



# **St. Helena Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Public Meeting**

May 10, 2021  
Greensburg, LA



# Introductions

- **St. Helena Parish OHSEP Director/Parish Staff**
- **Stephenson Disaster Management Institute (SDMI) at LSU**
  - Lauren Stevens – Associate Director, Disaster Management Programs
  - Chris Rippetoe – Hazard Mitigation Program Manager
  - Anna Daigle – Emergency Management Specialist
- **Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness**
  - Jeffrey Giering – State Hazard Mitigation Officer
  - Marion Pearson – Hazard Mitigation Planner



# Agenda



**Introductions**



**Hazard Mitigation  
Overview**



**Planning Process**



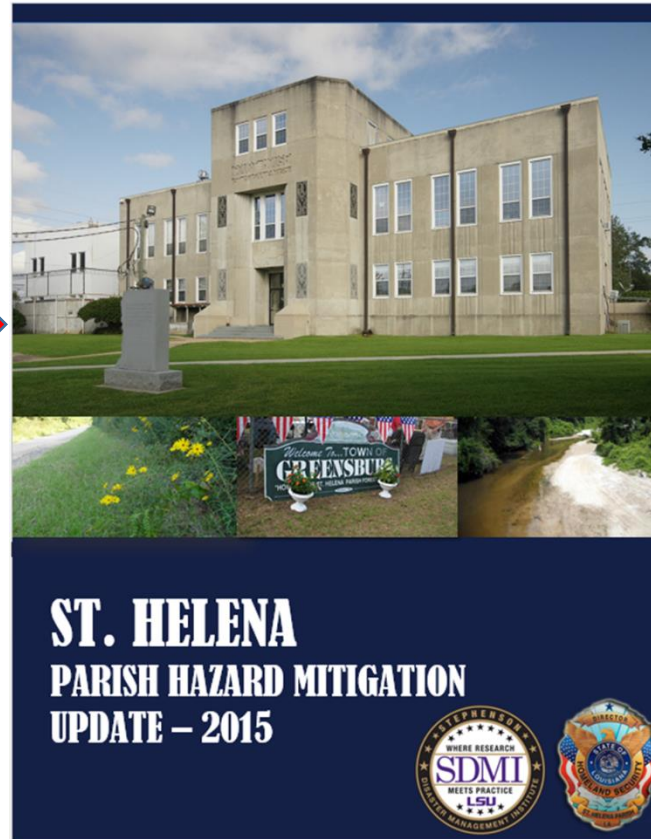
**Risk Assessment  
Maps**



**Public Outreach  
Activities**



# Why Are We Here?



STATE OF LOUISIANA

This document has been prepared by:  
Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security  
and Emergency Preparedness  
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With Support From:  
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HAZARD MITIGATION GUIDE  
2019

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# Hazard Mitigation Is....

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Any action taken to reduce long term risk to life and property;

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On-going process that occurs before, during, and after disasters;

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Mitigation actions help prevent damage to a *community's infrastructure, economic, cultural and environmental assets*;

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Implementation of mitigation actions leads to building stronger, safer and smarter!

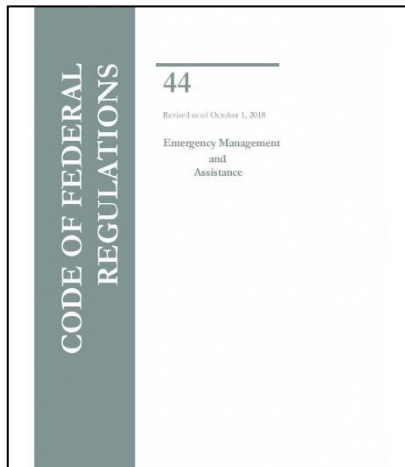


# Why Are We Required To Have A Hazard Mitigation Plan?

- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)

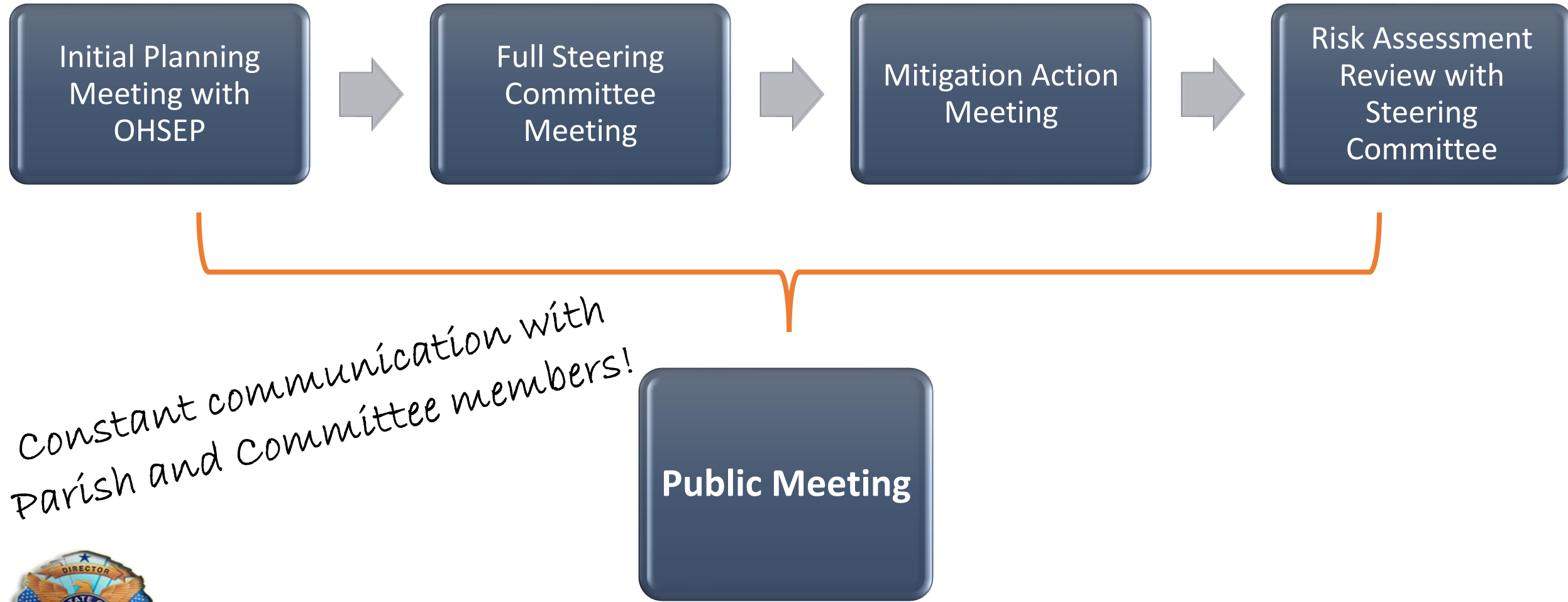
*Section 322 of the Act specifically addresses mitigation planning and requires state and local governments to prepare multi-hazard migration plans as a precondition for receiving FEMA mitigation project grants.*

- 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.

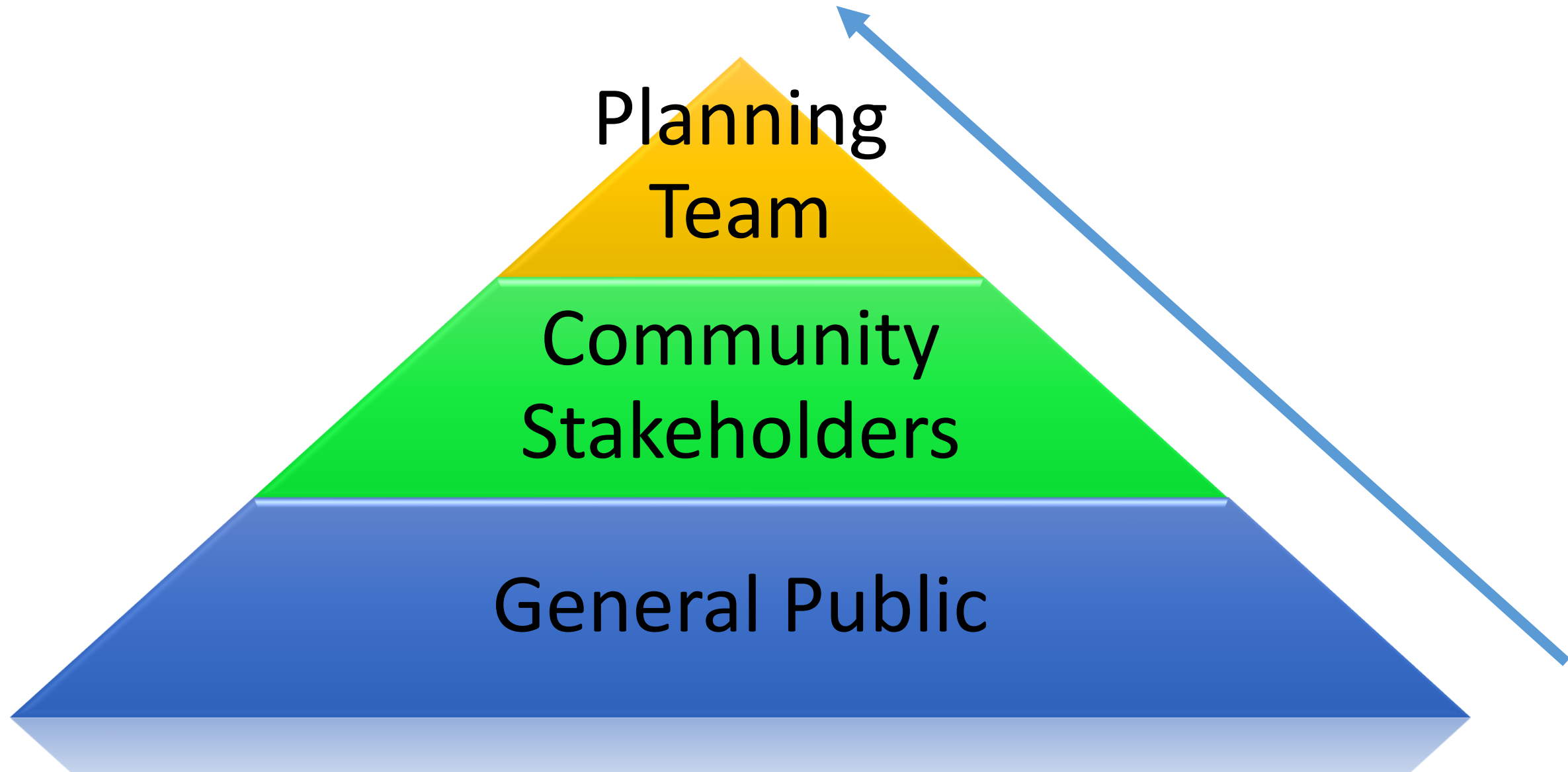


- The approved St. Helena Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan will allow for distribution of HM funding following future disasters.

# Planning Process to Date

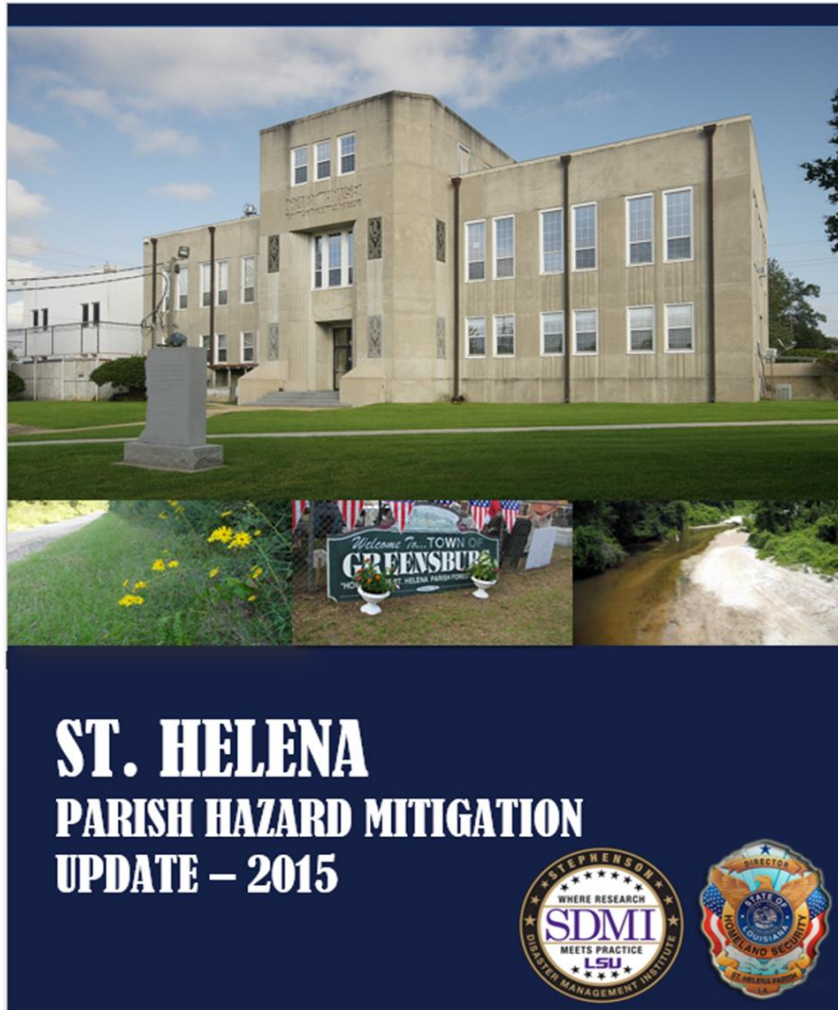


# Collaborative Planning Approach





# Planning Development



# 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
- **Appendix F:** Floodplain Management Activity 510



# 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*





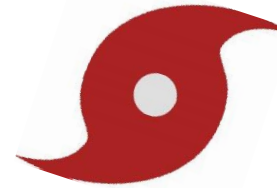
# Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

- 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

- Flooding
- Thunderstorms
- Tornadoes
- Tropical Cyclones
- Wildfire
- Winter Weather



# Risk Matrix for St. Helena Parish

Hazard	Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	Overall Risk
Flooding	3	4	3	4	3	3.4
Thunderstorms - Hail	3	2	3	3	1	2.45
Thunderstorms - Lightning	3	2	2	3	1	2.25
Thunderstorms - Winds	4	2	3	3	1	2.7
Tornadoes	1	3	2	4	3	2.45
Tropical Cyclones	3	4	4	1	4	3.3
Wildfires	3	4	4	1	2	3.0
Winter Weather	1	3	4	1	2	2.25

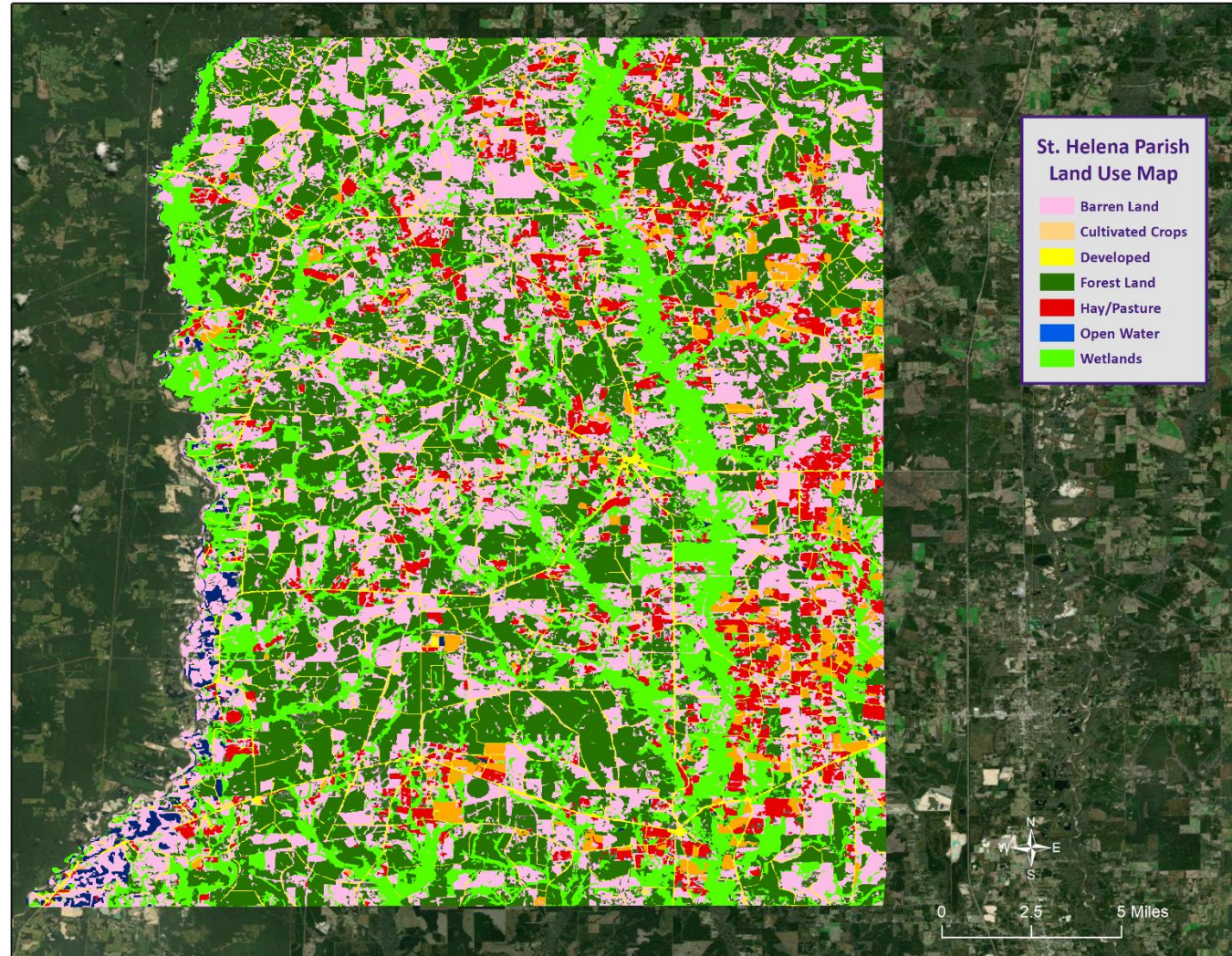




# Risk Assessment Maps

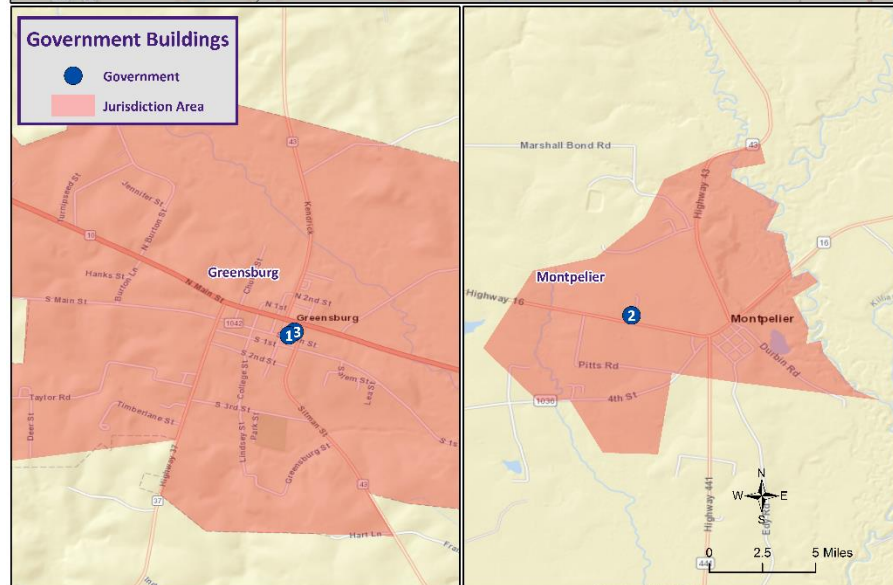
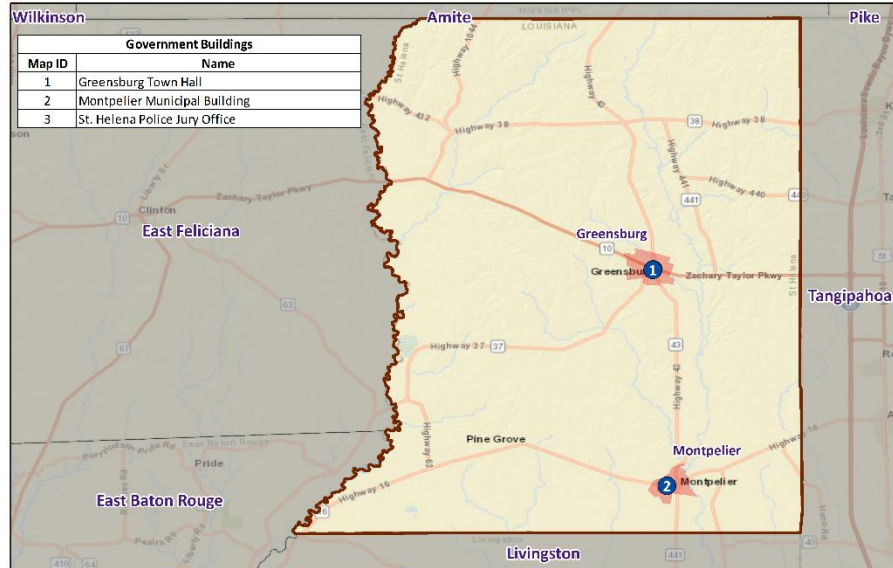


# St. Helena Parish Land Use

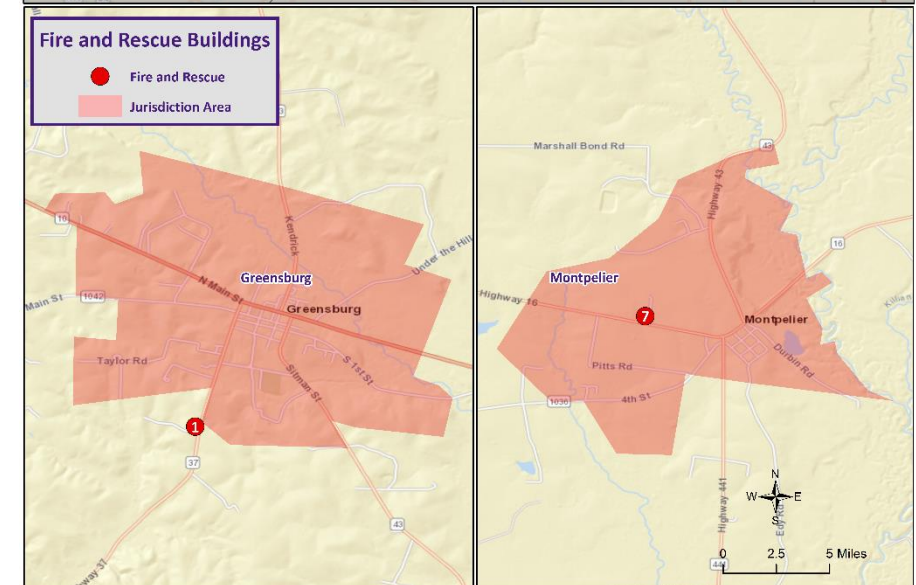
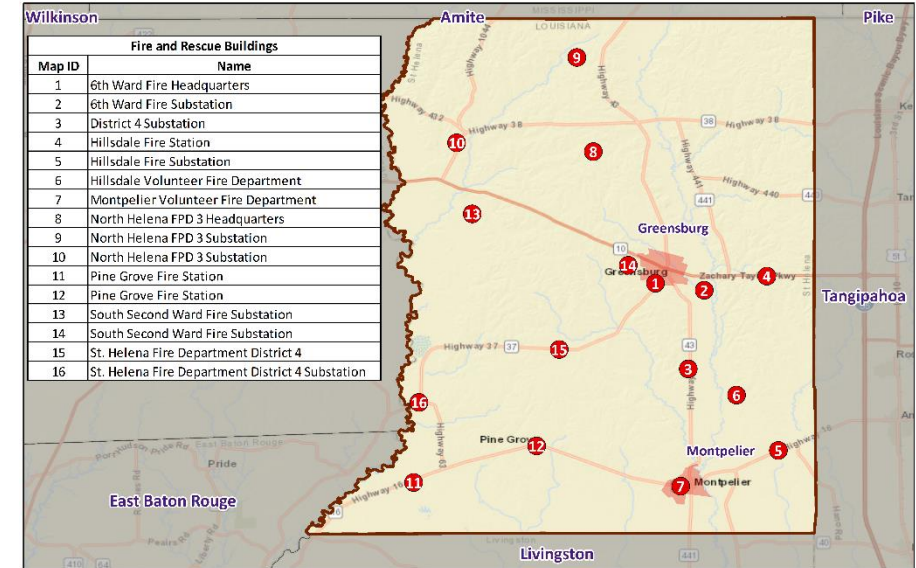




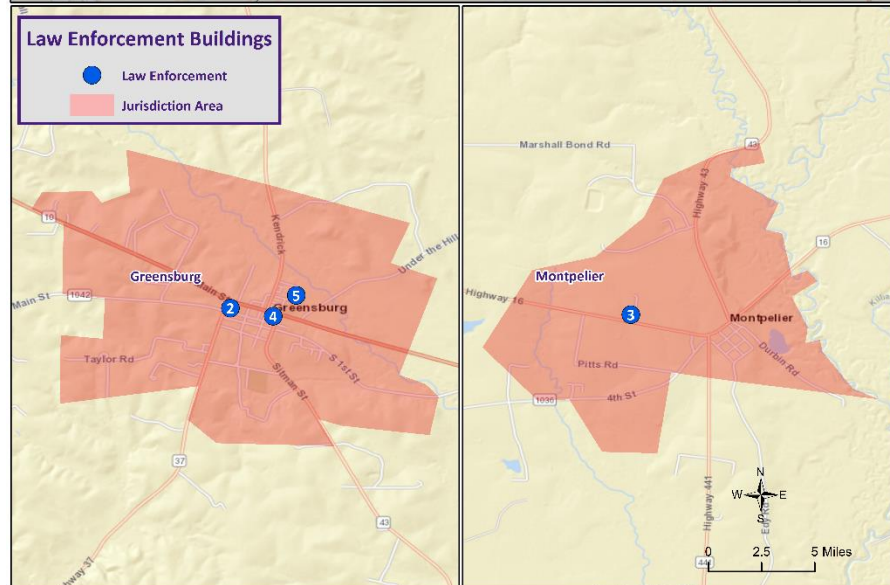
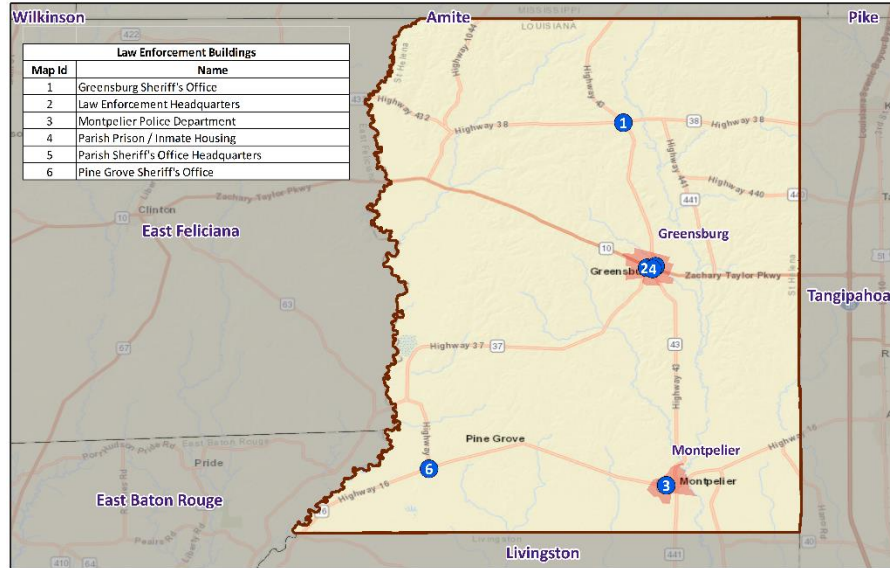
# Critical Facilities: Civil Government



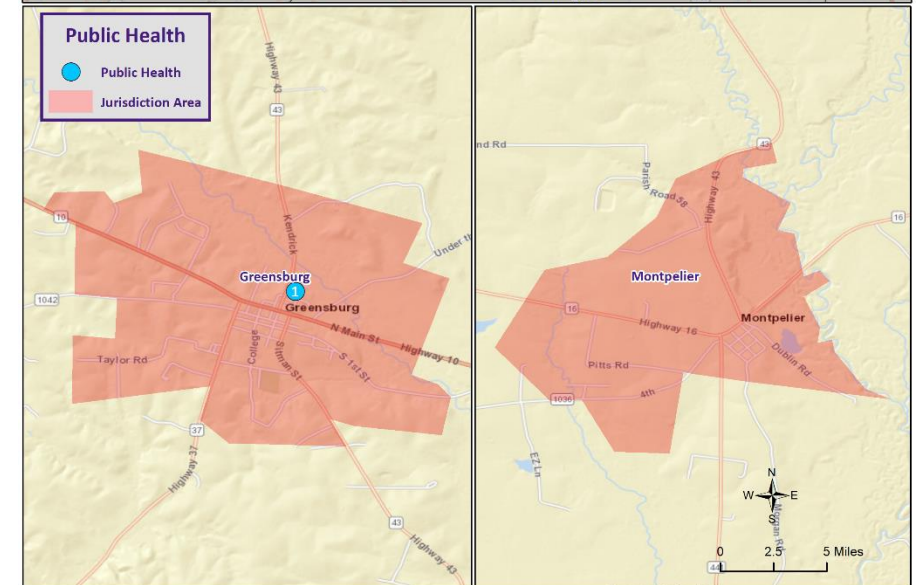
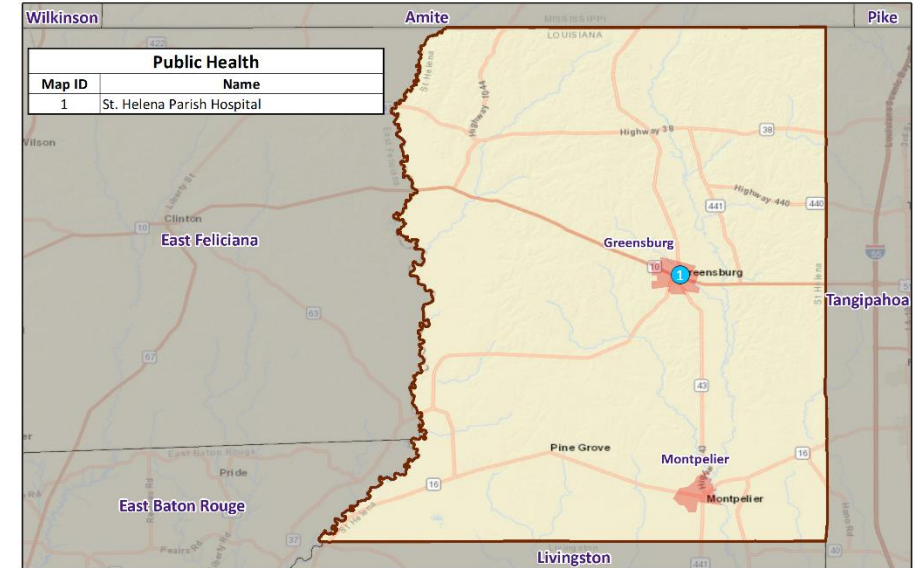
# Critical Facilities: Fire & SAR



# Critical Facilities: Law Enforcement

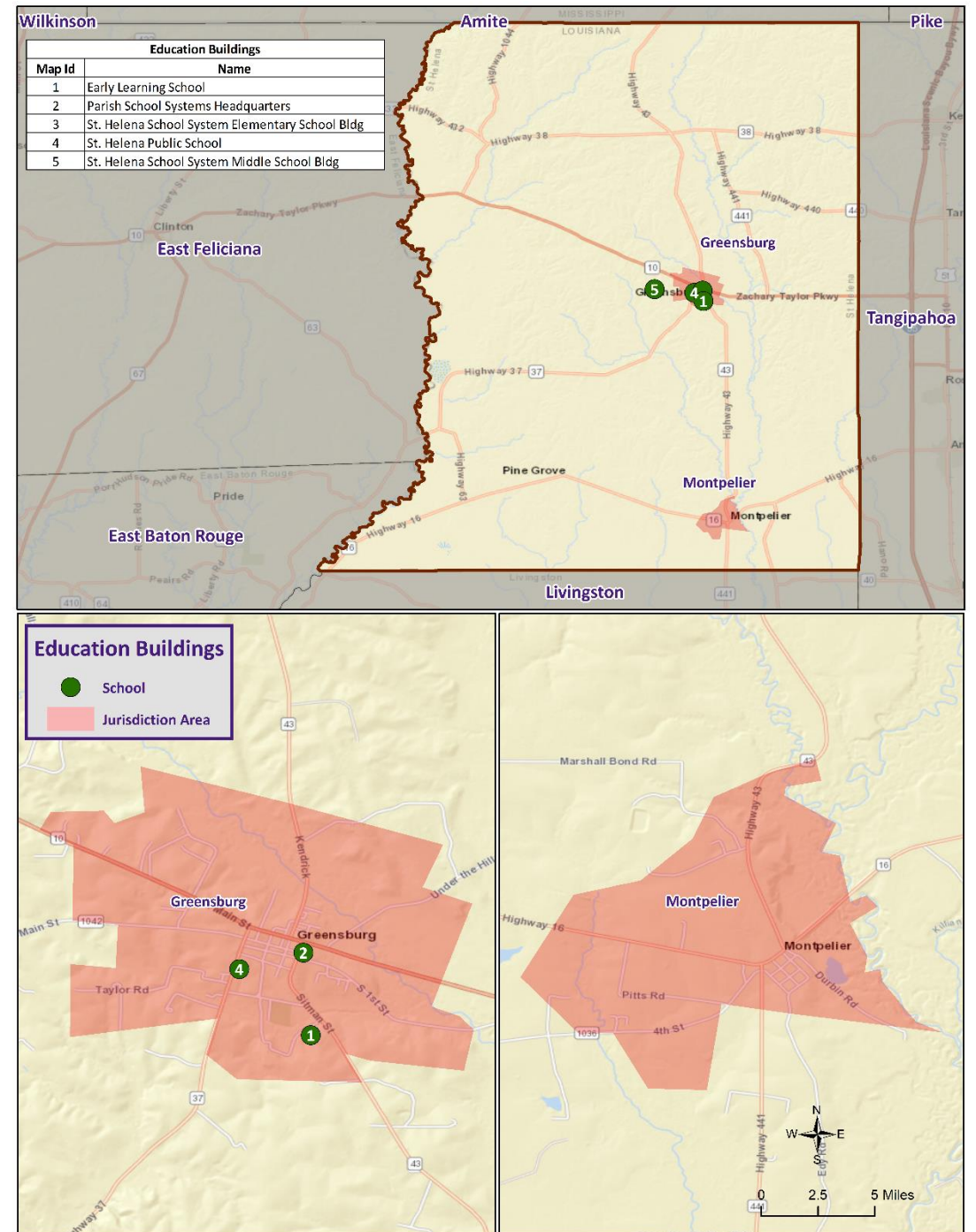


# Critical Facilities: Public Health





# Critical Facilities: Education





# 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

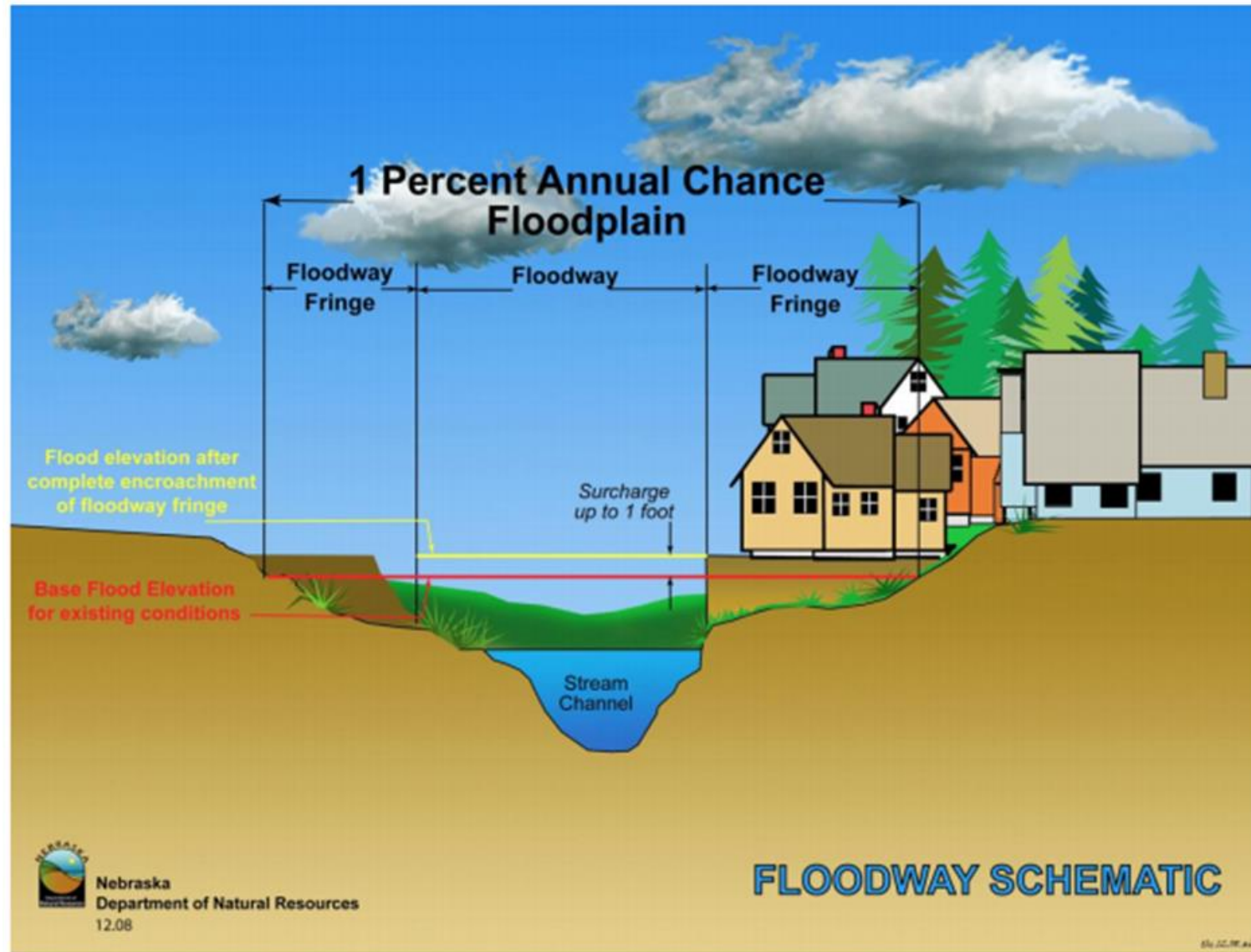
In Louisiana, six specific types of flooding are of main concern:

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

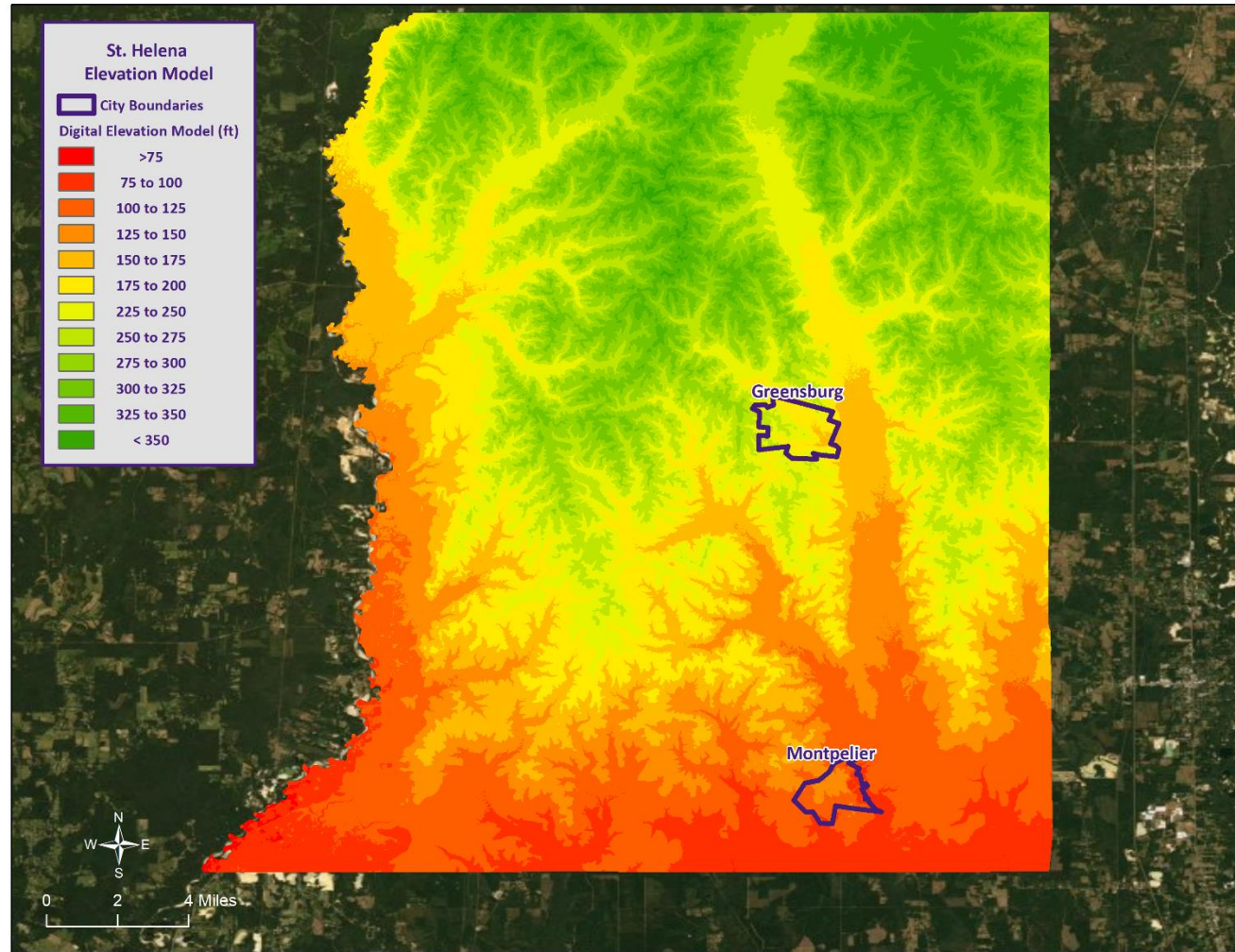




# Floodway Diagram

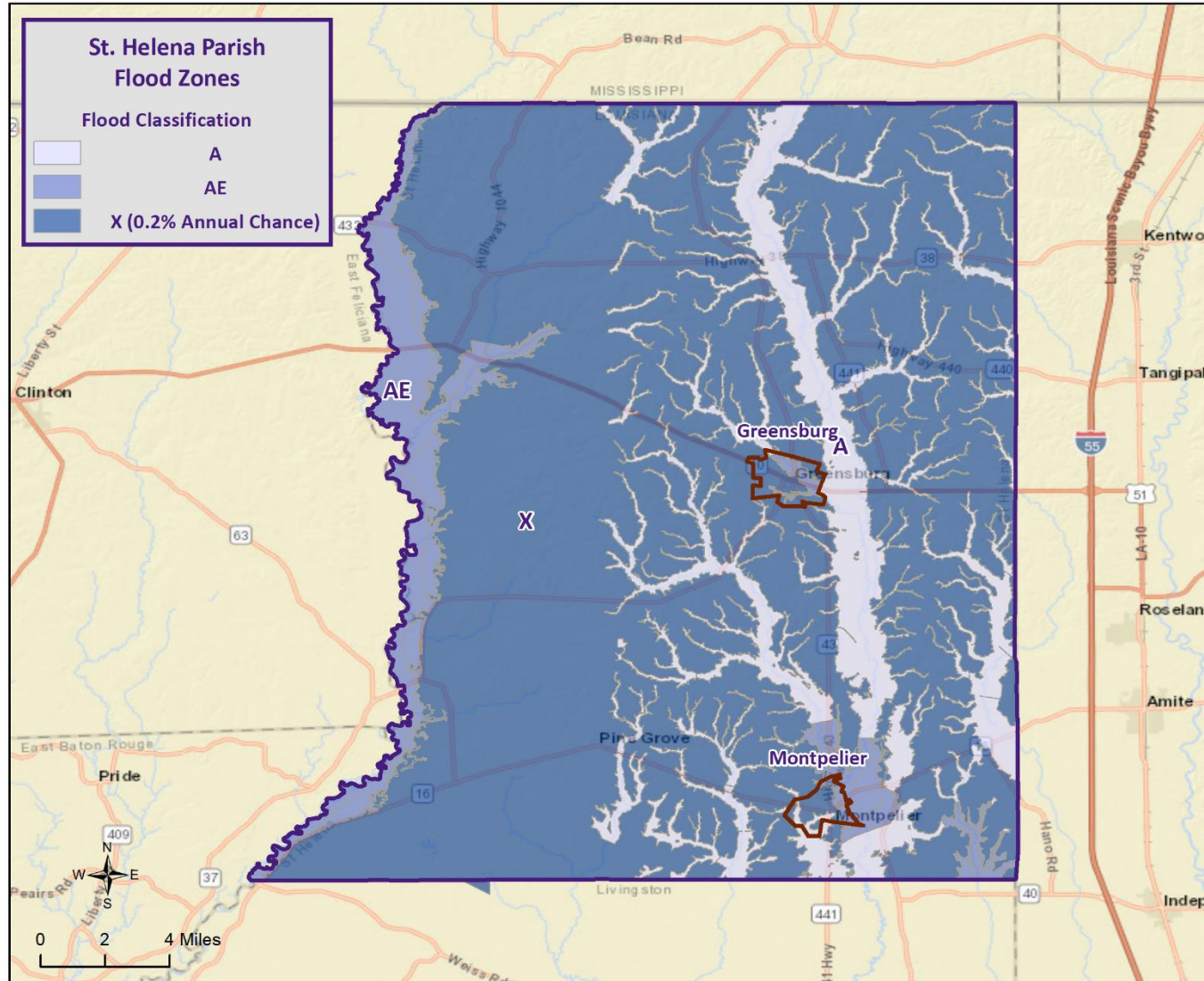


# Digital Elevation Model

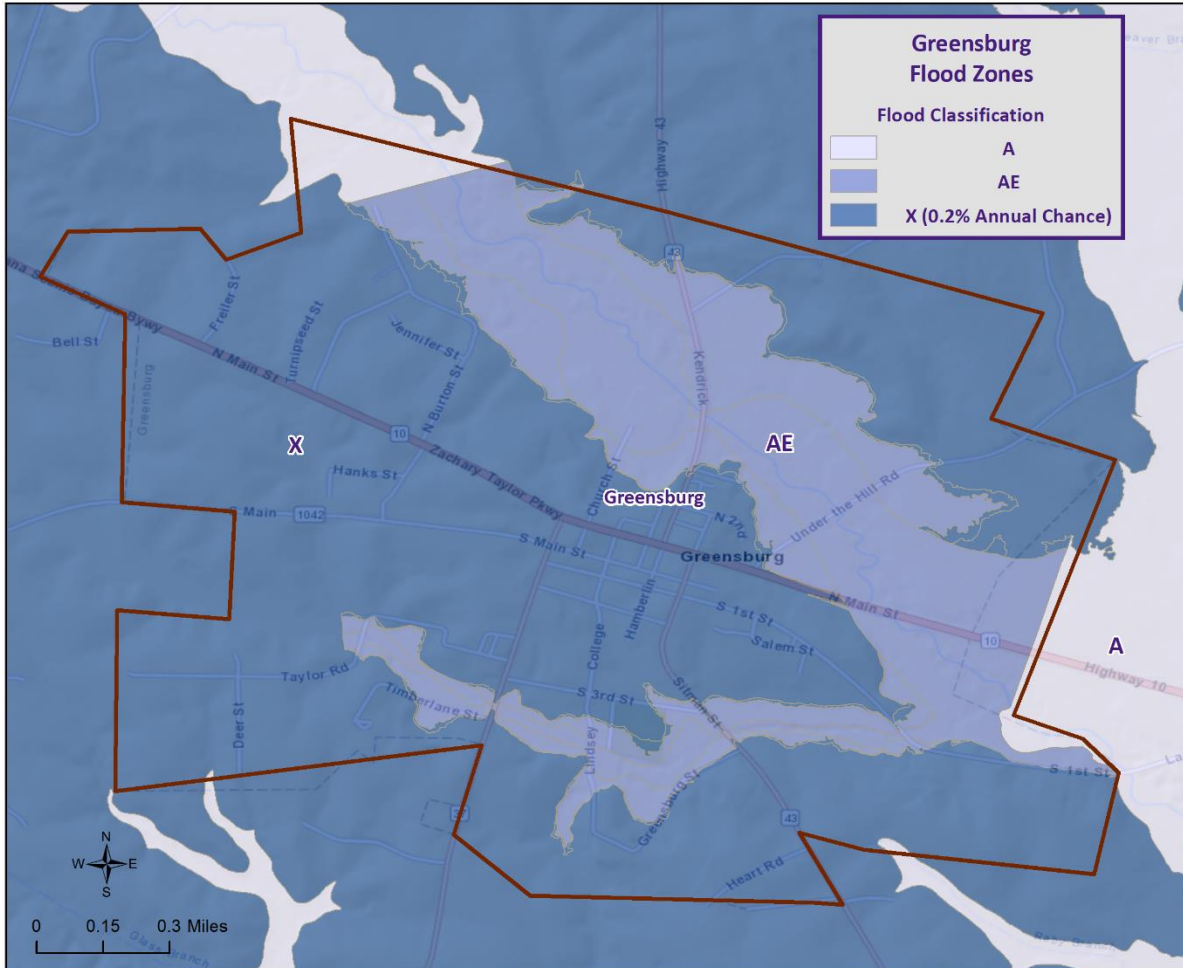




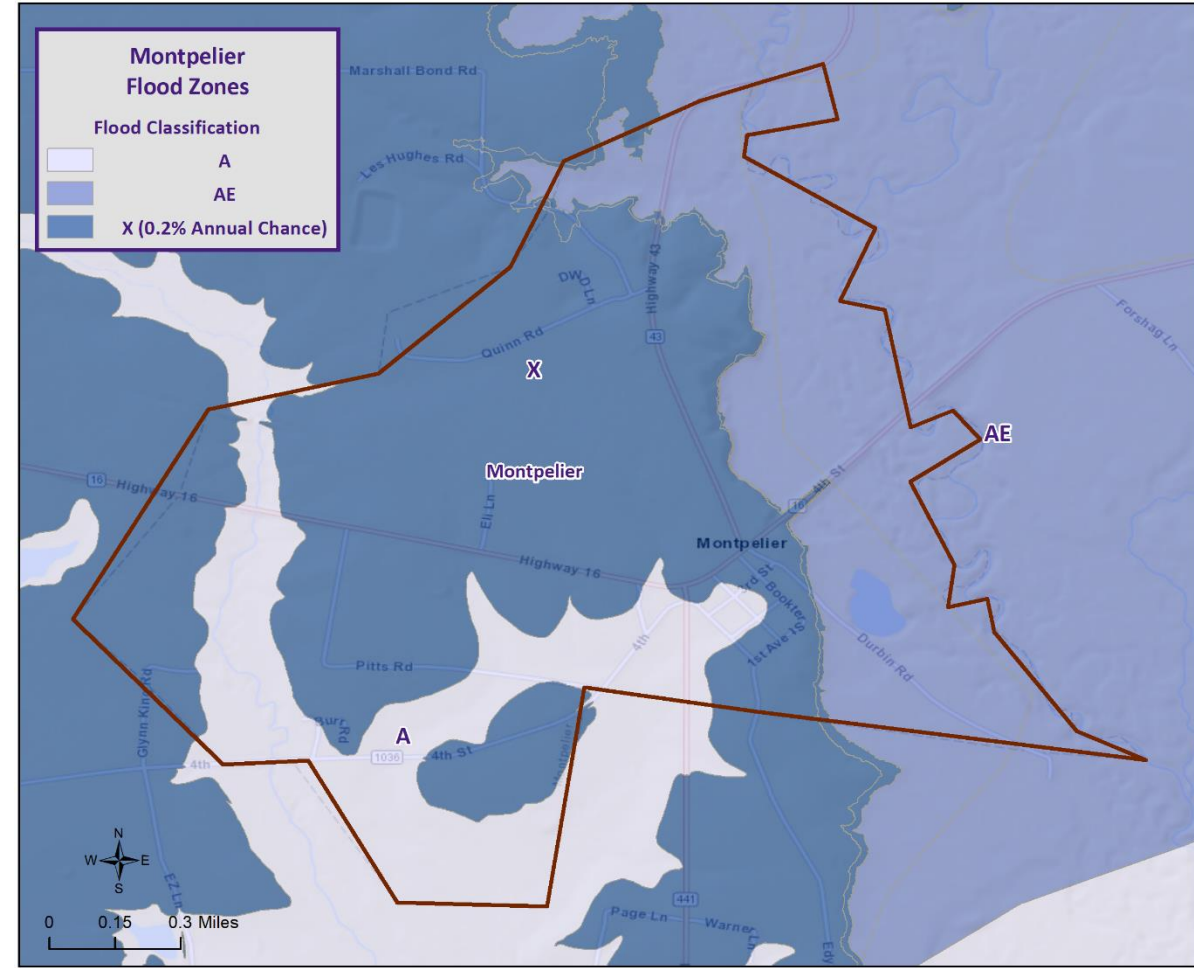
# St. Helena Parish Flood Map



# Flood Map: Greensburg



# Flood Map: Montpelier



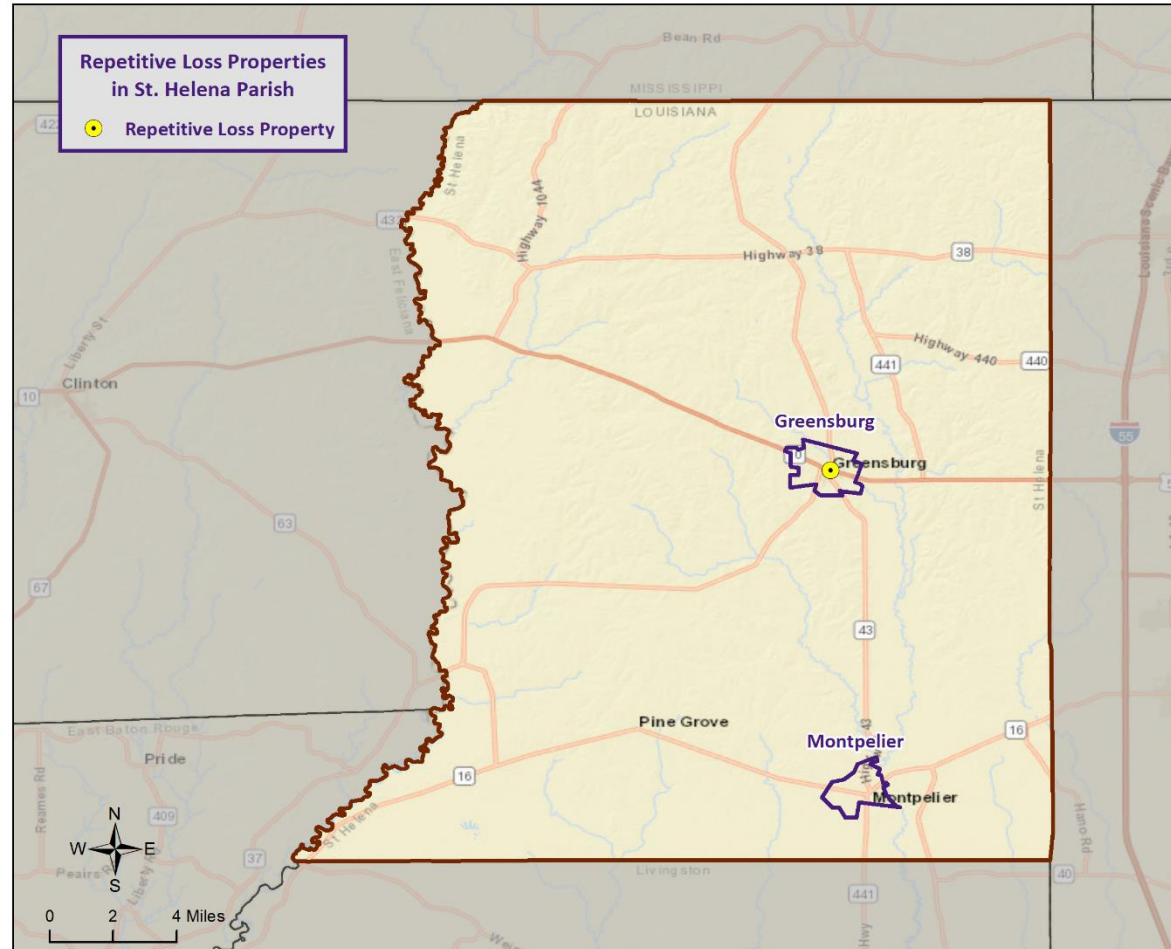


# Flooding

- 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





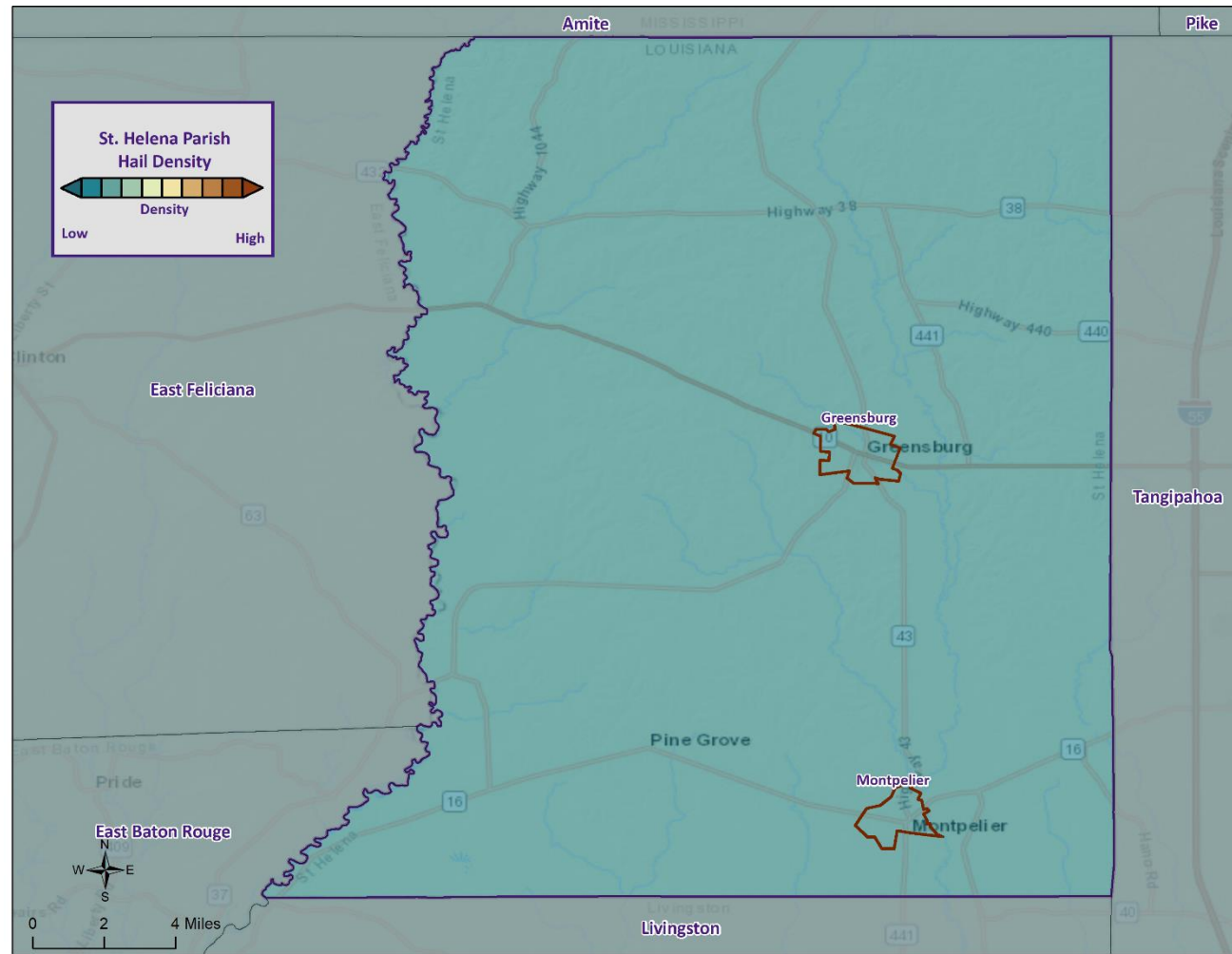
# Thunderstorms

- A **thunderstorm**, also known as an **electrical storm**, a **lightning storm**, or a **thundershower**, is a type of storm characterized by the presence of lightning and its acoustic effect on the Earth's atmosphere known as thunder.
- They are usually accompanied by strong winds, heavy rain, and sometimes snow, sleet, or hail.
- Thunderstorms may line up in a series or rainband, known as a squall line. Strong or severe thunderstorms may rotate, known as supercells. While most thunderstorms move with the mean wind flow through the layer of the troposphere that they occupy, vertical wind shear causes a deviation in their course at a right angle to the wind shear direction.





# Density of Prior Hailstorms









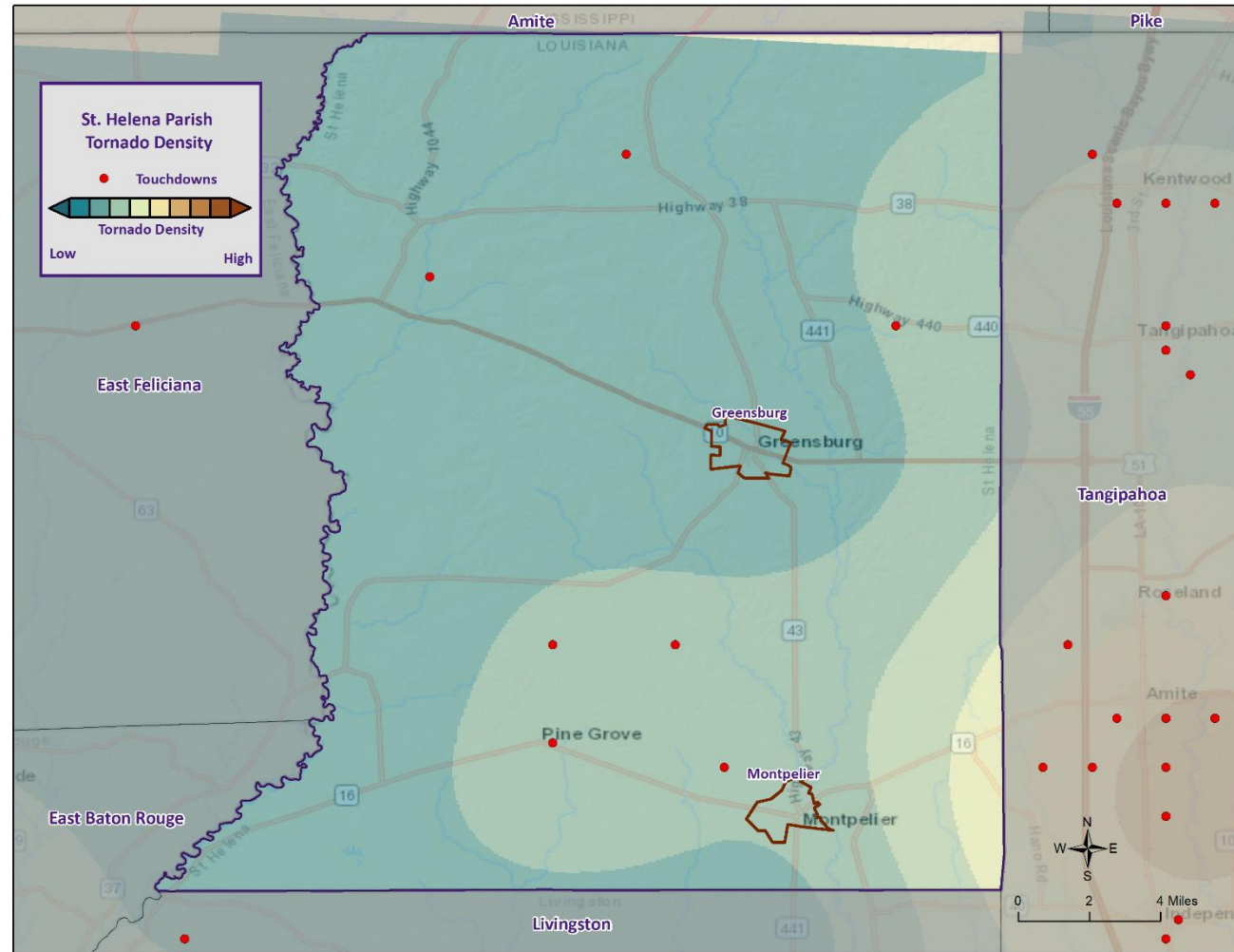
# Tornadoes

- 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.

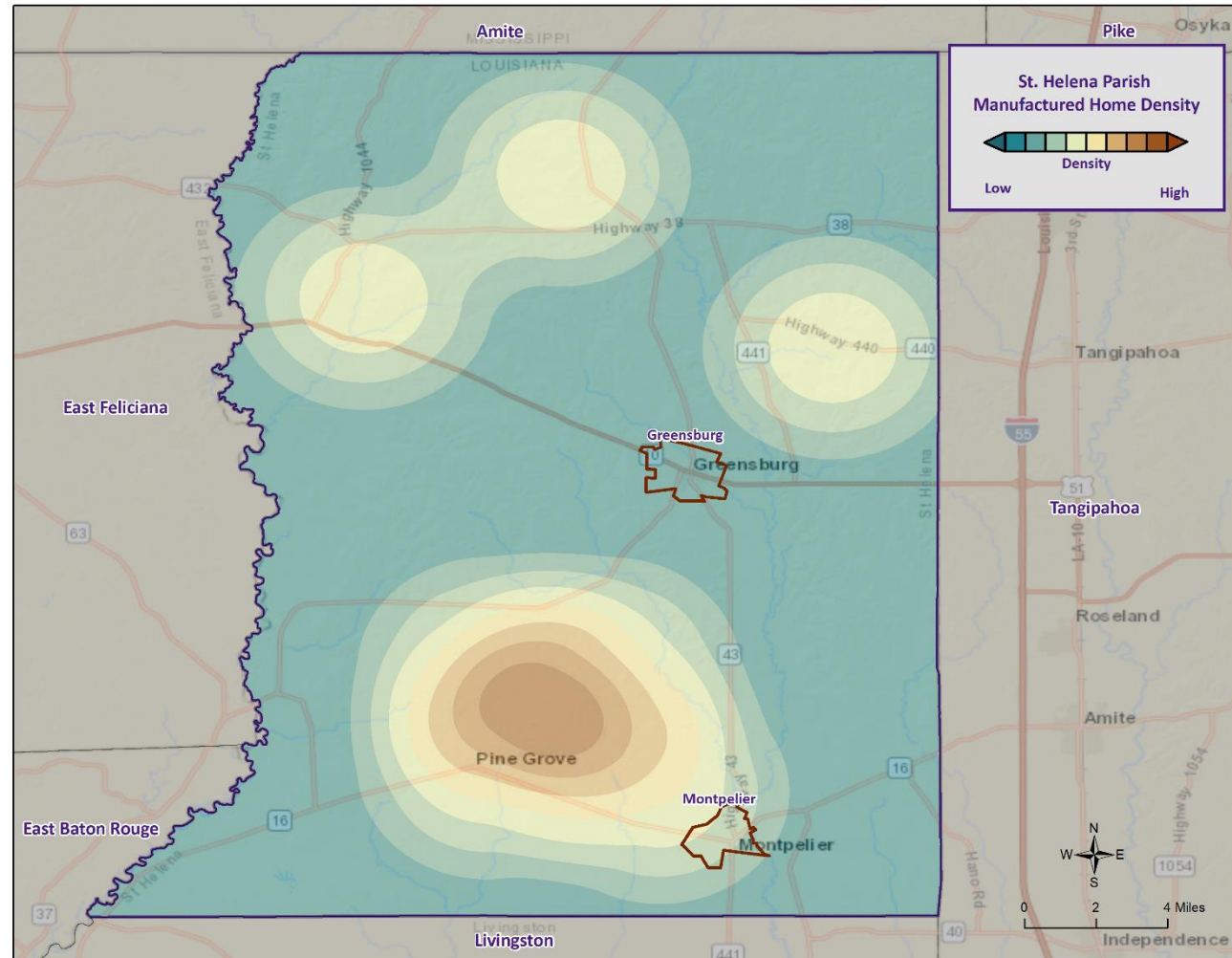
ORIGINAL FUJITA SCALE		ENHANCED FUJITA SCALE	
F5	261-318 mph	EF5	+200 mph
F4	207-260 mph	EF4	166-200 mph
F3	158-206 mph	EF3	136-165 mph
F2	113-157 mph	EF2	111-135 mph
F1	73-112 mph	EF1	86-110 mph
F0	<73 mph	EF0	65-85 mph



# Tornadoes



# Manufactured Homes Density

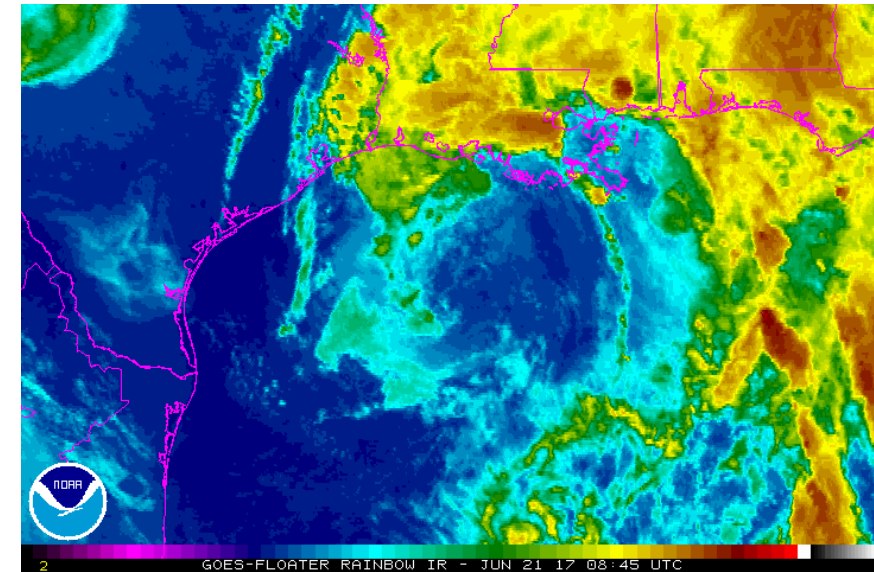


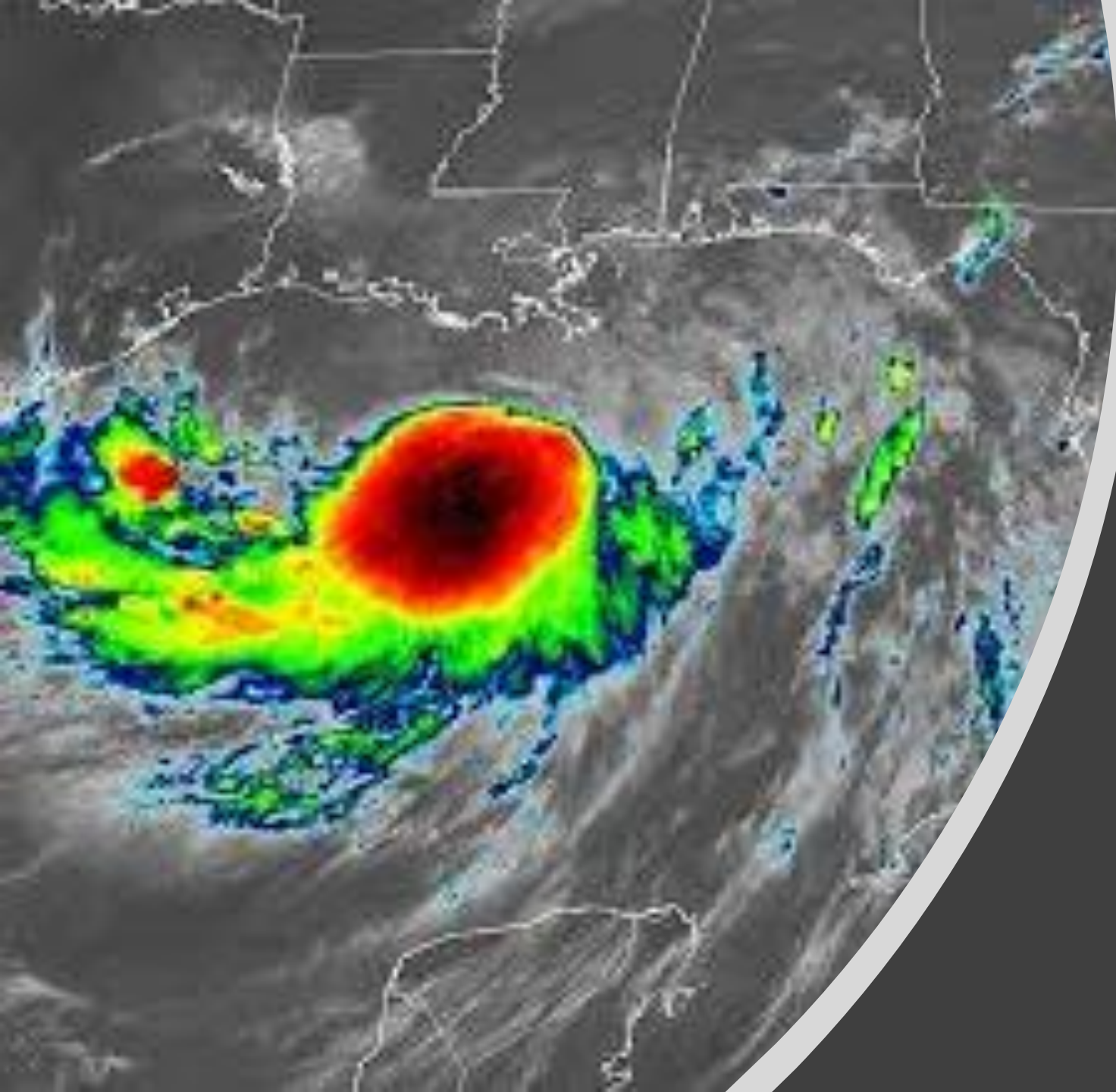


# Tropical Cyclones

- 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.

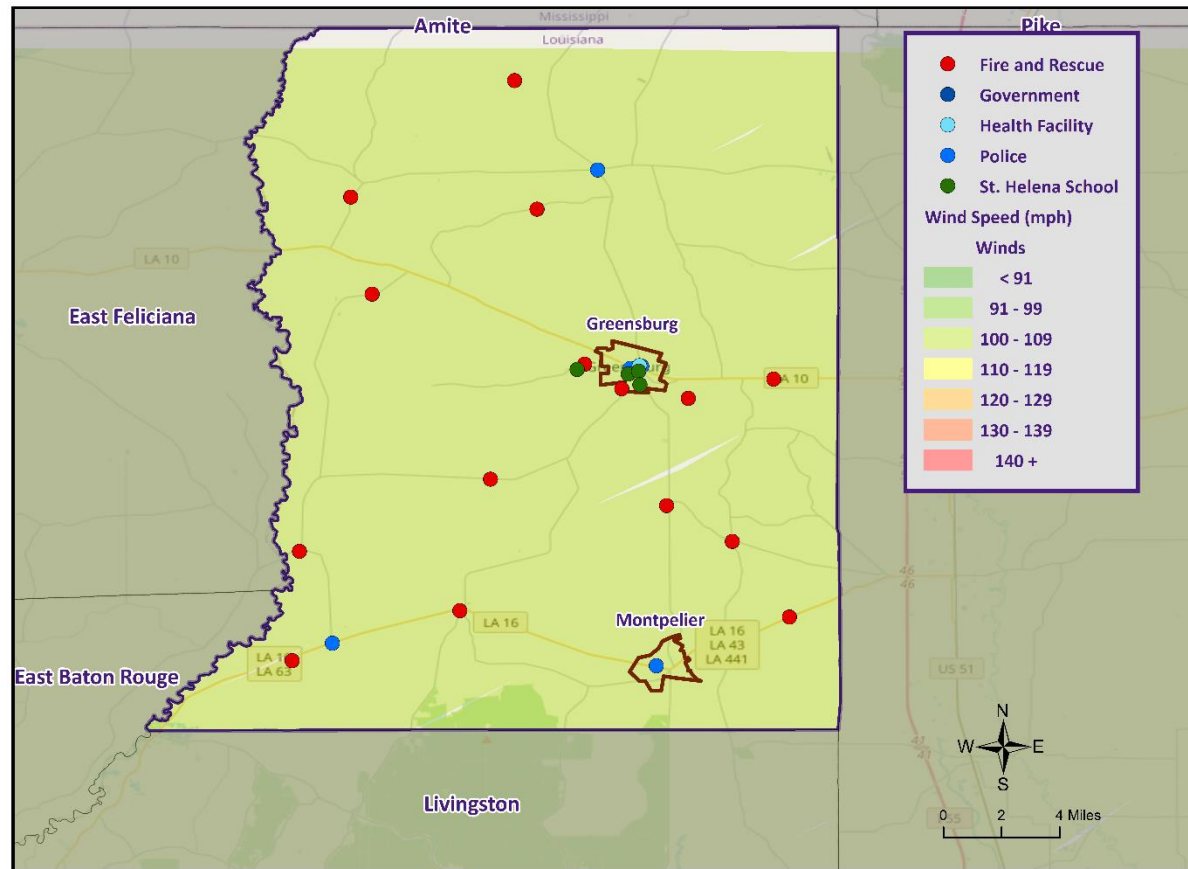




# Hurricane Barry



# Wind Speed Impacts on Critical Infrastructure



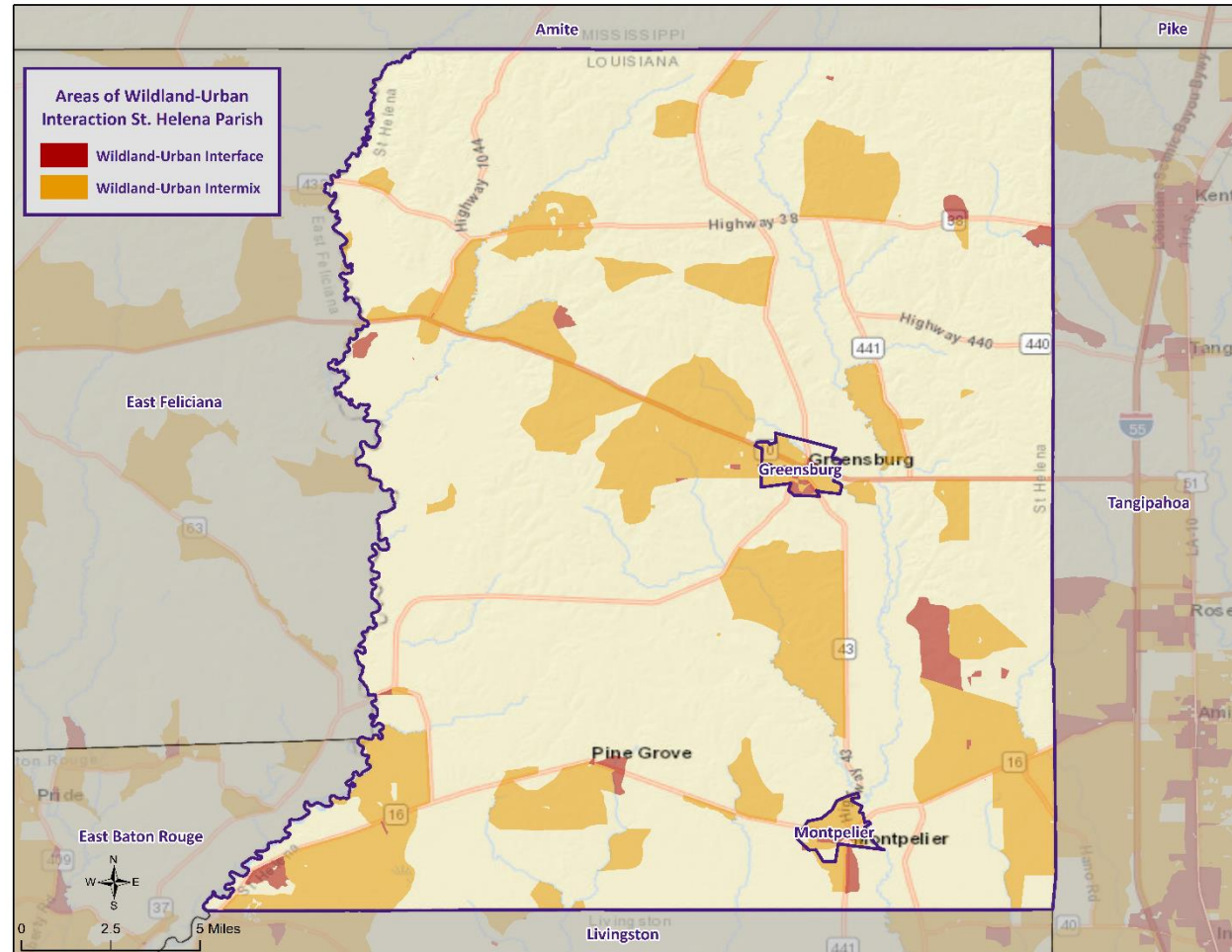


# Wildfires

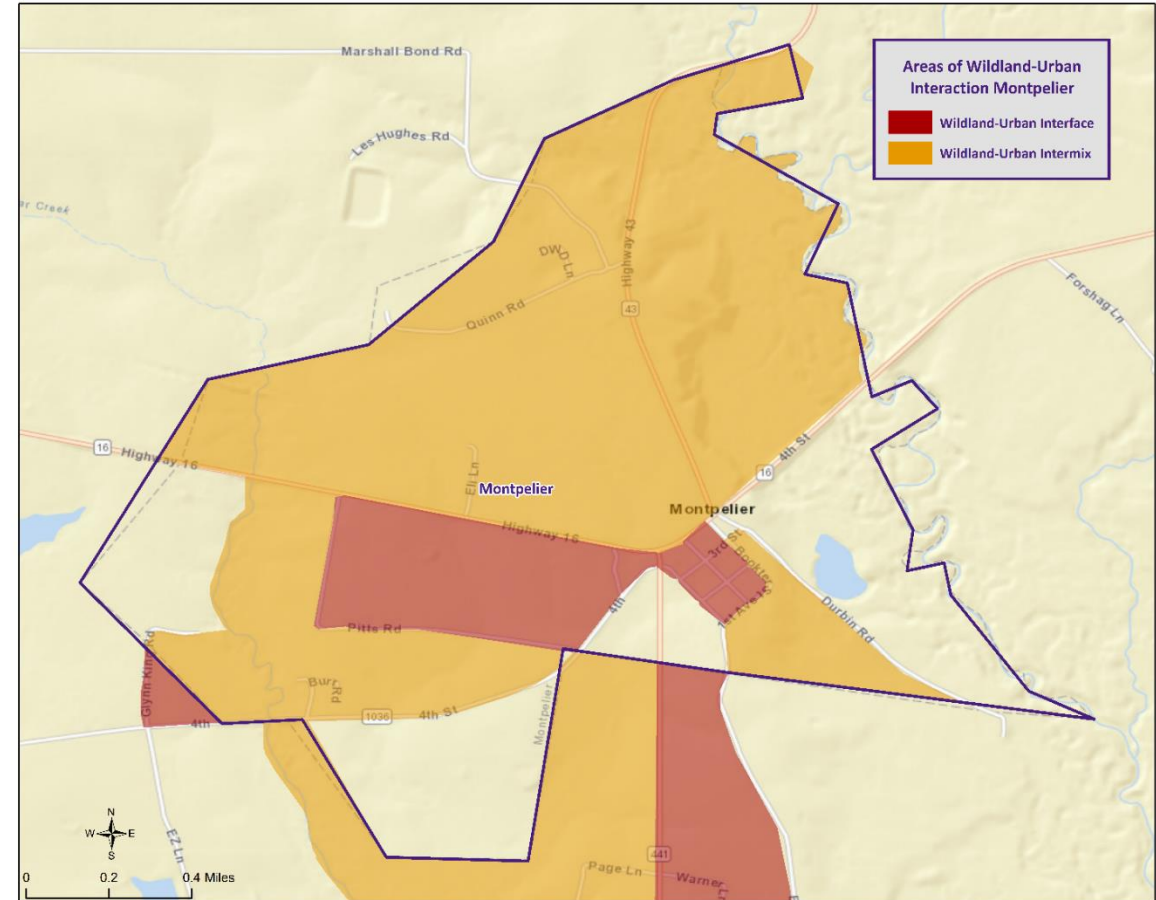
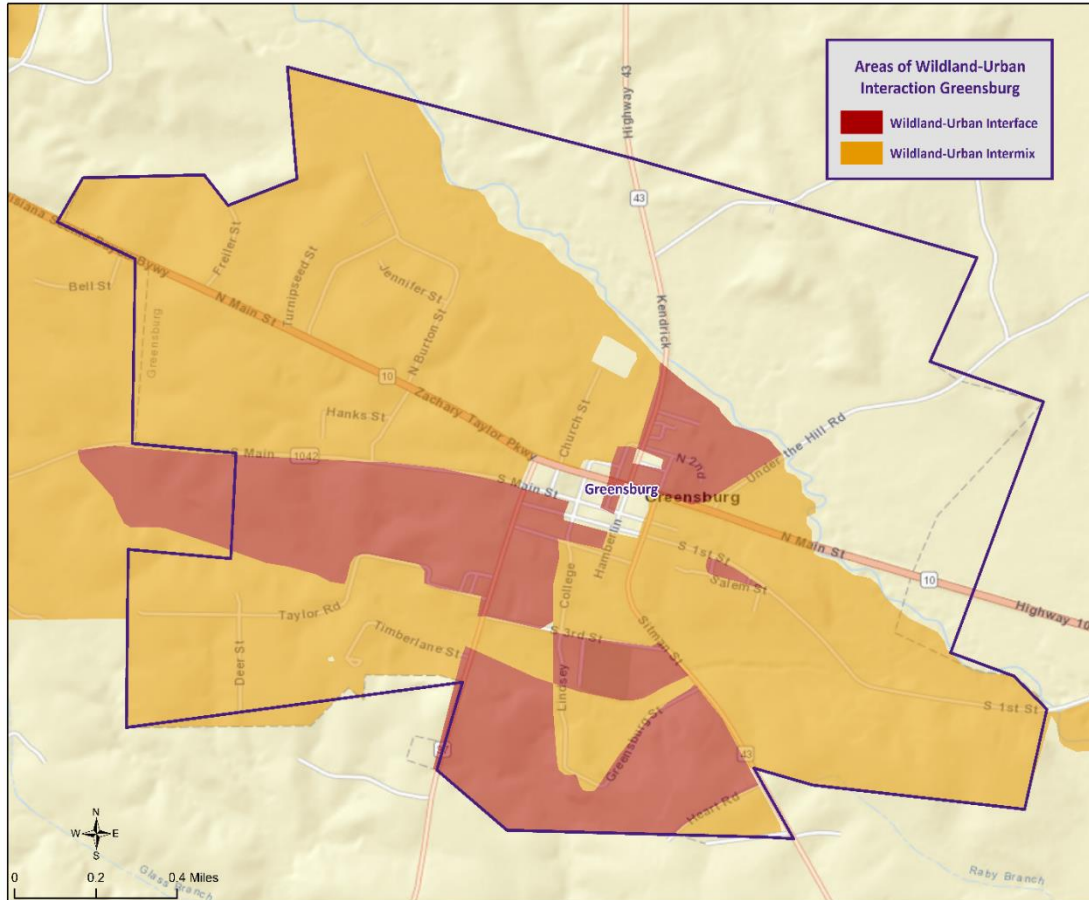
- A wildfire is combustion in a natural setting, marked by flames or intense heat.
- Most frequently, wildfires are ignited by lightning or unintentionally by humans. Fires set purposefully (but lawfully) are referred to as controlled fires or burns
- While loss of timber is a problem, the real hazard is when wildfires threaten developed areas. As more development moves into and next to forested areas, the hazards to people and property increases.



# Wildland-Urban Interaction



# Wildland-Urban Interaction





# Winter Storms

- Occurs when humid air from the Gulf of Mexico meets a cold air mass from the north.
- As the temperature falls, precipitation may fall in the form of snow or sleet.
- If the ground temperature is cold enough but air temperature is above freezing, rain can freeze instantly on contact with the surface, causing massive ice storms.





# Parish Mitigation Goals

- Identify and pursue preventative measures that will reduce future damages from hazards.
- Enhance public awareness and understanding of disaster preparedness.
- Reduce repetitive flood losses in the parish.
- Facilitate sound development in the parish to reduce or eliminate the potential impact of hazards



## Parish Hazard Mitigation Project Update

St. Helena Parish OHSEP/St. Helena Parish  
Government Discussion



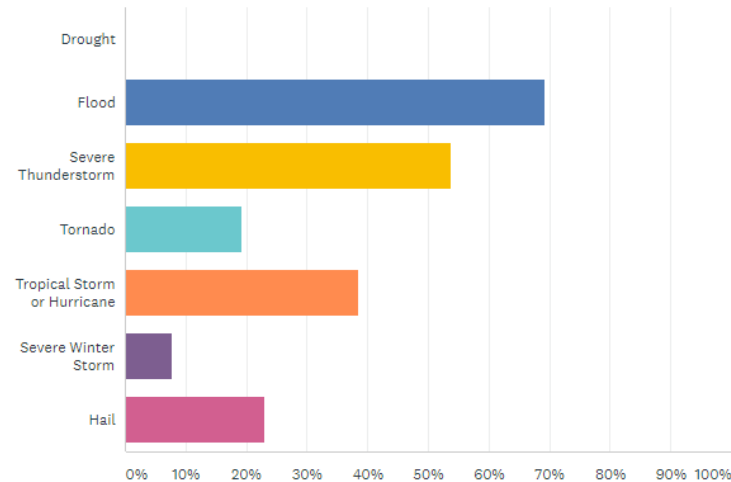
# Public Outreach Activity #1

## Hazard Mitigation Public Opinion Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StHelenaHM2021>

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



# Public Outreach Activity #2

Please fill out an incident questionnaire!

## ST. HELENA PARISH PUBLIC MEETING

### PUBLIC ACTIVITY: INCIDENT/ISSUE QUESTIONNAIRE

#### 1. HAZARD TYPE(S):

- A. FLOODING
  - I. RIVERINE
  - II. STORM SURGE
  - III. STREET
  - IV. OTHER (DESCRIBE):
- B. HIGH WINDS (NOT TROPICAL)
- C. COASTAL
  - I. SALTWATER INTRUSION
  - II. EROSION
  - III. OTHER (DESCRIBE):
- D. TROPICAL SYSTEMS
- E. WINTER WEATHER

#### F. OTHER:

#### 2. DESCRIBE INCIDENT OR ISSUE:

#### 3. LOCATION:

- A. CITY:
- B. ADDRESS OR AREA:
- C. LOCALIZED OR DISPERSED:

#### 4. INTENSITY:

A. DEPTH (FLOODING) OR SIZE (HAIL, ETC.):

B. WIND STRENGTH

#### 5. RE-OCCURRING OR ONE-TIME

A. IF RE-OCCURRING, HOW OFTEN?

6. WHAT TYPE OF  
INTERRUPTIONS DOES/DID  
THE INCIDENT OR ISSUE  
CAUSE? (BUSINESS CLOSURE,  
DAMAGE, EVACUATION, ETC.)

7. HOW LONG WAS THE  
INTERRUPTION (HOURS, DAYS,  
WEEKS, ETC.)?

8. HOW COULD THIS PROBLEM  
OR IMPACT BE PREVENTED,  
FIXED OR ALLEVIATED?



# Contact Us

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