

Mitigation Success Publications

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The following publications are a sample of the many and varied documents that have been produced by States, associations and communities.

MULTI-HAZARDS

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FEMA 294 Report on Costs and Benefits of Natural Hazard Mitigation

This report reviews the types of benefits that can accrue to different segments of society from mitigation measures, the types of costs that can be incurred by undertaking the actions, and the types of analyses needed to evaluate the cost-effectiveness associated with mitigation measures such as wind shutter protection and seismic retrofitting.

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FEMA 331 Second Report on Costs and Benefits of Natural Hazard Mitigation - Protecting Business Operations

This second publication in the FEMA Success Stories Publication Series contains case studies that highlight businesses that have reduced their risks to natural hazards. The case studies also focus on how these businesses have benefited from substantial returns on their investments since taking their mitigation actions.

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Hazard Mitigation Successes - State of Florida

The unifying theme of these Florida success stories is that everyone has a role in reducing the risks from natural and technological hazards. Contributors include engineers, hospital administrators, urban and regional planners, storm water management specialists, emergency managers, business leaders and elected officials.

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HURRICANE

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FEMA-DR-1248-VI - Report on Mitigation Activities in the U. S. Virgin Islands

This report documents the intensity of Hurricanes Hugo (September 1989), Marilyn (September 1995) and Bertha (July 1996), the extent of damages caused by each hurricane, the mitigation activities implemented to minimize damages from future hurricanes, and the effectiveness of mitigation measures in preventing major damage from Hurricane Georges in September, 1998.

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FEMA-1292-DR-NC - Disaster Resistance Through Mitigation: Successes in North Carolina

This report, compiled in the aftermath of Hurricanes Dennis and Floyd, contains success stories highlighting relocation, retrofitting, floodproofing and elevation. Also included are detailed photographs of non-structural mitigation projects.

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DR-1295 - New Jersey Reduces Damage from Hurricane Floyd

This report describes mitigation stories from Hurricane Floyd and illustrates some of the ways people, industry and government in New Jersey reduced potential damage from the storm.

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EARTHQUAKE

FEMA 343 Case Studies: An Assessment of the NEHRP Guidelines for the Seismic Rehabilitation of Buildings. Prepared for FEMA by the Building Seismic Safety Council: Washington, DC, 1999
(document not available electronically — order through FEMA publications 1-800-480-2520)

This document analyzes the fundamentals and usefulness of the NEHRP Guidelines for the Seismic Rehabilitation of Buildings and its companion Commentary (FEMA 273/274). The text is divided into the following sections: background and conduct of the case studies project; summary of key findings; using the guidelines; technical adequacy of the guidelines; and design and construction costs. Brief descriptions of case studies are included in the text, as well as recommendations for improvements and further research.

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Living with Earthquakes in Napa County

This publication brings together the resources of FEMA, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the California Department of Conservation Division of Mines and Geology, and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to provide an up-to-date description of earthquake hazards and their consequences for the residents of the northern San Francisco Bay area.

Earthquake simulations, based on the latest information from USGS, were produced by HAZUS to provide detailed estimates and maps of earthquake damage in Napa County. These simulations are being used by local and state officials to stimulate efforts to reduce risk from future earthquakes and prepare for emergency response and recovery.

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FLOOD

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New York State Emergency Management Office (NYSEMO) and FEMA: A Federal-State Local Partnership to Reduce Future Damage

This report showcases timely, well-planned mitigation successes resulting from a coordinated Federal, State and local partnership effort. Also, several New York State Project Impact Communities are featured.

[WWW](#)

Mitigation Success Stories in the United States

The third edition of this publication, a joint project of the Association of State Floodplain Managers and FEMA, showcases examples of natural hazard mitigation activities and publicizes the benefits of (primarily flood) mitigation successes across the country. The publication focuses on dynamic success stories, including cost/benefit analyses, from communities in 17 states.

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Hazard Mitigation in North Carolina: Measuring Success

This report examines mitigation successes in North Carolina as they relate to key aspects of maintaining sustainable communities: housing, business and infrastructure. Case studies are presented that focus on how losses were avoided in each of these areas, in Hurricane Floyd, through a combination of mitigation measures.

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FEMA Hazard Mitigation in Iowa - Two Cities - One Tale

This short, interesting report examines how the “buy out” program enabled two Iowa communities, Cedar Falls and Independence, to avoid repeat flood damage, while realizing more than \$7 million in potential savings.

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Breaking the Cycle of Devastation: Through Prevention, Preparedness and Public Education

Informative, “human interest” style mitigation success stories from Southern Ohio — where citizens are changing the way they deal with disasters.

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Stemming the Tide of Flood Losses: Stories of Success from the History of Missouri’s Flood Mitigation Program

This publication is a historical overview of the Missouri Flood Buyout Program undertaken after the floods of 1993 and 1995. The report focuses on the processes and policies that evolved in Missouri to put the State’s Buyout Program funds (over \$100 million) to use in the shortest possible time.

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Hazard Mitigation At Work: Two Georgia Communities

This FEMA report tells the story of two communities that — with the help of FEMA and the State of Georgia — have already saved millions of dollars in disaster-related damages.

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Hazard Mitigation At Work: Two Alabama Communities

This FEMA report tells the story of two communities that — with the help of FEMA and the State of Alabama — have also saved millions of dollars in disaster-related damages.

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The Benefit of Hazard Mitigation Projects in Iowa - Projects funded through Iowa's HMGP for the Presidential Declared Counties

This report focuses on the total mitigation investment in the Presidential Declared Iowa Counties, resulting from the "Great Flood of 1993", and the anticipated long-term benefits.

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The Benefit of Hazard Mitigation Projects in Iowa - Projects funded through Iowa's Hazard Mitigation Program

Mostly in the form of well-defined charts, this report focuses on the total Hazard Mitigation Grant Program investment in Iowa, the anticipated long-term benefits and the "actual estimated avoided damages."

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Mitigation: An Investment for the Future

This report quantifies the benefits derived from elevating homes with Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds in Baldwin County, Alabama, a FEMA Project Impact community.

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Vermont

Vermont and New Hampshire Success Stories

These success stories are examples of mitigation projects that the States of New Hampshire and Vermont have implemented with Federal, non-profit and private sector partnerships. These partnerships exemplify a community based mitigation initiative while ensuring that fewer of the State's citizens become victims of flooding disasters. These projects incorporate cost-effective mitigation practices and technologies.

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**New
Hampshire**

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Evaluation of CRS Credited Activities During Hurricane Floyd

This report reviews the performance of several communities' CRS activities during and after the flooding caused by 1999's Hurricane Floyd in North Carolina. Using a combination of data collected in the field, data from flood insurance claims, and interviews with local officials and residents, the project team evaluated the impact of eight CRS activities on flood losses.

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Losses Avoided in Birmingham, Alabama

This report showcases the economic success of the Federally funded property acquisition project along the floodplain of Village Creek in Birmingham, Alabama. The project was funded with \$5.7 million of FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and \$1.9 million of matching funds from the City of Birmingham.

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