



# Lafourche Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Public Meeting



Raceland, LA  
October 14, 2020

**LSU** | Stephenson Disaster  
Management Institute

# Introductions

- **Stephenson Disaster Management Institute (SDMI) at LSU**
  - Lauren Stevens – Associate Director, Disaster Management Programs
  - Chris Rippetoe – Hazard Mitigation Program Manager
- **Lafourche Parish OHSEP Director/Parish Staff**
  - Chris Boudreaux – OHSEP Director
  - Eric Benoit – Lafourche OHSEP
- **Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)**
  - Jeffrey Giering – State Hazard Mitigation Officer

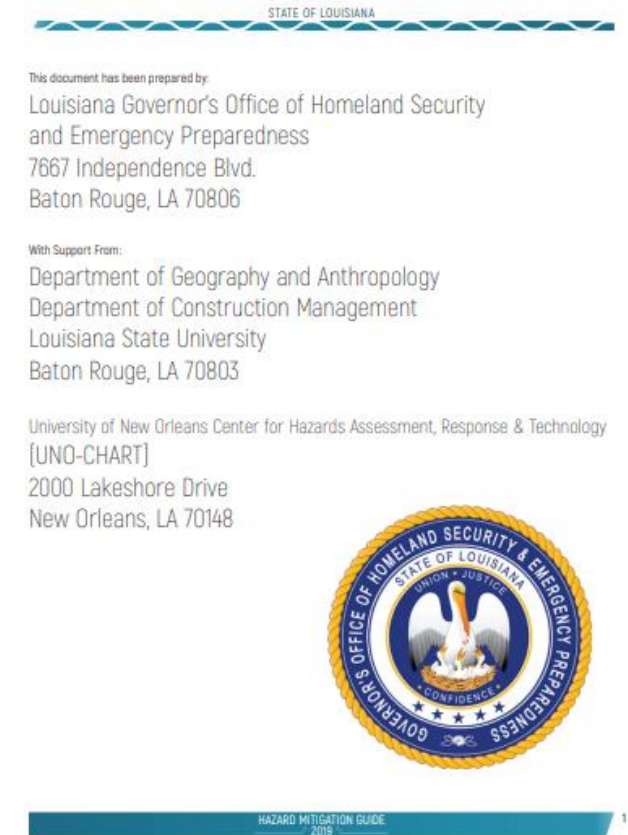


# Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **Hazard Mitigation Overview**
- **Hazard Mitigation**
- **Planning Process Risk Assessment**
- **Public Outreach Activity**



# Why are we here?





# Hazard Mitigation Is.....

- Any action taken to reduce long term risk to life and property;
- On-going process that occurs before, during, and after disasters;
- Mitigation actions help prevent damage to a *community's infrastructure, economic, cultural and environmental assets*;
- Implementation of mitigation actions leads to building stronger, safer and smarter!

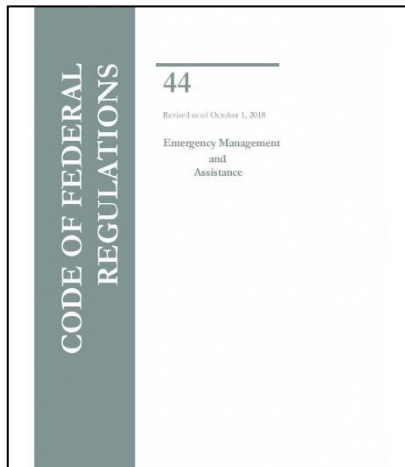


# Why Are We Required To Have A Hazard Mitigation Plan?

- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)

*Section 322 of the Act specifically addresses mitigation planning and requires state and local governments to prepare multi-hazard migration plans as a precondition for receiving FEMA mitigation project grants.*

- Meet federal requirements of Title 44 Code of Regulations (CFR) §201.6 for approval and eligibility to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.



- The approved Lafourche Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan will allow for distribution of HM funding following future disasters.

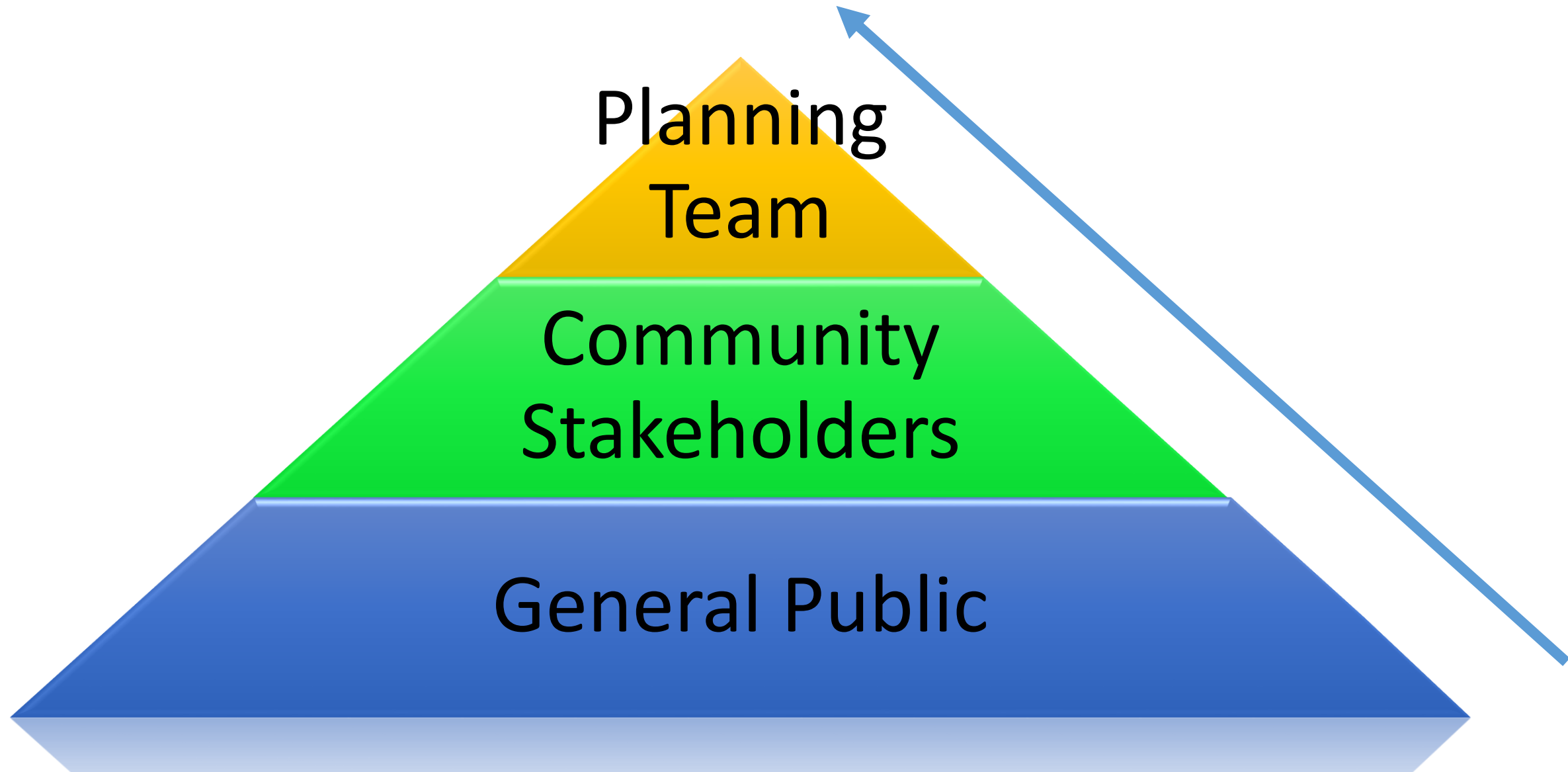
# Planning Process to Date



*Constant communication with Parish  
and committee members!*



# Collaborative Planning Approach





# Planning Development



**LAFOURCHE**  
**PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION**  
**UPDATE ~ 2015**



# Plan Layout

- **Section 1: Introduction**
  - Updated parish description
  - Updated demographics
  - Economics
- **Section 2: Hazard Identification and Parish-wide Risk Assessment**
- **Section 3: Capability Assessment**
- **Section 4: Mitigation Strategies**
  - New actions
  - Action updates
  - Survey results



# Plan Layout

- **Appendix A:** Planning Process
- **Appendix B:** Plan Maintenance
- **Appendix C:** Parish Essential Facilities
- **Appendix D:** Plan Adoption
- **Appendix E:** State Required Worksheets



# Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

- The plan includes descriptions of the natural hazards that affect the jurisdictions in the planning area.
- The hazards identification includes the following:
  - *locations affected*
  - *extent or strength*
  - *previous occurrences*
  - *probability of future events*



# Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

- Based on Currently Profiled Risks
- Any Newly Identified Risks
- Prevalent Hazards
- Previous Occurrences
- Probability of Future Events
- Assets Inventory
- Essential Facilities
- Hazard Impact
- Future Development
- Future Hazard Impacts
- Zoning and Land Use
- Hazard Profiles



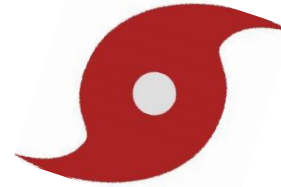


# Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

- Coastal Hazards
  - Land Subsidence/Storm Surge/Saltwater Intrusion
- Flooding
- Sinkholes



- Tropical Cyclones
- Tornadoes



# Risk Matrix for Lafourche Parish

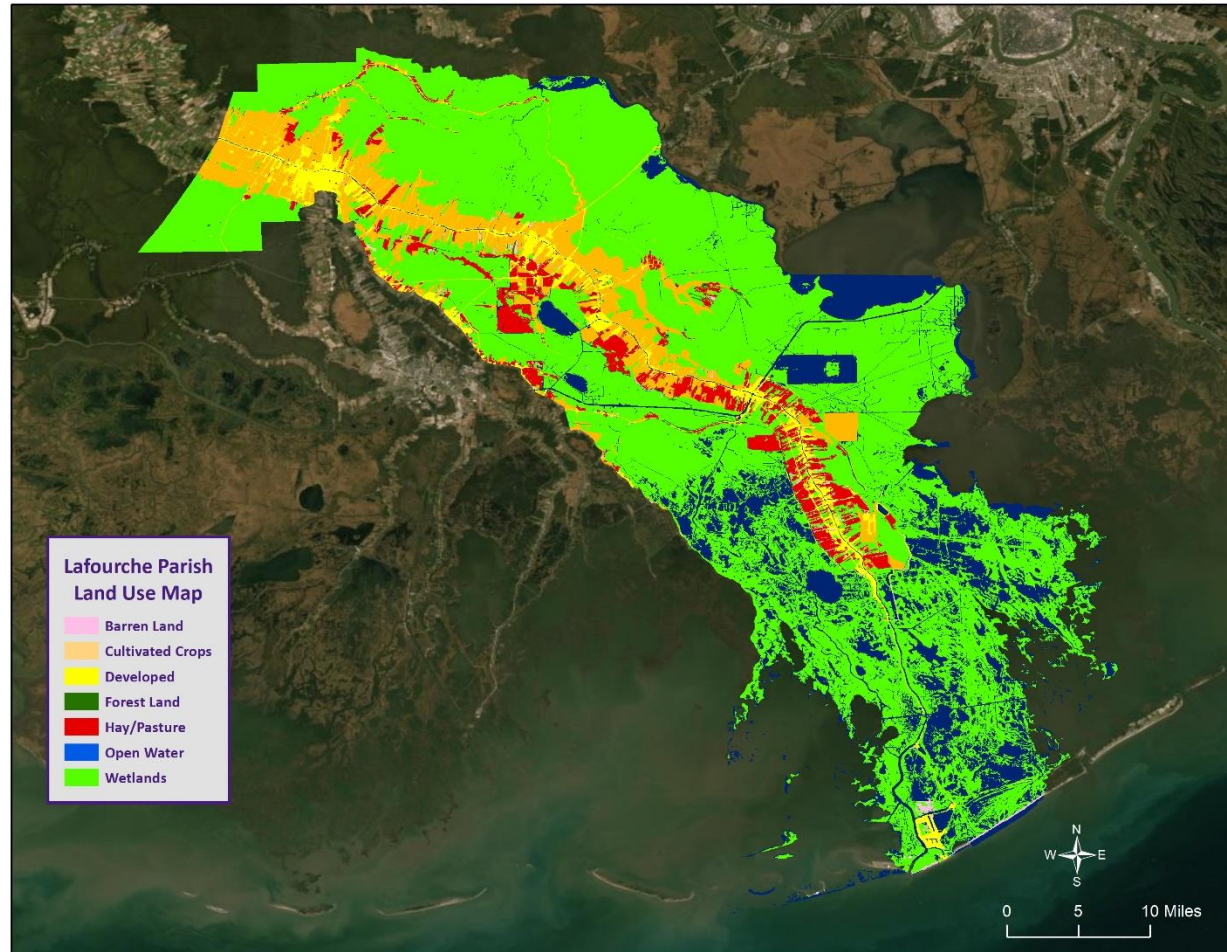
Hazard	Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	Overall Risk
Coastal Hazards	4	2	4	1	3	2.9
Flooding	3	4	3	4	3	3.4
Tornadoes	4	3	2	4	3	3.2
Tropical Cyclones	4	4	4	1	4	3.55

# Risk Assessment Maps

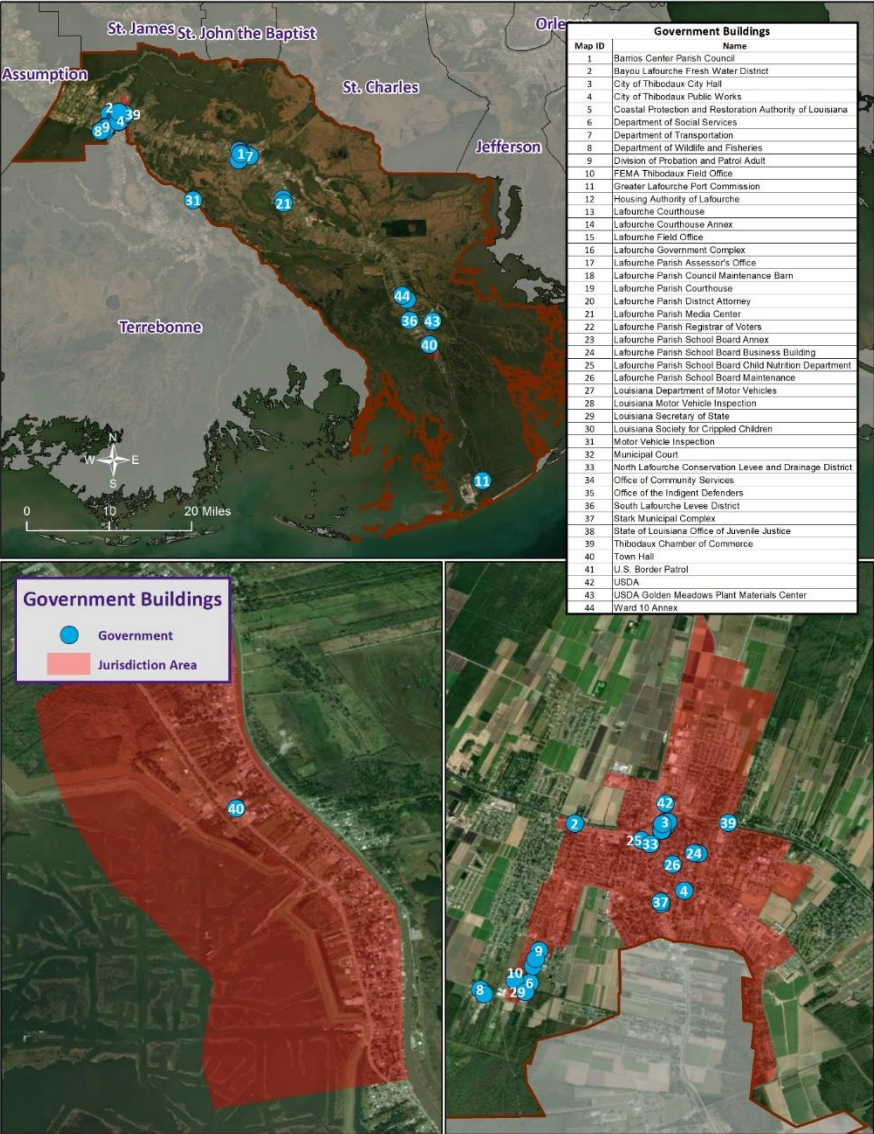




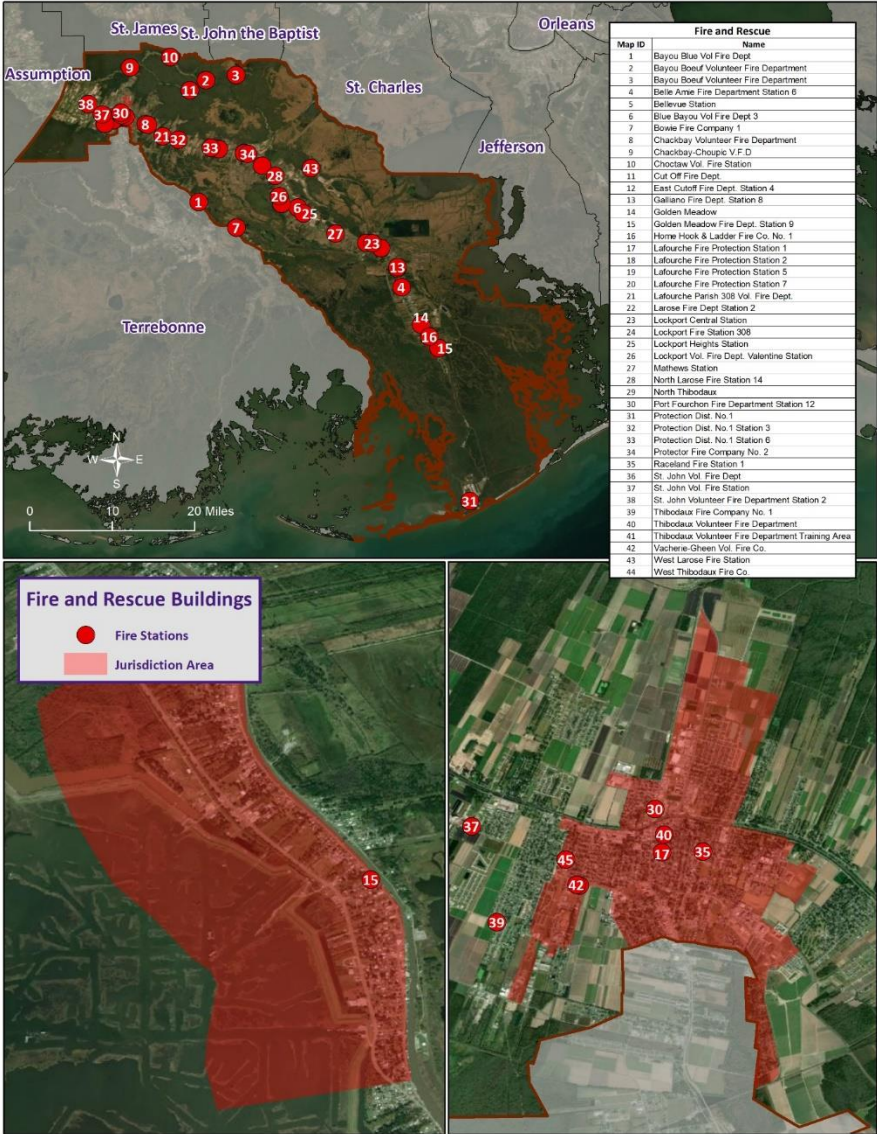
# Lafourche Parish Land Use



# Critical Facilities: Civil Government

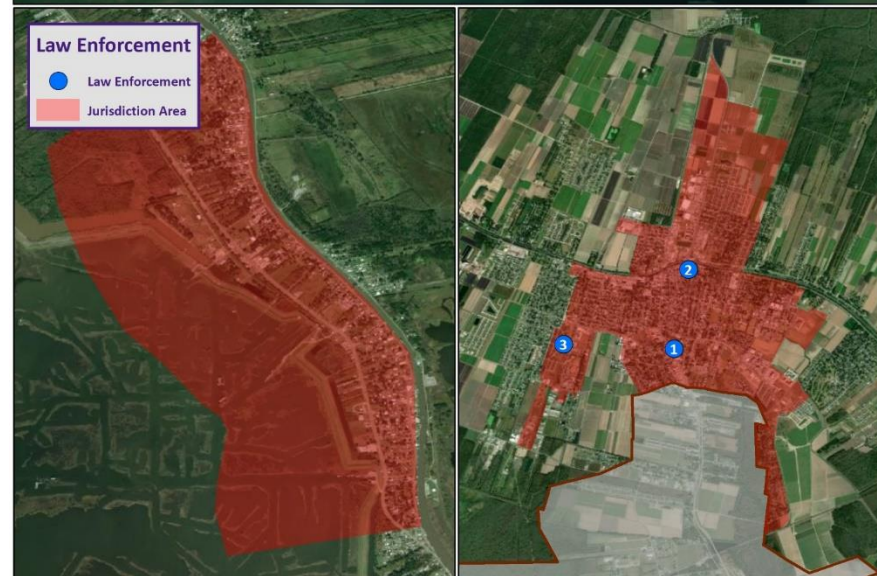
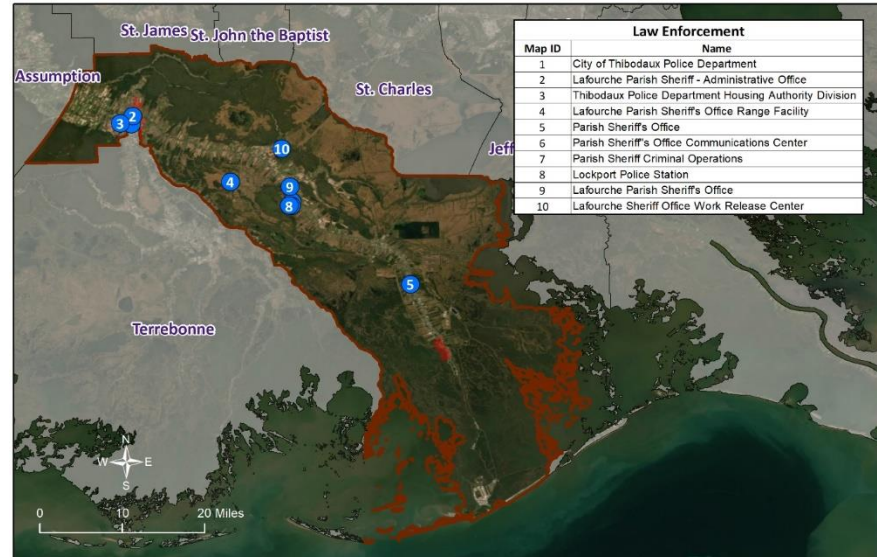


# Critical Facilities: Fire & SAR

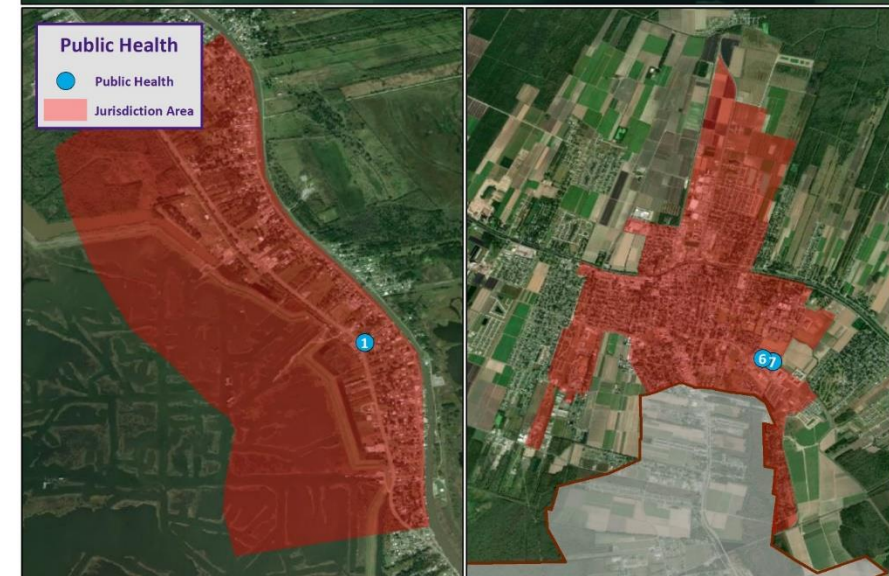
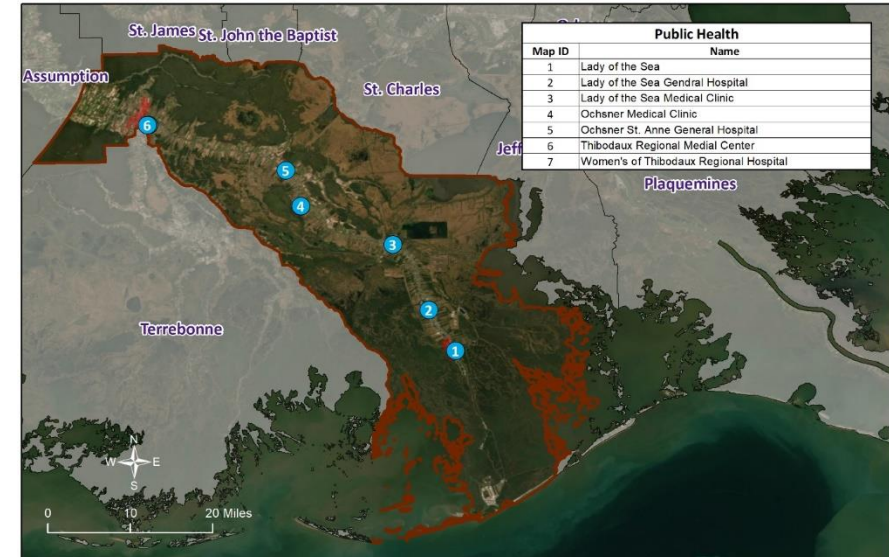




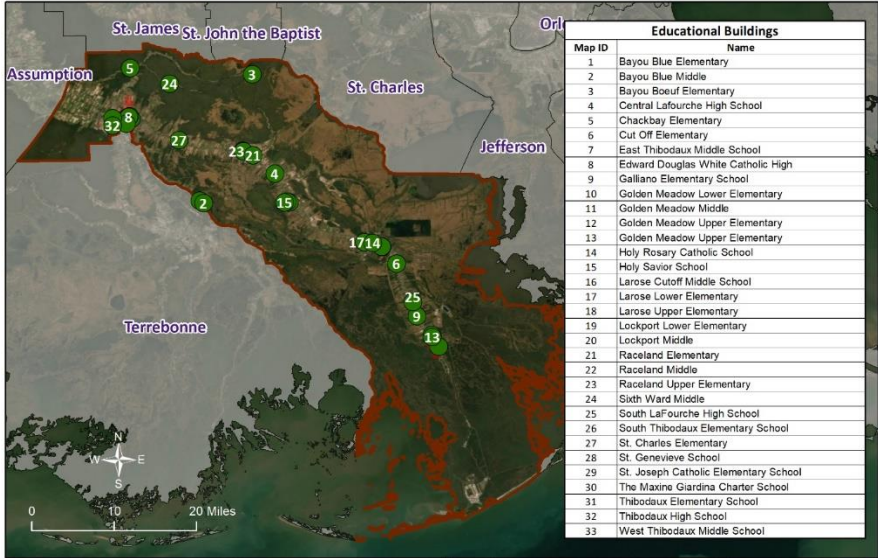
# Critical Facilities: Law Enforcement



# Critical Facilities: Public Health



# Critical Facilities: Education

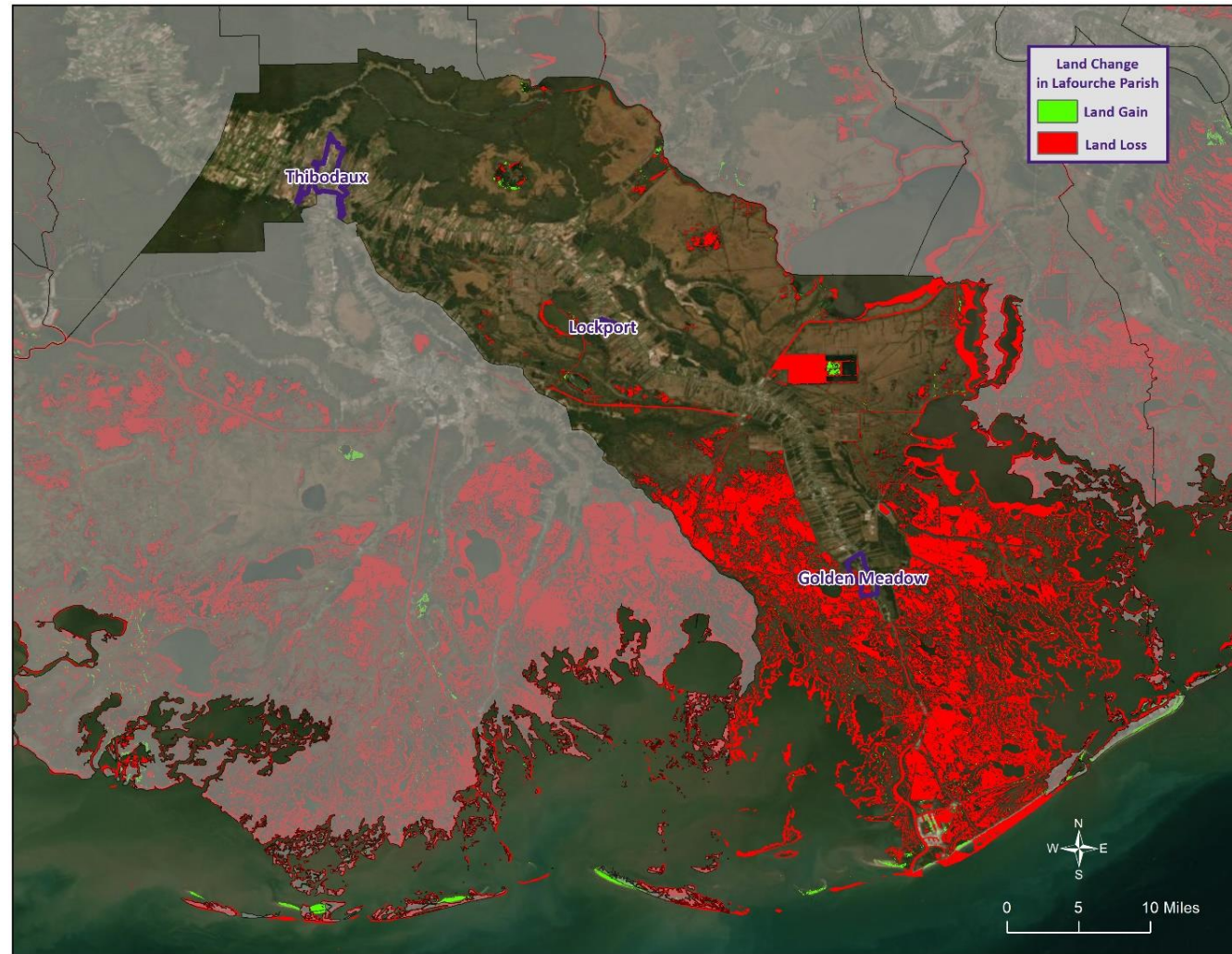


# Coastal Hazards

- **Subsidence** is the gradual caving in or sinking of an area of land
  - Slow-acting process with impacts that can be readily seen in coastal parishes over the course of decades
  - Lowers elevations in coastal Louisiana, accelerates the effects of saltwater intrusion
  - Causes structures to become more vulnerable to flooding by lowering elevations
- **Saltwater intrusion/Coastal Land Loss** is the movement of salty water into freshwater aquifers or is the encroachment of saline water into freshwater estuaries
  - One of the major causes of subsidence and marshland loss
  - Causes the loss of fresh and intermediate vegetation, which results in rapid erosion of marsh soils and the ultimate conversion of the area to open water



# Land Gain & Loss



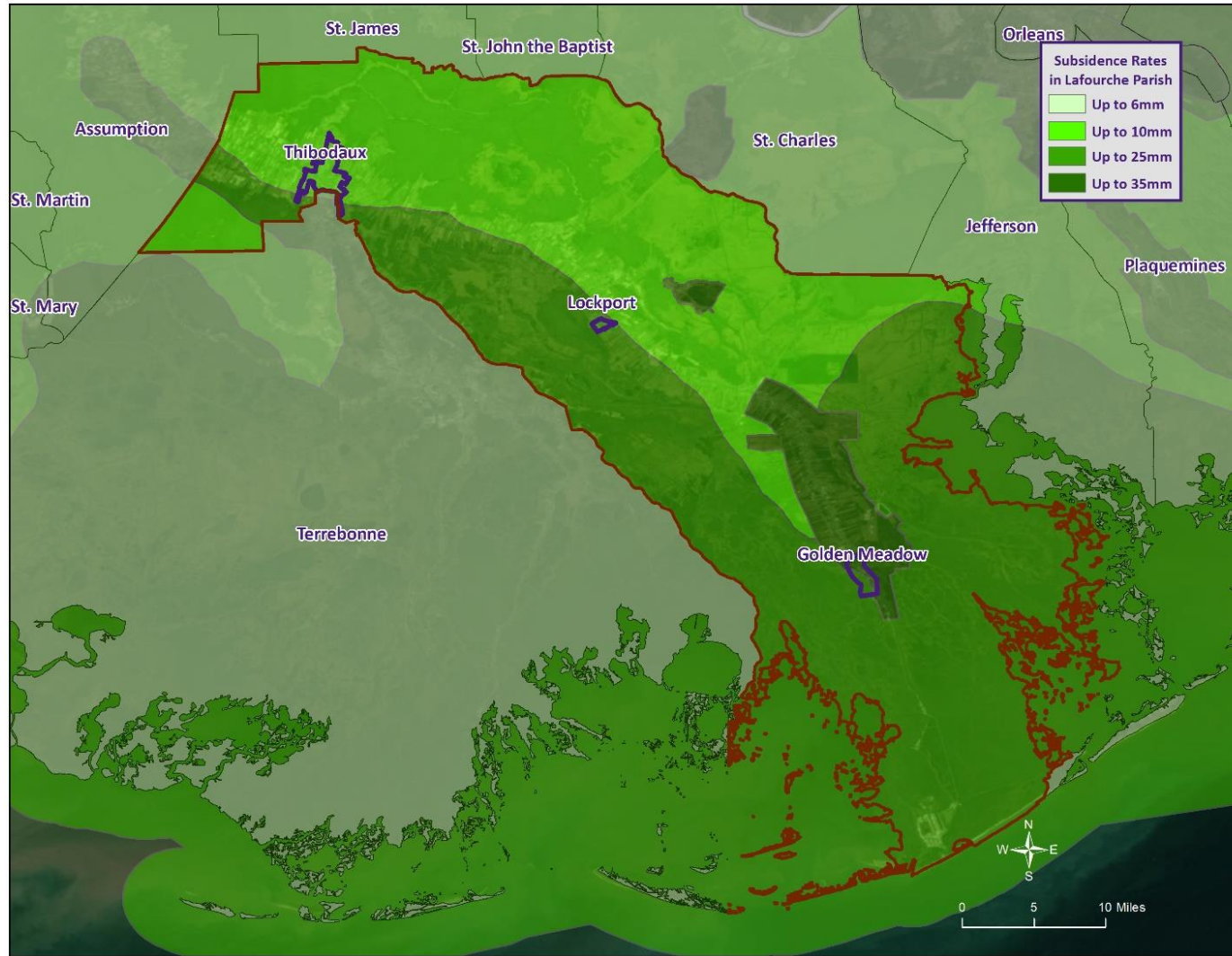
# Subsidence

- **Subsidence** is the gradual caving in or sinking of an area of land
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  - Lowers elevations in coastal Louisiana, accelerates the effects of saltwater intrusion
  - Causes structures to become more vulnerable to flooding by lowering elevations





# Subsidence Rates



# Flooding

- A flood is the overflow of water onto land that is usually not inundated.
- The National Flood Insurance Program defines a flood as “a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of two or more acres of normally dry land area or of two or more properties from overflow of inland or tidal waves, unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source, mudflow, or collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or similar body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels that result in a flood as defined above.”



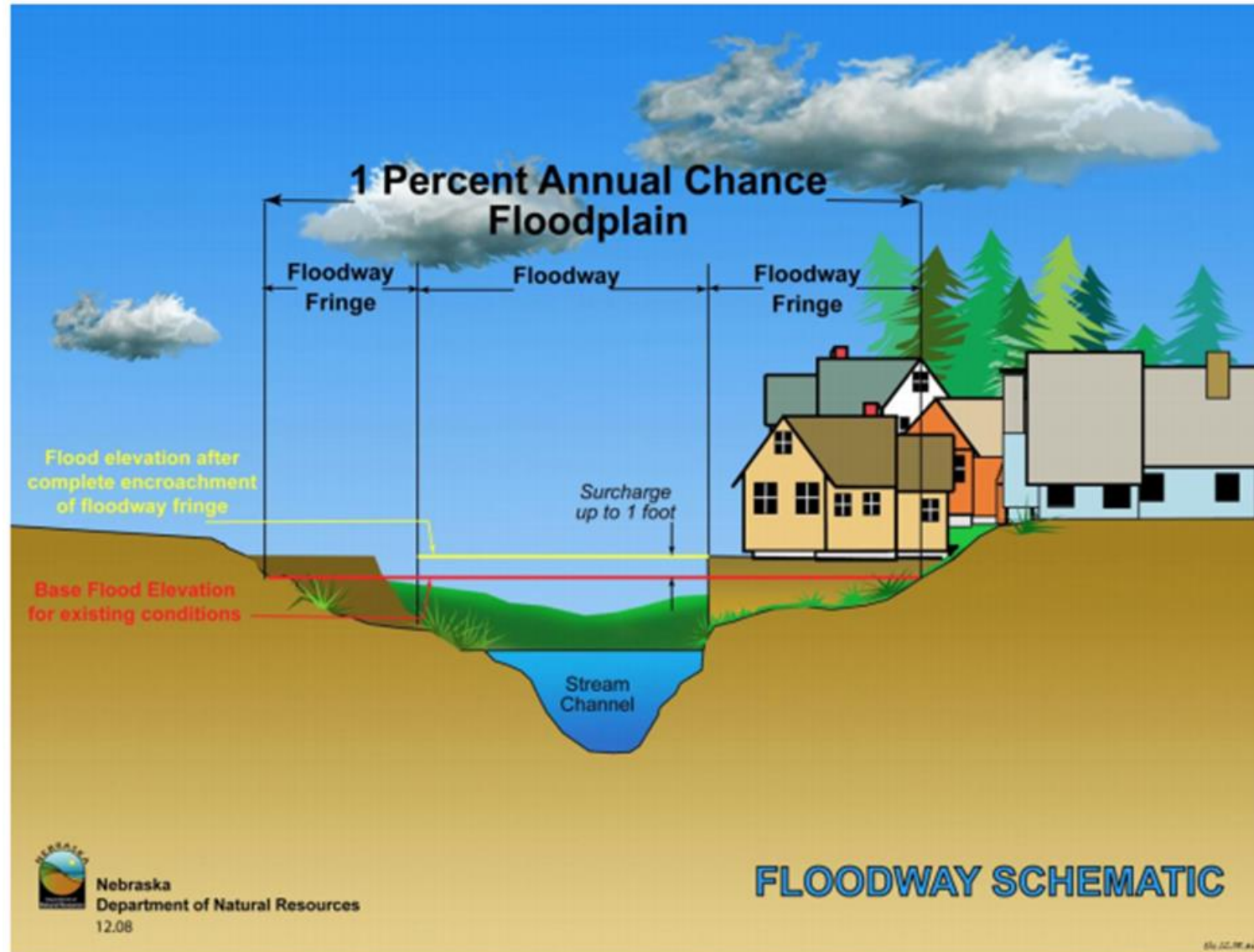
# Flooding

Types of flooding may include the following:

- Riverine
- Flash
- Ponding
- Backwater
- Urban
- Coastal

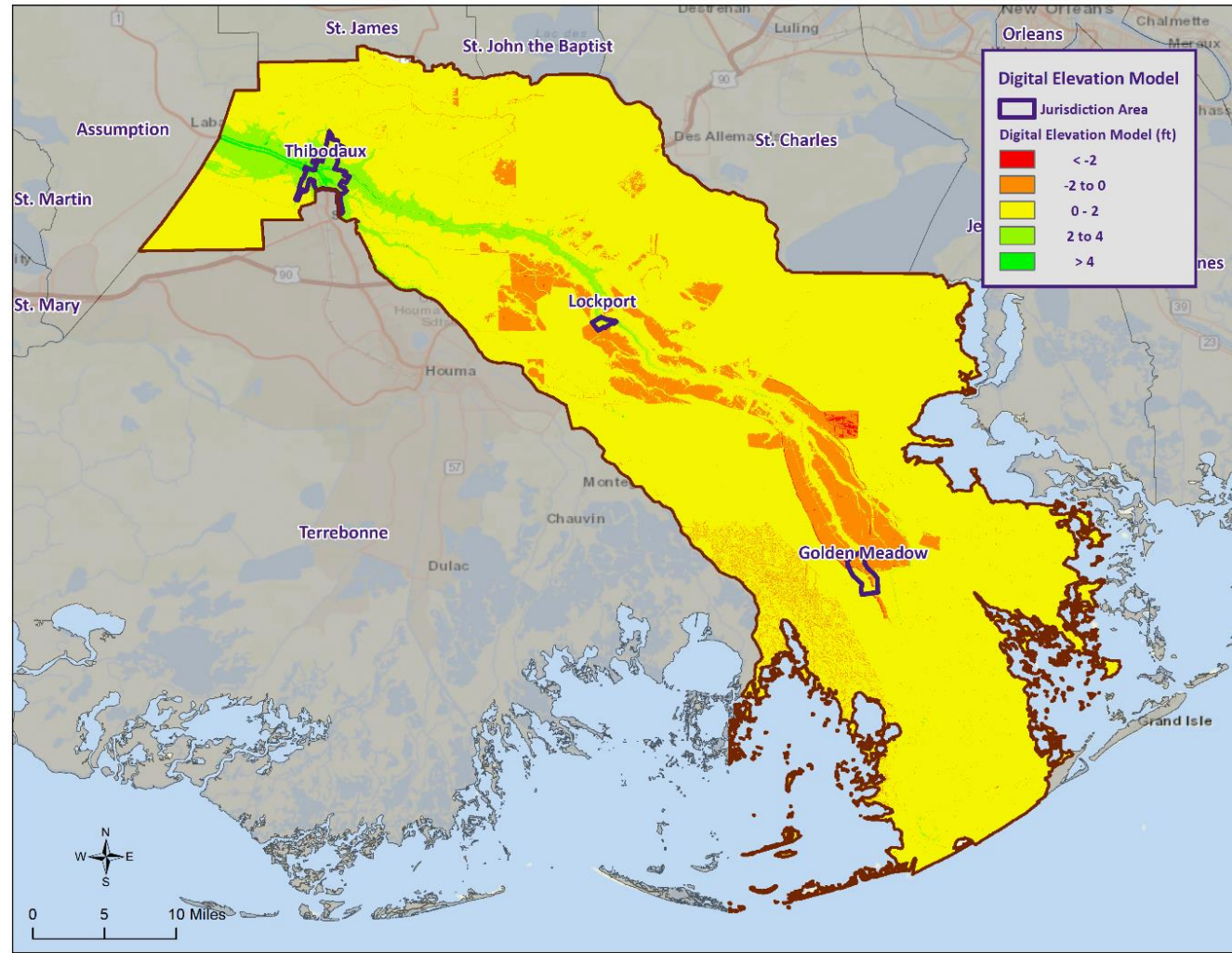


# Floodway Diagram



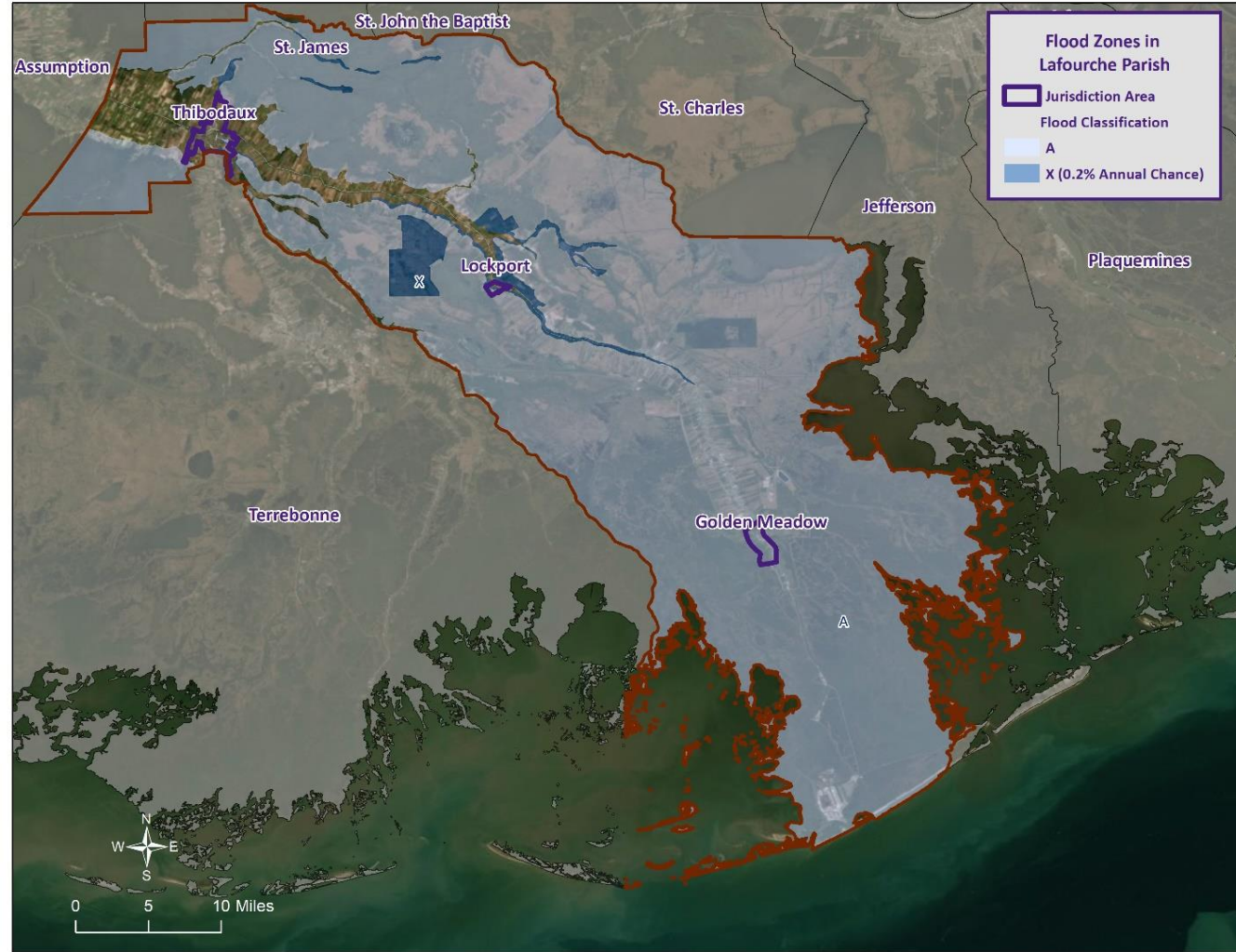


# Digital Elevation Model





# Lafourche Parish Flood Map





# Flood Map: Golden Meadow



# Flood Map: Lockport





# Flood Map: Thibodaux



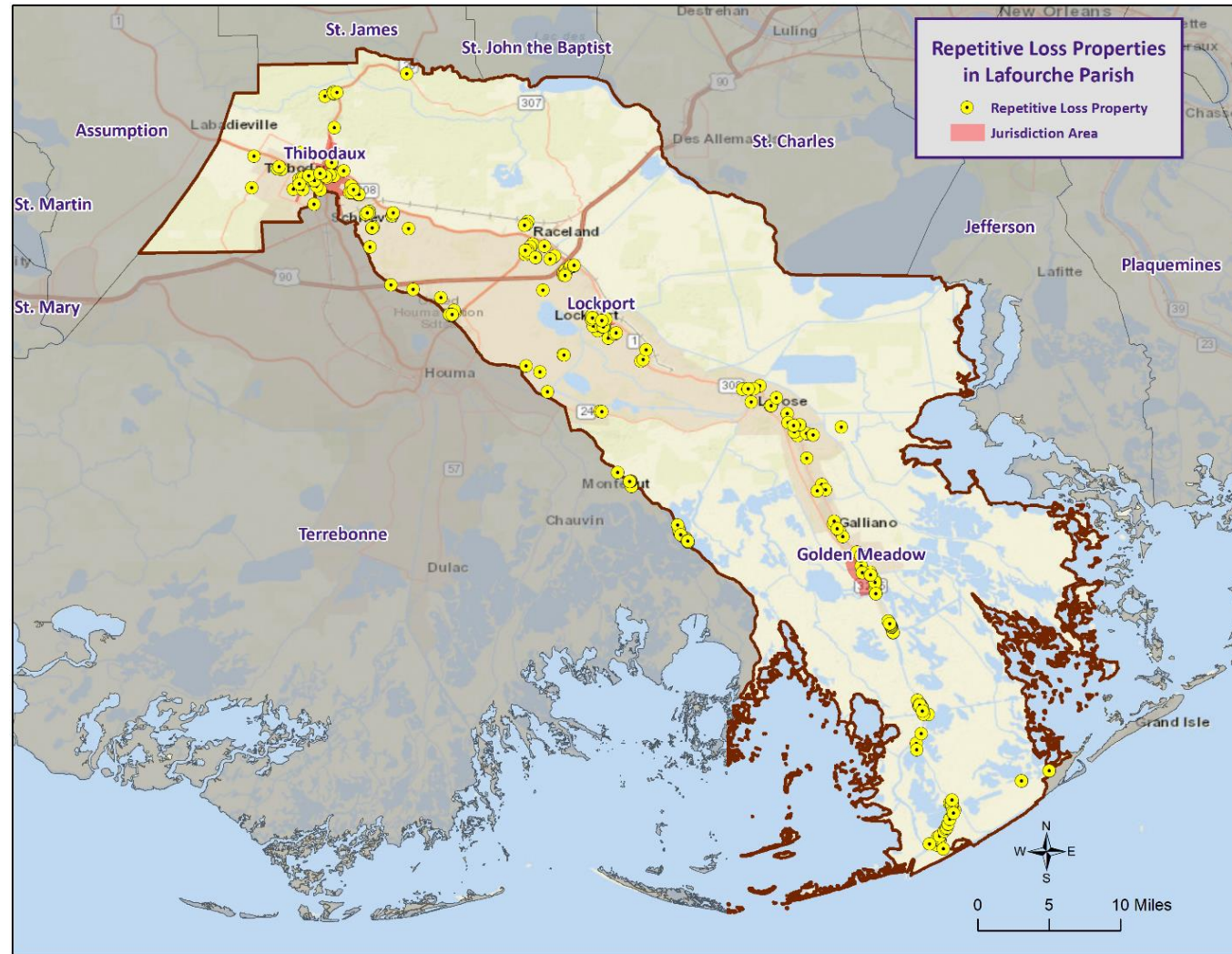
# Flooding

- Some areas flood more often than other properties, even more than those in the mapped 100-year floodplain.
- FEMA defines a “repetitive loss” property as one which has received two flood insurance claim payments for at least \$1,000 over any 10-year period since 1978.
- These properties are important to the National Flood Insurance Program and the Community Rating System because even though they comprise 1% of the policy base, they account for 30% of the country’s flood insurance claim payments.





# Repetitive Loss Properties



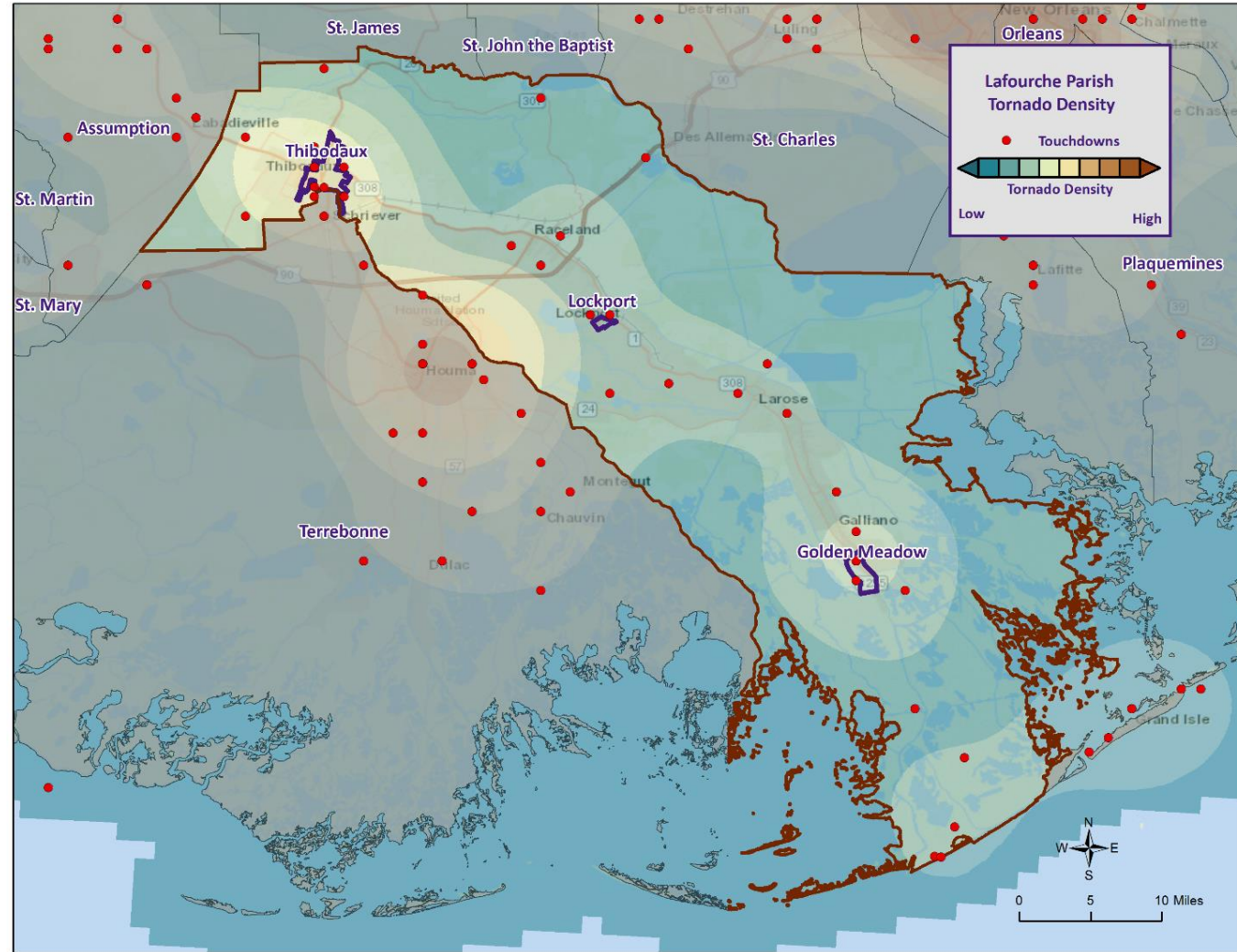
# Tornadoes

- Tornadoes (also called twisters and cyclones) are rapidly rotating funnels of wind extending between storm clouds and the ground.
- Tornadoes are the most severe storms for their size, and 70% of the world's reported tornadoes occur within the continental United States.

ORIGINAL FUJITA SCALE		ENHANCED FUJITA SCALE	
F5	261-318 mph	EF5	+200 mph
F4	207-260 mph	EF4	166-200 mph
F3	158-206 mph	EF3	136-165 mph
F2	113-157 mph	EF2	111-135 mph
F1	73-112 mph	EF1	86-110 mph
F0	<73 mph	EF0	65-85 mph

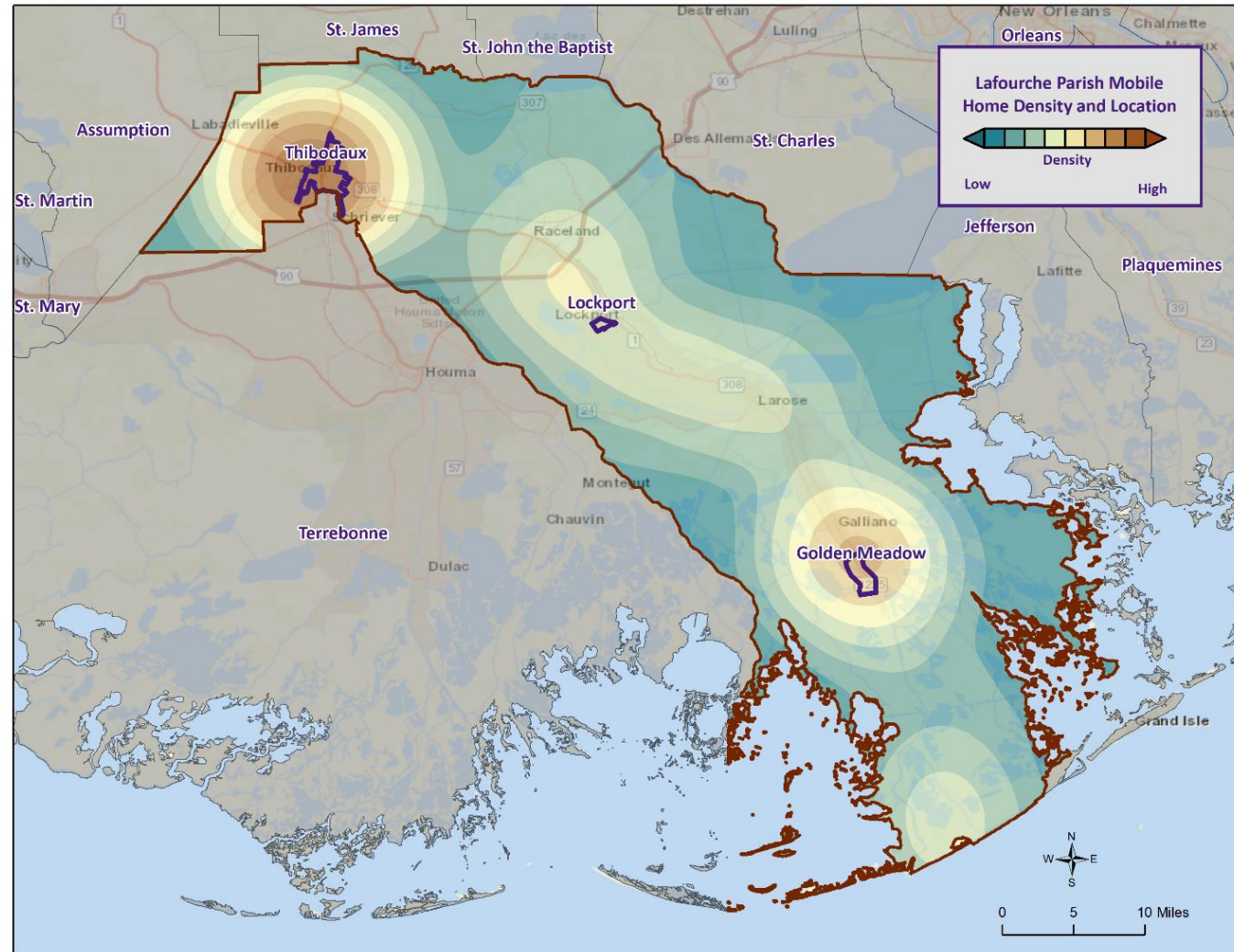


# Tornadoes





# Manufactured Home Density

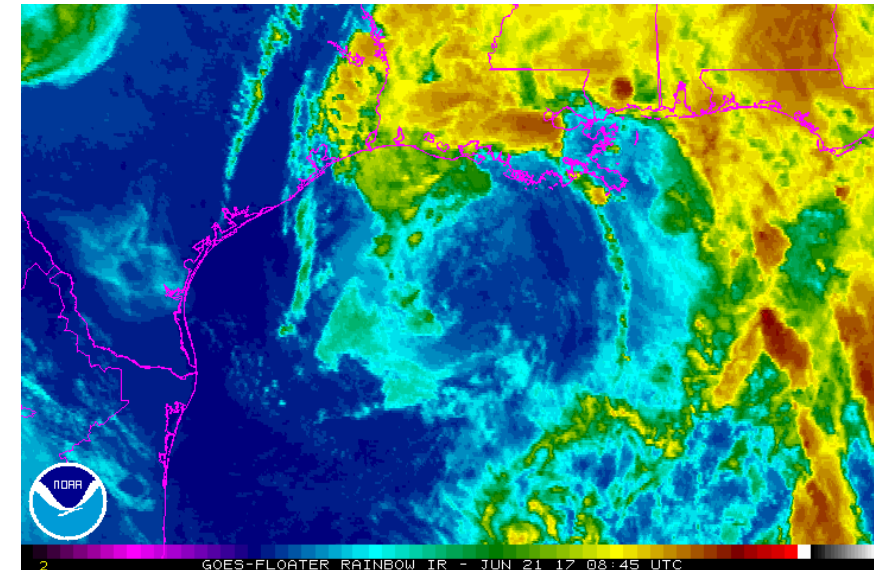




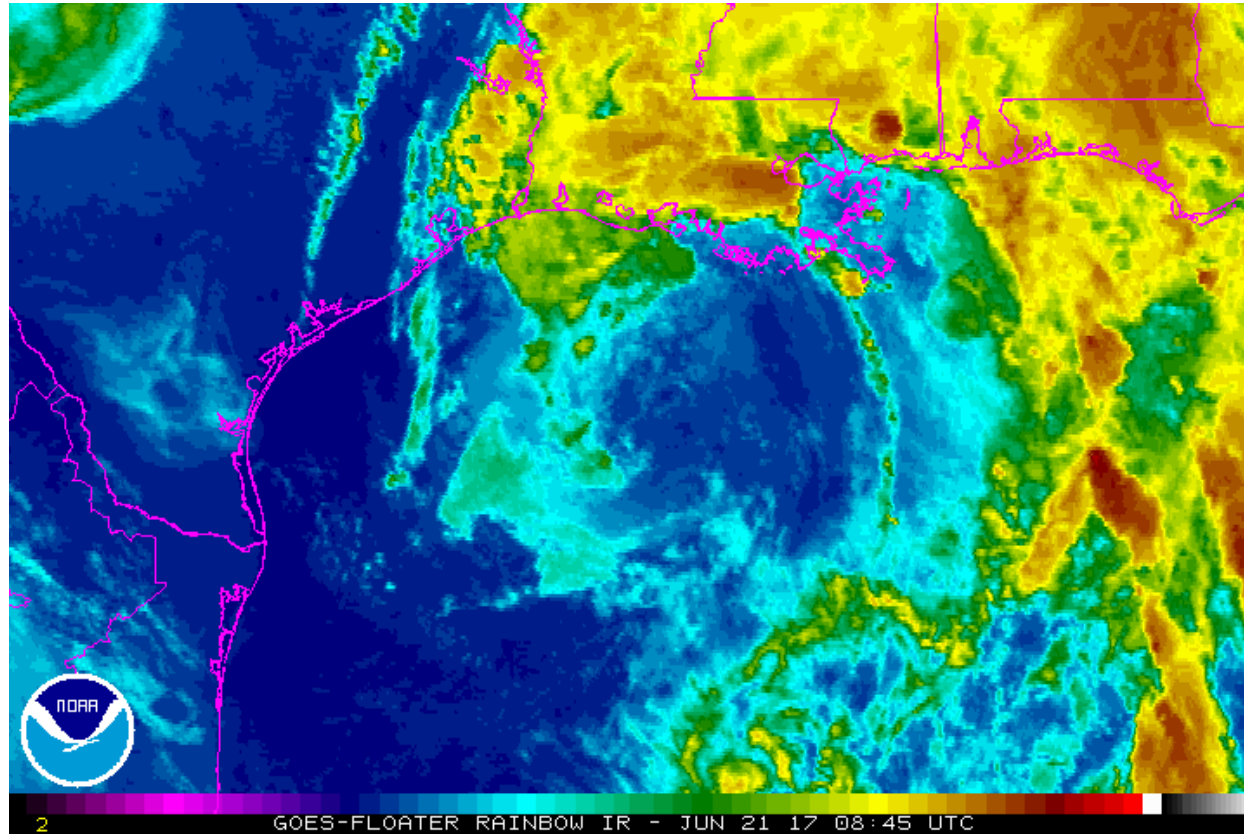
# Tropical Cyclones

- Tropical cyclones are defined spinning, low-pressure air masses that draw surface air into their centers and attain strength ranging from weak tropical waves to the most intense hurricanes

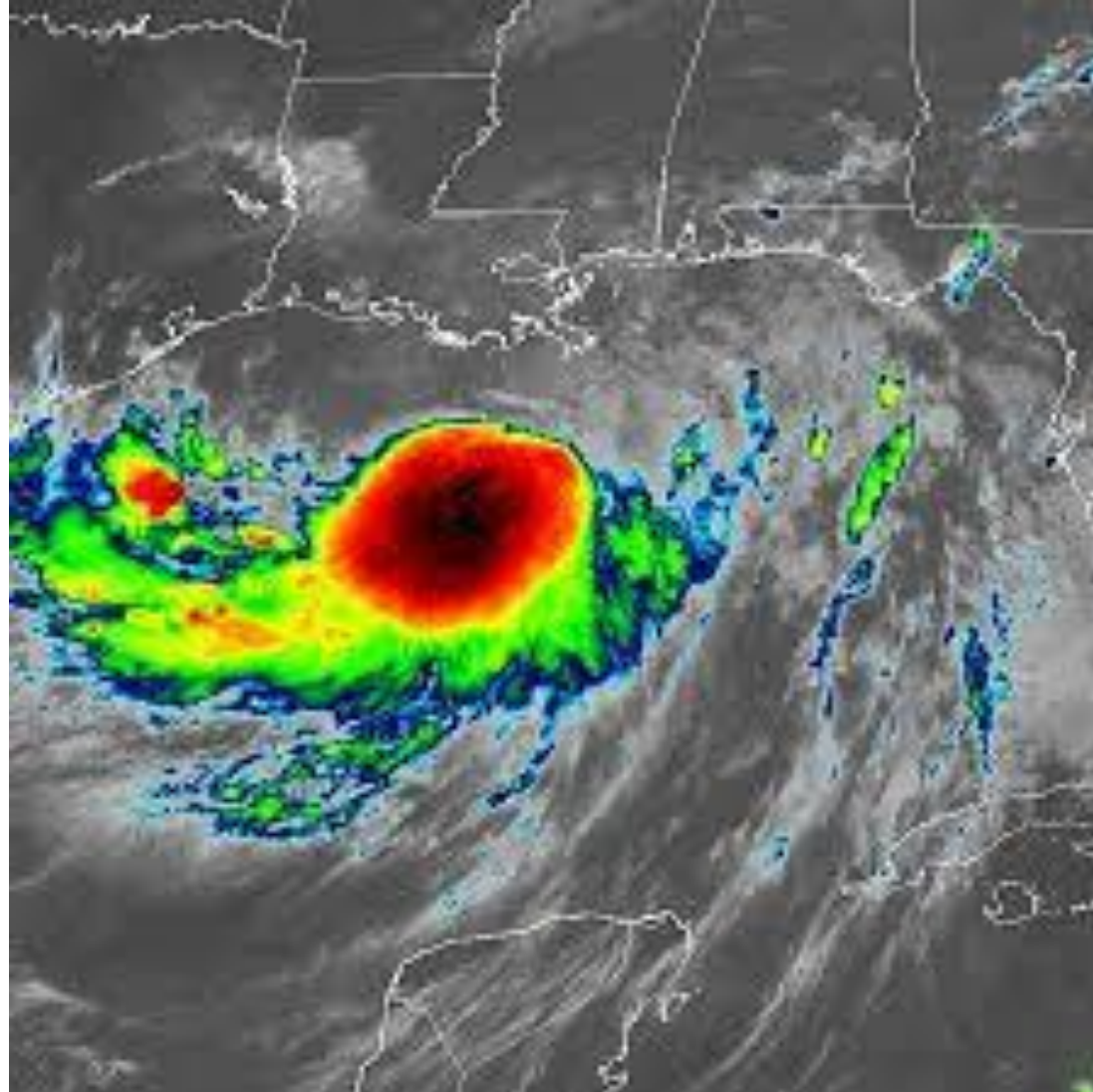
Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale		
	Sustained Wind Speed	Effects
Category 1	74-95 mph (119-153 km/hr)	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage. Low-lying coastal roads flooded, minor pier damage
Category 2	96-110 mph (154-177 km/hr)	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage. Major damage to exposed mobile homes, evacuation of some shoreline residents
Category 3	111-130 mph (178-209 km/hr)	Devastating damage will occur. Some structural damage to small buildings; serious flooding at coast and many smaller structures near coast destroyed
Category 4	131-155 mph (210-249 km/hr)	Catastrophic damage will occur. High risk of injury or death to people, livestock, and pets due to flying and falling debris. Long-term water shortages will increase human suffering. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
Category 5	> 155 mph (249 km/hr)	Catastrophic damage will occur. People, livestock, and pets are at very high risk of injury or death from flying or falling debris.  A high percentage of frame homes will be destroyed. Long-term power outages and water shortages will render area uninhabitable for weeks or months.



# Tropical Storm Cindy

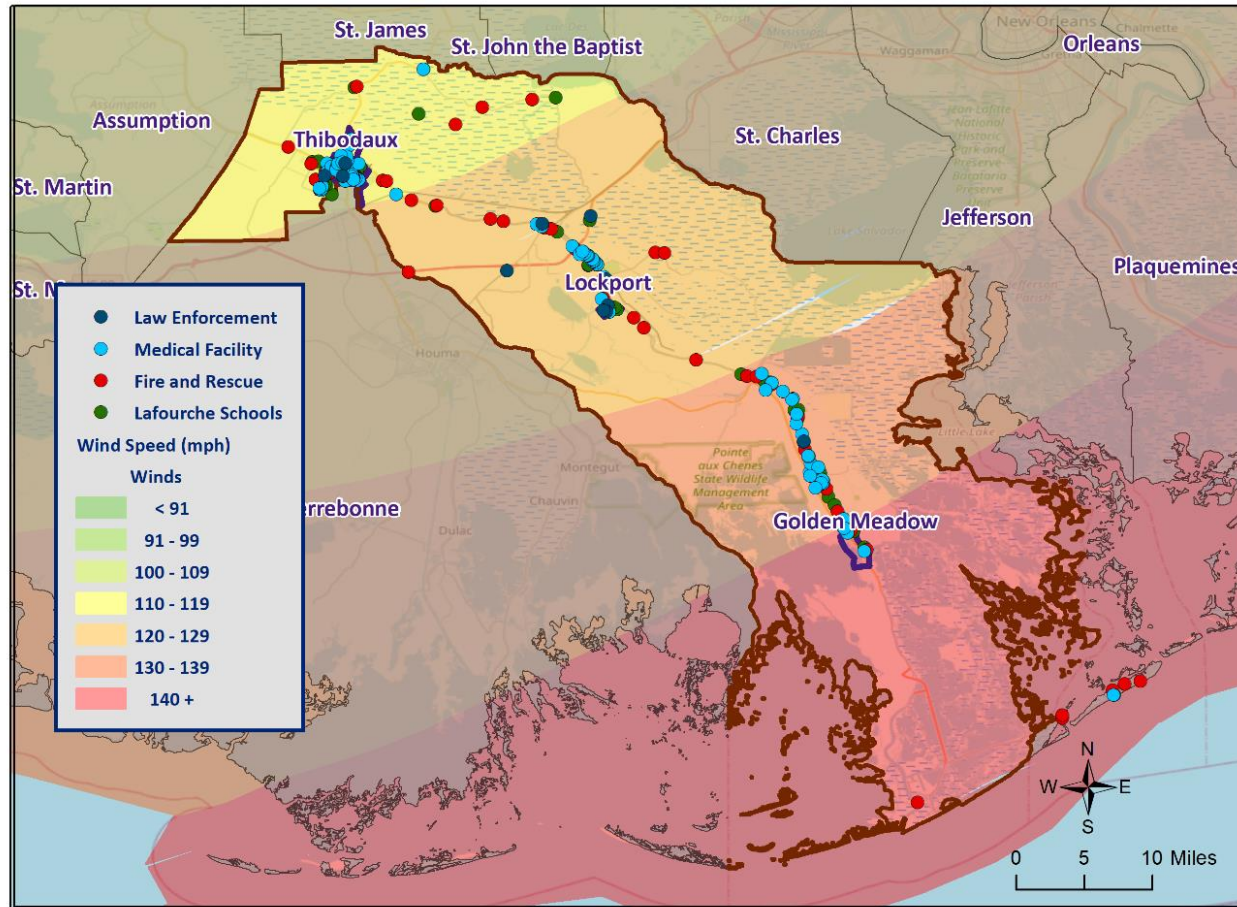


# Hurricane Barry





# Wind Speed Impacts on Critical Infrastructure





# Parish Mitigation Goals

- **Goal 1:** Identify and pursue preventative structural and non-structural measures that will reduce future damages from hazards.
- **Goal 2:** Enhance public awareness and understanding of disaster preparedness.
- **Goal 3:** Reduce repetitive flood losses in the parish by pursuing various mitigation measures (acquisitions, elevations, and flood-proofing).
- **Goal 4:** Facilitate sound development in the parish and municipalities so as to reduce or eliminate the potential impact of hazards.



# Parish Hazard Mitigation Project Update

- Lafourche Parish OHSEP/Lafourche Parish Government Discussion



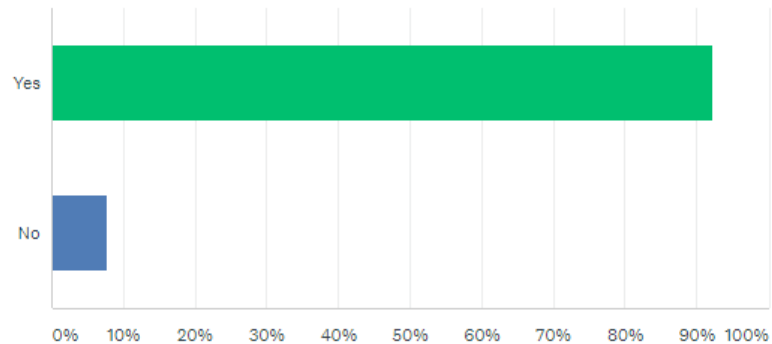
# Public Outreach Activity

## Hazard Mitigation Public Opinion Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LafourcheHMP2020>

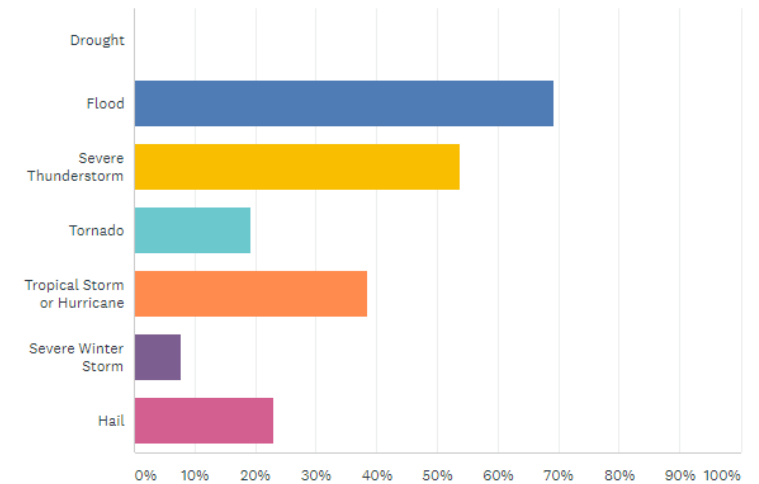
During the past five years in the parish you currently reside in, have you or someone in your household directly experienced a natural disaster such as a severe windstorm, flood, tropical storm or other type of natural disaster?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 1



Which of these natural disasters have you or someone in your household experienced in the past five years? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 26 Skipped: 1



# Contact Us

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