



Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency

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Jessie L. Peacock– Director
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September 25, 2018

DJ Hart
Baldwin County Planning & Zoning
201 East Section Street
Foley, AL 36535

Dear Ms. Hart,

In regards to Section 510 of the Community Rating System Annual Recertification, the following is a progress report of strategic planning approach utilized for the Baldwin County Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- The Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) continues to educate and inform the public about the risks of floods and flooding and the techniques available to reduce threats to life and property.
- The EMA is in the process of revising our Threat and Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA) document to assist with the mitigation of potential risks and hazards in Baldwin County.
- The EMA utilizes a “whole community” approach to hazard mitigation. Our Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee meets once per quarter to plan and assist with mitigation issues in the county.
- The EMA actively pursues outreach events to reach the diverse population in Baldwin County, including the many tourists that visit our beaches.
- The EMA establishes and staffs information booths at businesses, churches, fairs, and festivals to provide safety information about floods and flooding hazards.
- The EMA provides assets to outside public safety agencies during festivals to assist with safety and coordination.
- The EMA is in the process of revising the Floodplain Management Plan. It will be completed by December 2018.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Peacock".

Jessie L. Peacock
Director

CRS Activity 510

Progress Report on Implementation of Credited Plan

Date this Report was Prepared: September 27, 2018

Name of Community: Baldwin County, AL

Name of Plan: Flood Hazard Management Plan
for Baldwin County Unincorporated Areas

Date of Adoption of Plan: December 19, 2000; The plan update is currently underway with adoption planned for December 2018. The community is also included in the 2015 Baldwin County, Alabama Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

*5 Year CRS Expiration Date: December 19, 2005 – Flood Hazard Mgmt Plan
May 3, 2021 – Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*

1. How can a copy of the original plan or area analysis report be obtained:

The 2000 plan can be obtained directly from the Baldwin County Building Inspection Department or Planning and Zoning Department. With the 2018 plan update, the Baldwin County website provides information on the planning process, meeting minutes, and will host the Draft Plan for Public Comment in November 2018.

<http://baldwincountyal.gov/departments/building-inspection/flood-hazard-management>

2. Describe how this evaluation report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

The evaluation of existing mitigation actions and development of new mitigation actions was performed on September 13, 2018 through a plan update meeting with the Flood Hazard Management Committee (FHMC). The FHMC was formally adopted by Baldwin County at the start of the plan update process on April 3, 2019. Minutes from all FHMC meetings are available on the Baldwin County Website. The results of the evaluation are provided in Attachment 1.

3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:

See Attachment 1

4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule:

See Attachment 1

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

See Attachment 1

Attachment 1

Status Update of Existing Actions and NEW Actions

Action ID	Mitigation Action	Status (Completed, In-Progress, Deferred)	Continue in Update (Y or N?)	Comments
1a	Continue to comply with the NPDES permitting requirements and insist on compliance by the development community.	In-Progress	Y	Baldwin County continues to comply with NPDES Permit # ALR040042, annual reports and the Stormwater Management Program Plan are available on the community website: http://baldwincountyal.gov/departments/planning-zoning/stormwater
1b	Assure compliance with the existing stormwater and erosion control measures contained in the zoning and subdivision regulations.	In-Progress	Y	The Planning and Zoning Department continues to implement zoning and subdivision regulations in unincorporated Baldwin County
1c	Continue program to pave County dirt roads giving priority to dirt roads with known erosion problems.	In-Progress	Y	The Baldwin County Highway Department continues to maintain over 500 miles of dirt roads throughout the County. Since 2012, the Baldwin County Highway Department has constructed and paved approximately 120 miles of County maintained dirt roads with County crews. The Highway Department will continue this service with the number of miles paved each year varied in accordance with available funding and other factors such as the weather.
1d	Complete the COE planning assistance drainage project and construct a demonstration regional drainage facility.	Removed	N	This proposed mitigation action did not have a positive benefit-cost ratio and will not be pursued further.
1e	Locate and inventory all existing stormwater detention facilities in the unincorporated area.	Removed	N	Baldwin County does not have legal authority to enforce maintenance of detention facilities on private land.
1f	Evaluate current annual drainage system maintenance program to determine its' effectiveness and propose program changes as necessary.	Completed	N	The Highway Department continues to maintain infrastructure in Baldwin County.
1g	Research the feasibility of a storm water utility to maintain drainage facilities and pursue appropriate action.	Removed	N	The storm water utility (Rain Tax) did not have public support.
1h	Research the feasibility of establishing and funding a stream maintenance and restoration program and pursue appropriate action.	Updated	Y	Baldwin County will continue to partner with the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council (AGCRC) and participate in Alabama's Multiyear Implementation Plan (MIP) for various stream restoration and conservation projects.
1i	Seek legislative authority to prepare and adopt stormwater management and erosion control regulations as recommended in the Baldwin County Erosion Control Decision Maker's Guide.	Completed	N	Stormwater management and erosion control regulations are including in the local zoning ordinance: General Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 12.1.7 – Stormwater Management Section 12.1.8 – Erosion Control Design Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 13.11 – Stormwater Management Section 13.12 – Erosion Control
2a	Continue participation in the CRS program to reduce flood hazards.	In-Progress	Y	Baldwin County has voluntarily participated in the Community System Program since 1994 and as a result has reduced flood insurance policies 10% for flood prone areas, and 5% in areas not designated as flood prone. Baldwin County will continue to participate in the CRS program.
2b	Strictly administer existing flood hazard regulations (Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance) and review said regulations to determine their adequacy and whether revisions are needed.	In-Progress	Y	Baldwin County continues to administer the local flood damage prevention ordinance, as available here: http://baldwincountyal.gov/docs/default-source/building-inspection/building-codes/bc_flood_damage_prevention_ordinance.pdf?sfvrsn=f1c9bf0c_6

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2c	Strengthen the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance by incorporating zoning measures into the regulations as authorized by the Comprehensive Land-Use Management in Flood-Prone Areas Act of 1971 (Section 11-19-1 et seq. Code of Alabama).	Removed	N	Baldwin County does not have legal authority to enforce landuse regulations in the unzoned areas of the County.
2d	Continue to assist unincorporated areas to implement planning and zoning in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 91-719, as amended.	In-Progress	Y	The Planning and Zoning Department continues to implement zoning and subdivision regulations in unincorporated Baldwin County
2e	Provide public infrastructure in flood hazard areas consistent with that needed to support the density and intensity of development established through land use plans adopted per actions c and d above.	Completed	N	Baldwin County subdivision regulations include retention/detention design requirements for post-development discharge to be equal to or less than pre-development conditions for a 2, 5, 10, 25, 50 & 100 year storm event. Additionally, design standards for new road construction require culverts and bridges in the SFHA to carry the 100 year storm event; and outside of the SFTA to carry the 25-yr and 50-yr events, respectively.
3a	Assure compliance with the wetlands protection provisions contained in the zoning and subdivision regulations and utilize the ADID study findings in the land development review process.	In-Progress	Y	Wetland protection regulations are addressed in the local zoning ordinance: Overlay Districts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 10.4 – Wetland Protection Overlay District And Subdivision Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 5.2.2 – Jurisdictional wetlands
3b	Continue to review and comment upon ADEM and COE permit applications for dredge and fill.	In-Progress	N	Baldwin County will continue to comply with State regulations for projects which include potential impacts to waterbottoms or the dredging and/or filling of wetlands which will require permits and/or certifications from ADEM, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers(USACE), and, in some instances, the State Oil and Gas Board, and/or the ALDCNR-State Lands Division. State/federal regulatory requirements will not be included as mitigation actions in the updated Flood Hazard Management Plan.
3c	Implement ADID study recommendations including the recommendations to pursue the purchase and preservation of highly functioning wetlands and to encourage the participation in programs that may contribute to wetland conservation (i.e. National Conservation Wetland Grants, Forever Wild, Wetland Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Program, and Partners for Fish and Wildlife).	Completed	N	Wetlands bank in coordination with the Highway Department
3d	Develop a countywide Wetlands Conservation Plan through comprehensive inventory and assessment of area wetland resources.	Completed	N	The Baldwin County Wetland Conservation Plan was completed in 2005: http://www.bvaenviro.com/Public/Figg%20Wolf%20Bay%20GIS/Baldwin%20Potential%20Wetlands/2005-05-17_BCWCP_Final_Summary_Document.pdf Wetlands are currently mapped countywide and maintained by the GIS department and noted in the subdivision regulations.
4a	Develop a program to accept and maintain conservation easements.	Completed	N	Conservation easements are included in the zoning regulations, Section 9.3.4.1; Section 11.4.3; and Section 11.5.5
4b	Continue participation in the FEMA hazard mitigation program to purchase properties which repeatedly flood.	In-Progress	Y	Baldwin County has mitigated 67 properties within the County utilizing FEMA mitigation assistance funds and will continue to pursue funding in the future. Additionally, 32 properties have been mitigated through ICC funding.
4c	Identify significant open space and wetland resources and pursue public and private grants for purchase as appropriate.	In-Progress	Y	In 2011, the Baldwin County Commission approved the purchase of a 589-acre tract of damaged wetlands along the Intracoastal Waterway in Bon Secour for \$1.8 million. The County will continue to seek opportunities in the future to purchase open space/wetlands.

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4d	Complete the Baldwin County Parks, Public Access and Recreation Plan as Part 3 of the Baldwin County Master Plan.	Completed	N	Parks and Recreation are addressed in Chapter 3 of the current 2013 Baldwin County Master Plan.
5a	Continue to coordinate flood hazard activities with state and federal environmental agencies including Health Department, ADCNR, ADEM, EPA, NRCS, FEMA, USFWS and COE.	In-Progress	Y	All agencies were contacted in the planning process for this Flood Hazard Management Plan update as stakeholders. Baldwin County will continue to coordinate with state and federal agencies for flood hazard activities.
5b	Continue to coordinate flood hazard activities with municipal governments involved in flood hazard management.	In-Progress	Y	Neighboring communities were contacted in the planning process for this Flood Hazard Management Plan update as stakeholders. Baldwin County will continue to coordinate with local agencies for flood hazard activities.
5c	Utilize the County's geographic information system (GIS) to identify and protect flood hazard areas.	In-Progress	Y	The effective FIRM layer is available on the Baldwin County GIS Map Viewer: http://isv.kcsgis.com/al.baldwin_revenue/ GIS data was provided by Baldwin County in preparation of the risk assessment for this Flood Hazard Management Plan update.
5d	Develop and maintain an environmentally sensitive land use matrix in conjunction with the GIS as recommended in the Baldwin County Erosion Control Decision Maker's Guide.	Completed	N	As noted in 3d, wetlands are currently mapped countywide and maintained by the GIS department.
5e	Maintain an inventory of county-maintained roads and bridges which become partially or wholly submerged during rainfall events.	In-Progress	Y	The Highway Department maintains an inventory of roads/bridges that are susceptible to flood events and provides signage and/or barriers during events to deter the public from using these roadways.
5f	Research and evaluate the impact of a buyout only hazard mitigation program within the floodway and pursue appropriate action.	In-Progress	Y	Baldwin County has mitigated 67 properties within the County utilizing FEMA mitigation assistance funds and will continue to pursue funding in the future. Additionally, 32 properties have been mitigated through ICC funding.
6a	Coordinate with public libraries to maintain publications and materials about flood protection. Information available will include FIRM and Floodway Maps and an explanation of their use; flood insurance information; information on measures to protect buildings from flood damage and; information about floodplain management and flood hazard mitigation.	Completed	Y	In accordance with CRS Activity 350, Flood Protection Information, Baldwin County maintains the latest versions of nine FEMA publications, as defined in the CRS Coordinator's Manual, cataloged and available in the community's library.
6b	Strengthen flood warning activities by developing programs including a flood threat recognition system, flood prediction models and a system to disseminate flood warnings to the public.	In-Progress	Y	The current flood warning system includes 3 gage locations on the Fish River, Styx River, and Magnolia River. The Emergency Management Agency notifies residents when the gages reach flood stage levels. EMA will continue to grow and expand the flood warning program.
6c	Furnish FIRM map determinations upon request.	Completed	Y	In accordance with CRS Activity 320, Map Information, Baldwin County staff provide the basic information found on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) that is needed to write a flood insurance policy, upon request.
6d	Provide annual notification of flood hazard determination service to lending institutions, insurance companies, real estate companies and title insurance companies.	Updated	Y	As an updated action, Baldwin County will develop a Program for Public Information to coordinate public education and outreach measures.
6e	Maintain computer database of all Elevation Certificates through computer software provided by FEMA.	Completed	N	Elevation certificates are posted to the Baldwin County website: http://baldwincountyal.gov/docs/default-source/building-inspection/downloads---forms---certificates/elevation_certificate_fy_09-10.pdf?sfvrsn=4
6f	Distribute outreach materials to floodplain residents at county offices and special events.	Updated	Y	As an updated action, Baldwin County will develop a Program for Public Information to coordinate public education and outreach measures.

Action ID	Mitigation Action	Status (Completed, In-Progress, Deferred)	Continue in Update (Y or N?)	Comments
	Develop Program for Public Information (PPI) to Increase citizen awareness and preparedness by providing information describing all types of flood hazards, flood insurance, methods for preventing flood damage, and how to protect their property. Coordinate and consolidate outreach measures identified in the local hazard mitigation plan.	NEW	Y	The FMPC will serve as the PPI committee and begin the process to develop the coordinated program. Additionally, the PPI committee will coordinate activities with those identified in the Baldwin County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for Baldwin County.
	Review location of repetitive loss properties, define repetitive loss areas (RL and neighboring properties), and develop repetitive loss area analyses to provide more specific guidance on how to reduce damage from repetitive flooding.	NEW	Y	Baldwin County has identified all repetitive loss properties within the County and associated repetitive loss areas, as presented in the Flood Hazard Management Plan Update. For this new mitigation action, Baldwin County will prepare an analysis of each repetitive loss area by first visiting each building in the repetitive loss area, collecting basic data, and reviewing alternative approaches to determine whether any property protection measures or drainage improvements are feasible.
	Train local Baldwin staff with specific EMI retrofitting and floodproofing courses to provide technical assistance to homeowners, builders, and developers on flood protection alternatives. Advertise service on Baldwin County Website.	NEW	Y	Baldwin County will advertise this current service on the Baldwin County website. Training of Baldwin County staff will be documented.
	Through continued coordination with US Fish and Wildlife and the Alabama Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources, Baldwin County will continue to examine the appropriate use of sediment-trapping vegetation, sediment mounds, etc., in addressing the impacts of coastal erosion.	NEW	Y	Baldwin County will assist the USFW and Outdoor AL, as requested, in the use of sediment trapping vegetation, etc. in addressing the impacts of coastal erosion.
	In coordination with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), prepare and adopt a local disaster recovery plan to aid in the recovery of flood hazard events.	NEW	Y	Baldwin County will assist in the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the Baldwin County Disaster Recovery Plan.
	Coordination with the Baldwin County Local Hazard Mitigation	NEW	Y	FMPC committee members will coordinate with the hazard mitigation planning committee to provide status updates and implementation measures on all identified mitigation actions addressing flood hazards.