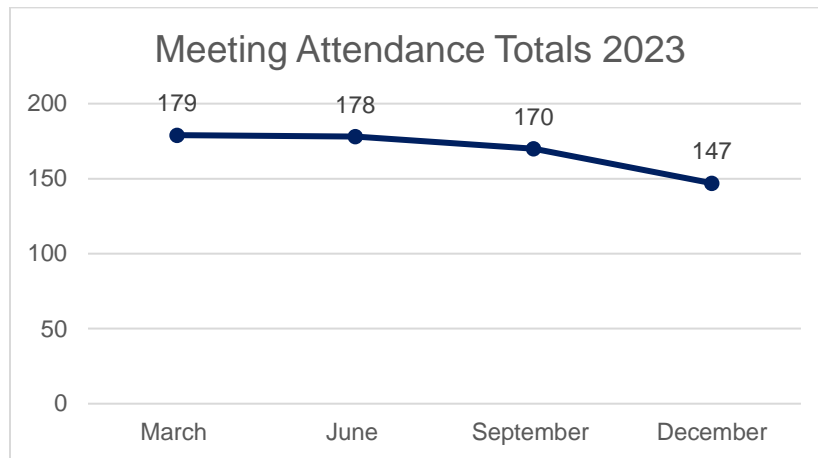


Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

Attendance at the quarterly Mitigate FL meetings in 2023 ranged between 147 and 179 via webinar/conference call and in-person attendance. There are twenty-five agencies required to participate in this group, per 252.3655, Florida Statutes. There were nine agencies that attended all four meetings and five agencies that attended three of the meetings. Despite offering virtual attendance options, four agencies attended only one meeting, and six agencies did not attend meetings in 2023. Unfortunately, required agency attendance was down overall from 2022. However, overall, attendance continued to be consistent and comparable to 2022.

The 25 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. The graph below displays the number of attendees at each quarterly meeting, with March 2023 having the highest attendance and December 2023 having the lowest attendance.



In 2024, 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.

The Silver Jackets group continued to meet virtually with meetings held on December 20 in 2022 and on March 28, June 12, and October 3 in 2023. The Silver Jackets successfully completed four projects in 2023: the Astor H&H Study, a Nature-Based Solutions StoryMap, Advancing Florida Vulnerability Assessments, and a Resiliency Study of US-41 in Collier County. Four projects were approved for FY 2024, including the Jacksonville Green Roadway Design Charrette, Utilizing the Community Rating System in Florida, Incorporating Corals into Florida’s HMGP, and a Florida Basin-Level Flood Assessment Inventory.

## MITIGATION AND RESILIENCE COORDINATION

The Florida Statewide Office of Resilience (FSOR), housed within the Executive Office of the Governor, is responsible for reviewing all flood resilience and mitigation activities in the state. The Office also serves as the lead state agency for coordinating flood resilience and mitigation efforts, and aligning priorities with federal, state, and local governmental entities and other stakeholders. The Office is led by the state’s Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) who is

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

authorized to set strategic direction for interagency and cross-disciplinary initiatives to minimize the flood vulnerability of critical assets, provide technical guidance to state agencies and local governments, and consult with the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation to improve the usability of data products. The CRO is further empowered to make requests for assistance of any state agency or local government to the extent that such assistance is consistent with law and with budgetary constraints.

Throughout 2023, the CRO convened monthly meetings of the Mitigation and Resilience Coordination (MARC) Team, made up of senior managers and program staff from the Division of Emergency Management, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Commerce, Department of Transportation, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to assist in coordination of mitigation and resilience activities taking place across the state. Specifically, the Team began developing a MARC Geodatabase which will serve as a fundamental tool for sharing resilience-related needs and grant application information across agencies. The Team's work is foundational to supporting the Interagency Coordination on Resilience and Mitigation Funding (ICRMF) Working Group.

The Working Group, chaired by the CRO and made up of officials from the Division of Emergency Management, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Commerce, and Department of Transportation is focused on a set of initiatives including evaluating opportunities across agencies to leverage state funds, identifying opportunities to bundle projects to maximize federal funding, avoiding duplicative and redundant efforts, and sharing project information and timelines to promote informed decision making at local, regional, and state levels.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## ONGOING EFFORTS

In 2023, the Natural Hazards Interagency Work Group, and the entire Mitigate FL group, aimed to achieve the tasks below. The columns below indicate the status of those actions and the goal for maintaining the tasks next year.

Task	2023 Status	2024 Status
Provide grant management and technical assistance for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program, Flood Mitigation Assistance program, and Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program	Ongoing	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	Ongoing	Ongoing
Continue the Watershed Planning Initiative to develop and update all watershed plans in the state of Florida	Ongoing	Ongoing
Provide mitigation training, like G-393 and FL-391, to state and local agencies	Ongoing	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.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Implement the SCORE CAV program to conduct a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) in each community every three years	Ongoing	Ongoing
Manage the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in Florida	Ongoing	Ongoing
Hold Quarterly Silver Jackets Meetings	Ongoing	Ongoing
Coordinate with Florida Chief Resiliency Officer	Ongoing	Ongoing
Add new partners to the Mitigate FL workgroup	Ongoing	Ongoing
Consider establishing other subcommittees to address specific tasks or needs	Ongoing	Ongoing
Continue the 2023 SHMP update by gathering information from stakeholders via Stakeholder Survey and Workshops, requesting updated risk assessment and capability information, and finalizing the website	Complete <i>August 2023</i>	
Present and educate stakeholders about completed 2023 SHMP	Implemented	Ongoing
Develop materials to bridge the gap between principle and practice for NNBF, per USACE Silver Jackets project	Complete <i>December 2023</i>	
Work with FDEP to create materials that will help develop vulnerability assessments in Florida, per USACE Silver Jackets project	Complete <i>December 2023</i>	
Develop a resiliency study for US-41 in Collier County, per USACE Silver Jackets project	Complete <i>December 2023</i>	
Work with Floodplain/CRS officials and the Office of Floodplain Management to develop CRS PPI, per USACE Silver Jackets project		To Be Implemented

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis, Governor**

**Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director**

Coordinate with FDEP and other partners to develop materials for incorporating coral restoration into Florida’s grants, per USACE Silver Jackets project		To Be Implemented
Coordinate with WMDs and Florida Flood Hub to inventory flood assessment data and identify strategy for prioritizing future efforts, per USACE Silver Jackets project		To Be Implemented
Coordinate with the City of Jacksonville to hold a green roadway design charrette, per USACE Silver Jackets project		To Be Implemented
Work with FDEP to develop and implement the High Hazard Potential Dam grant program and provide education and assistance to local communities interested in applying		To be Implemented
Develop rules and implement the Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund program in Florida		To be Implemented
Coordinate with local communities designated as Community Disaster Resilience Zones	Implemented	Ongoing

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## 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. For each agency, there is a summary of mitigation-related programs, a 2023 update, and a workgroup liaison as submitted by the respective agency. Additionally, DEM has provided a Mitigation Agency Assessment, which was agreed upon by the respective agency and DEM.

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, per the language in 252.3655, Florida Statutes. Each agency receives one to three points for relevance, level, and significance of its mitigation efforts. The scale is defined below.

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

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.

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

These ratings are intended to demonstrate which agencies, required per 252.3655, Florida Statutes, are most relevant in respect to enabling and 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.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

Below is a summary of the agency ratings.

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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **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 Care Policy and Oversight 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.

### **2023 Update**

The Agency continues to enhance its emergency response. In 2022, the Health Facility Reporting System (HFRS), previously the Emergency Status System, was rebranded and expanded to capture critical information utilized pre- and post-storm. Hospitals, Nursing Homes, and Assisted Living Facilities were among those required to report information daily into HFRS during Hurricane Idalia which helped better access needs and damages.

The Agency is currently evaluating improvements to its response to storms and will incorporate those changes into the HFRS system and overall emergency response procedures. An overall reevaluation of the reporting function is part of that evaluation, as well as ideas to increase facility response and reporting.

### **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 below.

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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Jamie Skipper Chief of Human Resources Agency for Health Care Administration 850-412-3872 <a href="mailto:Jamie.Skipper@ahca.myflorida.com">Jamie.Skipper@ahca.myflorida.com</a>	Chuck Merck General Services Manager 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 58,000 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), more than 22,000 individuals are on the waiting list for waiver services, and 545 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) which is a forensic facility on the grounds of Florida State Hospital. The agency is responsible for three major service delivery systems as described in Florida statute:

- Services provided in the least restrictive and most community-integrated setting available (Chapter 393, Florida Statutes)
- 24/7 care, habilitation, and rehabilitation provided by state-owned and operated facilities at Tacachale in Gainesville and Sunland in Marianna (Chapter 393, Florida Statutes)
- Competency restoration services at the Developmental Disabilities Defendant Program (DDDP) provided to individuals accused of a felony and deemed incompetent to stand trial, in a 146-bed secure facility on the grounds of Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee and a 34-bed secure satellite program, Pathways in Marianna (Chapter 916, Florida Statutes)

APD licenses over 2,100 community-based residential facilities (also known as Group Homes) 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 Homes. 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 [apd.myflorida.com/news/toolkit.htm](http://apd.myflorida.com/news/toolkit.htm) which links to

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

[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 continues to refine the process protocols for use of this system. Working with DEM and our own internal Client Data Management System (iConnect), the agency has also identified the number of clients and licensed facilities that live or are located within flood zones.

### 2023 Update

No information was provided for this year's report.

### 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 below.

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 850-545-7724 <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>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

DBPR licenses and regulates more than 1.7 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, and condominiums, timeshares, and other cooperative residential arrangements.

Through the Florida Building 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.

DBPR facilitates broad business and professional licensing functions through 20 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 and Continuity of Operations to ensure the continuity of regulatory services following a natural disaster.

### **Disaster Response**

Following a natural disaster, DBPR assists Floridians and their businesses in several ways, with each main category of activity overviewed below.

First, the Division of Hotels & Restaurants mitigates post-disaster risks associated with food safety at impacted commercial food service locations. This is accomplished by way of significant communication to licensees on best practices, ranging from attention to boil water notices to assessment of food storage and susceptibility to spoilage in the absence of electricity and ability to refrigerate and/or heat. This can also include inspection of apartment complexes as well as lodging facilities when appropriate.

Second, the Division of Regulation seeks to ensure consumer protection and deter unlicensed activity through a number of public-facing engagements in impacted disaster zones: (1) disaster recovery centers and insurance villages; (2) public education regarding unlicensed contractors/bad actors/fraud; (3) neighborhood sweeps; and (4) investigation and prosecution of increased complaints and nefarious activity in partnership with the Department of Financial Services, Attorney General, Department’s Office of General Counsel, and local law enforcement agencies.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

Third, the Bureau of Law Enforcement of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco aids with law enforcement assignments often including deployments of sworn officers via ESF 16 to impacted communities to provide guidance and security during the response and recovery phases of a disaster.

Fourth, the Department provides support of recovery of the private business sector (ESF 18) engaging with and problem-solving for the unique challenges and needs presented among the regulated industries and professions overseen by the Department. Supporting ESF 18 and constant engagement with stakeholder associations and other state agencies supporting the private sector, the Department can uniquely target and amplify disaster response messaging across the state.

Lastly, the Department continues to support other aspects of disaster response through ESF 16, ESF 14, ESF 18 and ESF 6 by providing staff and leadership to assist in Response/Recovery efforts.

### 2023 Update

The Florida Building Commission completed the second step of research related to the 40-year recertification (building safety) inspections in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties and issued a final report titled "Survey and Investigation of Buildings damaged by Hurricane Ian." In addition, the Commission completed a research study for the purpose of establishing inspection timeframes for mid-rise buildings in South Florida and evaluating the need to modernize water penetration resistance testing requirements.

The Division of Hotels & Restaurants continues to perform disaster assessments of its licensed public food service establishments following a major disaster event resulting in localized damage or service disruption. The Division deploys staff from other regions of Florida, as necessary, to the most heavily impacted areas to assess the viability of food service establishments to return to serving food as quickly as is safely possible. The Division focuses on helping operators to ensure that food is in wholesome, sound condition and that they have the necessary guidance to consider important food safety concerns as they prepare for a safe reopening to their customers.

The Division of Regulation also coordinates staffing for the Disaster Recovery Centers which are made up of state, local and federal agencies to provide one-stop assistance.

Beginning December 1, 2023, DBPR transitions into a new role as an (RSF) Recovery Support Function and will work under the SERT Chief while continuing to support ESF 14,16 and 18.

### 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Business and Professional Regulation	2	1	2	5

**Mitigation Implementation Rating: 5 – Above Standard**

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis, Governor**

**Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director**

## Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Patricia Broadway Emergency Coordinating Officer Department of Business and Professional Regulation 850-717-1522 <a href="mailto:patricia.broadway@myfloridalicense.com">patricia.broadway@myfloridalicense.com</a>	Emma Haines Alternate EM Coordination Officer Department of Business and Professional Regulation 850.717.1581 <a href="mailto:Emma.Haines@myfloridalicense.com">Emma.Haines@myfloridalicense.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## 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.

### 2023 Update

The Department does not typically require extensive mitigation activities as part of its mission and normal course of business.

Related to hardening of buildings to improve resilience to natural disasters, the Department has been appropriated Fixed Capital Outlay funds for all three DCF operated mental health treatment facilities from American Rescue Plan funds and from State General Revenue. Many of the projects funded with this appropriation include mitigation measures such as life safety generators, roofs, and emergency notification systems. These projects are ongoing.

### 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Children and Families	1	2	1	4
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 4 – 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>	Josh Register General Services Manager Department of Children and Families 850-778-4033 <a href="mailto:Joshua.register@myflfamilies.com">Joshua.register@myflfamilies.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **DEPARTMENT OF CITRUS**

The Florida Department of Citrus (FDOC) is an executive agency of the 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. FDOC also has extensive regulatory responsibilities, covering every aspect of the industry, including research, production, maturity standards, licensing, transportation, labeling, packing, and processing. FDOC conducts a wide variety of programs involving industry regulation, scientific, market and economic research, advertising, merchandising, public and industry relations, and consumer promotions.

FDOC is governed by the Florida Citrus Commission (FCC), an 11 member board appointed by the Governor of Florida to represent citrus growers, processors, and packers. The Commission 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 assessment tax as well as quality standards for all citruses grown, packed, or processed in Florida.

### **2023 Update**

The Florida Citrus industry continues to face 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. The industry is still recovering from losses incurred from Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Ian, and the freeze experienced during the winter of 2022. The industry is fighting for its survival with hundreds of millions of industries, state, and federal dollars going toward research to find a cure for the devastating greening disease.

While 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.

### **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 below.

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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Christine Marion Dpt. Executive Director of Admin and Finance Department of Citrus 863-537-3961 <a href="mailto:cmarion@citrus.myflorida.com">cmarion@citrus.myflorida.com</a>	Sharon McLeod Purchasing Manager Department of Citrus 863-537-3964 <a href="mailto:smcleod@citrus.myflorida.com">smcleod@citrus.myflorida.com</a>

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The Department of Corrections (FDC) is tasked with providing a continuum of services to meet the needs of those entrusted to our care, creating a safe and professional environment with the outcome of reduced victimization, safer communities, and an emphasis on the premium of life. FDC has two programmatic areas Institutions and Community Corrections. As of October 2023, 145 facilities (State-operated & and private partners) statewide incarcerate approximately 85,000 inmates sentenced to more than one year. Community Corrections is responsible for providing supervision of roughly 146,000 offenders on probation.

FDC has a comprehensive Emergency Management and Continuity of Operations (COOP) program to perform essential functions during emergencies or other situations that disrupt normal operations. Additionally, FDC significantly emphasizes facility infrastructure by making major repairs and renovations statewide.

### 2023 Update

FDC completed a review of FDC emergency response plans and incorporated lessons learned.

Five FDC facilities that include inmate housing units and support buildings received 25 roof replacements.

### 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 below.

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
-----------------	-------------------

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

<p>Christopher Brannon          Director of Institutional Operations &amp; Intelligence          (ECO)          Florida Department of Corrections          850-717- 9729  <a href="mailto:christopher.brannon@fdc.myflorida.com">christopher.brannon@fdc.myflorida.com</a></p>	<p>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></p>
--	---

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (FLORIDACOMMERCE)***

FloridaCommerce 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 thrive. These programs and activities directly and indirectly mitigate disasters, and they serve as connective threads between mitigation, response, recovery, and Florida communities’ long-term economic resiliency and opportunity. The following are the ongoing community development mitigation activities within FloridaCommerce.

### ***Comprehensive Plan Review***

FloridaCommerce’s Division of Community Development manages several mitigation activities and programs, including the review 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 as well as strategies and engineering solutions that reduce flood risk in coastal areas from high tide events, storm surge, flash floods and storm water runoff.

These amendments also include references to the Community Rating System and Local Mitigation Strategies. The Division’s Community Resilience Planner provides one-on-one technical assistance to local communities in meeting these statutory requirements.

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;
- 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.

### ***Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant Program***

The Community Planning Technical Assistance (CPTA) grant program provides counties, municipalities, and regional planning councils the opportunity to create innovative plans and development strategies to promote a diverse economy, vibrant rural and suburban areas and meet statutory requirements for planning, while also protecting environmentally sensitive areas. Understanding that many Florida communities have been impacted by hurricanes, CPTA grants may also be used to assist with disaster recovery, resiliency, and economic development planning.

### ***Areas of Critical State Concern***

This program provides oversight and assistance to Florida’s identified areas of critical state concern. Program oversight includes the review and approval of amendments to comprehensive plans, land development regulations, and 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 pursuant to section 380.05(2)(a), Florida Statutes. These areas may include state or federal parks, forests, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, aquatic preserves, major rivers and estuaries, state environmentally

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

endangered lands, Outstanding Florida Waters, and aquifer recharge areas. The uncontrolled private or public development of these areas would cause substantial deterioration of such resources. The current designated areas of critical state concern are Big Cypress Area, the Green Swamp Area, the Florida Keys and the City of Key West, the Brevard Barrier Island and Apalachicola Bay Area.

### ***Weatherization Assistance Program***

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) is an income-qualified program that provides grant funds to community action agencies, local governments, and non-profit agencies to weatherize homes, which reduces energy costs associated with cooling and heating the home through the seasons.

The weatherization of homes, which may include mitigation measures, reduces the monthly energy burden on low-income households by improving the energy efficiency of a home.

### ***Office of Long-Term Resiliency***

FloridaCommerce manages the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) grant programs through its Office of Long-Term Resiliency (OLTR). CDBG-DR/MIT funding becomes available post-disaster through a congressional allocation and includes consideration for mitigation actions, such as retrofitting, hardening, and resiliency projects.

### ***Rebuild Florida Housing Repair and Replacement Program***

*Rebuild Florida* was launched in September 2018 to aid Florida’s long-term disaster recovery efforts from the impacts of hurricanes. The Rebuild Florida Housing Repair and Replacement Program assists eligible homeowners impacted by hurricanes by repairing, rebuilding, or replacing damaged homes across the most impacted and distressed (MID) communities. 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.

### ***Rebuild Florida Voluntary Home Buyout Program***

The Rebuild Florida Voluntary Home Buyout Program encourages flood-risk reduction through the purchase of residential property from low to moderate-income citizens in high flood-risk areas. The citizens are then assisted in relocating outside of flood-prone areas. Land acquired must be deed-restricted, after acquisition, to green space that makes it resilient to impacts from future storms. Approved local governments may receive 100 percent funding for voluntary home buyouts or leverage match funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program’s (HMGP) land acquisition program.

### ***Rebuild Florida Mitigation Program***

The Rebuild Florida Mitigation Program is focused on creating more resilient communities through critical infrastructure hardening, mitigation planning, and general infrastructure projects designed to reduce or eliminate risks attributable to natural disasters. Since 2021, the Rebuild Florida Mitigation Program has awarded funds to community and regional projects that address resilience-building needs associated with presidentially declared disasters for

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

2016, 2017, and 2018 storms. These declarations encompass areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, Irma, and Michael.

## ***Rebuild Florida Hazard Mitigation Grant Match Program***

The Rebuild Florida Hazard Mitigation Grant Match Program is designed to fund the local match portion of awards through FDEM's Hazard Mitigation Grant program. These funds represent a unique and significant opportunity for the state, in the areas most impacted by recent disasters, to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to rebuild and harden infrastructure to prevent or reduce losses in future disasters.

## **2023 Update**

To date, the Rebuild Florida Mitigation Program has awarded more than \$585 million in funds across 40 counties in response to nearly 1,300 requests for assistance. Over the past year, the Rebuild Florida Mitigation Program has made significant progress in implementing, monitoring, and completing resilience enhancement projects throughout the state. In the coming years, FloridaCommerce will continue working to ensure that vulnerable communities are positioned and able to withstand and recover more quickly from future disasters.

The Rebuild Florida Hazard Mitigation Grant Match Program has awarded approximately \$47 million in funds in response to 86 requests for assistance. The Rebuild Florida Hazard Mitigation Grant Match Program is currently serving communities in nine of the 10 HUD-designated "Most Impacted and Distress Counties" impacted by Hurricane Michael. In 2023, significant progress has been made in implementing grantee agreements, with many quickly approaching conclusion and/or completion of the initial phase of their project(s).

On March 15, 2023, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that the State of Florida would receive \$910 million in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding to support long-term resiliency in response to Hurricane Ian.

In April and May of 2023, FloridaCommerce hosted a series of public workshops to hear directly from Floridians about their unmet disaster recovery needs following Hurricane Ian, providing an overview of the CDBG-DR program and upcoming State of Florida Action Plan that will detail how this funding will address unmet recovery and mitigation needs, and offering impacted Floridians an opportunity to provide their input. On September 13, 2023, FloridaCommerce submitted the State Action Plan to HUD. HUD approved Florida's Action Plan on November 9, 2023.

FloridaCommerce facilitated 40 listening sessions and held public and stakeholder workshops in 24 counties impacted by Hurricane Ian and Nicole: Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, and Volusia counties.

In August 2023, FloridaCommerce deployed their Rebuild Florida Housing Repair and Replacement Program (HRRP) Assessment for citizens. Completing this brief assessment is a necessary step in applying for program assistance. Responses help FloridaCommerce evaluate if citizens are eligible for federal grant funding through the Rebuild Florida program and will help understand the outstanding needs of homeowners affected by Hurricane Ian. Based on

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

responses to this assessment, citizens may receive an invitation to apply for HRRP assistance. As of October 26, nearly 300 citizens have taken the assessment.

For the 2023 calendar year, the Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant Program has awarded grants totaling more than \$1.5 million to ten municipalities, five counties and four regional planning councils whose projects will benefit additional communities. During this year’s application cycle, it was also specifically noted that these grants could be utilized for disaster recovery and resiliency planning.

In 2023, through contracts with local community action agencies and nonprofits to install weatherization improvements in low-income households, Florida weatherized 830 homes, impacting the lives of 1,115 residents through the FloridaCommerce Weatherization Assistance Program. With over \$1.8 million spent on weatherization activities, 69 percent of the total lives impacted included children, the elderly, and people from the community of persons with disabilities.

### 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 below.

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

### Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Yazmin Valdez Regional Planning Administrator Florida Department of Commerce 850-717-8524 <a href="mailto:Yazmin.Valdez@Commerce.fl.gov">Yazmin.Valdez@Commerce.fl.gov</a>	Lecia Behenna Office of Long-Term Resiliency Bureau Chief Florida Department of Commerce 850-717-8436 <a href="mailto:Lecia.Behenna@commerce.fl.gov">Lecia.Behenna@commerce.fl.gov</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

DOE 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 works closely with the Domestic Security Coordinating Group (DSCG) Executive Board & Critical Infrastructure-Education Focus Group to evaluate measures to identify and develop initiatives building upon the safety and security of all the state’s educational institutions. The Critical Infrastructure-Education Focus Group evaluates measures to improve security and response to crisis situations on campuses. In addition, they strive to help improve communication and collaboration among education, mental health, law enforcement, and emergency management agencies. Finally, they will recommend policies, procedures, and actions related to campus security to the DSCG. 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 their Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF). DOE also promotes online Active Shooter training throughout the department, making it a mandatory requirement.

The Office of Safe Schools (OSS) was created as a new division within DOE after the tragic event in Parkland, Florida in 2018. The OSS serves as a central repository for best practices, training standards and compliance oversight in all matters regarding school safety and security. The mission of OSS is to support districts in providing a safe learning environment for students and educators through prevention, intervention, grants, and emergency preparedness planning efforts. Furthermore, Florida law requires schools and school districts to complete vulnerability and security assessments and report the findings and local school board actions to OSS.

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 252, Florida Statutes. The DOE Facilities Office, in coordination with the Office of Emergency Management, assisted the Division of Emergency Management with their bi-annual Statewide Shelter Plan update, providing information and recommendations.

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.

### **2023 Update**

DOE did not have any significant mitigation-related activities take place in 2023.

### **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 below.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

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 EM Department of Education 850-245-9989 <a href="mailto:Peter.Newman@fldoe.org">Peter.Newman@fldoe.org</a>	Mark O'Neill Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Management Department of Education <a href="mailto:Mark.O'Neill@fldoe.org">Mark.O'Neill@fldoe.org</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
 2702 Directors Row  
 Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **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 hurricane readiness, making evacuation plans, protecting valuable documents, 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 state's aging population including local mitigation efforts that are specific to their counties and region.

### **2023 Update**

DOEA has continued to provide support to Florida's Aging population throughout 2023 by working in concert with federal, state, local, and community-based partners, and the 11 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to increase impacts from local disasters mitigation. DOEA has coordinated with the AAAs 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. The Aging Network continued to ensure basic needs for older adults were met by increasing the number home-delivered meals, safely recruiting and mobilizing volunteers, and staffing grocery and prescription delivery services due to Hurricane Idalia.

The 11 Area Agencies on Aging have provided over 30 million home-delivered meals, including meals through the restaurant meal initiative, since the Covid 19 pandemic. Home-delivered meals continue to be an option in place for those who are still uncomfortable in a congregate setting.

DOEA is still maximizing its partnership with Scent Evidence K9 to distribute Scent Preservation Kits® to caregivers of those living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD). 497 Scent Kits have been sent out in 2023 and were distributed through Memory Disorder Clinics throughout the state. Older adults with ADRD may have an increased

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

tendency to wander and become lost. If that happens, proactive family safety measures, such as the Scent Preservation Kit®, provide 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.

Another solution to breaking social isolation is through the therapeutic robotic companion pet’s 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 17 robotic pets so far in 2023.

Throughout 2023, 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 below.

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

### Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Carl Epperson General Services Manager/ECO Department of Elder Affairs 850-414-2148 <a href="mailto:eppersonc@elderaffairs.org">eppersonc@elderaffairs.org</a>	David Frank Public Relations Manager Department of Elder Affairs 850-414-2102 <a href="mailto:frankd@elderaffairs.org">frankd@elderaffairs.org</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## ***DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION***

The 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 Stormwater and Technical Services Program oversees relevant programs including Dam Safety Program, Hydrology and Hydraulics Support, Mining and Mitigation Technical Support and Storm Water Support.

The Florida Dam Safety Program coordinates with other DEP programs and Florida's five Water Management Districts which perform 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 that provide protection to large numbers of people from flooding.

The Hydrology and Hydraulics Support staff reviews hydrologic modeling and 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 Stormwater Support staff serves as a reference for statewide consistency in review of the stormwater management portions 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 source discharges from three potential sources: municipal separate storm sewer systems, construction activities, and industrial activities. The program also develops policies to minimize and prevent pollutants in stormwater discharges.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

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. Many Division staff are 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 is 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 resources, 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 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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

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 to protect Florida's environment and promote sustainability.

## **2023 Update**

### ***Resilient Florida Grant Program***

The Resilient Florida program was created through Senate Bill 1954/House Bill 7019, which is comprehensive legislation that ensures a coordinated approach to Florida's coastal and inland resilience to flooding and sea level rise. The Resilient Florida program works with communities across the state to inform and support community planning and adaptation of critical assets, including restoring critical ecosystems.

This program is charged with developing a comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set and assessment; an annual Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan; and the framework to administer grant funding to local governments, eligible special districts, and regional resilience entities for planning and implementation of resilience projects. The Resilient Florida Program provides grant funding to communities for planning and adaptation to adverse impacts from flooding resulting from increases in frequency and duration of rainfall events, storm surge from more frequent and severe weather systems, and sea level rise.

Section 380.093, F.S., outlines the eligible project and grant types of the Resilient Florida grants. Counties, municipalities, regional resilience entities, water management districts and flood control districts are eligible to

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

submit proposed projects that address flooding and sea level rise through community resilience planning, including vulnerability assessments, comprehensive plan amendments, and necessary analyses to meet the requirements of s. 163.3178 (2)(f), the Peril of Flood statute. The grants also provide funds for construction projects adapting critical assets to the effects of flooding and rising sea levels.

In the two years since its inception, the Resilient Florida program has:

- Awarded over \$686 million for 189 Resilient Florida Grant Program projects across the state.
- Prepared two preliminary Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plans which eventually led to appropriations totaling over \$583 million and funding 146 infrastructure projects across the state.
- Awarded over \$48 million for 229 planning projects across the state.
- Awarded regional resilience entities a total of \$5 million.

Developed 62S-8, F.A.C. to ensure that projects are evaluated, scored, and prioritized under Florida Statutes. This rule went into effect in August 2022.

### 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 below.

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
Samuel Graves Environmental Administrator Department of Environmental Protection 850-245-2875 <a href="mailto:Samuel.A.Graves@floridadep.gov">Samuel.A.Graves@floridadep.gov</a>	VACANT

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

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

The Divisions in FDOH include 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 Department’s Office of County Health Systems provides oversight for 67 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 FDOH 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 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.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

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 assesses 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.

## 2023 Update

No structural mitigation projects to FDOH facilities were completed during 2023. FDOH Central Office anticipates the completion of additional flood mitigation activities at the Jacksonville Public Health Laboratory campus in the coming 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 below.

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 ESF-8 Operations and Planning Administrator, Bureau of Preparedness and Response Department of Health 850-294-0190 <a href="mailto:Jeffery.Bielling@flhealth.gov">Jeffery.Bielling@flhealth.gov</a>	Christina Stenberg ESF-8 Planning Unit Manager, Bureau of Preparedness and Response Department of Health 850-544-1697 <a href="mailto:Christina.Stenberg@flhealth.gov">Christina.Stenberg@flhealth.gov</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **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 Bureau of General Services is responsible for facility management. There are 45 Residential and Correctional Facilities and 21 Juvenile Detention Centers. The Bureau of General Services 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, and DJJ has completed engineering to mitigate future flooding through the design of a 30-inch flood wall around the exterior of the facility and the design and engineering of the underground drainage of the facility to be delivered outside of the flood wall capturing all rainwater. DJJ and this facility are engaged and have permitted with the water management district and working with the Division of Emergency Management (DEM). Furthermore, DJJ has completed other mitigation type projects on their facilities using maintenance funds, and all new construction projects consider mitigation options.

### **2023 Update**

The Department has completed two of the four ongoing mitigation projects.

#### ***Deep Creek (Hastings Youth Academy) Flood Mitigation Project***

Part 1 – Building Sealants: Completed removal and replacement of all vertical joint caulking of the existing tilt wall panels (TWP) at a maximum height of 4’ from top of the slab, installation of sealant between existing concrete pavement and the building, apply waterproof sealant coating at a maximum height of 4’ from top of slab and install 4” wide traffic coating at all door openings.

Part 2 – Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements: Contract with a Civil Engineer to complete research of present storm water infrastructure system and provide plans for detailed improvements. Design for improvements has been completed and permitting has been obtained.

Part 3 – Perimeter Flood Wall: Contracted with Civil Engineer to design and provide scope of work for perimeter flood wall. Civil engineering and permitting has been completed. Project has been bid on and GMP has been received. The anticipated project timeline for completion is December 2024.

#### ***Impact Resistant Windows***

DJJ is phasing in a window replacement program that will convert present glass windows to fixed glass impact resistant windows for facilities on the coast. All new windows must be certified to meet Miami-Dade County codes. All windows at two DJJ facilities (Jacksonville YA and Palm Beach JDC) will be replaced this year, and the third facility (Broward RJDC) will start by the end of this year and be completed next year 2024. The program will continue to move forward with the process in the following years as funding permits.

#### **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 below.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

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
Alnysa Bisbee Emergency Coordinating Officer Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) 850-717-2764 <a href="mailto:Alnysa.Bisbee@fldjj.gov">Alnysa.Bisbee@fldjj.gov</a>	Pamela White Deputy Bureau Chief of General Services Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) 850-717-2740 <a href="mailto:pamela.white@fldjj.gov">pamela.white@fldjj.gov</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
 2702 Directors Row  
 Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## DEPARTMENT OF LOTTERY

The Florida Lottery was established with the purpose of providing additional funds for education while offering the finest lottery games to the state's residents. The mission of the Florida Lottery is to optimize revenue generation in a manner that upholds the state's dignity and promotes the well-being of its citizens.

Lottery funds have been instrumental in supporting School Recognition and Merit Programs, benefiting schools that have shown improvement, and have played a vital role in the construction and renovation of educational institutions through initiatives such as Classrooms First and Classrooms for Kids programs.

Since its establishment in 1988, the Florida Lottery has made significant contributions to education through the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund (EETF). Over the years, the Lottery has transferred more than \$44 billion to the EETF, reinforcing its commitment to supporting education in the state.

The Florida Lottery's consistent and substantial contributions to the EETF have significantly impacted the state's education sector, providing essential funding for schools, colleges, universities, and scholarships, thereby shaping a brighter future for countless students.

### 2023 Update

For the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive fiscal year, the Florida Lottery transferred over \$1 billion to the EETF, reaching a remarkable milestone. In the fiscal year 2021-22 alone, the Lottery contributed over \$2.3 billion, further enhancing educational initiatives.

These contributions have had a substantial impact on Florida's public education system. With a total funding of more than \$23 billion since its inception, the Lottery has supported various programs, including Pre-K, K-12 education, and school construction. In the fiscal year 2021-22, Florida's public schools received over \$994 million, enabling the enhancement of educational facilities and programs.

Additionally, the state's public colleges and universities have benefited significantly from the Lottery's contributions. With a combined total exceeding \$11 billion since its inception, including over \$661 million in the fiscal year 2021-22, these funds have played a vital role in advancing higher education opportunities.

Furthermore, the Florida Lottery has been a key supporter of students' aspirations through the Bright Futures Scholarship program. With a total contribution surpassing \$8 billion, including over \$652 million in the fiscal year 2021-22, the Lottery has enabled more than 950,000 students to pursue their college education, making higher learning accessible to a vast number of individuals.

### 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of Lottery	1	1	1	3

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

Mitigation Implementation Rating: 3 – Standard

## 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>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Department of Management Services (DMS) 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. REDM 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 of 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 65 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.

### 2023 Update

Mitigation will be implemented as described above through capital improvement and code compliance. In addition, the FL-SOLARIS database was utilized for the 2023 State Hazard Mitigation Plan five-year update, in coordination with FDEM.

### 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 below.

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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Kevin Pierce Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) Department of Management Services 850-559-0340 <a href="mailto:Kevin.Pierce@dms.fl.gov">Kevin.Pierce@dms.fl.gov</a>	Hank Stephens Alternate ECO – ESF-2 Department of Management Services 850-294-5620 <a href="mailto:Hank.Stephens@dms.myflorida.com">Hank.Stephens@dms.myflorida.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
 2702 Directors Row  
 Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS/FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD**

The 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 Department and Guard are headquartered at St. Francis Barracks in St. Augustine, Florida and operate together within policy guidance and fiscal framework of federal and state authorities. The joint headquarters is responsible for more than one billion dollars in state property, armories in 55 communities in Florida, and more than 73,000 acres in training lands. DMA/FLNG is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of over 800 buildings, which often includes retrofitting and hardening. For example, 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 headquarters. Over time, the historic seawall had deteriorated and no longer provided adequate protection. The project involved reinforcing and stabilizing the seawall, waterward of the historic seawall, to protect the area from tropical cyclone storm surge.

### **2023 Update**

The historic seawall reinforcement project was complete on 30 May 2023. The project included the design and installation of weepholes spaced approximately every 10 feet at the existing seawall (approximately 500 feet long); grout placed to fill the large voids on the waterside; placement of flowable fill with topsoil and sod on the voids; application of shotcrete with an anchoring frame on the waterside of the south corner; and placement of stone revetment at the south corner with a maximum radius of 25 feet from the corner and adjacent damaged wall section, using one layer of granite stone with an approximate diameter of 2.5 feet, as generally described in the Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for the St. Francis Barracks Seawall Shoreline Erosion Protection Study Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) Section 14, dated January 2020 and approved by the Division Commander for South Atlantic Division on February 12, 2020. The mitigation effort seeks to allow the efficient backflow of water back into the inlet upon the recession of storm surge, while preserving the structural integrity of the seawall.

The Installation Energy and Water Plan (IEWP) was developed by the Florida Army National Guard (FLARNG) in June 2022 and continues to provide a roadmap for achieving increased security, resilience, readiness, and mission assurance for the FLARNG in an event of a natural hazard or other disruption to the FLARNG. The IEWP provides the goals and strategies of energy and water (E&W) management, for the next five years, for 26 critical facilities at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC) and 30 critical FLARNG facilities.

Development of the roadmap involved a holistic approach including, but not limited to, current and future sustainability efforts (E&W efficiency, demand reduction, renewable energy implementation) as well as identifying solutions to address deficiencies identified in the Installation Status Report – Mission Capacity (ISR-MC) assessments for E&W. Cybersecurity across utility systems was addressed as part of infrastructure condition and risk analysis. One of the major outcomes of the IEWP was the development of courses of actions (COAs) and associated implementation timelines to ensure a minimum of 14 days of critical mission operations in the event of a disruption to E&W supply. DMA will utilize the prioritized listing to pursue funding for the planning and execution of these projects over multiple years.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department 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 Construction and Facility Management Officer Dept of Military Affairs/FLNG 904-823-0250 <a href="mailto:ryan.a.leonard.mil@army.mil">ryan.a.leonard.mil@army.mil</a>	Timothy Smith Deputy State Quartermaster Dept of Military Affairs/FLNG 904-823-0216 <a href="mailto:timothy.j.smith53.nfg@army.mil">timothy.j.smith53.nfg@army.mil</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

The mission of the Department of State (DOS) 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 Compliance and Review program, both housed in the Bureau of Historic Preservation, within DHR.

Florida Main Street provides technical assistance to revitalize historic downtowns and encourage economic development. 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 assists communities with disaster planning and mitigation for historic properties through written documents and individual guidance, improving coordination between emergency management and historic preservation efforts, as well as identifying funding sources and providing best practices for mitigation. DHR's Bureau of Archaeological Research conducts surveys and excavations and provides specialized damage assessments on state owned lands after hazards have impacted an area, such as flooding, high winds, and forest fires.

In addition to historic preservation, 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 as well as vault storage for microfilm master and backup copies of vital records and 24/7/365 emergency access to system backups. The Records Management Program provides Disaster Recovery resources, including information on recovery techniques and handling guidance regarding records impacted by floods, fires, and other hazards.

## **2023 Update**

The Florida Main Street program currently oversees 57 active Main Street communities throughout the state. In Fiscal Year 2022-2023, Florida Main Street program staff continued to help designated Florida Main Street Communities with preparation and storm recovery due to Hurricane Ian; specifically, Arcadia, Wauchula, Venice, Kissimmee, Sanford, and Goldsboro. Florida Main Street presented, along with members from The National Main Street Center and the National Park Service, at the Main Street NOW23 Conference at a Disaster Preparedness and Resilience Program workshop. Florida was specifically targeted as a subject state, and the City of Chattahoochee was chosen as a subject model for response, recovery, and resiliency strategies.

Florida Main Street has been working with the Florida Department of Commerce (FDOC) ESF 18: Business, Industry and Economic Stabilization team and the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) program areas to provide resources and training to our Main Street communities in the areas of disaster preparation and recovery from both physical and business continuation standpoints. Florida Main Street met throughout the year with panel members from both the Economic Development Administration and FEMA to discuss needs in the Hurricane Ian impacted communities, business recovery and resiliency, and future modeling for disaster recovery and assistance. Additionally, Florida Main Street created an alliance with the Florida Chamber of Commerce Directors Association to facilitate disaster impacted communities through the recovery process. The ability to partner these two organizations within a community enhanced recovery efforts in those areas.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

DHR manages the Certified Local Government (CLG) program, which has 85 participating communities. As part of the program, DHR partnered with the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions to conduct a day-long Commission Assistance and Mentorship Program (CAMP) session on Disaster Planning and Mitigation in June 2023. Two CAMP trainers and DHR staff provided training on disaster planning for historic preservation commissions, risk assessment and documentation, the economics of disaster planning, public engagement, adaptation and rehabilitation, Section 106 review and disaster response, and applying design standards to disaster adaptation and recovery projects. In addition, DHR shared disaster planning, mitigation, response, and recovery documentation with CLGs at the beginning of hurricane season and prior to major storms, including Hurricanes Ian and Idalia. CLGs are prioritized in providing technical assistance following disasters, and staff works to connect CLG contacts with relevant federal agencies and funding sources. The Main Street program works closely with the CLG program, providing similar resources to local businesses, while the CLG program focuses on government-to-government partnerships and assistance.

DHR continues to build upon the county-wide survey program initiated with National Park Service (NPS) grant funds following Hurricane Michael. In Fiscal Year 2022-2023, DHR completed a survey of Dixie County at a cost of approximately \$198,500, which was timely as the county was directly impacted by Hurricane Idalia in September 2023. The survey recorded a total of 642 resources, of which only 32 were previously recorded. This survey supplemented a concurrent grant-funded survey of the county seat, Cross City, and provides the baseline historic resource data for the county which will be used by state and federal agencies as part of the disaster response and recovery. DHR is also contracting for a historic resource survey of Taylor County, where Hurricane Idalia made landfall. Completion of the survey is scheduled for summer 2024.

In addition, DHR earmarked \$34,000 of its annual Historic Preservation Fund grant from the NPS to survey the Pepper Hill neighborhood of Quincy, Gadsden County, Florida, in Fiscal Year 2022-2023. This area is a historically African American community and a historic district potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The survey documented 432 total resources, 152 of which were newly recorded historic structures.

These survey projects enhance the ability of both state and local governments to be better prepared for disasters and improve review times for projects following storms. Surveys ensure that when DHR is reviewing state and federal undertakings and permitting for impacts to historical resources, division staff has the best information available to make a quick and accurate assessment on the impact to historical resources in disaster areas. It will also help to rule out projects that do not need review, per the Division's Programmatic Agreement with FEMA, which will further speed up response time.

In 2023, DHR established preservation priorities for the Fiscal Year 2025 Special Category grant application solicitation that included preference for projects that addressed hurricane recovery and mitigation. DHR sought to incentivize applications for projects associated with the recoveries following Hurricanes Ian, Nicole, and Idalia. In addition, several CLGs continued to utilize the Small Matching grants program to fund their own local historic resource surveys, which often are part of disaster or flood mitigation planning.

The NPS awarded the Division disaster recovery grants for both Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Michael in 2019 and 2020. This grant funding was sub-granted to non-profits and local governments for projects aimed at recovery and repair of historic properties in areas that received a major disaster declaration related to Hurricanes Irma and Michael,

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

respectively. These subgrant projects must also substantially mitigate the threat and include steps to mitigate future damage. A total of \$4,959,699 of the Hurricane Irma Funding from the NPS was allocated to subgrants, and a total of \$8,054,000 of the Hurricane Michael Funding from the NPS was allocated to subgrants. DHR’s grants section continues to manage these subgrant projects.

Florida Master Site File staff share information with FEMA, FDEM, FDOC, and HUD on a regular basis to assist in identifying damaged properties or those at-risk during response and recovery.

DHR has extended its 2014 Programmatic Agreement with FEMA and FDEM and has provided comments for a new version of the agreement to FEMA, which is expected to be signed by all parties by the time the current agreement expires on September 30, 2024. DHR works daily with FEMA, FDEM, HUD, and FDOC staff and consultants to determine impacts to historical resources for projects that are listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, per Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Compliance Review staff provide technical assistance regarding proper treatment of damaged historic structures and archaeological sites from impacts due to hurricanes and other disasters to expedite the review of disaster related projects and provide comments in not more than 15 days, but usually less.

In 2023, DHR sent Compliance staff to the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Lake Mary, Florida, to assist with response and recovery efforts related to Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. This allowed DHR to provide immediate and in person guidance regarding historic and archaeological properties to FEMA, FDEM, and local governments.

### 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Department of State	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 6 – Above 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>	Alissa Slade Lotane Director of Historical Resources Department of State 850-245-6357 <a href="mailto:Alissa.Lotane@dos.myflorida.com">Alissa.Lotane@dos.myflorida.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION***

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

The Office of Environmental Management (OEM), within the Engineering and Operations Office, integrates environmental and stewardship principles into all Department plans and programs by balancing natural, human, cultural, and physical considerations with sound engineering principles. This helps achieve the goal of preserving the quality of our environment and communities, while fulfilling the Department's core mission. OEM provides statewide technical expertise in all areas related to natural and community resource considerations as they relate to activities associated developing transportation in all phases of project development. These considerations include wildlife and habitat, wetlands and water quality mitigation, historic, archeological, tribal, socio-cultural, and public involvement.

Also, within the Engineering and Operations section, the Chief Engineer oversees the Offices of Design; Maintenance; Construction; Materials; Right of Way, Traffic Engineering and Operations; Program Management; and Emergency Management.

The Office of Design develops policy, procedures, criteria, and standards incorporating mitigation efforts 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. It also developed the Drainage Manual as guidance for communities that want to conform their infrastructure to the same standards as FDOT.

The Office of Maintenance implements, through statewide oversight and in coordination with FDOT districts, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Program, which seeks to address water quality issues and ensure FDOT compliance with all applicable permit requirements.

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, which is within the Office of Strategic Development, develops and coordinates implementation of the Florida Transportation Plan. It is a single overarching statewide plan guiding Florida's transportation future. The Plan includes several goals, objectives, and strategies related to mitigation and resilience that seeks to promote the long-term capacity of the transportation infrastructure network.

### ***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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

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

- Identify vulnerabilities to hazards and implement strategies to reduce or prepare to withstand
- 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 known vulnerabilities and improve resilience of transportation infrastructure
- Identify and implement approaches for coordinating environmental management, land use, and urban design
- Establish long-term approaches to incentivize, where appropriate, the transition of infrastructure and development away from higher vulnerable areas
- Update emergency management plans covering preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation to reflect changing conditions

The Systems Implementation Office manages 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. The Department is a partner in the current LiDAR data acquisition project, along with the DEM and US Geological Survey.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## 2023 Update

The Department is continuing to implement the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and has published the Implementation Element, which includes implementation strategies and actions. The FTP includes considerations of hazards, vulnerabilities, risk assessments, mitigation, and resilience. Its update process incorporated a wide range of stakeholders through its Resiliency Subcommittee. The FTP includes four elements: Vision Element, Policy Element, Implementation Element, and Performance Element.

The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) is a statewide network of high-priority transportation facilities that represents the State's primary means for moving people and freight within Florida, as well as to other states and nations. A core focus area of the SIS Policy Plan update includes identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities of the SIS network from risks, such as extreme weather, sea level rise, and coastal and inland flooding.

FDOT's Resilience 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 Department is continuing to implement the Resilience Policy through updates to manuals and various business processes.

FDOT developed the Resilience Action Plan (RAP) as required by S. 339.157, Florida Statutes. The plan was delivered to the Governor and Legislature on June 30, 2023. It will be updated every 3 years. The RAP recommends strategies to enhance infrastructure and operational resilience, design changes for existing and new facilities, and strategies to enhance partnerships to address multijurisdictional resilience needs.

The RAP includes several elements:

- an evaluation of past events and our current policies, procedures, processes, and manuals.
- a vulnerability assessment of the State Highway System.
- alternatives to retrofit existing infrastructure and systems.
- a database of vulnerable assets.
- and enhanced partnerships and technical assistance to address multijurisdictional resilience needs.

The federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) established the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program, which provides both formula and discretionary funding for resilience activities. Its purpose is to provide funds for resilience improvements; competitive grants to communities for vulnerability assessments; and competitive grants for resilience improvements to vulnerable transportation infrastructure.

FDOT is building upon the RAP to meet the requirements of the optional Resilience Improvement Plan (RIP), which is included in the PROTECT program, to provide for an increased federal share of work funded under the PROTECT program. The RIP will be coordinated with the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Several resilience-related studies and research projects were completed during 2023, including an evaluation of Metropolitan Planning Organization planning for resiliency and data gaps, development of a resilience index

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

framework, and development of policy and planning recommendations for addressing resilience of vulnerable populations. Several research projects are underway, including projects addressing resiliency of rigid and asphalt pavements to flooding and incorporating no stationarity into FDOT planning and design guidelines and processes.

FDOT is continuing to develop and enhance tools and guidance to address sea level rise, flooding, and storm surge to enhance the resilience of transportation infrastructure.

- FDOT has worked with the University of Florida GeoPlan Center to create and enhance the Sea Level Scenario Sketch Planning Tool to identify impacts of sea level rise and storm surge to transportation infrastructure and to provide a tool for project-level evaluation of resilience data and issues
- The Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Resiliency Study has helped guide the development of the resilience focus area in the recently updated SIS Policy Plan
- The agency continues to modify design manuals, including the Drainage Manual and the Project Development & Environment Study Manual to incorporate resilience considerations
- Projected sea levels and tides are analyzed in design of bridge replacement projects, including with the development of the Resilience Module within the Project Suite Enterprise Edition (PSEE) – which is a web-based application for project managers to view, manage, and request changes to projects
- Corrosion free products such as stainless steel and Fiber reinforced polymers (FRP) are used in vulnerable areas to extend facility service life

The Department coordinates closely with various local, state, and federal agencies, including the state’s Chief Resilience Officer, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Economic Opportunity, the Division of Emergency Management, and others to promote a coordinated and consistent policymaking and project delivery framework.

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 riprap 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), a strategy developed to increase traffic capacity during major hurricane evacuations, was a key tactic first implemented during Hurricane Irma evacuations along the I-75 and I-4 corridors and implemented on the I-4 corridor during Hurricane Ian evacuations. ESU plans have been developed for key corridors (I-4, I-10, I-75, I-95, and Florida’s Turnpike).

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

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, debris monitoring, and cut-and-toss operations help residents return to their homes and businesses and allow for critical repairs to utilities, aiding a quicker and comprehensive community and economic recovery.

### Project Examples: Living Shorelines

Identifying and adopting innovative solutions is a high priority for the Department. We continue to seek solutions to adapt and enhance our infrastructure resilience. Several projects under development are focusing on a living shorelines approach, which is a sustainable and resilient solution designed to use natural solutions for protecting department assets and facilities.

NOAA defines Living Shorelines as a green infrastructure technique that uses native vegetation alone or in combination with low sills, or harder shoreline structures, to stabilize the shoreline. They provide a natural alternative to ‘hard’ shoreline stabilization methods, like rip rap or bulkheads. They also provide benefits including nutrient pollution remediation, essential fish habitat structure, and buffering of shorelines from waves and storms.

- Barracuda Bridge Replacement, New Smyrna Beach, FL: This project occurs within an Essential Fish Habitat. The Department coordinated with several federal, state, and local agencies to ensure there would be no adverse impacts to oysters. It also made commitments to relocate as many oysters as possible to a nearby restored saltwater marsh near the project area by the Marine Discovery Center. In addition to helping preserve the oysters, the relocation helps stabilize the tidal creeks within the restoration area.

### 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 below.

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 HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis, Governor**

**Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director**

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***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. DEM is designated as the coordinator of the Natural Hazards Interagency Working Group per 252.3655, Florida Statutes.

The Mitigation Bureau within DEM is responsible for developing, updating, maintaining, and implementing the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP). The SHMP is reviewed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) every five years and is required to meet standard criteria per CFR 44 Part 201.4 to be eligible to receive federal mitigation grant funding. The State of Florida has an Enhanced SHMP because the plan meets additional requirements, per CFR 44 Part 201.5, which authorizes Florida to receive additional funding for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). This has resulted in nearly an additional \$298 million in mitigation funding since 2007. 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, including HMGP, the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program, and the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program. 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 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 and community properties.

The Florida Office of Floodplain Management 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, Response Bureau, and Recovery Bureau, respectively.

### **2023 Update**

The Florida Enhanced SHMP was updated and approved by FEMA on August 23, 2023. As previously noted, the SHMP must be updated every five years. This planning effort required collaboration with DEM's GIS Unit, as well as with other state agencies, non-governmental agencies, and other subject matter experts. For the 2023 update, the SHMP was

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

converted to an all-online format with the goal of making it more accessible and user-friendly. The [FL SHMP website](#) replaces the previous 500-page document (1,500 pages with the appendices) and features several interactive components.

The Mitigation Bureau continued to focus on outreach and education in the various units throughout 2023. In addition to these efforts, the Bureau explored new ways to provide technical assistance to the local communities impacted by Hurricanes Ian, Nicole, and Idalia. Some of these efforts were led by Florida’s Chief Resilience Officer through collaboration with other state agencies and participation in the Mitigation and Resilience Coordination (MARC) workgroup. The MARC workgroup visited impacted counties after each storm to get insight into the needs of the communities. Additionally, the Bureau hired a contractor to provide application development assistance for Hurricanes Ian and Nicole HMGP. This technical assistance was in addition to the Bureau-led Statewide HMGP Webinars and in-person briefings with heavily impacted counties. Similarly, the Bureau’s Non-Disaster programs and HLMP teams held informative webinars ahead of their respective grant deadlines.

The Planning Unit completed the current LMS five year update cycle, ensuring all 67 county LMS plans were approved. Ahead of the next cycle, the Unit has updated Bureau-developed guidance to include the updates to FEMA’s Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide and held regional LMS Update Manual Workshops (FL-391) which will continue in 2024. The Planning Unit also instructed five G-393 courses across the state, presented at several LMS Working Group meetings, and coordinated projects for the Florida Silver Jackets program in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The Office of Floodplain Management (OFM) completed several activities to assist local communities, including conducting 82 CAVs, approving 29 ordinances that were adopted by local communities, and completing a total of 2,042 requests for General Technical Assistance. The Office completed its first full cycle of the State Coordinating Office Regional Engagement - Community Assistance Visit (SCORE-CAV) process. Beginning in 2018, the team was able to visit 468 NFIP participating communities during 22 meetings, which has never been done in Florida or FEMA Region 4. OFM also assisted in providing information on post-disaster floodplain regulations and actions throughout 2023 following Hurricanes Ian, Nicole, and Idalia.

This year, the Mitigation Bureau closed 13 Non-Disaster mitigation projects, while working to fulfill FEMA requests for information (RFIs) for 46 FY 2022 FMA/BRIC projects selected for further review, including eight projects selected for further review in the BRIC National Competition. In preparation for the FY 2023 FMA and BRIC application cycle, the Non-Disaster Unit held a Statewide Applicant Briefing and received and responded to 171 Notice of Interest forms, which assist potential applicants in determining eligibility of proposed projects ahead of submission to the state. Additionally, HMGP staff successfully conducted two application periods, receiving over 650 subapplications for Hurricanes Ian and Nicole requesting over \$2,451,559,219 in federal share.

The Mitigation Bureau has made great strides in implementing the Watershed Planning Initiative. This year, the Bureau was able to fully execute contracts for all 35 projects, representing 22 counties and 22 unique communities. The Bureau will continue to process deliverables into 2024.

## **Agency Mitigation Assessment**

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

This score is based upon an analysis of the relevance, level, and significance of the mitigation efforts of the agency as described below.

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
Kristin Lentz Mitigation Bureau, Planning Unit Manager Division of Emergency Management 850-815-4519 <a href="mailto:Kristin.Lentz@em.myflorida.com">Kristin.Lentz@em.myflorida.com</a>	Laura Dhuwe Mitigation Bureau Chief Division of Emergency Management 850-815-4512 <a href="mailto:Laura.Dhuwe@em.myflorida.com">Laura.Dhuwe@em.myflorida.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) mission is managing 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, the FWC conserves, protects and manages more than 575 species of wildlife, 200 species of native freshwater fish, and 500 species of native 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 wildlife. In addition to the five regional offices, the FWC also has 76 field offices and facilities. The FWC is comprised of six divisions and nine offices. 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.

### **2023 Update**

#### ***State Wildlife Action Plan***

The FWC has developed and implemented a comprehensive, continuously updated State Wildlife Action Plan for conserving the state's wildlife and vital natural areas for future generations. It focuses on native wildlife and habitats, particularly species of greatest conservation need; why they are in need; and most importantly, actions for conserving and protecting them. Florida's vast landscape, diverse climate, rising sea-level, endangered species, urban sprawl, and conservation management are topics included in a comprehensive plan to mitigate risk and foster resiliency. The Action Plan is available on the FWC website at [myfwc.com/conservation/special-initiatives/swap/action-plan/](https://myfwc.com/conservation/special-initiatives/swap/action-plan/).

#### ***Landscape Conservation***

To address the challenges of habitat loss, invasive species, water quality issues and climate diversity, the FWC is promoting efforts to bring people together across places, sectors, and cultures to collaborate on connecting and conserving important landscapes at a larger ecosystem scale. Landscape conservation works to protect ecosystems while promoting livable communities, viable agriculture and working lands. Balancing these landscape-level conservation and management goals is achieved through collaborating with partners and stakeholders, pooling resources and forward-thinking that goes beyond geographical boundaries for maximum, long-term impact.

#### ***Manatee Unusual Mortality Event***

While the total number of manatee deaths and mortality was lower during the winter of 2022-23 compared to previous years, wildlife agencies and partners continue prioritizing response to distressed manatees and rescuing manatees that need assistance ([preliminary rescue summaries](#)). The overarching, multifaceted [Unusual Mortality Event](#) (UME) investigation is ongoing and informed by multiple response, research and monitoring efforts. FWC researchers expect findings of chronic malnutrition in manatees to persist along the Atlantic coast so long as there remains a seagrass shortage in the Indian River Lagoon.

The FWC continues to coordinate closely with its federal partners to participate in the investigative team and conduct analyses related to the cause of the UME. Working with these partners, FWC staff is exploring science-based conservation measures for manatees, including aquatic habitat restoration.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

The Working Group on Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Events confirmed manatee mortalities met the criteria to be a UME and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service declared it an UME in 2021.

### Red Tide

The FWC’s Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) is a national leader in red tide research and response. The FWRI processes dozens of water samples every week and reports its findings to the public and remains in constant contact with local governments, health officials, and partner agencies. The FWRI maintains a hotline through a federally funded project to survey fish-related diseases and mortalities. In addition, the FWRI and Mote Marine Laboratory work together to monitor *Karenia brevis*. This cooperative effort is designed to help mitigate the adverse impacts of red tide through monitoring, research, public outreach, and education. This collaboration has resulted in better tools and ongoing monitoring for red tides along the Gulf Coast.

Mote Marine Laboratory's [Beach Conditions Report](#) provides up-to-date information about the effects of red tide on Florida Gulf Coast beaches, including reports of dead fish, respiratory irritation among beachgoers, water color, and wind direction. The site also provides information on red drift algae and rip currents.

The FWRI’s Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) group closely monitors the status of *K. brevis* on Florida's coasts, providing technical support to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), the agency that regulates approved shellfish harvesting 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 below.

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
Rett Boyd Deputy Chief Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 850-617-9543 <a href="mailto:Rett.Boyd@myfwc.com">Rett.Boyd@myfwc.com</a>	Brian Smith Colonel Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 850-488-6251 <a href="mailto:Brian.Smith@myfwc.com">Brian.Smith@myfwc.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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

FPSC regulates the retail rates and service territories of investor-owned electric utilities, gas utilities, and water and wastewater utilities. The regulation of utilities is commonly referred to as rate base or rate-of-return regulation, which includes rate setting responsibility, earnings oversight, quality of service, and consumer complaints. A characteristic unique to Florida's water and wastewater industry is that counties have the option to elect to regulate the investor-owned water and wastewater companies in their county pursuant to Chapter 367, Florida Statutes, or transfer jurisdiction to the FPSC. Currently 38 of 67 counties cede regulatory authority to the FPSC.

For telecommunications companies, the Commission has jurisdiction over company-to-company matters, such as disputes over interconnection agreements, along with numbering issues such as determining the appropriate form of area code relief when telephone numbers exhaust within an area code. The Commission also provides oversight for the Lifeline program for low-income customers, established under the federal Universal Service Program, and Telephone Relay Services for the deaf, hard of hearing, and speech impaired. The FPSC has oversight over pay phone services as well.

FPSC's jurisdiction over municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives is limited to rate structure, safety, and territorial boundaries. Rate structure refers to the classification system used in justifying differing rates between various customer classes. To assure an adequate and reliable supply of electricity in Florida, FPSC has jurisdiction over the generation and bulk transmission planning of all electric utilities. The Commission is responsible for reviewing electric utility Ten-Year Site Plans and determining the need for major new power plant and transmission line additions under the Florida Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Acts. Finally, FPSC also has authority to set conservation goals for Florida's investor-owned electric utilities, the two largest municipal electric utilities, and the largest investor-owned natural gas utility.

In addition to the activities described above, FPSC 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 DEM information are highlighted on the FPSC website ([www.floridapsc.com](http://www.floridapsc.com)), as well as links to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Hurricane Center. All this information is distributed via the FPSC's Twitter account ([twitter.com/floridapsc](https://twitter.com/floridapsc)) at appropriate times throughout the year.

## **2023 Update**

In support of sharing individual hurricane preparation activities among IOUs, Municipals, and Cooperatives, FPSC 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 FPSC-mandated initiatives:

- Facility inspections, maintenance, and repairs

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

- Vegetation management
- Flooding and storm surge mitigation
- Wooden pole inspections
- Coordination with other utilities, government, and community groups

The 2023 Hurricane Preparedness Workshop was held on May 23, 2023. Other topics of discussion at the Workshop included lessons learned from the previous hurricane season.

Following legislation passed in 2019, FPSC 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 FPSC 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. On October 4, 2022, the Commission approved Storm Protection Plans for Florida’s IOUs. The FPSC conducted a hearing to address cost recovery for storm protection activities on September 12, 2023 and is expected to make a decision in late November 2023.

### 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
Public Service Commission	2	2	2	6
<b>Mitigation Implementation Rating: 6 – Above Standard</b>				

### Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Todd Brown Bureau Chief Public Service Commission 850.413.6550 <a href="mailto:TBrown@psc.state.fl.us">TBrown@psc.state.fl.us</a>	Peter Queirola Budget Analyst Public Service Commission 850.413.6289 <a href="mailto:PQueirol@psc.state.fl.us">PQueirol@psc.state.fl.us</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS***

### **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.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT***

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

The Division of Regulatory Services implements regulatory programs to 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 applicable to mitigation projects. Environmental Resource Permitting limits flooding risks associated with new development, and it protects wetlands and water quality.

The Division of Resource Management implements programs that span all 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 a planning framework for watershed protection and restoration based on major riverine-estuarine watersheds. This is achieved through cooperative projects, such as wetland and aquatic habitat restoration, stormwater retrofits to improve water quality and flood protection, and septic-to-sewer and other projects to protect water quality in priority springs. Through the Precision Agriculture Systems and Solutions program, the District provides cost-share funding to help farmers implement best management practices that improve water use efficiency and reduce nutrient application to protect springs and other water resources.

The regional wetland mitigation program provides wetland mitigation services to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for transportation 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 NFWWMD works closely with FEMA and affected communities to update floodplain maps, called Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs), through FEMA's Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program. This effort includes collaboration with state and local agencies to deliver detailed data to foster informed risk management decisions through the development of DFIRMs. The Risk MAP program and DFIRMs are a consistent approach to assess potential vulnerability and losses and helps to increase public awareness of and support for actions that reduce flood-related risks. 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 water management 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.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## 2023 Update

The District continues to help local governments identify funding resources that will advance regional and local resilience to threats of coastal and inland flooding.

Over the year ahead, the NFWFMD will complete assessments to identify concentrations of woody debris within hurricane-affected streams. The District will further conduct modeling to evaluate how floodplain dimensions have changed because of debris and to identify areas at a higher risk of flooding. Waterbodies planned for assessment include Bear, Bayou George, and Cedar creeks in Bay County; Wetappo Creek in Gulf County; upper and lower Econfina Creek in Washington and Bay counties; and the lower Chipola River in Calhoun County.

Ongoing Hurricane Michael recovery efforts associated with NFWFMD lands includes the removal of 900 acres of vegetative debris within the Econfina Creek, Chipola River and Apalachicola River WMA's (Primary Impact Zones) as well as repair of 20 miles of District access roads. More than 935,000 trees were planted (1,285 acres) on District lands for restoration and protection of vital water functions and natural systems.

Revised Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) were issued for the Apalachicola River/Bay and Chipola River watersheds on January 11, 2023. Revised Preliminary FIRMs for Escambia County are scheduled to be issued on November 29, 2023. Flood map updates are scheduled to begin for the following watersheds: Escambia River, St. Andrew/St. Joseph Bay, Choctawhatchee Bay, Yellow River and Blackwater River.

## 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 below.

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

## Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
John Crowe, CFM Program Manager, Flood Management & Technical Services Northwest Florida WMD 850-539-2617 <a href="mailto:John.Crowe@nfwfwater.com">John.Crowe@nfwfwater.com</a>	Jerrick Saquibal, PE, CFM Chief, Bureau of Resource Projects & Planning Northwest Florida WMD 850-539-2619 <a href="mailto:Jerrick.Saquibal@nfwfwater.com">Jerrick.Saquibal@nfwfwater.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis, Governor**

**Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director**

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT***

South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) mission is to safeguard and restore South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region's water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders.

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern half of the state, covering 16 counties from Orlando to the Florida Keys and serving a population of above 9 million residents. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Created in 1949, the agency is responsible for managing and protecting water resources of South Florida by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems. The Florida Legislature established the SFWMD to manage and protect water resources in our region. The SFWMD's work fits broadly into five categories.

Flood control has been part of the SFWMD's mission since it was created by the Legislature as the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District in 1949. The SFWMD operates and maintains the regional water management system known as the Central and Southern Florida Project, which was authorized by Congress more than 60 years ago to protect residents and businesses from floods and droughts. This primary system of canals and natural waterways connects to community drainage districts and hundreds of smaller neighborhood systems to effectively manage floodwaters during heavy rain. Throughout the year, Field Operations and Maintenance staff oversee approximately 2,175 miles of canals, 2,130 miles of levees/berms, 915 water control structures, 620 project culverts and 89 pump stations.

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. The program goals are to assess flood vulnerability (Phase I Study) and to identify adaptation strategies and to develop a project implementation strategy (Phase II Study) 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. SFWMD has developed a methodology and suite of modeling tools for evaluating structures and canals in priority basins, and a framework for establishing the level of service. The FPLOS is being implemented in a phased approach in an 8- to 10-year cycle. Each basin is being evaluated and actions taken as necessary to ensure that the level of service is maintained. In 2016, SFWMD completed Phase I of the FPLOS study (Flood Vulnerability Assessment) in the C-4 Basin in Miami-Dade County. In 2017 and 2018, Phase I and a pilot Phase II Study (Adaptation Planning) of the C-7 Basin and the Big Cypress Basin were completed. FPLOS Phase I studies were completed in 2020 at the C-8 and C-9 Basins in Broward and Miami Dade Counties and in 2021 for all the remaining Broward County Basins. In FY22 and FY23, FPLOS Phase I studies were completed for C1, C100, C102, and C103 Basins, C-2, C-3W, C-5 and C-6 Basins, and C-111, Model Lands, and L-31NS Basins. In FY23, Phase II Studies were completed for the C-9 and C-8 Basins in Broward and Miami-Dade Counties, with C-7 Pilot Phase II Study under initiation.

Water supply planning is essential to meet the growing demand on limited water resources of 9 million residents, millions of visitors, businesses, and the environment. SFWMD proactively develops long-term water supply plans to monitor, evaluate and identify water sources and projects to meet the future water needs. Water supply planning, water conservation and the use of alternative water supplies are essential to meet the growing demand on limited water resources. SFWMD staff works with the SFWMD's partners, stakeholders, and members of the public to develop

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

regional water supply plans for five planning areas encompassing the SFWMD that evaluate current and future water demands and identify water sources for all of South Florida's needs while protecting the water resources and the environment. Water supply plans look at least 20 years into the future and are updated every five years to stay current with growth trends.

Water quality improvement efforts are removing excess nutrients that have altered South Florida's ecosystems. Vast constructed wetlands known as Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs), combined with agricultural and urban Best Management Practices, and creating surface or groundwater storage for seasonal water surpluses, have dramatically reduced phosphorus levels in the Everglades over the last two decades. All these solutions for improving water quality are required elements of federal/state legislation for restoring the Greater Everglades (which includes the Kissimmee, Okeechobee, and Everglades watersheds). They are also mandated by separate state legislation for water quality improvements in Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries, as well as in the Everglades systems south of Okeechobee.

Numerous ecosystem restoration projects are being planned, built, and operated to protect and preserve South Florida's unique ecosystems, including the Everglades, the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, and a diverse array of coastal watersheds. The most prominent of these efforts is the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) which is the largest aquatic ecosystem restoration effort in the nation, spanning over 18,000 square miles, and is designed to improve the health of more than 2.4 million acres. This is a 50-50 partnership between the State of Florida and the federal government to restore, protect and preserve the greater Everglades ecosystem with projects like the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) and Indian River Lagoon South (IRL-S) projects. Along with state initiatives such as the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP), Restoration Strategies Program, and Dispersed Water Management (DWM) Projects are a comprehensive effort to restore and protect America's Everglades – now and for future generations.

Finally, the SFWMD's resiliency efforts focus on advancing scientific data and research needs to ensure the SFWMD's resilience planning and projects are founded on the best available science, as well as developing and implementing comprehensive SFWMD-wide resiliency goals to mitigate and adapt to the challenges facing the SFWMD's infrastructure and core functions from sea level rise and other climate change impacts. In the context of Chapter 380.093, F.S., which established the Resilient Florida / Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resiliency, the SFWMD developed its first Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan in 2021. The plan, updated annually, is the first SFWMD initiative to compile a comprehensive list of priority resiliency projects with the goal of reducing the risks of flooding, sea level rise, and other climate impacts on water resources and increasing community and ecosystem resiliency in South Florida. Plan implementation will enhance water management infrastructure and result in effective, resilient, innovative, and integrated basin-wide solutions. This list of projects was compiled based upon the FPLOS assessments that have been ongoing for the past decade. These assessments utilize extensive data observations and robust technical hydrologic and hydraulic model simulations to characterize current and future conditions, and associated risks. In addition, CIP projects and post-storm response projects are also integrated into the Resiliency Plan. Water and Climate Resilience Metrics are being published to track and document trends in its relevant water and climate observed data. These efforts support the assessment of current and future climate condition scenarios, operational decisions, and SFWMD resiliency priorities. As part of these efforts, the SFWMD is collecting flood

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

elevations and high-water marks, including high tide and extreme storm events, by deploying environmental conditions teams, and working with field station and regional representative staff, in support of modeling, planning, and mitigation efforts.

The SFWMD is committed to making significant infrastructure adaptation investments that are needed to continue to successfully implement its mission of safeguarding and restoring South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protecting communities from flooding, and ensuring an adequate water supply for all South Florida's needs.

## 2023 Update

Current planning projects include:

- Flood Vulnerability Assessments: FPLOS Phase I Study for South Miami Dade; for C-111 COASTAL, C-111 SOUTH, C-111 AG, MODEL LAND, and L-31N; and for the C2, C3W, C5, and C6 Basins in Miami-Dade County are completed. In addition, FPLOS Phase I Study for Upper Kissimmee Basin and Palm Beach County are underway.
- Adaptation Planning Efforts: FPLOS Phase II Study at C-8 and C-9 Basins in Broward and Miami Dade Counties was completed and the FPLOS Pilot Phase II Study at C-7 Basin was initiated.
- SFWMD completed the updates for the 2023 Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan to summarize priority infrastructure investments and support its applications submitted to the Resilient Florida Grant Program in September 2023, along with other funding opportunities. SFWMD has incorporated valuable public comments received this year, and the priority projects identified in the plan were submitted to FDEP Resilient Florida Program on September 1.
- SFWMD completed its first Annual Consolidated Report to the Governor and Legislators, regarding the status of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and SFWMD's Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Flood Resiliency Study, including a summary of the findings in the SFWMD's annual Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan (attached) in accordance with Section 373.1501(10)(a), Florida Statutes. Contents in the report describe the District's implementation strategies for the refurbishment and replacement of C&SF structures, along with estimated project costs and current available funds to implement the recommendations.
- SFWMD executed a cost share agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to initiate the Central and South Florida Flood Resiliency Study to plan for flood mitigation/adaptation infrastructure investments needed for the Central and Southern Florida Project. The study is justified by the changed physical conditions already impacting the original project purposes, including land development, population increase, sea level rise and climate change. The study will assess which infrastructure is at the highest risk of impact from a changing climate and address flood vulnerabilities. In 2023, the study achieved the Alternatives Milestone, initiated the modeling runs for the future without scenarios, and begin identifying performance measures for the determination of total project alternatives benefits.
- High Water Mark – Environmental Conditions Team and Flood Observations Supporting teams were deployed to document flood impacts from king tide and extreme events, including Pre-Tropical Storms.
- Water and Climate Resilience Metrics advances were published in the South Florida Environmental Report – Chapter 2B.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

- Grant Applications were submitted to Resilient Florida Program, FEMA BRIC Program, HMGP DR 4673 – Hurricane Ian, NOAA, and others.
- CERP – Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration, Western Everglades Restoration, Biscayne Bay Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration, and Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir projects.

Current implementation projects include:

- Foundation Projects – C-111 South Dade Hydrologic Improvements, and Tamiami Trail Next Steps - Bridge and Road Raising.
- CERP – C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir, Indian River Lagoon – South, Picayune Strand Restoration, Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands, Broward County Water Preserve Areas, Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration.
- CERP - CEPP EAA Components: Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir, Seepage Canal and S-363 Pump Station, Inflow Pump Station, Foundation and Cutoff Wall, Embankment, Outlet Works, Inline Spillway, and North New River and Miami Canal Conveyance Improvements.
- CERP - CEPP New Water Components: Seepage Barrier Wall
- CERP - CEPP South Components: S-356 Pump Station Replacement, L-67A Culverts, L-67C Gaps, L-29 Levee Removal, S-355W Gated Spillway, S-631, S-632, S-633, L-67A Spoils Removal, L-67C Removal, L-67D Construction, and L-67 Extension Backfill
- CERP - CEPP North Components: L-4 Degrade, S-630 Pump Station, S-8 Pump Station Modifications, L-6 Diversion, L-5 Canal Improvements, and Miami Canal Backfill.
- NEEPP – Lake Hicpochee Expansion – Phase II, C-43 Reservoir Water Quality Component, Boma Flow Equalization Basin (FEB), C-43 Water Quality Treatment and Testing, Phase 2 – Test Cells, Four Corners Rapid Infiltration, Lower Kissimmee Basin STA, TCNS 214 Storage and Treatment, Basinger Dairy Legacy Phosphorus Removal, Aquaculture – Lake Istokpoga, Partin Family Ranch, S-191 Basin Surface Runoff Phosphorus Removal, and DWM projects.
- Restoration Strategies Projects – STA-1W Expansion #2 and C-139 FEB
- C-139 Annex Wetland Restoration, STA-2 Refurbishments, and STA-5/6 Connection to Lake Okeechobee
- Big Cypress Basin Canal Enhancements
- S-27, S-28 and S-29 Coastal Structure Resiliency (Hardening and Forward Pump Stations) (currently under design, funding award recommendation from FEMA BRIC)
- Other Resiliency Projects: Coastal Structures Enhancement and Self Preservation Mode, Corbett Levee, L-8/G539 Enhancements; S2, S3, S4, S7, S8 Panel Upgrade (funding award from Resilient Florida Program)
- Innovative Tech – Water Quality Grant Projects in Miami Dade County
- 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 prevent future impacts to flooding and to maintain and further comply with federal standards. Planned tree maintenance and removal projects for this

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

year include C-35, C-32C, C-32F, L-14, L-28, L-28I, L-30, C103N, C-103, L-61, C-12, C-10 Spur, C-51, C-23, C-8, C-1, Henderson Creek, Orange River, Daughtry Creek, Estero River, and Bedman Creek.

### 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 below.

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

### Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaisons	
Richard Fimbel Director of EM - ECO South Florida WMD 561-682-2268 <a href="mailto:rfimbel@sfwmd.gov">rfimbel@sfwmd.gov</a>	Lucine Dadrian Engineering, Construction & Modeling Director South Florida WMD 561-682-2685 <a href="mailto:ldadrian@sfwmd.gov">ldadrian@sfwmd.gov</a>	Carolina Maran Chief of District Resiliency South Florida WMD 561-682-6868 <a href="mailto:cmaran@sfwmd.gov">cmaran@sfwmd.gov</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## ***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, 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, 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 water 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. SWFWMD has eleven water control structures classified by the Florida Dam Safety Program (FDSP) of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) as High-Hazard Potential Dams. Although there is no state requirement, the District has and maintains Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) to mitigate flood risk associated with five of its highest priority facilities and is working with FDSP to prepare EAPs for the remainder. The SWFWMD also operates and maintains two structures (Ingles Main & Bypass structures) rated as High-Hazard Potential for the State and the SWFWMD possesses, maintains, and exercises an EAP for those structures. The SWFWMD also operates two additional water control structures for Polk County and the City of Lakeland (Lake Gibson and Lake Parker structures) that are ranked as High-Hazard Potential which do not currently have EAPs. The SWFWMD maintains all its dams, levees, and canals in alignment with state and federal standards to mitigate flood risks associated with these facilities and to ensure they continue to function to protect life and property, as designed. The District’s eleven High-Hazard Potential facilities are S-155/L-112, S-163/L-112, S-159, S-161, Medard Dam, G-90, Lake Arietta (P-3), Flint Creek, Lake Hamilton (P-8), Lake Lena (P-1), and Scott Lake.

SWFWMD, along with the US Army Corps of Engineers, continues to evaluate, and maintain water control manuals for 13 flood control structures. Additionally, the District has 7 Operational Guidelines for 28 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 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.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

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. 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. 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 16 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.

### 2023 Update

Five Watershed Management Plans (WMP) were completed or updated and are now considered as the best available data for surface water flow and base flood elevations. Those watersheds include Anclote East in Pasco County, Kenneth City in the Town of Kenneth City, Little Jones Creek in Sumter County, Duck Pond in Hillsborough County, and Wildwood in the City of Wildwood.

### 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 below.

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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## Liaisons

Primary Liaison	Alternate Liaison
Tim Fallon Hydrogeologist & ECO Southwest Florida WMD 813-343-1836 <a href="mailto:Tim.Fallon@swfwmd.state.fl.us">Tim.Fallon@swfwmd.state.fl.us</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 the 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. In addition, the District implements core business processes to support its core missions, programs, and regional priorities.

**Water Quality:** The District works to address water quality issues through a variety of activities, including cost-share projects with local governments, aquatic systems restoration and protection projects; permitting; and land acquisition and management activities. Strategies to protect and restore water quality include a commitment to comprehensive monitoring to guide impairment determinations, manage restoration projects, and evaluate effectiveness. These efforts are closely coordinated with many partners, including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s total maximum daily load (TMDL) and basin management action plan (BMAP) programs.

**Water Supply:** The District works with the state’s other water management districts, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, local governments and stakeholders to address water supply on a regional basis. Using detailed hydrologic data, the District sets minimum flows and levels for rivers, lakes and springs to ensure that water use does not cause significant harm to these important resources. The District and partners investigate, develop, and implement supplemental (alternative) water supply projects. The District’s planning process is ongoing, and plans are continually updated to reflect current and projected conditions, such as changes in anticipated population growth or decline that may result in changes to how much water a region will need and where the water may come from to meet those needs. Water conservation is a key component of ensuring an adequate water supply.

**Flood Protection:** The District employs both structural and non-structural techniques to provide flood protection. Structural flood protection includes constructed levees, water control structures and pump stations to physically hold back potential floodwaters from downstream areas and control the water levels in the areas behind these structures. A key element in the District’s structural flood protection is our role as local sponsor of two federal flood control projects: The Upper St. Johns River Basin Project and the Ocklawaha River Basin portion of the Four River Basins, Florida Project. Non-structural flood protection is achieved through management of water control structures to ensure compliance with regulation schedules and to minimize upstream and downstream flooding, implementation of stormwater management rules, purchase and conservation of floodplain wetlands to provide floodwater storage, and the collection and dissemination of hydrologic data to guide flood preparedness and responses.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
 2702 Directors Row  
 Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

Natural Systems: The District’s stewardship of natural systems is divided between lands it has acquired as well as the natural lands and waters within its boundaries. Most of the natural systems benefits to the lands not owned by the District come from effective permitting, water quality improvement projects, minimum flows and levels and cost-share projects. The District is the lead manager of more than 425,000 acres of public land it has purchased, while it manages another 335,000 acres through a variety of partnerships with numerous agencies and local governments. Important activities include hydrologic restoration of altered drainage, invasive species management, use of prescribed fire for restoration and wildfire prevention, and providing resource-based recreation opportunities.

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 the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to develop the annual FDOT Mitigation Plan, pursuant to F.S. 373.4137(4), for wetland impacts associated with FDOT roadway projects.

The Real Estate Services Program 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 Infrastructure and Land Resources has oversight for District-led projects that help to meet the core missions. For example, the division is responsible for operating and maintaining nearly 100 major and minor flood control structures, 15 weirs, three navigational locks, approximately 300 miles of levees, and 12 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.

## 2023 Update

Land Management: Mitigation of wildfire risk through 62 prescribed burns totaling approximately 33,000 acres on 24 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 toward the construction of beneficial flood protection projects. The District recently completed partnership projects with Brevard, Flagler, and Marion counties to improve stormwater retention and flood protection in their communities. These projects included stormwater control structures, increased stormwater treatment capacity, and stormwater outfall improvements. The District’s next cost-share application cycle begins in December 2023.

Flood control structure improvements: Completed rehabilitation of the S-96 structure; replaced the hydraulic hoists at the S-96 structure with a more reliable drum and cable lift system; completed design and bidding for the S-157 structure rehabilitation; rehabilitated the gates and performed other repairs to the S-2 structure in the L-75 levee in the Upper St. Johns River Basin (USJRB) and repaired the slopes of the levee at the structure; graded and stabilized nearly 2 miles of the L-77W levee and planted wetland plants along the shoreline to provide future protection against wave action; regraded and stabilized several miles of the L-73 Section 2 Levee and installed gopher tortoise fencing;

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

completed minor repairs to various flood control levees in the USJRB, replaced slide gates at the two structures in the Upper Ocklawaha River Basin (UORB); refurbished airboat crossings on multiple flood control levees/dams; and rehabilitated two Bailey bridges in the USJRB.

**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 water bodies with minimum flows and minimum levels (MFLs), wetlands, and saltwater intrusion and methods to mitigate impacts. The District completed the Central Springs/East Coast RWSP in February 2022. In addition, the District, in partnership with others, continues to work on the development of the 2023 North Florida RWSP and the 2025 Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) RWSP.

**Resilience:** The District continues to emphasize and support resiliency efforts that incorporate multiple core missions, especially flood protection and water supply. In 2023, the District submitted four nature-based projects for Resilient Florida Implementation grants and two data collection/modeling grants.

### 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 below.

Agency	Relevance	Level	Significance	Total Mitigation Score
St. Johns River Water Management District	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 – 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 – Alt. ECO St. Johns River WMD 386-329-4377 <a href="mailto:BEmanuel@sjrwmd.com">BEmanuel@sjrwmd.com</a>

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631





# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

## ***SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT***

The purpose of the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) is to manage the water and water-related resources within its boundaries. The District’s mission is maintaining the balance between the water needs of current and future users as well as protecting and preserving natural systems. The District was established in 1972 with four core mission areas: water supply, water quality, flood protection, and natural systems. The District carries out its mission through a combination of regulatory measures, water resource projects, community education and outreach, acquisition and management of conservation lands, research, data collection, and monitoring. The District territory includes the 15-county region of North Central Florida with over 7,640 square miles, 13 river basins, and an estimated population of 340,000.

The Governing Board of the District is the agency head. As outlined in section 373.073, F.S., the Board members are appointed by the Governor, must be confirmed by the Florida Senate, and serve staggered four-year terms.

The Executive Office contains the Executive Director and Governing Board Coordinator. In addition to the Executive Director, the Executive Leadership team includes the Deputy Executive Director of Business and Community Services, Deputy Executive Director of Water Resources, Director of Resource Management, and Director of Outreach and Operations. The Executive Office is responsible for coordinating Governing Board activities, as well as the overall management of the District and implementation of District policy, rules, plans, studies, and programs. The Executive Office also offers support to all departments, information services to the public, and communication with federal, state, and local governmental entities, community organizations, and the public.

The Division of Outreach and Operations oversees the District operations for communication, education and outreach, land management activities such as recreation, invasive and exotic control, road maintenance, timber management, and conservation easements, as well as monitoring and data collection for water use and river/lake levels. The Division also supports operations and maintenance of District projects in routine and emergency response scenarios. The Division includes the offices of Hydrologic Data Services, Land Management and Communications.

The Business and Community Services Division includes the offices of Administration, Finance, Information Technology, Human Resources, and the Division of Resource Management. The Resource Management Division processes environmental resource permit (ERP) applications, works of the district (WOD) permit applications, water use permit (WUP), and water well construction (WWC) permit applications. It ensures compliance with permit conditions and District rules. Additional Resource Management Division duties include monitoring permitted activities, maintaining regulatory records, participating in statewide regulatory consistency efforts, and rulemaking. Office of Engineering/ERP and Environmental Compliance. Staff in this office protect and manage 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 this office also partner with Florida Department of Transportation (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.

The Water Resources Division includes the offices of Agriculture and Environmental Projects, Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels, Water Resources, and Water Supply. Staff in the Office of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

Levels ensure water availability and prevent significant harm to the area’s natural resources by setting scientifically based minimum flows and levels for priority waterbodies. Staff in the Office of Water Supply prepare water use estimates, project future water demands, and prepare water use assessments and plans. Staff in the Water Resources office collect, manage, and report water quality and flow data to support District missions. Staff in the Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects have oversight for projects, whether District-led or through partnerships, 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.

## 2023 Update

District staff in the Offices of Agriculture and Environmental Projects have been working diligently to complete projects this year, including one land acquisition project, feasibility studies for alternative water supply projects, and one infrastructure construction project. Work continues for one septic-to-sewer project, three wastewater treatment projects, five water conservation projects, two infrastructure projects, one land acquisition project: multiple aquifer recharge studies, and five flood protection/stormwater treatment projects. In addition, individual contracts under the agricultural program continue to support reductions in nutrients and groundwater pumping.

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, the CTP Engagement Working Group, and the FDEM-FEMA Mitigation Program Consultation.

District staff has also attended meetings such as Mitigate Florida, Silver Jackets, Monthly WMD Resilience Call, Resilient Florida Program webinars, Florida Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting, Inter-District meetings for conservation and reuse and the Statewide Watershed Master Plan Initiative Meeting during the past year. Other meetings and conferences District staff hosted or attended include:

- Santa Fe Watershed, FEMA Flood Risk Review meetings (9), Spring 2023
- Aucilla Watershed, FEMA Preliminary Map review and Open House (2), Summer 2023
- Alapaha Watershed, FEMA Preliminary Map review and Open House (2), Summer 2023
- Florida Floodplain Managers Association Annual Conference, April 2023
- Florida Resilience Conference, September 2023

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

Project Name	Mission	Hazard Mitigation Risk
Lake Frances Sediment Control	Water Quality	Stormwater Runoff
Otter Springs OSTDS Improvement	Water Quality	Water Resources
Lake Santa Fe Enhanced OSTDS	Water Quality	Water Resources
Fort White Meter Replacement	Water Supply	Drought
Oakmont Ph 5B	Water Supply	Drought
Alachua County TurfSWAP	Water Supply	Drought
Hampton Water Main Loop Ph 2	Water Supply	Drought

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

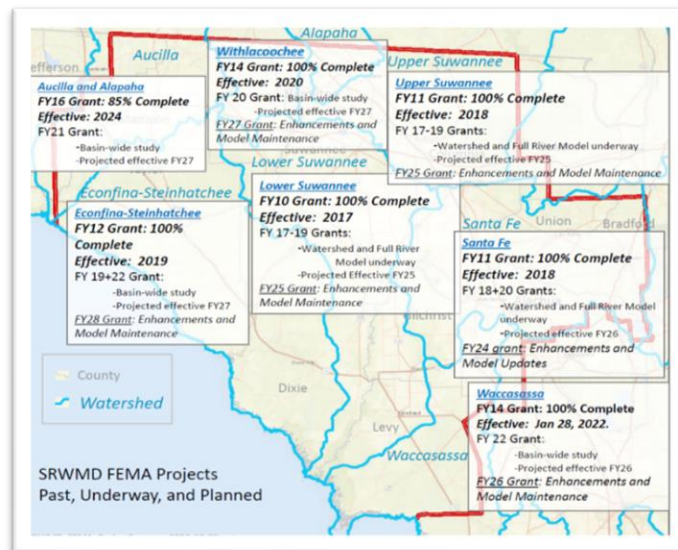


Ron DeSantis, Governor

Kevin Guthrie, Executive Director

High Springs Interconnect	Water Supply	Drought
Potable Water Improvements – Maple St.	Water Supply	Drought
Stormwater Runoff Collection in Mayo	Flood Protection	Stormwater Runoff
Cross City Flood Management	Flood Protection	Inland Flooding
City Stormwater Ph 1 and 2	Water Supply	Drought
Santa Fe Basin Sinkhole Recharge Evaluation	Water Supply	Drought

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



### 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 below.

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

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631



# STATE OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



**Ron DeSantis**, Governor

**Kevin Guthrie**, Executive Director

## 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 Deputy Executive Director Suwannee River WMD 386-647-3127 <a href="mailto:Tim.Alexander@srwmd.org">Tim.Alexander@srwmd.org</a>

## CONCLUSION

In 2024, DEM will continue hosting quarterly Mitigate FL meetings pursuant to 252.3655, Florida Statutes, with a primary focus on the following areas:

- Increasing attendance rates among required state agencies, as well as other partners
- Increasing awareness of the mitigation and resilience activities of DEM and other agencies
- Seek opportunities to diversify Workgroup involvement and expand meeting topics and presenters
- Identify unmet needs of local government and other partner agencies and opportunities for future education and technical assistance

In addition, DEM and other state agencies will continue our ongoing mitigation efforts outlined earlier in this report, including but not limited to maintaining the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201.5.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS**  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Telephone: 850-815-4000  
[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

**STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER**  
2702 Directors Row  
Orlando, FL 32809-5631