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## Introduction

This section describes the process used to develop the 2013 update of the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP). The process established for this planning effort is based on the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K) and intended to satisfy Chapter 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 201.4(b) and 201.4(c) of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan criteria. The required criteria address the following:

- Documentation of the planning process
- Coordination among agencies
- Prerequisites

The State Emergency Management Act, Chapter 252 Florida Statutes, designates the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) as the State Coordinating Agency (SCA) for a comprehensive, statewide program of emergency management. DEM works in coordination with the federal government, other state agencies, local governments, and the private sector to create a statewide program of emergency management. This program ensures that Florida can adequately prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards to which the state is vulnerable.

To assist DEM in this role, Chapter 252.365 requires that each executive department, the five water management districts, and other related agencies designate a person to serve as the agency's Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO). The ECO is responsible for coordinating with DEM on all emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities.



The Enhanced SHMP is a key element of the statewide mitigation program. DEM, as the SCA, is responsible for developing and coordinating efforts to maintain and update the SHMP. The DEM director invited the ECO's and representatives from other private and public agencies with resources or expertise relevant to mitigation to convene as an advisory team. This group of representatives works together on the progression and implementation of the plan and is known as the State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team (SHMPAT).

This statewide approach to mitigation planning ensures the plan reflects the opinions and viewpoints of a wide range of stakeholders. In addition to SHMPAT members, the public at large is invited to participate in the planning process. The SHMPAT meetings are announced on the DEM mitigation website (<http://www.floridadisaster.org/Mitigation/State>) and at various events by the mitigation planning staff.

## 2.1 Plan Update Process

**Requirement §201.4(c)(1):** *[The State plan must include a] description of the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how other agencies participated.*

The planning process for the SHMP is time and labor intensive and requires DEM to begin updating the plan well before the finished product is due to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review and approval. The update process for the 2013 Enhanced SHMP began with discussions of the hazard vulnerability and risk assessment section in January 2011.

The SHMPAT is chaired by the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) and is similar in function to Florida's Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Groups described in **Section 4.0: Goals and Capabilities**. The primary function of the SHMPAT is to assist DEM with the development, implementation, and maintenance of the plan, comment on draft versions, and to maximize the leveraging potential of all state mitigation related resources.

To begin the plan update process, DEM identified representatives from various state and federal agencies as well as non-governmental and non-profit organizations. Organizations that were previously involved with SHMPAT were once again invited to participate, and additional invitations were sent to organizations identified as having a stake in hazard mitigation.

For the first time, DEM extended invitations for SHMPAT involvement to local mitigation partners. DEM realized involving local partners was beneficial because the plan includes sections on local mitigation coordination. Additionally, the local mitigation working groups often incorporate information from the SHMP into their own plans. This action has also helped strengthen existing relationships and bridge the gap between state and local mitigation plans and activities.

As always, the general public was invited to participate in the 2013 update process. Invitations were emailed and meeting notices were posted on DEM's website to encourage public participation. The public was also provided the opportunity to comment on the draft plan during the update process and again just prior to submission to the FEMA. The notice for the final public review meeting was advertised in the Florida Administrative Weekly. All documentation of meeting notifications, invitee lists, attendance records and meeting summaries can be found in **Appendix B: Planning Process Documentation**.

The entire update process consisted of twelve regular quarterly SHMPAT meetings in addition to various sub-group and review meetings. Table 2.1 SHMPAT Member Participation below lists the many different agencies that participated at plan update meetings.

**Table 2.1 SHMPAT Member Participation**

<i>Federal</i>
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
<i>State</i>
Agency for Health Care Administration
FL Board of Governors (BOG)
FL Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)
FL Department of Corrections (FDC)
FL Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO)
FL Department of Education (FDOE)
FL Department of Elderly Affairs (FDOEA)
FL Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
FL Department of Financial Services (FDfs)
FL Department of Health (FDOH)
FL Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)
FL Department of State (FDOS)
FL Department of Transportation (FDOT)
FL Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
FL Forest Service (FFS)
Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD)
Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)
<i>Non-Governmental/Other</i>
AECOM
American Red Cross (ARC)
ARCADIS
Capital City Builders (CCB)
Continental Shelf Associates (CSA)
Dewberry Consulting
Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)
FL American Planning Association (FAPA)
FL Atlantic University Center for Environmental Studies
FL Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA)
FL Home Builder Association (FHBA)
FL Interfaith Networking in Disaster (FIND)
FL International University International Hurricane Research Center (FIU IHRC)
Mitigation.com
Rebuild Northwest Florida (Rebuild NWF)
TME, Inc. Consultants
URS Corporation
50+ Florida Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group Members

DEM staff served as the facilitators for all SHMPAT meetings, coordinators of the update process, and lead authors of the plan, excluding **Section 3: State Risk Assessment**. A private contractor was hired to facilitate the update process of this section due to its size and complexity.

The SHMPAT decided to continue using three distinct sub-groups because they felt it was the most efficient and effective way to harness member expertise. Participants were asked to join a sub-group based on their experience, interest, or involvement. Table 2.2 lists which agencies and organizations participated in each of the sub-groups. The groups were broken down by the following plan sections:

- Risk Assessment Sub-group (Section 3): Risk Assessment and Vulnerability
- Strategy Sub-group (Sections 4 and 5): Goals and Capabilities, Funding and Projects
- Planning and Maintenance Sub-group (Sections 1, 2 and 7): Introduction, Planning Process, and Plan Maintenance

**Table 2.2 SHMPAT Member Participation by Sub-group**

<i>Risk Assessment Sub-group</i>
ARCADIS
American Red Cross (ARC)
Capital City Builders (CCB)
FL Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)
FL Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO)
FL Department of Financial Services (FDFS)
FL Department of Health (FDOH)
FL Department of State (FDOS)
FL Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
FL Forest Service (FFS)
<i>Strategy Sub-group</i>
Alachua County
City of Gulf Port
FL Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO)
FL Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
FL International University International Hurricane Research Center (FIU IHRC)
Jacksonville Fire and Rescue
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)
Putnam County
<i>Planning and Maintenance Sub-group</i>
Alachua County
City of Gulfport
Dewberry Consulting
Hillsborough County
Palm Beach County
Rebuild Northwest Florida (Rebuild NWF)
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC)

Sub-group meetings were held via webinars and conference calls with coordination and distribution of plan materials conducted primarily through email. This allowed the SHMPAT members more access to materials and a greater ability to participate in the update process. Major formatting changes to the plan were all presented in-house at DEM and to sub-group members for their approval. Once the sub-groups approved the changes, they were presented to the SHMPAT at the quarterly meetings. **Appendix A: Reviewed, Evaluated & Changed Materials** contains a summary of how each section was reviewed, analyzed, and updated.

Text regarding how sections were reviewed and revised can also be found throughout the plan. A sample of text regarding the activities completed during the 2013 planning process can be found below.

*After reviewing the previous version of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (Section 3.0), the SHMPAT determined that updating the section would require an immense amount of time, effort, and collaboration. Due to limited staff availability, it was decided that a contractor should be used to update the Risk and Vulnerability Assessment.*

*In December 2011, the request for proposals (RFP) was advertised. After completing the evaluation process, IEM Inc. was the selected contractor. In April 2012, DEM mitigation staff and IEM held a Risk Assessment kick off meeting to coordinate efforts and finalize the timeline to update Section 3.0.*

*Over the course of 6 months, IEM worked diligently with DEM mitigation and GIS staff to:*

- *Identify the best available GIS data sources*
- *Update Hazus-MH 2.1 information*
- *Address SHMPAT concerns about the 2010 risk assessment*
- *Validate information*
- *Analyze local mitigation strategies*
- *Re-structure the section*
- *Identify new hazards and vulnerabilities*

*The SHMPAT risk sub-group members were asked to review the deliverables. A webinar gave sub-group members the opportunity to provide feedback. SHMPAT members were also asked to submit comments or possible revisions to the plan via email if they were unable to attend the webinar.*

*DEM asked each SHMPAT member to submit a list of ongoing or completed mitigation measures with details about each measure. These details included funding sources, overview, coordination to existing mitigation objectives, and results. These measures were integrated into the Mitigation Projects in Appendix N and referenced in Section 5.0 of the plan.*

Table 2.3 summarizes meeting participation throughout the planning process for the 2013 SHMP. For greater detail, please see the meeting summaries in [Appendix B: Planning Process Documentation](#).

**Table 2.3 Summary of Plenary Meeting Topics and Agency Participation**

<b><i>Date:</i></b> 7/13/10	<b><i>Meeting:</i></b> Florida Wildfire
<b><i>Purpose</i></b>	<b><i>Agencies Represented</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wildfire Risk</li> <li>• Mitigation Measures</li> <li>• Funding Sources</li> </ul>	Not Available
<b><i>Date:</i></b> 10/12/10	<b><i>Meeting:</i></b> LIDAR and SLOSH
<b><i>Purpose</i></b>	<b><i>Agencies Represented</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LIDAR Data Gathering</li> <li>• SLOSH Modeling</li> </ul>	Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) American Red Cross (ARC) Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) Continental Shelf Associates (CSA) Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) FL Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) FL Department of Corrections (FDOC) FL Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) FL Department of Health (FDOH) FL Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) FL Department of Transportation (FDOT) FL Division of Community Affairs (FDCA) FL Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) Malcolm Pirnie National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Rebuild Northwest Florida (Rebuild NWF) 13 counties 4 cities
<b><i>Date:</i></b> 1/18/11	<b><i>Meeting:</i></b> Flood Risk and Section 3 Volunteers
<b><i>Purpose</i></b>	<b><i>Agencies Represented</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Impacts of Floods</li> <li>• Flood Forecasting</li> <li>• Funding Sources</li> <li>• Volunteer for SHMP Section 3</li> </ul>	AHCA, ARC, ARCADIS, ARPC, CSA, FL Atlantic University Center of Environmental Studies, FDCA, FDEM, FDOC, FL Department of Education (FDOE), FDOH, FDOT, FL Emergency Preparedness Association (FEPA), FHBA, FLASH, Rebuild NWF, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), 21 counties, 2 cities



<b>Date:</b> 4/12/11	<b>Meeting:</b> SHMP Update Progress, Severe Weather, and Sea Level Rise Grant
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Silver Jackets</li> <li>• HMGP Success Story</li> <li>• SHMP Update Progress</li> </ul>	AHCA, ARC, ARCADIS, FDCA, FDEM, FDEP, FDOH, FHBA, TME, Inc. Consultants, 9 counties, 1 city
<b>Date:</b> 7/12/11	<b>Meeting:</b> Education for Mitigation Professionals
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe Weather</li> <li>• SHMP Goals Review</li> <li>• Summary of SHMP Sub-group Meeting</li> <li>• DCA Sea Level Rise Grant</li> </ul>	AHCA, ARC, ARCADIS, ARPC, Capital City Builders (CCB), CSA, FLASH, FL American Planning Association (FAPA), FDCA, FDEM, FL Department of Financial Services (FDFS), FDOC, FDOE, FDOT, FL Forest Service (FFS), FL International University International Hurricane Research Center (FIU IHRC), Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC), 11 counties, 1 city
<b>Date:</b> 10/04/11	<b>Meeting:</b> Plan Update
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing the Flood Plain Portions of LMS</li> <li>• State Plan Update Process and Expectations</li> <li>• SITE Analysis</li> </ul>	ARC, ARCADIS, Dewberry, FAU Center for Environmental Studies, FDEM, FDEO, FDOE, FDOT, FLASH, FL Home Builders Association (FHBA), FWC, North West Florida Water Management District (NFWWMD), TBRPC, 15 counties, 4 cities
<b>Date:</b> 1/10/12	<b>Meeting:</b> Status Update
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of the Plan</li> <li>• SITE Analysis and Survey</li> <li>• Mitigation Funding Resources</li> </ul>	AHCA, ARC, ARCADIS, ARPC, Dewberry, FDC, FDEM, FDEO, FDEP, FDOE, FDOH, FDOT, FEPA, FFS, FHBA, FLASH, Mitigation.com, NFWWMD, SWFWMD, TBRPC, 17 counties, 3 cities
<b>Date:</b> 4/10/12	<b>Meeting:</b> Status Update
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SHMP Sub-group Update</li> <li>• Florida's Vulnerability to Oil Spill Hazards</li> <li>• New Florida Building Code</li> <li>• SITE update</li> </ul>	AECOM, AHCA, ARC, Dewberry, FDC, FDEM, FDEO, FDEP, FDLE, FDOE, FDOT, FFS, FLASH, 12 counties, 4 cities

<b>Date:</b> 7/10/12	<b>Meeting:</b> <i>Reorganizing the SHMP and Goals and Objectives Revision</i>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dam Safety in Florida</li> <li>• Reorganization of the SHMP</li> <li>• Revision of the Goals and Objectives</li> <li>• SITE Update</li> </ul>	AECOM, AHCA, ARC, Dewberry, FDEM, FDEO, FDEP, FDOE, FDOT, FEMA, FEPA, FFS, NFWFMD, SWFWMD, USACE, 10 counties, 4 cities
<b>Date:</b> 10/09/12	<b>Meeting:</b> <i>SHMP Update Progress, Silver Jackets, and HMGP</i>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Silver Jackets</li> <li>• HMGP Success Story</li> <li>• SHMP Update Progress</li> </ul>	AECOM, AHCA, ARC, Dewberry, FDEM, FDEO, FDEP, FDFS, FDOE, FDOT, FFS, FLASH, NFWFMD, TBRPC, 8 counties, 2 cities
<b>Date:</b> 12/18/12	<b>Meeting:</b> <i>SHMP Update Progress Overview</i>
<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Agencies Represented</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SHMP Update Progress</li> </ul>	AECOM, ARC, Dewberry, FDEM, FDEO, FDEP, FDOT, FFS, FHBA, SWFWMD, URS, 3 counties, 2 cities

## 2.2 Agency Coordination

**Requirement §201.4(b):** *The [State] mitigation planning process should include coordination with other state agencies, appropriate federal agencies, interested groups, and...*

The State of Florida recognizes the importance of an integrated, comprehensive approach to disaster loss reduction. The Plan emphasizes strong state and local planning processes and comprehensive program management. To help accomplish this during the update, DEM ensured an active level of coordination with local, state, and federal agencies as well as other interested groups involved in hazard mitigation and the general public.

To enhance agency participation, the ECO's from state agencies with mitigation related interests were asked to designate an agency mitigation coordinator familiar with mitigation activities to participate. Having a designated coordinator provides the division with a direct connection to the agency for mitigation related information and allows for a relationship to be established for which mutual benefits can be had.

Not all agencies and organizations involved in hazard mitigation have a designated ECO that attends SHMPAT meetings. However, their contributions to hazard mitigation are still captured in the SHMP through the submission of mitigation projects and agency capabilities.

Table 2.4 lists the additional agencies and organizations that participated in the 2013 update but did not or were not able to attend any SHMPAT meetings.

**Table 2.4 Non-SHMPAT Meeting Attending Agencies**

<i>State</i>
FL Energy and Climate Commission (Governor's Energy Office) (FEC)
Public Service Commission (PSC)
Saint John's River Water Management District (SJRWMD)
South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)
State Board of Administration (SBA)
Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD)
<i>Non-Governmental/Other</i>
Community Rebuilding Ecumenical Workforce (CREW)
Inspired Network to Achieve Community Together (INTACT)
Rebuild Polk After Disaster (RPAD)
Volusia IND (VIND)

One desire listed in the 2010 SHMP was to increase the participation of federal agencies and the water management districts. Florida's predisposition to natural hazards has created an opportunity to work closely with the FEMA over the years. Since the first approved plan in 2004, FEMA has been an active SHMPAT member. FEMA was able to continue their participation with the 2013 update cycle, but the DEM looks to have increased participation in the future. Despite tight travel budgets and low attendance at SHMPAT meetings by FEMA, the State of Florida and FEMA were able to maintain a relationship throughout the update process by periodically consulting with each other outside of quarterly and sub-group meetings.

DEM also maintains relationships with numerous other federal agencies in regards to mitigation activities. Examples of initiatives with federal partnerships include, but are not limited to, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and several of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) organizations, such as the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) and the National Weather Service (NWS). The State of Florida understands the importance of cultivating and enhancing coordination with federal agencies. Coordination efforts are accomplished not only through the update of the SHMP, but also in day-to-day operations. At a minimum, these coordination efforts will continue in the future.

Even though DEM has reached out to numerous federal agencies, regular turnout at the SHMPAT quarterly meetings has been minimal. Federal level participation is something DEM as well as the SHMPAT would like to improve during the next planning cycle. The SHMPAT will continue to include as many agencies and organizations in the planning process as possible. Stronger outreach efforts increased the coordination among agencies between the 2007, 2010, and 2013 update cycles, and it is anticipated that the role of these agencies will continue to increase over time.

## 2.3 Compliance with Enhanced State Plan Requirements

**Requirement §201.4(c)(7):** *The plan must include assurances that the state will comply with all applicable federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c). The state will amend its plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in state or federal laws and statutes as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d).*

**Requirement §201.5(b):** *Enhanced State Mitigation Plans **must** include all elements of the Standard State Mitigation Plan identified in §201.4 ...*

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K) became law October 30, 2000. The act amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) (Public Law 93-288, as amended). Regulations for this activity can be found in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 206, Subpart M.

The State of Florida does comply, and assures it will continue to comply, with all applicable federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c). The state also assures it will amend the Florida Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance to 44 CFR 13.11 (d).

## 2.4 Plan Adoption

**Requirement §201.4(c)(6):** *The plan must be formally adopted by the state prior to submittal to [FEMA] for final review and approval.*

After the final draft of the Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan is produced, the Director of DEM, acting as the Governor's Authorized Representative, will submit a letter of adoption and the plan to the FEMA Region IV Administrator. FEMA will then review the adopted plan and submit comments back to DEM who will adjust the plan as necessary. The two agencies will reconcile differences until the plan meets FEMA's crosswalk requirements. The plan is approved by FEMA through a letter and is valid for three years from the date of approval.





STATE OF FLORIDA

## DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

RICK SCOTT  
Governor

BRYAN W. KOON  
Director

### State Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption

The State of Florida and Division of Emergency Management respectfully submit the updated State Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for their review and approval.

The State of Florida Hazard Mitigation Plan, as updated, meets the requirements of Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) (Public Law 93-288, as amended) enacted under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K). Section 322 of the Act requires that states, as a condition of receiving federal disaster mitigation funds, have a mitigation plan in place that describes the planning process for identifying hazards, risk and vulnerabilities; identifies and prioritizes mitigation actions; encourages the development of local mitigation; and provides technical support for these efforts.

The newly updated plan illustrates that:

- The State of Florida has developed a comprehensive mitigation program.
- The State effectively uses available mitigation funding.
- The State is capable of managing all funding, including that which results from achieving enhanced status.
- The State of Florida does comply, and assures it will continue to comply, with all applicable federal statutes and regulations in effect.

In accordance with 44 C.F.R. Part 201, Chapter 252 Florida Statutes (State Emergency Management Act), and with the full support of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team, this 2013 State Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted by the State of Florida.

Bryan W. Koon, Director  
Governor's Authorized Representative

22 Feb 2013

Date

FLORIDA RECOVERY OFFICE • DIVISION HEADQUARTERS • STATE LOGISTICS RESPONSE CENTER  
 5900 Lake Ellenor Drive 2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard 2702 Directors Row  
 Orlando, FL 32809-4634 Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100 Orlando, FL 32809-5631  
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[www.FloridaDisaster.org](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org)

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
FEMA Region IV  
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road  
Atlanta, GA 30341



**FEMA**

August 23, 2013

Mr. Bryan Koon, Director  
Division of Emergency Management  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Attention: Mr. Miles Anderson  
State Hazard Mitigation Officer

Dear Mr. Koon:

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IV has approved the 2013 Updated Florida Enhanced State Mitigation Plan (Enhanced Plan). This approval modifies the previous 2010 Enhanced Plan, which was approved on August 24, 2010.

The Enhanced Plan designation becomes valid effective August 24, 2013 through August 23, 2016 at which time an updated plan must be approved to maintain program eligibility, per §201.5 and §206.432(b) (2) of Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (44CFR). The State of Florida is now eligible for up to 20% funding in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

FEMA's approval of Florida's Enhanced Plan is based on a review of your mitigation program management performance [44 CFR 201.5 (b)(2)(iii A-D)] from the date of approval of the previous Enhanced Plan. It is important to be aware that when you submit your next updated plan in three years for FEMA approval, the review of your mitigation program management performance, known as the Regional Certification, will cover the full period of time between this approval and the next submission of your plan.

In summary, the updated Enhanced Plan for 2013 continues to show that the State has a comprehensive mitigation program and is performing above expectations with not only FEMA programs, but also State programs. Additional comments were provided by Region IV Program Specialists for your information and continued use for plan documentation. The Regional Mitigation Office will continue to provide technical support through our Grants and Planning programs to the State. Periodic reviews will be made to ensure that the State is capable of managing its Enhanced Plan status. As a reminder, please submit your Loss Avoidance Study for the 2013 review. In addition, a draft of the next Enhanced Plan update must be submitted to Region IV by May 2016, or no later than three months prior to the end of the three-year approval period of the existing plan.

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

We look forward to a continued and productive relationship between FEMA Region IV and the Florida Division of Emergency Management. If this office can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr. Brad Loar, Mitigation Division Director, at 770-220-5416.

Sincerely,



Major P. May  
Regional Administrator



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U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
FEMA Region IV  
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road  
Atlanta, GA 30341

**FEMA**

May 15, 2014

Mr. Miles E. Anderson  
State Hazard Mitigation Officer  
Division of Emergency Management  
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

Reference: Florida Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan Extension

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter is to inform you of a change to the approval of your current State Mitigation Plan. On April 25, 2014, the Final Rule amending the Mitigation Planning regulations (44 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) Part 201), specifically 44 C.F.R. §§ 201.3(b)(5), 201.3(c)(2), 201.3(c)(3), 201.3(e)(3), 201.4(d), 201.5(a), 201.5(c)(1), and 201.5(c)(2), was published in the Federal Register (80 FR 22873). The Rule reduces the frequency of Standard State and Enhanced State Mitigation Plan updates by extending the update requirement from 3 to 5 years. The change is effective May 27, 2014.

As a result of this Rule change, the Standard State Mitigation Plan and the Enhanced State Mitigation Plan updates will be due 5 years from the date of the approval of the previous plan, unless otherwise noted in the plan approval letter or if the plan is lapsed. Therefore, the State of Florida's Enhanced State Mitigation Plan, previously approved on August 24, 2013, is now approved through August 23, 2018. All other terms detailed in your original approval letter, dated August 23, 2013, will continue without change. The State should continue to implement the plan and follow maintenance requirements to ensure that the plan remains relevant to guide the implementation of measures to reduce risk from future events.

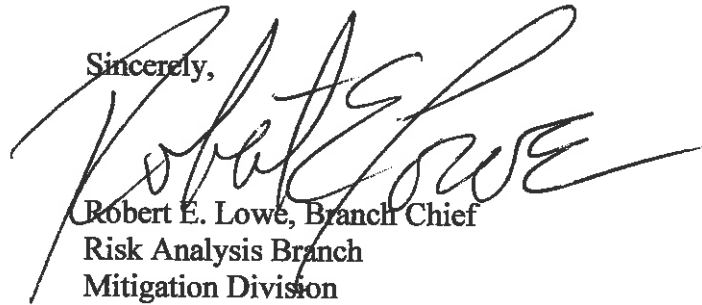
The State Mitigation Plan must be reviewed, updated, and resubmitted to FEMA for approval every 5 years in order to maintain program eligibility for the following FEMA programs:

- Public Assistance – Categories C-G
- Fire Management Assistance Grants
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation
- Flood Mitigation Assistance



Questions may be directed to Linda L. Byers, Region IV Senior Lead Planner, at (770) 220-5498.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Lowe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert E. Lowe, Branch Chief  
Risk Analysis Branch  
Mitigation Division