

THE BULLETIN

The Official Newsletter of the FDEM Mitigation Bureau

LMS Workshops Across Florida

By: Kristin Buckingham



The Mitigation Bureau's Planning Unit recently taught the first set of Local Mitigation Strategy Update Manual Workshops. The workshops were taught in Pinellas, Martin, Duval, Leon and Bay counties. The class was created as a way to better explain what is needed for the LMS Update. As counties followed along with FDEM's newly revised LMS Update Manual, the

class covered descriptions of the requirements and the process for updating each requirement. Part of the class was also designed to discuss good examples found in existing counties LMS Plans.

Teaching the workshop around the state gave the Planning Unit an opportunity to answer some important questions brought up by the counties, which inspired some lively discussion. We hope this workshop makes it easier for the counties to do their LMS updates!

This Issue:

LMS Update Manual
Workshops
PAGE 01

HMGP Update
PAGE 02

Florida Silver Jackets
Team Update
PAGE 03

Mitigation Monday Social
Media Campaign
PAGE 04

New Employee Spotlight
PAGE 05

Announcements, Events,
and Updates
PAGE 06



HMGP Update of Irma & Michael

By: Jared Jaworski

Hurricane Irma (DR-4337)

We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation during the review process for DR-4337. Many have already seen their applications approved, with many more still left to review. Hurricane Irma was an unprecedented disaster for our state and it follows that the challenge it presented to our program was no different. We want to encourage our sub-applicants to continue to be patient with the review process and respond to any requests for information as quickly as possible in order to reduce the review period. Thank you for all your continued hard work.

Hurricane Michael (DR-4399)

Various issues, beyond the state's control, have delayed this period of funding beyond its normal timeline. However, with the recent release of the updated application and 6-month estimate, we're making progress to make up for lost time. If you have not yet seen these two documents, please go to the link below and look for these documents under the "Application" and "Hurricane Michael" tabs.

The new application and 6-month estimate were published ahead of the formal Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to give counties a head start in planning their application submittals before an application deadline is set. We hope to have the NOFA out before the end of August. Although the Division has stated this before, we want to assure everyone that the delay in the NOFA release will not negatively impact the amount of time counties will have to submit their applications. A few procedures will change with Hurricane Michael that we hope will reduce confusion with the application process. The majority of this information will be in the NOFA when it is released.

In the meantime, know that one change going forward is that applications will now have application numbers that correspond to their specific disaster. Only applications with the same number as the disaster, under which you are applying and that still have an open application period, will be accepted. You will see this number in the bottom right of the application footer. Likewise, the link for the application on the state page will say which disaster it is for. This will allow applicants to know that they are working with the most current application, and will allow us to make any necessary changes to the application between disasters more easily. With the new application out, this means that any applications that have already been submitted for Hurricane Michael using a previous version must convert their applications to the new form to be eligible. If you have submitted an application for tier 3, your application priority will remain the same, so long as an updated application is submitted before the application deadline.

We understand that these changes may cause some confusion with how things have been done in previous disasters. We encourage you to reach out to us with any questions so that we may address them and make any necessary changes in the future.

For any HMGP-related questions, please email DEM_HazardMitigationGrantProgram@em.myflorida.com

For the referenced documents, visit <https://floridadisaster.org/dem/mitigation/hazard-mitigation-grant-program>



Florida Silver Jackets Team Update

By: Dan Curcio

On July 24, the Silver Jackets team held a kickoff meeting in which Director Moskowitz and Colonel Kelly of the Army Corps of Engineers signed the updated charter to renew their partnership in reducing the risk of flooding throughout the state. The meeting highlighted resiliency and risk reduction project in Florida. Additionally, interagency project proposals were discussed, including the resiliency toolkit.

Other issues discussed included the major flood risks that Florida may experience. Water management districts from across the state, as well as the Nature Conservancy and the Department of Environmental Protection, all addressed a wide array of issues including groundwater flooding and sea level rise.



Listening sessions will take place in September. These brief sessions will give agencies the opportunity to introduce themselves and the projects they may be working on in a more personal and succinct manner. The next quarterly meeting will take place in October.





Making Moves in Mitigation Outreach: Mitigation Monday Social Media Campaign

By: Alex Boswell

Mitigation. It's a major component of emergency management, but some may argue the general population does not understand how to mitigate against disasters or why they should until it is too late. So how do you reach the "general public" about why and how mitigation can really benefit them? A new group called the Mitigation Outreach Committee is hoping to do just that.



The Mitigation Outreach Committee, a Sub-Committee of Mitigate FL, is comprised of professionals in the public and private sectors of emergency management who are hoping to educate people on the importance of mitigation. While the group is still in its early stages, they have already met three times over the last several months and are focusing on goals for the rest of the year, including promoting mitigation throughout FDEM's social media platforms.

In the month of August, the group piloted their Mitigation Monday social media initiative. FDEM shared a mitigation themed post on their Facebook and Twitter page every Monday for the entire month. The posts covered a variety of topics and included some Mitigation Myths. The posts reached 29,624 people throughout the entire month. The engagements totaled 1,720, which include any interaction with the post such as clicks, shares, likes and comments. Mitigate FL is planning to continue this initiative in January 2020.

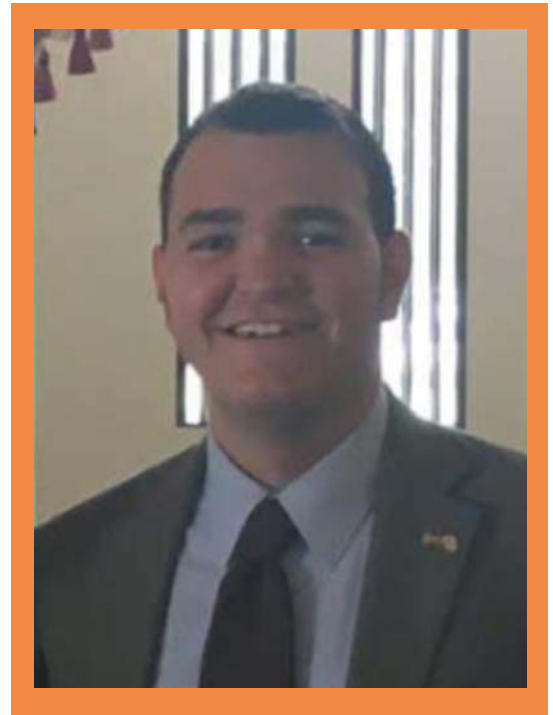
The Mitigation Outreach Committee's next meeting is Wednesday, September 25 at 2:00 pm. If you have any questions or are interested in joining the Mitigation Outreach Committee, please email Kristin Buckingham at Kristin.Buckingham@em.myflorida.com.



New Employee Spotlight

The Florida Division of Emergency Management welcomes Dan Curcio to the Bureau of Mitigation as its newest planner. Dan grew up in Cape Coral and received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from FAU. He then attended FSU where he earned his master's in International Affairs and developed his interest in emergency management.

Upon graduation, Dan received a fellowship with the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management where he worked on a research project for the city's special events. He looks forward to working in the field as he will now be the LMS Liaison for Regions 4 and 6. Outside of work, Dan enjoys Tallahassee's parks and hanging out with his friends.



The Bureau of Mitigation also welcomes Kristin Buckingham to the Planning Unit. Kristin has worked in the Technical Unit as an Environmental Specialist for DEM for a year and a half. She grew up not far from Dan in Fort Myers and received her bachelor's degree in Sustainability and the Built Environment from UF. She then stayed at UF to get her master's in Urban and Regional Planning.

During her time at UF, Kristin worked on several projects focused on emergency management with counties and rural communities around Florida. She looks forward to working as the LMS Liaison with Regions 3 and 5. When not at work, you can find Kristin at her Crossfit gym or out enjoying local activities.



To see the weekly #MitigationMonday posts, go like and follow Florida Division of Emergency Management on Facebook and Twitter!

Need More Information?

- Laura Waterman
Laura.Waterman@em.myflorida.com
- Daniel Curcio
Daniel.Curcio@em.myflorida.com
- Kristin Buckingham
Kristin.Buckingham@em.myflorida.com

The Bureau of Mitigation

Mitigation is an integral part of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). Mitigation actions reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Due to Florida's weather, geography and miles of coastline the state is highly vulnerable to disasters. Disasters can be very costly to both the citizens and government.

Under the direction of Division Director Jared Moskowitz and State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Miles E. Anderson, the Bureau of Mitigation administers several federal mitigation grant programs including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, and the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. The Bureau also administers a state funded mitigation program called the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.

If you would like to know more about mitigation in Florida please visit: www.floridadisaster.org/mitigation.

