

Levy County

Local Mitigation Strategy

2026 Update

PLAN AND APPENDICES



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I. INTRODUCTION

Mitigation refers to actions taken to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters before they occur. In hazard-prone areas like Levy County, mitigation is essential for protecting residents, infrastructure, and natural resources from threats such as hurricanes and flooding, while supporting the development of safer, more resilient communities. A well-developed hazard mitigation plan helps lower long-term risks and financial burdens on local governments. While natural disasters cannot be prevented, their effects can be reduced through coordinated planning and community action. The Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) integrates hazard awareness into daily operations and long-term development decisions.

Levy County is particularly vulnerable to storm surge, heavy rainfall, and inland flooding due to its location along Florida's Gulf Coast and relatively low elevation. Much of the county lies within the Category 1 hurricane storm surge zone, putting many residents at high risk. In recent years, multiple hurricanes, including Hermine (2016), Irma (2017), Idalia (2023), and Debby, Helene, and Milton (2024) have affected Levy County. These events have underscored the county's exposure to storm-related hazards.

As the county continues to grow and development extends into high-risk areas, the need for proactive mitigation becomes more urgent. State and federal agencies, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM), provide resources to support mitigation efforts aimed at reducing disaster-related losses. By prioritizing these efforts now, Levy County can strengthen its ability to withstand and more quickly recover from future disasters and protect its communities more effectively.

Tools of hazard mitigation include land use planning techniques that limit the construction of infrastructure in high hazard areas and programs for retrofitting existing structures to meet new building codes and standards. Ideally, a community can minimize the effects of future hazards through a mix of code enforcement, planning, and responsible development. By identifying and prioritizing mitigation projects before a disaster occurs local governments are better prepared to meet the documentation and eligibility requirements for post-disaster assistance.

Successful hazard mitigation relies not only on government agencies but also on active participation from community members and local organizations. Public involvement helps ensure that mitigation activities reflect local priorities, values, and needs, strengthening community ownership and long-term support for these initiatives. Maintaining an updated list of prioritized mitigation projects within the LMS improves the county's ability to secure both ongoing and post-disaster funding, while promoting a coordinated and strategic approach to reducing long-term risk.

II. LMS PLANNING PROCESS

A. Planning Process Initiation

In March 2025, Levy County Emergency Management (LCEM) began compiling updated data for the LMS Plan. At the June 2025 LMS Working Group (LMSWG) meeting, members were notified that the next LMS update was due by March 2026. The update process was formally initiated, with an emphasis on active participation. Invitations to participate were shared through phone outreach, email communication, and a public notice posted on the county website.

Levy County includes eight municipalities: Bronson, Cedar Key, Chiefland, Fanning Springs, Inglis, Otter Creek, Williston, and Yankeetown. Each municipality designates a representative to serve as a voting member of the LMSWG. To remain eligible to apply for future mitigation funding, participating entities must maintain at least one project on the county's LMS project list and designate a representative or alternate to attend all quarterly LMSWG meetings. Fanning Springs participates in the Gilchrist County LMS, as the municipality spans both counties. Special districts and partner agencies seeking to submit projects for inclusion on the LMS project list and participate in the LMSWG are subject to the same requirements. These jurisdictions that will also seek plan approval include the School Board of Levy County, the Cedar Key Water and Sewer District, the Florida Forest Service District 8, the Suwannee River Water Management District, and the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Representatives from these, as well as all other participating agencies, municipalities, interested citizens, and organizations that make up the Levy County LMSWG, are listed in Table II-1.

B. Involvement

On September 18, 2025, an email was distributed to all current LMSWG members as well as other jurisdictions that participated in the 2021 update. Additional stakeholders were included in this outreach – some newly invited by LCEM due to their identified relevance to the planning process, and others who expressed interest independently. These newly identified stakeholders include the Levy County Road Department, Levy County Public Works Department, Cedar Key Chamber of Commerce, Williston Chamber of Commerce, the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), and the Tri-County (Dixie, Gilchrist, and Levy) Long-Term Recovery Group. LCEM identified invitees with the goal of involving representatives from each community lifeline, with a particular focus on improving representation from local businesses and underserved/socially vulnerable populations. The email outlined participation expectations for jurisdictions, including: designating a jurisdictional point of contact, attending quarterly and special meetings, coordinating with county staff to provide necessary information for the plan update, and identifying at least one mitigation action for their jurisdiction.

The LMSWG is chaired by the LCEM Director and consists of representatives from municipal and county departments, public health, community outreach groups, members of the private sector, and residents. Jurisdictional appointments to the group are made by local officials and department heads. While outreach was extended to private sector partners and businesses leading up to the 2026 update, overall participation from those sectors remained limited. The group is responsible for guiding the development of the LMS, reviewing and ranking mitigation projects, encouraging collaboration between public and private sectors, and ensuring representation from residents across the community.

C. Development

During the September 2025 LMSWG meeting, members were asked to review the 2021 LMS Plan and evaluate their jurisdiction's assets, vulnerabilities, and any significant changes since the last update. The group also began reassessing the existing LMS goals to ensure continued relevance.

During the December 2025 LMSWG meeting, members were asked to review the 2021 LMS Plan goals and objectives and consider their jurisdiction's changes in priorities, if any, since the previous update. Several organizations that represented underserved communities were in attendance.

D. Integration with Existing Plans, Studies, and Reports

To ensure alignment with local planning frameworks, the LMS update considered several guiding documents and regulatory codes. These included the Levy County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), FEMA Flood Maps and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) maps, the Levy County Comprehensive Plan, local Land Development Regulations, and applicable building codes such as the Florida Building Code. These resources help ensure that the LMS Plan supports the county's broader development and resilience goals.

Additionally, staff conducted a thorough review of relevant reports and data to assess the county's vulnerability to natural hazards. This review drew on information regarding past disaster events, hazard analyses, agricultural and economic conditions, demographic and housing data, and other sources pertinent to Levy County.

- Levy County Property Appraiser GIS Mapping and Property Value Data
- Levy County Development Services Land Use, Burn Probability, Dam & Lock Locations, Repetitive Loss Areas, and Subsidence Vulnerability Mapping
- FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) and Repetitive Loss/Severe Repetitive Loss (RL/SRL) Data
- NFIP Statistics
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Historical Hurricane Tracks
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Standard 7
- FDEM Mapping
- NOAA Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) Modeling
- National Hurricane Center (NHC) Tropical Cyclone Reports (TCRs)
- Statewide Regional Evacuation Studies
- US Census Data
- National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) Storm Events Information
- Climate Central Coastal Risk Screening Tool
- NOAA Tides and Currents Sea Level Trends
- United States Department of Agriculture's Wildfirerisk.org Mapping
- Florida Division of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) Wildfire Occurrences
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Subsidence Incident Report Mapping
- FDEP's Critically Eroded Beaches Report
- Southeast Regional Climate Center (SERCC) Data
- United States Geological Survey (USGS) Inventory of Dams Report
- Center for Disease Control (CDC) & Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Social Vulnerability Index
- University of Florida (UF) Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse Data
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs Florida County Profiles
- FDOH Mobile Home Park Data
- Levy County CEMP
- County and Municipality Comprehensive Plans, Land Use Plans, & Local Ordinances, Policies, and Regulations

E. Project List Development and Review

Over the past five years, project lists were regularly shared with the LMSWG to ensure accurate updates and

identify eligible grant funding opportunities. LCEM allowed participants to propose new projects aligned with LMS goals and objectives and provided opportunities to present them for potential inclusion in the LMS Project List. LCEM staff conduct regular follow-up with jurisdictional contacts to monitor project status. Completed or discontinued projects are formally retired and removed from the active list as needed during quarterly meetings.

F. Public Involvement and Transparency

Public outreach has been regularly carried out through local media channels, including the Levy Citizen newspaper and online publication. Community members were encouraged to participate in meetings and public events. To enhance public involvement, informational flyers were distributed at several resource sharing events throughout the county. In an effort to reach underserved and vulnerable populations, LCEM plugged into events hosted by organizations such as United Way, the Tri-County Community Resource Center, and FDOH's Minority Health Program. All LMSWG meetings are publicly noticed and conducted in compliance with Florida Sunshine Laws to ensure transparency. The LMS plan is available for public review at the Levy County Emergency Operations Center in Bronson and is also posted on the Levy County Emergency Management website for public review and feedback.

Plan Review and Adoption

Members of the LMSWG also served as the Plan Review Committee, reviewing each section of the plan as updates were completed and offering feedback during both regular and special meetings. Revisions were conducted and included significant structural and content changes to eliminate redundancy, tailor the plan more specifically to Levy County, and address evolving priorities in response to multiple high-impact hurricane seasons during the review cycle. Once finalized, the updated LMS Plan will be adopted by resolution by each participating jurisdiction at a publicly noticed meeting.

Representation

The following table includes the names, affiliation, and contact information of all participating agencies, municipalities, interested citizens and organizations on the Levy County LMSWG. All were involved in the update of the 2026 LMS Plan.

Table II-1. Levy County Local Mitigation Working Group, 2026

Jurisdictions that plan to adopt the plan are marked with an asterisk ()*

Note: Levy County Emergency Management, the Levy County Road Department, Levy County Development Services, and the Levy County Department of Public Safety all operate under the authority of the Levy County Board of County Commissioners; therefore, upon the Board's adoption of the plan, these departments will be included and will not need to adopt it separately.

<i>Name/Position</i>	<i>Jurisdiction/Agency</i>	<i>Name/Position</i>	<i>Jurisdiction/Agency</i>
Leatha Keene <i>Director LMS Chair</i>	*Levy County <i>Emergency Management</i>	Justin Hughes <i>Planner</i>	*Suwannee River Water <i>Management District</i>
Caleb Hardee <i>Assistant Director</i>	*Levy County <i>Emergency Management</i>	Laura Jones <i>Community Development & Grants Manager</i>	*City of Williston <i>Planner</i>
Jordyn Del Vecchio <i>Coordinator</i>	*Levy County <i>Emergency Management</i>	Howell "Trip" Lancaster <i>Mayor</i>	*City of Fanning Springs
Carriann Adkins <i>Government Affairs Regional Manager</i>	*Southwest Florida Water <i>Management District</i>	Alice LaLonde <i>Administrative Coordinator</i>	*Levy County <i>Road Department</i>
Donald Barber <i>Administrator</i>	*City of Williston <i>Public Works</i>	Cery Logeman <i>Town Clerk</i>	*Town of Yankeetown <i>Admin</i>

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Name/Position	Jurisdiction/Agency	Name/Position	Jurisdiction/Agency
Sue Beaudet <i>City Manager</i>	*City of Williston <i>Admin</i>	John Lott <i>Assistant Superintendent of Administration</i>	*Levy County <i>School Board</i>
Jonathen Bishop <i>Utility Director</i>	*City of Williston <i>Utilities</i>	Matthew McLelland <i>Assistant Superintendent of Instruction</i>	*Levy County <i>School Board</i>
Ludie Bond <i>Wildfire Mitigation Specialist</i>	*Florida Forest Service <i>Waccasassa Forestry Center</i>	Michael Miller <i>Electric Supervisor</i>	*City of Williston <i>Utilities</i>
Laura Cain <i>City Manager</i>	*City of Chiefland <i>Admin</i>	Nick Nickitas <i>Resident</i>	<i>Cedar Key Resident</i>
David Carter <i>Forest Area Supervisor</i>	*Florida Forest Service	Robert Partin <i>Former Mayor</i>	<i>Bronson Resident</i>
Don Clifton <i>Construction Superintendent</i>	*Levy County <i>Road Department</i>	Zim Padgett <i>Mayor</i>	*Town of Otter Creek
Sue Colson <i>Commissioner</i>	*Cedar Key <i>Water and Sewer District</i>	*Robert Robinson <i>Fire Chief/EMD</i>	City of Cedar Key <i>Fire Rescue</i>
Bernard Cox <i>Provisional Building Official</i>	*Levy County <i>Development Services</i>	Alex Santana <i>Minority Health Coordinator</i>	Florida Department of Health <i>Dixie/Gilchrist/Levy Counties</i>
Seante Gyukeri <i>Town Manager</i>	*Town of Yankeetown <i>Admin</i>	Curtis Stacy <i>Director</i>	*Town of Bronson <i>Public Works</i>
Mitch Harrell <i>Chief</i>	*Levy County <i>Department of Public Safety</i>	Belinda Standridge <i>Town Clerk</i>	*Town of Otter Creek <i>Admin</i>
Glen Hammers <i>Response Coordinator</i>	Florida Division of Emergency Management <i>Region 3</i>	Adam Stites <i>President</i>	Cedar Key <i>Chamber of Commerce</i>
Katie Hammers <i>Tri-County Recovery Coordinator</i>	United Way <i>North Central Florida</i>	Derick Thomas <i>Chief PIO</i>	Clay Electric <i>North Florida Service Area</i>
Amanda Huber <i>Town Manager</i>	*Town of Bronson <i>Admin</i>	Carolyn Ten Broeck <i>Executive Director</i>	Williston <i>Chamber of Commerce</i>

III. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The LMSWG reviewed the Goals and Objectives from the previous plan update and decided that they continue to reflect the county's priorities. However, some minor adjustments were made in order to more appropriately assign objectives to a goal and to combine like objectives and goals together.

GOAL 1. Protect Public Health, Safety, and Welfare Through Hazard Awareness and Preparedness

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Objective 1.1 | Develop and implement a comprehensive public information program addressing natural and manmade hazards, including flood risks, hazardous materials, evacuation procedures, shelter availability, and disaster preparedness. |
| Objective 1.2 | Provide notification and education to property owners and homebuyers regarding flood-prone areas and encourage participation in flood insurance programs. |
| Objective 1.3 | Maintain adequate shelter capacity and coordinate evacuation procedures to serve at-risk populations. |
| Objective 1.4 | Minimize business interruptions by promoting business continuity planning, emergency operations plans, and public-private partnerships. |
-

GOAL 2. Strengthen Intergovernmental Coordination and Disaster Management

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|---------------|---|
| Objective 2.1 | Maintain and update the CEMP and the LMS. |
| Objective 2.2 | Coordinate inter-jurisdictional preparedness, evacuation, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts. |
| Objective 2.3 | Identify, prioritize, and pursue hazard mitigation grant funding and other available funding sources. |
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GOAL 3. Guide Post-Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment

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|---------------|--|
| Objective 3.1 | Develop and implement a Post-Disaster Recovery Ordinance to expedite recovery and redevelopment activities. |
| Objective 3.2 | Establish procedures for temporary housing and support mechanisms for displaced residents and businesses, including the potential use of public property. |
| Objective 3.3 | Prioritize mitigation-based redevelopment strategies, including property acquisition in repetitive loss areas and appropriate use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. |
| Objective 3.4 | Consider mitigation strategies that reduce risk while balancing impacts to the local tax base. |
-

GOAL 4. Reduce Flood Risk and Improve Stormwater Management

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|---------------|--|
| Objective 4.1 | Maintain compliance with the NFIP, Floodplain Management Plans, and CRS requirements. |
| Objective 4.2 | Regulate development within floodplains and Coastal High Hazard Areas, including elevation requirements, substantial damage provisions, and development limitations. |

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Objective 4.3 | Identify and correct local flooding conditions and implement stormwater management programs to address drainage deficiencies. |
| Objective 4.4 | Maintain and improve drainage systems and require stormwater and lot grading plans for new development and redevelopment. |
-

GOAL 5. Promote Resilient and Responsible Development

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Objective 5.1 | Ensure all new development and redevelopment complies with applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including floodplain management, coastal construction standards, building codes, and wellhead protection ordinances. |
| Objective 5.2 | Regulate and prioritize the siting and construction of critical facilities, including protection of evacuation routes and restriction of facilities in high-risk areas. |
| Objective 5.3 | Encourage mitigation measures for repetitive loss properties and inclusion of enhanced building protection standards. |
| Objective 5.4 | Provide and protect open space and preserve natural vegetation where appropriate. |
-

GOAL 6. Protect Natural, Historic, and Cultural Resources

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Objective 6.1 | Conserve and protect wetlands, floodplains, aquifer recharge areas, natural drainage features, coastal lands, and other environmentally sensitive areas. |
| Objective 6.2 | Limit infrastructure expansion and public facility impacts within environmentally sensitive areas. |
| Objective 6.3 | Identify, document, and protect historic and cultural resources and incorporate them into post-disaster redevelopment planning. |
-

IV. COMMUNITY PROFILES

A. Levy County Profile

Located in North Central Florida, Levy County is bordered on the northwest by Dixie County and the Suwannee River; on the north by Gilchrist County; on the east by Alachua County; on the east and southeast by Marion County; on the south by Citrus County and the Withlacoochee River; and on the west by the Gulf of America. This general area has several regional labels such as the “Big Bend Area” or the “Nature Coast.” Levy County is also a part of the Withlacoochee Region.

From west to east, Levy County begins as a marshy coastal wetlands area with swampy hammocks drained by the Suwannee, Waccasassa, and Withlacoochee Rivers. Central forested flatlands rise to rolling hills and pasture. An inland ridge known as the Brooksville Ridge runs in a generally north and south direction through the eastern part of the County. The elevation of the County’s topography generally increases from west to east. The area from the Gulf of Mexico to U.S. 19 is typically less than 50 feet above sea level. The majority of the remaining land mass is 50 to 70 feet above sea level. The highest elevations exist around the community of Morriston, approximately 100 feet.

Land use in Levy County is largely agricultural with mixed land uses that include residential, commercial and light industrial areas. Coastal areas also include increased recreational and tourism uses. The total land area of Levy County is 715,520 acres. A more specific breakdown of land use includes:

- Active Agriculture 434,207 acres (61%)
- Residential 147,176 (21%)
- Conservation 106,000 (15%)
- Vacant 18,389 (3%)
- Public Facilities 5,394 (0.8%)
- Industrial 1,516 (0.2%)
- Recreation 720 (0.1%)
- Commercial 450 (0.06%)
- Historical Resources 200 (0.02%)

Levy County is a rural, agricultural county where forestry occupies many acres and wood products are a major economic export. Fishing, aquaculture, and tourism are also significant economic sectors, while most urban land uses are concentrated within the county’s eight municipalities. The 2020 US Census populations of Levy County are shown in the following breakdown:

Table IV-1. 2020 Population Estimates

Total	42,915
Bronson	1,140
Cedar Key	687
Chiefland	2,316
Fanning Springs (part)	1,182
Inglis	1,476
Otter Creek	108
Williston	2,976
Yankeetown	588

Source: 2020 US Census

There are approximately 38 persons per square mile making Levy County one of the least densely populated counties in the state. The Williston to Chiefland corridor along U.S. 27 Alt. is one of the more densely populated areas, along with the U.S. 19 corridor from the Dixie County line to the Citrus County line. Additional population and housing analysis is included in the Vulnerability Assessment portion of this plan.

This profile illustrates some of the geographic vulnerabilities of Levy County and infers some of the limited ability to respond to and mitigate emergency situations. Overall, Levy County is a large, rural, coastal County with a population that is widely distributed throughout.

Levy County Floodplain Management

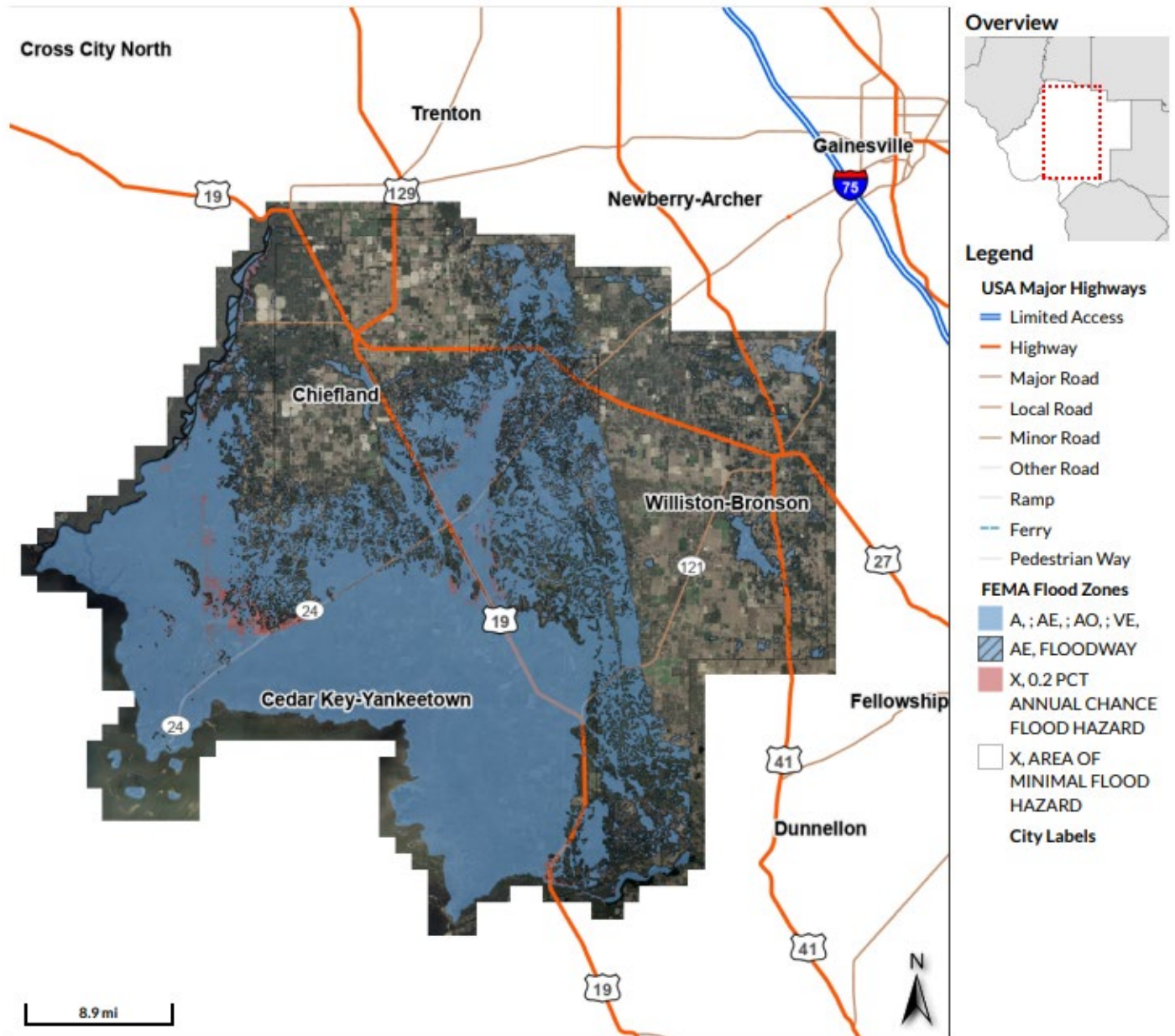
Levy County participates in the NFIP. The county shall continue to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations. This responsibility is managed by Levy County Development Services within the unincorporated areas, while each municipality is responsible for enforcing its own codes. Floodplain management and NFIP compliance activities are carried out at the municipal level through a combination of contracted services and intergovernmental support. All non-county jurisdictions utilize third-party providers, including SAFEbuilt and JPI, to assist local development services functions and ensure applicable regulations are administered. Because contractual service periods vary across the county's eight municipalities, each should be contacted directly for the most current information, as needed. In situations where additional capacity is needed, Levy County Development Services provides support as available. This includes ongoing assistance to the Town of Bronson as of 2026.

The County utilizes building valuation data provided by the Levy County Property Appraiser to determine structure value. If the cost of improvement cost is over 50% of that value, then the building is required to be brought to current code. The county also has a 5-year period for improvements. Annual updates and county efforts continue to be pursued through various mitigation efforts. Due to many low-lying areas of the county, Development Services continues to make elevation determinations and make recommendations of zoning based upon vulnerability. Since the 1999 LMS plan, Levy County has encouraged all its cities to participate in the NFIP. The most recent maps available became effective on November 2, 2012.

Figure IV-1: Levy County Flood Zones



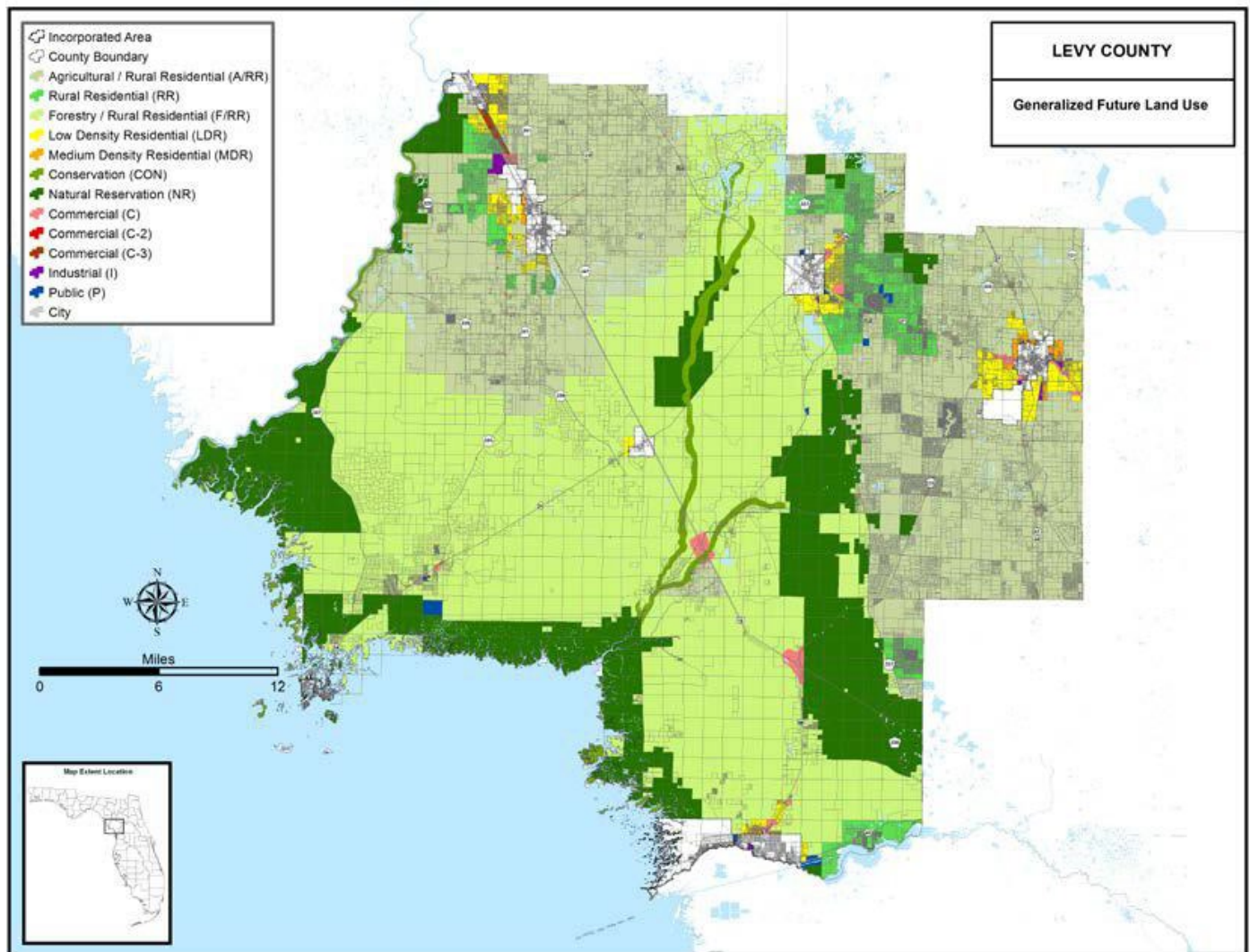
Levy County, FL



Date created: 11/7/2025

Last Data Uploaded: 11/6/2025 7:38:43 PM

Figure IV-2. Levy County Generalized Future Land Use



Levy County Development Services maintains and works with the floodplain management mapping and monitoring process. Each municipality maintains their own compliance with NFIP standards. The actions needed at the municipal level for continued compliance with the NFIP is at the will of the community. With the majority of the county participating in NFIP, the following tasks will ensure continued compliance. The county and each participating municipality will ensure these tasks are completed in compliance with FEMA regulations:

- Continue to enforce their adopted Floodplain Management Ordinance requirements, which include regulation all new development and substantial improvements in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA).
- Continue to maintain all records pertaining to floodplain development, which shall be available for public inspection.
- Continue to notify the public when there are proposed changes to the floodplain ordinance of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM).
- Maintain the map and Letter of Map Change repositories.
- Continue to promote and encourage all property owners to seek and maintain flood insurance.
- Continue their CRS outreach programs

Table IV-2. CRS Eligible Communities (effective April, 1, 2025)

Community Name	CRS Entry Date	Current Effective Date	Current Class	% Discount for SFHA
Levy County	10/1/94	05/1/14	9	5
Town of Fanning Springs	10/1/93	10/1/19	10	0
Town of Yankeetown	10/1/94	10/1/08	6	20
City of Cedar Key	4/1/2021	4/1/2021	9	5

Source: [FEMA Community Status Book](#)

Table IV-3. NFIP Policy Statistics, Levy County (as of 10/31/2025)

Community Name	Policies In-Force	Total Coverage (\$)	Total Written Premium+FPF (\$)	Total Annual Payment
BRONSON (120582)	4	\$809,000	\$3,979	\$4,762
CEDAR KEY (120373)	445	\$77,821,800	\$823,151	\$982,904
CHIEFLAND (120392)	1	\$350,000	\$1,355	\$1,615
INGLIS (120586)	115	\$24,351,800	\$230,978	\$274,476
LEVY COUNTY (120145)	338	\$70,002,000	\$474,408	\$568,815
OTTER CREEK (120592)	1	\$142,000	\$820	\$1,209
WILLISTON (120393)	6	\$2,525,000	\$5,057	\$6,518
YANKEETOWN (120147)	198	\$38,080,600	\$503,457	\$580,336

Source: [FEMA Flood Insurance Data](#)

The county will maintain NFIP compliance as directed by FEMA. Since there is county-wide participation in the program, several municipalities have used the LMS for the floodplain management plan as part of the requirements to enter into the CRS.

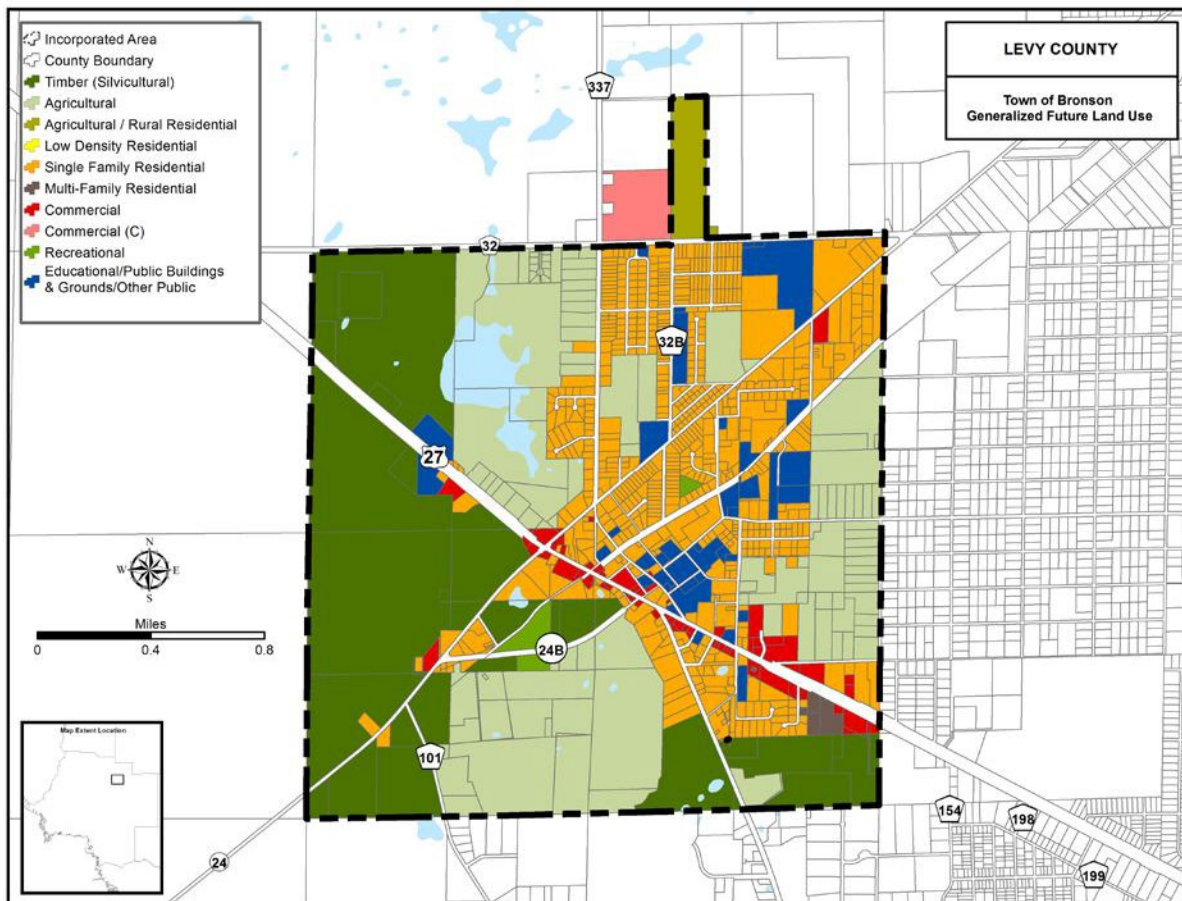
B. City/Town Profiles

This document features a short profile of each municipality in Levy County including figures of Future Land Use Maps and a short description. The purpose of this community profile is to spotlight each community and provide information to those who are unfamiliar with Levy County such as the staff of various state agencies that will employ the LMS as a reference for disaster mitigation activities. Mitigation projects are listed for each community in Chapter VII.

Town of Bronson Profile

Bronson is the county seat of Levy County. Major stakeholders within the town include the Levy County Board of County Commissioners, the School Board of Levy County, the Levy County Sheriff's Office, and all other county constitutional offices. All of these are major employers in Levy County. Other industries located in Bronson are related to forestry and agriculture. It should be noted that the daytime population of Bronson is significantly higher due to schools, the courthouse, and commercial activity. Bronson has residential areas within the 100-year floodplain and areas of undeveloped floodplain that could pose potential problems if developed. The Town of Bronson participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. Town LMSWG members recommended and placed three projects on the current project list.

Figure IV-3. Town of Bronson Generalized Future Land Use

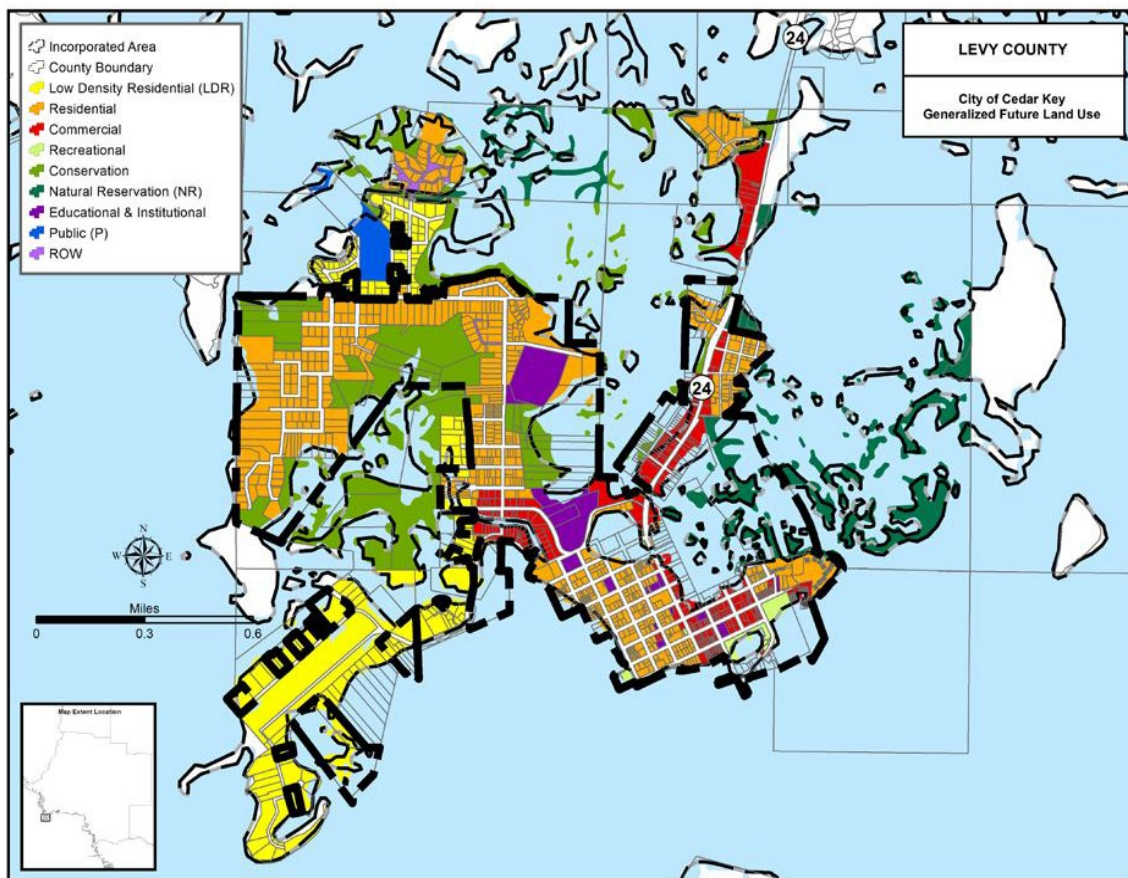


City of Cedar Key Profile

Cedar Key has a large inventory of historic structures and a local economy based largely on tourism. Major stakeholders are owner-operated, tourism-oriented small businesses and the commercial seafood industry. Note that Cedar Key also has a significant seasonal population based on tourism.

Cedar Key is very vulnerable to wind, wave, tidal flooding and evacuation issues due to its isolated coastal location. The City of Cedar Key participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. City LMSWG members recommended and placed four projects on the current project list.

Figure IV-4. City of Cedar Key Generalized Future Land Use



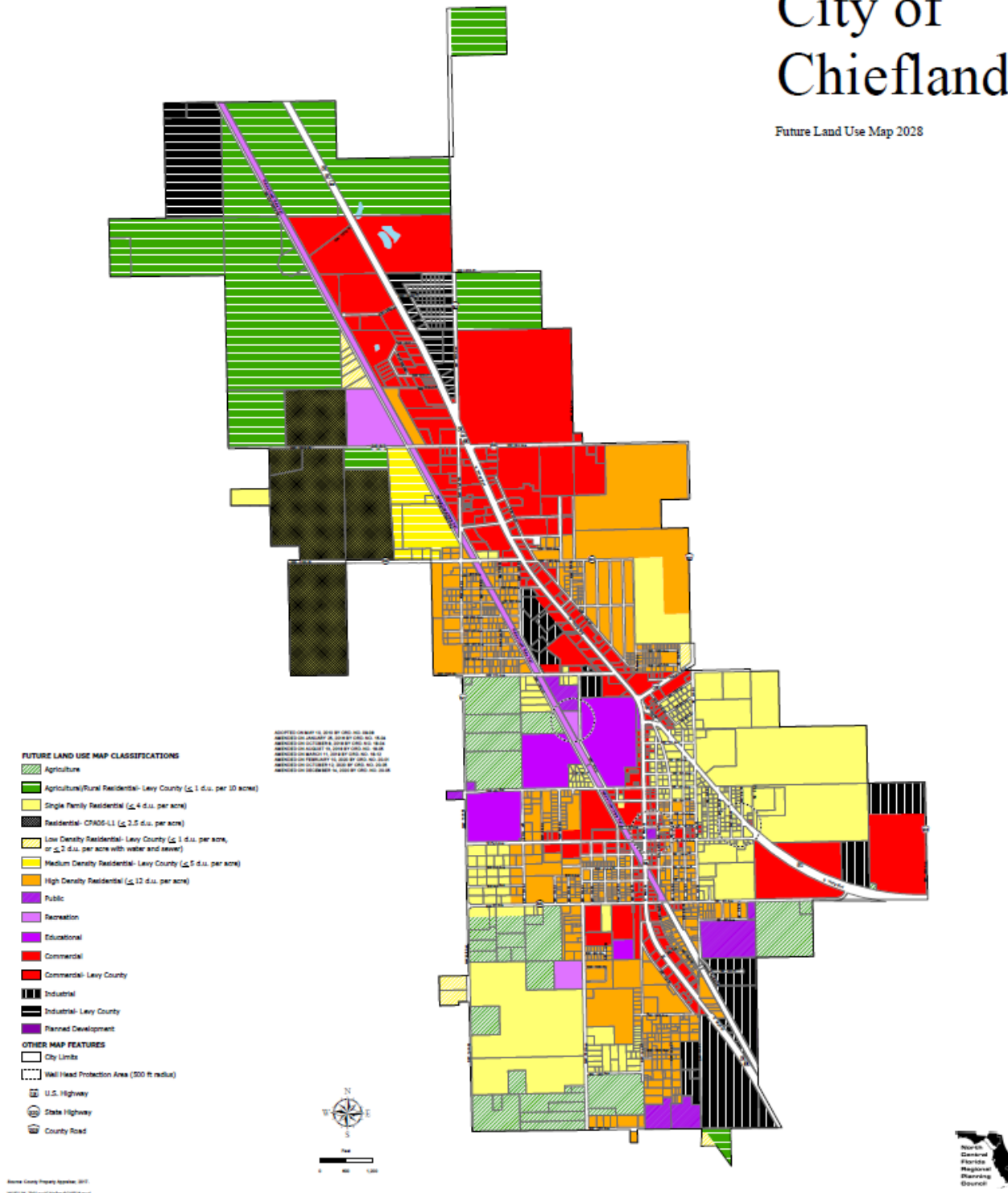
City of Chiefland Profile

The City of Chiefland is located in northern Levy County on the U.S. 19 corridor. Chiefland is one of the state's leading watermelon producing areas and is also the economic hub for northern Levy County as well as parts of Dixie and Gilchrist counties. The daytime population of Chiefland is higher due to schools, employment and commercial activity. Central areas of Chiefland are vulnerable to localized flooding events from heavy rains. Periods of prolonged rain are known to cause sinkholes in and around Chiefland. This is due to the soil complex of the general region of the county. The City of Chiefland participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. City LMSWG members recommended and placed one project on the current project list.

Figure IV-5. City of Chiefland Generalized Future Land Use

City of Chiefland

Future Land Use Map 2028



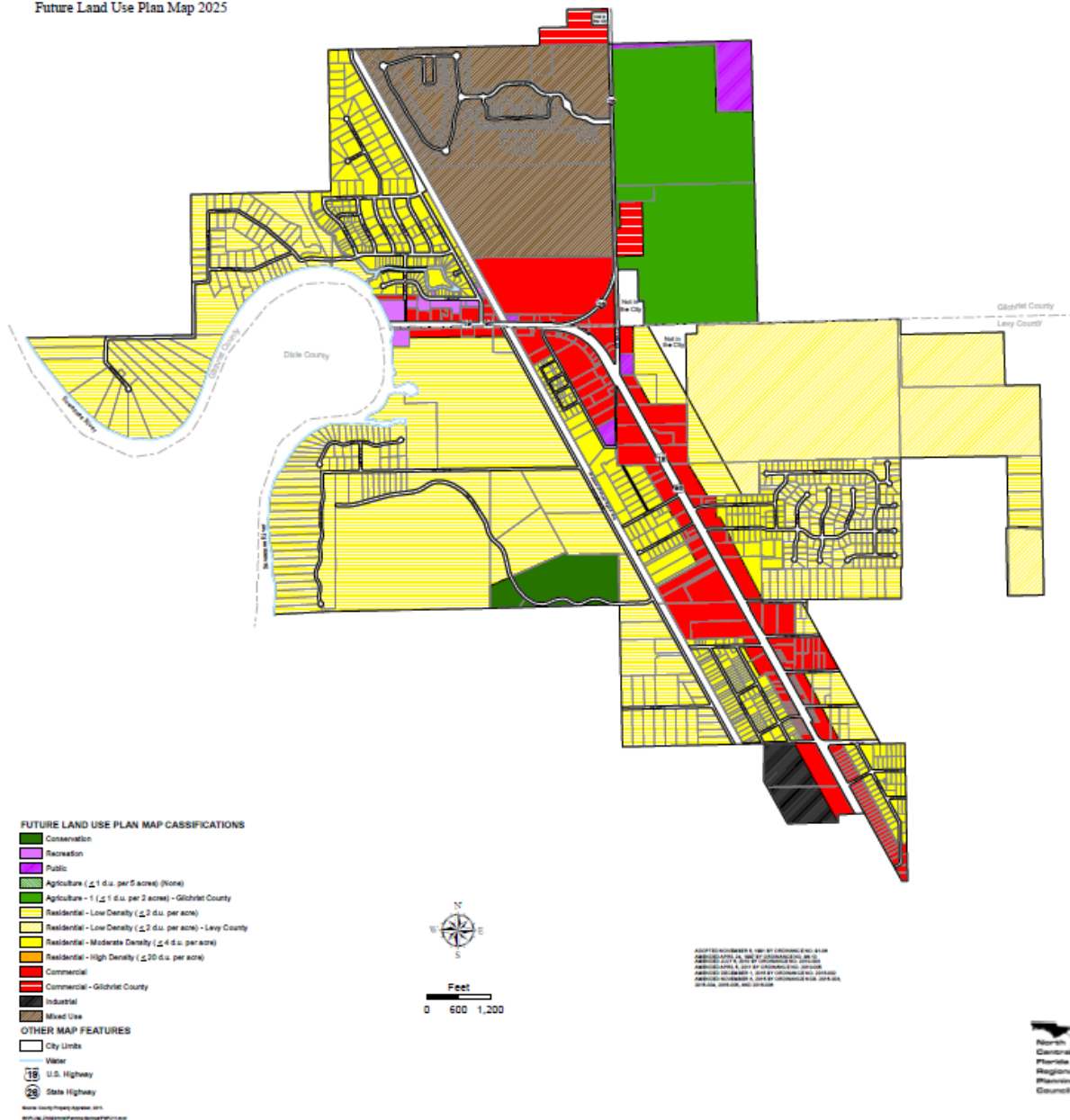
City of Fanning Springs Profile

Fanning Springs is located in both Levy and Gilchrist counties. The U.S. 19 corridor between Chiefland and Fanning Springs is one of the growth areas of the County. The City of Fanning Springs will also be included as part of the Gilchrist County LMS. The Suwannee River makes portions of Fanning Springs vulnerable to flooding during periods of heavy rain and tropical cyclones. Heavy rains in North Florida and South Georgia greatly influence river levels, too. The City of Fanning Springs participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. City LMSWG members recommended and placed one project on the current project list.

Figure IV-6. City of Fanning Springs Generalized Future Land Use

City of Fanning Springs

Future Land Use Plan Map 2025



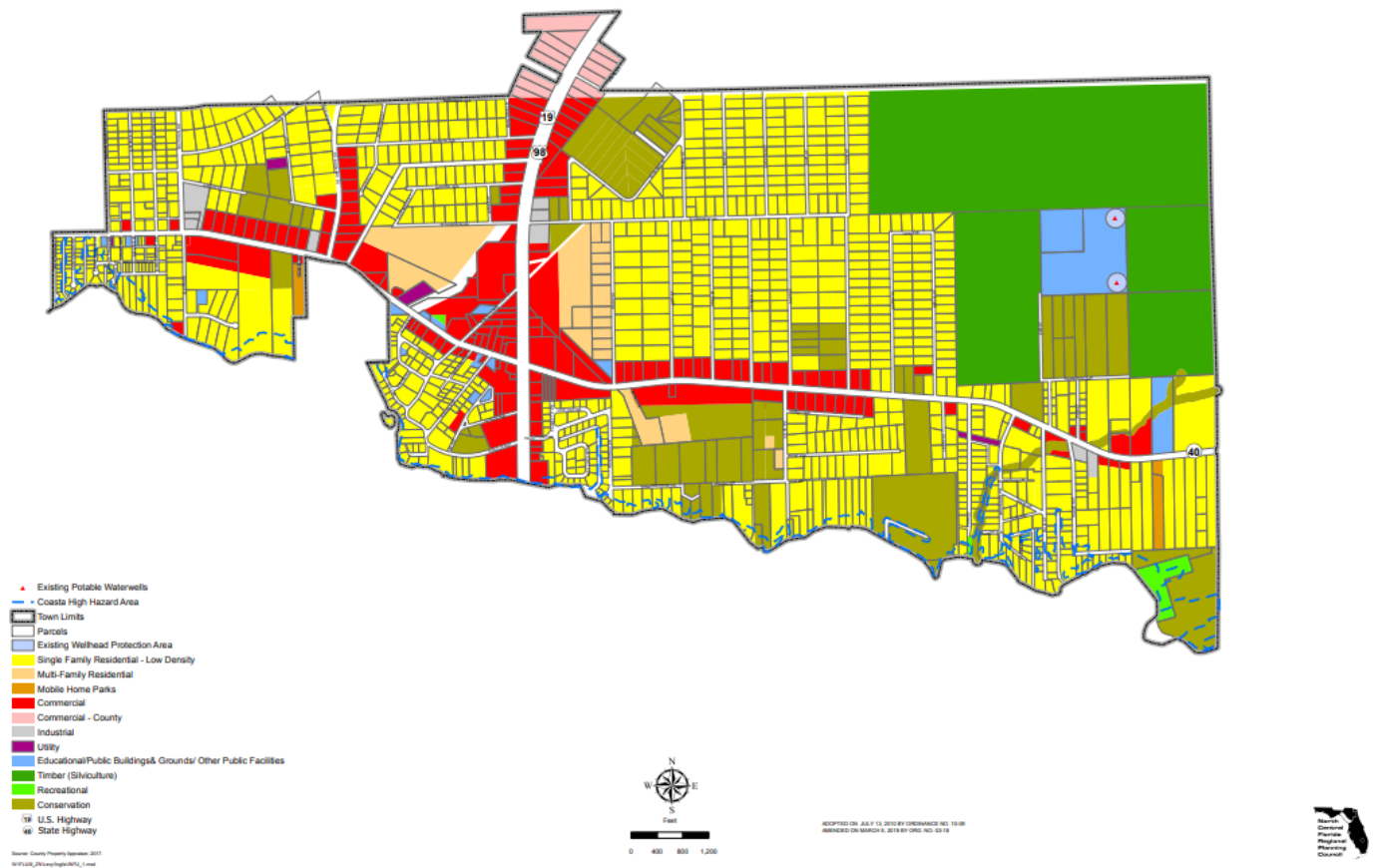
Town of Inglis Profile

The Town of Inglis is located on the Withlacoochee River in the southwest area of Levy County. Inglis is affected by coastal conditions and by flooding on the lower Withlacoochee River. Its vulnerability is in the large amount of 100-year floodplain within the Town limits and the number of unimproved residential streets. The Town of Inglis participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. Town LMSWG members recommended and placed one project on the current project list.

Figure IV-7. Town of Inglis Generalized Future Land Use

Town of Inglis

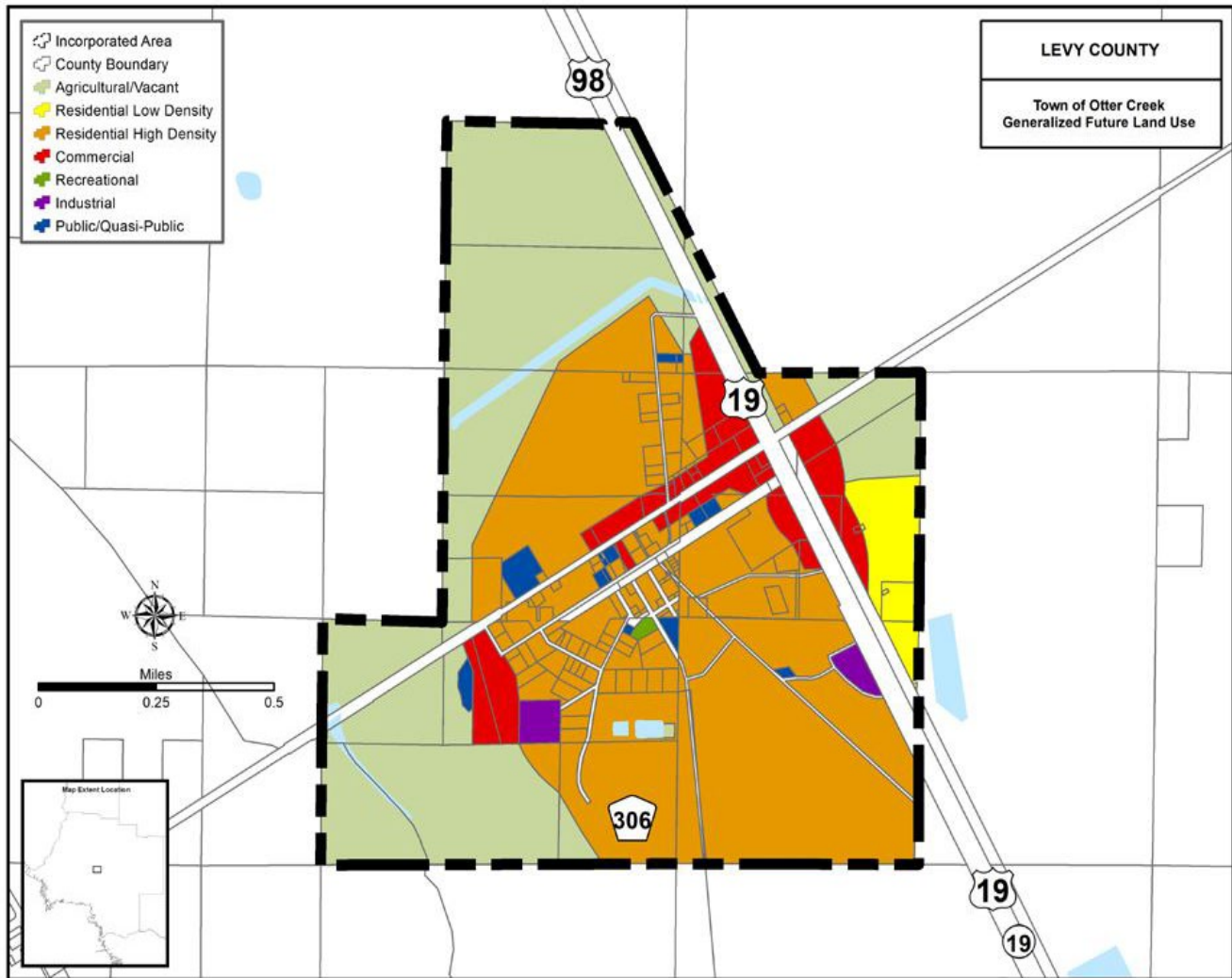
Future Land Use Map 2029



Otter Creek is the smallest town in Levy County. Situated in the center of Levy County at the crossroads of US Highway 19 and State Road 24, limited commercial activity is highway oriented. Local flooding is usually associated with Otter Creek (the creek) and floods an RV park located in the Town. Currently the Town is in a zone covered by Chiefland Fire.

The Town of Otter Creek participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. Town LMSWG members recommended and placed one project on the current project list.

Figure IV-8. Town of Otter Creek Generalized Future Land Use



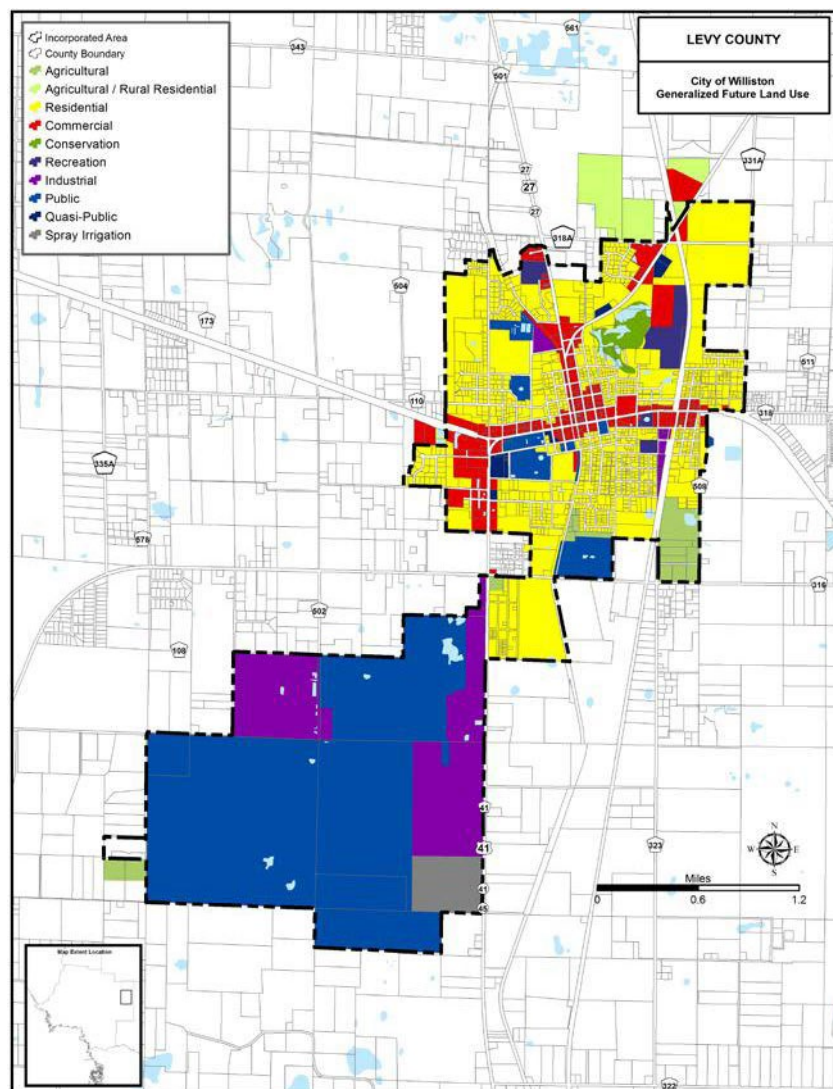
City of Williston Profile

By municipal population, Williston is the largest city in the county. The major industries of the community have traditionally been forestry and agriculture. However, the manufacturing sector has seen recent and significant growth.

Williston does not have the level of vulnerability that the coastal communities do, and the City's location and infrastructure make it ideal for major distributions and operations after declared emergencies. Williston will also become a host area to coastal evacuees. Therefore, continuation of utilities service and sheltering capability is increasingly important. However, there are areas of localized flooding that should be addressed.

The City of Williston participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. City LMSWG members recommended and placed fifteen projects on the current project list.

Figure IV-9. City of Williston Generalized Future Land Use



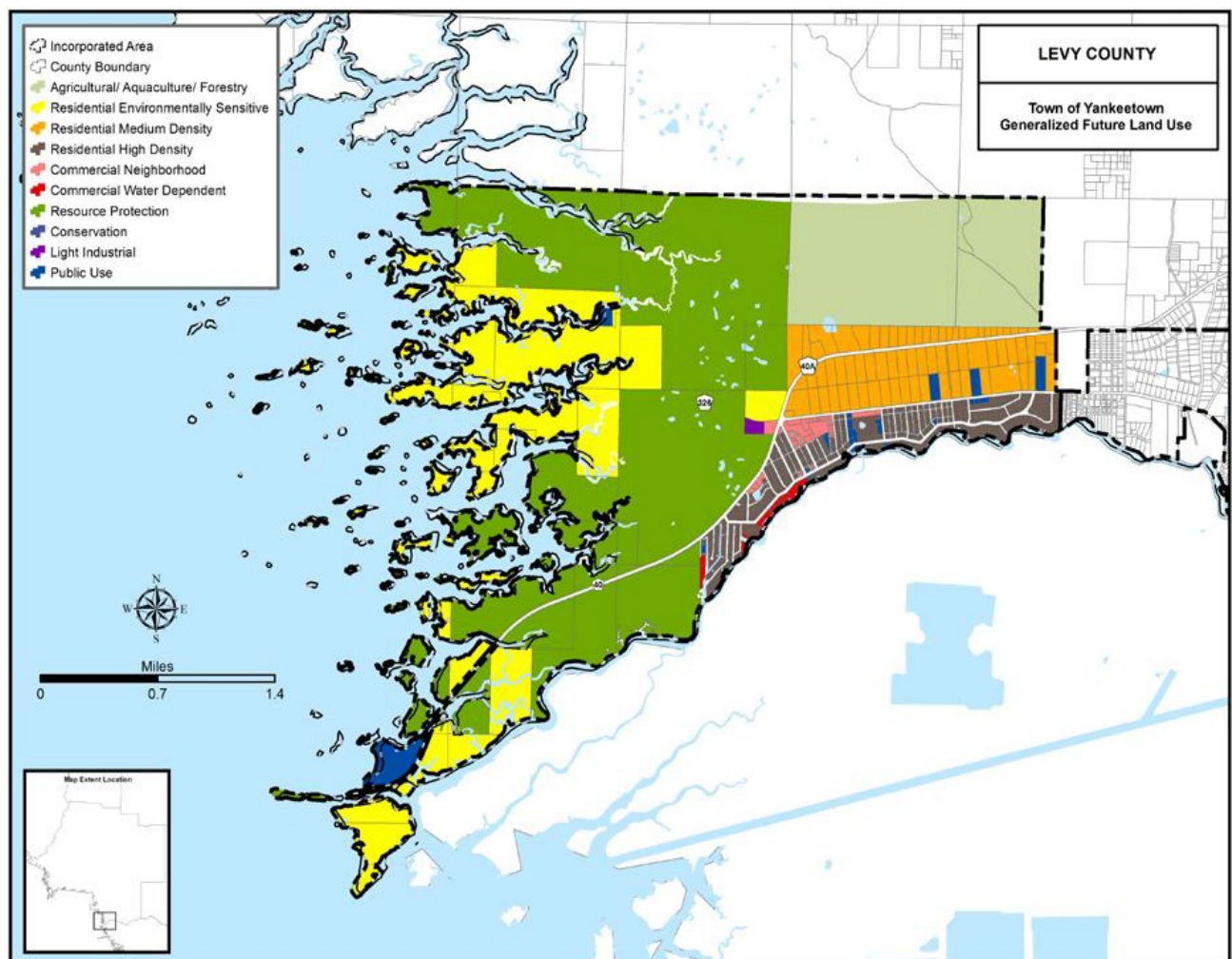
Town of Yankeetown Profile

Yankeetown is a small coastal town located along the north shore of the Withlacoochee River in southwest Levy County. With the Withlacoochee River on the south and the Gulf of Mexico on the west, the town is a center for water-based recreation and commerce. Economic activity is mostly from owner-operated small businesses.

Yankeetown is very vulnerable to coastal storms and hurricanes. A large majority of the Town is within the 100-year floodplain and widespread flooding generally occurs when the tidal surge reaches 5 feet above mean high tide.

The Town of Yankeetown participated in the 2026 LMS rewrite process. Town LMSWG members recommended and placed nineteen projects on the current project list.

Figure IV-10. Town of Yankeetown Generalized Future Land Use



Critical Facilities

A detailed list of critical facilities is exempt from inclusion in this plan. These facilities are regularly updated at least annually by LCEM and shared with the FDEM Mitigation Unit.

The table below provides the number of critical facilities by ZIP code. These include fire stations, law enforcement offices, medical facilities, schools, water and wastewater treatment plants, electrical generating facilities, and storage tanks.

Within Levy County, the municipal infrastructures of Cedar Key, Otter Creek, Inglis, and Yankeetown are particularly vulnerable to hurricanes and flooding. The location of critical infrastructure in high-risk areas is an important factor in emergency planning and mitigation efforts.

Table IV-4. Levy County Critical Facilities by Zip Code

Zip code	Number of Critical Facilities
Archer (Levy County Side)	3
Bronson	14
Cedar Key	22
Chiefland	66
Fanning Springs (Levy County side)	3
Gulf Hammock	6
Inglis	13
Otter Creek	3
Morrison	5
Trenton (Levy County Side)	5
Williston	45
Yankeetown	14

V. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION AND PROFILES

Hazard identification and profiling refers to the process of defining hazard-prone areas, estimating the probability and severity of the hazard risk, and evaluating existing mitigation efforts. The process allows for an analysis of all types of hazards threatening the County and its communities. It is preferable to divide some hazards into their component parts. For example, Tropical Cyclones, which include tropical storms and hurricanes, are further divided into wind and storm surge hazards.

A. Hazard Identification

Hazards are generally classified as natural, human-caused, or technological. The hazards addressed in this plan align with those identified in the 2023 Florida Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan. However, some hazards have been excluded based on the criteria outlined in Table V-1 and will not be fully profiled. The hazards that are fully profiled were selected based on their probability of occurrence and significant potential impact, as identified in the 2021 Levy County CEMP Hazard Analysis.

Table V-1. Hazards Omitted

Hazard Type	Reasoning
Earthquakes	According to data provided by FEMA, Levy County lies within an area of the country with a “very small probability of experiencing damaging earthquake effects.” As a hazard with a near-zero possibility of occurring, this is a hazard that will not be discussed further. Source: FEMA Hazard Maps
Tsunami	The threat from tsunamis is similar to that of storm surge; however, the specific risk of tsunamis in the area is very low. This hazard was not addressed in the previous edition of the plan, and no events have occurred since that time to warrant increased concern.
Radiological Incident	Before being decommissioned in 2013, Levy County was within the 10 Mile Emergency Planning Zone of the Crystal River Unit 3 (CR3), a nuclear generating facility located in Citrus County and owned by Duke Energy. Incidents at this facility no longer pose a radiological threat to the county.
Space Weather	Hazard omitted due to low probability and lack of historical occurrences. This hazard was not addressed in the previous edition of the plan, and no events have occurred since that time to warrant increased concern.
Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)	Hazard omitted due to low probability and lack of historical occurrences that have affected the public. Waters around Levy County are monitored for HABs.
Mass Migration	While South Florida has experienced several occurrences of mass migration, there is no record of any significant effects in Levy County and therefore this hazard is not included in this plan.
Civil Disturbance & Terrorism	There is no history of civil disturbance or terrorism in Levy County, and the probability of occurrence of a civil disturbance or terrorism is low. Other than the corrections facility operated by the Levy County Sheriff’s Office, there are no large inmate populations. This is a Societal Hazard that will not be discussed further.
Hazmat Incident	Light industries in the area regularly handle substances such as natural gas, chlorine, and pesticides. The county participates in the Hazards Analysis program, in line with federal regulations, to track facilities that generate or house hazardous materials. While the probability of incidents like offshore oil spills is low, such events could affect Levy County’s coastal areas, including tourism and fishing in Cedar Key. The State of Florida and the U.S. Coast Guard have response plans in place. As these are classified as Technological/Manmade Hazards, and with no record of previous occurrences, they will not be discussed further in this plan.
Domestic Security Incident	There are no records of a domestic security incident in Levy County, and the probability of occurrence is very low. This is a Societal Hazard that will not be discussed further.

Hazard Type	Reasoning
Transportation Incident	There are no records of any major transportation incidents in Levy County, and the probability of occurrence is very low. This is a Societal Hazard that will not be discussed further.
Cyber Incident	Cyber incidents were not discussed in the previous plan update and no major impacts have occurred since then. Therefore, this is a Societal Hazard that will not be discussed further.

B. Risk Assessment

Hazard profiling includes the following: the location and boundaries of hazard-prone areas; the extent, or potential magnitude of an event of each type; historical occurrences; and the probability, or likelihood of each event to occur in the future. Probability is a function of frequency of occurrence, or return period (period of time in years/number of occurrences), and for the purposes of this Plan, is defined as follows:

Very High Probability	=	0 to 3 year return rate
High Probability	=	4 to 7 year return rate
Moderate Probability	=	8 to 10 year return rate
Low Probability	=	11 to 14 year return rate
Very Low Probability	=	15+ year return rate.

1. Tropical Cyclones

a. Description

A tropical cyclone is a well-organized low-pressure system consisting of clouds and thunderstorms. They form over warm tropical or subtropical waters and feature a closed low-level circulation. As the storm organizes, the central pressure falls and winds begin to circulate more rapidly around the low-pressure core, drawing in warm, moist air from the ocean. This process fuels the storm's wind and rain. When conditions are ideal, such as sufficiently warm sea surface temperatures and favorable upper-level winds, the cyclone can intensify dramatically. In the Northern Hemisphere, these systems rotate counterclockwise.

Tropical cyclones are categorized based on sustained wind speeds, using a 1-minute average measured at the surface. The weakest stage is a tropical depression, with winds less than 39 mph. As the system strengthens, it becomes a tropical storm with winds ranging from 39 to 73 mph. Once sustained winds reach 74 mph, it is classified as a hurricane. When those winds exceed 111 mph, the system is considered a major hurricane.

Storm Surge is one of the most dangerous impacts of tropical cyclones. It refers to an abnormal rise in sea level caused by a storm, which can lead to catastrophic flooding, even miles inland. Just a few feet of water can move cars and destroy buildings. Storm surge causes about half of the deaths from U.S. landfalling tropical cyclones. The height of the surge depends on coastal features, ocean depth, and storm characteristics. For example, Florida's Gulf Coast, especially around Levy County, is highly vulnerable due to shallow waters and wide shelves.

High winds and tornadoes are also major hazards. Hurricane-force winds can exceed 190 mph, causing structural damage and dangerous debris. Tornadoes often form in the outer rainbands, especially in the right-front quadrant of storms. While usually weak and short-lived, they can still cause significant localized damage. Downbursts also contribute to wind-related destruction.

Heavy rainfall from tropical cyclones often leads to life-threatening inland flooding, sometimes hundreds of miles from the coast. Flooding can persist long after the storm passes and is influenced more by storm size and speed than intensity.

Rip Currents caused by tropical cyclone winds can occur far from the storm itself. These powerful water channels can pose a serious drowning risk, even for strong swimmers. The National Weather Service (NWS) issues daily rip current risk forecasts for beach safety.

b. Location

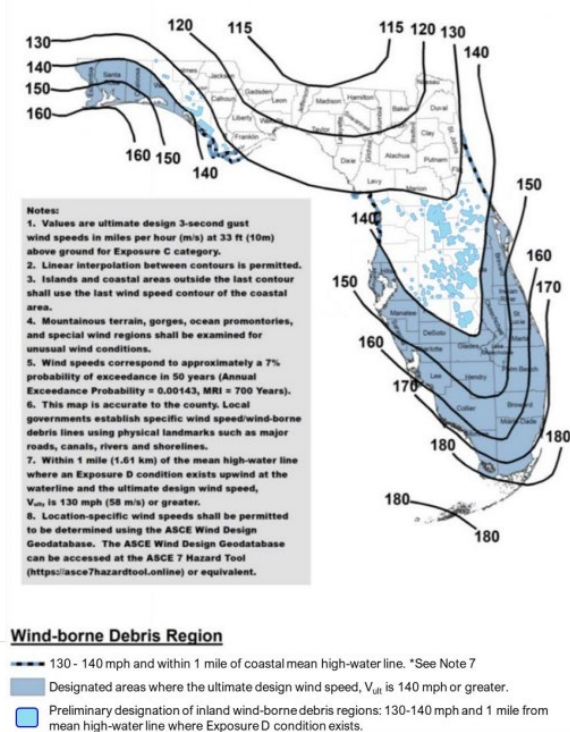
All of Levy County is vulnerable to tropical cyclones. Since records began, there have been over a hundred tropical cyclones pass within 60 miles of the county (see Figure V-1). However, different areas of the County vary in degree of vulnerability, especially to high winds and storm surge from tropical cyclones. The American Society of Civil Engineers Standard 7 (ASCE 7) provides wind risk assessments (see Figure V-2) for areas throughout Florida along with associated building standards based on wind hazard associated with tropical cyclones. According to this wind risk assessment, Levy County lies within 120 mph to 130 mph wind zones. The County developed and adopted the Levy County Wind-borne Debris Region and Basic Wind Speed Map, attached to Ordinance No. 01-08 in order to comply with changes in the statewide building code and to further protect residents' life, property, and general welfare.

Figure V-1. Historical Paths of Tropical Cyclones



Source: [NOAA Historical Hurricane Tracks](https://www.noaa.gov/hurricane-archives)

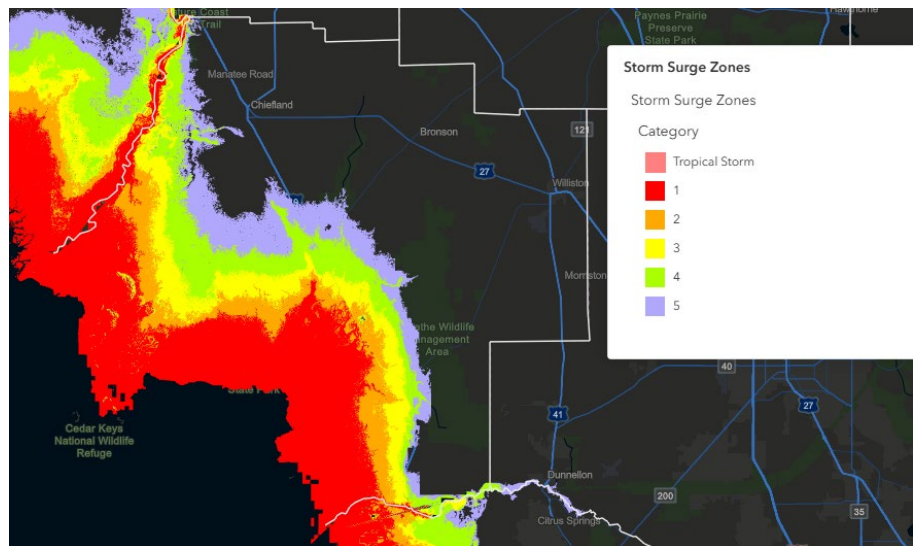
Figure V-2. Wind-borne Debris Regions



Source: [ASCE 7-22](https://asce7hazardtool.online)

Figure V-3. Levy County Surge Zones

Communities lying along the coast and riverways have a higher risk of surge events. Figure V-3 depicts the categories of inland storm surge that can be expected from different categories of tropical cyclones. In 2010, the regional planning councils in Florida completed the 2010 Statewide Regional Evacuation Study. The study includes a revision of surge zones using new SLOSH data provided by NOAA and a new digital elevation model created with new LiDAR data.



c. Extent

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is a 1 to 5 rating system based solely on a hurricane's maximum sustained wind speed. It does not account for other potentially deadly hazards such as storm surge, rainfall flooding, or tornadoes. Storm surge is discussed below, while flooding and tornadoes are addressed in their respective sections.

The scale estimates potential property damage. While all hurricanes produce life-threatening winds, those rated Category 3 or higher are classified as major hurricanes and can cause devastating to catastrophic wind damage and significant loss of life due to wind alone. However, hurricanes of any category can produce deadly storm surge, flash flooding, and tornadoes.

The extent of hurricane strength experienced in Levy County has been fairly consistent throughout the historical record, with the vast majority of systems affecting the area at Tropical Storm or Category 1 intensity. However, two hurricanes have made direct landfall at Category 3 intensity (1896 Cedar Keys Hurricane and 1950 Hurricane Easy), and two Category 4 hurricanes have passed within 50 miles of the county (2023 Hurricane Idalia and 2024 Hurricane Helene). The highest verifiable storm surge occurred in Cedar Key during the passage of Hurricane Helene at 9.3ft above Mean Higher High Water (source: [NHC Hurricane Helene Tropical Cyclone Report](#)). Both Hurricane Idalia and Hurricane Helene have occurred since the previous update, and with these close passages, the extent of hurricane strength is being risen to Category 4.

Table V-2. Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Classification

Category	Sustained Winds	Types of Damage Due to Hurricane Winds
1	74-95 mph 64-82 kt 119-153 km/h	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage: Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallowly rooted trees may be toppled. Extensive damage to power lines and poles likely will result in power outages that could last a few to several days.
2	96-110 mph 83-95 kt 154-177 km/h	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage: Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallowly rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted and block numerous roads. Near-total power loss is expected with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
3 (major)	111-129 mph 96-112 kt 178-208 km/h	Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
4 (major)	130-156 mph 113-136 kt 209-251 km/h	Catastrophic damage will occur: Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
5 (major)	157 mph or higher 137 kt or higher 252 km/h or higher	Catastrophic damage will occur: A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.

Source: [NHC About SSHWS](#)

Using NOAA's updated SLOSH model for the Cedar Key Basin, potential surge height is estimated for the County. Heights are associated with each category of tropical cyclone (see Table V-3 below).

Table V-3. Potential Storm Tide Height for Levy County (In Feet above NAVD88)

Storm Strength	Storm Tide Height
Tropical Storm	3.0 – 6.4
Category 1 Hurricane	4.5 – 10.8
Category 2 Hurricane	10.2 – 20.1
Category 3 Hurricane	16.8 – 25.4
Category 4 Hurricane	21.4 – 31.4
Category 5 Hurricane	18.1 – 41.3

d. Historical Occurrences

Below is a table listing storms that have directly impacted the county since the previous plan update (2021).

Table V-4. Notable Tropical Storms and Hurricanes Directly Affecting Levy County

Location	Date	Event Name	Deaths	Injuries	Property Damage
Levy County-wide	07/07/2021	Hurricane Elsa	0	0	0.00K
	09/28/2022	Hurricane Ian	0	0	10.00K
	11/10/2022	Hurricane Nicole	0	0	0.00K
	08/30/2023	Hurricane Idalia	0	0	TBD*
	08/05/2024	Hurricane Debby	1	0	TBD*
	9/27 to 10/10/2024	Hurricane Helene/Milton	0	0	TBD*

Source: [NOAA Storm Events Database](#)

The NCEI database does not list damages for Hurricanes Idalia, Helene, or Milton, though Levy County has reported associated costs. As these events are recent, these final figures are still being calculated.

July 7, 2021, Hurricane Elsa: Made landfall near Cedar Key as a moderate tropical storm, causing minor damage and street flooding. Cedar Key recorded sustained winds of 40 kt and gusts up to 50 kt at 10:42 UTC on July 7. The National Ocean Service (NOS) tide gauge measured a water level of 2.7 ft above MHHW with some isolated areas possibly experiencing levels of 3 ft or more above normally dry ground. A USGS gauge at the mouth of the Withlacoochee River near Yankeetown recorded a peak water level of 4.41 ft above NAVD88, equivalent to 2.9 ft above MHHW. (Source: [NHC Hurricane Elsa Tropical Cyclone Report](#))

September 28, 2022, Hurricane Ian: Caused minor damage and had minimal overall impact aside from stormy weather from outer rainbands.

November 10, 2022, Hurricane Nicole: Made landfall near Cedar Key as a 40 kt tropical storm at 1900 UTC on November 10. An NOS tide gauge at Cedar Key recorded a storm surge of 3.17 ft above normal tides, resulting in a water level of 1.93 ft above MHHW. Overall impacts were minor. (Source: [NHC Hurricane Nicole Tropical Cyclone Report](#))

August 30, 2023, Hurricane Idalia: At the time, Idalia was the third-strongest hurricane on record to impact the Big Bend region, making landfall in nearby Taylor County. The NOS tide gauge at Cedar Key measured a peak water level of 6.89 ft above MHHW, while storm surge in Yankeetown was estimated at 4–5 ft above ground level (AGL). Idalia became one of the most destructive tropical systems to affect Levy County, ranking behind only the 1896 Cedar Keys Hurricane and 1950's Hurricane Easy in strength for the region. Cedar Key recorded sustained winds of 46 kt, with gusts up to 60 kt. (Source: [NHC Hurricane Idalia Tropical Cyclone Report](#))

August 5, 2024, Hurricane Debby: Debby made landfall as a Category 1 hurricane in Taylor County. It caused widespread tree damage across Levy County and produced the highest recorded winds and storm surge associated with the storm. An NOS station at Cedar Key reported sustained winds of 45 kt and a gust of 58 kt at 1006 UTC on August 5. The Cedar Key tide gauge also recorded a storm surge of 6.11 ft above normal tide levels. However, since the peak surge occurred between high tide cycles, the resulting storm tide reached 4.65 ft above MHHW. Tragically, a 13-year-old boy lost his life when a tree fell on a home. (Source: [NHC Hurricane Debby Tropical Cyclone Report](#))

September 27 to October 10, 2024, Hurricanes Helene and Milton: Hurricane Helene became the strongest tropical system on record to strike the Big Bend region, making landfall in Taylor County as a Category 4 hurricane. Moving at a rapid forward speed of 27 kt, Helene brought devastating storm surge to Cedar Key and Yankeetown—destroying an estimated 25% of homes in Cedar Key and prompting rooftop rescues of 20 residents in Yankeetown. A USGS water level sensor at the Suwannee River measured 12.18 ft above MHHW. At Cedar Key, an NOS tide gauge recorded a water level of 9.30 ft above MHHW—the highest in the station's history since it began reporting in 1914—surpassing the previous record of 6.89 ft set by Hurricane Idalia. A nearby USGS sensor reported a similar level of 8.84 ft above MHHW. Cedar Key experienced sustained winds of 56 kt, with hurricane-force gusts up to 73 kt. Storm surge near Yankeetown was estimated at 6–9 ft AGL. Statewide, 1.69 million people lost power. While no fatalities were reported in Levy County, Helene became the most damaging storm in the county's recent history. (Source: [NHC Hurricane Helene Tropical Cyclone Report](#))

Less than two weeks later, Hurricane Milton passed south of the region as a Category 3 hurricane, tracking across the Tampa Bay area. Despite its distance, tropical storm conditions reached areas around and to the south of Cedar Key, which recorded wind gusts up to 45 kt and a minor storm surge of 0.61 ft. No significant additional damage occurred, though ongoing recovery efforts from Helene were briefly interrupted. (Source: [NHC Hurricane Milton Tropical Cyclone Report](#))

e. Probability

Between 1926 and 2026, 32 tropical storms and hurricanes passed within 25 nautical miles of central Levy County, according to NOAA data. This results in an overall return period of approximately 3.1 years for tropical cyclones, indicating a high probability of occurrence. Hazard mitigation planning assumes that tropical cyclones will continue to impact Florida annually, and Levy County at some point in the future. As the county's population grows and residential and commercial development increases, the potential impacts of these storms become more significant, particularly in light of the rising frequency of events observed in recent years.

Climate Change

The coast of Levy County, along with areas along the Suwannee, Waccasassa, and Withlacoochee Rivers, is among the most vulnerable in Florida to rising water levels. According to the highest available estimates, up to 10% of the county's total land area could be inundated by 2070. While much of this land is currently protected, long-term sea level rise could significantly affect communities in and around Cedar Key, Yankeetown, Inglis, and Fowlers Bluff. NOAA data show sea levels are rising at a rate of 2.38 ± 0.18 mm per year. This trend must be factored into land use planning and mitigation efforts, as it will intensify the impacts of storm surge from tropical cyclones. (Source: [Levy 2040 Project](#))

Several studies suggest that climate change could lead to increased rainfall and stronger winds associated with tropical cyclones. One such study used Hurricane Helene as a case example, finding that storms of similar intensity are now approximately 2.5 times more likely to occur in the region. The study also found that climate change intensified Helene's wind speeds along the Florida coast by about 13 miles per hour, or 11%, and increased its rainfall by approximately 10%. Furthermore, the unusually high sea surface temperatures that fueled the storm were made 200 to 500 times more likely due to climate change. (Source: [World Weather Attribution Hurricane Helene Report](#))

Figure V-4: Land Projected to be Below Annual Flood Level by 2070 (source: [Climate Central](#))

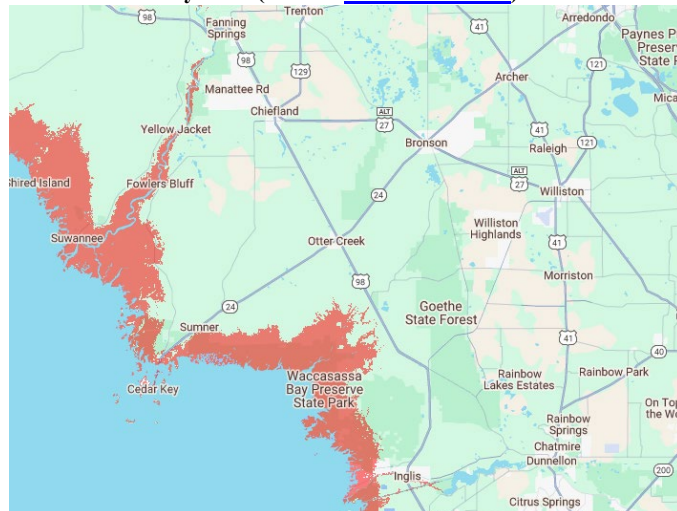
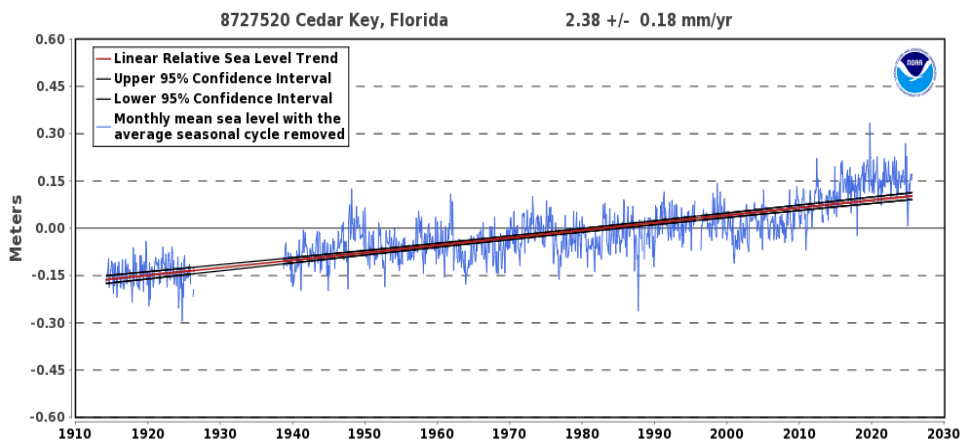


Figure V-5: Cedar Key Sea Level Rise (Source: [NOAA Tides and Currents](#))



2. Floods

a. Description

Flooding refers to the temporary or prolonged covering of normally dry land by water, caused by the overflow of inland or tidal waters, or by surface runoff from any source. When rainfall is too intense for the ground to absorb or for drainage systems to handle, water can accumulate and lead to flooding. Areas known as floodplains are those at risk of being submerged during such events. Despite often being underestimated, floods are among the most frequent and destructive natural hazards in Florida.

In Florida, flooding can result from various weather events, including severe thunderstorms, tropical cyclones, and seasonal rains. This hazard profile focuses on two main types: inland flooding and coastal flooding. Inland flooding in Levy County is primarily seen as flooding along the Suwannee, Withlachoochee, and Waccasassa Rivers and flash flooding, although, ponds, swamps, and other low-lying areas are prevalent throughout the county and have also experienced flooding. Coastal flooding occurs when seawater inundates normally dry land along the coast. It is commonly caused by storm surge from tropical storms or hurricanes, high tides, strong onshore winds, and heavy rainfall that overwhelms drainage near the coast. In many cases, several of these factors occur together, increasing impacts.

b. Location

All of the County and its municipalities are vulnerable to flooding. However, the degree of vulnerability may vary throughout the County.

Levy County, like all coastal counties, is at risk for coastal flooding, primarily associated with storm surge during tropical cyclones. While much of the coastline remains undeveloped and protected, communities such as Cedar Key, Inglis, and Yankeetown contain residents and businesses vulnerable to this hazard.

Inland, freshwater flooding is a concern along the Suwannee, Withlacoochee, and Waccasassa Rivers. The Suwannee River floods periodically due to normal rainfall patterns in North Florida and South Georgia, and local residents are accustomed to monitoring river crest reports and gauges. The Withlacoochee River, which flows through Inglis and Yankeetown, poses significant flood risk due to large areas within the 100-year floodplain. While structures like the Lake Rousseau dam and Inglis spillway help manage typical river flooding, water levels in these towns are also influenced by tidal action and storm surge from the Gulf, most recently during Hurricane Helene.

Gulf Hammock and Otter Creek are also flood-prone, located within the Waccasassa River watershed. Additionally, Levy County contains closed basins with no natural outflow, where flooding results primarily from direct rainfall rather than riverine overflow.

c. Extent

Areas designated as 100-year flood zones have a 1% chance of being inundated in any given year (see Table V-5 for descriptions of FEMA flood zones). A tropical cyclone is likely to bring rainfall amounts that are above the 100-year flood level. Floodplain maps include flood zones and base flood elevations (for Zones AE and VE only). Base flood elevations are computed elevations to which floodwater is anticipated to rise during the base flood. Estimated base flood elevations in Levy County range from 8 to 28 feet.

Table V-5. Definitions of FEMA Flood Zones

AE	Areas with a 1% annual chance of flooding and a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. In most instances base flood elevations (BFEs) derived from detailed analyses are shown at selected intervals within these zones.
X500	An area inundated by 500-year flooding; an area inundated by 100-year flooding with average depths of less than 1 foot or with drainage areas less than 1 square mile; or an area protected by levees from the 100-year flooding.
X	Areas outside the 1-% annual chance floodplain, areas of 1% annual chance sheet flow flooding where average depths are less than 1 foot, areas of 1% annual chance stream flooding where the contributing drainage area is less than 1 square mile, or areas protected from the 1% annual chance flood by levees. No Base Flood Elevations or depths are shown within this zone. Insurance purchase is not required in these zones.
A	Flood zone area with a 1% annual chance of flooding and a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Because detailed analyses are not performed for such areas, no depths of base flood elevations are shown within these zones.
ANI	An area that is located within a community or county that is not mapped on any published FIRM.
VE	Coastal areas with a 1% or greater chance of flooding and an additional hazard associated with storm waves. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Base flood elevations derived from detailed analyses are shown at selected intervals within these zones.
UNDES	A body of open water, such as a pond, lake, ocean, etc., located within a community's jurisdictional limits that has no defined flood hazard.
AO	River or stream flood hazard areas and areas with a 1% or greater chance of shallow flooding each year, usually in the form of sheet flow, with an average depth ranging from 1 to 3 feet. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Average flood depths derived from detailed analyses are shown within these zones.
AH	Areas with a 1% annual chance of shallow flooding, usually in the form of a pond, with an average depth ranging from 1 to 3 feet. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Base flood elevations derived from detailed analyses are shown at selected intervals within these zones.
V	Coastal areas with a 1% or greater chance of flooding and an additional hazard associated with storm waves. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. No base flood elevations are shown within these zones.
100IC	An area where the 100-year flooding is contained within the channel banks and the channel is too narrow to show to scale. An arbitrary channel width of 3 meters is shown. BFEs are not shown in this area, although they may be reflected on the corresponding profile.

d. Historical Occurrences

Historical flood occurrences and their respective damages have been recorded by NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). There have been two instances of flooding recorded in their database over the last decade or so (since 2015).

August 3, 2015: Flooding was reported on the southwest side of Butler Road near Inglis. One foot of water was in a home while other homes were inaccessible. \$100,000 in reported damages.

June 20, 2023: Local law enforcement reported high water along the 300 block of NW 1st Ave with several vehicles stranded. \$10,000 in reported damages.

e. Probability

Like other weather events discussed in this section, the rainfall amounts that cause flood conditions are considered a normal part of the County's climate. Often heavy rainfall is isolated in a small area of a few square miles with severe consequences to the point where shelter activation is needed. Based on the historical data from NOAA's NCDC, the return period for a flood event is approximately 5 years. However, because much of Levy County lies within a flood zone, and because heavy rainfall events occur at least once per year, the probability of a flood event

occurring is Very High.

Climate Change

Climate change is reshaping flood patterns across inland and coastal areas, though the link between rainfall and flooding remains complex. While the most intense flood events are expected to worsen due to warmer, wetter conditions, overall flood frequency may decrease in some regions. Inland communities may face increasing risk as storms become slower and longer-lasting, producing more rainfall far from coastlines. A warmer atmosphere holds more moisture, intensifying both the duration and severity of rainfall events.

Coastal flooding is also worsening due to rising sea levels and expanding development. Both amplify storm surge impacts, expand flood zones, and increase saltwater intrusion, land loss, and nuisance flooding. Natural ecosystems like the vast area of wetlands within the county helps buffer these impacts. Protecting them is essential to strengthening many areas of the county's resilience to future flooding and preserving its environmental and economic well-being.

3. Wildfires

a. Description

A wildfire is any fire occurring in the wildlands (i.e., grasslands, forest, brushland, etc). Wildfires can be a natural hazard or a manmade hazard. Wildfires have burned across the woodlands of Florida for centuries and are part of the natural management of much of Florida's ecosystems. Florida's typical fire season is from January to May. Wildfires caused by lightning are common in central Florida, especially in association with weather patterns that create intense thunderstorms. The largest numbers of fires caused by lightning occur in July coinciding with the peak of the thunderstorm season.

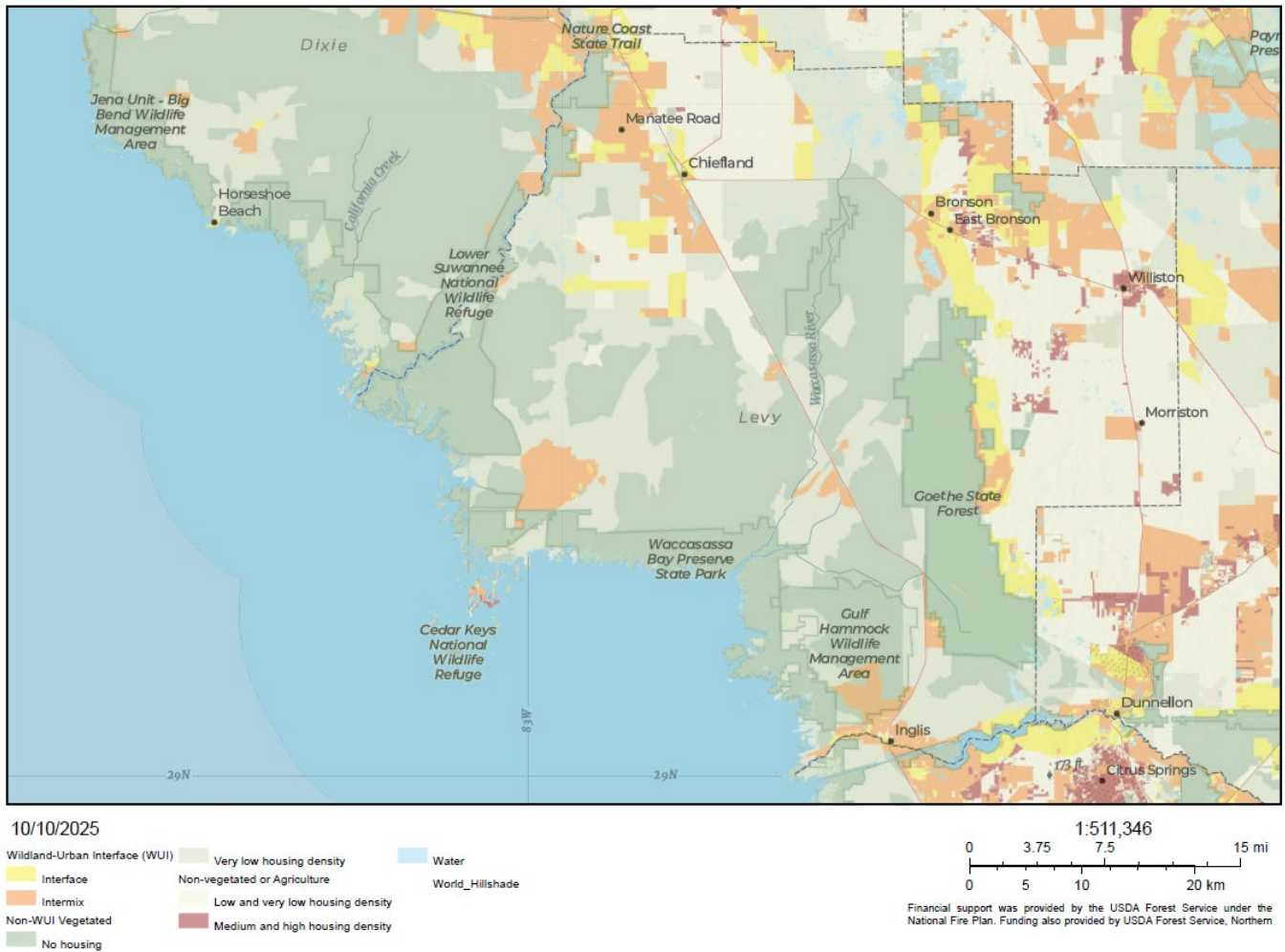
There are three main types of wildfires, each distinguished by where the fire occurs and how it spreads. Ground fires burn below the surface, igniting plant roots and other organic matter within the soil. Surface fires occur when dry or dead vegetation above the ground catches fire. These can be triggered by ground fires. Crown fires involve the burning of tree canopies and can spread rapidly, especially when driven by wind. Forest fires from natural causes (such as lightning) only account for a small percentage of Florida's wildfires. People are still by far the leading cause of wildfires in Florida. A variety of human activities cause wildfires including: controlled burns escaping containment; campfires getting out of control; land clearing activity; vehicle crashes and disposing of lit cigarette butts. Potentially, any human activity that employs combustion can start a wildfire.

b. Location

Approximately 2/3 of Levy County is forestland. The rural population of Levy County is very vulnerable to wildfire. Only areas with few trees such as developed areas, pastures, and prairies have a low vulnerability to wildfire.

Figure V-6 shows the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The WUI is the area where houses meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland vegetation. This makes the WUI a focal area for human-environment conflicts such as wildland fires.

Figure V-6. 2020 Levy County Wildland Urban Interface
2020 Levy County Wildland Urban Interface



Wildfirerisk.org is a website created by the USDA Forest Service under the direction of Congress and is designed to be a starting point to help community leaders, such as elected officials, community planners, and fire managers, to be able to assess and reduce risk to homes, businesses, and other valued resources. For risks to homes, Levy County falls in the moderate risk range, greater risk than 82% of counties in the US, and according to the map, the average risk level for each jurisdiction is listed below. The risk area is defined as within 1.5 miles of the jurisdictional boundary.

Table V-6. Communities at Risk

Community	Risk	Community	Risk
Bronson	High	Otter Creek	Very High
Cedar Key	Very High	Williston	High
Chiefland	High	Yankeetown	Very High
Fanning Springs	High		
Inglis	High		

c. Extent

The worst wildfire recorded in recent history (June 28, 2011) consumed 3,175 acres in Goethe State Forest. Therefore the extent of wildfire is 3,175 acres. The WUI is most at risk to wildfires. Potential risks include destruction of land, property, and structures, as well as injuries and loss of life.

d. Historical Occurrences

Below is a table of occurrences of wildfire in Levy County from 2021 to 2025 by cause of fire and acreage burned. As there have been 55 fires, these will not be listed individually.

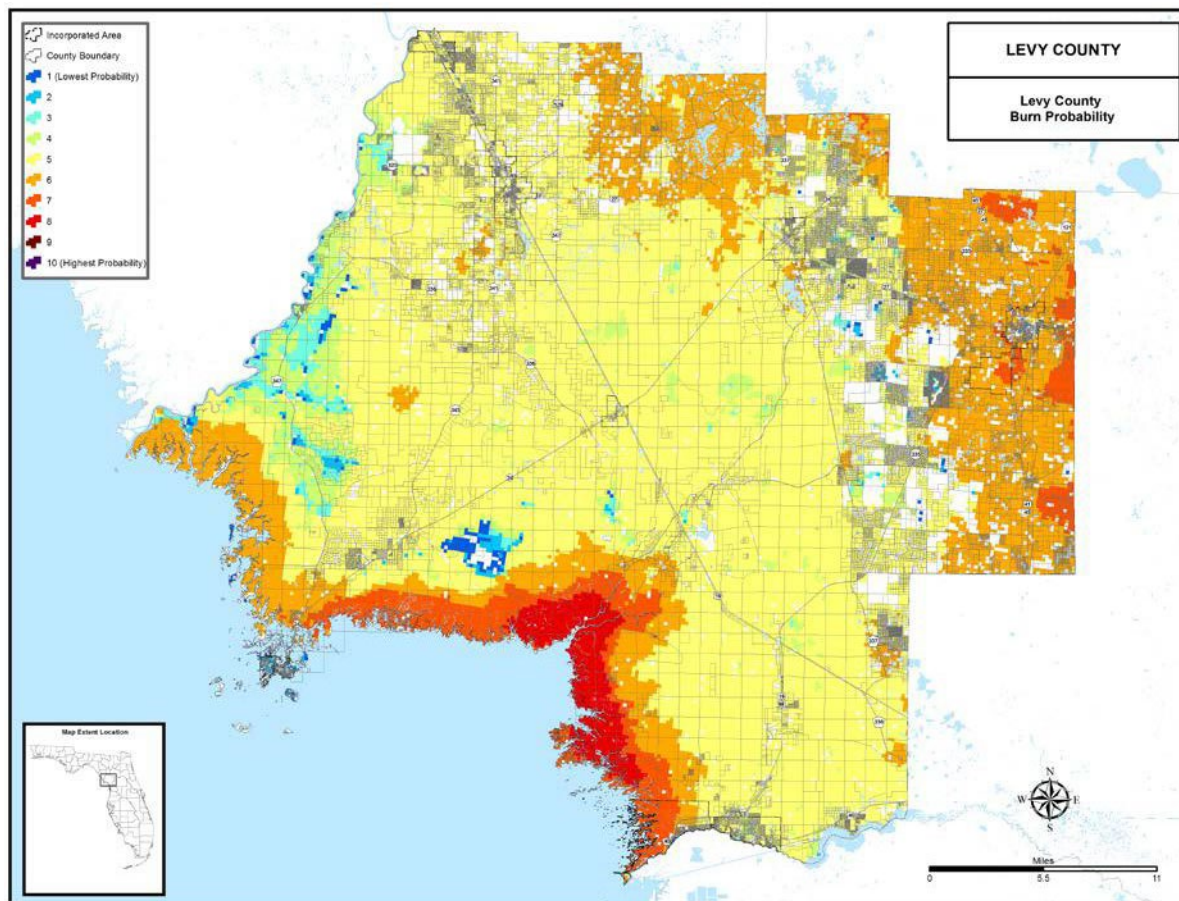
Table V-7. Occurrences of Wildfire in Levy County, 2021-2025

Cause	Fires	Percent	Acres	Percent
Campfire	3	5.45	6	4.02
Children	1	1.82	2.0	1.34
Debris Burn--Auth-- Broadcast/ Acreage	1	1.82	1	0.67
Debris Burn--Auth-- Piles	3	5.45	4.5	3.02
Debris Burn--Auth-- Yard Trash	4	7.27	4.5	3.02
Debris Burn--Nonauth--Piles	7	12.73	9.8	6.57
Debris Burn--Nonauth--Yard Trash	12	21.82	16.4	11.00
Equipment-- Agriculture	4	7.27	27.0	18.11
Equipment-- Transportation	3	5.45	10.6	7.11
Incendiary	10	18.18	24.1	16.16
Lightning	1	1.82	36.0	24.14
Miscellaneous--Power Lines	4	7.27	6.1	4.09
Unknown	2	3.64	1.1	0.74
TOTAL	55		149.1	

e. Probability

Using data from FDACS, it is estimated that Levy County experiences approximately 48 wildfires a year, with a return period of about 7.6 days. Therefore, the probability of a wildfire occurrence in Levy County is Very High.

Figure V-7. Burn Probability



Climate Change

As noted in the Statewide Mitigation Plan, climate change may lead to more extreme temperatures and precipitation patterns, contributing to stronger heat waves and more severe droughts – conditions that elevate the risk of wildfires.

4. Sinkholes

a. Description

A sinkhole is a depression or collapse in the ground caused by the dissolution of underlying limestone or other carbonate rock, and very common in Florida. As rainwater seeps through soil and into the bedrock, it enlarges natural cracks, eventually weakening the surface until it gives way. Florida's geology includes deep carbonate layers overlaid by sand, clay, and other materials, forming features like sinkholes, springs, and caves. These can pose serious risks to people and property. The most common sinkholes in Florida include dissolution sinkholes, which form gradually as surface water dissolves exposed rock; cover-collapse sinkholes, which appear suddenly when underground cavities fail; and cover-subsidence sinkholes, which form slowly as sandy overburden filters into rock voids. Sinkholes can be triggered by factors such as groundwater withdrawal, drought, soil disturbance, leaking pipes, stormwater concentration, surface water impoundments, and heavy surface loads.

b. Location

All of Levy County is vulnerable to sinkholes, albeit a relatively low vulnerability. Per the Sinkhole Profile from the 2023 Statewide Mitigation Plan, most of the county falls under Area I, where “sinkholes are few, generally shallow and broad and develop gradually.” Bronson and the areas south of Williston are included in Area II, where “Sinkholes are few, shallow, of small diameter and develop gradually.” The Chiefland area seems to have the most incidents of sinkhole activity by far within the county.

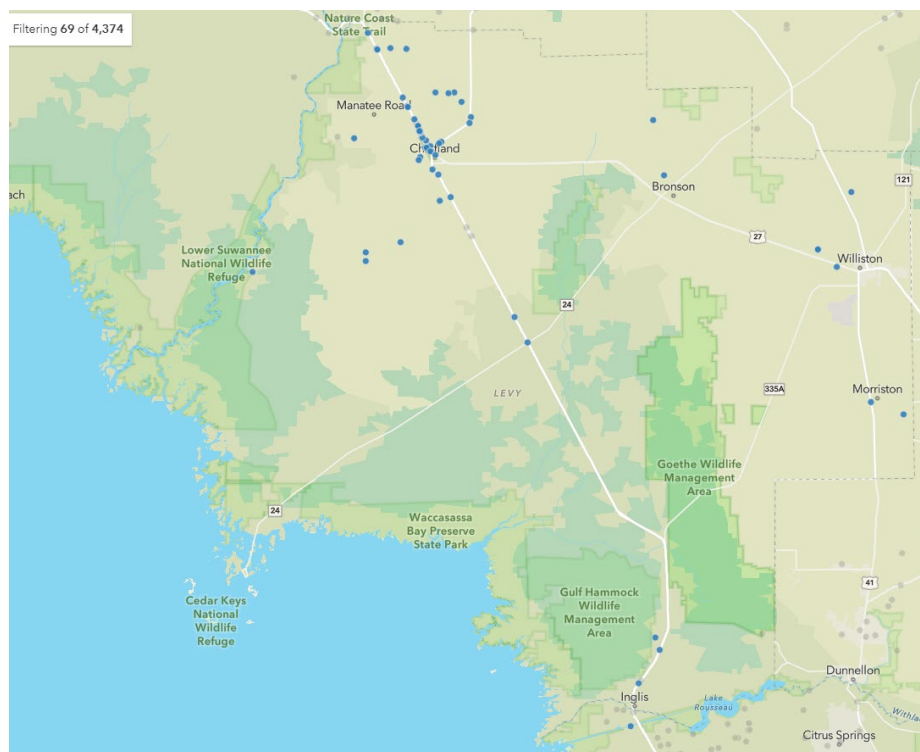
c. Extent

The average sinkhole size in Levy County is approximately 5 feet long, 4 feet wide, and 9 feet deep. The largest sinkhole in Levy County by length and width was 40ft x 40ft (8/24/2010), and the deepest was 90ft (10/29/1972). It is assumed that this is the greatest extent of a sinkhole in Levy County.

d. Historical Occurrences

FDEP has 69 reported sinkholes all time in their database. It is important to note that this data reflects reported sinkholes. This is probably not a complete list of sinkholes in the county, as there are probably unreported sinkholes in unpopulated, undeveloped areas. 4 verified sinkholes opened within a stormwater retention pond at Chiefland Middle/High School on August 6, 2024. These are the only reported sinkholes in the county since the previous 2021 update of the LMS. (Source: FDEP Subsidence Reports)

Figure V-8. Sinkhole Occurrences

**e. Probability**

The probability of future sinkhole events within the County is considered to be Very High due to review of past historical events and the appearance of at least one sinkhole per year usually on average. Approximately 1.04 sinkholes occur per year, and the estimated return period is 0.94 years. Levy County is ranked 14th in Florida in number of sinkholes.

Climate Change

Both severe storms with flooding and extended droughts contribute to an increased occurrence of sinkholes. As droughts become longer and more intense, and rainfall and inland flooding events grow more frequent and severe, the number of sinkhole incidents is expected to rise in the coming century.

5. Coastal Erosion

a. Description

Due to limited data and the absence of documented historical occurrences related to soil and riverine erosion, this hazard profile focuses primarily on coastal erosion. Coastal erosion refers to the gradual or sudden wearing away of land or the removal of beach and dune sediments caused by wave action, tidal and littoral currents, or surface drainage. Storm-generated waves are a major driver of coastal erosion, resulting in either long-term sediment loss or temporary redistribution of materials. While erosion typically occurs gradually over time, significant changes can happen rapidly during storms. Even in calm conditions, sediment may be lost through longshore drift or carried into deeper water, permanently removing it from the coastal system.

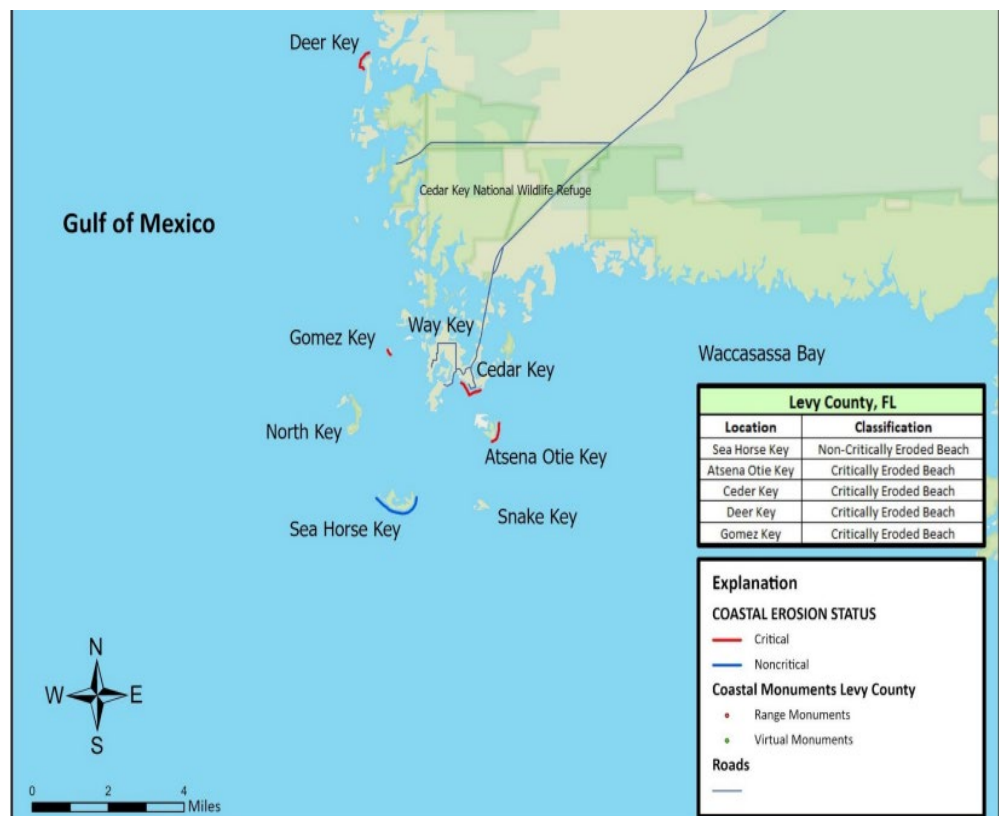
b. Location

The water off the shore of Levy County is shallow for several miles out, creating a “low intensity coastline.” The lack of wave action is evidenced by the lack of natural beaches. However, Levy County does have some recorded coastal erosion.

FDEP’s *Critically Eroded Beaches Report* published in August 2025 shows that Atsena Otie Key, Deer Island, Gomez Key, and Cedar Key are Critical Erosion Areas, while Seahorse Key is a Non-critical Erosion Area (see Figure V-9). “Critical Erosion Areas” are defined as segments of the shoreline where natural processes or human

activity have caused or contributed to erosion and recession of the beach or dune system to such a degree that upland development, recreational interests, wildlife habitat, or important cultural resources are threatened or lost. Critical erosion areas may also include peripheral segments or gaps between identified critical erosion areas which, although they may be stable or slightly erosional now, their inclusion is necessary for continuity of management of the coastal system or for the design integrity of adjacent beach management projects.

Figure V-9. Levy County Eroded Beaches



c. Extent

Table V-8 shows the total miles of eroded coastline in the county as of August 2025 according to DEP.

Table V-8. Levy County Coastal Erosion Data

	Critically Eroded (<i>in miles</i>)	Non-Critically Eroded (<i>in miles</i>)
Deer Island	0.4	0
Gomez Key	0.2	0
Cedar Key	0.5	0
Atsena Otie Key	0.2	0
Seahorse Key	0	1.2
TOTAL	1.3 miles	1.2 miles

d. Historical Occurrences

Historical erosion events have primarily corresponded to tropical cyclone and coastal flooding events. Since the previous update, new information on critical wildlife habitat being threatened has added 0.2 miles of beach on Gomez Key according to the DEP Critically Eroded Beaches report. The report also states that, due to Hurricanes Idalia and Helene, Gomez Key has sustained “substantial damage”. No other locations are mentioned as having received notable erosion impacts from either of these storms, and no other storm that has impacted Levy County since 2021 is mentioned in the report. However, potential damage from future storms could result in the reduction of culturally important areas, habitat loss, and impacts to residences, businesses, and public roads in Cedar Key, specifically along Dock Street and G Street.

e. Probability

Because coastal erosion in Levy County is related to the occurrence of tropical cyclones, the probability of coastal erosion occurring in the future is High. However, because of Levy’s low intensity coastline, it is assumed that the rate and impact of erosion per year will remain Very Low.

Climate Change

Rising sea levels pose a growing threat to Florida’s coastlines through erosion, intensified by more frequent flooding, stronger rainfall, and extended droughts. Even lower-category hurricanes, like Hurricane Nicole in 2022, have caused significant erosion and structural damage, especially in areas without natural barriers like dunes or marshes. As coastal wetlands struggle to keep pace with rising seas, the resulting loss could severely impact fisheries, biodiversity, and Florida’s tourism-based economy.

6. Drought/Extreme Heat**a. Description**

Extreme heat occurs when temperatures hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for a region and lasts for several weeks. Generally, extreme heat will occur when a dome of high atmospheric pressure traps damp air near the ground. Droughts occur when a long period passes without substantial rainfall. A heat wave combined with a drought is a very dangerous situation. Drought and extreme heat are weather events and, like other weather-related hazards, are largely unpredictable. However, droughts and extreme heat are a normal and expected part of the long-term weather patterns that are typical of Central Florida’s climate. Nevertheless, these climatic conditions can still be deadly to people and animals that are unable to escape the heat or hydrate their bodies properly. When temperatures reach 100+ degrees, special needs populations and households without air conditioning are vulnerable.

b. Location

All of Levy County is vulnerable to drought/extreme heat.

c. Extent

Because no single definition of drought works for all circumstances, we rely on drought indices to detect and measure droughts. The Drought Monitor is a synthesis of multiple indices and impacts that represents a consensus of federal and academic scientists. The Drought Monitor's drought intensity categories are based on five key indicators and numerous supplementary indicators (see Figure V-10). Because the ranges of the various indicators often don't coincide, the final drought category tends to be based on what the majority of the indicators show. Drought maps also reflect weighted indices according to how well they perform in various parts of the country and at different times of the year.

Figure V-10. Drought Severity Classification

Category	Description	Possible Impacts
D0	Abnormally Dry	Going into drought: Short-term dryness slowing planting and growths of crops/pastures Coming out of drought: Some lingering water deficits; pastures/crops not fully recovered
D1	Moderate Drought	Some damage to crops/pastures Streams, reservoirs, or wells low, water shortages developing Voluntary water-use restrictions requested
D2	Severe Drought	Crop/pasture losses likely Water shortages common Water restrictions imposed
D3	Extreme Drought	Major crop-pasture losses Widespread water shortages or restrictions
D4	Exceptional Drought	Exceptional and widespread crop/pasture losses Shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells creating emergencies

Short-term drought indicator blends focus on 1-3 month precipitation. Long-term blends focus on 6-60 months. Additional indices used, mainly during the growing season, include the USDA/NASS Topsoil Moisture, Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI), and NOAA/NESDIS satellite Vegetation Health Indices. Other indicators include groundwater levels, reservoir storage, and pasture/range conditions.

The highest recorded temperature in Levy County was 105°F in June 1989. According to data from the Drought Monitor, the worst level drought Levy County has experienced was a D4 (Exceptional Drought) in December 2000. Therefore, it is anticipated that the extent of extreme heat is 105°F and the extent of drought is the Drought Monitor's D4 Classification.

d. Historical Occurrences

According to the Southeast Regional Climate Center (SERCC), there are 2 stations in Levy County that keep historical climate data (from 1956 to 2020): Cedar Key 1 WSW and Usher Tower in Chiefland. Data from these 2 stations indicate that the highest temperature recorded was 105°F on June 3rd, 1989. According to data from NOAA, the 5 hottest years on the year-to-date maximum temperature have all occurred since 1990, with 4 of these occurring since 2015, in 2015, 2016, 2020, and 2023 (Source: [NOAA Levy County Maximum](#)).

[Temperature County Haywood](#)). Below is a table listing the greatest severity of drought in each month from 2021 to 2025 in Levy County based on monthly data from the Drought Monitor. Refer to Figure V-10 for classification definitions.

Table V-9. Historical Occurrences of Drought

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2021	D0	D0	None	None	None	D0	None	None	None	None	None	D0
2022	D0	D1	D2	None	D0	D0	D0	None	None	D1	D2	D2
2023	D2	D2	D1	D3	D3	D2	None	None	D0	D1	D1	D0
2024	None	None	None	None	None	D1	D1	None	None	None	D0	D1
2025	D1	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	D0	None	D0	D1	D2	D2

Source: Drought Monitor Monthly Animations by Year

e. Probability

Every year, Levy County experiences multiple days of extreme heat, in which temperatures exceed 90°F, therefore the probability of extreme heat affecting Levy County is Very High.

The return period for drought conditions (using the Drought Monitor Index and data) in Levy County is 0.25 years, or about 4 months of D1-D4 conditions per year. Therefore the probability of drought conditions occurring in the County is Very High.

Climate Change

Rising temperatures are expected to increase the number of dangerously hot days in Florida, with much of the state projected to see 45–90 days above 95°F annually by 2100, up from fewer than 15 today. Increased heat and humidity will raise health risks, especially for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with underlying conditions or limited access to resources.

7. Severe Thunderstorms/Tornadoes

a. Description

A severe thunderstorm is defined by NOAA as a storm containing one or more of the following: hail at least one inch in diameter, wind gusts of 58 mph or higher, or a tornado. These storms often also produce lightning and heavy rainfall, which can lead to flash flooding. Florida's geography and climate make it especially prone to thunderstorm formation, resulting in activity throughout the year.

Florida has the highest lightning density in the country. More people are killed by lightning in Florida than in any other state. Hail forms when strong updrafts in storm clouds carry raindrops into freezing areas of the atmosphere, and it becomes dangerous when it exceeds one inch in diameter. Flash floods can develop rapidly and are intensified by urban development and poor drainage. Damaging winds are caused by downdrafts within thunderstorms and can exceed 100 mph, leading to widespread damage, particularly to trees and mobile homes.

Defined by the NWS as violently rotating columns of air in contact with the ground, tornadoes can have wind speeds exceeding 300 mph. Florida ranks third in the U.S. for average annual tornado occurrences. Most tornadoes in the state are weak (EF0–EF1) and occur in the summer, especially during tropical cyclones or when waterspouts make landfall. However, the spring season often brings stronger tornadoes due to jet stream activity and cold fronts, which can generate supercells. While most tornadoes are relatively short-lived and narrow, they can still cause significant damage and casualties with little to no warning.

b. Location

All of Levy County is vulnerable to severe weather.

c. Extent

The Enhanced Fujita (EF) Scale is a set of wind estimates based on damage. These estimates vary with height and exposure. The wind estimates are expressed in miles per hour as 3-second gusts.

Table V-10: Enhanced Fujita Scale

EF Number	Estimated 3-Second Gust (mph)	Damage
0 (Gale)	65-85	Some damage to chimneys; branches broken off trees; shallow-rooted trees pushed over; damaged sign boards.
1 (Weak)	86-110	Surfaces peeled off roofs; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos pushed off roads.
2 (Strong)	111-135	Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars pushed over; large trees snapped or uprooted; light object missiles generated.
3 (Severe)	136-165	Roof and some walls torn off well-constructed houses; trains overturned; most trees in forests uprooted.
4 (Devastating)	166-200	Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundations blown off some distance; cars thrown, and large missiles generated.
5 (Incredible)	200+	Strong frame houses lifted off foundations and carried considerable distances to disintegrate; automobile sized missiles fly more than 100 meters; trees debarked; steel reinforced concrete structures badly damaged.

In general, tornadoes associated with tropical cyclones and landfalling waterspouts are less intense than those that occur in the Great Plains. Although the highest intensity tornadoes to hit the county were F2s in 1982 and 1993, an F4 tornado has been recorded within 100 miles of Levy County. For this reason, it is reasonable to expect a similar strength tornado could strike any part of the county.

d. Historical Occurrences

According to NOAA, since 2021 in Levy County, there have been 12 thunderstorm wind events, 2 hail events, and 2 heavy rain events across the county over 11 different days (Table V-11).

It is worth noting that there has not been a recorded tornado in Levy County since 2012. However, since 1950, tornadoes have caused 3 deaths, 11 injuries, and a total of approximately \$56.4 million in property damage in the county (NCEI). The county has also had several significant lightning events dating back to 1997, resulting in a death in 2018, 5 injuries from other events, and \$30,000 in property damage. The last reported flash flood event was in Inglis and Yankeetown in 2003, resulting in \$337,000 in property damage.

Table V-11. Historical Occurrences of Severe Weather

Location	Date	Event Type	Magnitude	Deaths	Inj.	Property Dmg.	Crop Dmg.
HARDEETOWN	2/6/2021	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	4/18/2021	T-Storm Wind	50 kts.	0	0	2.500M	0.00K
RALEIGH	6/13/2021	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
CHIEFLAND	3/12/2022	T-Storm Wind	52 kts.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
BRONSON	3/12/2022	T-Storm Wind	52 kts.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
INGLIS	3/12/2022	T-Storm Wind	65 kts.	0	2	150.00K	0.00K
MORRISTON	6/24/2022	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
MORRISTON	6/24/2022	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	2.00K	0.00K
WILLISTON MUNICIPAL ARPT	6/24/2022	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	10.00K	0.00K
EVE (north of Williston)	4/26/2023	Hail	1.75 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K

Local Mitigation Strategy**Levy County**

Location	Date	Event Type	Magnitude	Deaths	Inj.	Property Dmg.	Crop Dmg.
MEREDITHS	5/10/2023	Hail	1.00 in.	0	0	0.00K	0.00K
LAKE STAFFORD	6/20/2023	Heavy Rain		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
EAST WILLISTON	6/20/2023	Heavy Rain		0	0	0.00K	0.00K
DOUBLE SINK	7/31/2023	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	0.00K	3.00K
GULF HAMMOCK	4/11/2024	T-Storm Wind	43 kts.	0	0	1.00K	0.00K
HARDEETOWN	5/10/2024	T-Storm Wind	52 kts.	0	0	5.00K	0.00K
Totals:				0	2	2.689M	3.00K

Source: NCEI

e. Probability

According to the NCEI, the county has experienced 172 days with a flash flood, hail, heavy rain, lightning, thunderstorm wind, and/or tornado from 1968 to 2025, a return rate of approximately 0.3 years. Therefore, the probability of severe weather affecting the County in the future is Very High.

Climate Change

As the climate warms, increased instability and changes in wind patterns may lead to more frequent and severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.

8. Severe Winter Storms/Freeze

a. Description

Severe winter storms include freeze, snowfall, ice storms, and/or strong winds. Areas such as Levy County where such phenomena are uncommon are typically affected more by severe winter storms than regions that experience them more frequently. Below-freezing temperatures, moisture, and lift are factors in the formation of severe winter storm. Lift is commonly provided by warm and cold air colliding along a weather front. These storms move easterly or northeasterly and use both the southward plunge of cold air from Canada and the northward flow of moisture from the Gulf of Mexico to produce ice, snow, and sometimes blizzard conditions. These fronts may push deep into the interior regions, sometimes as far south as Florida. Snowfall is defined by the NWS as a steady fall of snow for several hours or more. The NWS defines an ice storm as a storm which results in the accumulation of at least 0.25 inches of ice on exposed surfaces. However, amounts as little as 0.1 inches in Florida have significant impact on transportation, special needs populations, and agriculture and livestock throughout the State.

Snowfall and ice storms are very uncommon in Levy County, but freeze occurs much more frequently. A freeze is marked by low temperatures, especially those remaining below the freezing point (32°F) over a widespread area for an extended time period. Florida's agricultural production is seriously affected when temperatures remain below the freezing point. Each winter, Levy County faces the threat of a freeze. This presents a problem for Florida as a whole because of the large amount of agricultural activity conducted throughout the state. For Levy County, this activity is centered on the vegetable and livestock industries. Personal injury or death due to severe winter storms is considered a hazard indirectly through fire caused by incorrect or careless use of heating apparatus.

b. Location

All of Levy County is vulnerable to severe winter storms/freeze.

c. Extent

Per Figure V-11, Levy County can expect to experience 11-30 days with a minimum temperature at or below freezing. Historical climate data (from 1956 to 2020) from Cedar Key 1 WSW and Usher Tower in Chiefland stations indicate that the lowest temperature recorded was 9 degrees Fahrenheit on January 22, 1985.

d. Historical Occurrences

A review of NOAA's NCEI database for all winter weather-related event types (avalanche, blizzard, cold/wind chill, extreme cold/wind chill, freezing fog, frost/freeze, heavy snow, ice storm, lake-effect snow, and sleet) shows no recorded events resulting in damage or casualties since the previous plan update in 2021.

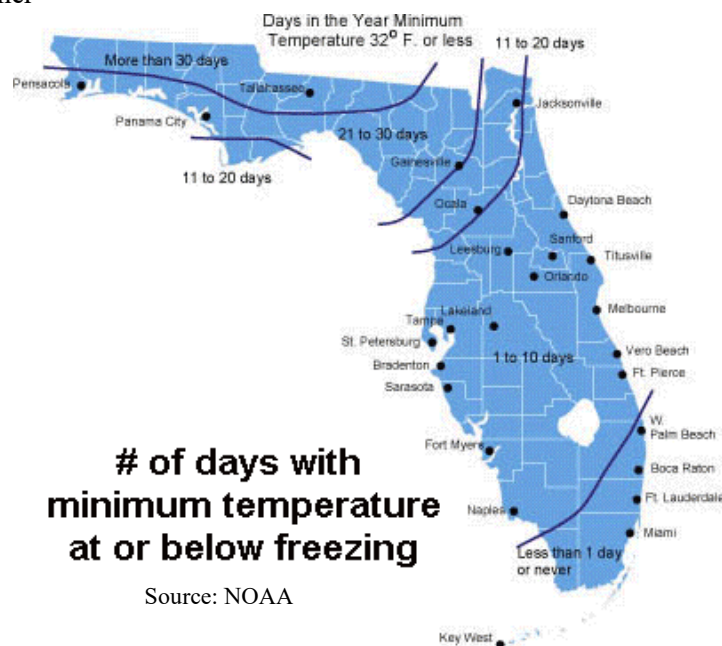
e. Probability

Levy County has a history of freezes. According to local NOAA climate data, since 1950, there have been at least 99 recorded hard freezes. The return period for hard freezes in Levy County is approximately 0.66 years, therefore the probability of a hard freeze occurrence in the County is Very High.

Climate Change

Florida is not expected to see an increase in the frequency or severity of winter storms or freezes. However, occasional freeze events will likely continue in the future.

Figure V-11: Number of Days with Minimum Temperature at or Below Freezing



9. Dam Failure

a. Description

Dam failure involves a sudden, uncontrolled release of water, often resulting in severe flooding. The severity of such an event depends on the volume of water impounded and the development downstream. Dam hazard classifications reflect the potential consequences of failure, not the dam's physical condition. Common causes include overtopping, foundation defects, cracking, poor maintenance, and seepage. National data shows that overtopping accounts for 34% of failures, with foundation defects and seepage responsible for another 50%. Although Florida is not at risk for earthquake-induced failures, tropical cyclones and heavy rainfall can pose significant threats with little warning.

b. Location

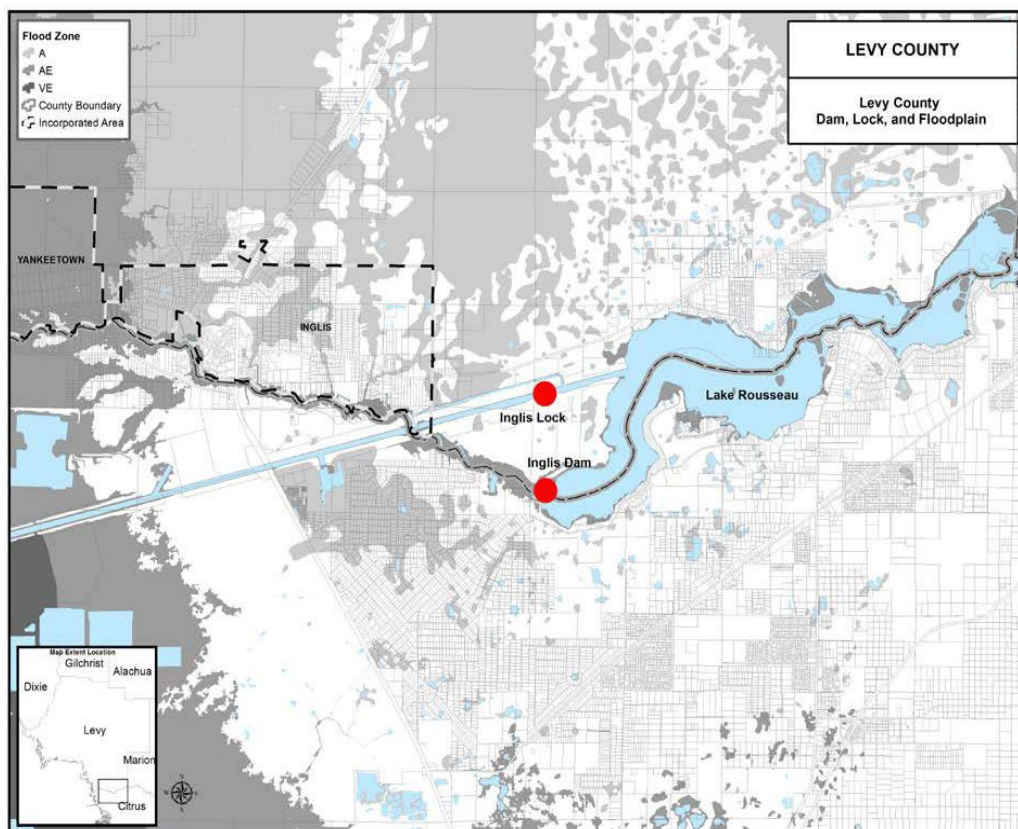
There are only 2 dams/spillways located within or in close proximity to the County (see Table V-12 below and Figure V-12). The only dam posing a potential threat to Levy County is the Inglis Bypass Spillway Dam which confines the Withlacoochee River at Lake Rousseau. Dam failure at the Spillway Dam is expected to cause extensive property damage to riverfront and low-lying properties in Inglis and Yankeetown. The USGS Inventory of Dams considers both of the dams to be High Hazard Dams.

Table V-12. Dams and Locks in the Levy County Area

Dam Name	NID ID	County	River	Hazard
Inglis Main Dam & Spillway	FL00142	Citrus	Withlacoochee	H
Inglis Bypass Spillway & Dam	FL61000	Levy	Withlacoochee	H

Source: USGS Dam Inventory

Figure V-12. Levy County Dam, Lock, and Floodplain



c. Extent

The Inglis Main Dam and Bypass Channel Dam Action Plan, prepared by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (Dam Operator) and FDEP (Dam Owner) includes an examination of conditions resulting from dam failure. The reservoir capacity is 33,600 acre feet. In the event of Main Dam failure, it is estimated that approximately 100 properties would be inundated at 1 foot above finished floor elevation in about 4.25 to 6 hours.

d. Historical Occurrences

There are no historical occurrences of dam failure.

e. Probability

Because there are no historical occurrences of dam failure, the probability is Very Low.

Climate Change

With the potential for climate change to cause greater fluctuations in weather events and patterns, more extreme flood events could put additional strain on dams. Heat and solar exposure are also worth considering especially with concrete dams. Changes in vegetation may also change the soil behavior in the long-term, influencing erosion or sliding events.

VI. IMPACT AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

A. Defining Vulnerability Assessment

A vulnerability assessment is the process of estimating disaster potential in terms of what is susceptible to damage. Typical measures include the number of people living or working in a hazard-prone area; the amount and value of property; and the amount, value and emergency necessity of public buildings and facilities.

The objectives of the vulnerability assessment are to show how a population, facility, system or environmental feature is vulnerable to a hazard or even a combination of hazards. The assessment also allows one to gain an understanding of the types of impacts caused by specific hazards that actually result in physical damage or operational failure.

B. Social Vulnerability

The major objective of the LMS is to protect people from the impacts of various disasters and to make communities safer. This part of the Vulnerability Assessment attempts to identify the population in vulnerable areas. Analysis will include consideration of the special populations such as those living in nursing homes, other assisted living facilities, and in correctional institutions. The identification of these characteristics of the population will be influential in future decision-making.

1. Total Population and Projections

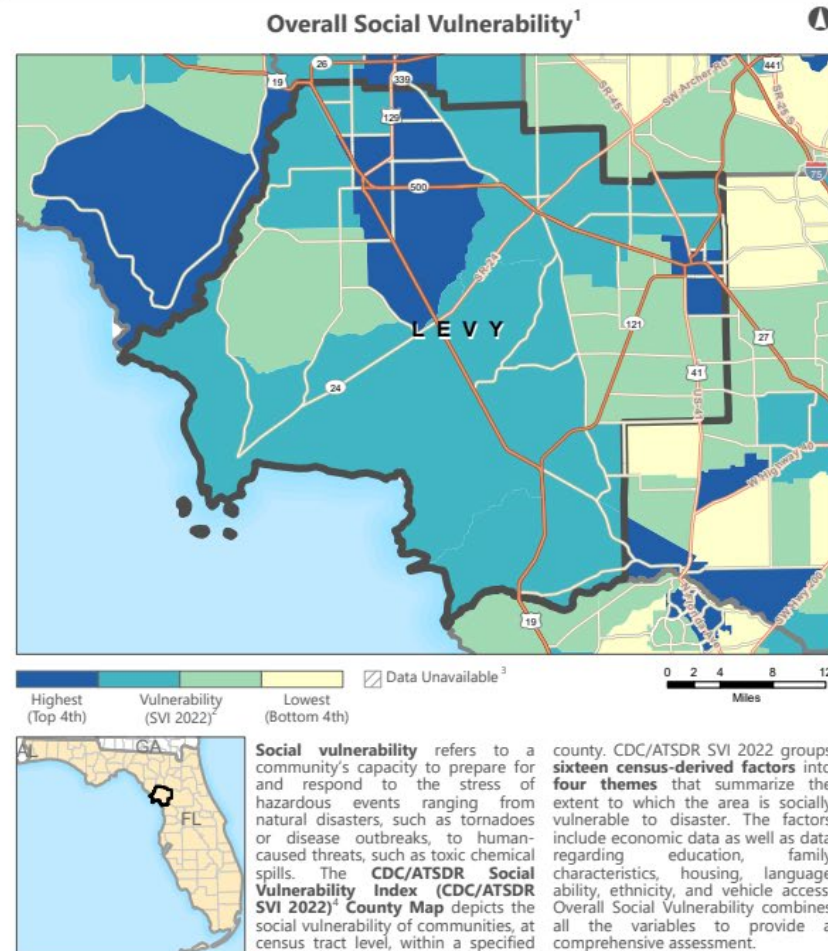
Table VI-1 shows the population of Levy County cities and towns projected to the year 2050. The population growth trend indicates that all cities and towns will experience some limited growth due to the rural traits of Levy County, including environmental characteristics and limited transportation access.

The following graphic from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) visualizes social vulnerability in Levy County by census-designated areas.

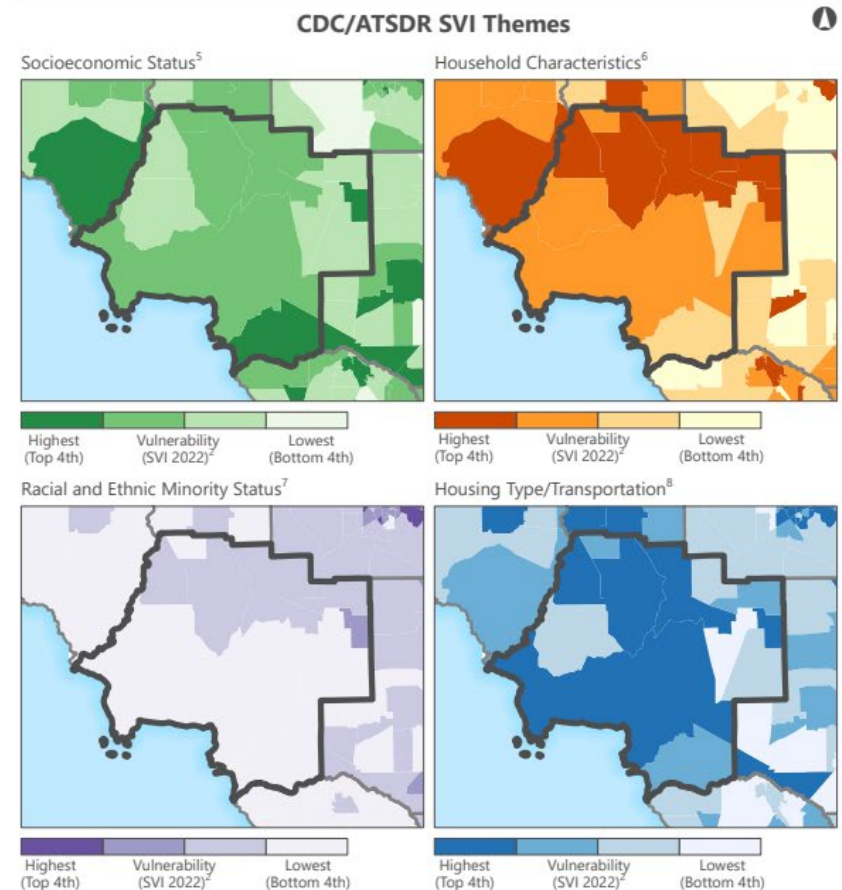
Figure VI-1. CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index

CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index 2022

LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA



CDC/ATSDR SVI 2022 – LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA



Data Sources: ¹CDC/ATSDR/GRASP, U.S. Census Bureau, ArcGIS StreetMap Premium.

Notes: ²Overall Social Vulnerability: All 16 variables. ³One or more variables unavailable at census tract level. ⁴The CDC/ATSDR SVI combines percentile rankings of U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) 2018-2022 variables, for the state, at the census tract level. ⁵Socioeconomic Status: Below 150% Poverty, Unemployed, Housing Costs Burden, No High School Diploma, No Health Insurance. ⁶Household Characteristics: Aged 65 and Older, Aged 17 and Younger, Civilian with a Disability, Single-Parent Household, English Language Proficiency. ⁷Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino (of any race); Black and African American, Not Hispanic or Latino; American Indian and Alaska Native, Not Hispanic or Latino; Asian, Not Hispanic or Latino; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Not Hispanic or Latino; Two or More Races, Not Hispanic or Latino; Other Races, Not Hispanic or Latino. ⁸Housing Type/Transportation: Multi-Unit Structures, Mobile Homes, Crowding, No Vehicle, Group Quarters.

Projection: NAD 1983 2011 Florida GDL Albers.
References: Flanagan, B.E., et al., A Social Vulnerability Index for Disaster Management. *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, 2011. 8(1).
CDC/ATSDR SVI web page: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html>.

Table VI-1. Population Projections, 2025-2050

Geography	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Levy County	46,197	48,296	49,997	51,398	52,508	53,606
Bronson	1,161	1,178	1,188	1,195	1,200	1,201
Cedar Key	689	685	681	677	668	661
Chiefland	2,336	2,367	2,384	2,395	2,389	2,379
Fanning Springs	731	805	866	926	976	1,026
Inglis	1,536	1,610	1,674	1,728	1,771	1,812
Otter Creek	108	102	96	88	84	80
Williston	3,406	3,661	3,883	4,077	4,250	4,423
Yankeetown	599	629	655	674	691	707
Levy-Unincorporated	35,631	37,259	38,570	39,638	40,479	41,317

Source: Florida Housing Data, Shimberg Center for Housing Studies Comprehensive Plan Data

2. Population Density

Levy County's land area is 1,118 square miles. With a population density of 38.4 persons/square mile, the County retains a rural nature. According to population density, Levy County is ranked 55 among the 67 counties in the state of Florida.

3. Institutional Population

Table VI-2 indicates the number of persons living in various group quarters as of 2020.

Table VI-2. Institutionalized Population - Levy County

Type of Institution	Number of Persons
Institutionalized Population	226
Correctional Facilities for Adults	132
Nursing Facilities/Skilled-Nursing Facilities	94

Source: US Census, 2020

If a disaster were to impact a prison population, a considerable amount of manpower and resources would be needed to respond. This would also reduce the County's ability to respond in other areas. Levy County maintains contingency plans and mutual aid agreements to provide the manpower and facilities needed for the mass transportation of prisoners if warranted.

4. Population by Age Group

Table VI-3 indicates the population of Levy County by age group, shown as a percentage. Table VI-4 depicts the elderly (65 or older) population of the cities and towns of Levy County. An analysis of the table indicates that the elderly population of the Levy County cities and towns will grow steadily.

Table VI-3. Population by Age Group, 2023

Area	Total Population	Age 0-19 Percent	Age 20-34 Percent	Age 35-49 Percent	Age 50-64 Percent	Age 65-74 Percent	Age 75+ Percent
Bronson	1,153	25.7%	21.1%	16.1%	19.9%	10.5%	6.8%
Cedar Key	691	8.4%	8.4%	10.1%	24.2%	26.7%	22.3%
Chiefland	2,322	28.1%	22%	15.7%	17.3%	9.1%	7.8%
Fanning Springs	703	21.9%	18.3%	16.6%	20.8%	11.5%	10.8%
Inglis	1,506	13.9%	12.5%	15.4%	25.8%	17.7%	14.7%
Otter Creek	112	21.4%	18.8%	17%	21.4%	11.6%	9.8%
Williston	3,297	25.6%	18.8%	16.9%	15.5%	12%	11.3%
Yankeetown	587	14.8%	8.9%	10.4%	24%	23.9%	16.4%
Levy Un-Incorporated	34,916	20.5%	15.1%	16.7%	22.5%	14.7%	10.5%
TOTAL	45,287	20%	19.5%	15%	21.3%	15.3%	12.3%

Table VI-4. Elderly Population Projections, 2030-2050

City/ Town	2030	2040	2050
Bronson	218	218	218
Cedar Key	371	359	344
Chiefland	433	461	451
Fanning Springs	162	153	167
Inglis	592	645	667
Otter Creek	18	13	12
Williston	942	1,042	1,123
Yankeetown	258	250	257
Levy Un- Incorporated	10,583	11,450	11,825
TOTAL	13,577	14,591	15,064

5. Transient Population

Migrant and seasonal workers in Levy County tend to work during the months of June and July. It is safe to assume that these migrant and seasonal workers live in temporary or short-term housing, local motels, and/or group quarters. Short-term housing generally tends to be manufactured housing or RVs, which are very susceptible to high winds and thus are not very safe to be occupied during severe storms and hurricanes. According to the USDA, in 2022, Levy County had 649 migrant farm workers. Additionally, per the Levy County CEMP, there are an estimated 38 people in the county experiencing homelessness.

6. Special Needs Population

There are 86 clients on the Special Needs Registry in Levy County. The County is directed to provide special needs shelter space for these residents and all of the special needs population. The official FDEM definition of special needs people are those who are "electrically dependent". People who are on kidney dialysis or have refrigerated medication are also considered to have acute medical needs and should evacuate to a medical facility. Based on the trends toward an older population, increased medical capability is needed. This section of Chapter

VI analyzes the populations that are at risk and are vulnerable to natural hazards. In this study, the special needs population is defined as those persons who are disabled, those living in long term care facilities, and those living in group quarters. An analysis of these segments of the community's population enables local governments to better understand how they can develop programs to save lives of those special needs persons, protect property, and ensure their safety.

Nursing Homes

Some nursing homes may be able to double as medical facilities in storm times, but the quantity of equipment in a nursing home will be much lower than a hospital. Many of the same protocols as the above medical facilities should be included in a nursing home plan. The major difference is the lack of responsibility to the general public. The nursing homes will be most concerned with their current residents. Included below is a table showing the Elder and Nursing Home facilities in Levy County.

Table VI-5. Elder and Nursing Home Facilities, 2021

Adult Family Care Homes	2
Adult Family Care Home Beds	7
Skilled Nursing Facilities	1
Skilled Nursing Facility Beds	120
Home Health Agencies	1
Homemaker & Companion Service Companies	6

Source: 2021 Florida County Profiles, Florida Department of Elder Affairs

Health Care Agencies

The following health care agencies will provide medical care in an emergency:

FDOH will give coordination and direction to ESF 8 activities from the EOC. They will coordinate and direct environmental health activities. The Levy County Department Public Safety will continue to provide services to the general public and disaster relief workers. Meridian Behavioral Health Care, Inc. will perform crisis counseling activities, to include Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) of emergency response workers. The American Red Cross will assist in the coordination of the nursing and mental health staff providing assistance to disaster victims as a support agency for mass care (ESF 6).

Medical facilities will be one of the most difficult of all the facilities to evacuate. The assistance may range anywhere from wheelchairs to oxygen and IVs. Therefore, all medical facilities need to have their own protocols in case they are called upon to evacuate. There are no hospital facilities in Levy County.

C. Impact and Vulnerability Assessment by Hazard

In the overviews of each hazard below, the types of structures and infrastructure affected by each respective hazard and their potential impacts are generally described. In order to identify all vulnerable structures and populations, and estimate potential losses, data from the Levy County Property Appraiser for 2020 was obtained and analyzed. In estimating potential losses, factors that should be considered include replacement values of structures and contents, percent damage, and structure use and function loss.

From the Levy County Property Appraiser dataset, the table below lists the number of buildings, parcels, and values per use category. The "Vacant" category includes Vacant Residential, Vacant Commercial, and Vacant Industrial. Using this current parcel data and the location of vulnerable areas presented in the Hazards Profiles from the previous section, vulnerable structures are identified and potential losses are calculated.

Table VI-6. Structures and Values by Use Category in Unincorporated Levy County

Use Category	Parcels	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	6,615	2,467	1,142,515
Residential- Single-Family	4,720	4,871	468,885
Residential- Multi-Family	101	137	5,167
Residential- Mobile Homes	7,813	7,934	290,992
Commercial	146	243	26,417
Industrial	54	78	8,896
Institutional	135	119	29,175
Government	786	29	342,973
Misc. Infrastructure	109	6	7,963
Non-Ag Acreage	92	1	7,127
Vacant	19,318	77	168,637
TOTAL	39,889	15,878	2,498,748

Table VI-7. Structures and Values by Use Category in Incorporated Areas

	Bronson		Cedar Key		Chiefland		Fanning Springs		Inglis		Otter Creek		Williston		Yankeetown	
Use Category	Bldgs /Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs/Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs/Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs/Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs/Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs/Units	Value \$1000s	Bldg/Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs/Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	14	3,672	14	2,796	13	9,860	2	2,671	1	1,320	8	2,091	15	3,085	0	1,494
Residential-Single-Family	238	14,278	423	73,119	500	27,153	61	4,841	382	37,304	39	1,392	774	48,602	427	51,747
Residential-Multi-Family	28	936	232	26,883	273	6,188	27	555	79	1,741	0	0	155	4,106	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	173	4,517	40	3,138	156	3,299	194	6,993	350	8,649	28	591	127	2,355	47	998
Commercial	64	8,728	95	15,048	240	79,666	54	4,359	81	10,747	8	589	151	27,351	26	4,860
Industrial	5	507	0	95	18	1,747	13	1,093	16	1,314	1	36	41	4,881	0	37
Institutional	21	2,482	13	3,666	50	12,197	4	1,011	13	2,195	16	2,817	47	16,675	6	1,243
Government	33	9,231	49	19,901	98	11,846	7	7,541	5	1,077	1	137	16	29,882	3	4,455
Misc. Infrastructure	1	235	2	532	9	1,522	0	7	2	253	0	25	1	577	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	288	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,616	0	1,222
Vacant	7	3,908	0	16,202	3	9,283	0	7,013	1	9,695	0	539	9	5,705	0	7,561
TOTAL	565	48,494	862	161,380	1,173	163,049	341	36,084	874	74,295	101	8,217	1,222	144,835	509	73,617

A matrix was created that labels the potential vulnerability of each of the hazards as High (H), Medium (M), Low (L), or None (N/A) on the communities and county at large. The following table was developed based on historical occurrences of the jurisdiction's vulnerability of the identified natural and manmade hazards. Jurisdictional Vulnerability is further discussed within each hazard section.

Table VI-8. Jurisdictional Vulnerability

	Levy-Un incorporated	Bronson	Cedar Key	Chiefland	Fanning Springs	Ingles	Otter Creek	Yankeetown	Williston
Tropical Cyclones	H	M	H	M	H	H	M	H	M
Floods	M	M	H	M	H	H	H	H	L
Wildfire	M	M	L	M	M	M	M	M	M
Sinkholes	M	H	L	H	H	H	H	H	M
Coastal Erosion	L	N/A	H	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A
Drought/Extreme Heat	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Tornadoes	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Severe Winter Storms/Freeze	L/M	L/M	L/M	L/M	L/M	L/M	L/M	L/M	L/M
Dam Failure	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	L	N/A	L	N/A

H = High- Likely to experience threat, effect, or reoccurrence of event.

M = Moderate- Average to better than average likelihood of experiencing threat, effect or reoccurrence of event.

L = Low- Below average likelihood of experiencing threat, effect or reoccurrence of event.

N/A = Very little or no likelihood threat will occur.

1. Tropical Cyclones

a. Impacts

Since the previous plan update, several tropical cyclone events have impacted Levy County. While there were no major changes to the assets in the county or each municipality since the previous update, some existing structures were affected more heavily by recent tropical cyclones compared to previous events.

Populations

Tropical cyclones pose serious risks to residents of Levy County, particularly those living in mobile homes, poorly constructed housing, and non-elevated structures. Flooding and high winds can cause human and animal injuries or deaths from rising waters and windblown debris. Storm impacts may create significant sheltering needs and increased demand for humanitarian supplies such as food, water, blankets, and first aid. Mobile home residents are especially vulnerable due to structural weaknesses and are advised to evacuate in the event of a hurricane.

Built Environment

Tropical cyclones affect all structures and critical infrastructure, including mobile homes, non-elevated buildings, telecommunications, electrical utilities, sewage systems, potable water supplies, roadways, waterways, and airports. Severe coastal flooding and high winds can cause significant building damage, with roofing particularly susceptible. Flooding and wind damage may lead to termination of utility services, especially power outages and contamination of drinking water supplies. Transportation infrastructure is highly vulnerable. Roads in low-lying coastal areas, such as SR 24 and CR 347 in west Levy County, may become submerged. Flooding of US Highway 19 during a major hurricane could severely hinder evacuation efforts from southern counties. Inundated roadways reduce both evacuation and emergency response capabilities. Critical facilities should be inspected and hardened to withstand high winds, even if located inland.

Natural Resources

Tropical cyclones can cause extensive environmental damage, including flooding, erosion, and debris impacts. Agricultural lands, livestock, fisheries, and natural waterways are particularly vulnerable. Floodwaters and storm surge may damage ecosystems and contaminate waterways, resulting in long-term environmental impacts.

Economy

Tropical cyclones can cause extraordinary economic disruption in Levy County. Flooding and wind damage often result in high costs for emergency response, infrastructure repair, and long-term recovery. Damage to agriculture, fisheries, transportation networks, and utilities can interrupt commerce, delay recovery, and create long-lasting financial impacts on residents, businesses, and local government.

Government

Tropical cyclones can significantly impact government operations and the delivery of essential services. Severe damage to transportation, communication, power, water, and wastewater systems may disrupt emergency response and recovery efforts. Extended utility outages, infrastructure damage, and high recovery costs can strain government resources and require long-term coordination and investment.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

Tourism is a major contributor to the local economy, particularly in Cedar Key, where the business district is highly vulnerable due to its coastal location. Many restaurants and businesses are built on pilings over the Gulf, increasing exposure to wind and wave damage. These businesses have been severely affected by several hurricanes since the last update of this plan.

Table VI-9. Population Vulnerable to Surge in Unincorporated Levy County

Housing Type	TS	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5
Mobile Home Residential	117	158	689	659	644	641
Multifamily Residential	95	15	19	3	0	5
Single Family Residential	323	167	379	201	334	379

Table VI-10. Tropical Cyclone Surge Vulnerability in Unincorporated Levy County

Use Category	TS Surge		Cat 1 Surge		Cat 2 Surge		Cat 3 Surge		Cat 4 Surge		Cat 5 Surge	
	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	64	86,076	36	39,112	82	96,952	78	68,509	99	61,890	130	50,014
Resid.- Single-Fam	266	49,467	112	8,458	202	17,236	98	7,808	186	19,402	189	16,685
Resid.- Multi- Fam	57	3,066	9	310	10	242	3	81	0	20	2	109
Resid.- Mobile	68	3,664	103	3,753	356	11,995	310	10,241	290	9,710	288	10,481
Commercial	9	1,823	6	1,046	6	1,369	8	589	21	2,285	19	1,614
Industrial	0	0	2	166	9	1,269	0	20	0	0	0	445
Institutional	0	0	1	165	3	1,029	5	785	1	218	6	1,540
Government	4	88,024	0	1,644	1	5,342	0	2,604	1	3,147	2	4,266
Misc. Infrs.	3	5,145	0	0	0	96	0	57	0	163	0	442
Non-Ag Acreage	0	834	1	232	0	1,617	0	188	0	471	0	475
Vacant	0	11,775	0	3,092	0	10,325	1	5,134	1	6,231	3	4,853
TOTAL	471	249,874	270	57,978	669	147,472	503	96,016	599	103,537	639	90,924

c. Analyzing Development Trends

Areas vulnerable to surge, including Fanning Springs, Yankeetown, Inglis, and Cedar Key, as well as the County's other municipalities will continue to grow in population and density. Generalized future land uses located within surge areas include Agriculture, Conservation, Recreation, Public, Commercial, Industrial, and Residential. However, the greatest amount of land area vulnerable to surge has Conservation (County), Agriculture/Low Density Residential (County) and Forestry/Rural Residential (County) designations. There have been no major developments in these areas since the 2021 plan update.

As stated earlier, the entire County is vulnerable to high winds from tropical cyclones. The Severe Weather section describes the structures by type of existing land uses that may be more vulnerable to high winds. The greatest portion of structures built before the current Florida Building Code are residential structures.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

The tables below identify, by municipality, the structures and associated property values vulnerable to storm surge and high winds from tropical cyclones. Jurisdictions with the greatest exposure to storm surge include Fanning Springs, Yankeetown, Inglis, and Cedar Key. Although inland, Otter Creek lies within the Category 4 and 5 storm surge zones and is therefore also included in the table. Because Cedar Key, Inglis, and Yankeetown are located closest to the Gulf Coast, they face a higher risk of wind damage from tropical cyclones than the county's more inland municipalities. Since a portion of Fanning Springs falls within the Tropical Storm surge zone, it is grouped with the coastal jurisdictions and classified as highly vulnerable. Otter Creek, due to its inland location within only the Category 4 and 5 surge zone, is categorized as having medium vulnerability along with the county's other inland municipalities.

Table VI-11. Population Vulnerable to Surge in Incorporated Areas

	Housing Type	Tropical Storm	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5
Cedar Key	Mobile Home Residential	29	5	1	1	0	0
	Multifamily Residential	106	80	17	5	0	0
	Single Family Residential	249	36	58	28	4	0
Fanning Springs	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	0	0	43
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	0	0	2	5	2	9
Inglis	Mobile Home Residential	64	5	314	247	31	0
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	146	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	233	31	345	62	18	0
Otter Creek	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	0	14	0
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	0	0	0	0	8	2
Yankeetown	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Multifamily Residential	64	0	0	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	382	182	15	0	0	0

Table VI-12. Tropical Cyclone Surge Vulnerability in Cedar Key

Use Category	Tropical Storm Surge		Category 1 Surge		Category 2 Surge		Category 3 Surge		Category 4 Surge		Category 5 Surge	
	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	14	2,796	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	283	53,128	39	5,029	65	8,574	32	5,535	4	852	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	118	13,611	89	10,775	13	1,419	6	1,078	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	32	2,560	6	296	1	174	1	108	0	0	0	0
Commercial	94	14,701	1	347	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	3	1,580	1	288	4	827	4	767	1	204	0	0
Government	41	17,051	0	812	0	0	7	1,389	1	649	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	1	405	0	0	0	0	1	127	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	12,795	0	1,087	0	1,133	0	1,007	0	140	0	40

Table VI-13. Tropical Cyclone Surge Vulnerability in Fanning Springs

Use Category	Tropical Storm Surge		Category 1 Surge		Category 2 Surge		Category 3 Surge		Category 4 Surge		Category 5 Surge	
	Bldg	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	365	0	0	0	604	1	354
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	1	172	2	399	1	75	3	161
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	202
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	67
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	2	1,179	0	0	1	973	0	120	0	115	0	920
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	150	0	119	0	151	0	20	0	35	0	25

Table VI-14. Tropical Cyclone Surge Vulnerability in Inglis

Use Category	Tropical Storm Surge		Category 1 Surge		Category 2 Surge		Category 3 Surge		Category 4 Surge		Category 5 Surge	
	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	107	1	1,121	0	93	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	132	18,691	18	2,619	184	13,013	37	2,366	11	616	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	79	1,741	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	5	248	3	84	171	3,957	152	3,931	19	429	0	0
Commercial	2	382			68	9,815	10	522	1	28	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	10	995	6	319	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	11	1,594	2	601	0	0	0	0
Government	0	2	0	0	5	805	0	13	0	257	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	2	253	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	2,950	0	137	1	5,273	0	1,121	0	214	0	0

Table VI-15. Tropical Cyclone Surge Vulnerability in Otter Creek

Use Category	Tropical Storm Surge		Category 1 Surge		Category 2 Surge		Category 3 Surge		Category 4 Surge		Category 5 Surge	
	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s	Blds	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	271	3	1,344	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	191	1	58
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	146	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	146	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	72	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	55	0	0

Table VI-16. Tropical Cyclone Surge Vulnerability in Yankeetown

Use Category	Tropical Storm Surge		Category 1 Surge		Category 2 Surge		Category 3 Surge		Category 4 Surge		Category 5 Surge	
	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	1,119	0	375	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	288	39,789	128	11,348	11	609	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	47	998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	23	4,515	2	269	1	76	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	3	754	3	489	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	3	4,269	0	186	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	1,222	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	5,941	0	1,530	0	90	0	0	0	0	0	0

2. Floods

a. Impacts

Flooding presents a significant hazard to Levy County, with the potential to cause widespread and long-lasting impacts across the area. The following sections outline how flood events affect populations, the built environment, natural resources, the economy, and government operations.

Populations

Flooding poses significant risks to residents living within floodplains, rural areas, and waterfront locations. Elderly, sick, and mobility-limited individuals are particularly vulnerable when emergency vehicles cannot access flooded roadways. Residents without heavy-duty vehicles may be unable to evacuate if flooding occurs rapidly, increasing the potential for injuries or casualties. Flood events can result in evacuation challenges, civil unrest, and prolonged displacement when homes are damaged or uninhabitable. Mold infestations following floods can create ongoing health issues for residents and require lengthy remediation. Responders face increased risks during flood events, including hazardous rescue operations and exposure to inclement weather, though most are not at high long-term health risk.

Built Environment

Flooding affects all types of structures, including mobile homes, poorly constructed or non-elevated homes, and critical facilities. Telecommunications systems, electrical utilities, sewage systems, potable water systems, roadways, waterways, and airports are all susceptible to flood damage. Flooding can contaminate water systems, disrupt wastewater treatment, damage vehicles and equipment, and cause severe property losses. Transportation infrastructure is often impacted by flooded roadways, leading to traffic accidents, congestion, and short-term service disruptions. Evacuation routes may deteriorate or become impassable due to storm surge or freshwater flooding, requiring early closures and rerouting. Long-term flooding can prevent communities from returning to normal operations after a storm.

Natural Resources

Flooding can cause extensive environmental damage, including impacts to waterways, fisheries, agricultural lands, and livestock. Fast-moving storm systems that produce flooding often include tornadoes, lightning, hail, and straight-line winds, compounding environmental damage. Prolonged standing water can degrade soil quality, damage ecosystems, and disrupt natural drainage patterns.

Economy

Flooding often results in high-dollar losses to uninsured or underinsured property, as most homeowner insurance policies do not cover flood damage and residents may not purchase NFIP policies. Economic disruptions may include damage to businesses, agriculture, fisheries, and transportation networks, delaying commerce and recovery. Extended displacement of residents and damage to homes and businesses can slow economic recovery. Long-term housing needs and repair costs place additional strain on both private citizens and community resources.

Government

Levy County is located in a high-risk hurricane area and can expect flooding events that result in long-term, significant impacts. Government services may be disrupted due to damaged facilities, contaminated water systems, and impaired transportation routes. Emergency management faces challenges related to evacuation timing, shelter capacity, responder safety, and prolonged sheltering needs. Shelters are not designed for extended stays, as many serve dual purposes such as schools. Long-term sheltering and recovery strategies are required, including pre-identification of funding to repair homes and businesses. Emergency managers must consider roadway elevations and flood depths to issue timely evacuation orders and manage route closures. Many flood risks can be reduced through effective pre-planning, preparedness, and implementation of existing disaster housing and recovery plans.

b. Repetitive Loss and Identifying Structures

Defining Repetitive Losses

The NFIP defines Repetitive Loss properties as structures within the flood insurance program that have experienced two or more insurance claims of at least \$1,000 in any given 10 year period since 1978. Adjacent and nearby properties are also considered to be in Repetitive Loss areas. Funding sources at the Federal and State level have identified acquisition of Repetitive Loss structures and substantially damaged structures as a funding priority. By virtue of the repeated and severe damage to these structures, they are proven to be one of the most vulnerable places to live. FEMA provides funding through the NFIP to reduce or eliminate long-term flood risk for Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) properties by supporting mitigation activities such as acquisition, elevation, demolition, relocation, and limited floodproofing. These grants typically cover 75% of project costs, with up to 90% federal funding available in jurisdictions that have FEMA-approved mitigation plans addressing SRL properties. Acquisition of repetitive loss properties is far more cost-effective and safer than rebuilding after every disaster. This is the basis of FEMA's campaign for "Breaking the Cycle."

The CDBG has also made acquisition of substantially damaged structures and flooded homes in general a top funding priority. This is a significant breakthrough for small local governments such as those in Levy County because CDBG grant applications do not require matching funds when associated with recovery from a Federally Declared Disaster and, after a Federally Declared Disaster, those CDBG funds can be used for matching funds for other grant sources. The end result is that small local governments with limited financial resources can leverage larger funding amounts to recover from disasters and mitigate future disasters.

Figure VI-2. Repetitive Loss Areas

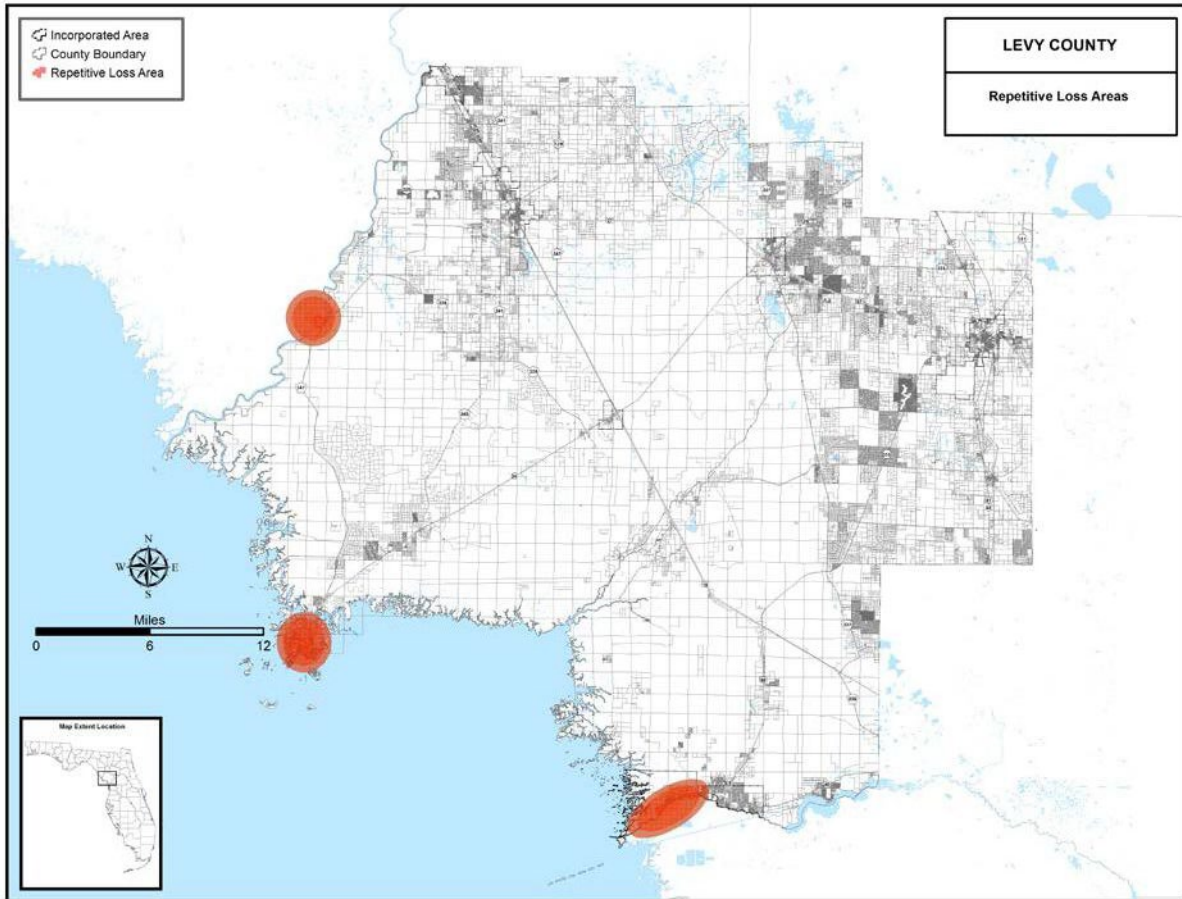


Figure VI-2 shows the areas of Levy County considered to be repetitive loss areas, while Table VI-17 shows the Repetitive Loss structures per zip code with NFIP data as of January 8, 2026. Severe Repetitive Loss properties are denoted in **bold**.

Table VI-17. Repetitive Loss/Severe Repetitive Loss Properties

Zip Code	Community Name	Flood Zone	Occupancy Type	Currently Insured by NFIP	Total Number of Paid NFIP claims of >\$1,000 since 1978	Most Recent Date of Loss
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	2	8/30/2023
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	yes	4	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	8/30/2023
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	7/10/2005
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024

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Zip Code	Community Name	Flood Zone	Occupancy Type	Currently Insured by NFIP	Total Number of Paid NFIP claims of >\$1,000 since 1978	Most Recent Date of Loss
32625	CEDAR KEY	A05	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	2	9/29/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single Unit within Multi Unit)	no	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (>4 Units)	no	3	9/3/1998
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	4	10/8/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	5	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	5	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Non-Residential	no	2	8/30/2023
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	7/10/2005
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	2	9/29/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Mobile/Manufactured Home)	no	5	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	5	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (>4 Units)	no	11	9/2/2016
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/25/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Non-Residential	yes	5	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	8/30/2023
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	5	9/2/2016
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	1	3/13/1993
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single Unit within Multi Unit)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single Unit within Multi Unit)	yes	3	9/1/2023
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024

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Zip Code	Community Name	Flood Zone	Occupancy Type	Currently Insured by NFIP	Total Number of Paid NFIP claims of >\$1,000 since 1978	Most Recent Date of Loss
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Non-Residential	no	2	7/23/2001
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	2	9/29/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/8/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Non-Condo with 5+ Units)	no	5	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Condo)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	10/7/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	2	10/8/1996
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	3	7/9/2005
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	2	9/29/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/27/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Non-Residential	no	6	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	8/30/2023
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (>4 Units)	no	4	9/1/2016
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/3/1998
32625	CEDAR KEY	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/26/2024
32625	CEDAR KEY	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
32626	CHIEFLAND	A05	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	4/15/1998
32626	CHIEFLAND	A05	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	5/2/2014
32626	CHIEFLAND	A05	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/26/2004
32626	CHIEFLAND	A	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	2/20/1986
32626	CHIEFLAND	C	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/1/2004
32626	CHIEFLAND	A	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	2/14/1986
32626	CHIFFLAND	A05	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	4/12/1987
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/26/2024
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/5/2004
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34449	INGLIS	A	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	8/3/2015
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	10/7/1996
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34449	INGLIS	A12	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996

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Zip Code	Community Name	Flood Zone	Occupancy Type	Currently Insured by NFIP	Total Number of Paid NFIP claims of >\$1,000 since 1978	Most Recent Date of Loss
34449	INGLIS	A	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	8/16/2019
34449	INGLIS	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/27/2024
32692	SUWANNEE	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	10/1/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A18	Residential (Single Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	VE	Residential (Single Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	10/9/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
32698	YANKEETOWN	AE	Non-Residential	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	A18	Residential (Single Family)	no	3	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	6	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	5	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A12	Non-Residential	no	3	9/26/2004
34498	YANKEETOWN	A18	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/2/2016
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	6	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	5	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	V16	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/2/2016
32698	YANKEETOWN	VE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/8/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A	Residential (Condo)	yes	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	5	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	6	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Mobile/Manufactured Home)	no	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A12	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/7/2004
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	5	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	9/2/2016
34498	YANKEETOWN	A	Residential (Condo)	yes	3	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	6	8/30/2023
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/2/2016
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	9	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A	Residential (Condo)	yes	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024

Zip Code	Community Name	Flood Zone	Occupancy Type	Currently Insured by NFIP	Total Number of Paid NFIP claims of >\$1,000 since 1978	Most Recent Date of Loss
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A12	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/8/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	A12	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	6/13/2006
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/2/2016
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	5	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	5	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	2	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Non-Residential	yes	2	10/1/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	8/30/2023
34498	YANKEETOWN	X	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	5	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	4	8/29/2023
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	3	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	no	4	9/26/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/27/2024
34498	YANKEETOWN	A	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	A12	Residential (Single-Family)	no	2	10/7/1996
34498	YANKEETOWN	AE	Residential (Single-Family)	yes	3	9/26/2024

Source: [FEMA NFIP Multiple Loss Properties](#)

Levy County's coastal lowlands provide for a number of roads that could be affected by storm surge flooding. Freshwater flooding may occur along the Suwannee River, Withlacoochee River, and within the floodplain of the Waccasassa River. Each of the roads in Table VI-19 will be inundated from freshwater flooding. (Based on FEMA FIRM).

Table VI-19. Frequently Flooded Roads

Route	Route Segment Susceptible to Freshwater Flooding
CR 326	From intersection with CR 347, west to the Gulf
CR 326	From intersection with CR 320 to CR 337
SR 24	From Cedar Key to Bronson
CR 345	From intersection with SR 24 to 1 mile south of intersection with CR 336
US 19	From 1 mile south of intersection with CR 347 to Citrus County
US 19	A 2 mile section 1 mile south of Chiefland and 1 mile north of the CR 347 intersection
CR 339	From Bronson to the intersection with CR 320
US Alt 27	From the intersection with CR 339 and 1 mile to the west
CR 343	From the intersection with CR 326 to the intersection with CR 337
CR 40	From the Gulf to 1 mile east of Inglis
CR 335	East of the intersection of 335 and 121 for approximately 1 half mile

Municipal roads subject to flooding are included in several mitigation projects on the current project list addressed by the LMS.

c. Estimating Potential Loss

In addition to the facilities identified above, there are many structures and property within the 100-year floodplain. Below is a table with the number of buildings and total values within the flood zones. The data is from the Levy County Property Appraiser's Office (2020).

Table VI-20. Flood Vulnerability in Unincorporated Levy County

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	793	601,651	101	90,113	20	37,777
Residential-Single-Family	556	58,872	352	37,436	160	37,404
Residential-Multi-Family	18	532	31	947	31	2,326
Residential-Mobile Homes	657	28,232	325	13,169	21	1,048
Commercial	21	4,325	38	2,973	10	2,737
Industrial	14	2,246	6	484		
Institutional	10	2,414	1	205		
Government	5	152,066	1	28,517	3	65,969
Misc. Infrastructure	0	827	3	4,142	0	1,003
Non-Ag Acreage	1	4,483	0	630	0	515
Vacant	4	20,125	0	13,326	0	9,429
TOTAL	2,079	875,773	858	191,942	245	158,208

Table VI-21. Population Vulnerable to Flood in Unincorporated Levy County

Housing Type	Zone A	Zone AE	Zone VE
Mobile Home Residential	1,541	573	35
Multifamily Residential	30	60	43
Single Family Residential	1,248	560	153

d. Analyzing Development Trends

Areas vulnerable to flood, including Cedar Key, Fanning Springs, Inglis, Otter Creek, and Yankeetown, as well as the County's other municipalities are expected to grow in population and density. Generalized future land uses located within surge areas include Agriculture, Conservation, Recreation, Public, Commercial, Industrial, and Residential. However, the greatest amount of land area vulnerable to flood has Conservation (County), Agriculture/Low Density Residential (County) and Forestry/Rural Residential (County) future land use designations. There have been no major developments in these areas since the 2021 update of this plan.

e. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

The tables below describe the structures and values, by municipality, that are vulnerable to flood. Williston is the least vulnerable mainly due to its elevation and location away from the coast and inland waterways. Bronson and Chiefland have a slightly higher vulnerability due to both municipalities having a lower elevation profile but still located inland similar to Williston. The highest flood vulnerability is found in Cedar Key, Fanning Springs, Inglis, Otter Creek, and Yankeetown, all of which are situated in low-lying areas along the Gulf Coast or adjacent to inland waterways.

Table VI-22. Flood Vulnerability in Bronson

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	3	662	5	1,806	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	8	380	27	2,109	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	4	149	3	117	0	0
Commercial	4	1,070	5	643	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	8	403	0	479	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	109	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	221	0	409	0	0
TOTAL	27	2,994	40	5,563	0	0

Table VI-23. Flood Vulnerability in Cedar Key

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	14	2,796
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	392	68,019
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	233	26,883
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	40	3,138
Commercial	0	0	0	0	95	15,048
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	95
Institutional	0	0	0	0	7	2,569
Government	0	0	0	0	44	18,405
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	1	405
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	14,962
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	826	152,320

Table VI-24. Flood Vulnerability in Chiefland

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	1	863	0	147	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	2	132	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	1	18	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	50	0	74	0	0
TOTAL	1	913	3	371	0	0

Table VI-25. Flood Vulnerability in Fanning Springs

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	365	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	3	571	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	3	2,253	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	439	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	6	3,628	0	0

Table VI-26. Flood Vulnerability in Inglis

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	1	632	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	81	5,455	179	23,426	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	38	874	5	177	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	182	4,462	18	526	0	0
Commercial	26	3,237	2	382	0	0
Industrial	8	490	0	0	0	0
Institutional	9	1,486	1	68	0	0
Government	3	938	1	51	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	2	253	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	1	3,413	0	3,273	0	0
TOTAL	351	21,240	206	27,903	0	0

Table VI-27. Flood Vulnerability in Otter Creek

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	5	1,852	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	6	221	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	5	123	0	0	0	0
Commercial	2	146	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	1	72	0	0	0	0
Government	0	12	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	25	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	231	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	19	2,682	0	0	0	0

Table VI-28. Flood Vulnerability in Williston

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	1	317	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	7	689	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	10	3,141	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	14,515	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	83	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	323	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	443	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	18	19,511	0	0	0	0

Table VI-29. Flood Vulnerability in Yankeetown

Use Category	A		AE		VE	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	801	0	694
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	347	35,768	80	15,979
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	45	961	2	37
Commercial	0	0	26	4,860	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	37	0	0
Institutional	0	0	6	1,223	0	20
Government	0	0	1	1,194	2	3,261
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	1,222
Vacant	0	0	0	5,059	0	2,490
TOTAL	0	0	425	49,903	84	23,703

3. Wildfires

a. Impacts

Dry weather and drought conditions are major contributing factors in the size and severity of a wildfire. Fuel load is also a factor in fire intensity and speaks to the need for well-managed forest lands. As stated previously Levy County has a high percentage of rural population. Those people and facilities located in rural, wooded areas are particularly vulnerable to wildfire. Subdivisions should be designed using FireWise principles and homeowners should create at least 30 feet of cleared area around the house for defensible space. This will be the most effective means to reduce the level of wildfire vulnerability in Levy County due to the large size of the County and the wide distribution of the unincorporated population.

Populations

All residents may be exposed to the effects of wildfires, but those located in the WUI likely face greater risks. Casualties related to smoke inhalation and vehicle accidents stemming from low visibility are among the greatest threats, while those in the agriculture sector may suffer income losses. Responders are also at risk during wildfire suppression activities.

Built Environment

Any threatened building could be at risk of loss or, at the very least, temporary closure. Highways could be closed due to low visibility, or, conversely, experience higher traffic during an evacuation.

Natural Resources

Because of the amount of agriculture and conservation lands within Levy County, forest areas and essential habitats would likely be lost during any wildfire event. Crops and livestock would also be affected.

Economy

Agricultural losses would likely be the greatest economic impact of a wildfire in Levy County, especially when not only considering current crop losses, but also future impacts and prolonged loss of employment for farm workers. Similarly, any businesses affected would lead to loss of wages and revenue. Tourism would also be expected to experience a significant downturn, especially long-term if a wildfire has affected conservation land.

Government

Many of the aforementioned impacts would also affect the government's ability to continue operations, especially if a wildfire were to impact any governmental structures or important transportation routes. Evacuations would also need to be coordinated and delivered in a timely manner to reduce the risk of injury or death to residents.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

There are many structures and property within areas vulnerable to wildfire. Per the Statewide Hazard Mitigation Plan (2023), the building and agricultural value of expected annual losses related to wildfire would total \$1,036,331.93 and affect 14,756 residents within the county. Below is a table with the number of buildings and total values. The data is from the Levy County Property Appraiser's Office (2020).

Table VI-30. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Unincorporated Levy County

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	5	3,131	4	1,171	6	2,314	28	19,316	1,185	602,255	1,043	398,099	170	106,420	0	1,853
Residential-Single-Family	11	1,158	62	11,460	74	8,756	168	18,005	2,548	233,906	1,393	132,844	88	8,386	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	2	431	0	0	0	46	41	1,164	64	1,551	11	296	2	91
Residential-Mobile Homes	8	462	42	1,138	143	4,997	301	10,410	4,619	174,973	1,733	68,194	42	1,266	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	2	110	8	441	137	14,508	69	8,213	6	797	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	84	33	4,564	36	3,756	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1,241	56	12,328	52	14,466	0	44	0	0
Government	0	5,867	1	5,816	0	2,862	2	11,374	20	234,561	5	55,288	0	4,593	0	4,580
Misc. Infrastructure	0	7	0	490	0	34	0	48	6	5,778	0	1,134	0	241	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	45	0	99	0	0	0	503	1	4,480	0	1,403	0	402	0	194
Vacant	0	409	2	2,912	0	3,141	3	8,614	43	96,667	16	33,072	1	2,435	0	243
TOTAL	24	11,080	113	23,517	225	22,214	514	70,082	8,689	1,385,185	4,411	718,021	318	124,880	2	6,960

c. Analyzing Development Trends

Generalized future land uses located within areas vulnerable to wildfire include Agriculture, Conservation, Recreation, Public, Commercial, Industrial, and Residential. However, the greatest amount of land area vulnerable to wildfire has Agriculture/Low Density Residential (County). There have been no major developments in these areas since the 2021 update of this plan.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

As previously noted, the majority of Levy County's population resides within its unincorporated areas. As illustrated in Figure V-7, the County has evaluated wildfire burn probability using a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 representing the lowest probability. The highest rating identified on the map is 8, which defines the upper limit reflected in the tables below. These tables summarize, by municipality, the structures and associated property values vulnerable to wildfire. Based on this information and Table VI-30, the overall wildfire vulnerability for the unincorporated county and all municipalities, except Cedar Key, is classified as medium. Cedar Key's island location and relative isolation reduce its wildfire risk compared to the rest of the county, resulting in a lower overall vulnerability rating.

Table VI-31. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Bronson

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	3,509	1	163	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	207	12,380	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	615	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152	3,981	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	5,701	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	507	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	1,928	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	8,570	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3,498	0	64	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	494	40,798	1	227	0	0	0	0

Table VI-32. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Cedar Key

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	3	601	1	212	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	65	9,191	105	22,070	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	63	9,730	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	18	1,292	2	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	24	1,968	3	349	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	1	288	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	12	0	616	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	2,306	0	4,945	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	110	15,369	175	38,350	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table VI-33. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Chiefland

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	8,664	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	333	19,138	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	243	4,857	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	1,948	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	113	46,351	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	1,517	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	11,064	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	9,279	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1,336	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	288	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6,429	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	930	110,872	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table VI-34. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Fanning Springs

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2,671	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	4,797	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	555	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	185	6,545	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	3,317	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	1,093	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	801	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5,697	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,523	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	338	32,006	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table VI-35. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Inglis

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	1	1,309	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	9	902	82	7,233	256	25,796	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	1,434	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	1,565	250	6,162	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	2	250	24	3,701	37	4,387	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	1,039	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	317	7	1,368	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	156	4	920	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	174	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	303	0	1,643	1	5,753	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	11	1,455	168	14,799	640	48,203	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table VI-36. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Otter Creek

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2,091	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	1,369	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	579	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	380	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	36	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	2,815	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	137	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	358	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89	95	7,765	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table VI-37. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Williston

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	8	2,585	7	467	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	11	549	0	0	0	0	76	2,803	302	26,376	9	1,141	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	1,750	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	107	29	646	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	2	231	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	9,533	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	1,858	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	5	695	0	0	0	0	2	162	17	6,005	1	3,903	0	0
Government	0	0	1	7,035	0	0	0	0	0	23	2	9,113	0	8,900	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	0	53	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	323	0	1,293	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	245	0	0	0	0	1	132	2	3,152	0	301	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	19	8,755	0	0	0	0	89	3,342	501	61,393	17	16,003	0	0

Table VI-38. Fire Vulnerability, Burn Probability in Yankeetown

	1- Lowest Probability		2		3		4		5- Medium Probability		6		7		8- High Probability	
Use Category	Bldgs or Unit	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s	Bldgs	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	6	812	0	0	0	0	0	260	0	625	0	609	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	11	731	0	0	0	0	0	0	182	23,102	111	10,719	29	6,990	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	7	192	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	607	0	0	0	0
Commercial	1	850	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	232	12	2,519	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1,223	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,041	1	116	2	3,260	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	298	0	925	0	0
Vacant	0	283	0	42	0	429	0	0	0	2,362	0	2,310	0	1,029	0	0
TOTAL	19	2,057	6	854	0	429	0	0	190	28,221	155	17,231	31	12,813	0	0

4. Sinkholes

a. Impacts

Sinkholes can be very sudden and relatively large. Prior to sinkhole collapse, a gradual settlement may occur in the affected area. Doors and windows in affected homes may fail to close properly and cracks may appear in the foundation. A circular pattern of ground cracks may form outlining the subsiding area and water may pond in the new low area where it has not previously. Differential distortion of a structure, where one portion of the building moves relative to another, causes cracks to form.

Populations

Sinkholes may open up anywhere in the county, but those who reside in more densely populated areas, specifically in Chiefland where sinkholes have historically been more prevalent compared to other areas in the county, are at a comparatively higher risk, as individual sinkholes may threaten many residents.

Built Environment

Similarly, critical infrastructure, such as schools, roads, and businesses, may be affected or damaged.

Natural Resources

Recreational and tourist areas would be damaged and potentially closed due to sinkholes. Sinkholes opening up nearby or within springs, rivers, and wetlands could have an impact on water run-off.

Economy

A sinkhole is unlikely to severely affect the economy of Levy County unless a large sinkhole were to form underneath a large business.

Government

Many of the aforementioned impacts would also affect the government's ability to continue operations, especially if a sinkhole were to impact any governmental structures or important transportation routes.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

For previous editions of the Levy County LMS Plan, a methodology for determining sinkhole vulnerability was created. Sinkhole vulnerability was determined according to points assigned to each 90m grid cell in the county. Three classes of points were assigned, for distance to historic sinkholes, geology, and soils:

2 points if cell was within 2000m of an existing sinkhole;

1 point if cell between 2000m and 5000m of an existing sinkhole;

1 point if the cell was in the same USGS surface geologic unit as an existing sinkhole; 1 point if the cell was in the same NRCS soil unit as an existing sinkhole.

Thus, each cell as assigned a value from 0 to 4:

0: no significant risk	1: low risk	2: moderate risk	3: high risk	4: very high risk
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This methodology was applied to Levy County using the newer County Property Appraiser data (2020) and more current sinkhole inventory. The total values of vulnerable areas categorized by land use were calculated to estimate potential loss.

Table VI-39. Population Vulnerable to Sinkhole Potential in Unincorporated Levy County

Housing Type	Sinkhole Vulnerability Rating				
	0	1	2	3	4
Mobile Home Residential	34	679	6,093	7,139	5,116
Multifamily Residential	9	99	94	48	43
Single Family Residential	11	467	3,748	4,036	2,938

Figure VI-3. Sinkhole Vulnerability

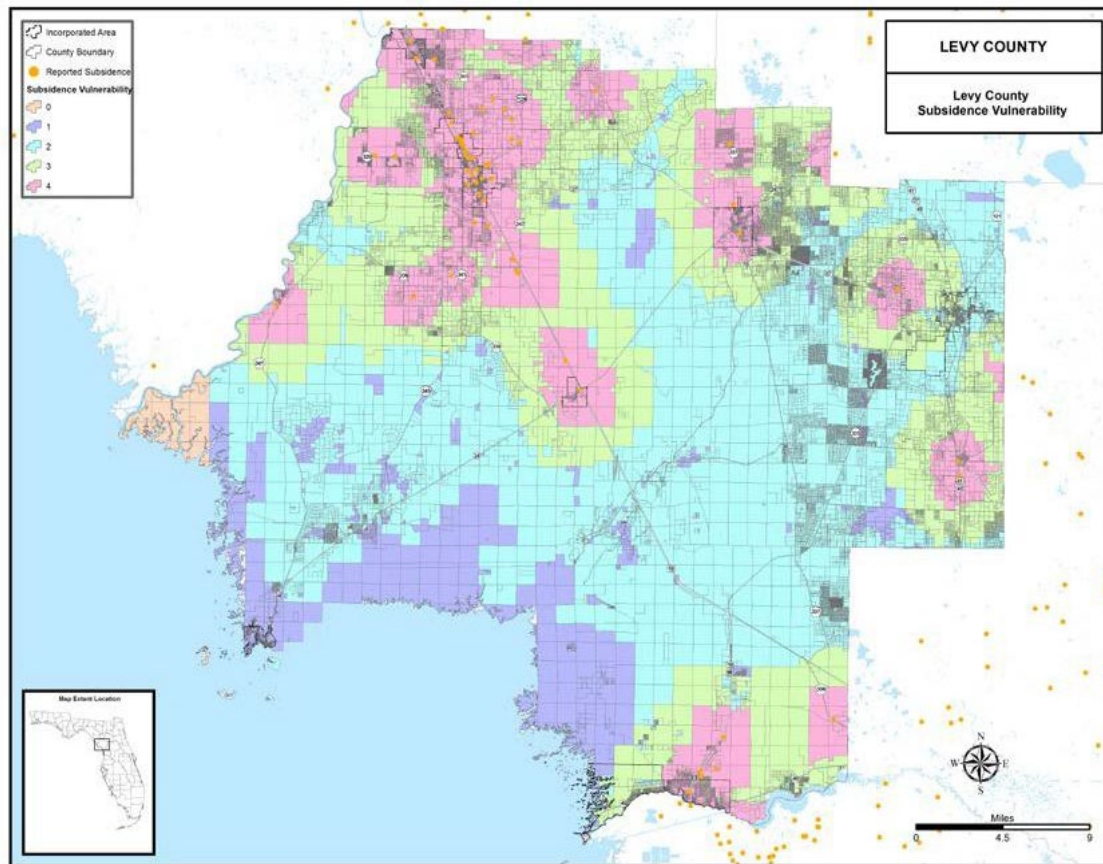


Table VI-40. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Unincorporated Levy County

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	1,183	104	58,776	868	465,604	932	383,665	563	233,288
Residential-Single-Family	4	262	330	51,741	1,541	136,149	1,737	160,153	1,259	120,579
Residential-Multi-Family	3	132	59	3,149	40	1,074	20	512	18	300
Residential-Mobile Homes	12	499	351	11,164	2,489	97,207	3,026	107,928	2,056	74,195
Commercial	0	0	7	1,475	43	6,803	74	6,195	119	11,945
Industrial	0	0	4	230	34	4,572	3	614	37	3,480
Institutional	0	0	2	341	35	9,234	42	8,423	40	11,177
Government	0	10,992	3	50,712	9	219,791	3	30,487	14	30,991
Misc. Infrastructure	0	5	0	862	1	1,416	2	490	3	5,190
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	1	1,245	0	3,210	0	1,447	0	1,225
Vacant	0	54	2	19,221	32	71,774	30	47,762	13	29,826
TOTAL	19	13,127	863	198,916	5,092	1,016,834	5,869	747,676	4,122	522,196

c. Analyzing Development Trends

Areas most vulnerable to sinkholes are mostly located in areas with significant limestone deposits. Generalized future land uses located within vulnerable sinkhole areas include Agriculture, Conservation, Recreation, Public, Commercial, Industrial, and Residential. However, the greatest amount of land area vulnerable to sinkholes has Agriculture/Low Density Residential (County) and Forestry/Rural Residential (County) future land use designations. There have been no major developments in these areas since the 2021 update of this plan.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

The tables below describe the structures and values, by municipality, that are vulnerable to sinkholes. Jurisdictions most vulnerable to sinkholes include Bronson, Chiefland, Fanning Springs, Inglis, Otter Creek, and Yankeetown.

Table VI-41. Population Vulnerable to Sinkhole Potential in Incorporated Areas

Municipality	Housing Type	0	1	2	3	4
Bronson	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	21	450
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	7	81
	Single Family Residential	0	0	0	61	642
Cedar Key	Mobile Home Residential	0	36	0	0	0
	Multifamily Residential	0	209	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	0	374	0	0	0
Chiefland	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	0	380
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	622
	Single Family Residential	0	0	0	0	1,132
Fanning Springs	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	0	549
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	77
	Single Family Residential	0	0	0	0	167
Inglis	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	7	129	471
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	146
	Single Family Residential	0	0	3	51	636
Otter Creek	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	0	56
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	0	0	0	0	68
Williston	Mobile Home Residential	0	4	331	0	0
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	233	143	0
	Single Family Residential	0	3	1,524	480	0
Yankeetown	Mobile Home Residential	0	0	0	64	0
	Multifamily Residential	0	0	0	0	0
	Single Family Residential	0	8	68	407	96

Table VI-42. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Bronson

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	1,378	14	3,672
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	59	218	12,900
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	199	26	877
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	140	165	4,318
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	8,588
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	220	5	507
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	3,579	19	2,261
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	126	25	5,651
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	300	0	109
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	6,001	534	38,883

Table VI-43. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Cedar Key

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	14	2,796	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	423	73,119	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	233	26,883	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	40	3,138	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	95	15,048	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	95	0	0	0	0	0	0
Institutional	0	0	13	3,666	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government	0	0	49	19,901	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	2	532	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	16,202	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	877	161,379	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table VI-44. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Chiefland

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	9,860
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	27,153
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	291	6,188
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156	3,299
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240	79,666
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	1,747
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	12,197
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	11,846
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1,522
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	288
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9,283
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,378	163,050

Table VI-45. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Fanning Springs

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2,671
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	4,841
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	555
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	194	6,993
Commercial	6	453	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	3,906
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	1,093
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1,011
Government	0	146	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7,395
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	235	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,778
TOTAL	6	835	0	0	0	0	0	0	356	35,249

Table VI-46. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Inglis

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	1	1,309
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	2	67	29	1,661	351	35,577
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	79	1,741
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	4	81	75	1,592	271	6,976
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	593	78	10,154
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	309	13	1,005
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	285	12	1,910
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1,077
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	174	1	79
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	11	1	1,107	0	8,577
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	6	159	113	5,732	811	68,404

Table VI-47. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Otter Creek

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	8	2,063
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	1,392
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	591
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	589
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	36
Institutional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	2,817
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	137
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	539
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	101	8,187

Table VI-48. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Williston

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	12	2,473	3	612	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	1	121	580	34,851	193	13,630	0	0
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	98	2,102	105	2,004	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	1	47	126	2,307	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	2	234	87	19,055	62	8,062	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	22	2,037	19	2,845	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	0	30	6,032	17	10,642	0	0
Government	0	0	0	0	13	11,259	3	18,623	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	1	519	0	58	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	0	0	0	0	1,616	0	0	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	129	9	3,205	0	2,371	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	4	531	978	85,456	402	58,848	0	0

Table VI-49. Sinkhole Vulnerability in Yankeetown

Use Category	0- No Significant Risk		1- Low Risk		2- Moderate Risk		3- High Risk		4- Very High Risk	
	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,494	0	0
Residential-Single-Family	0	0	13	5,353	54	7,958	303	28,031	57	10,404
Residential-Multi-Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential-Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	998	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	4,860	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0
Institutional	0	0	0	20	0	0	4	809	2	415
Government	0	0	0	962	0	152	3	3,342	0	0
Misc. Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Ag Acreage	0	235	0	299	0	221	0	466	0	0
Vacant	0	0	0	1,266	0	1,221	0	4,373	0	702
TOTAL	0	235	13	7,900	54	9,552	383	44,409	59	11,521

5. Coastal Erosion

a. Impacts

Compared to its total coastline mileage, Levy County has a relatively small portion designated as threatened by erosion. Much of this area consists of undeveloped private property or conservation land; however, structures are present along threatened sections of the coastline in Cedar Key. Coastal erosion occurs at varying levels throughout the county and is significantly intensified during strong storms and hurricanes.

Populations

People who live or work along the coastline face increased risk from erosion-related impacts. These risks include injury or death if structures become unstable, as well as additional danger when individuals and responders enter damaged or unsafe buildings after an erosion event.

Built Environment

Erosion can damage or destroy buildings and critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges, utilities, and water and sewer systems. Coastal roadways are particularly vulnerable and some in Cedar Key have experienced impacts from erosion in previous hurricane events.

Natural Resources

Coastal areas such as marshes and beaches may experience severe erosion, resulting in habitat loss and loss of conservation land.

Economy

Erosion may limit future development along the identified coastline in Cedar Key and increase vulnerability to storm surge flooding. The hospitality and tourism industry would be most affected by the loss of buildable land in this area.

Government

Continuity of operations may be disrupted if erosion damages businesses, critical infrastructure, or government facilities in Cedar Key.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

In the absence of tropical cyclone activity, erosion generally occurs gradually over time. Facilities most vulnerable to erosion are those located in or near the water under normal conditions, including bridges, docks, and boat ramps. Structures constructed on pilings are also susceptible to erosion. The table below summarizes the number of buildings and their total assessed values within areas vulnerable to coastal erosion. All areas identified as vulnerable are located in Cedar Key. The structures and values shown represent properties within approximately 500 feet, or about two city blocks, of identified erosion zones. Data were obtained from the Levy County Property Appraiser's Office (2020). Total values by land-use category were calculated to estimate potential losses.

Table VI-50. Coastal Erosion Vulnerability

Use Category	Bldgs or Units	Value \$1000s
Agriculture	NA	NA
Residential- Single-Family	72	15,153
Residential- Multi-Family	59	8,016
Residential- Mobile Homes	1	108
Commercial	19	3,576
Industrial	NA	NA
Institutional	4	790
Government	5	2,696
Misc. Infrastructure	NA	NA
Vacant	0	1,011
TOTAL	160	31,349

c. Analyzing Development Trends

Cedar Key is most vulnerable to coastal erosion. Cedar Key will continue to grow in population and density. Generalized future land uses located within coastal erosion areas include Conservation, Water-dependent Commercial, Public, and Residential. Since the 2021 update of this plan, several hurricanes and a major structural fire have affected Cedar Key, but rebuilding efforts are underway and coastal erosion remains a threat to these land use designations in Cedar Key.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

Cedar Key is the only municipality that is vulnerable to coastal erosion according to the DEP report. Table VI-50 above therefore describes structures and values in Cedar Key only. The county's remaining coastline lies within unincorporated areas and Yankeetown. Therefore, these areas have been assessed as having a low vulnerability.

6. Drought/Extreme Heat**a. Impacts**

Drought is often accompanied by prolonged periods of extreme heat. The most significant impact of extended drought is the financial burden placed on farmers due to crop losses and reduced livestock capacity. In severe cases, water rationing may be required. To mitigate potential power disruptions, critical facilities should maintain backup generators.

Populations

Drought and extreme heat pose significant risks to vulnerable populations, including children, older adults, low-income households, rural residents, outdoor workers, and first responders. Extreme heat can cause heat-related illnesses such as dehydration, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke, potentially leading to injury or death. Rural and underserved areas may face greater risk due to limited access to air conditioning, medical care, or water supplies. Drought conditions may also increase wildfire risk, limiting available water for firefighting and increasing responder exposure to heat-related overexertion.

Built Environment

Drought generally has limited direct impacts on buildings and infrastructure; however, secondary effects may occur. Water rationing is the most likely impact, affecting potable water systems and public facilities. Extreme heat can strain electrical systems, reduce cooling efficiency, and stress HVAC equipment, potentially leading to utility disruptions. Wildfires associated with drought conditions may damage or destroy structures, particularly in rural or wildland-urban interface areas.

Natural Resources

Prolonged drought and extreme heat can severely impact natural resources. Effects include lower water levels in rivers, wetlands, and the aquifer; reduced soil quality; and higher wildfire occurrence. Fish and wildlife may experience habitat loss, reduced food and water availability, increased disease, and forced migration. Extended drought conditions may also result in long-term environmental changes, including species endangerment and shifts in agricultural suitability.

Economy

The agricultural sector faces the greatest economic risk from drought and extreme heat. Crop losses, particularly among newly planted and drought-sensitive crops, and reduced livestock capacity can result in significant financial losses for farmers. Employment losses may occur in water-dependent or outdoor industries such as agriculture, aquaculture, and landscaping. Water bottling and similar industries may incur additional expenses to secure alternative water supplies.

Government

Water supply management is a primary concern during drought conditions. Government and utility managers may need to implement water restrictions to protect limited resources, which can impact service delivery and continuity of operations. Extreme heat may strain energy infrastructure, requiring backup power for critical facilities.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

All areas designated as agricultural within Levy County are susceptible to drought. Per the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), in 2022, the total market value of products sold by Levy County farms was \$144,581,000. A prolonged drought, therefore, could have a great financial impact to the county.

c. Analyzing Development Trends

As the population grows in Levy County, land in Agriculture uses may be lost to other uses. However, as Levy County is one of the least densely populated counties in Florida, and rate of growth is steady, agriculture will mostly likely remain one of the County's primary land uses and economic drivers. There have been no major developments in these areas since the 2021 update of this plan.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

Timber is Levy County's primary crop and is actively cultivated throughout the county, while traditional crops are concentrated in the Chiefland and Williston areas. Drought or extreme heat, particularly during planting seasons, can create significant hardship for these local agricultural economies. Cedar Key and Yankeetown are closely tied to the fisheries industry, which is vulnerable to prolonged heat that can elevate Gulf water temperatures and contribute to harmful algal blooms. Therefore, because drought and extreme heat events are often widespread and pose risks to each jurisdiction and its industries, the entire county has been assessed as having medium vulnerability to this type of event.

7. Severe Thunderstorms/Tornadoes**a. Impacts**

Tornadoes cause highly localized damage and typically occur as part of larger storm systems that bring flooding, lightning, hail, and straight-line winds. Severe tornadic activity can result in injury or death to humans and animals, particularly where shelter is limited. Damage to homes, businesses, and critical facilities varies based on construction type, building age, and storm intensity, with common impacts including fallen trees, debris damage, and power outages. Because tornadoes strike unpredictably, all areas and critical facilities in Levy County are considered vulnerable. While impacts are usually short-term and localized, damage potential increases with population density, and mobile homes, substandard housing, and dense residential developments are especially susceptible to high winds and structural failure.

Populations

All residents of Levy County are vulnerable to tornadoes due to their unpredictable nature. Rural residents, people living in mobile homes or substandard housing, and medically dependent individuals face increased risk. Tornadoes and associated severe weather can cause injury or death from strong winds, flying debris, flooding, and downed power lines. Poor driving conditions during storms may also lead to accidents or individuals becoming stranded. First responders face heightened risk due to direct exposure while operating in hazardous conditions.

Built Environment

Tornadoes can damage or destroy homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure, with impacts ranging from minor roof damage to complete structural failure. Mobile homes, non-elevated structures, and poorly constructed buildings are especially susceptible. Debris from tornadoes and falling trees frequently damage power lines, telecommunications systems, roadways, and utility infrastructure, resulting in power outages and service disruptions. Flash flooding associated with severe storms may cause roadway washouts and additional infrastructure damage.

Natural Resources

Environmental impacts from tornadoes are typically localized and short-term. Severe winds and flooding may cause damage to vegetation, waterways, and wildlife habitats within the affected area; however, long-term impacts to surrounding ecosystems are generally limited.

Economy

Economic losses from tornadoes are usually localized and short-term. Businesses may experience revenue loss due to property damage and power outages, while employees may face temporary loss of wages. In many cases, post-storm rebuilding and repair efforts result in increased economic activity. Agriculture, livestock, and fisheries may experience damage depending on the storm's location and intensity.

Government

Continuity of operations and service delivery may be disrupted by tornado-related damage to utilities and infrastructure, particularly power systems. While outages are often short-term, severe events may result in extended service interruptions.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

Due to the unpredictable and destructive nature of tornadoes, specific vulnerable facilities in Levy County cannot be identified. Mobile homes present the greatest concern, though wood-frame structures and concrete block buildings with wooden roof truss systems are also vulnerable to intense tornado winds.

The table below identifies active mobile home and RV parks in Levy County as of May 2025, based on data from FDOH. These locations represent areas with the highest concentrations of residents at the greatest risk from tornadoes and severe thunderstorm winds, especially if at or near capacity. Wind, hail, flash flooding, and lightning may also impact agriculture; however, potential crop and livestock losses are difficult to quantify due to the variable size and duration of storm events.

Table VI-51. Levy County Mobile Home Parks

Name	Location Address	City	Zip	Type	Mobile Home Spaces	RV Spaces	Tent Spaces	Beds In Cabins	Number Of Cabins
Breezy Acres RV Park	10050 NE 20 Avenue	Chiefland	32626	Recreational Vehicle Park	1	63	0	0	0
Cannon Oaks Mobile Home Park	10251 Highway 40 E	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	12	16	0	0	0
Circle Oaks	12650 NE Hwy 24	Archer	32618	Mobile Home Park	5	7	0	0	0
Dan's Mobile Home Park Inc.	1000 Hwy 40 E	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	8	23	0	0	0
Driftwood Mobile Home Park	2345 E Highway 40	Inglis	34449	Mobile Home Park	24	4	0	0	0

Local Mitigation Strategy**Levy County**

Name	Location Address	City	Zip	Type	Mobile Home Spaces	RV Spaces	Tent Spaces	Beds In Cabins	Number Of Cabins
Dumal Park	394 Highway 40 W	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	23	0	0	0
Gatorland R.V. Park Inc.	14951 SE Hwy 19	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	1	14	0	0	0
Park Blevins	3550 NW 120th Street	Chiefland	32626	Mobile Home Park	14	1	0	0	0
Manatee Springs RV Park	12570 NW 82nd Court	Chiefland	32626	Recreational Vehicle Park	10	33	0	0	0
Manatee Springs State Park	11650 NW 115 Street	Chiefland	32626	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	70	13	0	0
Fanning Springs Mobile Home Park	17960 Hwy 19	Fanning Springs	32693	Mobile Home Park	19	0	0	0	0
Parc Place	17250 NE 60th Street	Williston	32696	Mobile Home Park	13	0	0	0	0
Golden Stop RV Park	21151 NE Hwy 27	Williston	32696	Recreational Vehicle Park	4	32	0	0	0
Cedar Blessing RV Park	11951 SW Shiloh Road	Cedar Key	32625	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	78	0	0	0
Shady Oaks RV Resort, LLC	442 SW 3rd Street	Otter Creek	32683	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	24	0	0	2
Williston RV Park	14750 NE Highway 27	Williston	32696	Recreational Vehicle Park	1	8	0	0	0
Withlacoochee Bluegrass	19737 SE 127 Terrace	Dunnellon	34430	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	104	0	0	0
Sunset Isle RV Resort, LLC	11850 SW Highway 24	Cedar Key	32625	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	73	0	0	0
Palm Springs R.V. Park	5390 NE 180 Avenue	Williston	32696	Recreational Vehicle Park	1	31	0	8	4
Chiefland RV, LLC	600 NW 11th Avenue	Chiefland	32626	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	60	0	0	0
Florida Sheriff Caruth Camp	14770 SE Hwy 19	Inglis	34449	Recreational Camp	0	0	0	72	10
Oak Villa Mobile Home Park	6551 NW 135th Lane	Chiefland	32626	Mobile Home Park	8	0	0	0	0
Black Prong Equestrian Village LLC	450 SE CR 337	Bronson	32621	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	28	0	18	9
Chiefland RV, LLC (Market Place RV Park)	1206 N Young Boulevard	Chiefland	32626	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	21	0	0	0
Fanning Springs State Park Cabins	18020 NW Hwy 19	Fanning Springs	32693	Lodging Park	1	3	0	10	5
Williston Crossings RV Park	410 NE 5th Street	Williston	32696	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	436	0	0	0
Trailhead Ranch	9171 SE CR 337	Dunnellon	34430	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	72	0	0	1

Name	Location Address	City	Zip	Type	Mobile Home Spaces	RV Spaces	Tent Spaces	Beds In Cabins	Number Of Cabins
Cedar Key RV Resort	11980 SW Shiloh Road	Cedar Key	32625	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	99	0	0	0
Big Bass Village and Campground	10530 SE 201 Street	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	18	4	0	8
Blue Grotto Springs	3852 NE 172nd Court	Williston	32696	Lodging Park	0	3	5	0	11
Withlacoochee Backwaters RV & MH Park	19151 SE 135 Court	Dunnellon	34430	Recreational Vehicle Park	25	21	0	0	0
Fisher's Marina & Campground	6621 Riverside Drive	Yankeetown	34498	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	30	0	0	2
LowKey Hideaway Motel & RV Park	12050 SW State Rd. 24	Cedar Key	32625	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	12	0	0	0
Eleanor Oaks RV Park	41 Cattail Lane	Yankeetown	34498	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	71	0	0	0
Gulf Hammock Fishing Club	7951 SE 5 Avenue	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	50	0	0	0
Strawberry Fields RV Resort, LLC	1043 NE 4 Street	Chiefland	32626	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	436	0	0	0
Emerald Cove RV Resort	10930 SE 201 Street	Inglis	34449	Recreational Vehicle Park	0	44	0	0	0
Bronson Heights MHP	9770 NE SR 27	Bronson	32621	Mobile Home Park	4	2	0	0	0
Wagon Wheel Mobile Home Community	8053 SE 140 Lane	Inglis	34449	Mobile Home Park	19	11	0	0	0
Village Pines Mobile Home Community	8053 SE 140 Lane	Inglis	34449	MHP/RV/ Migrant Housing	25	25	0	0	0
Southern Leisure RV Resort	505 NW 21 Avenue	Chiefland	32626	MHP/RV/ Migrant Housing	0	219	0	0	0
Inglis Lakeside RV MHC	10050 Hwy 40 E	Inglis	34449	Mobile Home Park	10	32	0	0	0
Inglis Lakeside RV MHP II	10051 Hwy 40 Estate	Inglis	34449	Mobile Home Park	3	9	0	0	0

c. Analyzing Development Trends

Because vulnerability to tornadoes cannot be determined geographically, development trends within a vulnerable area cannot be analyzed. Regardless, there have been no major developments since the 2021 update of this plan.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

All jurisdictions within Levy County are equally vulnerable to tornadoes.

8. Severe Winter Storms/Freeze
a. Impacts

Populations

Severe winter storms and freeze events pose risks to vulnerable populations, including older adults, low-income households, and individuals without adequate heating. Impacts may include injury or death from hypothermia or frostbite and carbon monoxide poisoning from improper heater use.

Built Environment

Winter storms primarily affect transportation and utility infrastructure rather than buildings. Roads and bridges are highly vulnerable to icing, leading to accidents, congestion, and roadway damage such as cracks and potholes. Ice accumulation and falling trees may down electrical transmission lines, causing power outages. Additional impacts may include damage to plumbing, water and sewer lines, minor roof damage, propane supply disruptions, and house fires related to portable heating sources.

Natural Resources

Freeze events and winter weather can damage vegetation, green spaces, and wildlife habitats. Ice accumulation may cause trees and limbs to fail, resulting in localized environmental damage. Long-term environmental impacts are generally limited.

Economy

Agriculture is vulnerable to freeze events, which can cause crop and livestock losses and associated financial impacts. However, due to the types of farms and growing seasons in Levy County, these effects are generally minor, especially when compared to freeze impacts on South Florida's citrus industry, which has minimal presence in the county.

Government

Continuity of operations and service delivery may be disrupted during and after winter storm events due to staffing shortages, hazardous travel conditions, power outages, and increased emergency response demands. Limited snow and ice removal resources in Florida can exacerbate impacts.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

Generally, structures are not vulnerable to severe winter storm/freeze in Levy County. However, the agricultural sector and respective land areas can be significantly harmed by severe winter storm/freeze. Table VI-6 and Table VI-7 describe structures and values by jurisdiction, categorized as Agriculture, as Agricultural land will be the most affected. Power supply facilities have proven to be the most vulnerable critical facilities because winter storms with an extended time frame cause peak use periods to also be extended. The result is that power suppliers cannot meet demand and must generate a pattern of "rolling brown-outs" that create temporary power outages in a geographic pattern.

c. Analyzing Development Trends

As the population grows in Levy County, land in Agriculture uses may be lost to other uses. However, as Levy County is one of the least densely-populated counties in Florida, and rate of growth is steady, Agriculture will mostly likely remain one of the County's primary land uses and economic drivers. There have been no major developments since the 2021 update of this plan.

d. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

Tables VI-6 and VI-7 describe the Agricultural structures and values, by municipality, that are vulnerable to severe winter storms/freeze.

9. Dam Failure

a. Impacts

Populations

Residents in areas located within the Inglis Lock and Dam inundation zone face the greatest risk from dam failure. Potential impacts include drowning, exposure to hazardous materials or wastewater, and becoming trapped while awaiting rescue. Populations outside inundation areas may also be affected by evacuation-related traffic congestion and accidents caused by driving through flooded roadways. First responders face elevated risk due to hazardous travel conditions, floodwaters, debris, downed power lines, and potential exposure to contaminated water.

Built Environment

Dam failure can result in sudden and severe flooding that damages or destroys homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure. Mobile homes, non-elevated structures, and poorly constructed buildings are especially vulnerable. Impacts may include structural damage, mold infestation, loss of personal property, roadway washouts, sinkholes, and disruption or loss of potable water, electrical, and telecommunications services.

Natural Resources

Dam failure can cause erosion, loss of wetlands and farmland, destruction of aquatic and terrestrial habitats, fish and wildlife mortality, and exposure of natural systems to hazardous materials or wastewater.

Economy

Dam failure can result in significant economic losses due to damage to businesses, infrastructure, and agricultural lands. Impacts may include business closures, temporary or permanent job losses, loss of agricultural productivity, high recovery and cleanup costs, dam repair or rehabilitation expenses, and long-term environmental remediation costs.

Government

Continuity of government operations may be disrupted if floodwaters damage facilities, records, or critical infrastructure, or restrict access to government buildings.

b. Estimating Potential Loss

Structures in Inglis and Yankeetown located adjacent to the Withlacoochee River are most vulnerable to flooding resulting from dam failure. The Yankeetown Town Hall and Fire Department, located approximately one block from the river, are also at risk in such an event. Parcels adjacent to the Withlacoochee River represent the areas most susceptible to dam-failure flooding. The table below summarizes the number of structures and their total assessed values by land-use category within this vulnerable area (2020). The extent of potential damage is not estimated due to a lack of available data.

Table VI-52. Dam Failure Vulnerability

Use Category	# Bldgs	Value
Agriculture	0	466,667
Residential- Single-Family	258	69,650,340
Residential- Multi-Family	NA	NA
Residential- Mobile Homes	16	949,793
Commercial	3	1,813,341
Industrial	1	83,490
Institutional	NA	NA
Government	0	901,206
Misc. Infrastructure	5	9,451,405
TOTAL	283	83,316,241

e. Analyzing Development Trends

Areas vulnerable to flood from dam failure include Yankeetown and Inglis. Generalized future land uses located within these vulnerable areas include Conservation, Recreation, Commercial, Industrial, with the majority of the area in Residential. There have been no major developments in these areas since the 2021 update of this plan.

f. Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

The tables below describe the structures and values, by municipality, that are vulnerable to flooding from dam failure.

Table VI-53. Dam Failure Vulnerability by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	# Bldgs	TOTAL Value
Inglis	178	\$41,258,720
Yankeetown	104	\$36,798,406
Levy Un-Incorporated	1	\$5,259,116

VII. HAZARD MITIGATION PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Mitigation initiatives are developed based on the community's guiding principles for hazard mitigation and are intended to reduce vulnerability to hazards. Their relevance is supported by the vulnerability assessment included in this strategy, and the initiatives accurately reflect the community's needs. The LMSWG should continue to ensure that local priorities are incorporated into mitigation initiatives. These efforts support the development of projects aligned with the community's overall hazard mitigation vision or that directly address identified vulnerabilities. Documenting and tracking annual expenditures on mitigation activities will help identify how funds are allocated. Because some federal grant programs require local matching funds, local governments are encouraged to maintain records of ongoing mitigation activities. In addition, establishing procedures to monitor and coordinate these expenditures will help expedite recovery from future natural disasters.

Existing Plans and Programs

One of the most effective ways to implement the LMS is through the development and execution of initiatives that directly support its goals and objectives. These initiatives help address existing hazards and vulnerabilities while ensuring consistency across local planning efforts. As part of this process, existing plans are periodically reviewed and updated to align with LMS priorities so that all planning activities contribute toward shared mitigation goals. Planning mechanisms reviewed for integration include floodplain management ordinances, the comprehensive plans of participating jurisdictions, Levy County policies, and the CEMP.

LCEM oversees the integration of the LMS into local government planning processes. Several plans, including the CEMP and the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), include established review cycles that allow for regular incorporation of LMS goals and objectives. During these cycles, Emergency Management staff evaluates the LMS for consistency and identifies opportunities to incorporate mitigation priorities into plan updates. Information developed through the LMS risk assessment is also used to inform revisions to other planning documents, such as updates to the CEMP.

In addition to scheduled planning cycles, Emergency Management staff actively seeks opportunities to integrate LMS objectives into plans under development that fall outside of routine updates. This includes identifying mitigation-related elements in emerging plans and ensuring that LMS policies and initiatives are addressed. Strategic planning efforts support this approach by evaluating both short- and long-term needs and addressing gaps through policy development and budget decisions. Between 2021 and 2026, several mitigation objectives were incorporated into local planning mechanisms. This influence can be seen in Table IX-1, which details recent municipal and county planning updates.

Current Project List and Changes in Development

The LMS project list should be used to guide local government mitigation activities on an ongoing basis and can function as a road map after a disaster. Upon notice of funds awarded in a post disaster situation, the LMSWG will meet to vote on the projects and evaluate them based on needs as well as costs to benefits in order to maximize available allocated monies. The projects included on this list are justified based on each community's vulnerability assessment, and are supported by guiding principles and existing policies and ordinances. From the beginning of the 2026 rewrite process, the LMSWG determined that the 2021 project list is outdated. The LMSWG decided to introduce a new project list for the five-year planning cycle. Many projects were completed or deemed no longer a priority for the County or the municipality who nominated them. Below in Table VII-1 is an explanation for each project and why it was removed. The group decided that all previously existing projects that were still relevant but not addressed or mitigated were to remain included on the current project list.

Additionally, since the 2021 update, there have been no significant changes in development within the Unincorporated County or its jurisdictions that would affect vulnerability to the identified hazards in each of the respective communities.

Table VII-1. 2021 LMS Plan Project List Status Updates

Jurisdiction	Projects Eliminated from Project List	Reason For Elimination
Bronson	Storm Damage on Oak Street	Ineligible for funding
Cedar Key	Water Well Filtration System for Community Center	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Cedar Key	Portable Generator for Community Center	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Cedar Key	Raise a section of G Street between 1st Street and 4th Street that continually floods	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Cedar Key	Hardening for Roof, Doors and Windows at Community Center	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Chiefland	City Well Improvements	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Chiefland	City Emergency Operations Center Equipment	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Chiefland	City Emergency Operations Center Equipment	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Chiefland	Storm Shutters for Building Department	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Chiefland	Storm Shutters for Police Department	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Fanning Springs	City of Fanning Springs Sewer Project	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Fanning Springs	Waste Water Project	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Fanning Springs	Water Well Improvements- replace arsenic wells	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Fanning Springs	Island causeway improvement project	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Inglis	Palm Street Road Improvements- Enlarge Culverts, Widen Bridge and Provide Safety Bumpers at Palm Street	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Inglis	Pave Critical Evacuation Route of Gladys Street from hammock Road to US19	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Inglis	Town of Inglis Sewer System Feasibility Study	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Inglis	Construct Addition to Fire Station for Central Command Headquarters Levy	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	Station generators at Levy County Fire Rescue Station 4, 6, 9, 10, and 11	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	Redundant radio communication dispatch capability at the Levy County Public Safety Complex	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	Replace six (6) Radio communication tower sites in the Levy county	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	Replace all the windows at the Levy County Public Safety Complex with high impact windows	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	Hardening of facilities structures at the Levy County Public Safety Complex	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	Improving stormwater drainage in Inglis- Yankeetown area	Split out into multiple separate projects within each jurisdiction
Levy County	Levy County- 800 MHZ Williston	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Levy County	County- 800 MHZ Cedar Key	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Williston	Generator for Hospital Lift Station	Hospital no longer in service
Williston	New Emergency Warning Sirens plus materials to hook sirens to poles.	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status

Jurisdiction	Projects Eliminated from Project List	Reason For Elimination
Williston	Generator for Williston Elementary School	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Williston	Generator for Fire and Police Station with 24 Hour dispatch	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Williston	Drainage improvements to NW 4 th St.	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Williston	Drainage Improvements on South Main Street at US 27	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Williston	Pressure Reducing Valve for Potable Water System	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Williston	New Emergency Warning Sirens plus materials to hook up sirens to poles.	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Yankeetown	Implement Stormwater management plan	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Yankeetown	Develop Stormwater management plan	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status
Yankeetown	Establish Back-Up Emergency Operations and Preparedness Center	Removed as of February 2022 LMS Project List update (per February 14, 2022 email) due to a change in priorities/status

A list of current mitigation initiatives is presented in Table VII-2. These projects are intended to mitigate existing and known hazards within the jurisdictions that nominated them and represent proposed mitigation actions to be implemented should funding become available and prioritized following a disaster event. The list is organized by jurisdiction and is therefore not ranked. Project rankings are determined through a group scoring process based on vulnerability analyses conducted by staff for the LMSWG in accordance with approved criteria. The nomination and scoring procedures are described in Section IX, Administration, and the formal ranking methodology is defined in Chapter IX, Section B.

Table VII-2. Project List Submitted for 2026

Description of Project	Potential Funding Source	Jurisdiction	Responsible Parties	Estimated Cost	Timeframe for Completion
Mitigation Public Outreach	General Fund	All Jurisdictions	Levy County	\$25,000	Continuous
150kw Generator Steven Street Lift Station	BRIC	Bronson	Town of Bronson	\$150,000	30 days
Culvert Pipe 430 Margate St.	BRIC	Bronson	Town of Bronson	\$100,000	30 days
Culvert Pipe Between 569-610 School Street	BRIC	Bronson	Town of Bronson	\$100,000	30 days
City of Cedar Key Residential Elevations	HMGP	Cedar Key	City of Cedar Key	\$2,555,363.90	4 -6 Months
Dock Street shoreline protection	HMGP/BRIC	Cedar Key	Levy County	\$3,000,000.00	12 months
Cedar Key Water & Sewer Mitigation	BRIC	Cedar Key	Cedar Key Water & Sewer	\$250,000	4 - 6 Months
Beachfront Hotel Acquisition	HMGP	Cedar Key	City of Cedar Key	\$1,585,633	30 days
Pavement and Storm Water Improvements for SW 4th Street	HMGP	Chiefland	City of Chiefland	\$300,000	30 days
Replace Hudson St. Culvert Flood	HMGP	Inglis	Inglis Town Clerk	\$150,000	30 days
Firewise Education and Outreach	General Fund	Levy County	Levy County	\$10,000	Continuous
Fuel load reduction project	HMGP	Levy County	Levy County	\$100,000	Continuous
Generator for Animal Shelter	HMGP /BRIC	Levy County	Levy County	\$35,000	30 days
Backup generators for water plant equipment	HMGP / BRIC	Otter Creek	Otter Creek Town Clerk	\$250,000	30 days
Safe Room Addition	BRIC	Trenton (Levy)	Levy County	\$25,000	30 days
NW 7th Street Drainage Improvements	BRIC	Williston	City of Williston	\$981,303	12 months
NW 5th Place Drainage Improvements	FMA	Williston	City of Williston	\$600,000	12 months
BMP Alt Analysis Proj 1 - NW 2nd St and NE 2nd Ave Drainage Improvements	HMGP	Williston	City of Williston	\$855,000	15 months
BMP Alt Analysis Proj 3 - South Main St DRA Enhancements	HMGP	Williston	City of Williston	\$187,000	15 months

Description of Project	Potential Funding Source	Jurisdiction	Responsible Parties	Estimated Cost	Timeframe for Completion
BMP Alt Analysis Proj 4 - SW 1st Ave Drainage Improvements	HMGP	Williston	City of Williston	\$607,000	15 months
BMP Alt Analysis Proj 5 - SE 1st Ave Drainage Improvements	HMGP	Williston	City of Williston	\$497,000	15 months
BMP Alt Analysis Proj 6, 7, and 8 - SE 5th St & Epperson Park Drainage Improvements; Main St Drainage Improvements; NE 2nd Ave Drainage Improvements	HMGP	Williston	City of Williston	\$511,000	24 months
Lift Station Backup Generators, 13 sites	CDBG-DR	Williston	City of Williston	\$6,600,000	15 months
Lift Station Replacements, 4 sites (LS-3, LS-6, LS-7, and LS-14)	CDBG-DR	Williston	City of Williston	\$4,000,000	24 months
Williston Animal Shelter Backup Generator	HMGP	Williston	City of Williston	\$250,000	12 months
Upgrade Electrical Distribution System	HMGP/FMA	Williston	City of Williston	\$225,000	12 months
Generator 150KW for sewer lift station. Located at Williston Middle/HS which is used as a County Evacuation Center	HMGP / BRIC	Williston	City of Williston	\$150,000	30 days
Generator 150KW for sewer lift station. Fugate, NW 4th Street	HMGP / BRIC	Williston	City of Williston	\$150,000	30 days
Generator 150KW for sewer lift station. Acree, SW 6th Avenue	HMGP / BRIC	Williston	City of Williston	\$150,000	30 days
Hardening of City Hall for Hurricane storm related damage	HLMP	Williston	City of Williston	\$200,000	4 - 6 months
Town of Yankeetown Residential Elevations	HMGP	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$4,378,258.11	4 -6 Months
Yankeetown Townhall Elevation	HMGP	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$719,248.47	4 -6 Months
64th/67th street drainage	HMGP	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$1,500,000	30 days
Replace undersized culvert at Hickory Ave. Construct a series of swales and culverts at Riverside and 67th street	HMGP	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$340,000	30 Days
Fuel Load Reduction project	HMGP	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	100,000	Continuous
Remove and rebuild a new elevated Town Government Center to prevent future storm surge flooding	HMGP	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$450,000	12 months
Elevation of home (16 62nd St)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (49 Magnolia)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (6002 Riverside Dr.)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (62 62nd St.)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (6112 Riverside Dr.)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (37 65th St)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (44 Magnolia)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (28 Magnolia)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (26 Magnolia)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (12 Palm Dr.)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (6626 Riverside Dr.)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (17 Magnolia)	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months
Elevation of home (19 61st Street	HMGP/FMA	Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown	\$100,000	4 -6 Months

Note: BRIC= Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities; CDBG= Community Development Block Grants; HMGP= Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; FMA= Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program; HLMP= Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program

Table VII-3. Hazards Related to Each Project

Jurisdiction	Project Description	Tropical Cyclone	Floods	Wild fire	Sink holes	Coastal Erosion	Drought/Extreme	Tornadoes/Severe Weather	Severe Winter Storm/Freeze	Dam Failure
Yankeetown	Town of Yankeetown Residential Elevations	X	X							X
Cedar Key	City of Cedar Key Residential Elevations	X	X			X				
Yankeetown	Yankeetown Townhall Elevation	X	X							X
Cedar Key	Dock Street Shoreline Project	X				X				
Yankeetown	64 th /67 th Street Drainage		X					X		
Williston	Upgrade Electrical Distribution System	X					X		X	
Yankeetown	Replace undersized culvert at Hickory Avenue & construct series of swales and culverts at Riverside Drive and 67 th St.		X					X		
Inglis	Replace Hudson Street Culvert		X					X		
Williston	Generator 150KW for sewer lift station. Located at Williston Middle/High School which is used as a County Evacuation Center	X								
Chiefland	Pavement and Storm Water Improvements for SW 4th Street	X	X					X		
All Jurisdictions	Mitigation Public Outreach	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Levy County	Firewise Education and Outreach			X						
Levy County	Fuel load reduction project	X	X	X						
Levy County	Generator for Animal Shelter	X	X	X				X		
Williston	Generator 150KW for sewer lift station. Fugate, NW 4th Street	X							X	
Otter Creek	Backup generators for water plant equipment	X							X	
Williston	Generator 150KW for sewer lift station. Acree, SW 6th Avenue	X							X	
Williston	Hardening of City Hall for Hurricane storm related damage	X								
Yankeetown	Fuel Load Reduction project	X	X	X						
Yankeetown	Remove and rebuild a new elevated Yankeetown Government Center to prevent future storm surge flooding	X								
Bronson	150kw Generator Steven Street Lift Station	X							X	
Bronson	Culvert Pipe 430 Margate St.		X					X		
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (16 62nd St)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (49 Magnolia)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (6002 Riverside Dr.)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (62 62nd St.)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (6112 Riverside Dr.)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (37 65th St)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (44 Magnolia)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (28 Magnolia)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (26 Magnolia)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (12 Palm Dr.)	X	X							X
Trenton (Levy)	Safe Room Addition	X						X		
Cedar Key	Cedar Key Water & Sewer Mitigation	X				X				
Cedar Key	Beachfront Hotel Acquisition	X				X				
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (6626 Riverside Dr.)	X	X							X
Bronson	Culvert Pipe Between 569-610 School Street		X					X		
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (17 Magnolia)	X	X							X
Yankeetown	Elevation of home (19 61st Street	X	X							X
Williston	NW 7th Street Drainage Improvements		X					X		
Williston	NW 5th Place Drainage Improvements		X					X		
Williston	BMP Alt Analysis Proj 1 - NW 2nd St & NE 2nd Ave Drainage Improvements		X					X		
Williston	BMP Alt Analysis Proj 3 - South Main St DRA Enhancements		X					X		
Williston	BMP Alt Analysis Proj 4 - SW 1st Ave Drainage Improvements		X					X		
Williston	BMP Alt Analysis Proj 5 - SE 1st Avr Drainage Improvements		X					X		

Local Mitigation Strategy

Levy County

Jurisdiction	Project Description	Tropical Cyclone	Floods	Wild fire	Sink holes	Coastal Erosion	Drought/Extreme Heat	Tornadoes/Severe Weather	Severe Winter/Storm/Freeze	Dam Failure
Williston	BMP Alt Analysis Proj 6, 7, and 8 - SE 5h St & Epperson Park Drainage Improvements; Main St Drainage Improvements; NE 2nd Ave Drainage Improvements		X					X		
Williston	Lift Station Backup Generators, 13 sites	X							X	
Williston	Lift Station Replacements, 4 sites (LS-3, LS-6, LS-7, and LS-14)	X							X	
Williston	Williston Animal Shelter Backup Generator	X								

VIII. FUNDING SOURCES

The following list of federal and state funding sources are those that will be considered in the LMS. These sources are administered through the state of Florida. It is recommended that further information on any of these grant funding sources be investigated by accessing the FDEM website, which contains information on historical and potential funding sources for disaster mitigation, recovery and long-term redevelopment projects funded by federal, state and other organizations. FDEM provides representative examples of grant projects that have been approved by each grant funding resource. Program descriptions, eligibility requirements, application procedures, and contact information are provided for various funding sources.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) operates under the authority of Public Law 100-707, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. There are two hazard mitigation programs authorized under the Stafford Act. The site-specific mitigation under Section 406 is part of each Damage Survey Report that is written if authorized by the federal/state/local officials and is in accordance with any applicable rules and regulations. This type of mitigation receives 75 percent federal money and requires a state/local match of 25 percent.

The HMGP under Section 404 provides 75/25 matching funds to eligible applicants to implement immediate and long-term hazard mitigation measures. A total of up to 15 percent of the combined public assistance and individual assistance programs are available to fund hazard mitigation projects. These measures will be consistent with the state's Hazard Mitigation Administrative Plan and the Hazard Mitigation Plan developed in response to the planning requirements of the Stafford Act.

The HMGP is used to fund projects to protect either public or private property. Examples are:

- Structural hazard control or protection, such as debris basins or stormwater facilities.
- Retrofitting of critical facilities, such as flood proofing or installation of hurricane shutters.
- Property acquisition, relocation, and elevation to protect structures from future damage.
- Development of state and local mitigation standards, and comprehensive mitigation plans or programs with implementation as an essential component.

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

BRIC provides grants to identify and implement mitigation actions that reduce risks from natural hazards, promote partnerships that enable high-impact investments, support the adoption and enforcement of codes and standards, and reduce disaster losses while protecting life and property. Section 1234 amended Section 203 of the Stafford Act to establish the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, creating a new pre-disaster hazard mitigation funding mechanism that sets aside six percent of federal post-disaster grant funding for mitigation activities.

Eligible applicants include states and U.S. territories that have experienced a major disaster declaration within the past seven years, as well as federally recognized tribes located wholly or partially within those states. Public utilities are eligible, and private non-profit or private for-profit utilities may participate if a local government submits an application on their behalf. To be eligible for BRIC funding, proposed projects should be included in an approved local hazard mitigation plan. Grant funding is provided on a cost-share basis, generally 75 percent federal and 25 percent non-federal, with a reduced match of 10 percent for small and impoverished communities. Non-federal cost share contributions may include cash, donated or third-party in-kind services, materials, or a combination of these. Applications are submitted by eligible recipients, such as states or tribes, which then make sub-awards to local governments and utilities for approved projects.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program provides grants to support the planning and implementation of projects that reduce or eliminate flood risk to structures insured under the NFIP. Eligible activities include elevation, acquisition, or relocation of flood-prone structures, dry floodproofing of non-residential buildings, small local flood reduction projects, and flood mitigation planning efforts. All funded projects must demonstrably reduce flood risk, and funding is made available annually through a competitive selection process. Eligible participants include public utilities, as well as private non-profit and private for-profit utilities when a local government submits an application on their behalf. Utilities must have NFIP-insured structures, and proposed projects should be included in an approved local hazard mitigation plan. Funding is generally provided on a 75 percent federal and 25 percent non-federal cost-share basis, with increased federal shares available for small and impoverished communities. Properties classified as Repetitive Loss may receive up to a 90 percent federal cost share, while Severe Repetitive Loss properties may be eligible for up to 100 percent federal funding. Applications are submitted by eligible applicants, including states, U.S. territories, the District of Columbia, and federally recognized tribes, which then issue sub-awards to local governments and utilities. States are responsible for prioritizing and directing mitigation activities, and all proposed projects must meet FEMA's benefit-cost analysis requirements using approved tools and methodologies.

Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP)

FDEM created the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program as a state-funded mitigation initiative designed to reduce damage caused by hurricanes. The program was established in response to the significant impacts of Hurricane Andrew, particularly on Florida's insurance market, and is funded through the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Trust Fund. With an annual budget of approximately \$7 million, the program supports activities that enhance property resilience, including retrofits to residential, commercial, and mobile home properties, as well as public education, outreach, and hurricane-related research. A portion of the program funding, up to \$3.5 million, is allocated through the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program Grant to improve community resiliency. Through partnerships with local governments, housing authorities, and non-profit organizations, the program promotes wind and flood mitigation and supports hazard mitigation retrofitting for residential and commercial structures. Eligible activities include structural retrofits, inspections, tree trimming, property acquisition and demolition, localized flood risk reduction measures, and construction or modification of building components to improve resistance to hurricane-force winds and flooding. All retrofitting activities are required to meet the standards of the Florida Building Code, and reimbursement grants of up to \$250,000 may be used to support projects identified in an approved LMS.

Elevate Florida

Elevate Florida is a statewide residential hazard mitigation program administered by FDEM to help homeowners reduce future damage from floods and hurricanes. The program was established administratively by FDEM under its authority in Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, to implement federal hazard mitigation funding in a more streamlined and homeowner-focused manner. The program is open to eligible residential property owners in Florida. Applicants must generally be able to provide a non-federal cost share, typically up to 25 percent of project costs, although some federal funding sources may reduce or eliminate this match for certain high-risk properties. Prior flood damage is not required for eligibility, but properties with greater vulnerability or loss history may be prioritized. Elevate Florida funds projects that reduce long-term risk from natural hazards, including structure elevation, mitigation reconstruction, wind mitigation improvements, and voluntary acquisition and demolition of high-risk homes. Projects are managed by the program from application through construction and must meet federal cost-effectiveness and environmental requirements. Initial funding for the program totaled approximately \$400 million in federal mitigation grants, with project funding caps varying by project type and funding source. The

program was designed to accelerate mitigation implementation statewide and reduce future disaster losses while easing the administrative burden on local governments.

Florida Communities Trust

The Florida Communities Trust (FCT) is a state-funded land acquisition program created by Chapter 380, Florida Statutes. The grant programs administered by FCT were initially funded through bonds issued under Preservation 2000 and currently through the Florida Forever Act. FCT assists communities with protecting natural resources, providing recreational opportunities and preserving Florida's traditional working waterfronts through the competitive criteria outlined in the Parks and Open Space and the Stan Mayfield Working Waterfronts Florida Forever Grant Programs. FCT is governed by a five-member board with the Secretary of DEP or their designee serving as the chair.

FCT helps Florida communities create local recreational opportunities, ensure public access to our beautiful beaches, protect our historical and cultural resources, preserve Florida's commercial fishing heritage and traditional working waterfronts, and provide clean air and drinking water essential to creating livable communities. FCT helps local governments implement their comprehensive plans through the acquisition of land and utilize funds from the Florida Forever Program. As a non-regulatory program, FCT promotes innovative solutions to the challenges inherent in the comprehensive planning process.

Since its inception in 1989, FCT has facilitated the acquisition of over 96,987 acres of lands for conservation and local recreational opportunities. Through Preservation 2000 and Florida Forever, FCT grants total almost \$875 million with local matching funds of \$754 million for a combined total of \$1.6 billion dollars.

Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The CDBG is designed to create viable communities by providing decent housing, suitable living environments, and expanded economic opportunities, with a primary focus on benefiting low- and moderate-income households. Funds are distributed based on factors such as population, poverty, overcrowding, and the age of housing stock. The program can support housing rehabilitation, public infrastructure improvements, community facilities, economic development initiatives, public services, property acquisition, and in some cases disaster recovery efforts. To comply with federal requirements, at least 70 percent of funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons, and each funded activity must meet one of three national objectives: benefiting low- and moderate-income individuals, preventing or eliminating slum and blight, or addressing urgent community needs.

IX. ADMINISTRATION

Updating and Revising the LMS

The LMS will be reviewed annually, or as circumstances dictate, by the LMSWG.

A. Existing Policies, Ordinances, and Regulations that Affect Mitigation

Listed in the table below are provisions within each municipality's and the County's laws and priorities that affirm and enhance mitigation efforts countywide. It should be noted that each municipality previously adopted the 2021 LMS Plan update via local ordinance; therefore, the policies, ordinances, and regulations identified here represent actions that go beyond that commitment – either through other municipal plans or through new policies, ordinances, and regulations adopted since the 2021 update. To support continuous improvement, the LMSWG Chair conducts a review of local policies, ordinances, and programs at least every two years, allowing for regular reassessment of needs and capabilities, and all jurisdictions are invited to contribute to this process. This coordinated review is designed to identify areas of alignment, as well as gaps or opportunities where mitigation efforts can be improved or better integrated across jurisdictions. Given the complexity of a large and diverse county with multiple planning agencies and varying update cycles, this process helps highlight inconsistencies and potential capability gaps across plans and programs.

Due to Levy County's rural and fiscally constrained nature, both the County and its municipalities rely on contracted services to expand and improve capabilities as each jurisdiction sees fit. Limited staffing and funding restrict the availability of local resources; however, the County and its municipalities actively pursue grant opportunities that support mitigation projects benefiting multiple jurisdictions, in addition to expanding the regulations outlined in Table IX-1. For example, the LMS Project Scoring Worksheet includes criteria that award higher scores to projects that reduce vulnerability, including those that involve the implementation or revision of building codes. Securing funding to bring structures into compliance with updated codes further supports their adoption and enforcement. The Florida Building Code is enforced as written, and the county does not impose any additional codes beyond it. Individual municipalities also follow the Florida Building Code, though they may choose to adopt additional regulations at their discretion.

Table IX-1. Existing Policies, Ordinances, and Regulations that Affect Mitigation

Jurisdiction	Provision Title	Summary
Bronson	Resolution 24-05	Authorizes the Town Manager of the Town of Bronson to execute agreements with FEMA through FDEM, thereby enabling the Town's participation in the HMGP and supporting Levy County's ability to plan for, fund, and implement hazard mitigation activities.
Cedar Key	Laws of Cedar Key -- Chapter Three, Comprehensive Plan: Future Land Use Goals, Objectives, and Policies	The policies within support the mitigation strategy by coordinating land development review and permitting with local, state, and federal wetlands and environmental agencies to reduce flood risk, protect natural drainage systems, and prevent adverse impacts from development. By limiting development in wetlands and buffers, requiring avoidance, minimization, and on-site mitigation, preserving vegetated buffers and coastal setbacks, and mandating restoration or creation of wetlands within City limits, the City strengthens natural flood storage, reduces runoff and erosion, and increases resilience to storms, flooding, and coastal hazards.
	Laws of Cedar Key -- Chapter Four, Land Development Regulations	The regulations within support the mitigation strategy by protecting natural systems that stabilize soils, absorb stormwater, reduce erosion, and mitigate flooding and storm surge. Development in environmentally sensitive areas is controlled through avoidance, minimization, restoration, and compensatory mitigation, along with enforced setbacks, impervious surface limits, and stormwater controls. These measures preserve critical natural hazard-mitigation infrastructure and reduce long-term vulnerability to coastal storms, flooding, and environmental damage. Coastal High Hazard Area regulations further advance the City's strategy by requiring hurricane-resistant design, flood-compliant construction, and setbacks that maintain dunes and natural shoreline processes. Structures must be located at least 50 feet landward of mean high water or bulkheads, with limited exceptions for water-dependent uses. Any hardship variances must include mitigation and protective measures. The City's Coastal Management Element establishes policies to limit development in high-hazard areas and guide the relocation, mitigation, or replacement of infrastructure in those zones.

Chiefland	Code of Ordinances – Chapter 30, Article II. Historic Preservation Agency	Supports mitigation related to culturally significant resources at landmarks and landmark sites.
	Land Development Code	The regulations within support the mitigation strategy by protecting and replacing trees, promoting native and drought-tolerant landscaping, maintaining biodiversity, and establishing buffers to reduce flooding and erosion. Tree removal procedures ensure protected and specimen trees are preserved during construction and replaced to maintain canopy and habitat functions. Violations require replanting and restoration, and project costs must account for environmental mitigation, reinforcing long-term ecological protection.
Fanning Springs	Comprehensive Plan- Policy V.2.8 Policy V.4.5	The City uses its comprehensive plan and development review authority to prohibit development activities that would alter wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas, preserving their natural flood storage and stormwater functions. When no alternative exists, mitigation is allowed only as a last resort and must comply with FDEP's rules and Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. These policies provide regulatory tools that reduce flood risk, protect natural systems, and support implementation of hazard mitigation strategies identified in the plan.
Inglis	Code of Ordinances – Chapter 34, Article VIII. Resource Protection	The regulations within support the mitigation strategy by identifying and protecting wetlands, shorelines, floodplains, and other environmentally sensitive areas that provide natural flood storage, stabilize shorelines, maintain drainage patterns, and protect water quality. Development in these areas is largely prohibited or strictly limited, with requirements for avoidance, minimization of impacts, full restoration of damaged areas, and adherence to stringent design standards for water-dependent uses. Ongoing controls further prevent pollution, erosion, and habitat degradation. These measures preserve natural hazard-mitigation functions and reduce long-term vulnerability to flooding, erosion, and environmental damage.
Otter Creek	Resolution No. 2022-04	This resolution supports the mitigation strategy by advancing coordinated, long-term planning and infrastructure improvements that strengthen community resilience. Implementation of the Town's Green Community Development Plan promotes safer, more functional development, improved public facilities, intergovernmental coordination, and investment in critical infrastructure such as water system upgrades and supporting vulnerable populations.
	Resolution No. 2021-09	This resolution certifies the Town's commitment to work cooperatively with neighboring municipalities to develop a regional water management strategy enhances protection of water resources, safeguards the aquifer, addresses risks such as sea level rise and climate change, and promotes a sustainable, resilient potable water supply for the future.
Williston	Ordinance 704	The City maintains dedicated Water and Sewer System Capacity Fee trust accounts to fund growth-related capital improvements, including design, construction, reconstruction, environmental mitigation, system expansion, and debt service for related infrastructure projects. By restricting these funds to capacity and infrastructure upgrades necessitated by development, the City ensures that utility systems remain resilient and capable of supporting safe water supply, wastewater treatment, and environmental protection, thereby reducing public health risks and preventing system failures.
Yankeetown	Comprehensive Plan- Ch. 1 Future Land Use Element POLICY 1.1.3.7	Limiting increased development within the Coastal High Hazard Area supports mitigation efforts by reducing exposure to flooding and hurricanes. By preventing additional population growth and structural expansion in high-risk areas, the community lowers the potential for loss of life, property damage, and costly emergency response and recovery efforts.
	Comprehensive Plan- Ch. 4 Public Facilities Element POLICY 4.3.2.1	Requiring developers to protect natural drainage features advances mitigation by reducing flood risk and stormwater impacts. Measures such as limiting lot coverage, enforcing coastal setbacks, preserving vegetative buffers, using porous pavement, and managing runoff through swales or other best management practices help maintain natural water flow and filtration. These strategies decrease runoff, prevent erosion, and reduce strain on infrastructure, strengthening overall community resilience.
	Comprehensive Plan- Ch. 5 Conservation And Coastal Management Element POLICY 5.1.14.7	Incorporating recommendations from interagency hazard mitigation reports into the Town's Disaster Plan strengthens mitigation efforts by ensuring that identified strategies to reduce future flood losses are formally adopted and implemented. Including hazard mitigation projects in the 5-Year Capital Improvements Schedule, along with cost estimates and funding sources, promotes proactive planning, secures resources, and supports timely project completion to reduce long-term risk and damages.
Levy County	Multiple Plans	The County's Comprehensive Plan supports mitigation by guiding long-term growth and land use decisions in ways that reduce development in high-risk areas and promote resilient

		infrastructure. The Land Development Regulations implement these policies through enforceable standards that address site design, density, setbacks, drainage, and environmental protections, helping to manage stormwater and limit vulnerability. The Floodplain Ordinance further reduces flood risk by regulating development within designated flood hazard areas and requiring elevation and flood-resistant construction standards consistent with federal requirements. Building Codes establish structural standards designed to withstand wind, flood, and other hazard impacts, significantly reducing potential damage and recovery costs. The Utilities Code, along with the Water and Sewer Services Ordinance, strengthens mitigation by ensuring that critical water and wastewater infrastructure is properly designed, constructed, and maintained to reduce service disruptions and protect public health during and after disasters.
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B. Nominating and Ranking Projects and Initiatives

The group adopted a standardized “Scoring Worksheet” and agreed upon a scoring matrix to evaluate and rank proposed mitigation projects. Each jurisdiction first identifies and prioritizes its own projects, using either its own criteria or the LMSWG’s adopted criteria, and then nominates its top projects for formal ranking.

The LMSWG has established a representative voting structure to guide decision-making. During the ranking process, voting members independently score each nominated project based on the established criteria. Scores are compiled and averaged to determine each project’s final ranking. Once scoring is complete, the LMSWG organizes projects into priority groups for implementation, resulting in a finalized, prioritized list of mitigation projects.

To be eligible for consideration, a jurisdiction must include a project on the LMS list and, when prompted, complete a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) using the FEMA toolkit. BCA results and documented project costs are incorporated into the prioritization process through the project scoring worksheet. Costs influence scoring under criteria such as “Life Expectancy of the Project,” where projects with shorter useful lives, or higher long-term resource demands, receive lower scores. Benefits are evaluated under criteria such as “Reduction of Vulnerability,” with higher scores assigned to projects that reduce or eliminate repetitive loss. Additional ranking criteria also reflect inferred costs and benefits, including political and social acceptability and alignment with broader community goals, consistent with FEMA guidance on benefit-cost review in mitigation planning.

a. 2026 Updates to Nominating and Ranking Procedure

For the 2026 LMS Plan Revision, the LMSWG revised the project nomination and ranking procedures. Jurisdictions will continue to present projects for a vote to be adopted onto the LMS project list; however, formal ranking will no longer occur at the same time as adoption. Because mitigation funding is often released following disaster events, a special LMS meeting will be convened post-disaster to nominate and formally rank projects from the approved list for funding consideration.

While the voting, scoring, and nomination methodology remains unchanged, ranking will now take place closer to the time funding becomes available. This adjustment ensures that project priorities reflect current conditions and needs, preventing earlier rankings from becoming outdated before funding opportunities arise.

C. Adoption and Implementation of the LMS

a. Public Participation

With the availability of the internet, newspapers, public announcements, and LMSWG members’ involvement in various community groups, Levy County has multiple ways to promote the LMS. Residents may participate

in all aspects of LMSWG meetings, except for voting on projects, while LMSWG representatives speak on behalf of their jurisdictions during discussions.

Once adopted, the updated LMS will be posted on LCEM's website (www.levydisaster.com), and a hard copy will be available at the Levy County EOC. This allows the public to provide comments on the LMS at any time, even outside scheduled meetings. Meetings are publicly noticed and announced through local media and the County website, with LCEM and participating municipalities responsible for ensuring proper outreach. Each meeting includes a formal opportunity for public participation.

To further enhance engagement during the maintenance phase, Levy County will expand outreach through social media and the County website to announce LMS meetings, plan updates, and opportunities for public comment. When feasible, LCEM will provide presentations or informational materials at community events and meetings to explain plan progress and encourage feedback. Targeted outreach to underrepresented populations and virtual engagement opportunities have been implemented since the previous plan update to improve community involvement.

All outreach efforts, including the number of meetings held, attendance, and comments received, will be documented and reviewed during each annual review and five-year update to evaluate the effectiveness of outreach strategies and guide future engagement efforts.

b. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Updating

Each year, the LMSWG reviews the plan at the first meeting of the calendar year to determine whether updates are needed, assessing the plan's relevance and effectiveness. This monitoring process includes determining whether the plan still reflects the character of the participating jurisdictions, identifying any newly adopted rules or regulations that may affect its implementation, and considering changes in administrative processes or levels of participation. Based on this evaluation, the LMSWG determines the scope and necessity of any required revisions.

All updates must maintain compliance with current FEMA crosswalk requirements within the established five-year cycle. The five-year update includes a more comprehensive review of the plan, an expanded meeting schedule, and full participation by LMSWG members. Plan revisions and updates are carried out by the host agency, LCEM.

Monitoring

The LCEM Chair is primarily responsible for monitoring and supporting the LMS Plan, making sure that the information gets properly entered into the plan on an annual basis. This includes providing technical and administrative assistance to the LMWG. LCEM tracks the progress of LMS-supported projects throughout the year and conducts annual reviews to evaluate the plan in accordance with criteria established by the LMSWG and FDEM. If this review indicates that updates are needed, the LMSWG Chair will convene a meeting to conduct a formal evaluation. Additionally, if a significant event occurs that may make an LMS-supported project eligible for grant funding, the Chair will schedule a special meeting to address funding considerations.

The LMSWG holds quarterly meetings in March, June, September, and December, scheduled six months in advance with public notice provided at least one month prior and reminders to LMSWG members sent two weeks before each meeting. Meetings are typically held at the Levy County EOC. During these meetings, the LMS Chair monitors mitigation project progress, requests updates, and gathers proposals for new projects. Project changes, issues, and advancements are documented and reflected in the project priority list and

meeting summaries.

Evaluating

The LMS Chair is responsible for evaluating any changes or situations that need to be taken into account for the LMSWG goals and for the LMS document to prosper. The evaluation process considers whether any new or revised laws, regulations, or policies necessitate updates to the LMS. It also reviews whether federal, state, or local mandates require changes to the plan. The assessment examines if the goals and objectives of the LMSWG continue to address current conditions and anticipated needs. Changes in the nature, magnitude, or type of risks are evaluated, along with whether existing resources remain adequate for plan implementation. Potential challenges, including technical, political, legal, financial, or coordination issues with other agencies, are identified and addressed. The review also checks whether mitigation outcomes have been achieved as intended and whether all participating jurisdictions and partners are engaged as originally planned. Finally, recommendations and lessons learned from recent incidents or events during the review period are incorporated into the evaluation.

Updating

The LMS Chair is responsible for updating the plan within five years of the last FEMA or DEM approval. Throughout the five-year cycle, the Chair documents items in the LMS that may require changes based on annual evaluations. During the second and third years, the Chair begins updating sections of the plan with the most recent data, working with and seeking input from LMSWG members. After each update, proposed changes are presented to the LMSWG for review, and revisions are made as needed based on their feedback.

At the end of the third year and the beginning of the fourth year, the Chair gathers any new FEMA update requirements to ensure the revised plan meets federal regulations. The Chair then presents an overview of the five-year update process to the LMSWG, explaining how members can contribute and why participation is important. The plan is fully updated with the latest data and processes and submitted to LMSWG members for review. Revisions from this review are incorporated, and the document is sent to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for initial review approximately seven months before the plan's expiration.

Any additional changes identified during the state review are made with LMSWG acknowledgment before submission to FEMA, ensuring the plan is sent at least five months before expiration. Upon FEMA or DEM approval, the county and participating jurisdictions formally adopt the updated LMS within the following year.

c. Plan Integration and Local Planning Mechanisms

Each jurisdiction participating in this plan update is responsible for carrying out the mitigation actions outlined. All jurisdictions follow the same implementation process.

Within this plan, every proposed action is assigned to a specific local department or agency to ensure accountability and increase the likelihood of implementation. Along with this, each mitigation action has an associated timeline, date, or window to allow assessment of reasonable progress toward completion. Participating jurisdictions will pursue external funding sources to support mitigation projects both before and after disasters, and, where applicable, potential funding sources for are identified within the plan.

A highly impactful implementation approach involves integrating the LMS recommendations and underlying principles into local planning mechanisms. Plan participants are encouraged to utilize existing plans and programs to implement mitigation verbiage whenever possible. LMSWG members may integrate the findings, recommendations, and actions of the LMS plans into a variety of planning and regulatory documents.

The LMSWG recognizes the County's exposure to hazards such as high winds, tropical cyclones, storm surge, flooding, and sea level rise. Risk assessment data and mitigation strategies are incorporated into existing community planning mechanisms. LMSWG representatives from each participating jurisdiction are responsible for seeking opportunities to align the findings, requirements, and strategies of this plan with other local planning documents. They also ensure that new or updated planning documents are consistent with LMS goals and actions and do not increase hazard vulnerability. Integration methods may include monitoring other planning agendas, attending meetings, participating in planning processes, and tracking community budgets for potential program opportunities.

Many mitigation initiatives are capital projects that depend on available funding. When such projects are prioritized, each jurisdiction will follow existing procedures for inclusion in its Capital Improvement Plan or other budgeting and planning processes. Opportunities to incorporate LMS requirements into other local planning mechanisms will continue to be identified through future LMSWG meetings and during the five-year review process.

Regulatory frameworks and plans within the county and its municipalities that could incorporate mitigation objectives include county and municipal building and utility codes, comprehensive plans, code of ordinances (particularly pertaining to land use and development), and the Levy County COOP and CEMP. Mitigation can be integrated into these frameworks by embedding hazard reduction requirements into building and development standards, guiding land use decisions to avoid high-risk areas, and incorporating resiliency objectives into long-term community and infrastructure planning.

X. Appendix A: Scoring Worksheet

LEVY COUNTY LMS- SCORING WORKSHEET

Directions: Project Information section to be completed only by individual nominating the project. Rename and save this file with specific project number in the title.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Number:	Time frame for Completion:	Project Cost:	Hazard(s) Addressed:
Responsible Party for Implementation:			Potential Funding Sources:
Project Name/Description:			

Directions: Check the box that best describes each criteria for the project (0, 2, 4, or 6 points). Total points on pg. 2

PROJECT SCORE					
Criteria	0	2	4	6	TOTAL
Public Health and Safety (life safety, health impact, critical facilities)	No safety impact associated with project ☐	Project would promote or maintain safety ☐	Project needed to alleviate potential safety hazard ☐	Project needed to alleviate existing safety hazard ☐	
Multi-Jurisdictional Impact (Areas served by project)	No effect on any jurisdiction ☐	Project affects one jurisdiction ☐	Project affects two or more jurisdictions ☐	Project affects the entire county ☐	
Improving Integrity of the System (Are vital "lifelines" affected?)	Project does not provide protection ☐	Project will protect a non-critical facility or deter future expenditure ☐	Project will protect, repair or improve systems important to a non-critical facility's operation ☐	Project is critical to save or protect structural integrity of existing facility, repair significant structural deterioration, or expansion of a critical facility ☐	
Project Location (Located in a flood plain, V Zone, geologic hazard area, highly populated area)	Category 4 Surge Zone ☐	Category 3 Surge Zone ☐	Category 2 Surge Zone ☐	Category 1 Surge Zone ☐	
Reduction of Vulnerability (Placing shutters on windows, retrofitting, building codes, flood plain regs.)	No reduction of repetitive loss ☐	Project reduces a repetitive loss problem ☐	Project reduces risk of a repetitive loss problem by 50% ☐	Project eliminates a repetitive loss problem ☐	
Urgency of the Project (How soon should the project be completed in order to restore normalcy, critical facilities and lifelines)	Desirable: Project does not address an identified threat or meet anticipated needs that would provide for the expansions or improvement of an existing facility ☐	Necessary: Project should be carried out to meet anticipated needs; replaces unsatisfactory or obsolete facilities; protects critical facility for cont. use ☐	Essential: Project should not be delayed but does not pose an imminent threat to a critical facility or to public health, welfare or safety ☐	Urgent: Project cannot be postponed; eliminates an existing threat to a critical facility or public health, welfare or safety; maintains a critical program; meets an emergency situation ☐	
Level of Storm Vulnerability -HI/VA results	None ☐	Low ☐	Moderate ☐	High ☐	
Level of Vulnerability to Manmade Disasters - HI/VA results	None ☐	Low ☐	Moderate ☐	High ☐	
Economic Recovery (How soon can the businesses resume work, economic importance to local economy)	Project will have little or no economic impact ☐	Improve quality of life for the citizens ☐	Project will encourage capital investment, improve the City's tax base, improve job opps., attract consumers, or produce public/private revenues ☐	Facilitates capital investments; increases jobs; expands tax base ☐	

Criteria	PROJECT SCORE				TOTAL
	0	2	4	6	
Life Expectancy of Project (Most structural projects: 20-30 years)	Meets needs of community for less than 10 years ☐	Meets needs of community for next 10 to 14 years ☐	Meets needs of community for next 15 to 19 years ☐	Meets the needs of community for next 20 years or more ☐	
Population Served by Project	Less than 1,000 ☐	1,000 to 1,999 ☐	2,000 to 2,999 ☐	Over 3,000 ☐	
Percentage of Jurisdictional Population Served by Project	Less than 10 % ☐	10% to 24% ☐	25% to 49% ☐	50% or more ☐	
Relation to adopted Comprehensive Plan (Cite any goals, objectives and policies in the adopted documents that refers to this project?)	Project is not included in any written plans or identified by the governing body as being needed ☐	Project has been identified by a jurisdiction as needed project through an action of the governing body ☐	Project is included in FEMA Post Disaster Mitigation Report ☐	Project is included in an approved Comprehensive Plan or Capital Improvements Program ☐	
Local government support or evidence of public support. (Has the project been endorsed by the elected body? Newspaper articles, reports, etc.)	No support from the public or local governing body ☐	Some support from the public (letters to the editor, public comment at public meeting, etc.) ☐	Some support from the public and local governing body (discussion at public meeting, resolution by jurisdiction, etc.) ☐	Support from most of the public and local government (funds budgeted for the project) ☐	
Versatility of improvement (Will the project solve several problems or serve other public purposes?)	Project will not address any identified hazard or concern ☐	Project will address one identified hazard or concern ☐	Project will address two identified hazards or concerns ☐	Project will address three or more identified hazards or concerns ☐	
Special Needs (Does the project serve special needs populations?)	The project does not meet particular needs of a special population ☐	Serves internal City needs ☐	Serves residential neighborhoods; serves industrial areas ☐	The project meets a community obligation to serve a special need of a segment of the population, such as low/moderate income, aged, minorities, handicapped etc. ☐	
TOTAL					0

XI. Appendix B. Stakeholder Invitation to Participation



Caleb Hardee <calebhardee@levydisaster.com>

Levy County Local Mitigation Strategy Plan Update and Point of Contact

1 message

Caleb Hardee <calebhardee@levydisaster.com>

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 10:19 AM

To: Admin@yankeetownfl.org, Laura Cain Chiefland City Manager <laura@chieflandfla.com>, suecolson@bellsouth.net, zimmpagett@yahoo.com, rasmus@nfps.net, Sue Beaudet Williston City Manager <city.manager@willistonfl.org>, bronsonclerk@townofbronson.org, nickitas.nickitas@gmail.com, adam@cedarkeytime.com, townmanager@townofbronson.org, John Lott <john.lott@levyk12.org>, clerk@townofottercreek.org, "Santana, Alex" <alex.santana@flhealth.gov>, Trip Lancaster <mayorlancaster@gmail.com>, Robert Robinson CK Fire CHIEF <rrobinson@cedarkeyfl.us>, Ludie.Bond@fdacs.gov, jsylvester@cedarkeyfl.us, david.carter@fdacs.gov, robertcpartin@gmail.com, Alice Lalonde <lalonde-alice@levycounty.org>, Cery Logeman Inglis Town Clerk <townclerk@townofinglis.org>, Tisha Whitehurst <whitehurst-tisha@levycounty.org>, Otter Creek <ottercreektownha@bellsouth.net>, dthomas@clayelectric.com, Mitch Harrell <mharrell@levydps.com>, Katie Hammers <khammers@unitedwayncfl.org>, Bernard Cox <Cox-Bernard@levycounty.org>, Glen Hammers <Glen.Hammers@em.myflorida.com>, Matt Weldon <weldon-matt@levycounty.org>, Brooke Smith <smith-brooke@levycounty.org>

Cc: Leatha Keene <leathakeene@levydisaster.com>

Good morning all,

Levy County is working on updating our Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) plan. Approval of this plan ensures our continued eligibility for future mitigation funding to support projects countywide. We're requesting input from each jurisdiction to help update the plan. **Participation is strongly encouraged if you have any projects on our current project list (see attached) or plan on adding any in the future.** Per FDEM's guidance, *"if jurisdictions do not participate in the planning process but want to adopt/apply for grants later on, there are additional steps they will need to complete - it is best for them to be included from the beginning."* Participation involves responding to a few email questions from myself over the next 3-6 months, attending 1-2 short virtual meetings (if needed), and joining the quarterly LMS meeting in December (meeting info TBA) at the EOC.

If you're receiving this, you've either been part of our LMS group, have served as your municipality's point of contact for previous storm events, or have been identified as a key partner in the plan update. If you are not the appropriate contact for your jurisdiction moving forward, please let me know who should be.

****Also, for municipalities: Please forward this to your local Chamber of Commerce point of contact** and ask them to reach out to me directly if they would like to be included. We're seeking their input and involvement in the LMS as well.

Please respond by COB Friday, September 19 with any updated contacts. Initial questions will be sent early next week. Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime. My contact info is below.

Thank you,

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Caleb Hardee

Assistant Director - Operations & Planning
 Levy County Emergency Management
 7911 NE 90th Street
 Bronson, Florida 32621
 (352) 451-9865 office
 (352) 441-5730 cell



XII. Appendix C. Example of Public Notice

**NOTICE OF MEETING
LEVY COUNTY LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY COMMIT-
TEE**

Legal Notice:

Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Planning Committee to meet
Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 10am

The Levy County LMS Planning Committee/Work Group will meet at 10am on Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at the Levy County Emergency Operations Center located at 7911 NE 90th Street, Bronson, FL 32621. The County encourages any interested citizens and business owners to attend and provide input. The Committee guides the preparation of the Levy County LMS, which serves as a plan to reduce the community's long-term risk for protecting people and their property from the affects of natural disasters and to build a safer and stronger community. Please contact the Levy County Emergency Management Department at: 352-486-5213 or by email at CalebHardee@levydisaster.com for more information.

Published November 21, 28, and December 5, 2025.