



Section 2: Executive Summary

What's new (summary of updated information) ...

- Inserts for "Whats New" -
- Inserts for "Check it Out"
- Updating the New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- The heirarcy of planning
- Planning requirements for FEMA funding programs
- Information on the Individual Assistance Program
- Format of the disaster history unit included in Section 2.3.3 visually revised
- Table of Contents is now linked-in. By "control + click" on the page number in the Contents below, the reader will be immediately positioned to the specific section.


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New Features:



Example: A Yellow insert bar" highlights new information.

New information	
	What – Summary of topic and general idea of subject matter.

These features will remain in the 2011 Plan and its technical updates until Re-adopted in 2014. Updates of technical information are posted on the web at regular intervals, approximately every 6 months – April and November. See 2.4.9 for web address.

	Where - Section in the Plan, Apendix or web-site
	What – An explanation of the new or updated information

Explanation of Terms

Updated Plan: Refers to the New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA and adopted by the Governor of the State on a three (3) year cycle. The original State Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted in 2005 and subsequently updated in 2008 and 2011. The next scheduled Updated Plan is April 2014.


Plan update: Refers to the maintenance and monitoring of the approved New Jersey Hazard Mitigation on the six (6) month cycle as described in Section 7 of the adopted State Plan. Plan updates provide users with the most current technical information available. Plan updates do not contain any changes in policy or requirements for additional information.



Technical information on the four (4) most recent disasters and climate change issues are still being reviewed and are not included in this April 2012 NJ Hazard Plan update.

2.1: Purpose and Scope

2.1.1 Updating the Approved New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan

Updating the Approved New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan	
	The approved plan will be updated periodically with technical information

The New Jersey State All Hazards Plan (the Plan) will be posted on the web on a regular basis. The six-month Plan update provides users with technical information. No changes in policy or state requirements are contained in an updated

2.1.2 What's Mitigation?

Each year natural disasters cause millions of dollars in damages, but the toll does not end there. The human misery that inevitably follows in the wake cannot be measured in dollars alone. As television footage of a disaster is broadcast to the home of millions of viewers all over the state, three questions are on peoples minds: Can it happen here? Can it happen to me? Can something be done about this?

The answers are yes, yes, and yes. It can happen to you. It can happen in your town, and something is being done. The Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is the cornerstone to reducing New Jersey's vulnerability to disasters. Hazard Mitigation distinguishes actions that have a long-term impact from those that are more closely associated with pre-disaster preparedness, response to an event, and recovery from an incident. Hazard Mitigation is the only phase of emergency management specifically dedicated to breaking the cycle of damage, reconstruction and repeated damage.

Hazard Mitigation focuses on actions that produce successive benefits over time. Local governments engage in hazard mitigation whenever they use their available tools, such as ordinances and building codes, to keep development out of harm's way. Identifying effective mitigation actions depends on the unique characteristics associated with specific hazards.

- Hazard mitigation for **flooding** can involve strengthen floodplain management regulations, identifying opportunities for acquisition of flood prone properties and prioritizing other flood reduction measures.
- Mitigation actions for **coastal areas** at risk from hurricanes may include guiding development away from storm surge zones as well as improving and enforcing building code requirements to strengthen buildings against wind and storm surge damage.
- For **earthquake** hazards, mitigation actions may include structural design standards to allow buildings to withstand ground shaking and soil liquefaction or limiting development in steeply sloped areas subject to landslides.
- For **wildfires**, where suburban development has encroached upon susceptible areas, mitigation actions can include development setbacks, adequate transportation access for emergency vehicles, adequate water supplies and vegetation management.



New Jersey had sixteen (16) presidentially declared disasters, one (1) fire declaration and six (6) emergency declarations in the past fifteen years.

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	Section 2.2.3	Summary Matrix of Recent New Jersey Disaster
✓	Appendix D	Detailed Description of Declared New Jersey Disaster with descriptive information on the event; scope of FEMA funding and listing of counties impacted.

"Human Intervention" will never be able to prevent floods completely, tornadoes, earthquakes, hurricanes and other disasters from threatening the State. However, actions to reduce – or even avoid – the devastating impacts and rising costs of disasters and the disruption to daily activities can be taken. This is by planning for and implementing mitigation measures before disasters strike and by making sure that post-disaster recovery efforts include appropriate hazard mitigation measures.

Hazard mitigation ensures that a smaller number of New Jersey residents and fewer communities become victims of natural and technological disasters. Hazard Mitigation:

- Is sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk and impact to people and property from natural hazards.
- Results in safer communities that resist becoming victims when disaster strikes.
- Measures and actions reduce risk for individuals, small and large businesses, and critical service locations such as hospitals, public safety facilities and utility service stations.

The New Jersey HMP goes further:

- The purpose of the Plan is to change the way elected officials, community leaders and businesses think about disasters. How they think about their communities and developing a visible path toward sustainability.
- The Plan is a tool to educate emergency managers and to encourage policy makers to look beyond their immediate community - think regionally and act locally.
- The Plan sets clear goals and time lines that assist state agencies, county governments and municipalities in decision-making.
- The HMP encourages the expansion of single purpose disaster recovery and disaster prevention activities into wider opportunities for integrated community-wide planning, maintain long-rang neighborhood sustainability and improve quality of life.
- The Plan bridges the gaps
 - between planning and action,
 - between writing about reducing the effects of a natural hazard and doing something about it, and
 - between listing funding sources and putting the projects in motion.
- Through a thoughtfully prepared, administratively adopted, and FEMA approved the Plan enables the state and local governments to apply for and participate in the various FEMA funded mitigation programs.

The New Jersey State HMP demonstrates the state's commitment:

- To reduce risks from natural and technological hazards;
- To serve as a guide for both State and local decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards on lives and property;
- To provide assurances that the State will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations during the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c); and
- To maintain its eligibility to participate in all FEMA funding programs
- To amend its Plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in State or Federal laws and statutes as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d)



2.2: Planning Requirements

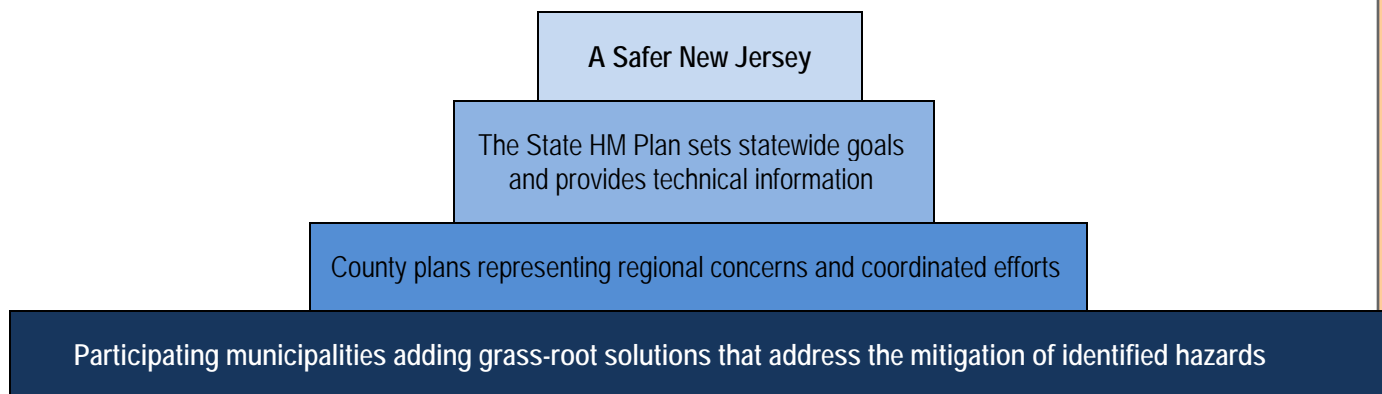
The hierarchy of planning	
	This element outlines the basis for planning and the importance of mitigation planning.

The 2011 State of New Jersey HMP was prepared in compliance with Federal requirements for Standard State Mitigation Plans in the *Stafford Act*. The *Stafford Act* was amended by the *Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000* (42 U.S.C. 5165). The New Jersey HMP has been prepared in conformance with FEMA regulations at 44 C.F.R. §201.3(c)(1) and §201.4(a) and (d) that require a State Mitigation Plans to be updated and resubmitted to FEMA for approval every three (3) years.

The New Jersey State HMP:

- Outlines a strategy to reduce risks from natural hazards in New Jersey; it is not a product, it is a process.
- Aids State and local decision makers, budget managers and emergency management officials in developing hazard reduction programs based on a realistic assessment of hazards and vulnerabilities.
- Documents disaster experiences and current research.
- Establishes the framework for coordination between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT) for hazard mitigation programs
- Serves as the basis for prioritizing future project funding which makes the planning process more appealing as some tangible mitigation milestones demonstrate that mitigation planning will benefit the community.

Conceptually the New Jersey mitigation planning effort is based on building blocks that lead to a safer New Jersey with:



2.3: Background

New information	
	What – Summary recent milestone plan development events. Change in FEMA guidance and review tools.

On October 20, 2000, the United States Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, also known as DMA2K. A copy of the Act is included in this Plan as Appendix A. Among its other features, DMA2K established a requirement that in order to remain eligible categories of federal disaster assistance and grant funds, States and localities must develop and adopt Hazard Mitigation Plans.

- On February 26, 2002, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published an Interim Final Rule (IFR) that provided the guidance and regulations under which such Plans must be developed. The IFR provides detailed descriptions of both the Planning process that States and localities are required to observe, as well as the contents of the Plan that emerges. It is included as Appendix B.



- On June 1, 2010, FEMA published Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance that consolidates the common requirements for all hazard mitigation assistance programs and explains the unique elements of each program.
- On October 1, 2011, FEMA published Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Guide as an update to previously published Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance. The accompanying "Local Mitigation Plan Tool" directs plan developers to the common requirements for all hazard mitigation assistance programs and explains the unique elements of each program.

Plan adoptions of The New Jersey Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Initial adoption - April 2005
- First update – April 2008
- Second update – April 2011 with minor revisions and updates as of November 2011
- Next update – due April 2014

Monitoring, evaluating and updating the 2011 Plan began immediately after adoption in April of 2011. To meet the April 2014 submission/approval date the 2014 All Hazards Plan will contain information current to December 2013.

2011 Plan technical updates contain information on new and available information intended to provide users with the best available data that can be used in local planning efforts.

2.3.1 Coordination with Federal Requirements

Check it out – More information can be found in Section 3 of the Plan	
✓	The FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance (available on-line at FEMA.gov; and in 44 CFR.

44 CFR Part 201, Hazard Mitigation Planning, establishes criteria for State and local hazard mitigation planning authorized by Section 322 of the Stafford Act, as amended by Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act. States are required to have, at minimum, an approved Standard State Mitigation Plan in order to receive disaster funds for State or local mitigation projects. In addition, FEMA regulations at 44 C.F.R. §201.3⁽¹⁾ and §201.4(a) and (d) require that the State Mitigation Plans be updated and resubmitted to FEMA for approval every three (3) years. The development and maintenance of State and local multi-hazard mitigation plans is a key factor to maintaining eligibility for future funding for:

- Property acquisition or relocation of hazard prone property for conversion to open space in perpetuity;
- Structural and non-structural retrofitting (including designs and feasibility studies when included as part of the construction project) for wildfire, seismic, wind or flood hazards (e.g., elevation, storm shutters, hurricane clips);
- Minor structural hazard control or protection projects that may include vegetation management, and storm water management (e.g., culverts, floodgates, retention basins); and,
- Localized flood control projects, such as certain ring levees and floodwall systems that are designed specifically to protect critical facilities and that do not constitute a section of a larger flood control system.

A FEMA approved State mitigation Plan is an eligibility requirement to apply for and/or receive FEMA assistance under the following grant programs:

Planning requirements for FEMA funding programs	
	What – Summary of FEMA funding program requiring a Mitigation Plan

FEMA has seven natural hazard mitigation grant programs that distribute the allotted funds to eligible communities. In order to receive funding, each community must pick their best projects and submit a grant application through their State government. Several requirements must be met to receive funding. The planning requirements are:

Public Assistance Program (Section 406)	Category A – B -no requirement for a plan
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	Category C – G – State and Local Plan required
Fire Management Assistance (State)	No requirement for a plan
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	May apply for funds but cannot receive funds without an approved plan ¹
Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program	State and Local Plan required
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program	State and Local Plan required
Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Program	State and Local Plan required
Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) Program	No requirement for a plan

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	Appendix X Fact Sheet 3	FEMA mitigation grant programs administered by NJOEM Hazard Mitigation

2.3.2: Specifics on FEMA Programs

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: The objective of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program is to provide assistance so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President.

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	See Section 3.5.1	Additional information on the FEMA Public Assistance Program

FIRE MANAGEMENT: Fire Management Assistance is available to the State for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately owned forests or grasslands, which threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster.

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	See Section 3.5.8	Additional Information on the FEMA Fire Management Program

FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION PRE-DISASTER FUNDING PROGRAMS are described in greater detail in Section 3.5 of the Plan and in Appendix H. Summary information on the programs include:

- **Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)** - FMA provides annual funding for county and local governments that are planning or taking action to reduce or eliminate long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other insured structures. Grants may be awarded for planning assistance, implementation or mitigation strategies, and technical assistance.
- **Repetitive Flood Claim Program** — FEMA program to provide assistance in mitigating a property that has had two or more NFIP claims of at least \$1,000 within any 10-year period since 1978.
- **Severe Repetitive Loss Program** – FEMA program to provide assistance in mitigating a NFIP insured residential property having flood losses that resulted in either (1) four or more flood insurance claim payments that exceed \$5,000 with at least two of the payments occurring within a 10-year period, or (2) two or more flood insurance claim payments that cumulatively exceed the value of the property.



- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)** – FEMA program to provide assistance in mitigating hazards based on the potential or known threat of a natural disaster (e.g., hurricane, typhoon, volcanic eruption, or other event), preparatory actions taken by Federal, State, and local governments to protect life and property and to minimize the effects of the event on response personnel and equipment.
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** – Authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act, this Program provides funding for cost-effective hazard mitigation projects in conformance with the post-disaster mitigation plan required under Section 409 of the Stafford Act as replaced by Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Section 404 authorizes the President to contribute up to 75 percent of the cost of mitigation measures that are determined to be cost effective and substantially reduce the risk of future damage or loss in states affected by a major disaster. The remaining 25 percent of the cost may be a combination of state, local, and other non-Federal contributions.

2.3.2. Summary of Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance

Many of the mitigation strategies can be accomplished with the above FEMA funding assistance program. Information application procedures and project eligibility are detailed in the following references.

Check it out		
✓	Appendix O	Project Eligibility for FEMA Grant Funding

New Summary of Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance.	
	The FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance (available on-line at FEMA.gov; and in 44 CFR. The listing “applicant eligibility” and “project eligibility/ineligibility” have been edited for inclusion in this Plan.

Other FEMA Programs

- **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** – The Federal program, created by an act of Congress in 1968, that makes flood insurance available in communities that enact satisfactory floodplain management regulations. Also, included is information on the Community Rating System.

Emergency Preparedness Grant Program (EMPG) – FEMA program to assist state and local governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities.

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	See Section 3.5.9	Additional Information on the FEMA Emergency Preparedness Grant Program

Individual Assistance

Information on the Individual Assistance Program	
	What – Informational references provided for Grants and Assistance Programs for Individuals

Section 2 - Executive Summary



Information compiled as part of the Individual Assistance Programs are often used to developed mitigation projects. Individual assistance is not a mitigation action. Catalog of Federal Disaster Assistance (CFDA) numbers are provided to help you find additional information on the CFDA website.

- Disaster Assistance - (CDFA Numbers: 97.048, 97.049, 97.05)
Provides money or direct assistance to individuals, families and businesses in an area whose property has been damaged or destroyed and whose losses are not covered by insurance.
- Crisis Counseling - (CDFA Number: 97.032)
Provides supplemental funding to States for short-term crisis counseling services to people affected in Presidentially declared disasters.
- Disaster Legal Services - (CDFA Number: 97.033)
Provides free legal assistance to disaster victims.
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance Program - (CDFA Number: 97.034)
Provides unemployment benefits and re-employment services to individuals who have become unemployed because of major disasters.
- National Flood Insurance Program - (CDFA Number: 97.022)
Enables property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for State and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages.

2.3.4: Declared Natural Hazard Disaster

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	Appendix D	Description of Recent New Jersey Disaster



Summary table of New Jersey Presidential Disaster Declarations 1955 - 2012

For disasters declare prior to 2000, county declaration information is not available. (DRs only)

Aug-55	Hurricane, floods	41-DR	Jul-75	Heavy rains, high winds, hail, tornadoes	477-DR	Dec-92	Coastal high tides, heavy rain, flood	973-DR
Mar-62	Severe storms, high tides, flooding	124-DR	Aug-76	Severe storms, high winds, flooding	519-DR	Jan-96	Snow, blizzard	1088-DR
Aug-65	Water shortage	205-DR	Feb-77	Ice conditions	528-DR	Nov-96	Severe flooding	1145-DR
Jun-68	Heavy rains, flooding	245-DR	Apr-84	Coastal storms, flooding	701-DR	Sep-97	Flooding	1189-DR
Sep-71	Heavy rains, flooding	310-DR	Oct-85	Hurricane Gloria	749-DR	Mar-98	Coastal storm	1206-DR
Aug-73	Severe storms, flooding	402-DR	Mar-92	Severe coastal storm	936-DR	Sep-99	Hurricane Floyd	1295-DR

✓ = yes, county declared
DR = Disasters **EM = Emergencies** **FM = Fires**

			Atlantic	Bergen	Burlington	Camden	Cape May	Cumberland	Essex	Gloucester	Hudson	Hunterdon	Mercer	Middlesex	Monmouth	Morris	Ocean	Passaic	Salem	Somerset	Sussex	Union	Warren
Aug-00	Flooding, severe storms, mudslides	1337-DR											✓			✓						✓	
Nov-00	Virus threat	3156-EM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sep-01	Terrorist attack emergency declaration	3169-EM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jun-02	Double trouble fire	2411-FM															✓						
Mar-03	Snowstorm	3181-EM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sep-03	Power outage	3188-EM		✓					✓		✓							✓					✓
Jul-04	Severe storm, flooding	1530-DR			✓	✓																	
Oct-04	Tropical Depression Ivan	1563-DR										✓	✓										✓
Apr-05	Severe storms and flooding	1588-DR		✓					✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓						✓
Sep-05	Hurricane Katrina evacuation	3257-EM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jul-06	Severe storms and flooding	1653-DR										✓	✓									✓	✓
Apr-07	Severe storms & inland coastal flooding	1694-DR	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Apr-07	Warren Grove Fire	2695-FM			✓													✓					
Dec 09	Tropical Storm Ida and a Nor'easter	1867-DR	✓				✓										✓						
Feb 10	Snowstorm	1873-DR	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓							✓						
Mar 10	Severe winter storm and snowstorm	1889 DR	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓									✓				
Apr 10	Sever storms and Flooding	1897-DR	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Feb 11	Severe winter storm and snowstorm	1954-DR		✓	✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Aug 11	Hurricane Irene	3332-EM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sep 11	Hurricane Irene	4021-DR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sep 11	Flooding	4033-DR					✓		✓										✓				
Oct 11	Tropical Storm Lee	4039-DR										✓	✓					✓				✓	✓
Nov 11	Snow Storm/Power Outage	4048-DR																✓					✓



The presidential delared disaster impacts are reflected in public facilities damages as follows:

Table 2.3.3-1
Impact of FEMA Public Assistance Amounts for Recent Disasters
 Source: NJOEM Public Assistance

Disaster	Category A: Emergency work, primarily debris clearance.	Category B: Emergency protective measures.	Category C: Permanent repair work, roads and bridges.	Category D: Permanent repair work, water control facilities.	Category E: Permanent repair work, public buildings.	Category F: Permanent repair work, utilities.	Category G: Permanent repair work, parks and recreation facilities.	Total
DR-4048	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	Total obligated: \$3,336,027.10 \$ 0 paid.
DR-4039	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	Total obligated: \$468,409.63 Total paid: \$246,559.20
DR-4033	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	Total obligated: \$1,819,961.34 Total paid: \$460,540.18
DR-4021	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	In development	Total obligated: \$46,851,158.12 Total paid: \$28,256,407.98
DR-1954	1,500	47,633,220	5,643	0	87,302	18,681	413,215	48,159,564 Total obligated: \$52,234,147.53 Total paid: \$41,826,151.37
DR-1897	822,6440	9,185,497	3,168,205	731,594	1,292,640	1,444,759	9,143,823	33,192,962 Total obligated: \$31,346,521.49 Total paid: \$24,753,614.96
DR-1889	64,3086	12,791,883	106,906	0	35,990	101,836	140,109	13,819,881 Total obligated: \$13,819,811.46 Total paid: \$13,432,189.14
DR-1873	0	13,588,234	133,641	0	9,637	0	0	13,731,513 Total obligated: \$13,731,513.59 Total paid: \$11,650,816.81
DR-1867	361,051	1,069,244	431,468	220,255	64,172	10,451	19,184,468	21,341,113 Total obligated: \$18,521,135.78 Total paid: \$3,004,246.27
DR-1694	\$21,019	\$2,959,810	\$95,290	\$47,600	\$111,517	\$0	\$209,583	\$3,444,819
DR-1653	\$117,294	\$1,363,469	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,480,763
DR-1563	\$27,108	\$658,701	\$344,167	\$0	\$495,967	\$40,700	\$10,426	\$1,577,069
DR-1530	\$61,083	\$659,490	\$480,610	\$332,107	\$235,068	\$0	\$180	\$1,768,538



DR-1337	\$0	\$3,283	\$0	\$199,689	\$38,807	\$0	\$0	\$241,779
DR-1295	\$938,911	\$3,439,527	\$336,040	\$465,194	\$289,189	\$52,402	\$1,975,249	\$7,496,512
Total	\$10,397,492	\$93,352,358	\$5,101,970	\$1,996,439	\$2,660,289	\$1,668,829	\$31,077,053	



2.4: Organization of the Plan

The purpose of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan is to understand the process of identifying and implementing appropriate hazard mitigation actions. The Plan includes:

- Characterization of Natural and Technical Hazards Statewide, including occurrences, impacts and probability
- Vulnerability assessment and loss estimation
- Identification of jurisdictions most at risk
- Goals, objectives, strategies and actions that will guide the State's mitigation activities
- Comprehensive evaluation of progress towards achieving stated goals, strategies and actions
- Process for implementing and monitoring the Plan


The updated New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan is organized to parallel the structure provided in the Interim Final Rule (IFR). The Plan has nine sections.

- Section 1: **Table of Contents**
- Section 2: **Executive Summary**
- Section 3: **Planning Process**
- Section 4: **Risk Assessment**
- Section 5: **Mitigation Strategy**
- Section 6: **Coordination of Local Planning**
- Section 7: **Plan Maintenance**
- Section 8: **Approval and Adoption**
- Section 9: **Appendices**

There are references to the IFR throughout the Plan. Where possible these provide specific section and subsection notations for the convenience of reviewers.

The body of the plan is contained in Sections 3 through 8 briefly described as follows:

2.4.1: Table of Contents (without discussion)

New information	
	The Table of Contents in each Section provides for an immediate link to the item of interest by using the "Control + Click to follow link" on the page number. Section 1 – the overall Table of Contents for the Plan does not contain that feature.

2.4.2: Executive Summary (without discussion)

2.4.3: Summary of Section 3 Planning Process

This section includes a detailed description of the process and the individuals and agencies who were involved in the update. The process used to develop the initial Plan was closely modeled on the FEMA "How-To" series for Hazard Mitigation Planning but adapted to meet the geographical, political and social uniqueness of the State of New Jersey.

Subject matter experts were solicited for specific information regarding hazards, risks, capabilities and strategies.



The plan was developed by:

- Plan Development Committee (PDC) members who acted as the staff writers and researchers. Contact with subject matter experts (water, climate, geology, wildfire, flood, etc. were included throughout the plan development.
- Mitigation Core Team (MCT) who provided the first line review of the document. and
- State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT) members who reviewed the draft materials mitigation strategies identified and provided feedback on progress towards achieving the goals and completing the actions. SHMT members also provided interim reviews of draft sections as appropriate throughout the update process and final approval before submission to FEMA.
- After all sections were completed and comments incorporated, the Plan was submitted to FEMA and the Governor for adoption.

2.4.4: Summary of Section 4 Risk Assessment

This section includes a detailed description of the process that was used to identify, characterize and assess the natural and technological hazards that can affect New Jersey and provides hazard profiles for the hazards that are most likely to affect the State. These comprise:

- **Atmospheric Hazards including** Avalanche, Extreme Temperatures both Heat and Cold, Extreme Straight Line Winds, Hailstorm, Hurricanes, Nor'easters and Tropical Storms, Lightning, Tornados, and Winter Storms resulting in Snow and Ice
- **Hydraulic Hazards including** Coastal - Erosion, Storm Surge and Wave Action, Dam Failure, Drought, Floods both Riverine and Coastal, and Flooding caused by Ice Jams
- **Geologic Hazards including** Earthquake, Expansive Soils, Landslide and Mud Slides, Land Subsidence, Tsunami, Volcano
- **Other Natural Hazards including** Wildfire
- **Technological Hazards including**, among others; Pandemics Hazardous Waste – Fixed Site, Transportation, and Nuclear, Crop Failure, and Fisheries Failure
- **National Security issues including** Power Outages, Civil Unrest and Terrorism

In accordance with the IFR the State Hazard Mitigation Plan has reviewed and considered all natural hazards. The 2011 Plan also initiates a discussion of technological and national security hazards. Greater detail will be included in future plan updates. Local jurisdictions in their preparation of hazard mitigation plan updates are requested to expand the scope of their plans and identify all hazards that may pose a threat.

Section 4.5 characterizes the State's vulnerabilities to natural hazards, and **Section 4.6** follows with a summary of the jurisdictions that are at risk from the effects of natural hazards. Because this Plan is partly intended as a resource for local and regional planners, NJOEM wished to avoid any ranking or scoring of hazards or jurisdictions, because this might suggest that planners should ignore some of the lower-ranking hazards or vulnerable areas. The State Hazard Mitigation Plan provides a general framework to guide State-level mitigation strategies. In carrying out their own planning processes, jurisdictions should perform more detailed and locally focused hazard profiles and risk assessments to develop appropriate strategies and actions.



New Jersey is comprised of 21 Counties, all of which have some risk of most of the natural hazards on the list above. It is important for local jurisdictions to understand that while State-level risk may appear to be concentrated in Counties where there are high populations and large infrastructure, there are areas of high risk in every County, and in many jurisdictions within the Counties. It should also be noted that a wide range of mitigation actions and strategies exist for most hazards, and that the costs and effectiveness of these measures varies significantly. The implication of this is that both the State and local jurisdictions must be aware that the ultimate effectiveness of mitigation is based both on risk and the action that is used to reduce it.

2.4.5: Summary of Section 5 Mitigation Strategy

The State Hazard Mitigation Strategy endorses five goals and objectives as stated below:

1. **To protect life through**
 - Improved warning and emergency communications systems
 - Effectively address laws and regulations that speak to hazard mitigation issues
 - Reduce the impacts of hazards on vulnerable populations
 - Strengthen State and local building code enforcement
2. **To protect property through**
 - Protect critical State and non-state owned facilities and assets
 - Reduce repetitive losses
 - Implement hazard mitigation policies to protect the environment
3. **To increase public preparedness through**
 - Improved public awareness of natural hazards and the risks they pose
 - Improved hazard Information data bases and maps and increase accessibility to those resources
 - Enhanced community outreach and training emergency responders
4. **Develop and maintain an understanding of risks from natural hazards through**
 - Review and incorporate hazard information developed at the local level into the Plan
 - Increased development of local mitigation planning
 - Incorporate new FEMA guidance, rules and regulations into the Plan
 - Update the Plan from lessons learned on the national level
5. **Enhance capabilities to make New Jersey less vulnerable to hazards through**
 - Monitor the progress of on-going mitigation activities by state agencies
 - Provide current information on incentives for mitigation planning and actions
 - Encourage the formation of partnerships to leverage and share mitigation resources
 - Ensure continuity of critical operations of government and commerce

In addition to the stated mitigation goals and incorporated throughout the strategy to accomplish the State goals, New Jersey will use a three-prong approach:

1. Recognize flooding as the major disaster threat facing the state and use acquisition between a voluntary seller and a public agency as the primary means to accomplish all of the goals and objectives (with additional Repetitive Loss Strategy information below).
2. Offer, as a secondary means of accomplishing the state goals, assistance in the elevation of homes where or when acquisition is not an option.
3. Work with both county and municipal governments that have an approved local mitigation plan and those whose plans are nearing completion to develop sound and beneficial projects to alleviate the impacts of all natural disasters, not limited to flooding alone.



Repetitive Loss Strategy: To reiterate the State's repetitive loss strategy referred to above and in several other places in the plan, and to clearly state New Jersey's actions and maintain eligibility for increased Federal cost share of up to 90 percent, the strategy to reduce the number of repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties is:

- Use available state financial resources to acquire, demolish and use such properties for permanent state-owned open space.
- Provide matching Green Acres acquisition funds to county and local governments to purchase flood prone properties.
- Provide "Payments in Lieu of Taxes" to municipalities when repetitive and severe repetitive loss properties are acquired by the state and the lands are set aside for permanent open space.
- Award repetitive and severe repetitive loss property acquisition and elevation projects specific points in project ranking scoring.
- Require that all county and municipal hazard mitigation plans include strategies to ensure actions to reduce the number of these properties.
- Develop and disseminate information on FEMA's Repetitive Flood Claim and Severe Respective Loss programs

As required by FEMA, the Mitigation Core Team and State Hazard Mitigation Team completed a comprehensive evaluation of the mitigation strategies and actions from the original plan, and reported on the status of each of them. Additional information on the New Jersey Severe Repetitive Loss Mitigation Strategy can be found in Appendix G.

2.4.6: Summary of Section 6 Coordinating Local Planning

This section describes how the State provides assistance and guidance to local jurisdictions for developing their hazard mitigation Plans; how information from the State and local Plans is linked and integrated, and how the State prioritizes funding opportunities for local jurisdictions.

In addition, the 2011 state plan revision incorporates information developed by the County Plans. Specific information gathered on the local level has been incorporated into the 2011 State HMP. A more detailed discussion of local planning status is included in Section 6 – Coordination Local Planning. Full copies of both approved local plans and local plans pending finalization and FEMA review and approval can be found on the web at:

<http://www.State.nj.us/njoem/>

* Plan Approval Status list only those county plans that have received final FEMA approval.

Plan Approval Status Summary as of April 2011

As noted in various places throughout the document of the state's 21 counties:

- 1 county has begun the preparation of a hazard mitigation plan
- 20 counties have plans completed with FEMA approval

For more information on this subject, refer to		
✓	Where -	What – plan approval
✓	Where -	What – web location



It is NJOEM's intent to use the State Plan as a way to provide data to local and regional governments to:

- reinforce their ongoing mitigation planning processes,
- support mitigation project selection, and
- provide guidance on best practices.

To assist in the development of Hazard Mitigation Plans and to foster greater availability of current information, NJOEM has prepared a series of handouts. The full printouts of the handouts are included in Appendix X. Over the years the emphasis has shifted from (1) providing general information on hazards and defining mitigation to (2) encouraging the development of mitigation plans to (3) presenting information on project development and FEMA policy. Handouts are discussed more fully in Section 6 – Coordinating Local Planning.

Table 2.4-6-1 County Hazard Mitigation Plan Web Sites

County	Plan Approval Status *	The County Hazard Mitigation Plan can be found at
Atlantic	2011	www.aclink.org/oep
Bergen	2008	www.bcpd.org/oem01.html
Burlington	2008	www.co.burlington.nj.us/Pages/pages/asp?cid=57TPIO=727
Camden	2011	www.ccoem.org/hm/HM_draft.html
Cape May	2011	www.capemaycountygov.net/cit-e-access/webpage.cfm?tid=5&TPIO=727
Cumberland	2011	www.ccoem.org/hm/HM_draft.html
Essex	2008	www.essexsheriff.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4&itemid=7
Gloucester	2009	www.ccoem.org/hm/HM_draft.html
Hudson	2009	Pending
Hunterdon	2011	Pending
Mercer	2011	www.nj.gov/counties/mercercer/departments/psem/draftplan.html
Middlesex	2011	www.co.middlesex.nj.us/emrgency/index.asp
Monmouth	2009	www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?ID=145
Morris	2010	www.Morrisoem.org/
Ocean		Pending
Passaic	2010	www.passaiccountynj.org/Department/departments.html
Salem	2011	www.ccoem.org/hm/HM_draft.html
Somerset	2008	www.co.somerset.nj.us/hazard/index.html
Sussex	2011	www.sussexcountysheriff.com
Union	2011	Pending
Warren	2011	www.warren.nj.us/Hazards_M_Planning/index.html



- Several approved municipal plans have opted to join in the county plan and will not be recertifying individually.
- Single jurisdictional plans are in effect for:
 - City of Elizabeth, Union County
 - City of Lambertville, Hunterdon County
 - City of Trenton, Mercer County

2.4.7: Summary of Section 7 Plan Maintenance

This section describes how the Plan will be periodically evaluated and updated. The Interim Final Rule requires that the State Hazard Mitigation Plan be updated and re-submitted to FEMA for review and re-approval every three years. In addition to meeting this requirement, the State, under the direction of NJOEM, will review the Plan annually, based on criteria that are described in **Section 7.2**. The criteria are:

1. New Presidential Disaster or Emergency Declarations
2. Progress in completing tasks listed in the Mitigation Strategies section of the Plan
3. Changes in development
4. Progress in Statewide mitigation activities, including meeting State Mitigation Goals
5. Changes in priorities
6. Changes in available funding sources and programs
7. Advances in GIS, data acquisition and other technologies
8. Increases in available information
9. Changes in State or Federal laws, including amendments to FEMA rules and guidance; and
10. Other factors affecting the Plan, as described in the section.

Other parts of **Section 7** describe how the State will monitor mitigation activities and measure progress toward achieving the goals that are described in **Section 6**.

2.4.8: Summary of Section 8 Approval and Adoption

This section of the Plan describes the approval and adoption processes and provides assurances as required by the IFR. It also includes documents related to Plan adoption, including an approval letter from the Director of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM), and a letter of endorsement and support from the Governor.

As noted in Section 3 of the Plan, each State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT) member was provided a full draft copy of the Plan for review, comment and endorsement prior to adoption by the Governor. NJOEM retains the comments and changes. The New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted by the Governor through the authority delegated to NJOEM. The Plan was approved by the Director of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management through authority delegated by the Governor.

Upon completion of review and approval by FEMA Regional Office, this Plan Update will be approved and adopted by the Governor through the same mechanism used for the 2008 Plan.



2.4.9: Contact Information

For more information contact: **Lt. Robert Little, State Hazard Mitigation Officer**
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The [State of New Jersey 2011 Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) and [NJOEM Mitigation Handouts](#) can be found at:

- www.ready.nj.gov
- NJ Office of Emergency Management
- NJOEM Programs
- Mitigation – Protecting People and Property, Reducing Risks from Hazards
- Mitigation Related Links
- **NJ Hazard Mitigation Plan**