



STATE OF FLORIDA

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Kevin Guthrie
Director

July 9, 2025

Keith Maddox, Director
Jackson County Emergency Management
2819 Panhandle Road
Marianna, Florida 32446

Dear Director Maddox:

In accordance with the provisions of Rule Chapter 27P-6 Florida Administrative Code (FAC), the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) has completed its review of the Jackson County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The review team has determined that your plan meets the CEMP compliance criteria. We hope that the comments and discussions the review team had with you and your staff during the review will assist you in future planning efforts and enhance the update of your CEMP.

The approved plan must now be adopted by resolution by the governing body of the jurisdiction within 90 days in accordance with Rule 27P-6.006(11) FAC. You must forward a copy of the adoption resolution and an electronic copy of the adopted plan to FDEM to complete compliance. Failure to adopt the plan by resolution within 90 days will result in a letter of non-compliance unless an adoption extension is requested in accordance with Rule 27P-6.006(11) FAC.

Dir. Maddox
July 9, 2025
Page Two

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the plan's approval, please contact your review team leader, Austin Delgado, at (850) 524-8189 or by email: Local.CEMP@em.myflorida.com.

Sincerely,

Andrew Sussman,
All-Hazards Unit Manager

IG/AS/AD

cc:

Jamey Westbrook, Chair, Jackson County BOCC
Enrique Gaston, DEM Regional Coordinator
Chris Rietow, RPC Representative
Melissa Shirah, DEM - Recovery
Laura Dhuwe, DEM - Mitigation
Austin Delgado, DEM – CEMP Coordinator



BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Phone (850) 482-9633
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Administration Building
2864 Madison Street
Marianna, Florida 32448-

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

To: Officials, Employees and Citizens of Jackson County

The preservation of life, property and the environment is an inherent responsibility of local, state and federal government. Jackson County, in response to these requirements, has prepared this Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) to ensure the most effective allocation of resources for the protection of people and property in time of an emergency.

While no plan can completely prevent injuries and damage, good plans carried out by knowledgeable and well-trained personnel can reduce losses. This plan established the emergency organization, assigns responsibilities, specific policies and provides coordination of planning efforts of the various emergency staff and service elements using a Departmental Emergency Support Function concept.

The objective of this plan is to incorporate and coordinate the facilities and personnel of the County and its subsidiaries into an efficient organization capable of responding effectively to an emergency.

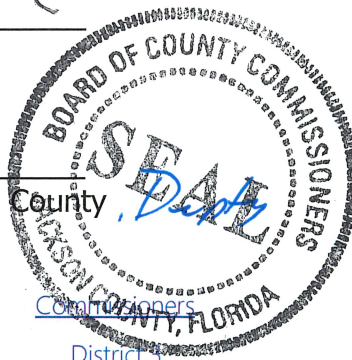
This CEMP is an extension of the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. The County will periodically review and exercise the plan and revise it as necessary to meet changing conditions.

The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners gives its full support to this plan and urges all officials, employees and citizens to do their part in the total emergency preparedness effort.

This letter promulgates the Jackson County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, constitutes the adoption of the plan, and the adoption of the National Incident Management system. This emergency plan becomes effective on approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

Jamey Westbrook, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Clay Rooks, Clerk of Court Jackson County



8/12/2025

Date

8/12/25

Date

District 1
Willie Spires

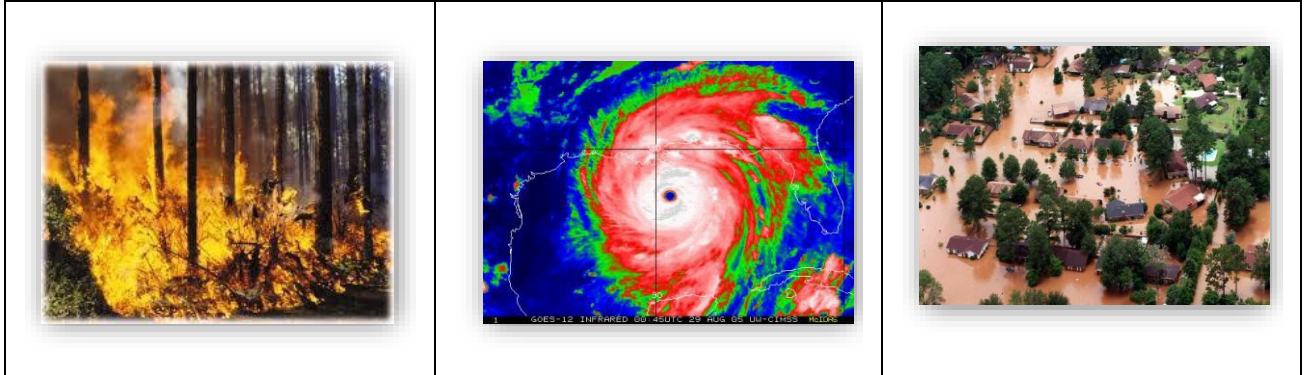
District 2
Edward Crutchfield

District 3
Paul Donofro, Jr.

District 4
Donnie Branch

District 5
Jamey Westbrook

JACKSON COUNTY



COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

MARCH 2025

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



RECORD OF CHANGES

[illegible]

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SUPERSESSION

This version (2025) of the Jackson County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan supersedes all prior versions. The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners has approved this plan.

NOTICE: This document contains information pertaining to the deployment, mobilization, and tactical operations of the Jackson County government in response to emergencies. It is exempt from public disclosure under the provisions of Section 281.301, Florida Statutes.

RESOLUTION
2025-35
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JACKSON COUNTY

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE UPDATED COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (CEMP).

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County, Florida the "Board" recognizes the many and various technological, natural, and societal disasters which threaten the citizens of Jackson County and;

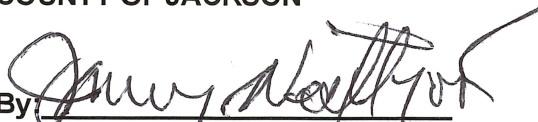
WHEREAS, the Board further recognizes its responsibility to provide for the safety and welfare of its citizens in providing mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from such hazards, and;

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, specifically authorizes the exercise of Emergency Management powers by political subdivisions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Emergency Management Comprehensive Plan (CEMP), having been fully coordinated with all supporting departments and agencies and all municipal governments is adopted as the plan for mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies in Jackson County.

ADOPTED in regular session this 12th day of August , 2025.

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF JACKSON

By 
Jamey Westbrook, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

8/12/2025
Date

ATTEST: 
Clay Rooks,
Clerk of Court, 8/12/25
Date



I. INTRODUCTION

A. General

Florida Statutes, Chapter 252 (Emergency Management Act) identifies emergency power and responsibilities of political subdivisions in the State of Florida. A key provision in the statutes is that each County in Florida shall develop an Emergency Management Plan and Programs that are coordinated and consistent with the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and Programs. Furthermore, Presidential Homeland Security Directives 5 and 8 require the State and local governments to adopt the fundamental principles, language, and operational concepts embedded in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF) as a condition for receiving certain categories of federal support for Emergency Management. The Jackson County Board of County Commission has adopted this Plan.

Jackson County is exposed to many different types and levels of hazards. The required response to these hazards can vary from increased awareness of potential severe weather to large-scale evacuation and subsequent recovery from a major disaster. The wide variance in the number of agencies tasked and the actions to be taken by each under different conditions can lead to confusion and the misinterpretation of required actions. The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) describes the basic strategies, assumptions, operational goals and objectives, and mechanisms through which Jackson County will mobilize resources and conduct activities to guide and support emergency management efforts through prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

The CEMP is the product of a detailed and focused planning process that 1) fully incorporates the NIMS concepts, principles, practice and language 2) capitalizes on the lessons learned from recent disasters, 3) incorporates plans, programs and policies that have emerged since the last revision of the CEMP. The CEMP involves all county agencies with emergency management roles; municipalities within Jackson County; Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and coordinated with neighboring counties and the State of Florida. The CEMP establishes a framework through which the county prepares for; responds to; recovers from; and mitigates the impacts of a wide variety of disasters that could adversely affect the health, safety and general welfare of the residents and emergency workers of Jackson County.

1. Jackson County Strategic Emergency Management Plan

Jackson County has developed the “*Jackson County Strategic Emergency Management Plan*” as a separate document in support of the CEMP. The Strategic Plan was developed by Jackson County Emergency Management with input from the Emergency Response Task Force (ERTF), which serves as an advisory committee. The ERTF meets on a scheduled basis to provide strategic guidance and input to the Jackson County Emergency Management program. The Strategic Plan has goals and objectives that support the overall focus of JC Emergency Management. This Plan is dynamic, and will change annually, or sooner as the needs of the County change. It is adopted by reference into this Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

2. Jackson County Emergency Response Task Force

The Jackson County Emergency Response Task Force is composed of the following members. The composition of the Task Force is made up of the Emergency Coordinating Officers from the key agencies in Jackson County that are stakeholders in emergency management, many of which are lead agencies for Jackson County’s Emergency Support Functions (ESFs).

Figure 1: Jackson County Emergency Response Task Force

Jackson County Emergency Management	Jackson County Road Dept
Jackson County Community Development/Bldg Dept	Jackson County School Board
Jackson County Animal Control	Jackson County Purchasing & Grant Offices
Jackson County Library	Jackson County Veterans Department
Jackson County Fire Rescue	Jackson Hospital
Florida Department of Health - Jackson County	J Trans
Jackson County Public Information Officer	Electric Companies
Jackson County Sheriff’s Office/E911/IT	Municipal Public Works
Jackson County SO Radio Comms Officer	Municipal Police Departments
Jackson County Public Works	Municipal Fire Departments
Jackson County TDC	Volunteer Fire Departments
Apalachee Regional Planning Council	Chamber of Commerce

Jackson County Administration & IT	College and University
State Partners: Caverns, DOT, DEM, FWC, Forestry	Correctional Institutions
Health Care Partners	Public Asst Partners; Habitat, Chipola Ministries
Jackson County Senior Citizens	Sunland
Corporate Partners: Wal-Mart	Red Cross of NW Florida
Municipalities – Administration	Amateur Radio Club

The purpose of the Task Force is to provide input into the Jackson County Emergency Management Program. They provide comments on review of the program, training, exercises, or real time incidents. These comments are considered for inclusion in the revision of any current plans.

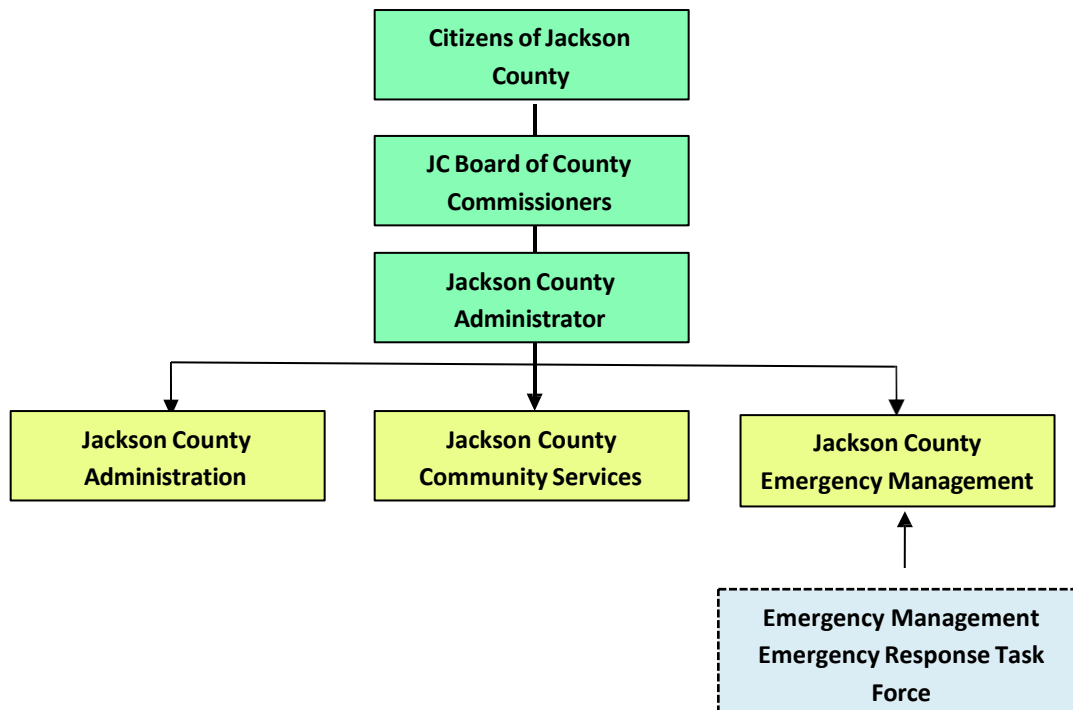
The Task Force is scheduled to meet quarterly. Meeting notices are sent out a minimum of two weeks in advance of the scheduled time for the meeting. Minutes of the meetings are maintained by Jackson County Emergency Management.

3. Jackson County Emergency Management Program

The Jackson County Department of Emergency Management was established by the Jackson County Board of Commissioners in Ordinance 96-10. The Department is managed by the Jackson County Director of Emergency Management. The Emergency Management Director is fully empowered to manage the Emergency Management program as described in the Jackson County CEMP and is responsible for carrying out the requirements of Chapter 252.38, Florida Statutes; the directives of the Florida Division of Emergency Management; and the BOCC.

The following organizational chart displays the placement of the Emergency Management Division within the County structure.

Figure 2: Emergency Management Organization Chart



B. Purpose

Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, requires every County in Florida to develop a CEMP. This plan establishes uniform policy and procedures consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for the effective coordination of resources to cope with a wide variety of natural, man-made and technological emergencies. The Jackson County CEMP is operations-oriented and provides for a coordinated local response to all disasters. The Jackson County CEMP was developed in accordance with the guidelines established by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and is consistent with the State of Florida CEMP.

The goals of the Jackson County CEMP and the Jackson County Emergency Management Program are to:

1. Preserve life, protect property and minimize disruptions in service that would adversely impact the quality of life for residents and visitors to Jackson County.
2. Prepare Jackson County to be able to effectively protect the lives of our residents and

visitors, and property impacted by emergencies on an ongoing basis for all hazards. These activities include educational presentations, distribution of brochures, press releases, and social media stories on the hazards in our community and on how to prevent, prepare, respond, recover and mitigate loss of life and damage to property.

3. Respond to emergencies using all available resources necessary to preserve the health, safety and welfare of people affected by emergency situations.
4. Provide emergency relief and coordinate immediate and long-term recovery operations in areas affected by disasters; and
5. Develop a systematic program to mitigate the effects of various natural and technological hazards.

C. Scope

The Scope of this plan identifies when and under what conditions the application or activation of this plan is necessary. The Jackson County CEMP is an all-hazards plan that will be applied to any hazard that can occur, both natural and man-made. The CEMP establishes a framework through which the County may prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the impacts of a wide variety of disasters that could adversely affect the health, safety and or general welfare of the residents and emergency workers of Jackson County. The CEMP:

1. Identifies the types of emergencies that are likely to occur in the County including minor, major and catastrophic disasters;
2. Provides a concept of operations guiding the prevention, response, recovery and mitigation activities for all emergencies from the monitoring phase through long-term recovery;
3. Defines the roles and responsibilities of primary and support agencies in Jackson County to enhance their ability to effectively respond to emergency situations; and
4. Provides for interagency coordination among local, state, federal and volunteer organizations to facilitate response and recovery activities.

D. Methodology

The Jackson County Emergency Management Agency (JCEMA) has prepared this document and is responsible for its maintenance and updating with guidance and assistance from

Planning Team members. Updates will be documented on the Record of Changes Page. JCEMA will ensure that necessary revisions to this plan are prepared, coordinated, published and distributed. This plan is to be updated every 4 years and submitted to FDEM for approval.

1. Planning Team Members

The CEMP is a dynamic document that adapts to changes in policy, priorities and needs. State and Federal statutes, regulations, and priorities guide development of the document. Development and distribution of the Jackson County CEMP is the responsibility of Jackson County Department of Emergency Management. Public and private entities participating in the development of this plan include, but are not limited to:

Figure 3: Planning Team Members

State

Florida Department of Health - Jackson County	Florida Division of Emergency Management
Florida Forestry Service	IFAS Extension Service
Florida Department of Transportation	Sunland Training Center

County

Jackson County School Board	Jackson County Library
Jackson County Administration/PIO	Jackson County EMA
Jackson County Sheriff's Office/ E911/IT	Jackson County Fire and Rescue
Jackson County Community Development	Jackson County Jail
Jackson County Volunteer Fire Depts	Jackson County Road Dept
Jackson County Administration	Jackson County Veterans Department
Jackson County Animal Control	Jackson County Municipalities
Jackson County IT Department	Jackson County Senior Citizens
Jackson County SO Radio Communications	Jackson County Purchasing & Grants
Jackson County School Board	

Other

American Red Cross of North Florida

Apalachee Regional Planning Council
Chipola Amateur Radio Club (CARC)
Jackson Hospital
J-Trans
Electric Utility Providers
North Florida Inland Long-Term Recovery Group
Health Care Agencies
Corporate Partners
College/University

Municipalities

All the municipalities of Jackson County (Marianna, Sneads, Graceville, Greenwood, Cottondale, Grand Ridge, Alford, Malone, Campbellton, Bascom and Jacob City) were invited to provide input for the updating of the CEMP.

2. Local Planning Process

The Jackson County CEMP was developed using widely accepted planning principles and practices in the field of emergency management and follows compliance criteria developed by FDEM. The plan incorporates information from many sources, which are noted throughout the document. Standard Operating Guidelines supporting this plan were updated and some new ones were developed. These SOG's were reviewed by Lead and Support Emergency Support Function agencies and are on file in the Emergency Management Office. The CEMP was distributed for review to agencies and individuals active in emergency management in Jackson County. Maintaining the CEMP is an on-going process in which changes are periodically made to the plan by the County's emergency management staff and distributed to stakeholders for inclusion in their copy of the CEMP. Annually, or more frequently, if necessary, agencies tasked with primary response roles will review their standard operating guidelines to ensure that they accurately reflect response procedures during an emergency. Jackson County Emergency Management meets quarterly with the Emergency Response Task Force, at these meetings members are free to discuss changes and new procedures for the CEMP.

Preparedness is the responsibility of individual jurisdictions and includes coordinating

various preparedness activities among all appropriate agencies within a jurisdiction as well as across jurisdictions and with private organizations. This coordination is affected by mechanisms that range from individuals to small committees to large standing organizations. These mechanisms are referred to as “preparedness organizations” in that they serve as ongoing forums for coordinating preparedness activities in advance of an incident. Preparedness organizations represent a wide variety of committees, planning groups and other organizations that meet regularly and coordinate with one another to ensure an appropriate focus on planning, training, equipment and other preparedness requirements within a jurisdiction and/or across jurisdictions. The needs of the jurisdiction involved will dictate how frequently such organization must conduct their business as well as how they are structured. When preparedness activities routinely need to be accomplished across jurisdictions, preparedness organization should be multi-jurisdictional. Preparedness organizations at all levels should:

- Establish and coordinate emergency plans and protocols including public communication and awareness;
- Integrate and coordinate emergency response activities in their jurisdictions;
- Establish standards, guidelines and protocols necessary to promote interoperability among member jurisdictions and agencies;
- Adopt standards, guidelines and protocols for providing resources to requesting organization including protocols for incident support organizations;
- Set priorities for resources and other requirements;

Jackson County is committed to working with their partners to ensure that the county is prepared and ready to respond to an incident that may affect its citizens.

II. SITUATION

This section of the CEMP describes the potential hazards, geographic characteristics, land use patterns and demographics of Jackson County. It also outlines the levels of disasters and planning assumptions necessary for an effective response to and recovery from an emergency. For more specific information regarding risk analysis and damage estimates for the hazards listed below, refer to Section 3 of the *2021 Jackson County LMS*.

A. Hazard Analysis Summary

Due to its unique geographic setting, Jackson County is vulnerable to a wide range of

hazards that threaten its communities, businesses and environment. To determine the hazards that pose the greatest threat, the Jackson County Local Mitigation Strategy addresses the Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment. The information on hazards that affect Jackson County is listed in Section 3 of the 2021 LMS plan. The assessment was developed from historical data of events that have occurred over the past 50 years, and specifically examines:

- frequency of occurrence of the hazard;
- vulnerability factors; and
- Vulnerability impact areas (population, property, environment, government operations).

Three levels of risk have been identified, which incorporate the findings of the Local Mitigation Strategy: High, Moderate and Low.

- **High** - High probability of occurrence; at least 50 percent or more of population at risk from hazard; significant to catastrophic physical impacts to buildings and infrastructure; major loss or potential loss of functionality to all essential facilities (eg. hospital, police, fire, EOC, hospital and shelters).
- **Moderate** - Less than 50 percent of population at risk from hazard; moderate physical impacts to buildings and infrastructure; moderate potential for loss of functionality to essential facilities.
- **Low** - Low probability of occurrence or low threat to population; minor physical impacts

The Jackson County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) provides detail on the hazards the County is susceptible to. Each hazard is defined, and the probability of occurrence, vulnerability, and risk rating is provided.

The three hazards listed below are addressed here and will be added to the next version of the LMS.

Figure 4: List of Hazards not addressed in the Jackson County Local Mitigation Strategy

Hazard	Hazard Risk	Hazard Probability
Mass Migration	LR	LP
Infestation / Disease / Pandemic Outbreak	MR	MP
Critical Infrastructure Disruptions (cyber-attack, computer threat, gas pipeline disruption, etc)	MR	LP

HR = High Risk, MR = Medium Risk, LR = Low Risk

HP = High Probability, MP = Medium Probability, LR = Low Probability

1. Mass Migration – Risk Rating **Low**

Mass Migration is a low threat in Jackson County. In the Southern part of Florida many migrants hail from nearby Cuba and Haiti. There is also a large number that come from as far away as China.

2. Diseases and Pandemic Outbreaks Risk Rating – Risk Rating **Medium**

At the end of the year 2019 a Pandemic of Co-Vid19 had began a spread throughout the nation. In March 2020 Jackson County residents reportedly were experiencing Co-Vid 19 symptoms. The Jackson County Health Department began conducting vaccinations. By December 2022 per the State and county health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - 50.72% of the population had received partial vaccine – 42.66% were fully vaccinated.

In 2012-2013 The Florida Panhandle, including Jackson, saw a dramatic increase in the number of reported cases of West Nile Virus (WNV). One reported case of WNV was reported in Jackson County in 2012, and another two in 2013, causing the Florida Department of Health in Jackson County to issue public health alerts and preventative measures.

The Jackson County Public Health Department and the Florida Department of Health, continuously monitor for the outbreak of disease and coordinate with the health care community and the Emergency Management Department to ensure that vital information is available to reduce health threats to the public.

3. Critical Infrastructure Disruption (Cyber-Attack, Computer Threat, Gas Pipeline Disruption, etc.) Risk Rating – **Medium**

In January 2022 Jackson Hospital fell victim to a cyber-attack. Cyber-attacks have become more prevalent, and any business/facility can fall victim. Information Technology (IT) personnel are trained and continuously train to handle these types of incidents.

The risk of this type of hazard is medium and most likely will occur as standalone events. The occurrence would most likely be the result of other hazards, such as a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

B. Geographic Information

1. Geographic Description

Jackson County is a rural, landlocked county located in the north-central area of the Florida panhandle, approximately 64 miles west of Tallahassee and 115 miles east of Pensacola. It is bordered on the west by Holmes and Washington Counties; on the south by Bay and Calhoun Counties; on the southeast by Liberty County; on the east by Gadsden County; on the northeast by the state of Georgia and on the north by the state of Alabama. According to the 2020 Census Bureau, Jackson County has a total area of 955 square miles (611,200 acres), with 918 square miles of land and 37 square miles of water. The Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers form the eastern border along with Lake Seminole where the borders of Florida, Georgia and Alabama meet.

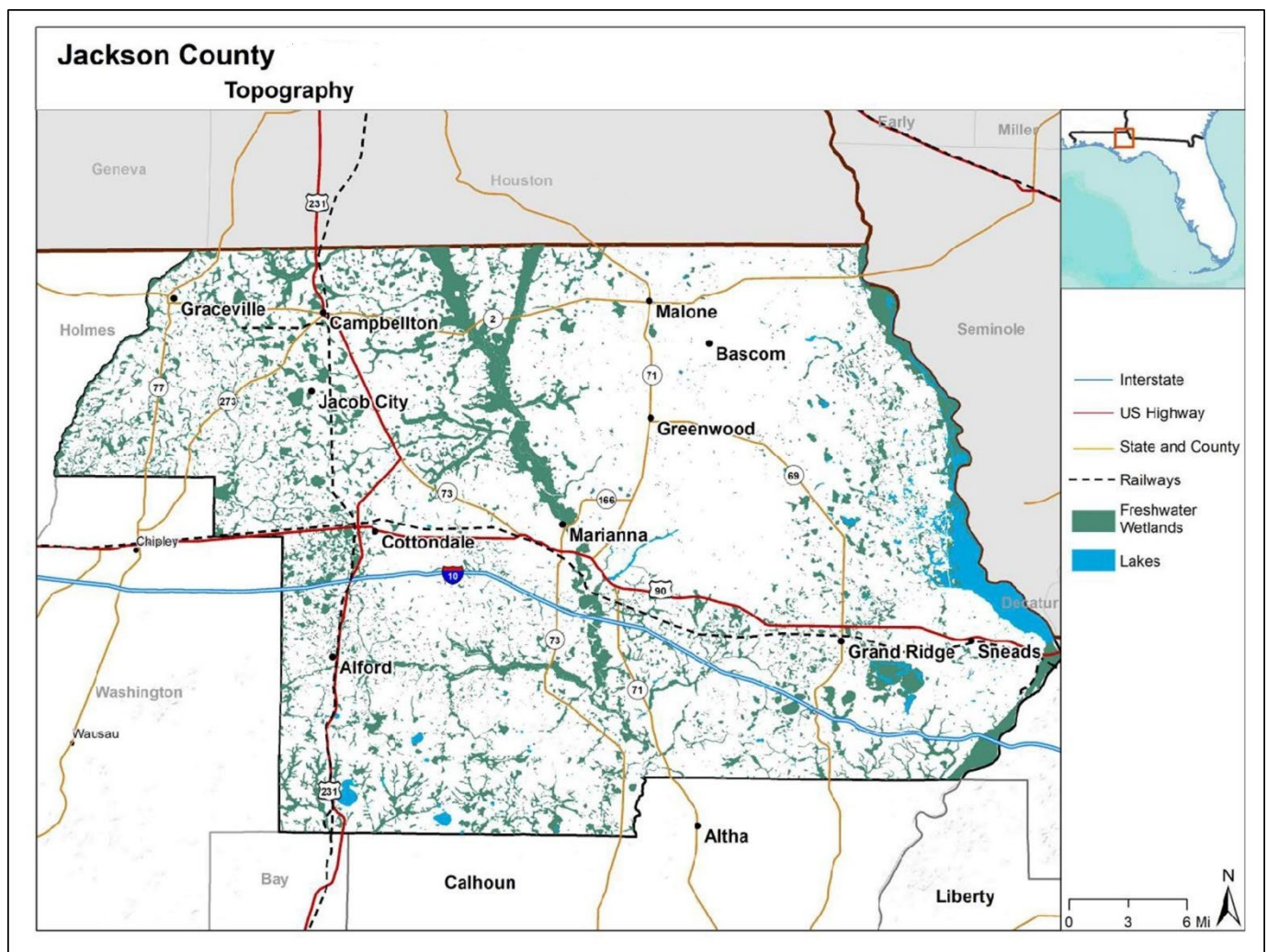
The majority of the County rests on a fairly level plain above the Apalachicola River and the average elevation is approximately 160 feet. According to U.S. Climate Data (2019), the average maximum temperatures in the County are 61 degrees F in January and 92 degrees F in July. The average minimum temperature is 39 degrees F in January and 72 in July. The average rainfall is approximately 53.8" annually with the majority falling in June and August.

2. Topography

The terrain in Jackson County is generally level and includes heavily forested upland and wetland areas. The southern portion of the county is high in elevation and includes forested and agriculturally farmed land. The central portion of the county is generally flat and well-drained; it includes the City of Marianna, the largest municipality in Jackson County and the Merritt's Mill Pond. Merritt's Mill Pond forms the headwaters

of Spring Creek near the City of Marianna and at least eight springs are located within the Pond. Over 25% of the land area within the county lies in the 100-year floodplain (Figure 9). Most of these areas are shallow flood zones, anticipated to draw three feet of water or less. The County has several rivers and streams, which form drainage patterns for the County. The drainage patterns are generally from the north to the south, or to the nearest stream or river. Figure 5 shows the environmentally sensitive lands in Jackson County.

Figure 5: Environmentally Sensitive Lands



3. Land Uses

The most common land use throughout the County is agriculture, including livestock and dairy farms and accounts for approximately 61.6 percent of the County's land area. There are some forested lands, and a large area serving as the estuary to the Apalachicola River, which is the eastern border of the County. Less than 7 percent of the County is included in residential, commercial, and industrial land uses.

C. Demographics

1. Population

Figure 6 contains the 2020 census population figures from the University of Florida Bureau of Economic Business Research (BEBR) most recent population estimates for Jackson County. The majority of the population (67 percent) resides in the largely rural unincorporated County.

Figure 6: Population Data

2020 Census Population			47,319		
			32,015 (67%) Unincorporated		15,454 (33%) Incorporated
Alford 484	Bascom 87	Campbellton 191	Cottdonale 848	Graceville 2,153	Grand Ridge 882
Greenwood 539	Jacob City 217	Malone 1,959	Marianna 6,245	Sneads 1,849	Unincorporated 32,015
Density			51 persons per square mile		
Distribution by Age			0-17	18-54	55-64
			9,311	21,476	6,404
Distribution by Race			Black	White	Hispanic
			12,019	30,615	2,223
Special Needs Population			325		
Poverty Rate (2020)			20.6%		
Agriculture/Farm Workers(2022)			Appx. 1,598 agriculture producers/farm workers. Migrant workers travel year-round, seasonal maintain a residence in the county, however there is not a current census count on them.		
School Population (2024)			Approximately 6,076 from 16 public schools.		
Areas of Large Tourist Population			Special events include county fair, rodeos, horse shows, Blue Springs, Florida Caverns		

Speak English Less than “very well”	2,082
Hearing impairment or loss 18-65+	1,578
Transient Populations	At any one time there are an estimated 58 transient persons migrating through Jackson County, many along the I-10 corridor.
Manufactured home residents (flhealthcharts.gov) 2022	Approximately 27.9% of residential homes are manufactured/mobile homes
Inmate Population (2020)	Approximately 6,491 in six institutions: Apalachee Correctional Institution, Jackson Correctional Institution, Jackson County Correctional Facility, Dove Academy, MTC Prison (Graceville Correctional Facility), Federal Correctional Institution

Source: University of Florida BEBR, 2020 and Office of Economic and Demographic Research, December 2020

2. Population Vulnerable by Hazard

Figure 7 describes the population vulnerable to the natural and technological hazards that could affect Jackson County. In most instances, the population vulnerable to these hazards is the entire population of the County. While it is unlikely that *all* of the County’s residents will be affected by any one event, the possibility does exist that *any* of the County’s residents could be affected by one of these hazards. Each hazard was assessed for its potential impact on the identified population set, and a general percentage applied to each group. This is not an exact representation of the vulnerable population, but rather an estimate based on best available data.

Figure 7: Vulnerable Population by Hazard Type

Hazard → Population ↓	Hurricane Tropical Storm	Flood	Tornado / Severe Thunder storms	HazMat Spill	Wildfire	Extreme Temps	Drought	Sinkhole /Erosion	Critical Infra- structure / Terrorism	Nuclear Power Plant Incident	Exotic Pests/ Pandemic
Total	47,319	14,025	47,319	47,319	32,877	9,528	30,060	<1,000	47,319	47,319	47,319
0-17	9,311	2,881	9,311	9,311	6,713	0	6,146		9,311	9,311	9,311
18-54	21,476	7,302	21,476	21,476	17,085	0	15,630		21,476	21,476	21,476
55-64	6,404	2,057	6,404	6,404	4,747	0	4,403		6,404	6,404	6,404
65+	10,007	2,848	10,007	10,007	6,660	9,528	6,097		10,007	10,007	10,007
Special Needs Pop	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325
Non- English Pop/Heari ng Impaired	3,660	3,660	3,660	3,660	2,079	1,172	1,904	Unk	3,660	3,660	3,660
Transient Pop	<100	100%	<100	<100	<100	<100	<100	<100	<100	<100	<100
Mobile Home Pop	2,289	2,289	2,289	2,289	1,600	unk	unk	unk	2,289	2,289	2,289
Inmate Pop	6,491	0	6,491	6,491	0	0	0	0	0	6,491	6,491

Note: Items not on the chart include dam failure and civil disturbance. This is based on the uncertainty of their occurrence, and population impacted. Impacts highly dependent on the event.

D. Economic Profile

1. Economic Factors for Jackson County

The largest segment of the local economy in Jackson County is health care workers with 3,831 workers. The second largest segment is local, state and federal government with 2,207 workers.

Figure 8: Employment Factors

Average Annual Employment Jackson Average % of All Industries, 2023	County	Wage
All Industries	14,863	\$45,566
Natural Resources and mining	1.8%	\$44,337
Construction	7.0%	\$57,585
Manufacturing	3.9%	\$48,976
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	23.1%	\$42,213
Information	.2%	\$63,649
Financial Activities	2.7%	\$52,044
Professional and Business Services	6.8%	\$55,940
Education and Health Services	10.4%	\$39,360
Leisure and Hospitality	7.8%	\$19,960
Other Services	2.4%	\$40,373
Government	33.5%	\$50,629

Source: Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, December 2023

Unemployment Rate 2023 – 3.6%

Median Household Income – \$47,327

Persons per Household – 2.39

Per Capita Income 2021 - \$13,909

Average property value - housing units – \$113,900

Poverty Rate – 20.6%

Source: 2020 US Census QuickFacts

2. Potential Economic Impact from Hazards

It is difficult to accurately quantify the potential impact to the local economy from the hazards identified previously. Clearly, there will be adverse consequences in terms of damage to public and private infrastructure, damage to businesses from closures, potential job losses across all sectors of the local economy, possible loss of personal

income, potential disruption in the local tax base, and possible decline in property values in affected areas. However, losses will vary greatly for every event according to many variables. These include the type of event, duration of the event, magnitude of the event, and specific area impacted. For reference, the economic impact from Hurricane Michael (2018), a Category 5 storm, was roughly \$87 Million.

E. Planning Assumptions

The following assumptions have been used to assist the County in planning for a major emergency or disaster:

- A major emergency or disaster may overwhelm the ability of the County to provide traditional, prompt and effective emergency response and to implement short-term and long-term recovery measures.
- The transportation infrastructure may be damaged and local transportation services may be disrupted, which will impede normal movement, and the movement required for response efforts.
- Public utilities may be damaged and be either fully or partially inoperable. Near-total disruption of energy sources and prolonged electric power failures may occur impeding the ability to respond and slowing the process of recovery.
- Widespread damage to commercial telecommunications facilities may occur and the ability of governmental response and emergency response agencies to communicate may be impaired.
- Homes, public buildings and other critical facilities and equipment may be destroyed or severely damaged.
- Debris may make streets and highways impassable, seriously impeding the movement of emergency supplies and resources.
- Many emergency response personnel may be victims of the emergency, preventing them from performing their assigned emergency duties.

- Numerous separate hazardous conditions and other emergencies could result from the major event, further complicating the response efforts.
- Thousands of people may be forced from their homes and some people may be injured. Many victims may be in life-threatening situations requiring immediate rescue and medical care.
- There may be shortages of a wide variety of supplies necessary for emergency survival.
- Hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies and other health/medical facilities may be severely damaged or destroyed; and the number of victims requiring medical attention may overwhelm those that do remain in operation.
- Normal food processing and distribution capabilities may be severely damaged or destroyed.
- Damage to fixed facilities that generate, produce, use, store or dispose of hazardous materials could result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment.

F. Emergency Management Support Facilities

1. Critical Facilities

Critical facilities in Jackson County include public buildings, water and wastewater treatment facilities, airfields, fire stations, police stations and critical private sector resources such as radio stations, building and supply and other commercial businesses. A table of the critical facility inventory is provided in Figure 9.

Figure 9: Critical Facilities Vulnerability Assessment

Name	Address	City	Zip	Fire	Flood	Detail
Alford VFD	1768 Georgia St	Alford	32420	N	Out	Fire Station
Campbellton VFD	5303 Hwy 231	Campbellton	32426	N	Out	Fire Station
Compass Lake VFD	3025 Nortek Blvd	Alford	32420	Y	Out	Fire Station
Cottdale VFD	2669 Front St	Cottdale	32431	N	Out	Fire Station
Dellwood VFD	6404 Blue Springs Rd	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Fire Station
Graceville VFD	986 6 th Ave	Graceville	32440	N	Out	Fire Station
Grand Ridge VFD	2086 Porter Ave	Grand Ridge	32442	Y	Out	Fire Station
Malone VFD	5182 9 th Ave	Malone	32445	Y	Out	Fire Station
Marianna Station 1	4425 Clint St	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Fire Station
Marianna Station 2	3992 Kynesville Rd	Marianna	32448	N	Out	Fire Station
Sneads VFD	2023 3 rd Ave	Sneads	32460	N	Out	Fire Station
JCFR Station 1	2411 Commercial Prk	Marianna	32448	N	Out	Fire Station & EMS
JCFR Station 2	5411 Cliff St	Graceville	32440	N	Out	Fire Station & EMS
JCFR Station 3	8087 US Hwy 90	Sneads	32460	N	Out	Fire Station & EMS
JCFR Station 4	1761 Georgia St	Alford	32420	Y	Out	Fire Station & EMS
JCFR Station 5	3555 Hwy 71	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Fire Station & EMS
JCFR Station 6	5411 11st Street	Malone	32445	N	Out	Fire Station & EMS
Cottdale Police Dept	2659 Front St	Cottdale	32431	N	Out	Law Enforcement
Graceville Police Dept	5348 Cliff St	Graceville	32440	N	Out	Law Enforcement
Marianna Police Dept	2890 Green St	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Law Enforcement/Dispatch
Sneads Police Dept	2033 3 rd Ave	Sneads	32460	N	Out	Law Enforcement
Apalachee Correctional	52 W Unit Drive	Sneads	32460	N	In	Correctional Facility
Federal Correctional Institution	3625 F C I Road	Marianna	32446	Y	Out	Correctional Facility
Jackson County Jail	2737 Penn Ave	Marianna	32448	Y	Out	Correctional Facility
Jackson Correctional Institution	5563 10 th St	Malone	32445	N	Out	Correctional Facility

Name	Address	City	Zip	Fire	Flood	Detail
MTC Prison (Graceville Correctional Facility)	5168 Ezell Road	Graceville	32440	N	Out	Correctional Facility
Jackson County Sheriff's Office	4111 Gov. Rick Scott Dr	Marianna	32448	N	Out	Law Enforcement/Dispatch
Chipola Aviation Air Ambulance	3633 Industrial Park Dr	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Emergency Medical Service (Flight)
Jackson County Administration	2864 Madison St	Marianna	32448	N	Out	County Government
Jackson County Courthouse	4445 Lafayette St	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Courthouse
Jackson County Emergency Mgmt	2819 Panhandle Rd	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Emergency Operations Center
Jackson County Road Department	2828 Owens St	Marianna	32446	Y	Out	Public Works
W291AD (WFSU-FM)	30° 47'07"N, 85°14'29"W	Marianna	32446	N	Out	Radio Communication Tower
W295AX (Gulf Coast Community College)	30° 45'00"N, 85°13'52"W	Marianna	32446	N	100	Radio Communication Tower
W271BB (Gulf Coast Com College)		Marianna	32446	N	100	Radio Communication Tower
WJAQ Radio Station	4351 Lafayette St	Marianna	32446	Y	Out	Radio Communication Tower
WTOT-FM Radio Station	Hwy 2	Graceville	32440	N	Out	Radio Communication Tower
WTYS-FM Radio Station	2725 Jefferson St	Marianna	32446	N	100	Radio Communication Tower
WFBU-LP Radio Station	5400 College Dr	Graceville	32440	N	Out	Radio Communication Tower

Facility Type	Name	Address	City	Zip	DEM Elevation	Flood	Fire
ALF	Nursing Pavilion At Chipola	4294 Third Avenue	Marianna	32446	146.00	OUT	N
End Stage Renal	Fresenius Dialysis Center	4319 Lafayette	Marianna	32446	114.00	OUT	N
Hospital	Jackson Hospital	4250 Hospital Dr	Marianna	32446	179.00	OUT	N
Intermediate Care	Sunland Center Facilities I-IV	3700 Williams Drive	Marianna	32446	105.00	OUT	N
Intermediate Care	Sunland Center Facility V	3641 Conally Dr	Marianna	32446	109.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	North Florida Pediatrics	4316 Fifth Avenue	Marianna	32446	144.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Marianna Pediatrics Association	4230 Hospital Drive #102	Marianna	32446	181.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Richard C Goff, MD	3031 6th Street	Marianna	32446	152.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Urology Center	2915 Madison St	Marianna	32446	82.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Sunland Marianna Cox Medical Center	3641 Conally Drive	Marianna	32446	109.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Jackson Hospital Lab	4250 Hospital Dr	Marianna	32447	138.00	OUT	Y
Clinical Laboratory	Doctor's Office PA	4295 Third Ave	Marianna	32446	145.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Jackson County Health Department	4979 Healthy Way	Marianna	32446	150.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Fresenius Dialysis Cent	4319 Lafayette St	Marianna	32446	114.00	OUT	N
Clinical Laboratory	Marianna OB/GYN	4230 Hospital Drive Suite 210	Marianna	32446	181.00	OUT	N
Dialysis	DaVita Marianna Dialysis Center	2930 Optimist Dr.	Marianna	32448	161.71	OUT	N
Skilled Nursing	North Florida Rehab	1083 Sanders Ave	Graceville	32440	165.00	OUT	N
Skilled Nursing	Marianna Health And Rehabilitation Center	4295 Fifth Avenue	Marianna	32446	155.00	OUT	N
Skilled Nursing	Nursing Pavilion At Chipola Retirement Ctr	4294 3rd Avenue	Marianna	32446	145.00	OUT	N
Skilled Nursing	Courtyard Rehab And Nursing Center	2600 Forest Glen Trail	Marianna	32446	115.00	OUT	Y

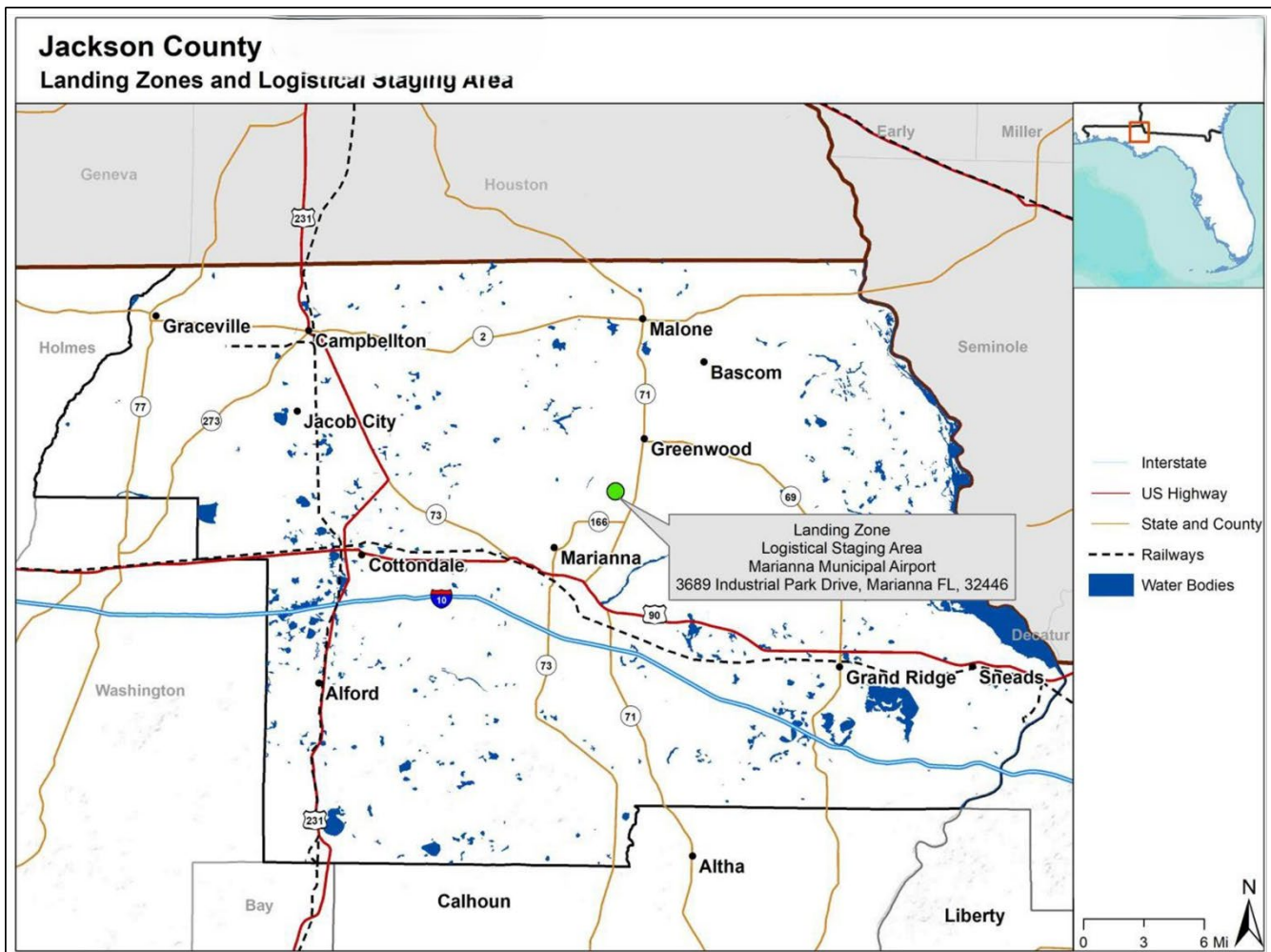
2. Logistical Staging Area

The Logistical Staging Area in Jackson County is at Marianna Municipal Airport located at 3689 Industrial Park Drive, Marianna FL 32446. The Marianna Municipal Airport has two 4,900 by 100 feet intersecting runways. Both runways are paved with asphalt and lighted. This location is also the LSA for the State Division of Emergency Management.

3. Landing Zone

The landing zone for the county is at the Marianna Municipal Airport located at 3689 Industrial Park Drive, Marianna FL, 32446.

Figure 10: Landing Zones and Logistical Staging Area



III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

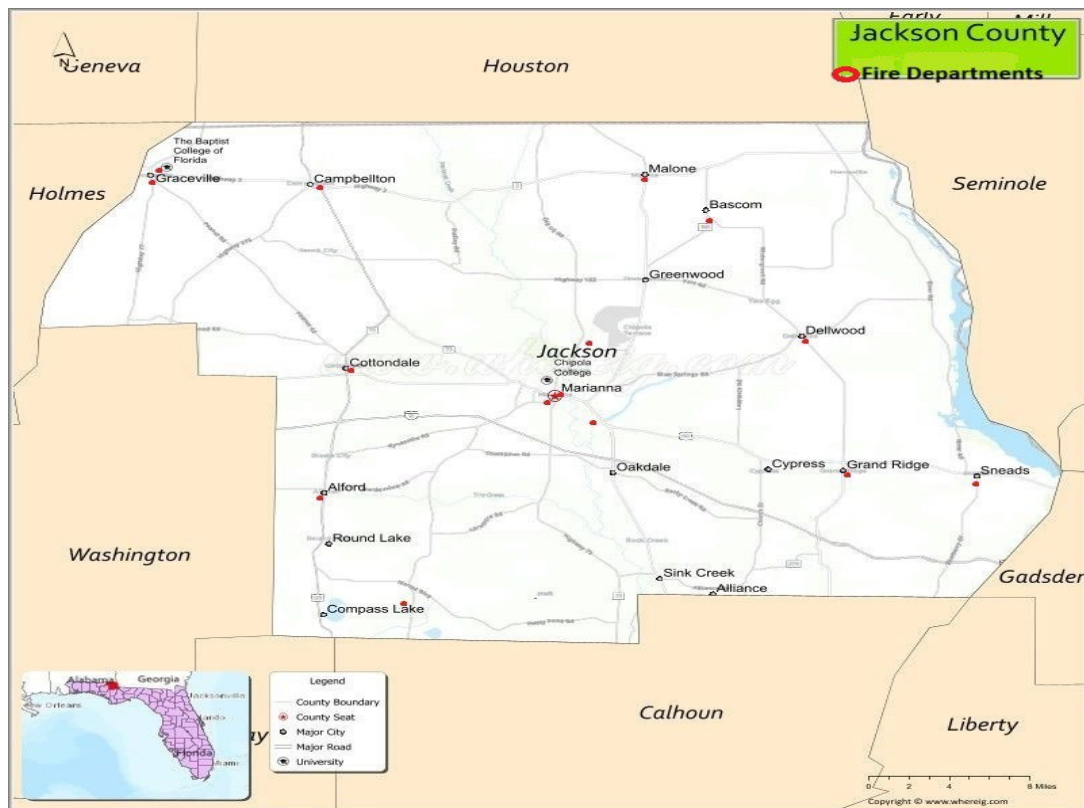
This section of the plan provides an overview of the operation of JCEMA. This section describes the methods for emergency management during preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

A. General

1. Description

Jackson County is rural in nature, and supports eleven municipalities including: Alford, Bascom, Campbellton, Cottdale, Graceville, Grand Ridge, Greenwood, Jacob City, Malone, Marianna and Sneads. Jackson County maintains a Sheriff's Office in Marianna with jurisdiction countywide. Jackson Hospital, located in Marianna, is the main hospital servicing the county. The county is served by two paid fire departments (Marianna Fire Department and Jackson County Fire and Rescue) and nine volunteer fire departments: Campbellton, Malone, Sneads, Grand Ridge, Graceville, Alford, Cottdale, Compass Lake and Dellwood (Figure 11).

Figure 11 Fire Departments



The county operates a Road and Bridge Department and a Building Department that serve the unincorporated area. The county has a Building Official who oversees issuing building permits and conducting inspections throughout the county as well as for municipalities that do not have their own officials. The City of Marianna operates a public works department which includes water and wastewater systems. Jackson County Utilities and some municipalities operate potable water systems in rural portions of the county. The Florida Department of Health maintains a County Public Health Department in Marianna.

2. Relationship between Local Governments, State and Federal Organizations

Historically, the incorporated municipalities, the unincorporated communities, and the county's constitutional government have jointly cooperated when disasters have impacted the county. The eleven municipalities and the County are signatories to the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement and will lend whatever support they can to assist counties in need. The local governments strive to maintain a high level of cooperation and coordination with the State of Florida and the Federal government in terms of dealing with all aspects of emergency operations.

The National Response Plan (NRP), using the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Unified Command (UC) will help to provide the framework for Federal interaction with State and local governments in the context of domestic incident prevention, preparedness and response and recovery activities.

3. Plan Activation

The Jackson County Emergency Management Director is responsible for implementing the CEMP and activating the EOC. EOC activation includes partial or full-scale activation of Incident Command System Sections.

4. Emergency Operations Center

The Jackson County EOC serves as the central clearinghouse for information collection and coordination of response and recovery resources within the county. The EOC is located in Marianna at 2819 Panhandle Road. The EOC is wind-rated for 160 mile per hour winds and located in an area that is not prone to flooding. The EOC has a 5,500 watt generator with onsite fuel storage capacity of 650 gallons. The alternate EOC is

located at the Jackson County Department of Health, 4979 Healthy Way, Marianna FL. The alternate EOC has generator power, phones and internet connection.

5. Requests for Assistance from Municipalities within Jackson County

Chapter 252, Florida Statutes requires that all municipalities request resources through the County Emergency Management Agency. When a disaster strikes in Jackson County, and a municipality needs a resource, they will make their request through JCEMA. The County then requests assistance from the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) through the procedures established by the State Emergency Operations Center. This would happen during events that overwhelm local resource and response capabilities.

B. Emergency Management Operating Levels

The JCEMA has three operating levels which are as follows:

1. Level 1 – Full Scale Activation

In a full-scale activation, all departmental lead personnel/agencies are notified of a disaster. The EOC is activated on a 24-hour basis and staffed by all necessary personnel. All emergency management staff is available for disaster operations. Outside assistance from state and federal agencies will be needed.

2. Level 2 – Partial Activation

This is a limited activation to a disaster. A partial activation may require 24-hour staffing from Jackson County emergency management personnel and responding Departmental lead personnel/agencies. It is possible that a partial activation may exceed local capabilities and require a broad range of state assistance.

3. Level 3 – Monitoring

This is a monitoring phase. Notification will be made to agencies that need to take action as part of their everyday responsibilities. The EOC is not activated but EM staff are on duty during normal business hours (7:30 AM – 4:30 PM).

The County must be able to respond quickly and effectively to developing events. When

an event or potential event is first detected, the EOC initiates Level II activation.

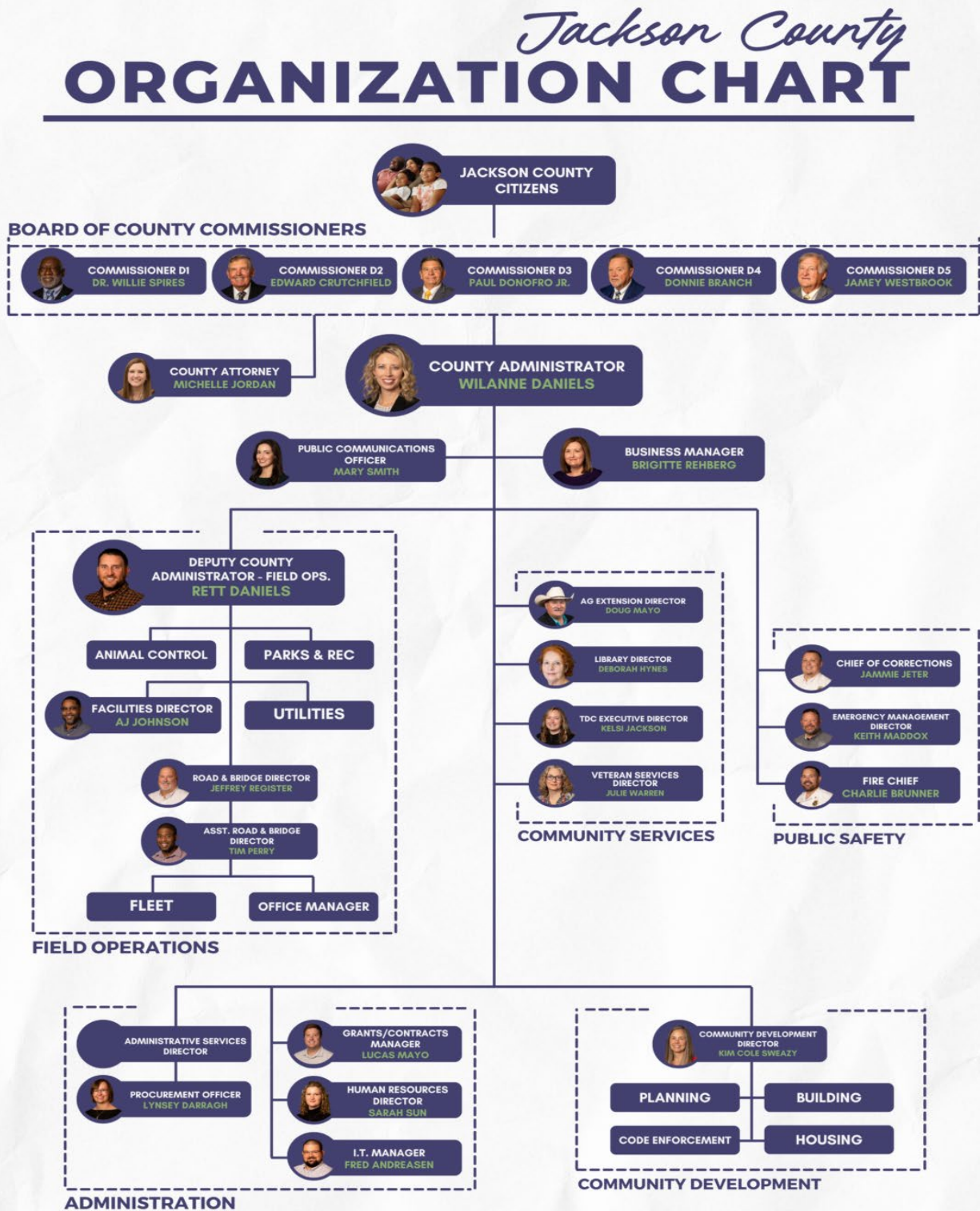
Communications is maintained between the EOC and the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). While emergency response actions necessary to protect public health and safety are being implemented, the Emergency Management Director will work with the lead personnel/agencies to make preparations to facilitate the rapid deployment of resources, activate the County's Emergency Operations Center if necessary and implement this plan.

C. Organization

1. Normal (Non-emergency) Management Structure

The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is responsible for making decisions regarding the day-to-day governance of the County. Figure 12 describes the relationships among various County departments and agencies. Responsibility for emergency management activities resides within the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency. The JCEMA is responsible for emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities throughout Jackson County.

Figure 12: Board of County Commissioners Organizational Chart



2. Emergency Management Organization System Used During Emergencies

The Incident Command System (ICS) is the organizational structure used in Jackson County during emergency situations. This system allows for multi-agency coordination. Within the multi-agency coordination system, the Jackson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) represents the physical location at which the coordination of information and resources that are used to support the incident and management activities takes place. Though an Incident Command Post (ICP) may begin with EOC responsibilities at the beginning of an incident, for long-term support an EOC will be activated.

The County's EOC is organized by function. The EOC, though not necessarily mirrored against the field operation's organizational structure, is still responsible for communicating between the Incident Commander (IC) or the Unified Commander (UC), and/or with other EOCs.

The County's incident management responsibility is supported through JCEMA. As a multi-agency coordination entity, JCEMA is responsible for:

- Ensuring that each agency involved in incident management activities is providing appropriate situational awareness and resource status information;
- Establishing priorities between incidents and/or in concert with the IC or UC(s) involved;
- Acquiring and allocating resources required by incident management personnel in concert with the priorities established by the IC or UC;
- Anticipating and identifying future resource requirements;
- Coordinating and resolving policy issues arising from the incident(s); and,
- Providing strategic coordination as required.

Agencies involved in responding to the incident will be organized into four sections depending upon the needs of the incident: *Operations, Planning, Logistics* and *Administration/Finance*. In Jackson County, the Operations Section involves the

agencies where most of the county assets are housed. For this reason, the Operations Section can be broken down into one or more branches supervised by a branch coordinator who, in a major event, would coordinate the actions of the units within the section and serve as liaison with the Incident Commander. For example, the Jackson County Fire and Rescue is the lead agency charged with coordinating the response to hazardous materials incidents while the Sheriff's Office is the lead agency responsible for coordinating the response to law enforcement incidents.

The lead agency responsible for operational aspects of disaster response will vary according to the type of incident. Regardless of the type of incident, the Jackson County EM Director or designee will serve as the overall Incident Commander within the EOC. The Deputy EM Director will assist the EM Director or designee. Additional EM support personnel are available from the County Administrator's Office and will be called upon if necessary.

a. Response Activities

The EM Director or designee has the primary responsibility for coordinating disaster response operations in Jackson County. Figure 13 depicts the Incident Command System used during emergency response operations.

(1) Planning Section

The Planning Section (ESF 5) is responsible for coordinating planning activities during an emergency event. JCEMA staffs the Planning Section. Given the limited personnel resources in Jackson County, the individual tasked with disaster-related planning activities will likely have other responsibilities as well (e.g. coordinating the Logistics Section). Additional personnel will be requested through the County Administration Office. Personnel may be provided from other departments under the Administrator's direction.

(2) Logistics Section

The Logistics Section is responsible for obtaining logistical support (ESF 7) for all lead and supporting agencies during all phases of disaster operations. This includes obtaining the equipment and personnel resources required to address

local needs from public, private, and not for profit organizations. This section is staffed by the Purchasing Director. The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce can provide assistance by serving as a liaison with the business community. Should additional staffing be required, personnel from the County Administrator's Office are available to serve in this Section.

(3) Administration and Finance Section

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners is responsible for tracking expenditures, reimbursement and general administrative support. This section can be lead by the Purchasing Director along with the Grants/Contract Coordinator.

(4) Lead and Support Agencies for Response Operations

The Primary lead and support agencies for response activities are described in Figure 24. Given the rural nature of Jackson County, it is common for one agency to be responsible for several functions. For example, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office has primary responsibility for coordinating law enforcement and security activities (ESF 16), coordinating with the National Guard (ESF 13). The Sheriff's Office also plays a supporting role for several agencies during response and recovery operations.

Figure 13: Emergency Response Organization

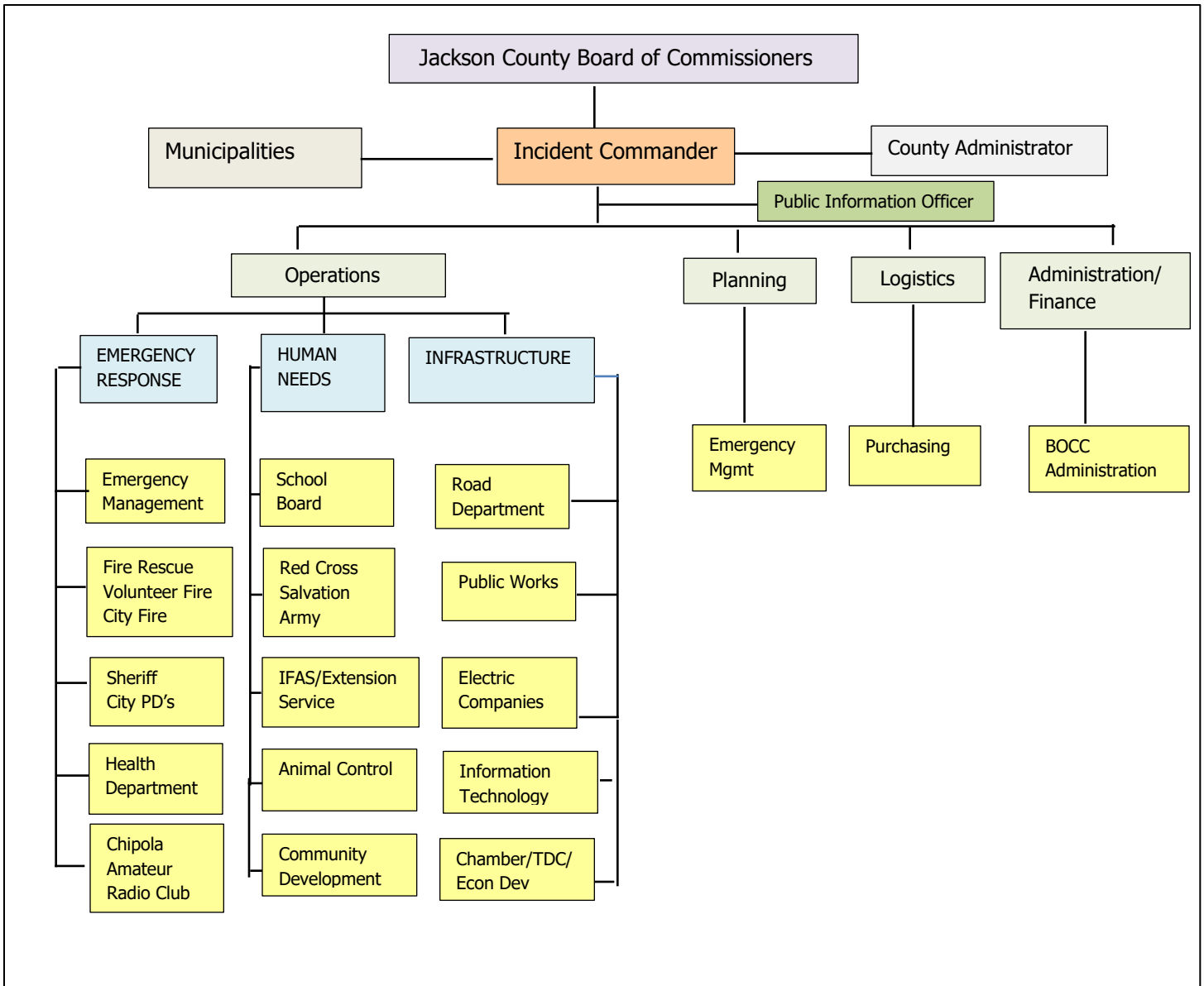


Figure 14: ESF Lead and Support Agencies

2025 ESF MATRIX	ESF 1	ESF 2	ESF 3	ESF 4	ESF 5	ESF 6	ESF 7	ESF 8	ESF 9	ESF 10	ESF 11	ESF 12	ESF 13	ESF 14	ESF 15	ESF 16	ESF 17	ESF 18	ESF 19	ESF 20
JC Administration / Admin Services			S								S							S	S	S
JC Animal Control																	L			
JC Building Department			S																	
JC Community Development															L					
JC Emergency Management	S	S	S	S	L	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
JC Fire Rescue	L	S	S	L	S	S		S	L	L										
JC Grants/Contracts	S	S	S																S	
JC Information Technology (IT)		S			S	S														L
JC Public Information Officer											S			L	S			S		S
JC Public Works	S																			
JC Purchasing	S	S	S	S	S	S	L			S	S	S			S	S		S	L	
JC Road Department	S		L	S					S			S						S		
Health Department - Jackson					S	S		L		S										
Senior Citizens Agency								S						S						
IFAS Extension Office											L						S			
Jackson Hospital								S		S										
Jackson Co School Board	S					L		S				S								
Jackson Co E911		S																		
Jackson Co Sheriff's Office	S	S		S	S	S		S	S	S			L	S	S	L	S			S
Jackson Co Sheriff IT Dept		S												S						
Jackson Co Dispatch/Comms		L				S		S	S				S	S	S					S
J Trans	S			S		S		S		S										
Chamber/TDC/Economic Dev																		L		
Chipola Amateur Radio (CARC)		S						S	S		S		S	S	S					

Municipal Fire Departments		S	S	S	S	S		S	S	S				S	S						
Municipal Police Departments	S	S		S	S	S		S	S	S				S	S	S	S				
Municipal Public Works	S		S																		
Red Cross					S	L		S			S			S							
Salvation Army											S										
Volunteer Fire Departments			S	S	S			S	S	S				S	S						
Electric Companies			S									L									
North FI Inland Long-Term Recovery Group (NFILTRG)			S											S			S				
Home Health Agencies								S													
Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC)										S											

L = Lead Agency **S** = Support Agency

ESF	Function	Lead Agency	ESF	Function	Lead Agency
ESF 1	Transportation	JC Fire Rescue	ESF 11	Food and Water	IFAS Extension Service
ESF 2	Communications	JC Sheriff's Office Communications	ESF 12	Energy	Electrical Companies
ESF 3	Public Works & Engineering	JC Road Department	ESF 13	Military Affairs	JC Sheriff's Office
ESF 4	Firefighting	JC Fire Rescue	ESF 14	Public Information	JC Public Info Officer
ESF 5	Planning and Information	JC Emergency Mgmt.	ESF 15	Volunteers & Donations	JC Community Dev
ESF 6	Mass Care	JC School Board & Red Cross	ESF 16	Law Enforcement	JC Sheriff's Office
ESF 7	Logistics	JC Purchasing	ESF 17	Animal Control	JC Animal Control
ESF 8	Health and Medical / PSN's	JC Health Dept	ESF 18	Business Industry	Chamber/TDC/Econ Dev
ESF 9	Search and Rescue	JC Fire Rescue	ESF 19	Fuel	JC Purchasing Department
ESF 10	Hazardous Materials	JC Fire Rescue	ESF 20	Information Technology	JC IT

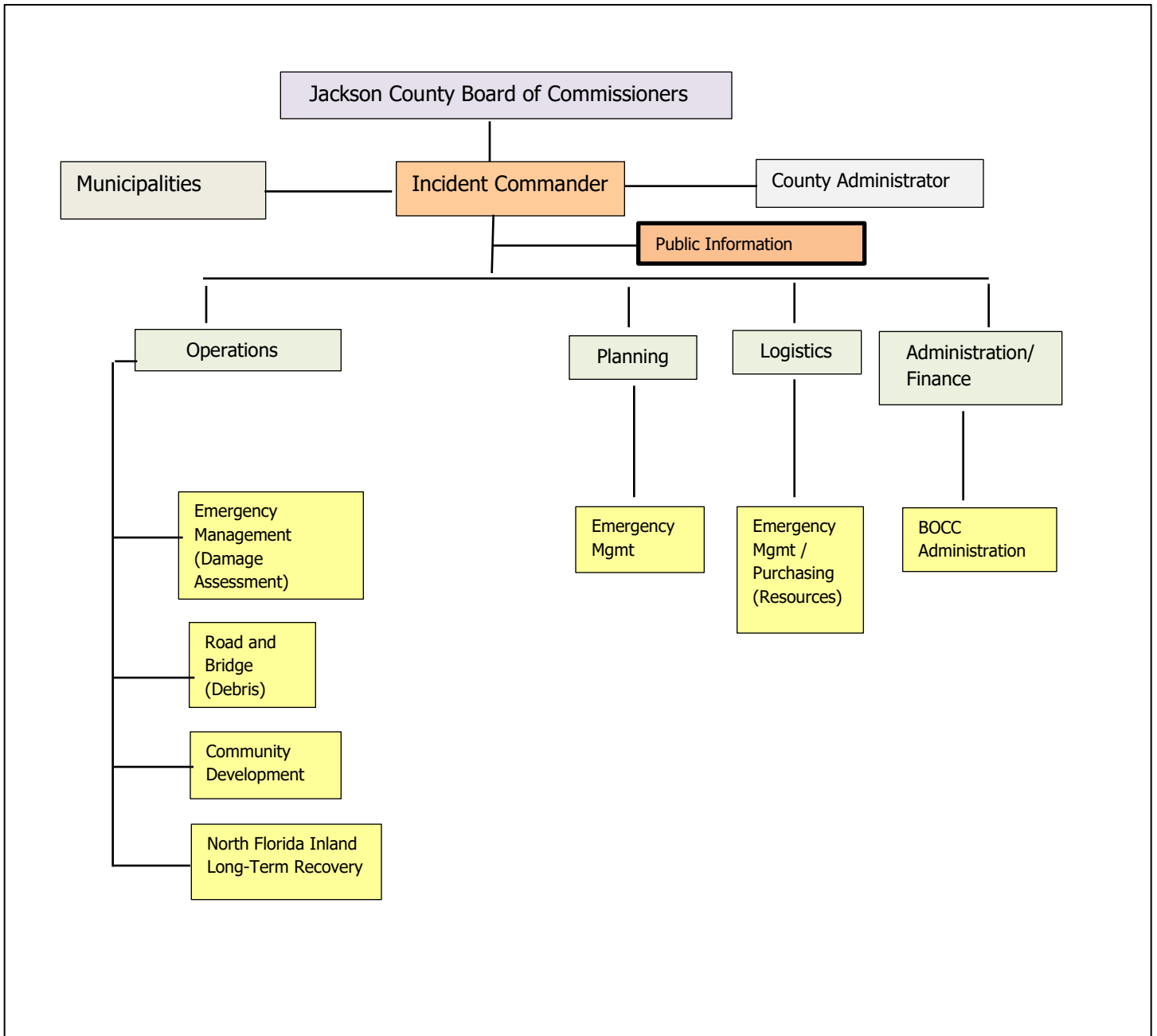
Other agencies and non-profit organizations which support Response Operations include, but are not limited to:

- Department of Corrections/Jail
- North Florida Inland Long-Term Recovery
- Home Health Agencies
- Jackson County Attorney
- National Guard
- Fire Rescue Business Office
- Jackson County Parks & Recycling
- Jackson County Library
- Jackson County Human Resources
- Property Appraiser
- ACI/JCI Dog Search Teams
- Senior Citizens Center
- Apalachee Regional Planning Council

b. Recovery Activities

The EM Director or designee has the primary responsibility for coordinating disaster recovery operations in Jackson County. Figure 15 depicts the Incident Command System used during emergency recovery operations.

Figure 15: Recovery Organizational Chart



c. Mitigation Activities

Mitigation planning in Jackson County is the responsibility of all departments/agencies. The Emergency Management and the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group work together to identify mitigation projects. Figure 16 depicts the basic organizational structure. Additional information describing mitigation can be found in the Mitigation Element of the CEMP and the Jackson County LMS.

Figure 16: Agency Responsibilities for Hazard Mitigation

Mitigation Operation Matrix Agency / Department / Organization					Pre-Disaster Mitigation	Post-Disaster Mitigation
Key:	Lead Agency		Support Agency			
Chipola College					S	S
All Municipalities – Mayor/Administrator					S	S
Electric Companies					S	S
Florida Department of Agriculture - Forestry					S	S
Jackson County Board of County Commissioners					S	S
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce – Executive Director TDC Director; Economic Development, Director					S	S
Jackson County Community Development					S	S
Jackson County Corrections - Chief					S	S
Jackson County Emergency Management Department – Director					L	L
Jackson County Fire Rescue Department – Chief					S	S
Jackson County Hospital – Executive Director					S	S
Jackson County Road Department – Superintendent					S	S
Jackson County Sheriff's Office					S	S
Jackson County Utilities / Parks and Recreation					S	S
Marianna Fire Department					S	S
Sunland Training Center					S	S
Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group					S	S

D. Direction and Control

1. Overall Responsibility for Emergency Management Operations

Overall responsibility for all emergency management operations in Jackson County, regardless of the type or size of incident, rests with the Emergency Management Director or designee. Similarly, commitment authority for local assets is retained by the Emergency Management Director or designee. It is important to note, however, that on- scene incident command responsibilities will be handled by the senior responder or most qualified responder on-site for all incidents. In most cases, this will be a representative of law enforcement, fire services or emergency medical services.

2. Line of Succession

Jackson County has established a line of succession to ensure continuous leadership during emergency situations. The line of succession is as follows:

Figure 17: Line of Succession by Organization

Organization	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
County Commission	Chair	Vice Chair	Commissioners in order of seniority
County Administration	County Administrator	Deputy County Administrator	Executive Assistant to County Administrator
Emergency Management	EM Director	Deputy EM Director	Jackson County Fire Rescue Chief

3. Preparation of Local State of Emergency Proclamation

Chapter 252.38, Florida Statutes provides the authority for County Commissions to declare a Local State of Emergency. Upon notification, the Deputy Emergency Management Director will prepare the LSE proclamation and submit it to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration.

The LSE proclamation provides authority for local governments to engage in a variety of necessary activities. These activities may include:

- a. Performing public work and taking whatever action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors to the County;
- b. Entering into contracts and or purchase orders;
- c. Employing permanent and temporary workers;
- d. Utilizing volunteer workers;
- e. Renting equipment;
- f. Acquiring and distributing, with or without immediate compensation supplies, materials and facilities; and
- g. Appropriating and expending public funds.

4. Activation of the JC Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The JCEOC will be activated at the discretion of the Jackson County EM Director or designee in response to an immediate or anticipated emergency. If possible, the EM Director or designee will notify the County Administrator in advance of activating the EOC; otherwise, this notification will be made as soon as possible. The County Administrator will notify the Board of County Commissioners regarding the activation.

5. EOC Activation Levels

Emergency Operations Center activation levels are discussed in detail in Section III.B. Jackson County EOC activation levels include:

- **Level 1 – Full Scale Activation**
- **Level 2 – Partial Activation**
- **Level 3 – Monitoring**

6. Operational Readiness of EOC

The Emergency Management Director, or designee is responsible for maintaining the state of readiness of the JCEOC and assuring adequate supplies are available. The EOC can be fully operational and staffed in one hour. EOC has access to the Internet, satellite TV and has ten dedicated phone lines. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office serves as the County's 24-hour warning point and, as such, has the ability to directly communicate with emergency responders in the field. The EOC has a stationary generator, a four-day, above ground tank supply of diesel fuel for the generator. The Jackson County EOC also has a kitchen onsite.

7. Focal Point of Coordination for Emergency Operations within the County

The JCEOC is the central point of coordination for all emergency operations in Jackson County. All agencies with primary roles according to the CEMP will have representation at the EOC for their operations, if deemed necessary by the EM Director or designee.

The EM Director or designee will coordinate all response and recovery activities.

8. Agency Representatives in the EOC

When the EOC is activated, the Departmental lead personnel/agencies will be represented in the EOC to coordinate response and recovery to the incident. The Departmental lead agency has discretion as to how many support agencies will be required to support their efforts. The attendance of support agencies should be closely coordinated with the EM Director or designee. For major incidents, the Operations Section can be broken down into one or more branches supervised by a branch coordinator who, in a major event, would coordinate the actions of the units within the section and serve as liaison with the Incident Commander.

9. Information

The Departmental lead personnel/agency will be responsible for obtaining all information necessary to adequately respond to the disaster. This may require going outside the bounds of normal agency operations.

10. 24-Hour Staffing Pattern

Personnel will be activated only as needed to staff the JCEOC. Should it be necessary to open the JCEOC on a 24-hour basis, the EM Director and the Deputy EM Director will work split 12-hour shifts to ensure 24-hour operational capability.

11. Information Flow

a. Requests For Personnel, Materials or Other Resources

Requests for personnel, materials or other resources will be coordinated within the JCEOC. The primary means to request resources is by using the Web EOC software in the JCEOC. The secondary system is by filling out message forms. Before any action is taken, it should be coordinated with the EM Director or designee and participating departments to ensure proper implementation. The message form will be filed in the disaster specific files for that event. The Deputy EM Director will maintain these files.

b. Incoming Information

Incoming information will be routed through the EOC Controller.

c. Outgoing Information

No information will be released to the public from the JCEOC, without the approval of the Emergency Management Director or their designee.

d. Rumor Control

Rumor Control will be handled through press releases, situation reports, and citizen information telephone lines, as well as Social Media posts. The Public Information Officer (PIO) is responsible for managing the Rumor Control Line with administrative support provided by the County Administrator's Office.

e. Preservation of Vital Records

The chief officer of each individual agency is responsible for the preservation of vital records, which is essential for ensuring the continuity of government. In a post disaster phase, the County Commission will maintain the vital records necessary to document any reimbursement from the State or FEMA stating Jackson County is added to a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

12. Mutual Aid

a. Requesting Assistance

Should local government resources prove to be inadequate during an emergency, the Emergency Management Director or designee will request assistance from other local jurisdictions, higher levels of government and other agencies in accordance with existing mutual aid agreements and understandings.

In making a resource request, JCEMA will input a request into WEBEOC. The State will respond to local requests for assistance through WEBEOC .

b. Providing Assistance

The County is a signatory to the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA) and all requests for assistance, or response to requests for assistance, will be coordinated through this agreement. Florida Statute provides the County with the authority to use any equipment or facility while under a local state of emergency (F.S.252.38(3)(a)(5)(g)). The receiving party will be sent a cost estimate for the requested resources prior to deployment. The County Commission's Administrative Financial Officer will ensure the billing of the receiving party is completed and secured according to the stipulations of the mutual aid agreement being invoked, i.e. SMAA. When the county is the requesting party, the County Commission will determine the funding source to initially secure the resources. This will include:

- Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)
- Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund Grant (EMPATF)
- Local General Revenue
- Other available funding

The County Commission will prepare the documentation necessary to bill the receiving party for the mutual aid support provided by any county agency. This will include equipment rates, labor/overtime costs, and transportation costs. Such costs will be initially generated by the agency supplying the resources, and given to the Commission, who will prepare the documentation necessary on Florida Recovery Obligation Calculation Forms (F-Roc) to request reimbursement from the receiving party.

The Commission will ensure eligible costs for mutual aid activities will eventually be requested through the Public Assistance Program. The Commission will ensure all documentation required by the SMAA, and the Public Assistance Program will be maintained, especially for those things reimbursable under the Public Assistance Program.

Jackson County will respond to mutual aid requests on a case-by-case basis. All mutual aid requests will be coordinated through the Florida Division of Emergency Management. The JCEMA will verify the request by checking the WEBEOC mission request board, then contacting the appropriate agency or organization known to have such resources to inquire about the resource availability. All requests for mutual aid assistance will go through the JCEMA and must be approved by the EM Director and, subsequently, the BOCC.

If the impact of an event reaches a level where multiple agencies assume command and control it may lead to Unified Command (UC). The UC will be comprised of officials who have jurisdictional authority or functional responsibility for the incident under an appropriate law, ordinance, or agreement. The UC will provide direct, on-scene control of tactical operations and utilize an ICS incident management team organization, typically including Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration Sections.

E. Notification and Warning

1. County Warning Point

a. 24-hour Local Warning Point

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Communications Division is designated as the official warning point for Jackson County. A backup communications system is available at the JCEOC. The Sheriff's Office Communications Director or their designees are designated as the Warning Officers for Jackson County.

b. Sources of Information about Hazards

The County may receive warnings from several sources. These include the telephone, Emergency Alert System, National Weather Office, Satellite Phones, SLERS, the Internet (various sites), the State EOC, and JCEMA (Alert Jackson).

2. Notification of the Public

Jackson County's residents may receive warnings of an impending emergency in a variety of ways. These include:

a. Radio – WTYS (94.1 FM) and WJAQ (100.9 FM)

b. Television - WJHG Channel 7; WTVY Channel 4; WMBB Channel 13

c. The Emergency Alert System

d. Alert Jackson

e. Newspapers – Jackson County Times, Graceville News and Jackson County Floridan

f. Broadcast sirens from law enforcement and fire department vehicles

g. Door to door notification using law enforcement officers, local government employees or volunteer fire fighters

h. Variable message boards available from FDOT and City of Marianna

i. The Internet and Social Media

3. Notification to Local Officials and Agencies

To ensure that elected officials are alerted to a potential emergency, they are called by telephone, sent an email, or Alert Jackson. Alert Jackson can be sent to all registered people or to residents in a specific part of the County.

4. Notification to the State Warning Point (SWP)

When the Jackson County EOC is fully activated, updates will be submitted to the State through the EEI board in WEBEOC.

5. Notification of the Visually or Hearing Impaired and Non-English-Speaking Residents

Jackson County has approximately 325 special needs clients, 166 visually impaired residents, 687 hearing impaired residents and 967 individuals who speak less than 5% English. These individuals may require assistance during evacuations. Notification will take place through mass media public information releases (radio, television and social media), as well as Alert Jackson.

F. Preparedness Activities

1. Training

Jackson County Emergency Management maintains a training program on emergency management issues pertinent to the key stakeholders identified in this plan. Training is either provided or arranged by JCEMA. Training is a critical component of JCEMA's mission.

a. Training Director

All-hazards emergency management training is the responsibility of the Emergency Management Director. Jackson County maintains compliance with all applicable requirements for NIMS training. The following levels have been defined per NIMS criteria:

Executive Level – Political and government leaders, agency and organization administrators and department heads; personnel that fill ICS roles as Unified

Commanders, Incident Commanders, Command Staff, General Staff in either Area Command or single incidents; senior level Multi-Agency Coordination System personnel; senior emergency managers; and Emergency Operations Center Command or General Staff.

Managerial Level – Agency and organization management between the executive level and first level supervision; personnel who fill ICS roles as Branch Directors, Division/Group Supervisors, Unit Leaders, technical specialists, strike team and task force leaders, single resource leaders and field supervisors; midlevel Multi-Agency Coordination System personnel; EOC Section Chiefs, Branch Directors, Unit Leaders; and other emergency management/response personnel who require a higher level of ICS/NIMS Training.

Responder Level – Emergency response providers and disaster workers, entry level to managerial level including Emergency Medical Service personnel; paid and volunteer firefighters; medical personnel; police officers; public health personnel; public works/utility personnel; community response and preparedness organizations; and other emergency management response personnel.

b. Training Courses

The County requires all personnel with emergency management responsibilities to take incident management courses to ensure NIMS compliance at all levels of response. Also, a host of other courses can be taken online to enhance the awareness of key stakeholders. These include:

Preparedness

- *IS 700 - National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction*
- *IS 800 - National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction*
- *Shelter Management – ARC*
- *Cyber Incident/Attack Awareness*

Response

- *ICS 100 Series - Incident Command Systems, An Introduction*
- *ICS 200 Series - Incident Command System, Basic*
- *ICS 300 Series - Intermediate Incident Command System*

- *ICS 400 Series - Advanced Incident Command System*
- *Unified Command Briefings for Elected Officials*
- *Financial Management – Response and Recovery Activities*
- *Fundamentals of EOC Operations*

Recovery

- *Disaster Recovery Center Operations*
- *Damage Assessment Procedures*
- *Public Assistance Program*
- *Individual Assistance Programs*

Mitigation

- *Maintaining the Local Mitigation Strategy and Project List*
- *Long Term Recovery Process*
- *Mitigation Grants: Flood Mitigation Assistance, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, HMGP, Severe Repetitive Loss, Repetitive Loss*

2. Exercises

Exercises are a key component in improving all-hazards incident management capabilities. Jackson County has an Integrated Preparedness Plan Working Group that meets quarterly to discuss training and exercises. JCEMA participates and promotes a range of exercises, including multi-disciplinary, interagency, and multi-jurisdictional exercises that are designed to improve integration and interoperability. Annual exercises are conducted by the local and State Emergency Management. All emergency response, county/municipal/state/federal partners and private stakeholders are invited to participate. Some exercises are open for sister counties to participate.

After each exercise, the lead agency performing the exercise will conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the exercise. This information will be incorporated into future plan revisions and updates by Jackson County Emergency Management.

The Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) will be used for developing, delivering and evaluating Department of Homeland Security/Office of Domestic Preparedness funded exercises. After-action reports will be generated, and any corrective actions needed will be shared with the agency responsible for addressing them.

Exercises that have been held over the last five years are:

Mar 18 2021	Chlorine Release Functional TTX with ARPC
Jun 10 2021	Hurricane TTX
Oct 05 2022	HAZMAT TTX
May17 2023	Radiation Surge TTX with the Health Care Coalition
Mar 20 2024	Riverine Flooding TTX
Nov 14 2024	NWS Integrated Warning TTX

In addition, there have been several Actual Events:

Oct 09 2018	Hurricane Michael
Mar20 2020	CoVid 19
Sep 16 2020	Tropical Storm Sally
Aug 14 2021	Tropical Storm Fred
Jan 09 2024	Tornado Outbreak
Sep 21 2024	Hurricane Helene

3. After-Action Reports and Improvement Planning Process

After each exercise conducted in Jackson County, an After-Action Report (AAR) will be generated by the organizer of the exercise. If it is a contractor, then the requirement for developing an AAR will be inserted into the scope of work for the event. If the County plans for, and conducts an exercise, the organizer will develop an AAR. With the AAR, the exercise organizer will develop an Improvement Plan (IP) based on the results of the AAR. Jackson County Emergency Management will implement the findings of each IP, based on reasonableness. Jackson County Emergency Management will adjust any of its emergency plans to accommodate the finding in the AAR and IP. A record of these improvements will be kept on record by Jackson County Emergency Management.

4. Shelter Planning

The County continues to coordinate sheltering issues with FDEM who is responsible for preparing a “Statewide Emergency Shelter Plan” to guide local planning and provide

consultative assistance with the construction of educational facilities to provide public shelter space. The purpose of this Plan is to meet the statutory responsibility outlined in Chapter 252, Florida Statutes. The Plan is prepared and submitted for approval on a biennial basis, once approved by the Governor and Cabinet, will determine which Regional Planning Council (RPC) regions and counties will need to construct new school facilities that must comply with the public shelter design criteria.

It is the shared responsibility of the Jackson County School Board and the Red Cross to provide emergency shelter and temporary housing for disaster victims. The School Board will manage shelter operations at the Risk/Host Shelter for the initial 72 hours of an event. If shelter is needed after the initial 72 hours, another location will be determined by Emergency Management and the Red Cross will manage the shelter. When these resources are fully committed, upon request, the Florida Division of Emergency Management will assist in providing emergency shelter and/or temporary housing for disaster victims.

Locations identified for host shelters, other than Marianna High School should adhere to the following shelter recommendations:

- Be a safe and healthy facility.
- Be of appropriate size and have suitable space for sleeping quarters.
- Have secured storage areas, nursing areas, and office areas.
- Have separate rooms available for the elderly, disabled, and families with children.
- Have an adequate supply of drinking water, provisions for cooking, serving and storage of food.
- Have toilet and bathing facilities.
- Have adequate parking.
- A generator with fuel

FDEM will monitor the status of the statewide inventory of Special Needs Shelters (SpNS). Historically, SpNS have been included in total population hurricane shelter demand estimates, hurricane shelter capacities and surplus/deficit results.

FDEM has statutory responsibility and authority to administer a statewide program to eliminate the deficit of “safe” shelter space. To ensure consistency with State and national standards, guidelines and “best practices,” the Division has recognized Standards for Hurricane Evacuation Shelter Selection (ARC 4496) as the minimum

shelter survey and evaluation criteria. At a minimum, meeting ARC 4496 criteria is a required condition for a public facility to be described as “safe,” public hurricane shelter

5. Public Awareness and Education

a. Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

The Public Information Officer makes social media posts for Severe Weather Awareness Week and Hurricane Awareness Week. When severe weather threatens the area, Alert Jackson can be activated by Emergency Management or set off by the National Weather Service. The weather radios are also triggered by the National Weather Service.

b. Public Information Dissemination

Recovery information will be provided to the community through the local news media, social media and information flyers. In addition, the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners website and Face Book page has a great amount of public information on all hazards, to include preparedness response, and recovery actions.

c. Public Address and Direct Citizen Contact

Law enforcement and fire department public address systems and door-to-door notifications can also be employed to notify individuals residing in at-risk areas.

G. Response Activities

1. General

a. Declaration of Local State of Emergency

Upon notification, a Local State of Emergency will be submitted to County Commissioners for adoption. A Local State of Emergency order shall be limited to no more than 7 days in duration. The Local State of Emergency may be extended up to three (3) 7-day increments.

b. Closing Schools

(1) The EM Director or designee will provide the Jackson County School

Superintendent with information about the potential hazard.

(2) The decision to close the schools will be made by the School Superintendent and the School Board.

(3) Information regarding the closing of schools will be shared with local broadcast media and social media.

c. Closing Businesses

Businesses may be asked to close voluntarily, but without a local, state or federal emergency declaration, they will not be forced to close.

d. Requesting State Assistance

The EM Director or his designee will make all requests for state assistance through the State Web EOC system.

e. Coordinating with State Response Teams

JCEMA, Building Department, Road and Bridge Department and all necessary local officials will coordinate and cooperate with the state's forward command and incident management teams.

2. Evacuation

The County and the overall State's vulnerability to disasters and emergencies, i.e. hurricanes, floods, wild land fires and acts of terrorism is a constant reminder of the gravity of planning for the safety of a growing population and tourist each year. Because of this threat, the importance of providing timely and well-coordinated evacuation and sheltering efforts remains critical. To meet the threat, the County participates in the States regional evacuation process that focuses on evacuation and sheltering as a statewide initiative.

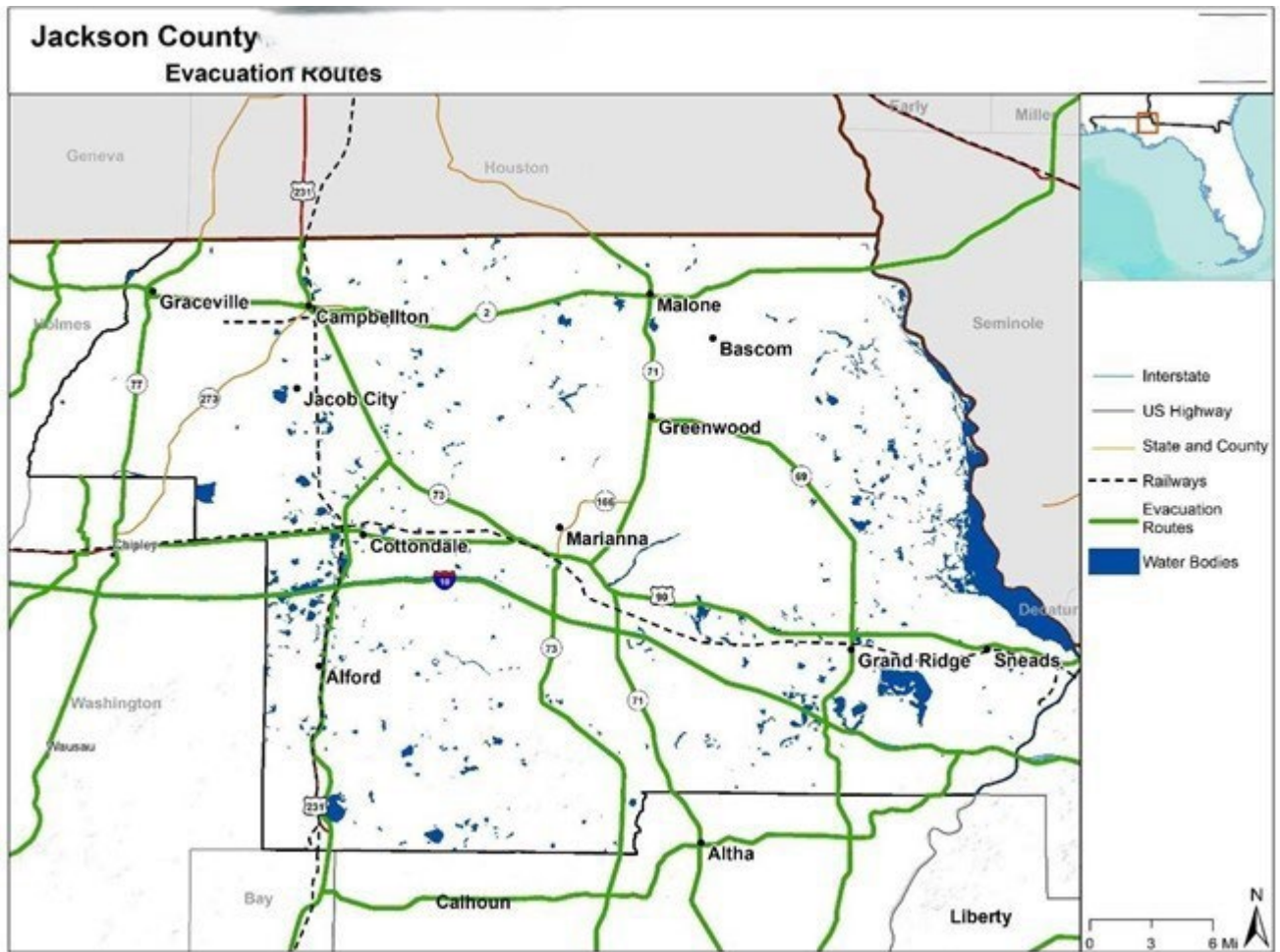
a. Issuing Evacuation Orders

- (1) The Chairman of the BOCC has the authority to order an evacuation, based upon information provided by the EM Director or designee. If the Chairman is not available, the decision will be made according to the following order of succession:
 - Vice Chairman of the BOCC;
 - Remaining members of the BOCC in order of seniority; and
 - Jackson County Administrator.
- (2) The EM Director, designee or the Sheriff has the authority to issue an evacuation order should it be required before the BOCC can be contacted.
- (3) First responders at the scene of an incident have the authority to issue evacuation orders on site to ensure public safety.

b. Evacuation Routes

- (1) Figure 18 shows the evacuation routes for Jackson County. They include a combination of Interstate 10, US highways, state roads and county roads that provide residents and visitors with a variety of means of evacuating the county.
- (2) Jackson County has no draw or swing bridges on evacuation routes.
- (3) Jackson County is an inland county and does not have any designated evacuation zones for tropical storms or hurricanes.

Figure 18: Map of Evacuation Routes



c. Special Needs Population

(1) Registration

The Home Health Agencies and Individuals are responsible for registering special needs individuals into the Department of Health People with Special Needs Registry. This will ensure that they are provided with the attention they require during disasters. There are approximately 325 special needs individuals registered in the county. The evacuation of the special needs population must be coordinated with the Department of Health – Jackson; Emergency Management and J-Trans.

(2) Transportation

The primary agency responsible for transporting special needs clients to the special needs shelter is J-Trans and Jackson County Fire Rescue. Additional transportation assistance is provided by the Jackson County School Board and Marianna Health and Rehab.

(3) Sheltering

The Florida Department of Health -Jackson County is responsible for staffing the special needs shelter. The Jackson County School Board will man the shelter for the first 72 hours and then the American Red Cross (ARC) of North Florida will support shelter operations in a transition shelter location. The Red Cross will support shelter efforts in the initial 72-hour period with food and water. The special needs shelter and the general risk shelter for Jackson County is located at Marianna High School.

d. Re-entry into Affected Areas

The Emergency Management Director or designee will authorize re-entry into an area after a determination has been made by the local law enforcement agency in conjunction with all appropriate agencies that the area is safe.

3. Sheltering

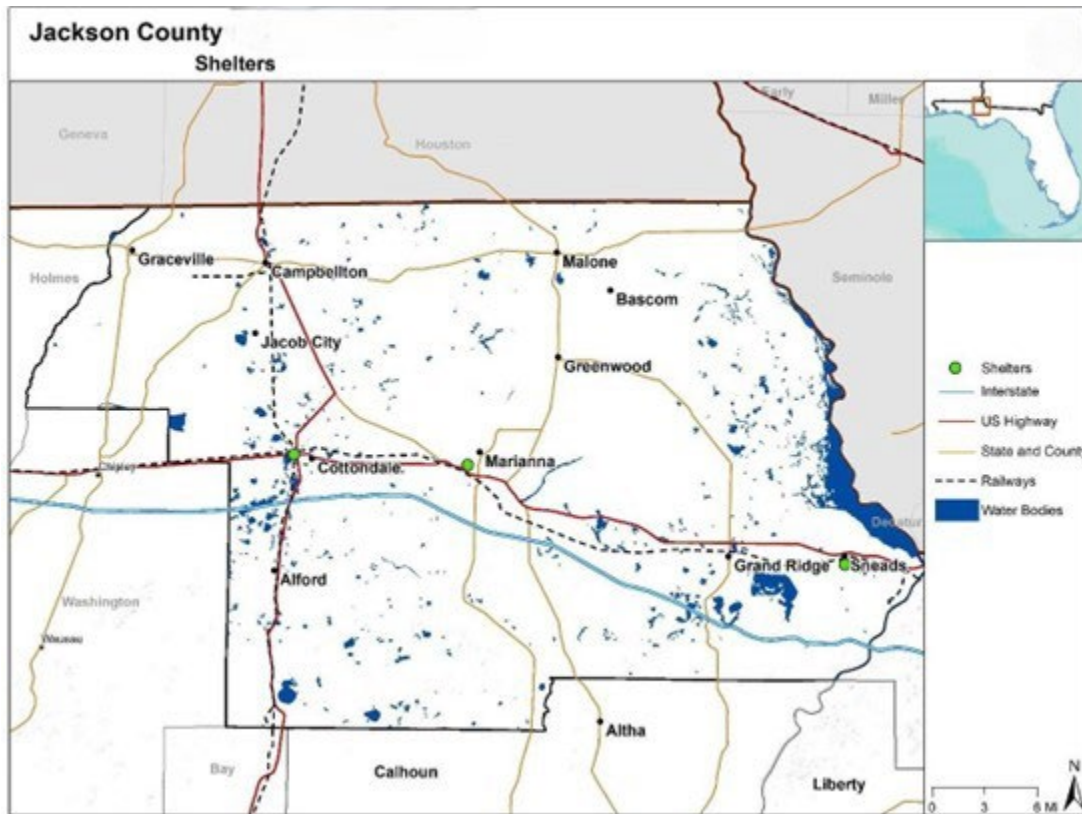
a. Primary Agency for Sheltering

The Jackson County School Board (JCSB) for the initial 72-hour period and American Red Cross of North Florida (ARC) after the 72 hour period are responsible for coordinating sheltering in Jackson County. JCSB is the primary agency responsible for coordinating Risk Shelters during the initial 72-hour period. The Red Cross is the primary agency responsible for coordinating transitional sheltering and any host shelters in Jackson County. The JCSB and ARC are assisted by JCEMA. The JCSB will provide shelter staffing and support with trained school board staff. Additional volunteers are available throughout the ARC, if needed.

b. Location of Shelters

The Red Cross has identified two host and one risk shelter throughout Jackson County, Figure 19 indicates these locations. Additional shelters may be identified and opened on an as needed basis throughout the county at the discretion of the Emergency Management Agency. These shelters have a host capacity of 5,820 based on 40 square feet per shelter resident. A host shelter should only be used to host evacuees from an impacted area but should not be used if the area is going to be impacted itself. If necessary, the amount of space allocated per person can be reduced to 20 square feet per person, doubling the shelter capacity. A risk shelter has been surveyed and found to meet the criteria of ARC 4496 and can be used to shelter evacuees during a hurricane event.

Figure 19: Jackson County Shelter Locations



Shelter Name	City	Map #	Capacity	Classification
Cottdale High School	Cottdale	2	1,150	Host
Marianna High School	Marianna	1	2,535	Risk
Sneads High School	Sneads	7	515	Host

c. Position Responsible for Authorizing the Opening of a Shelter

The EM Director or designee, after consulting with the Jackson County School Board and Red Cross, is responsible for making the decision to open a shelter.

IV. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

A. Agency Finance Officers

Every response and recovery county agency in Jackson County is responsible for maintaining accurate financial data on any expenditure, especially as they relate to emergency response and recovery activities. If Jackson County is added onto the State's Presidential Disaster Declaration, it will be critical for each agency to maintain accurate financial records, in cooperation with the Jackson County Board of Commissioners, to ensure any eligible reimbursement request to FEMA and the State of Florida can be justified.

The Florida Recovery Obligation Calculation Forms (F-Roc) should be used to get proper funding from the State/FEMA. Training is available from the State Division of Emergency Management.

B. Jackson County Board of Commissioners

1. Responsibilities

The Jackson County Finance Office under the direction of the Board of Commissioners is responsible for tracking all County finances, including those incurred during disasters.

The Commission will follow established common accounting procedures, as described by current local, state, and federal laws, rules and regulations.

2. Accounting Procedures

The JCEMA will work with the Commission to ensure that F-Roc forms ,or equivalent, are used for proper procedures are followed regarding record collection, documentation, and reimbursements for all expenditures for manpower and equipment associated with a disaster.

3. Financial Management Training Needs

There are training courses in the proper use and completion of F-Roc forms provided by FDEM. This process will ensure proper documentation is captured for reimbursements after a disaster declaration which will be provided to all stakeholder agencies in Jackson County.

4. Tracking Costs during Activations

When it becomes necessary to activate due to an emergency, a designee from the Board of Commissioners will track all associated costs for County agencies for manpower, equipment, supplies, etc. Reimbursement may be made to those agencies that supply proper documentation. Extreme care and attention to detail will be taken throughout the emergency response period to maintain accurate logs, records and file copies of all expenditures (including personnel time sheets) to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justification for future reimbursement requests.

Jackson County's municipalities are each responsible for tracking their own costs during emergencies. Municipalities are required to have an account with the State DEMES portal. This is the site where they will submit recovery cost information.

5. Record Keeping

The process of record keeping noted in paragraph IV.A.4 also applies to any mutual aid rendered by cities in Jackson County, under the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement and the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. Accurate and complete records for all expenses (including personnel time sheets and detailed description of equipment provided and duration used) will be required to seek reimbursement for eligible expenses.

6. Purchases

Any purchases made during a disaster must be pre-approved by the Jackson County Purchasing Agent in concert with the EM Director or designee. The JCEMA has established accounts with many of the providers of services needed during disasters. Goods and services required by JCEMA may be direct billed to the County, guidance regarding expenditure will be provided by the Purchasing Department.

7. Maintenance of Financial Records

Maintenance of financial records is the responsibility of each department; the Finance Office is to receive copies of all records of expenditures.

8. Funding Sources for Emergency Management Activities

There are a few funding sources available to provide financial assistance to the County for all phases of emergency management. These sources, and the required local roles and responsibilities, are discussed in the Jackson County LMS.

9. Emergency Management Funding Agreements in Place

The primary funding agreements in place include emergency management base grant funds, State and Local Assistance funds and biennial funding for the update of hazard analyses of facilities storing large quantities of hazardous materials

Post disaster, funding agreements will be prepared by FEMA and the State of Florida for execution by every applicant applying for disaster reimbursement grants. The County Administrator will execute the funding agreement for Jackson County and its agencies. This will include the constitutional offices in Jackson County.

10. County's Financial Relationship with Municipalities

Municipalities within Jackson County are responsible for managing their own finances. This is true during disasters as well as day-to-day operations. Each local government has the responsibility to maintain accurate records of expenditures incurred during the response to and recovery from a disaster. If necessary, guidance on expenditure will be provided by the Purchasing Department.

V. REFERENCES AND AUTHORITIES

A. Primary County Responsibilities as Defined by Florida Statutes, Chapter 252

1. Safeguarding the life and property of all citizens.
2. Maintaining the County Emergency Management Office.
3. Appointing an emergency management director, who shall coordinate the activities, services, and programs for emergency management and maintain liaison with the State DEM and other local emergency management agencies.
4. Performing emergency management functions within the County as well as outside the County as needed.
5. Appropriating and expending funds as necessary to fulfill responsibilities delegated under FS Chapter 252.
6. Establishing one or more emergency operations centers.
7. Making available all County resources for emergency operations.
8. Declaring a local state of emergency for up to seven (7) days, extendible in 72-hour increments for a total of three (3) extensions.
9. Invoking mutual aid agreements using DEM as liaison.

B. Florida Statutes (FS) Applicable to Local EM Programs

1. Sec. 252.34(5) FS - Definitions.

"Local emergency management agency" means an organization created in accordance with the provisions of ss. 252.31-252.90 to discharge the emergency management responsibilities and functions of a political subdivision.

2. Sec. 252.355 FS - Registry of people with special needs; notice.

Maintain a registry of people with special needs located within the county.

3. Sec. 252.356(3) FS - Emergency and disaster planning provisions to assist people with disabilities or limitations.

State agencies that contract with providers to care for individuals with disabilities or limitations are required to include disaster planning provisions in their contract.

Included in these contract provisions is a procedure to help people who need assistance and emergency sheltering during disasters to register with the Florida Department of Health People with Special Needs Registry site.

4. Sec. 252.365 FS - Emergency coordinating officers; Disaster preparedness plans.

Each state agency Emergency Coordinating Officer is required to ensure that each state agency and facility has a disaster preparedness plan and that the plan is coordinated with the applicable local emergency management agency and approved by the Division of Emergency Management.

5. Sec. 252.373(2)(a) FS - Allocation of funds; rules.

Requires (to be eligible for funding from the Emergency Management, Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund) that at a minimum each local emergency management agency have either:

- a. Have a program director who works at least 40 hours a week in that capacity: or if the county has fewer than 75,000 population or is party to an inter-jurisdictional emergency management agreement pursuant to s. 252.38(3)(b), that is recognized by the Governor either by executive order or rule, have an emergency management coordinator who works at least 20 hours a week in that capacity.

6. Sec. 252.38 FS - Emergency Management powers of political subdivisions.

- a. Develop, direct and coordinate emergency management plans and programs that are consistent with the state and federal plans and policies
- b. Director has direct responsibility for organization, administration and operation of county emergency management agency
- c. Director coordinates emergency management activities, services and programs within the county

- d. Director serves as liaison to the state and other local emergency management agencies and organizations
- e. Perform emergency management functions within the county
- f. Conduct activities outside territorial limits as required by statute and in accordance with state and county emergency management plans and mutual aid agreements
- g. Serve as liaison for and coordinator of municipalities requests for state and federal assistance during post disaster emergency operations
- h. May charge and collect reasonable fees for review of emergency management plans on behalf of other agencies and institutions

7. Sec. 252.38 FS - Director requirements, appointment.

- a. Each county emergency agency must have a director that meets the minimum training and education qualifications established in a job description approved by the county
- b. Director shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners or the chief administrative officer of the county and serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority
- c. A county constitutional officer or an employee of a county constitutional officer may be appointed as director following prior notification to the Division of Emergency Management

8. Sec. 252.385(4)(a) - Public Shelter Space.

- a. Public facilities including schools, (with exceptions for health care related facilities) owned or leased by the state or local governments which are suitable for use as public hurricane evacuation shelters shall be made available at the request of local emergency management agencies
- b. Required to coordinate with the appropriate state or local government owning agency when requesting the use of their facilities as public hurricane evacuation shelters
- c. Required to coordinate with public entities to ensure that designated public facilities are ready to activate prior to a specific hurricane or disaster

9. Sec. 252.40 FS - Mutual aid arrangements.

- a. Develop and enter into mutual aid agreements for reciprocal aid and assistance in case of emergency
- b. Copies of such agreements are to be sent to the Division of Emergency Management

10. Sec. 252.42 FS - Government equipment, services and facilities.

Provides authority to request State resources in the event of an emergency

11. Sec. 252.45 FS - Lease or loan of state property; transfer of state personnel.

Provides authority to develop and enter contracts with the State of Florida for the transfer of personnel and property

12. Sec 252.51 FS - Liability

Provides for liability protection for any individual or organization, public or private, that provides its facility for use as a shelter during an actual, impending, mock or practice emergency

13. Sec 282.102 (7) FS - Communications and data processing.

The Department of Management Services is directed to cooperate with any federal, state or local emergency management agency in providing for emergency communications services

14. Sec. 320.0898, FS - Emergency service special registration plates.

Includes emergency management personnel in the list of emergency service personnel eligible for a special license tag for the front of any motor vehicle. The vehicle must be owned by the emergency management personnel. The emergency management plate shall contain a white background with red letters and, in addition to whatever else the department may require, the designation "CD" and the logo for civil defense.

15. Sec. 381. 0303(2), FS - Special needs shelters.

Assist in coordination of the recruitment of health care professionals and appropriate staff for special needs shelters

16. Sec. 393.067(8) FS - Facility licensure.

- a. Review and approval of a comprehensive emergency management plan (for facilities providing care and services to people with developmental disabilities) submitted by the State Agency for Persons with Disabilities)
- b. Required plan (for facilities providing care and services to people with developmental disabilities) review coordination with other agencies
- c. Requirement to complete the comprehensive emergency management plan review within 60 days and either approve the plan or advise the facility of necessary revisions

17. Sec. 395.1055(1)(c) FS - Rules and enforcement

- a. Review and approve comprehensive emergency management plan (for hospitals) submitted by the State Agency for Health Care Administration
- b. Required plan (for hospitals) review coordination with other agencies
- c. Requirement to complete the comprehensive emergency management plan review within 60 days and either approve the plan or advise the facility of necessary revisions

18. Sec. 400.23(2)(g) FS - Rules: evaluation and deficiencies; licensure status.

- a. Review and approve comprehensive emergency management plan (for nursing homes and related health care facilities) submitted by the State Agency for Health Care Administration
- b. Required plan (for nursing homes and related health care facilities) review coordination with other agencies
- c. Requirement to complete the comprehensive emergency management plan review within 60 days and either approve the plan or advise the facility of necessary revisions

19. Sec.400.492 FS - Provision of (Home Health Agency) services during an emergency.

- a. Home health agencies are required to have comprehensive emergency management plans consistent with national accreditation standards and local special needs plans
- b. The plan shall describe how the agency establishes and maintains an effective response to emergencies and disasters, including: notifying staff when emergency response measures are initiated; providing for communication between staff

members, county health departments, **and local emergency management agencies**, (emphasis added) including a backup system

- c. Each home health agency is required to maintain a current prioritized list of patients who need continued services during an emergency. The list shall be furnished to county health departments and **to local emergency management agencies, upon request** (emphasis added)

20. Sec. 400.506(12)FS - Licensure of nurse registries; requirements; penalties

Nurse registries may establish links to local emergency operations centers to determine a mechanism by which to approach specific areas within a disaster area in order for a provider to reach its clients

21. Sec. 400.934(21) FS - Minimum standards.

Home medical equipment providers are required to maintain a current prioritized list of patients who need continued service during an emergency. The list shall be furnished to county health departments and local emergency management agencies **upon request** (emphasis added)

22. Sec. 400.934(22), FS - Minimum standards.

Home medical equipment providers may establish links to local emergency operations centers to determine a mechanism by which to approach specific areas within a disaster area for the provider to reach its patients.

23. Sec. 400.967(2)(g), FS - Rules and classification of deficiencies.

Review and approve comprehensive emergency management plan (for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled) submitted by the State Agency for Health Care Administration

- a. Required Plan review coordination with other agencies
- b. Requirement to complete the comprehensive emergency management plan review within 60 days and either approve the plan or advise the facility of necessary revisions

24. Sec. 414.35, FS - Emergency Relief.

The Department of Children and Families must establish rules for the dissemination of emergency relief (Emergency Food Stamps) under the Stafford Act or the Emergency Food Stamp Act of 1977. Under this statute, the agency's rules must address their responsibility for providing certification information to the local emergency management agency. The intent of this requirement is to help reduce or eliminate fraud.

25. Sec. 429.41(1)(b), FS - Rules establishing standards.

- a. Review and approve comprehensive emergency management plan (for assisted care communities) submitted by the State Agency for Health Care Administration
- b. Required plan (for assisted care communities) review coordination with other agencies
- c. Requirement to complete the comprehensive emergency management plan review within 60 days and either approve the plan or advise the facility of necessary revisions

26. Sec. 526.144, FS - Florida Disaster Motor Fuel Supplier Program.

- a. Administer this program within the county (participation in the program is optional)
- b. Authorizes charging a fee to cover the actual costs of accepting a retail motor fuel outlet into the program (review, filing of necessary forms and producing logo decals)
- c. Restricts imposition of charges for additional documents associated with the program
- d. Requires funds collected under the program to be deposited into an appropriate county operating account

27. Sec. 553.509(2)(b) and (c), FS - Vertical Accessibility

- a. Requires existing residential multi-family dwellings, including a condominium, that are more than 75 feet in height and have an elevator to have at least one elevator that is able to operate on emergency power for a specified number of hours for a five day period after an emergency. Compliance with specific operating specifications and requirements must be verified by local building inspectors and reported to the county emergency management agency by December 31, 2007.

- b. For new construction, engineering plans and verification of operational capability must be provided by the local building inspector to the county emergency management agency before occupying the newly constructed building.

28. Sec. 768.13,(2)(d), FS - Good Samaritan Act; immunity from civil liability.

Extends certain civil liability protection to individuals who participate in emergency response activities under the direction of or in close coordination with a community emergency response team, local emergency management agencies or the Division of Emergency Management

29. Sec. 943.0312(1)(c), FS - Regional domestic security task forces.

Each task force membership may also include representatives of state and local law enforcement agencies, fire and rescue departments, or first-responder personnel; representatives of emergency management agencies and health, medical, and hospital agencies; representatives of local emergency planning committees; and other persons as deemed appropriate and necessary by the task force co-chairs

30. Sec. 1013.372, FS - Educational facilities as emergency shelters.

Local School Boards are required to construct educational facilities (new and substantial renovation) in counties in a region with a shelter deficit to include an area that meets the Enhanced Hurricane Protection Area design code. Exemptions from this requirement due to the location, size or other characteristics may be approved by the school board with the concurrence of the applicable local emergency management agency or the Department of Community Affairs (Division of Emergency Management)

31. Sec 1013.74(4), FS - University authorization for fixed capital outlay projects.

Universities in a region with a public hurricane evacuation shelter deficit may be required to include public shelter standards in designs for new or substantially renovated buildings if the local emergency management agency or the Department of Community Affairs determines that the campus building is appropriate for use as a public hurricane evacuation shelter

1. FS, Chapter 110, State Government Part IV, Volunteers
2. FS, Chapter 125, County Government, Part VI, Volunteers

3. FS, Chapter 163, Intergovernmental Programs, Part II County and Municipal Planning and Land Development Regulation
4. FS, Chapter 215.555, Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund
5. FS, Chapter 252, Emergency Management, Part I - General Provisions
6. FS, Chapter 252, Emergency Management, Part II - Florida Hazardous Materials Emergency Response and Community Right-To-Know Act
7. FS, Chapter 376, Pollutant Discharge and Prevention and Removal
8. FS, Chapter 380, Land and Water Management
9. FS, Chapter 501.160, Rental or Sale of Essential Commodities During a Declared State of Emergency
10. FS, Chapter 768.13, Good Samaritan Act
11. FS, Chapter 943, Domestic Security

C. Florida Administrative Code

1. Rule 27P-2, State of Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Criteria
2. Rule 27P-6, Review of Local Emergency Management Plans
3. Rule 27P-11, Funding Formula for Emergency Management Assistance Funds
4. Rule 27P--14, Hazardous Materials
5. Rule 27P--19, Base Funding for County Emergency Management Agencies, Emergency Management Competitive Grant Program and Municipal Competitive Grant Program Rule
6. Rule Chapter 27P-20, Florida Administrative Code, Fee Schedule for County Emergency Management Agency Review of Facility Emergency Management Plans

7. Rule Chapter 27P -22, Florida Administrative Code - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

D. Plans and Procedures Supporting the CEMP

1. Jackson County Local Mitigation Strategy
2. Jackson County Critical Facility Inventory
3. Emergency Operations Center Standard Operating Guidelines
4. Notification and Warning Standard Operating Guidelines
5. Mass Care Standard Operating Guidelines
6. Damage Assessment Standard Operating Guidelines
7. Debris Management Standard Operating Guidelines
8. Disaster Recovery Center Standard Operating Guidelines
9. Public Assistance Program Standard Operating Guidelines
10. Resource and Financial Management Policies and Procedures for Emergency Management
11. State Emergency Response Team (SERT) Standard Operating Procedure
12. State of Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
13. Public Law 106-390, Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
14. Statewide Mutual Aid Reimbursement Documentation Information

15. Jackson County Hazardous Materials Facility Analyses
16. Jackson County CEMP Mitigation Element Annex
17. Jackson County CEMP Recovery Element Annex
18. Jackson County CEMP ESF 1 – 20 Standard Operating Guides
19. Jackson County Emergency Management Strategic Plan

E. Local Administrative Rules and Procedures Governing Emergency Management

The standard administrative rules, policies and guidelines promulgated by the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners apply to emergency management activities. No other local codes are applicable.

F. Other Supporting Documents

1. Jackson County EM Notification Directory
2. Jackson County Local Mitigation Strategy
3. Jackson County Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP)

G. Mutual Aid Agreements

Jackson County is signatory to the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. It also has agreements with the many local/county/private organizations that support Emergency Management. These documents are kept on-file in the Emergency Management Office.

H. NIMS Compliance References

1. Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5
2. Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-7
3. Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-8
4. National Response Plan (NRP)
5. National Incident Management System (NIMS)
6. National Incident Management Capability Assessment Tool (NIMCAST)

VI. ACRONYMS

ALF	Assisted Living Facility
ARC	American Red Cross
ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Service
CAP	Civil Air Patrol
CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CIC	Citizens Information Center
DAT	Damage Assessment Teams
DMAT	Disaster Medical Assistance Team
DMORT	Disaster Mortuary Response Team
EAS	Emergency Alert System
ECO	Emergency Coordinating Officer
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMPATF	Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESATCOM	Emergency Satellite Communications System

ESF	Emergency Support Function
FDEM	Florida Division of Emergency Management
FOG	Field Operations Guide
IC	Incident Commander
IC/UC	Incident Command or Unified Command
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
IPP	Integrated Preparedness Plan
JCEMA	Jackson County Emergency Management Agency
JIC	Joint Information Center
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LSA	Logistical Staging Area
MACS	Multi-Agency Coordination System
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NIMS	National Incident Management System
PIO	Public Information Officer
POD	Points of Distribution
SCO	State Coordinating Officer
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SITREP	Situation Report
SMAA	Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement
SOG	Standard Operating Guidelines
SWO	State Watch Office
UC	Unified Command
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue

VII. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Activation Level III - Monitoring: The Jackson County Emergency Management Agency is in monitoring mode on an everyday basis until the need to elevate to a higher activation level.

Activation Level II - Partial Activation: A partial activation of the JCEOC where only those Departmental lead personnel/agencies needed for a specific event are activated. The JCEOC incident commander will determine the operational hours under a partial activation, as needed.

Activation Level I - Full Activation: Full activation involves all Departmental lead personnel/agencies. This is for a major event requiring the JCEOC to operate on a 24-hour basis.

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES): This is a volunteer group of amateur radio operators who may be activated by Emergency Management or State level ESF-2 to provide communications support in times of emergency.

Area Command (Unified Area Command): An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multi-jurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an incident command post.

Assistant: Title for subordinates of principal Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions. Assistants may also be assigned to unit leaders.

Branch: The organizational level having functional or geographical responsibility for major aspects of incident operations. A branch is organizationally situated between the section and

the division or group in the Operations Section, and between the section and units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional area.

Burn Sites: The open areas identified for the collection and open burning of disaster caused debris.

Catastrophic Disaster: An incident that overwhelms the capability of local and state resources and requires federal assistance and/or resources. Examples include a Category four or five hurricane.

Chain of Command: A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.

Check-In: The process through which resources first report to an incident. Check-in locations include the incident command post, Resources Unit, incident base, camps, staging areas, or directly on the site.

Chief: The ICS title for individuals responsible for management of functional sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Intelligence (if established as a separate section).

Clearance Time: The clearance time is the mobilization, travel and queuing delay time and is based on the number of people required to evacuate, the number of vehicles that may be used, the suitability of the roads (capacity, elevation, location, etc.) and then any special evacuation considerations such as medical facilities and people with special needs.

Coastal High Hazard Area: Area as defined in F.S. 252, as the Category 1 hurricane evacuation area.

Comfort Stations: Stations are managed under ESF 6 to provide basic emergency services to victims such as food and water, health and first aid treatment, relief supplies, information and temporary refuge.

Command: The act of directing, ordering, or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority.

Command Staff: In an incident management organization, the Command Staff consists of the Incident Command and the special staff positions of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer, and other positions as required, who report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.

Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP): A plan that establishes uniform policy and procedures for the effective coordination of preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities related to a wide variety of natural and technological disasters. See Rule 9G-6 F.A.C. and Chapter 252 F.S.

COG Plan: Continuity of Government Plan establishing policy and guidance to ensure the continuation and line of succession for governmental functions.

COOP Plan: Continuity of Operations Plan establishing policy and guidance to ensure the execution of an organization's mission essential functions in any event that requires the relocation of selected personnel and functions to an alternate facility.

County Warning Point: The location that the State will contact in case of an emergency. The primary County Warning Point is the County Sheriff's Communications Division. It is staffed 24 hours a day.

Critical Facility: This is a "structure" from which essential services and functions for health and human welfare, continuation of public safety actions and/or disaster recovery are performed or provided.

Damage Assessment: An estimation of damages made after a disaster has occurred which serves as the basis of the Governor's request to the President for a declaration of Emergency or Major Disaster.

Deputy: A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, can be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a deputy can act as relief for a superior and, therefore, must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the Incident Commander, General Staff, and Branch Directors.

Disaster Recovery Center (DRC): Center locations set-up for victims to apply for state and federal assistance programs for which they may be eligible. DRC's do not usually provide direct services.

Division: The partition of an incident into geographical areas of operation. Divisions are established when the number of resources exceeds the manageable span of control of the Operations Chief. A division is located within the ICS organization between the branch and resources in the Operations Section.

Emergency - Absent a Presidential declared emergency, any incident(s), human-caused or natural, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.

Emergency Alert System (EAS) - System replaces the Emergency Broadcasting System as the primary relay and notification system for delivering emergency information to residents through the broadcast media.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) - The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Federal, State, regional, county, city, tribal), or some combination thereof.

Emergency Operations Plan - The "steady-state" plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards. In Florida this plan is referred to as the CEMP.

Emergency Public Information - Information that is disseminated primarily in anticipation of an emergency or during an emergency. In addition to providing situational information to the public, it also frequently provides direct actions required to be taken by the general public.

Emergency Response - An incident is in progress or has occurred requiring local resources only. This includes vehicle accidents, fires, utility losses, etc.

Emergency Support Function (ESF) - A functional area of response activity established to facilitate the delivery of county and/or state assistance required during the immediate response and recovery phases. The concept uses a functional approach to group response actions, which are most likely to be needed, under seventeen Emergency Support Functions (ESF's).

Evacuation Levels - Areas pre-designated by local emergency management officials as requiring evacuation for hazard vulnerability. Hurricane evacuation levels are normally based on salt water, river and lake flooding from storm surge as determined by surge model data.

Event - A planned, non-emergency activity. ICS can be used as the management system for a wide range of events, e.g., parades, concerts, or sporting events.

Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) - The senior federal official appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Stafford Act to coordinate the overall federal response and recovery activities.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - The lead agency for federal emergency management planning and response.

Field Hospitals/Emergency Clinics - Those sites where Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT's) or local hospitals/physicians may set-up temporary emergency clinics to provide emergency medical care in the disaster area. The locations are established to supplement the pre-existing medical network.

Full-scale Exercise - An exercise intended to evaluate the operational capability of emergency management systems in an interactive manner over a substantial period. It involves the testing of a major portion of the basic elements existing within emergency operations plans and organizations in a stressful environment. This type of exercise includes the mobilization

of personnel and resources, and the actual movement of emergency workers, equipment and resources required to demonstrate coordination and response capability.

Function: Refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics and Finance/Administration. The term is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs.

Functional Exercise - An exercise intended to test or evaluate the capability of an individual function or complex activity within a function. It is applicable where the activity is capable of being effectively evaluated in isolation from other emergency management activities.

General Staff - A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.

Group - Established to divide the incident management structure into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. Groups, when activated, are located between branches and resources in the Operations Section. (See Division)

Hazard Mitigation - The process of potential improvements that would reduce or remove the hazard vulnerability.

Hazardous Material Sites - Sites pre-identified in the County Hazardous Materials Vulnerability Analysis as containing extremely hazardous substances.

Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) - The process of collecting information about local hazards, risks to those hazards, the extent to which they threaten local populations and the vulnerability the hazards present. An HVA may include mitigation measures required to abate the hazards, priority/goal settings, and funding mechanisms available for hazard reduction.

Hurricane - Tropical weather system characterized by pronounced rotary circulation with a constant minimum wind speed of 74 miles per hour (64 knots) that is usually accompanied by rain, thunder and lightning and storm surge. Hurricanes often spawn tornadoes.

Hurricane Eye - The roughly circular area of comparatively light winds and fair weather at the center of a hurricane. Eyes are usually 25-30 miles in diameter. The area around the eye is called the wall cloud. ** Do not go outdoors while the eye is passing, the intensity of the storm will recur in minutes.*

Hurricane Landfall - The point and time during which the eye of the hurricane passes over the shoreline. After passage of the eye, hurricane winds begin again with the same intensity as before but from the opposite direction.

Hurricane Season - The six-month period from June 1st through November 30th considered the hurricane season.

Hurricane Warning - Warning issued by the National Hurricane Center 24 hours before hurricane conditions (winds greater than 74 mph) are expected. If the hurricane path changes quickly, the warning may be issued 10 to 18 hours or less, before the storm makes landfall. A warning will also identify where dangerously high water and waves are forecast even though winds may be less than hurricane force.

Hurricane Watch - Watch issued by the National Hurricane Center when a hurricane threatens, the watch covers a specified area and time period. A hurricane watch indicates hurricane conditions are possible, usually within 24 - 36 hours. When a watch is issued, listen for advisories and be prepared to take action if advised to do so.

Incident - An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Incident Action Plan (IAP) - An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational

resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.

Incident Command Post (ICP) - The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed. The ICP may be collocated with the incident base or other incident facilities and is normally identified by a green rotating or flashing light.

Incident Command System (ICS) - A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.

Incident Commander (IC) - The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

Incident Management System (IMS) - Organization framework for managing an incident or event. A combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures and communications operating within a common organizational structure. with responsibility for management of assigned resources to effectively direct and control the response to an incident. It is intended to expand as the situation requires larger resources, without requiring new, reorganized command structure. Incident Command System is a form of IMS.

Incident Management Team (IMT) - The IC and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.

Incident Objectives - Statements of guidance and direction necessary for selecting appropriate

strategy(s) and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished have been effectively deployed. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.

Individual Assistance - Assistance provided to individuals and private business in the form of grants and low interest loans by the Federal government.

Intelligence Officer - The intelligence officer is responsible for managing internal information, intelligence, and operational security requirements supporting incident management activities. These may include information security and operational security activities, as well as the complex task of ensuring that sensitive information of all types (e.g., classified information, law enforcement sensitive information, proprietary information, or export-controlled information) is handled in a way that not only safeguards the information, but also ensures that it gets to those who need access to it to perform their missions effectively and safely.

Joint Field Office (JFO) - Office established in or near the designated area to support State and Federal response and recovery operations. The DFO houses the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) and the Emergency Response Team (ERT), and where possible, the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) and support staff.

Joint Information Center (JIC) - A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the JIC.

Joint Information System (JIS) - Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the IC; advising the IC concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.

Jurisdiction - A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authority. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., city, county, tribal, State, or Federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).

Landing Zone - Any designated location where a helicopter can safely take off and land. Some heliports may be used for loading supplies, equipment or personnel.

Liaison Officer: A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.

Local Government - A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or in Alaska a Native village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity. See Section 2 (10), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

Local State of Emergency - Declared whenever the Board of County Commissioners believes there is an eminent threat to the County of some nature requiring actions taken to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the people and to aid in the prevention of damage to and the destruction of property during any emergency. Sanctioned by Chapter 252.38, Florida Statutes.

Logistical Staging Area (LSA) - Area established by the County to receive, classify and account for emergency relief supplies which will be distributed to county points of distribution (POD) based upon request and priority.

Logistics - Providing resources and other services to support incident management. Logistics Section: The section responsible for providing facilities, services, and material support for the incident.

Long-Term Recovery Phase - Phase that begins within a week of the disaster impact and may

continue for years. Long-term recovery activities include: on-going human service delivery; rebuilding the economy, infrastructure, and homes; implementation of hazard mitigation projects, and funds recovery.

Major Disaster - As defined under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122), a major disaster is any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, tribes, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

Mandatory Evacuation Order - Order that will be issued when there is a definite threat to life safety. Failure to comply with a mandatory evacuation order is a misdemeanor under Florida Statute 252.50.

Mass Feeding Sites: Temporary locations strategically placed near the disaster area where residents can go for a meal. Food may also be distributed to take home from these locations.

Minor Disaster - An incident that is likely to be within the response capability of local government and to result in only minimal need for State and Federal assistance.

Mitigation - The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often informed by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard-related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.

Multi-agency Coordination Entity –A multi-agency coordination entity functions within a broader multi-agency coordination system. It may establish priorities among incidents and

associated resource allocations, de-conflict agency policies, and provide strategic guidance and direction to support incident management activities.

Multi-agency Coordination Systems – Multi-agency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multi-agency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operation centers (EOCs), specific multi-agency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications. These systems assist agencies and organizations to fully integrate the subsystems of the NIMS.

Multi-jurisdictional Incident – An incident requiring action from multiple agencies that each have jurisdiction to manage certain aspects of an incident. In ICS, these incidents will be managed under Unified Command.

Mutual Aid Agreement – Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request, by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.

NFIP Flood Zones – Areas designated by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) as being vulnerable to velocity and/or freshwater flooding based on the 100 and 500 year storms.

Flood zones include inland areas.

National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)– A cooperative, asset-sharing partnership between the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Defense. NDMS provides resources for meeting the continuity of care and mental health services requirements of the Emergency Support Function 8 in the Federal Response Plan.

National Incident Management System (NIMS)– A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments; the private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-

5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

Nongovernmental Organization (NGOs) – An entity with an association that is based on interests of its members, individuals, or institutions and that is not created by a government but may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations and the American Red Cross.

Operational Period – The time scheduled for executing a given set of operation actions, as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually not over 24 hours.

Operations Section – The section responsible for all tactical incident operations. In ICS, it normally includes subordinate branches, divisions, and/or groups.

Personnel Accountability – The ability to account for the location and welfare of incident personnel. It is accomplished when supervisors ensure that ICS principles and processes are functional and that personnel are working within established incident management guidelines.

Planning Meeting - A meeting held as needed prior to and throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations and for service and support planning. For larger incidents, the planning meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan (IAP).

Planning Section - Responsible for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of operational information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of the IAP. This section also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation and on the status of resources assigned to the incident.

Points of Distribution (PODS) - Locations where donations of food, water and other supplies will be distributed to county residents. Distribution Points may be located in parking lots or open fields in the disaster area, as close to victims as possible.

Post-Impact Response Phase – Phase begins once the disaster occurs and may continue for up to a month. This phase includes the following activities: communications, public information, hazard abatement, search and rescue (SAR), emergency medical service delivery, temporary shelter, impact/needs assessment, security, re-entry, traffic control, debris clearance, resource distribution and volunteer management.

Pre-Impact Response Phase – Phase is the monitoring and preparedness phase before disaster strikes. This phase may begin up to 72 hours before an incident (hurricane) and continue until the disaster occurs. This phase includes hazard monitoring/tracking, incident notification, Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation, public information and warning, evacuation, sheltering (in-place, risk and host) and communications and coordination activities.

Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) – This assessment begins immediately after disaster impact and determines whether more detailed damage assessments are necessary and identifies those areas where further efforts should be concentrated.

Public Assistance - The reimbursement and emergency assistance provided to State and local governments and private non-profit entities from the Federal government.

Public Information Officer (PIO) – A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements.

Preparedness - The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process. Preparedness involves efforts at all levels of government and between government and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources.

Within the NIMS, preparedness is operationally focused on establishing guidelines, protocols, and standards for planning, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment certification, and publication management.

Preparedness Organizations - The groups that provide interagency coordination for domestic incident management activities in a non-emergency context. Preparedness organizations can

include all agencies with a role in incident management, for prevention, preparedness, response, or recovery activities. They represent a wide variety of committees, planning groups, and other organizations that meet and coordinate to ensure the proper level of planning, training, equipping, and other preparedness requirements within a jurisdiction or area.

Prevention - Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Primary Agency – Agency leading each ESF as its primary agency, which has been selected based on its authorities, resources and capabilities.

Private Sector - Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. It includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce and industry, and private voluntary organizations (PVO). Processes: Systems of operations that incorporate standardized procedures, methodologies, and functions necessary to provide resources effectively and efficiently. These include resource typing, resource ordering and tracking, and coordination.

Project Worksheet (PW) - Form completed by state and federal teams to document eligible public assistance expenses.

Reception Area - This refers to a location separate from staging areas, where resources report in for processing and out-processing. Reception Areas provide accountability, security, situational awareness briefings, safety awareness, distribution of IAPs, supplies and equipment, feeding, and bed down.

Recommended Evacuation – Order that will be issued when it is determined that the hazard may cause discomfort to residents and minimal damage to property, but it is not expected

to threaten life safety.

Recovery - The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private- sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

Recovery Plan - A plan developed by a State, local, or tribal jurisdiction with assistance from responding Federal agencies to restore the affected area.

Resource: Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

Resource Management - Efficient incident management requires a system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual-aid agreements; the use of special Federal, State, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols.

Resource Staging Centers (RSC) –The location in the county where supply donations and volunteers will be received from the Regional Recovery Center for redistribution to County distribution points. RSC’s may be used as distribution points. Supplies may also be warehoused at the RSC if space permits.

Resources Unit: Functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. This unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the effects additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.

Response - Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response

includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Regional Recovery Centers (RRC) – The location where all resources from outside of the area will be directed for redistribution to County RSC as requested. The RRC is also known by many other names.

Safety Officer - A member of the Command Staff responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety.

Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Scale – Scale used by the National Hurricane Center to provide a continuing assessment of the potential for wind and storm surge damage.

Section - The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the branch and the Incident Command.

Security Checkpoints - Those locations where all traffic will be stopped to check for identification in order to determine access to the disaster area.

Shelter - Temporary emergency shelters activated prior to a disaster impact, operated during the disaster and closed as soon as residents can be returned to their homes or relocated to long-term shelters or temporary housing areas.

Shelter-In-Place – Recommendation that means residents will be advised to remain in their homes with the windows closed and all open-air circulation systems turned off. Sheltering in place should not be implemented when the sheltering duration is expected to exceed two hours. If it is determined that sheltering will exceed two hours, it is best to evacuate.

Short-Term Recovery Phase – Phase that may begin immediately after the disaster impact and continues for approximately six months. The Short-Term Recovery Phase includes the implementation of individual assistance programs through Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC's) and Red Cross Service Centers and public assistance programs through damage survey teams and forms completion. Other short-term activities include: long-term sheltering (hotels/motels, mobile homes, tent cities, etc.), on-going human service delivery, debris removal, contractor licensing, permitting and inspections.

Situation Report (SITREP) – The summary of events, actions taken and anticipated in response to an emergency. SITREP's will be issued as needed. As a guide SITREP's should be issued daily during a monitoring activation and at least twice per day during a full activation.

Span of Control - The number of individuals a supervisor is responsible for usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals. (Under the NIMS, an appropriate span of control is between 1:3 and 1:7.)

Special Needs Program - The program through which impaired persons who need special assistance in times of emergency, are registered, evacuated and sheltered.

Staging Area - Location established where resources can be placed while awaiting a tactical assignment. The Operations Section manages Staging Areas.

Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) - A ready and continuous reference to those roles, relationships and procedures within an organization which are used for the accomplishment of broad or specialized functions which augment the CEMP. They are developed by primary and support agencies as needed to implement their responsibilities under the ESF Annexes.

State Emergency Response Team (SERT) – Team that coordinates State of Florida response and recovery functions through 17 Emergency Support Functions.

SERT Liaison Officer (SERTLO) – Officer that provides the communication and coordination link between the SERT in the State Emergency Operations Center and the County EOC Team.

State of Emergency – Order issued by the Governor.

Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement for Disaster Response and Recovery (SMAA) - The chief agreement between counties and the State for providing mutual aid assistance, which details request and reimbursement procedures.

State Watch Office (SWO) - The 24-hour answering point in the State Emergency Operations Center for reports of unusual emergencies and/or requests for State assistance.

Strike Team - A set number of resources of the same kind and type that have an established minimum number of personnel.

Support Agency – Agency in support for one or more ESF's based on their resources and capabilities to support the functional area.

Tabletop Exercise (TTX) - An activity in which exercise participants are presented with simulated emergency situations without time constraints. It is intended to evaluate plans and procedures and to resolve questions of coordination and assignments of responsibility.

Tabletop exercises are not concerned with time pressures, stress or actual simulation of specific events.

Temporary Housing Areas – Area where tents or mobile home units may be set-up for residents to live before they are able to return to their own homes or until they find a new home.

Terrorism - Under the Homeland Security Act of 2002, terrorism is defined as activity that involves an act dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources and is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State or other subdivision of the United States in which it occurs and is intended to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence a government or affect the conduct of a

government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. See Section 2 (15), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

Tornado Warning - Warning issued when a tornado funnel is sighted or indicated by radar. You should take shelter immediately. Because tornadoes can form and move quickly, there may not be time for a warning. That is why it is important to stay alert during severe storms.

Tornado Watch - Watch issued when weather conditions are favorable to the formation of tornadoes, for example during severe thunderstorms. During a Tornado Watch, keep an eye on the weather and be prepared to take shelter immediately if conditions worsen.

Tropical Storm - Area of low pressure with definite eye and counterclockwise winds of 39- 74 mph. A tropical storm may strengthen to hurricane force in a short period of time.

Tropical Storm Warnings – Warning issued by the National Hurricane Center when winds of 55-73 mph (48-63 knots) are expected. If a hurricane is expected to strike a coastal area, separate tropical storm warnings may precede hurricane warnings.

Traffic Control Points - Key intersections on the road network where staff may be needed to physically control traffic flow.

Type - A classification of resources in the ICS that refers to capability. Type 1 is generally considered to be more capable than Types 2, 3, or 4, respectively, because of size; power; capacity; or, in the case of incident management teams, experience and qualifications.

Unified Area Command - A Unified Area Command is established when incidents under an Area Command are multi-jurisdictional. (See Area Command)

Unified Command - An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single IAP.

Unit - The organizational element having functional responsibility for a specific incident planning, logistics, or finance/administration activity.

Unity of Command - The concept by which each person within an organization reports to one and only one designated person. The purpose of unity of command is to ensure unity of effort under one responsible commander for every objective.

Volunteer - For purposes of the NIMS, a volunteer is any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency, which has authority to accept volunteer services, when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed. See, e.g., 16 U.S.C. 742f(c) and 29 CFR 553.101.

Voluntary Evacuation – Order that will be issued when it is determined that the hazard may cause discomfort to residents and minimal damage to property, but it is not expected to threaten life safety.