



FEMA

APR 18 2018

Andrew Sankey, Director
Hancock County EMA
50 State Street
Ellsworth, ME 04605-1924

Dear Mr. Sankey:

We would like to acknowledge the Hancock County participating jurisdictions and the State of Maine for their dedication and commitment to mitigation planning. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region I Mitigation Planning Team has completed its review of the Hancock County, Maine Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2018 Update and determined it meets the requirements of 44 C.F.R. Pt. 201.

This plan approval includes the following participating jurisdictions that provided copies of their resolutions adopting the plan.

Amherst	Deer Isle	Mount Desert	Surry
Aurora	Eastbrook	Orland	Swans Island
Bar Harbor	Ellsworth	Osborn	Tremont
Blue Hill	Franklin	Otis	Trenton
Brooklin	Frenchboro	Penobscot	UT
Brooksville	Gouldsboro	Sedgwick	Verona Island
Bucksport	Great Pond	Sorrento	Waltham
Castine	Hancock	Southwest Harbor	Winter Harbor
Cranberry Isles	Lamoine	Stonington	
Dedham	Mariaville	Sullivan	

With this plan approval, the communities listed above are eligible to apply to the Maine Emergency Management Agency for mitigation grants administered by FEMA. Requests for mitigation funding will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility requirements identified for each of these programs. A specific mitigation activity or project identified in your community's plan may not meet the eligibility requirements for FEMA funding; even eligible mitigation activities or projects are not automatically approved.

Approved mitigation plans are eligible for points under the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System (CRS). Complete information regarding the CRS can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system>, or through your local floodplain administrator.

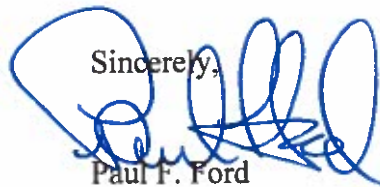
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The Hancock County, Maine Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2018 Update must be reviewed, revised as appropriate, and resubmitted to FEMA for approval within **five years of the plan approval date of April 3, 2018** in order to maintain eligibility for mitigation grant funding. We encourage Hancock County communities to continually update the plan's assessment of vulnerability, adhere to its maintenance schedule, and implement, when possible, the mitigation actions proposed in the plan.

Once again, thank you for your continued dedication to public service demonstrated by preparing and adopting a strategy for reducing future disaster losses. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Melissa Surette at (617) 956-7559.

Sincerely,



Paul F. Ford

Acting Regional Administrator

PFF: ms

cc:

Thomas Redstone, Acting State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Maine
Dwane Hubert, Mitigation, Preparedness & Recovery Director, Maine
Sue Baker, Maine State NFIP Coordinator

Enclosure

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW TOOL

Hancock County, ME

The *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool* demonstrates how the Local Mitigation Plan meets the regulation in 44 CFR §201.6 and offers States and FEMA Mitigation Planners an opportunity to provide feedback to the community.

- The Regulation Checklist provides a summary of FEMA’s evaluation of whether the Plan has addressed all requirements.
- The Plan Assessment identifies the plan’s strengths as well as documents areas for future improvement.
- The Multi-jurisdiction Summary Sheet is an optional worksheet that can be used to document how each jurisdiction met the requirements of the each Element of the Plan (Planning Process; Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment; Mitigation Strategy; Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation; and Plan Adoption).

The FEMA Mitigation Planner must reference this *Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide* when completing the *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool*.

Jurisdiction: Hancock County, ME	Title of Plan: Hancock County, Maine Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2018 Update	Date of Plan: 2018
Single or Multi-jurisdiction plan? Multi-Jurisdiction		New Plan or Plan Update? Update
Regional Point of Contact: Andrew Sankey Director, Hancock County EMA 50 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04605-1924 207-667-8126; ema@co.hancock.me.us		Local Point of Contact: N/A

State Reviewer: JoAnn Mooney Tom Redstone	Title: State Hazard Mitigation Officer Deputy State Hazard Mitigation Officer	Date: 10/13/2017
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FEMA Reviewer: Josh Vidmar Jay Neiderbach	Title: CERC FEMA Community Planner	Date: 11/2/2017 11/17/2017; 11/22/2017; 3/22/2018; 4/3/2018
Date Received in FEMA Region I	10/13/2017; 11/22/2017	
Plan Not Approved		
Plan Approvable Pending Adoption	11/22/2017	
Plan Approved	4/3/2018	

**SECTION 1:
REGULATION CHECKLIST**

INSTRUCTIONS: The Regulation Checklist must be completed by FEMA. The purpose of the Checklist is to identify the location of relevant or applicable content in the Plan by Element/sub-element and to determine if each requirement has been 'Met' or 'Not Met.' The 'Required Revisions' summary at the bottom of each Element must be completed by FEMA to provide a clear explanation of the revisions that are required for plan approval. Required revisions must be explained for each plan sub-element that is 'Not Met.' Sub-elements should be referenced in each summary by using the appropriate numbers (A1, B3, etc.), where applicable. Requirements for each Element and sub-element are described in detail in this *Plan Review Guide* in Section 4, Regulation Checklist.

1. REGULATION CHECKLIST	Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)			
ELEMENT A. PLANNING PROCESS			
A1. Does the Plan document the planning process, including how it was prepared and who was involved in the process for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(1))	pp. 3-1 – 3-10, Appendix	X	
A2. Does the Plan document an opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, agencies that have the authority to regulate development as well as other interests to be involved in the planning process? (Requirement §201.6(b)(2))	p. 3-10, Appendix	X	
A3. Does the Plan document how the public was involved in the planning process during the drafting stage? (Requirement §201.6(b)(1))	pp. 3-1 – 3-10, Appendix	X	
A4. Does the Plan describe the review and incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information? (Requirement §201.6(b)(3))	pp. 4-7 – 4-8 and references throughout plan	X	
A5. Is there discussion of how the community(ies) will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii))	pp. 6-4 – 6-5	X	
A6. Is there a description of the method and schedule for keeping the plan current (monitoring, evaluating and updating the mitigation plan within a 5-year cycle)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i))	pp. 6-1 – 6-2	X	
ELEMENT A: REQUIRED REVISIONS			

1. REGULATION CHECKLIST		Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)				
ELEMENT B. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT				
B1. Does the Plan include a description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect each jurisdiction(s)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i))	pp. 4-1	X		
B2. Does the Plan include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i))	pp. 4-1 – 4-23	X		
B3. Is there a description of each identified hazard's impact on the community as well as an overall summary of the community's vulnerability for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii))	pp. 4-23 – 4-41	X		
B4. Does the Plan address NFIP insured structures within the jurisdiction that have been repetitively damaged by floods? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii))	p. 4-25	X		
<u>ELEMENT B: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT C. MITIGATION STRATEGY				
C1. Does the plan document each jurisdiction's existing authorities, policies, programs and resources and its ability to expand on and improve these existing policies and programs? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3))	p. 5-2	X		
C2. Does the Plan address each jurisdiction's participation in the NFIP and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii))	pp. 5-5 – 5-6	X		
C3. Does the Plan include goals to reduce/avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(i))	p. 5-6	X		
C4. Does the Plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each jurisdiction being considered to reduce the effects of hazards, with emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii))	pp. 5-7 – 5-34	X		
C5. Does the Plan contain an action plan that describes how the actions identified will be prioritized (including cost benefit review), implemented, and administered by each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iv)); (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iii))	pp. 5-7 – 5-34	X		
C6. Does the Plan describe a process by which local governments will integrate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii))	pp. 6-2 – 6-4	X		
<u>ELEMENT C: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				

1. REGULATION CHECKLIST		Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)				
ELEMENT D. PLAN REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION (applicable to plan updates only)				
D1. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in development? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	pp. 4-37 – 4-38	X		
D2. Was the plan revised to reflect progress in local mitigation efforts? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	pp. 5-7 – 5-34	X		
D3. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in priorities? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	pp. 5-7 – 5-34	X		
<u>ELEMENT D: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT E. PLAN ADOPTION				
E1. Does the Plan include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5))	Section 2	X		
E2. For multi-jurisdictional plans, has each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan documented formal plan adoption? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5))	Section 2	X		
<u>ELEMENT E: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT F. ADDITIONAL STATE REQUIREMENTS (OPTIONAL FOR STATE REVIEWERS ONLY; NOT TO BE COMPLETED BY FEMA)				
F1.				
F2.				
<u>ELEMENT F: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				

SECTION 2: PLAN ASSESSMENT

A. Plan Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

This section provides a discussion of the strengths of the plan document and identifies areas where these could be improved beyond minimum requirements.

Element A: Planning Process

Strengths:

- There is documentation of the timeline and schedule for how the plan will be maintained, including specific tasks to be accomplished.
- There is a discussion about how the planning team evaluated the previous version of the plan, as well as what changes were made based on the evaluation.
- The planning process is well detailed. The inclusion of meeting materials will help guide future updates.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Include more specifics about the planning process. In particular, ensure the plan clearly identifies when and where planning meetings occurred, as well as who participated.
- Review additional reports and resources to ensure that the most current and best available data is being used throughout the plan.

Element B: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Strengths:

- There is a well-grounded rationale provided for why certain hazards were omitted from analysis.
- Hazard profiles are well-defined, with detailed information about the context of the hazard and the risk it presents to the community.
- Specific locations are identified for where each hazard is most likely to occur.
- Maps effectively highlight the areas and facilities that are most at risk.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Incorporate additional information to better describe hazard extent. The purpose of describing extent is to assess the strength or magnitude of a future event, in order to understand what severity can be expected. This is different from hazard impact, which addresses effects on people, buildings, and infrastructure. Looking at hazard impacts and hazard extent separately will help in identifying actions for reducing risk. For more information about how to describe extent, see page 5-3 of FEMA's Local Mitigation Handbook.
- Create a more robust risk assessment by seeking additional stakeholder perspectives when defining community assets, problem areas, etc.

Element C: Mitigation Strategy

Strengths:

- The plan provides a comprehensive, detailed description of the community's existing capabilities that relate to mitigation.
- The community's mitigation goals are achievable.
- The plan's goals and mitigation actions are integrated with other community planning efforts. This integration will encourage better implementation of the mitigation strategy.
- Priorities in the plan recognize current conditions. They are reflective of the planning process, risk assessment, and mitigation strategy.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- As part of the mitigation strategy, include a description of the intended effect of each action and what vulnerability is being addressed. Doing so will assist in measuring the success of the mitigation strategy during future evaluation efforts.

Element D: Plan Update, Evaluation, and Implementation (*Plan Updates Only*)

Strengths:

- The plan connects changes in development directly to changes in risk.
- The plan includes a projection of planned and/or potential future development.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Describe development trends using the best available and most current data. Incorporate information from other community plans and the US Census.
- Divide larger mitigation projects into smaller, more achievable phases. This will assist in measuring progress and implementation.

B. Resources for Implementing Your Approved Plan

State Sources of Technical Assistance & Funding:

The Maine State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) and Natural Hazards Planner can provide guidance regarding grants, technical assistance, available publications, and training opportunities. Contact the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) for further assistance. View agency website for contact information at <http://www.maine.gov/mema/index.shtml>. Refer to MEMA's website, identifying a number of potential funding sources for various mitigation activities, at http://www.maine.gov/mema/mitigation/mema_mit_grants.shtml. Also review the State Hazard Mitigation Plan at http://www.maine.gov/mema/mitigation/mema_mit_plans.shtml. Communities are encouraged to work with the State to maximize use of every 406 Hazard Mitigation opportunity when available during federally declared disasters. A better alignment and increasing the effectiveness of 406 and 404 Mitigation funds, greatly benefit the community in the long run.

Federal and Non-Profit Sources of Technical Assistance & Funding:

Federal Grants Resource Center and Grants.gov

Federal agencies may support integrated planning efforts such as rural development, sustainable communities and smart growth, climate change and adaptation, historic preservation, risk analyses, wildfire mitigation, conservation, Federal Highways pilot projects, etc. The Federal Grants Resource Center is located on the website of the national non-profit Reconnecting America, and provides a compilation of key funding sources for projects in your community. Examples are HUD, DOT/FHWA, EPA, and Sustainable Communities grant programs. For more information visit: <http://reconnectingamerica.org/resource-center/federal-grant-opportunities/> or www.grants.gov.

GrantWatch.com

The website posts current foundation, local, state, and federal grants on one website. When seeking funding opportunities for mitigation, consider a variety of sources for grants, guidance, and partnerships, including academic institutions, non-profits, community organizations, and businesses, in addition to governmental agencies. Examples are The Partnership for Resilient Communities, the Institute for Sustainable Communities, the Rockefeller Foundation *Resilience*, The Nature Conservancy, The Kresge Climate-Resilient Initiative, the Threshold Foundation's *Thriving Resilient Communities* funding, the RAND Corporation, and ICLEI *Local Governments for Sustainability*.

<http://www.grantwatch.com>

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance provides funding for projects under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA). Individuals and businesses are not eligible to apply for HMA funds; however, an eligible applicant or subapplicant may apply on their behalf.

<http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance>

Recommended FEMA Publications & Websites:

Hazard Mitigation Planning Online Webliography, FEMA Region I

This compilation of government and private online sites is a useful source of information for developing and implementing hazard mitigation programs and plans in New England.

<http://www.fema.gov/about-region-i/about-region-i/hazard-mitigation-planning-webliography>

FEMA Climate Change Website

Provides resources that address climate change.

<http://www.fema.gov/climate-change>

FEMA Library

FEMA publications can be downloaded for free from its Library website. This repository contains a wealth of information that can be especially useful in public information and outreach programs. Search by keyword to find documents related to a particular topic. Examples include building and construction techniques, the NFIP, integrating historic preservation and cultural resource protection with mitigation, and helpful fact sheets.

<http://www.fema.gov/library>

FEMA RiskMAP

Technical assistance is available through RiskMAP to assist communities in identifying, selecting, and implementing activities to support mitigation planning and risk reduction. Attend any RiskMAP discovery meetings that may be scheduled in the state (or neighboring communities with shared watersheds boundaries) in the future.

<https://www.fema.gov/risk-mapping-assessment-and-planning-risk-map>

Other Recommended Publications & Websites:

U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit

Scientific tools, information, and expertise are provided to help manage climate-related risks and improve resilience to extreme events. This aid assists planning through links to a wide-variety of web-tools covering topics, including coastal flood risk, ecosystem vulnerability, and water resources. Experts can be located in the NOAA, USDA, and Department of Interior.

<https://toolkit.climate.gov>

EPA's Resilience and Adaptation in New England (RAINE) Climate Change Program

A collection of vulnerability, resilience and adaptation reports, plans, and webpages at the state, regional, and community levels. Communities can use the RAINE database to learn from nearby communities about building resiliency and adapting to climate change.

<http://www.epa.gov/raine>

USDA Rural Community Development Grant Programs

USDA operates over fifty financial assistance programs for a variety of rural applications.

<http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services>

NOAA Sea Grant

Sea Grant's mission is to provide integrated research, communication, education, extension and legal programs to coastal communities that lead to the responsible use of the nation's ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources through informed personal, policy and management decisions. Examples of the resources available help communities plan, adapt, and recovery are the *Community Resilience Map of Projects* and the *National Sea Grant Resilience Toolkit*, both located on this website.

<http://seagrants.noaa.gov>

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Provides conservation technical assistance, financial assistance, and conservation innovation grants.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/>

The Rockefeller Foundation Resilience

Helping cities, organizations, and communities better prepare for, respond to, and transform from disruption.

<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/our-work/topics/resilience/>