

# NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (NCEOP)

## ANNEX A | APPENDIX 8

# SERT HAZARD MITIGATION SECTION

2025

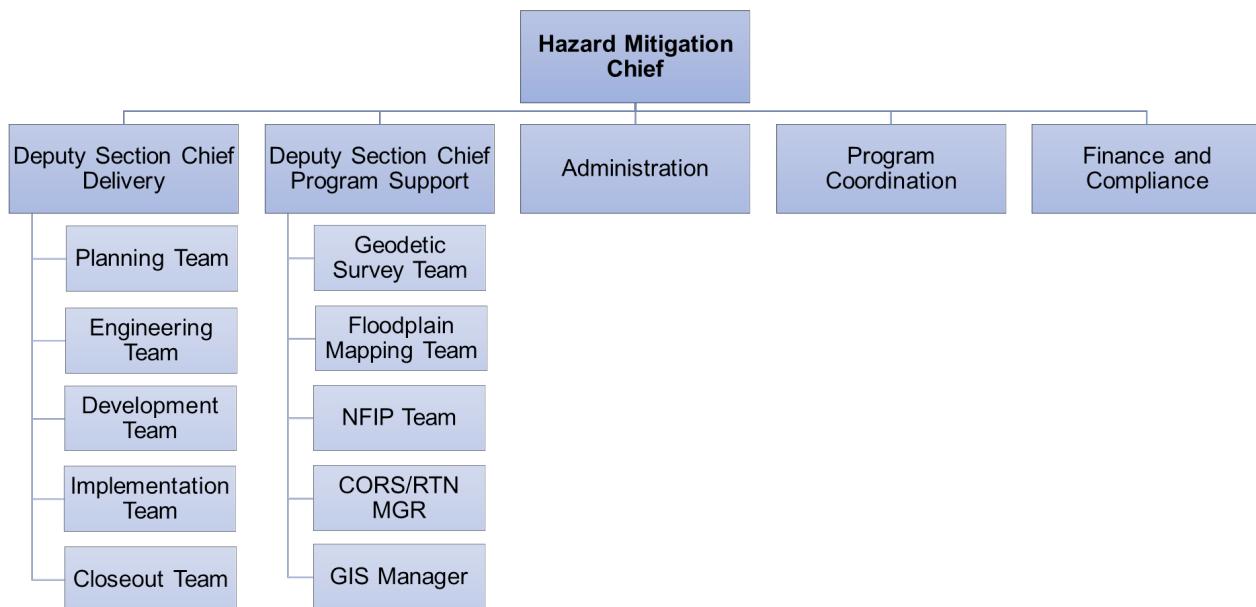
## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this appendix is to provide guidance and procedures to carry out Hazard Mitigation functions to support preparation, response and recovery efforts surrounding disasters.

## II. MISSION

The Hazard Mitigation Section supports SERT efforts including floodplain mapping, the Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network (FIMAN), the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), collection of high-water mark survey data, coordination and management of the collection of post-storm aerial imagery and Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) elevation data and operation and management of the North Carolina Continuously Operating Reference Station/Real Time Network. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is federal funding provided to the state so it can rebuild in a way that mitigates future disaster damages.

## III. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES



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### **A. NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (NCDPS)**

#### **NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (NCEM)**

##### **HAZARD MITIGATION SECTION**

###### **1. PLANNING TEAM**

- a. Maintain and continually update NC's Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- b. Develop a comprehensive hazard mitigation implementation strategy based on the FEMA-approved mitigation plan.
- c. Provide funding for updating and maintaining regional hazard mitigation plans.
- d. Communicate with local governments regarding hazard mitigation priorities found in mitigation plans and updates based on the disaster activity.
- e. Coordinate with community planning and capacity-building, recovery planning, HMGP, and Public Assistance mitigation.
- f. Build public and business/industry support for hazard mitigation initiatives.

###### **2. DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

- a. Review, assign priority and recommend hazard mitigation actions for implementation.
- b. Identify and notify potential sub-applicants of the availability of HMGP funding.
- c. Provide potential sub-applicants with information on the application process, management costs, program eligibility, and deadlines.
- d. Determine sub-applicant eligibility.
- e. Create and submit sub-applicant applications in FEMA system.

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- f. Early deployment into communities for Hazard Mitigation applications intake.

### **3. ENGINEERING TEAM**

- a. Complete initial assessments of potential HMGP projects.
- b. Provide engineering reports and supplemental documentation for grant applications, request for information (RFIs), and scope of work changes (SOW-C).
- c. Support implementation of awarded projects ensuring homeowner safety and contract compliance through quality and compliance (QA/QC) visits.
- d. Develop and maintain engineering service contracts to support development and implementation of grant applications and awards.
- e. Provide engineering insight and support to all HM projects as needed.

### **4. IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**

- a. Create project specification sheets and notice for bid announcements for FEMA approved projects.
- b. Award and oversee chosen vendor(s) to complete acquisition, mitigation reconstruction, and elevation projects.
- c. Provide project management of all construction projects.

### **5. FINANCE AND BUSINESS COMPLIANCE TEAM**

- a. Provide quarterly progress report to FEMA on each disaster grant project(s).

### **6. CLOSEOUT TEAM**

- a. Grant closeout of grant once all projects have been completed.

### **7. GEODETIC SURVEY**

- a. Operate and maintain the North Carolina Continuously Operations Reference Station (CORS) and Real Time Network (RTN).

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- b. Collect survey data for the Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) and Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network (FIMAN).
- c. Coordinate and obtain post event aerial imagery (manned and unmanned data collection).
- d. Coordinate and obtain post event remote sensing data.
- e. Manage and obtain post event lidar elevation data.
- f. Collect post flood event high water mark survey data.
- g. Provide survey efforts for river and state boundaries.
- h. Provide survey efforts for river channels, post-event high water marks, and state boundaries.

### **8. NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)**

- a. Conduct outreach to NFIP participating communities to ensure that substantial damage assessments are being conducted and substantial damage determinations are issued to property owners.
- b. Provide post disaster floodplain management guidance in coordination with FEMA.
- c. Provide regulatory information related to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and post disaster substantial damage determinations.

### **9. FLOODPLAIN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

- a. Maintain and collect flood hazard and building risk data for the Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) and Advisory Flood Data viewers.
- b. Identify post disaster high water mark survey locations for FIMAN inundation library and flood study model calibration.
- c. Support and utilize FIMAN during flood events, including the development of flood briefs, to support members of the SERT.

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### **A. SUPPORTING AGENCIES**

#### **1. UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)**

- a. Provide GIS/mapping.
- b. Provide structural safety assessments.
- c. Provide assessments for landslide stabilization.

#### **2. NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (NCDEQ)**

- a. Provide environmental assessments and reviews
- b. Provide environmental remediation
- c. Provide environmental permits when appropriate
- d. Provide information related to landslides and dams

#### **3. NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NCDOT)**

- a. Provide GIS/mapping.
- b. Provide structural safety assessments.
- c. Repair state roads and bridges.
- d. Provide assessments for road stabilization.
- e. Provide permits for appropriate acquisitions

## **IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

### **A. GENERAL**

Once the SERT is activated in preparation to respond to an event, the Hazard Mitigation section begins supporting SERT operations. The Hazard Mitigation Chief reports directly to the SERT Leader and leads hazard mitigation recovery activities.

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The floodplain mapping team begins working with the Planning Section to provide possible inundation mapping and flood information provided by the National Flood Center. During the event, the floodplain mapping team monitors the inputs received from the gauges and the Flood Inundation Mapping and Alert Network (FIMAN) to advise the SERT of forecasted flood crests and highest flood threats. They also verify any gauges that may need maintenance and relay this information to the gauge maintenance team for repair.

As the event subsides, the Geodetic Survey team collects high water mark readings and begins coordinating with partners to gather aerial and satellite imagery, including Lidar, to support recovery planning. The NFIP team begins working with communities to start damage assessments and collect Substantial Damage Assessments from impacted communities.

If a Presidential Disaster Declaration is granted, FEMA provides the governor a letter stating approval and Hazard Mitigation funding is made available. The delivery team begins working with and preparing to deploy to impacted communities to start the process of developing applications for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to be submitted to FEMA. The process is lengthy and can take up to five years from the beginning to closing of a single HMGP grant.

The NCEM Hazard Mitigation Section will serve as lead for administration of pre-disaster and post-disaster hazard mitigation grant funding.

### **B. RESPONSE ACTIONS**

#### **1. INITIAL**

- a. Activate Hazard Mitigation Section grant administration efforts once the disaster declaration and FEMA HMGP approval letter is received by the State Hazard Mitigation Officer.
- b. Early deployment of Development Team into communities for Hazard Mitigation applications intake.
- c. Coordinate with FEMA, National Geodetic Survey, and DOT for pre- and post-event aerial imagery and LIDAR data collection.

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### **2. CONTINUING**

- a. Identify and notify potential sub-applicants of the availability of HMGP funding.
- b. Provide potential sub-applicants with information on the application process, management costs, program eligibility, and deadlines.
- c. Determine sub-applicant eligibility.
- d. Create and submit sub-applicant applications in FEMA system.
- e. Create project specification sheets and notice for bid announcements for FEMA approved projects.
- f. Contract with chosen vendor(s) to complete acquisition, mitigation reconstruction, and elevation projects.
- g. Grant closeout after all grant projects is completed.

## **V. DIRECTION, CONTROL, AND COORDINATION**

### **A. LOCAL**

When applying for federal hazard mitigation funding, local governments are designated as sub-applicants. They are responsible for communicating with, coordinating, and education individual homeowners within their jurisdiction.

### **B. STATE**

The Hazard Mitigation Section serves as the official applicant when submitting sub-applicant applications for FEMA review.

### **C. FEDERAL**

FEMA provides federal hazard mitigation communication to the state. The State Hazard Mitigation Officer communicates with FEMA Region 4 office as needed.

## **VI. REFERENCES**

### **A. NCEM Recovery Public Assistance Administrative Plan**

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- B. NCEM State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- C. North Carolina Disaster Recovery Framework