

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, MAINE



Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
140 Main Street
Farmington ME 04938

2023

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2023 Update

Franklin County Emergency Management Agency

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OVERVIEW

Location

Franklin County, incorporated in 1838, is located in Western Maine. It is bounded on the northeast by Somerset County, on the southeast by Kennebec County, on the south by Androscoggin County, on the southwest by Oxford County, and on the northwest by Le Granit Regional County Municipality, Quebec.

Size

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, Franklin County has a total of 1,744 square miles, of which 1697 square miles is land and 47 square miles is water. Ninety two percent of Franklin County is forest, with 54% being wildland acreage. There more than 100 lakes, ponds, and streams located in the county.

County Government

The Franklin County Seat is located in Farmington, Me., and in the same building as the Superior Court House. Franklin County is structured the same as county governments in other parts of the state. In addition to the commissioners who oversee the operations of county government, the following comprise the full complement of county services and departments.

County Operations

- Administration
- Budget Committee
- County Commissioners
- Facilities Manager
- Human Resources
- Registry of Deeds
- Technical Services
- TIF
- Treasurer's Office
- Unorganized Territories

Legal Departments

- District Attorney's Office
- Probate Court

Safety Departments

- Communications
- Emergency Management
- Franklin County Detention Center
- Sheriff's Office

The county also has responsibility for road maintenance and snow removal in the unorganized townships, assessing county tax for municipalities, and preparing an unorganized townships budget for its operations to the State Legislature.

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Local Units of Government

There are a number of different kinds of local units of government in Franklin County. The following summary is based in part on the Maine Municipal Association's report "Local Government in Maine."

Cities. There are no cities in Franklin County. All cities in Maine have local charters granted by the Maine Legislature that provide for a representative form of government - meaning they have a city council that serves as the legislative body. The city council is elected by and answerable to the citizens. The office of mayor varies considerably from city to city, with only a few acting as chief executive officer. Some mayors are elected by the vote of the people, while others are elected by a vote of their fellow councilors.

Towns. Franklin County contains 17 organized towns (47.5% total area). Towns remain the cornerstone of local government. A Maine community becomes a town when it is incorporated by a special act of the legislature. At that time, it is given certain privileges and responsibilities. Under Home Rule, towns may take any action or change their form of government in any way not denied or precluded by state or federal law. The voters of the town constitute its legislative body. Day-to-day governance of towns has expanded from the original board of selectmen to include town managers, town councils, budget committees, municipal departments and various professional managers. In a small number of mostly larger towns, the council exerts legislative control without a town meeting. In others, a ballot vote is used to approve the budget rather than the open town meeting.

Plantations. There are 4 organized plantations (8% total area) in Franklin County. Plantations are a type of local government unique to Maine. They originated with the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and were at first intended to be a temporary government to help guide a community in changing from an unincorporated township to an incorporated town. In Maine, they have continued as a basic governmental unit in small rural areas. Plantations are typically rural, heavily forested, and sparsely populated. There is little demand in them for the full menu of public services provided in larger communities. Plantations are similar to towns in that voters at the annual meeting are the legislative body. During the meeting, assessors are elected to carry on the daily operation of government and function much as the selectmen in towns. Taxes are raised and appropriated and voters are registered. Plantations do not have the powers granted to municipalities under Home Rule, and do not have the authority to enact ordinances.

Townships/Unorganized Territory. There are 24 unorganized townships (42.5% of total area) and 3 gores (2% of total area) in Franklin County. They are part of Maine's Unorganized Territory (UT). Maine is unique among eastern states in having half its land mass, or more than 10 million acres, in the Unorganized Territory. Most of it is in the northern and easternmost counties. There is no local, incorporated municipal government. The UT statewide has a year-round population of 9,000 residents, which is .006 percent of the State's population.

Provision of services and property tax administration for the UTs is shared among various state and county agencies. Law enforcement and public road maintenance is the county's responsibility. Taxes are paid to the state Property Tax Division. The state's Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) is the planning and zoning authority for the UTs. Some services are provided by contract with nearby towns and school districts.

Population

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Franklin County had a population of 29,456 people in the year 2020. This is considerably less than that of a small city (the City of Lewiston, Maine, had a population

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of 37,121). The county is very rural in nature, and for many years, was growing very slowly. As shown in the table below, the county’s population grew from 29,008 in 1990 to 29,467 in the year 2000, a gain of 459 people, or 1.6%. Between 2000 and 2010, the county gained 1,301 people, or 4.4%, growing from 29,467 people to 30,768 people. However, from 2010 to 2020, the county lost 1,312 people, a decline of 4.3%. The county’s population in 2020 was approximately the same as it was in the year 2000.

Population of Franklin County and Maine 1930 - 2010		
Year	Franklin County	Maine
1930	19,941	797,423
1940	19,896	847,226
1950	20,682	914,950
1960	20,069	970,689
1970	22,444	992,048
1980	27,098	1,124,660
1990	29,008	1,227,928
2000	29,467	1,274,923
2010	30,768	1,328,361
2020	29,456	1,362,359
1970-80 change	21%	13%
1980-90 change	7%	9%
1990-00 change	2%	4%
2000-10 change	4%	4%
2010-20 Change	-4%	3%

Source: U.S. Census

The following table, which is based on the 2020 Census, shows that Franklin County is composed of 17 very small communities, the largest of which (Farmington) contains only 7,592 people, as well as four plantations and the Unorganized Territory. Between 2010 and 2020, all municipalities in Franklin County except Eustis, New Sharon, Rangeley and Temple lost population.

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Franklin County Population and Housing - 2020						
Town	Year-Round Population 2020	Year-Round Population 2010	% Change 2010-20	Total Housing Units 2020	Occupied Housing Units 2020	% Occupied 2020
Avon	450	461	-2%	341	215	63%
Carrabassett Valley	673	781	-14%	2,138	354	17%
Carthage	509	560	-9%	306	221	72%
Chesterville	1,328	1,352	-2%	722	560	78%
Coplin Plantation	131	166	-21%	178	72	40%
Dallas Plantation	304	309	-2%	434	149	34%
Eustis	641	618	4%	737	334	45%
Farmington	7,592	7,760	-2%	3,435	3,042	89%
Industry	788	929	-15%	599	336	56%
Jay	4,620	4,851	-5%	2,246	2,026	90%
Kingfield	960	997	-4%	689	455	66%
New Sharon	1,458	1,407	4%	710	606	85%
New Vineyard	721	757	-5%	472	309	65%
Phillips	898	1,028	-13%	663	412	62%
Rangeley	1,222	1,168	5%	1,755	608	35%
Rangeley Plantation	184	189	-3%	470	83	18%
Sandy River Plantation	128	133	-4%	368	65	18%
Strong	1,122	1,213	-8%	648	492	76%
Temple	527	528	9%	325	243	75%
Weld	376	419	-10%	512	179	35%
Wilton	3,835	4,116	-7%	1,971	1,642	83%
Unorganized*	989	1,026	-4%	1,137	439	39%
Total	29,456	30,768	-4%	20,856	12,842	62%

*Unorganized Territory. The Unorganized Territory is not a municipality but an area covering 24 unorganized townships and 3 gores
 Source: U.S. Census 2020

The Maine State Economist projects that Franklin County will gradually gain population in the coming years. The projections show a 2028 population of 31,116, which is an increase of 1,660 people or 6% from the 2020 population of 29,456.

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Demographics. The following table shows key demographic characteristics for Franklin County, the State of Maine and the U.S. Franklin County’s population is older than that of the other two jurisdictions as reflected in a smaller percentage of the “under 5” population (4.1% versus 4.5% at the state level, and 5.7% nationally), a smaller percentage of the population under 18 (17.7% versus 18.4% and 22.2%), and a larger percentage of persons 65 and over (23.2% versus 21.7% at the state level, and 16.8% at the national level).

Demographic Summary 2020			
Measure	Franklin Co.	Maine	USA
Population			
Total Population	29,456	1,362,359	331,449,281
Under 5 years	4.1%	4.5%	5.7%
Under 18 years	17.7%	18.4%	22.2%
Persons 65 and over	23.2%	21.7%	16.8%
Race – White alone	96.5%	94.2%	75.8%
Housing			
Median Value owner occupied units 2017-2021	\$153,500	\$212,500	\$244,900
Total Households 2017-2021	12,018	571,064	124,010,992
Persons per household 2017-2021	2.37	2.31	2.80
Education			
High school graduate or higher, persons 25 and over, 2017-2021	93.7%	93.7%	88.9%
Bachelor’s degree or higher, persons 25 and over, 2017-2021	28.1%	33.6%	33.7%
Economy			
In civilian labor force, population 16+, 2017-2021	59.5%	62.7%	63.1%
Mean travel time to work, minutes, workers 16+, 2017-2021	25.9	24.3	26.8
Income and Poverty			
Median household income, in 2021 dollars, 2017-2021	\$53,607	\$63,182	\$69,021
Per capita income in past 12, months, in 2021 dollars, 2017-2021	\$31,663	\$36,171	\$37,638
Persons in poverty, percent	11.7%	11.5%	11.6%
Geography			
Population Density (persons/sq. mi. 2020)	17.4	44.2	93.8

Source: U.S. Census 2020 and American Community Survey

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Economic Trends

There are a number of economic trends in Maine which may impact or be reflected in Franklin County. The following is an excerpt of some of these trends presented by Amanda Rector, State Economist, at the Economic and Development Planning Summit in June, 2019, in a presentation entitled “Maine Strategic Planning: Economic and Demographic Trends.”

Macroeconomic Trends

- Maine’s economic growth is falling further behind the rest of New England and the US, likely due to our industry mix and demographics;
- Maine lacks a critical mass of high growth industries that are propelling growth elsewhere in the US;
- Worker productivity is improving but still much lower than the rest of the country;
- Income and wages are lower in Maine than elsewhere in the US;
- Maine’s overall poverty rate is falling, and lower than the US, but poverty is high among children and in Maine’s “rim” counties;
- Maine’s economy and tax revenue are highly dependent on tourism and retail, which are cyclical;
- Economic growth is increasingly concentrated around Portland and, to a lesser extent, Maine’s other urban areas;
- After growing strongly in the 2000s, Maine’s export growth has stalled.

Economic Sector and Cluster Trends

- Maine’s healthy tourism industry provides employment and income for thousands of people, but needs more well-paying, year-round jobs;
- Health care continues to be one of Maine’s largest employers, but the industry is maturing and the pace of growth is slowing;
- Professional and business services is one of Maine’s largest and fastest growing industries;
- After decades of decline, the manufacturing industry has stabilized and diversified, and is seeing pockets of growth
- After decades of challenges, Maine’s forest products industry now has high potential to modernize, diversify and grow;
- Farming is enjoying a revival, propelled in part by increased demand for local, sustainable, and organic products;
- There is a growing cluster of locally-grown beer and breweries that is attracting tourists and contributing to exports;
- Maine is a regional leader in renewable energy, but this industry needs support and stability to grow.

According to information obtained from the Maine Department of Labor, as of the 2nd quarter of 2022, the largest employers in Franklin County include MaineHealth, Sugarloaf Mountain Corp, Wal Mart/Sam’s Club, Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC, Lifoam Industries LLC, Hannaford Brothers Co. and LEAP.

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ELEMENT A. PLANNING PROCESS

A1. Planning Requirements

Does the plan document the planning process, including how it was prepared and who was involved in the process for each jurisdiction? (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(c)(1))

A1-a. Planning Process

The plan must describe the current planning process. Documentation requirements typically are met with a narrative description but may also include other records such as copies of meeting minutes, sign-in sheets or newspaper articles.

A1-b. List of Participating Representatives

The plan must list the representatives from each of the participants in the current plan that will seek approval, and how they participated in the planning process.

Throughout this plan, the terms “community” and “jurisdiction” are used interchangeably. Either word is understood to include towns and plantations.

The Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update was a multi-jurisdictional collaborative effort. The Hazard Mitigation Planning Team sought participation through town mailings, surveys, meetings, field visits to potential project sites, postings on the Franklin County EMA website, emails, social media, and phone calls.

Participants at various meetings and/or surveys discussed county wide and town specific hazards and the probability and vulnerability of certain hazards. Participants also reviewed mitigation projects from the 2016 plan, new projects that have been added for the 2023 update, and discussed any additional projects that were not already identified.

Additional participation was solicited through phone and email correspondence and the public review and comment session for any recommendations/comments.

The Planning Team provided expertise, data, and assistance in updating the plan. The Hazard Mitigation Planning Team consisted of the following:

Franklin County Planning Team	
Tim Hardy,	Director, Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
Amanda Simoneau	Deputy Director, Franklin County EMA
Sara Bickford	Assistant EM Coordinator, Franklin County EMA
Samuel Roy	Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
Rich Rothe	Consultant

The jurisdictions in Franklin County participated in the preparation of this plan in a variety of ways. While meeting attendance provides a solid measure of local interest and support, not all local officials have the time and resources to attend them. Meeting participation, especially in geographically large counties, is difficult because of long travel distances, the high cost of fuel, and the fact that many local officials have full-time jobs in addition to their municipal responsibilities. Accordingly, participation in the preparation of this plan has been liberally construed to include many venues.

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Hazard Mitigation Outreach Efforts

Hazard Mitigation Survey. In the winter of 2023, Franklin County EMA distributed a survey to its communities, asking about specific areas subject to flooding, winter and summer storms, wildfire as well as “other” concerns they might have. Survey responses, and the list of participants and their positions in the respective communities, included:

Name	Town	Title
John Archer	Chesterville	Selectman
Linda Jones	Dallas Plantation	1 st Assessor
Phil Hutchins	Farmington	Public Work Director
Mike Booker	Jay	Fire Chief
Ann Lambert	New Sharon	Selectman
Mark Rousseau	Phillips	EMA Director
Richard Doughty Carol Cochran	Weld	Select Board Chair Town Clerk
Perry Ellsworth Sonny Dunham John Masse	Wilton	Town Manager EMA Director, Fire Chief Highway Foreman

Kick-Off Meetings. Two kick-off meetings were held by the Planning Team in January and February of 2023. These meetings were held at the Franklin County Courthouse on January 20, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. and at the Carrabassett Fire Department on February 15, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. Tim Hardy opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. He stated that work is now underway on updating the 2023 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan. He stressed the importance of returning the hazard mitigation surveys so that the results can be included in the Update. He distributed copies of the projects from the 2016 plan and requested everyone’s help in updating the status of the projects, revising priorities where necessary, and adding new projects where applicable.

Samuel Roy provided an overview of what’s in the current plan and stressed the importance of community involvement in the planning process. He reported that typical projects such as culvert upgrades are experiencing lengthy environmental reviews and that site visits with the regulators can help address potential issues before applications are developed. He also reported that generators are now eligible projects for critical facilities and should be included as projects where applicable. Communities should view the update as an opportunity to identify projects that will help them avoid or reduce future damages even if they aren’t eligible for federal funding.

Sam provided an overview of the 406 program which can result in additional funding for projects following a disaster declaration. He also mentioned that the Maine Department of Environmental Protection has a new grant program for culverts that addresses water quality, wildlife habitat, public safety, and climate resiliency such as flood protection.

Rich Rothe provided an overview of what’s in the current plan and the additional items that must be addressed as a result of new requirements that become effective in April 2023.

There was a general discussion about factors affecting the hazards identified in the 2016 plan. These include:

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- Flooding – Conditions are changing (more frequent and intense rains), there are many undersized culverts, woods harvesting can create erosion if best practices are not used;
- Winter storms – There has been more icing and colder temperatures during the past several years;
- Wildfire – More people live in the woods, and many roads that provide access to homes are too narrow for today’s fire trucks and/or are blocked by gates;
- Landslides – There are a number of real and potential landslide areas along the Sandy River, especially in Farmington and in the area between Madrid and New Sharon. It would be desirable to undertake a river study, but there currently is no known available funding for it.

Kick-Off Meeting		
January 20, 2023, Franklin County Superior Court, 9:30 a.m.		
Name	Town	Position
Mark Rousseau	Phillips	Maine Forest Service, EMA Director
Stew Durrell	Industry	Selectman
Phil Hutchins	Farmington	Public Work Director
Jim Kiernan	Farmington	Public Works Foreman
Leia Durrell	Farmington	Assistant to Public Works Director
Richard Doughty	Weld	Select Board Chair
Sonny Dunham	Wilton	EMA Director, Chief Fire Department
John Masse	Wilton	Public Works Director
Mike Booker	Jay	Fire Chief
Maureen Haley	Phillips	Town Manager
Linda Jones	Dallas Plantation	1 st Assessor
Tim Hardy		Franklin EMA
Sara Bickford		Franklin EMA
Amanda Simoneau		Franklin EMA
Rich Rothe		Consultant
Sam Roy		MEMA

Kick-Off Meeting		
February 15, 2023, Carrabassett Fire Department, 2:00 p.m.		
Name	Town	Position
Bob Carlton	Franklin County	Franklin County Commissioner
Brad Timberlake	Franklin County	Director Communications Center
Richard Doughty	Weld	Selectman
Dan Demers	Weld	Public Works
Amy Bernard	Franklin County	Franklin County Administrator
Tim Hardy		Franklin EMA
Sara Bickford		Franklin EMA
Amanda Simoneau		Franklin EMA
Rich Rothe		Consultant
Courtney Knapp	Carrabassett Valley	Fire Chief
Sprague Wise	Eustis	Fire Chief

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Kick-Off Meeting		
February 15, 2023, Carrabassett Fire Department, 2:00 p.m.		
Name	Town	Position
Sam Roy		MEMA

Summary of Local Participation

The following table documents how each jurisdiction participated in the preparation of this plan. The townships/unorganized territory were represented by Franklin County.

Summary of Local Participation					
Municipality	Hazard Mitigation Survey	Kick-Off Meetings	Public Comment & Review	Projects	Emails and Phone Calls
Avon				X	X
Carrabassett Valley		X		X	X
Carthage				X	X
Chesterville	X			X	X
Coplin Plantation				X	X
Dallas Plantation	X	X		X	X
Eustis		X		X	X
Farmington	X	X		X	X
Industry	X	X		X	X
Jay	X	X		X	X
Kingfield	X	X		X	X
New Sharon	X			X	X
New Vineyard				X	X
Phillips	X	X		X	X
Rangeley				X	X
Rangeley Plantation				X	X
Sandy River Plantation				X	X
Strong				X	X
Temple				X	X
Unorganized		X		X	X
Weld	X	X		X	X
Wilton	X	X		X	x

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Summary of Participating Municipalities				
“X” indicates participation; “-” indicates non-participation				
Jurisdiction	2005 Plan	2011 Plan	2016 Plan	2023 Plan
Franklin County	X	X	X	X
Avon	X	X	X	X
Carrabassett Valley	X	X	X	X
Carthage	X	X	X	X
Chesterville	X	X	X	X
Coplin Plantation	-	-	X	X
Dallas Plantation	X	X	X	X
Eustis	X	X	X	X
Farmington	X	X	X	X
Industry	X	X	X	X
Jay	X	X	X	X
Kingfield	X	X	X	X
New Sharon	X	X	X	X
New Vineyard	X	X	X	X
Phillips	X	X	X	X
Rangeley	X	X	X	X
Rangeley Plantation.	X	X	X	X
Sandy River Plantation	X	X	X	X
Strong	X	X	X	X
Temple	X	X	X	X
Unorganized	X	X	X	X
Weld	X	X	X	X
Wilton	X	X	X	X

A2. Opportunity to be Involved

Does the plan document an opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia, and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process? (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(b)(2))

A2-a. Documentation of Opportunity

The plan must provide documentation of an opportunity for stakeholders to be involved in the current planning process. Documentation of this opportunity must identify how **each** of the following types of stakeholders were presented with this opportunity, as applicable.

1. Local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities: Examples include public works, emergency management, local floodplain administration and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) departments.
2. Agencies that have the authority to regulate development: Examples include zoning, planning, community, and economic development departments, building officials, planning commissions, or other elected officials.
3. Neighboring communities: Examples include adjacent local governments, including

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special districts, such as those that are affected by similar hazard events or may share a mitigation action or project that crosses boundaries.

4. Representatives of businesses, academia, and other private organizations: Examples include private utilities or major employers that sustain community lifelines.
5. Representatives of nonprofit organizations, including community-based organizations that work directly with and/or provide support to underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations, among others: Examples include housing, healthcare, or social service agencies.

Since this is a multi-jurisdictional plan, all meetings were with neighboring communities, either adjacent to each other or within the county. Opportunities for 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 were given in the form of town mailings, the Franklin County EMA website, emails, and phone calls. Many of the local officials involved in the 2023 update of the plan work in various agencies, businesses, academia, and nonprofit organizations.

Agencies that received notification of the public comment and review session and public opinion survey included:

1. **Local and regional agencies are involved in hazard mitigation activities.** The notification was sent to town managers or selectmen with a request that they in turn notify their respective public works officials, emergency response officials, and code enforcement officers. The notification was also sent to local emergency management directors and the Maine Emergency Management Agency as well as the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments.
2. **Agencies that have the authority to regulate development.** The notice to town managers or selectmen included a request to notify code enforcement officers and the local planning board.
3. **Neighboring communities.** The notification was sent to all communities, resulting in all adjacent communities in Franklin County being notified. The notice was also sent to counties adjacent to Franklin County.
4. **Representatives of business, academia, and other private organizations.** The notification was sent to Central Maine Power Company and the Maine Department of Transportation. The notice was also sent to the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.
5. **Representatives of non-profit organizations, including community-based organizations that work directly with and/or provide support to underserved communities and socially vulnerable populations.** The notification, with an invitation to participate in the planning process, was sent to:
 - Western Maine Community Action, 20 Church Street, East Wilton, Maine 04234 (services include heating assistance (LIHEAP), emergency fuel, electricity assistance, local emergency fuel funds, senior food program)
 - Community Concepts, 17 Market Square, S. Paris, Maine 04281 (meals to families through Child and Adult Care Food Program, children's services, heating assistance, energy crisis intervention program)
 - Progress Center, 5 Fore Street, Oxford, Maine 04270 (supportive services to adults, children and their families living with disabilities)
 - Western Maine Transportation Services, 76 Merrow Road, Auburn, Maine 04210 (demand response transportation services throughout Oxford County)

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- Maine Department of Health and Human Services, South Paris District Office, 243 Main Street, Suite #6, S. Paris, Maine 04281 (Disability Determination Services, Child Support Services, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF))

A3. Public Involvement

The plan must document how the public had an opportunity to be involved in the current planning process, and what that participation entailed, including how underserved communities and vulnerable populations within the planning area were provided with an opportunity to be involved. The opportunity must occur during the plan's development, which means prior to the plan's submission for formal review. In addition, the plan must document how public feedback was included throughout the planning process.

The public was given an opportunity to be involved through the citizens' survey and the public comment and review session.

Citizens' survey. Franklin County EMA posted a copy of a hazard mitigation citizens' survey on its website, with an invitation for any member of the public to provide input into the hazard mitigation planning process.

Underserved Communities and Vulnerable Populations. Franklin County EMA reached out to underserved communities and vulnerable populations by contacting community-based, non-profit organizations that work directly with these populations. This outreach included notifying them of the effort to revise the existing plan, inviting them and people they represent to participate in Franklin County EMA's survey, and/or to comment on the draft of the plan, and/or to participate in the public comment and review session on the draft plan. See appendix for copies of the notification. The agencies that were contacted include:

- Western Maine Community Action, 20 Church Street, East Wilton, Maine 04234 (services include heating assistance (LIHEAP), emergency fuel, electricity assistance, local emergency fuel funds, senior food program)
- Community Concepts, 17 Market Square, S. Paris, Maine 04281 (meals to families through Child and Adult Care Food Program, children's services, heating assistance, energy crisis intervention program)
- Progress Center, 5 Fore Street, Oxford, Maine 04270 (supportive services to adults, children and their families living with disabilities)
- Western Maine Transportation Services, 76 Merrow Road, Auburn, Maine 04210 (demand response transportation services throughout Oxford County)
- Maine Department of Health and Human Services, South Paris District Office, 243 Main Street, Suite #6, S. Paris, Maine 04281 (Disability Determination Services, Child Support Services, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF))

Franklin County EMA did not receive any responses from these agencies or the people they serve.

Public Comment and Review Session. On March 28, Franklin County EMA sent an email notification advising recipients that Franklin County EMA had prepared a draft hazard mitigation plan and that public a comment and review session would be held on April 11 in the Franklin County Superior Courtroom at 2:30 pm and that the review and comment period would close at 7:00 pm on April 18. The email stated that this would be the final opportunity to review the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan prior to the plan being submitted to FEMA for conditional approval. The notification stated that the updated plan is posted online at the Franklin County EMA website and the EMA Facebook page. The

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notification was sent by email to town officials in each Franklin County municipality as well as municipal EMA directors as well as other agencies listed in requirement A2-a.

Options for participating in the public comment and review session were set forth in the email included:

1. In person on April 11 at 2:30 pm located at the Franklin County Superior Courtroom 140 Main Street, Farmington, Maine, 04938.
2. By Zoom on April 11 (Zoom Meeting Code: 492 510 0482 Passcode: 030621)

Although the opportunity was given to the public to comment on the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan update, no comments were received.

A4. Review and Incorporation of Existing Plans, Studies and Information
Does the plan describe the review and incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports and technical information? (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(b)(3))

A4-a. Documentation of Incorporation of Existing Plans, Studies and Information
The plan must document what existing plans, studies, reports and technical information were reviewed and how they were incorporated, if appropriate, into the development/update of the plan.

Information was provided by various officials who reviewed one or more drafts of the hazard mitigation plan:

- Samuel G. Roy, PhD, Natural Hazards Planner, Maine Emergency Management Program
- Sue Baker, NFIP State Coordinator
- Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments
- Donny Dumont and Sarah Jamison, Warning Coordination Meteorologists, NWS, Gray, Maine
- Nick Stasulis and Pam Lombard, USGS New England Water Sciences Center
- Tara Ayotte, Administrator, Maine Dam Safety Program

In addition, the following plans, studies, reports, and technical information were reviewed and incorporated into the update in the following ways. Other resources not on this list are referenced throughout the plan.

- “Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2016 Update,” Franklin County Emergency Management Agency. This plan was used as the starting point for preparing the 2023 update.
- U.S. Census 2020: used to update the population and housing tables contained in the overview. This information also helped inform the analysis of growth and development contained in Element B.
- Population Projections, State Economist. This was used in Element B to analyze the impact of future growth in Franklin County.
- “Maine Strategic Planning: Economic and Demographic Trends,” 2019, by Amanda Rector, State Economist. This was used in the Overview to summarize state trends affecting Franklin County.
- “Draft “Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2023, Update,” Maine Emergency Management Agency. This was used to further update the hazard profiles contained in Element B.

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- “Maine’s Climate Future, 2020 Update,” University of Maine. This was used to update the analysis of climate change and its impact on Franklin County contained in Element B.
- “Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Survey, 2023.” This was used to refine the Risk Assessment including the location of the hazards contain in the 2023 update.
- Database of high hazard and significant hazard dams, Maine Emergency Management Agency. This was used to update the table of high hazard and significant hazard dams contained in Element B.
- National Weather Service website and Storm Events Database. This site was accessed to obtain updated data on flood crests and other documented hazards contained in Element B.
- Database, repetitive loss properties, FEMA, and Maine NFIP Coordinator. This database was used to update the repetitive loss properties table contained in Element B.
- FEMA Community Status Book Report. This database was used to update the table of towns participating in the NFIP contained in Element C.
- Prioritized local mitigation projects. Municipalities provided information in various formats that was used to update this table.

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ELEMENT B. RISK ASSESSMENT

B1. Risk Assessment Requirements

Does the plan include a description of the type, location and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction? Does the plan also include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events? (Requirement CFR §201.6(c)(2)(i))

B1-a. Description of Hazards

The plan must include a description of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction(s) in the planning area and their assets, such as dams, located outside the planning area. This requirement may be met with either a narrative description or definition. The plan must provide the rationale if omitting any natural hazards that are commonly recognized to affect the participant(s) in the planning area.

The Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Team identified several natural hazards that are addressed in the county Hazard Mitigation Plan. These hazards were identified through an extensive process that utilized input from members of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team, public input, researching past disaster declarations in the county, a review of current maps, and a risk assessment completed by the county Emergency Management Agency and the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team. Past disasters were used as a guide to complete the risk assessment. Other sources of information include survey returns from Franklin County municipalities, a review of the Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, and hazard mitigation meetings including one held in Farmington on January 20, 2023, and one held in Carrabassett Valley on February 15, 2023.

With the exception of the flood-related erosion hazard and landslide hazard along the banks of the Sandy River in a number of communities, the primary hazards of flooding, winter storm events and wildfire can affect all the towns in Franklin County.

The four hazards profiled in this plan, and the basis of their selection, are further summarized in the table below.

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Summary of Hazards Profiled in this Plan		
Hazard	How Identified	Why Identified
Flooding	Review of 2016 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan, review of 2023 hazard mitigation surveys, a review of the Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, 2023 hazard mitigation meetings, input from residents and municipalities review of past disasters declarations Identification of repetitive losses	Associated with the effects of spring runoff and heavy rain storms. Several repetitive loss properties and roadways are located in the county. The county contains two major rivers, over 100 lakes and streams. Most of the damages are from severe winter storms and flooding. There are several flood-related erosion problem areas in the county, primarily in Farmington, Chesterville and Temple. There is one high hazard dam in Wilton, two significant hazard dams in Industry and one significant hazard dam in Rangeley.
Severe Winter Storm Events	Review of 2016 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan, review of 2023 hazard mitigation surveys, review of Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, review of past disaster declarations input from residents and Risk Assessments	Maine is frequently hit with major northeasters/storms/blizzards. However, it's the snowmelt that tends to cause the most problems (see discussion of flooding, immediately above).
Wildfire	Review of 2016 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan, review of 2023 hazard mitigation surveys, review of Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, Review of Maine Forest Service records and from the Risk Assessment	Much of Franklin County is forest-covered. Wildfires have been numerous though small in the past.
Landslides	Review of 2016 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan, review of 2023 hazard mitigation surveys, review of Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, Review of history of landslides, Maine Geological Survey assessment of Chesterville landslide	The banks of the Sandy River in a number of locations are steep, over 20 feet in height, and underlain by glacial-marine deposits. Saturated soils in the spring of the year increase the risk of landslides.

The following table identifies the hazards that were eliminated from further consideration in the plan or are included in other hazard profiles. Factors for eliminating them from further consideration include a lack of historical evidence, lack of overall county-wide severity or a low likelihood for the event to occur. Although these disaster events were not profiled in the hazard mitigation plan, it does not mean that any of these events will not or could not occur and cause great damage. The goal of the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Team is to keep this plan simple by profiling the top four hazards.

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Hazards not Profiled in this Plan		
Hazard	How Identified	Reason for Non-Inclusion
Avalanche	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, review of Maine Geological Survey records	Franklin County has three ski resorts. There have not been any avalanches reported. Sugarloaf USA is the highest mountain in Franklin County at 4140 ft. Saddleback, located in Dallas Plantation (near Rangeley) is the 2 nd highest at 3,606 ft. Titcomb Ski slope is located in Farmington, and has a 45 degree slope, not high enough to cause an avalanche.
Blight/ Infestation	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update	Although Franklin County is dependent on its agricultural products, including forestry, farming, and fishing, there are no historical records of major damage to these products that caused serious safety, economic or environmental conditions.
Drought	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, review of State EMA records	Severe droughts occurred in Maine in the 1960's, 1980's, 2000 to 2001, 2016, 2018 and 2020. The impacts of these droughts in Franklin County are seldom long lasting because of typical precipitation levels, the state's ground water hydrology, and a relatively low statewide demand for water compared to available resources.
Earthquake	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, Review of Maine Geological Survey records	Although Earthquakes are common in Maine, no significant damaging movement has occurred since the last ice age 20,000 years ago.
Extreme temperatures	NOAA Storm Events database	Though extreme temperature events may occur in Franklin County, so far they have not posed a widespread risk to communities.
Hurricanes/Severe Summer Storms/ Microbursts	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, review of past disasters, Risk Assessments	Since 1938, the county has been affected by two hurricanes, Gloria and Bob, and tropical storm Irene. Damage from these events has been primarily due to flooding from heavy rain. Strong, localized and brief gusts approaching hurricane strength are sometimes experienced with winter and summer storms.
Pandemic	Statewide experience, 2020 news reports	Franklin County EMA has a separate pandemic plan.
Tornado	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, review of NWS records	On average one to two F-2 category tornadoes occur in the State of Maine each year, but there have been no loss of life or major damages in many years.
Winds	Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, review of NWS records, State plan, local surveys	Strong winds associated with severe winter storm events are included under severe winter storms.

Climate

No risk assessment of Franklin County's flood and related hazards would be complete without first considering its climate and geography. Factors such as seasonal temperatures, annual precipitation,

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prevailing wind directions and geographical features can all profoundly affect both the occurrence and severity of flooding and related hazards.

The northern two-thirds of Franklin County is located in the northernmost of Maine's three climatic divisions. The Northern Division encompasses the northernmost 17,916 square miles (54%) of the state. This division is least affected by marine influences.

The southern third of Franklin County is located in the Southern Interior Division which includes 10,307 square miles adjacent to the Northern Division and represents 31% of the state's area.

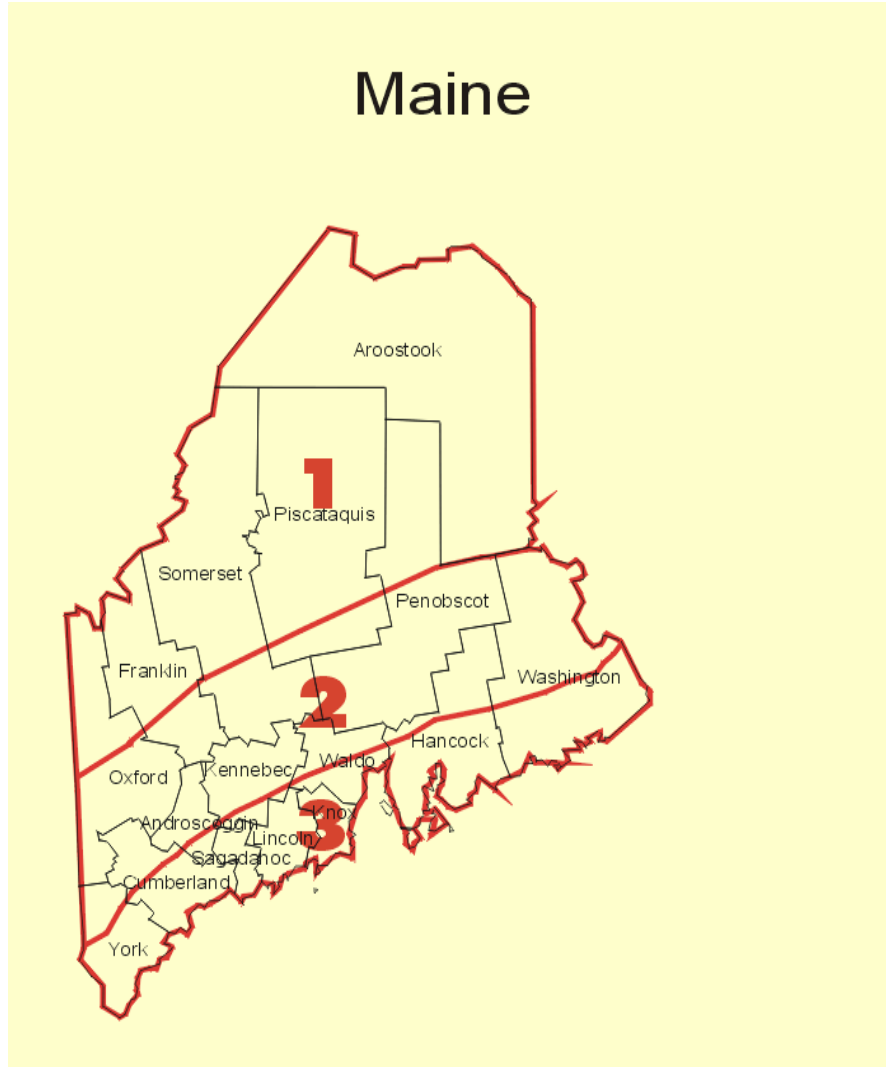
Temperature: According to the Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update, the mean annual temperature in the northern interior is 38 degrees Fahrenheit. The mean average temperature in the southern interior is 42.5 degrees Fahrenheit. July is the warmest month in Maine, with a statewide mean temperature of 65.4 degrees Fahrenheit. January is the coldest month on average, with a statewide mean temperature of 13.5 degrees Fahrenheit.

Precipitation: Maine averages 42.6 inches of precipitation statewide, based on long-term records dating back to 1895. This includes the conversion of all snowfall to a water-equivalent. On average, the northern interior receives 40.9 inches annually, and the southern interior receives 46.1 inches. Average monthly precipitation statewide ranges from a low of 2.6 inches in February, to a high of 4.0 inches in November.

Prevailing Winds: Prevailing wind direction varies with both season and location. Local influences such as orientation of a valley also may play a key role in dictating prevalent wind direction at any one location. Most of the county is under northwest to west-northwest winds throughout much of the year and particularly during the winter. During the summer, southwest to southerly winds may become quite frequent.

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Climate Divisions of Maine



Geography

Overall, the terrain across much of Franklin County is hilly. The present-day landscape is a direct result of glacial erosion and deposition from the large ice sheets that completely covered Maine as recently as about 14,000 years ago. A variety of glacial deposits cover the county, providing a rich variety in the overall landscape as well as abundant sand and gravel for construction material. Many of these deposits also are excellent sources of ground water (aquifers) for household and industrial water supplies. In addition, glacial deposits and erosion are directly responsible for the lakes found in Franklin County.

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Extensive wetland areas that provide habitat for many ecosystems are also a result of past glaciations in combination with existing climatic conditions. Maine is the most forested state in the United States with 90% of its land area in woodland. Historically, this has supported a considerable lumber and paper products industry. Many logging roads provide the only access into vast unsettled areas. These forests also provide habitat for abundant wildlife, and together with the large number of lakes are a great resource for sports and recreation.

Climate Change

A detailed evaluation of climate change is beyond the scope of this plan, but suffice it to say that long term global climate trends, which include changes in temperature and precipitation, may affect the State of Maine and Franklin County. The paragraphs below, which are statewide in nature, are expected to reflect climate changes in Franklin County. As stated in the Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update:

“For clarification, the National Aeronautics and Space administration (NASA) uses the following definitions to describe climate and weather:

Climate: The description of the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area.

Weather: The description of the way the atmosphere is behaving in the short term, from minute to minute, hour to hour, day to day, and season to season.”

As Mainers are aware, the state has long had a highly variable climate, characterized by abrupt weather variations day-to-day, month-to-month, and year to year.

The report “Maine’s Climate Future, 2020 Update,” prepared by the University of Maine, reports that “Rapid warming in the Arctic can affect the weather we experience in Maine and conditions in the Gulf of Maine (Schmitt 2007). As arctic air warms, there is less of a temperature difference between the North Pole and the continental United State, leading to weaker westerly winds. Recent studies have suggested that weakened westerlies may lead to a more wavy Jet Stream, so called “blocking” storm patterns, and Polar Vortex dips that allow Arctic air, still very cold, to plunge into Maine during winter (page 14).”

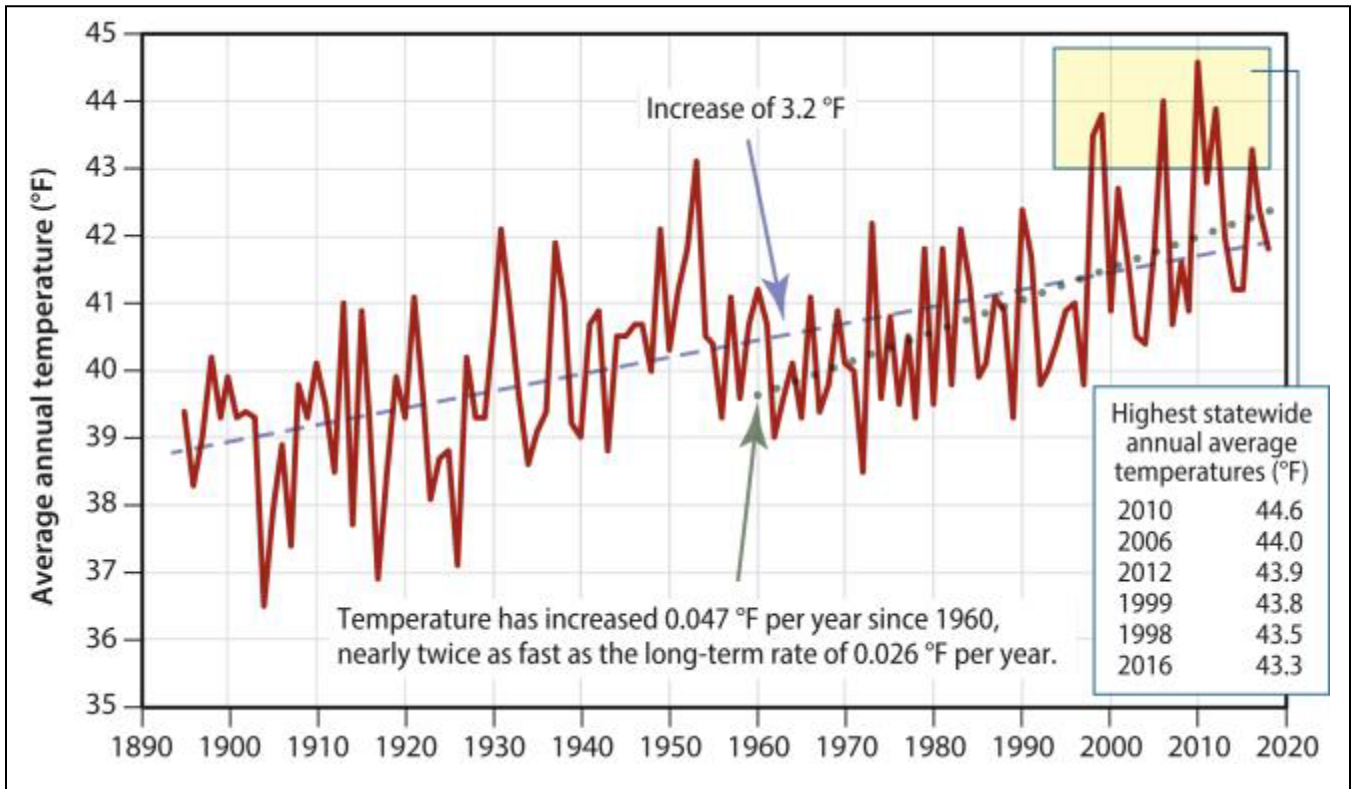
“Changes in the distribution of winds and sea-surface temperature across the North Atlantic, and Gulf Stream position, are likely amplifying regional warming and precipitation cycles, and have the potential to further affect seasonal shifts in the environment over the coming decades (Saba et.al. 2016, Thomas et.al.2017) (page 14).” However, there is no county-wide data or town-specific data on the extent to which increasing temperatures or precipitation will affect flooding, winter storms, wildfires or landslides.

Temperature Changes: Excerpts from the report “Maine’s Climate Future, 2020 Update,” prepared by the University of Maine, include the following:

“Temperatures are increasing statewide. Average annual temperature has increased 3.2 degrees Fahrenheit in the last 124 years, and the rate of warming has increased most notably since 1960. The six warmest years on record have occurred since 1998. Indeed, the Northeast is warming faster than any other region in the U.S., and is projected to warm 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit when the rest of the world reaches 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit (page 3)...The growing season (the period between the last frost and first frost) is more than two weeks longer than it was in 1950, mostly due to later frosts in the fall (page 4).”

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The following chart, taken from “Maine’s Climate Future, 2020 Update,” demonstrates significant year-to-year variations in Maine’s annual temperature with periods of relative cold and relative warmth, but an upward trend in annual average temperatures.



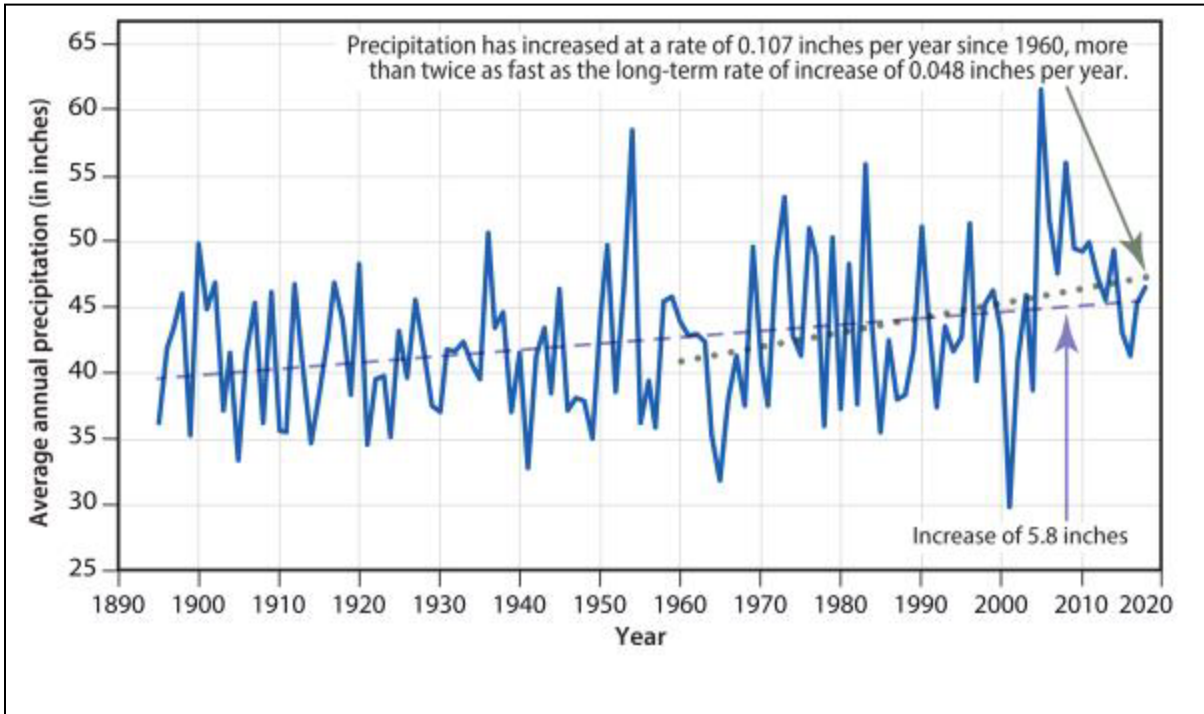
Source: Maine’s Climate Future, 2020 Update, University of Maine, page 3.

Precipitation Changes in Maine. Maine’s Climate Future, 2020 Update, reports that:

“Average annual precipitation has increased 15 percent (5.8 inches) since 1895, and the increase has come in the form of more rain and less snow. Since 1895, depth of annual snowfall has decreased 20 percent (2.3 inches). As with temperature, the rate of increase has accelerated in recent decades (page 5).

“Communities across the state are experiencing more heavy or “intense” precipitation events (Fernandez et. al. 2015) Increased precipitation means increased volume of runoff to local streams, rivers, and ultimately the Gulf of Maine (Vincent et. al. 2015, Huntington et. al. 2016). These higher floods and flows can damage roads, bridges and properties (page 6).”

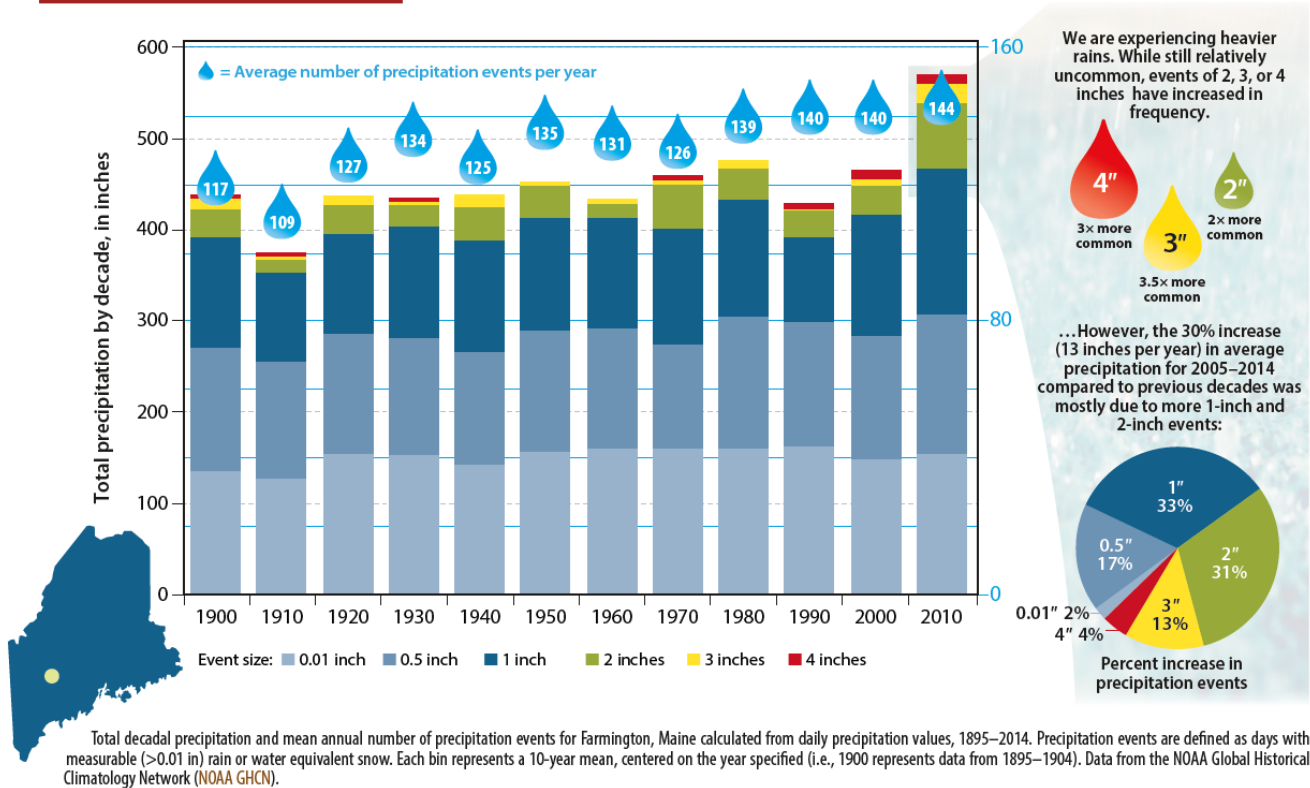
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Source: Maine's Future, 2020 Update, University of Maine, page 5.

The following chart shows how precipitation has increased in Farmington, Maine.

Precipitation at Farmington, Maine



Source: Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update

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B1-b. Location for Each Identified Hazard
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The plan must include information on location for each identified hazard.

See discussion below for each of the profiled hazards.

B1-c. Extent of the Hazards

The plan must provide the extent of the hazards that can affect the planning area.
--

See discussion below for each of the profiled hazards.

B1-d. Previous Events

The plan must include information on previous hazard events for each hazard.
--

See discussion below for each of the profiled hazards.

B1-e. Probability of future events

The plan must include the probability of future events for the identified hazards that can affect the planning area. Probability must include the effects of future conditions, including climate change on the type, locations and range of anticipated intensities of identified hazards.

See discussion below for each of the profiled hazards.

B1-f. When Hazard Risks Differ Across the Planning Area
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For multi-jurisdictional plans, when hazard risks differ across the planning area and between participating jurisdictions, the plan must specify the unique and varied risk information for each applicable jurisdiction.

See discussion following profiles of the hazards.

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FLOODING (includes potential dam failure)

Introduction

Franklin County is subject to flooding. The majority of the flooding in the county is caused by winter snowmelt runoff and/or severe rain events which undercut or overtop rural roads. When Maine has an above average snowfall for the winter and then warmer temperatures and rainfall suddenly arrive in early spring, the snow pack melts more quickly than the watershed can handle and ice jams can occur. This causes local water bodies and wetlands to overflow their boundaries and flood nearby road surfaces. Some towns have major damage, and it absorbs the municipal road maintenance budget for an entire year and happens in several towns every year.

Major rivers flowing through portions of Franklin County include the Androscoggin which flows through the Town of Jay, the Sandy River (a tributary of the Kennebec River), the Carrabassett River (which also flows to the Kennebec) and the North Branch of the Dead River (which flows into Flagstaff Lake).

Some of the county's most serious flooding has been in areas where there are residential and/or commercial structures including the interval area along the Sandy River in the vicinity of McDonald's in the Town of Farmington, the interval area in Temple, areas along the Sandy River in Phillips and New Sharon, Route 41 in New Sharon and areas along the Carrabassett River in Kingfield.

Digital copies of flood maps for the towns that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program are available online through FEMA.

General Definition of Flooding. A temporary inundation of normally dry land as a result of 1) the overflow of inland waters; and/or 2) the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source. Note: the nature of Franklin County's geology and hydrology is such that flooding is usually fast rising but of short duration.

Types of Flooding in Franklin County. There are several different types of potential flooding in Franklin County:

- **Beaver Dam Flooding:** Flooding resulting from back-up and overflow of water resulting from beaver dams.
- **Dam failure:** The sudden release of water resulting from structural collapse or improper operation of the impounding structure. Dam failure can cause rapid downstream flooding, loss of life, damage to property, and the forced evacuation of people.
- **Flash flood:** A dangerous sudden rise in water along a stream, river, wash or over a normally dry land area. Flash floods result from heavy rainfall, river ice jams, dam or levee failures. Flash floods can occur within a few minutes or hours, and can move at surprisingly high speeds, striking with little warning.
- **Ice jam:** An accumulation of floating ice fragments that block the normal flow of a river. During a thaw or rainstorm, the rapid increase in discharge from snow melt and/or rainfall can rapidly lift and break up a thick ice cover and carry it downstream as an ice run. Ice runs can jam in river bends or against the sheet ice covering flatter reaches. The resulting ice jams can block flow so thoroughly that serious flooding may result within an hour of their formation. Failure of an ice jam suddenly releases water downstream. Damages from ice jam flooding usually exceed those of clear water flooding because of higher than predicted flood elevations, rapid increase in water levels upstream and downstream, and physical damage caused by ice chunks. Moving ice masses can shear off trees and destroy buildings and bridges above the level of the flood waters.
- **Lacustrine:** (Lake Flooding) occurs when the outlet for the lake cannot discharge the flood waters fast enough to maintain the normal pool elevation of the lake. During a base flood event, normal

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increases in water surface elevations on most Maine lakes and ponds range from 1 to 5 feet. However, in Maine there are some examples where the base flood event will reverse the flow of the outlet stream. In such instances, river and base flood elevations can rise more than 15 feet above normal pool. While this can impact individual dwellings built near the water's edge, there are no records of major damages so this type of flood will not be further addressed in the plan.

- **Riverine/riparian:** Periodic overbank flow of rivers and streams, usually the result of spring runoff, but can also be caused by major rain storms. This is the major type of flooding in Franklin County.
- **Urban:** Overflow of storm sewer systems, usually due to poor drainage, following heavy rain or rapid snow melt. The combined sanitary and storm water systems that some urban areas installed years ago can cause flooding of sanitary sewerage when riparian floods occur. Runoff is increased due to a large amount of impervious surfaces such as roof tops, sidewalks and paved streets.

Location of Flooding Hazard

Franklin County's susceptibility to flooding, especially riverine flooding, is further exacerbated by its wide-ranging weather conditions. Due to seasonal (and regional) factors such as heavy rains, rapidly melting snow pack and/or ice jams, major flooding most frequently occurs between December and May. Based on MEMA data, the most flood-prone months are April, January and March, respectively. Floods can also be caused by hurricanes.

Location of Municipal Flood-Prone Areas. Areas subject to a 100-year flooding event are depicted on FEMA floodplain maps. Local officials have identified others areas that are subject to flooding and/or that have had repeated flood damages in specific jurisdictions, as identified in Element C, Hazard Mitigation Projects, and the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2015 and the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2023.

- **Avon:** Bob Option Road, ditches and culverts.
- **Carrabassett Valley:** Narrow Gauge Trail.
- **Carthage:** Winter Hill Road, Judkins Road.
- **Chesterville:** George Thomas Road, Sandy River Road, Locke Pond Road, Mace Road, Cohoon Road, Smith Road, Zion Hill Road, Cooper Road, (Pope Road, Dutch Gap Road, Rt.41-Station Roads).
- **Coplin Plantation:** Ditches and culverts.
- **Dallas Plantation:** Gull Pond Road, Saddleback Mountain Road, Harold Ross Road.
- **Carthage:** Redding Road, Grover Bridge Road, River Road, Goodwin Road.
- **Eustis:** Culvert at Black Brook; Old Dead River Road, Long Corner Route 27; Stratton Brook (downtown Stratton), Eustis Ridge Road, ditches and culverts.
- **Farmington:** Front Street, Intervale, Route 4 Main Street/Hippach Field, Clover Mills Road, Cushman Drive.
- **Kingfield:** Rapid Stream Road, East of West Kingfield Road and Blanchard Hill, Island Road, Cedar Street.
- **Industry:** Greenwood Brook Road, Shaw Hill Road, Bailey Road.
- **Jay:** Area of Morse Hill Road and intersection with Seven Mile Stream; area on Route 140 between 423 Intervale Road and Gingras Road; area between intersection of Crash Road and Alden Hill Road down to the intersection of Crash Road and Riley Road; Spruce Mountain Ski Slope area.
- **Kingfield:** Island Road, West Kingfield Road.
- **New Sharon:** Industry Road near Bassett Road, York Hill Road, Kimball Pond Road, 2nd long hill known as Bill Reeds Hill, George Thomas Road near bridge, Rt.41 Crowells Pond, Saltmarsh Road, Weeks Mills Road area of Bailey Hill Road to bottom of hill.

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- **New Vineyard:** Miller Road, Adams Brook Road, Eastmont Drive, High Street, Brahmer Road, Wells Road.
- **Phillips:** 1. Sandy River: Main Street, Bridge Street, Reeds Mills Road, Toothaker Pond Road, Number 6 Road, 2) Orbeton Stream: Toothaker Pond Road, Echo Valley Road.
- **Rangeley:** Mingo Loop Causeway, Bald Mountain Road, Gile Road, Old Skiway Road, Haley Pond Dam, Target Road
- **Rangeley Plantation:** Beamis Road.
- **Sandy River Plantation:** Ditches and culverts.
- **Strong:** Spaulding Road, Burbank Hill Road.
- **Temple:** Intervale Road
- **Unorganized Territory:** Madrid Township – Reed Mills Road; Salem Township – Howard Road.
- **Weld:** Byron Road, Cushman Road, Center Hill Road, Upper Temple Road, West Brook Road, Kennedy Bridge, Bowley Brook Bridge (Cushman Road), West Brook Bridge.
- **Wilton:** Cemetery Road, Pond Road (Route 2 and Weld Roadsides), Lake Road near retaining wall; Bubier Road; McCrillis Corner Road; Butterfield Road; Tobin Flat Road.

Extent (Severity) of the Hazard

Extent (severity) of the Hazard from Dam Failure. Maine dams were constructed incrementally over a period of 300 years. Businesses harnessed the abundant fast flowing rivers and rocky rapids for the development of energy and transportation. Many dams throughout the country are now aged, and in Maine the majority of these structures are nearly 100 years old and beyond the normal design life of civil engineering works. Many are low head dams constructed using local materials of stone, timber and earth. Dam failure is not a frequent occurrence, but it can and does occur.

Maine law, consistent with federal law, classifies the hazard potential of dams as High, Significant or Low. If they fail, High Hazard dams could cause loss of life; Significant Hazard dams could cause significant property damage and Low Hazard dams would generally cause damage only to the owner's property. Therefore, it's possible that a small (low head) dam located above a large community could be rated High Hazard while a structurally larger dam sited in an unpopulated area could be a Low Hazard potential.

There is one High Hazard dam in Franklin County, in the town of Wilton. The Town has a current emergency action plan which is updated every two years. There are three Significant Hazard dams, two which are located in Industry and one which is located in Rangeley. Information on these dams is shown in the following table.

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Franklin County High Hazard and Significant Hazard Dams					
MEMA ID	Dam Name	Other Name	Dam Owner	Town	Water Body
High Hazard Dams					
113	Wilson Pond		Town of Wilton	Wilton	Wilson Pond
Significant Hazard Dams					
116	Haley Pond Outlet		Town of Rangeley	Rangeley	Haley Pond
305	Clearwater Pond		Town of Industry	Industry	Muddy Brook
931	Mosher		John Prentiss	Industry	Mosher Hill Falls

Source: MEMA

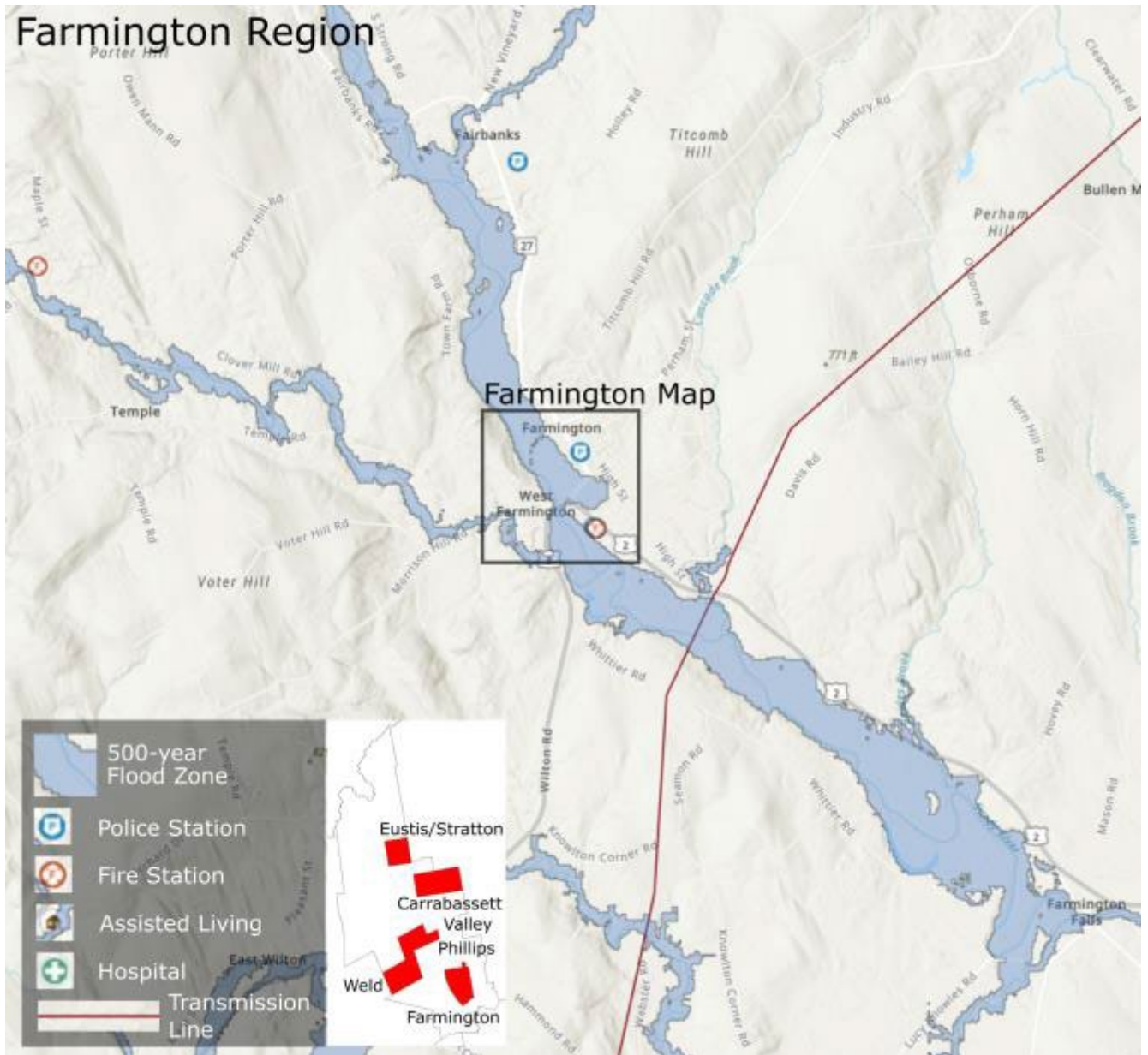
Extent (severity) of Flood Hazard other than Dam Failure. Severe flooding can cause loss of life, property damage, disruption of communications, transportation, electric service and community services, crop and livestock damage, health issues from contaminated water supplies, and loss and interruption of business. Ironically, fire-fighting efforts can be compromised if fire fighters and equipment are responding to a flood emergency.

Generous precipitation (over 42 inches a year) contributes to the flood potential. The low pressure system over the Eastern Seaboard and the tendency of some storms to follow one another in rapid succession provide heavy, combined moisture. Water abundance is one of the state’s most valuable natural resources and its primary hazard.

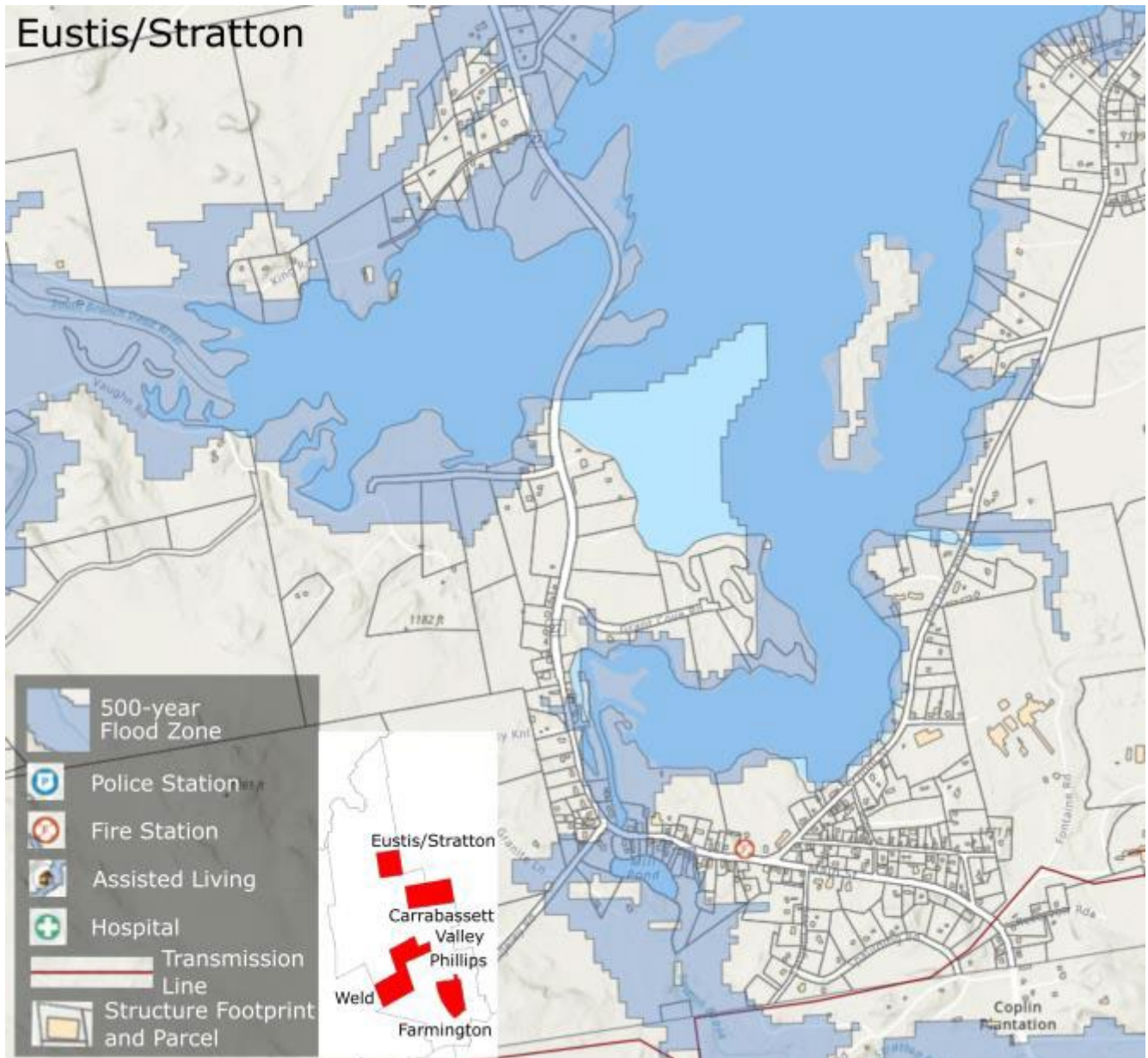
Some of the county’s most serious flooding has been in areas where there are residential and/or commercial structures including the intervale area along the Sandy River in the vicinity of McDonald’s in the Town of Farmington, the intervale area in Temple, areas along the Sandy River in Phillips and New Sharon, Route 41 in New Sharon and areas along the Carrabassett River in Kingfield. On August 28, 2011, two bridges, 300 feet apart on Route 27 in Carrabassett Valley, collapsed within minutes of each other around 4:30 p.m. as Topical Storm Irene dumped more than 8 inches of rain on the area. The bridge collapses halted traffic but also isolated everything between the two bridges including the entrance to Sugarloaf.

Flood locations and extents of a 500-year flood event for population centers in Franklin County modeled by MEMA using Hazus 2022 are shown below.

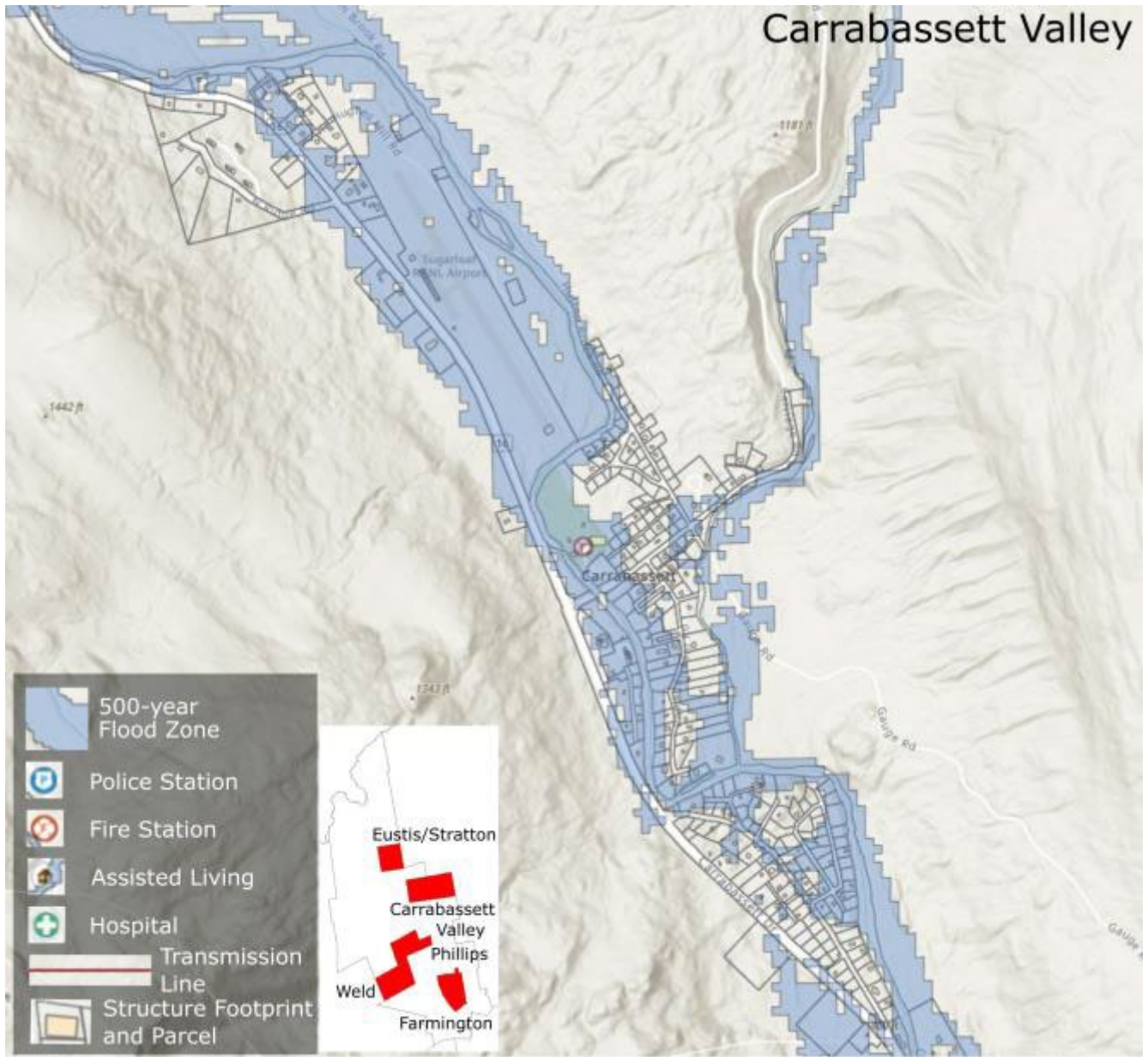
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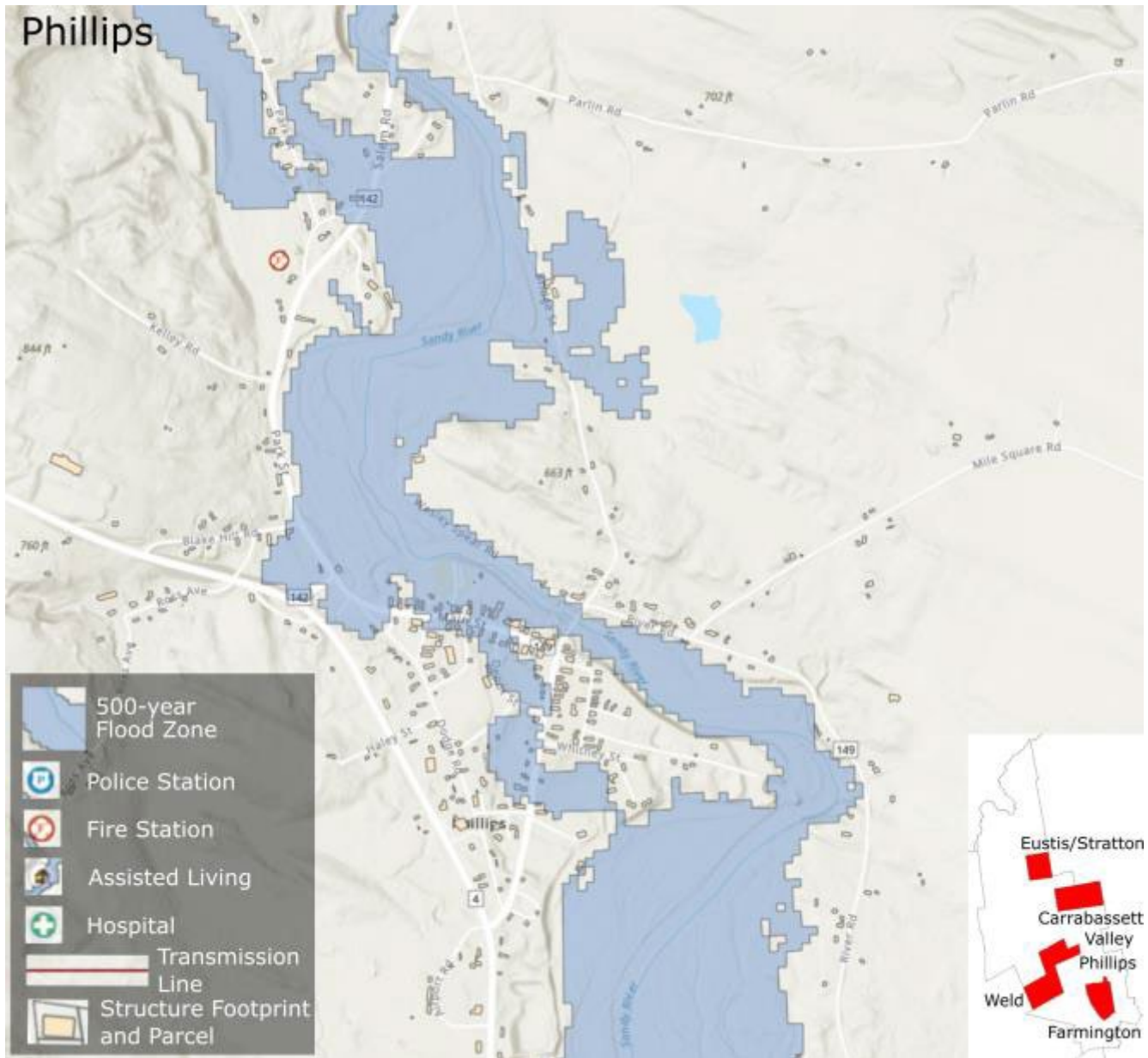
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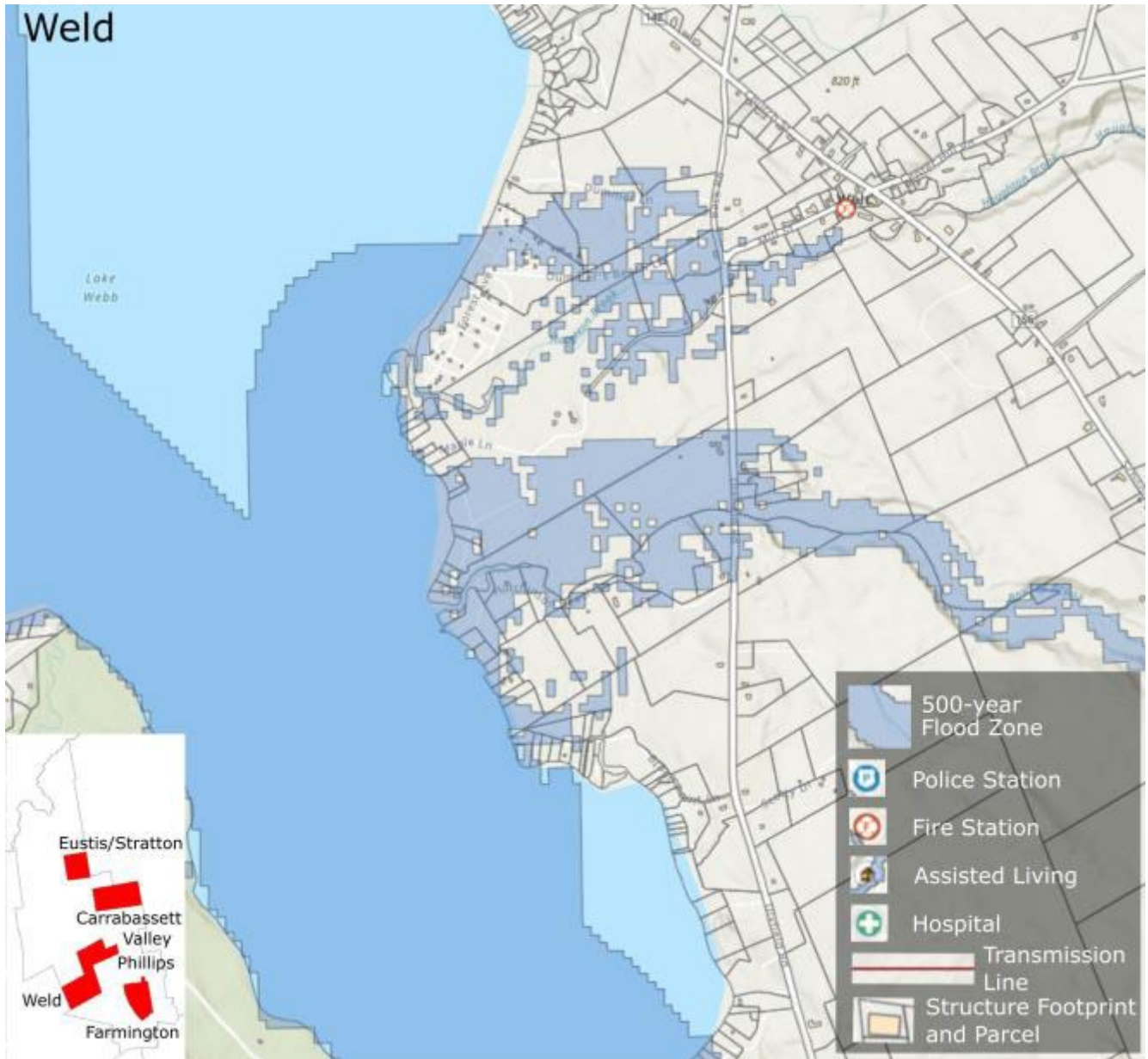
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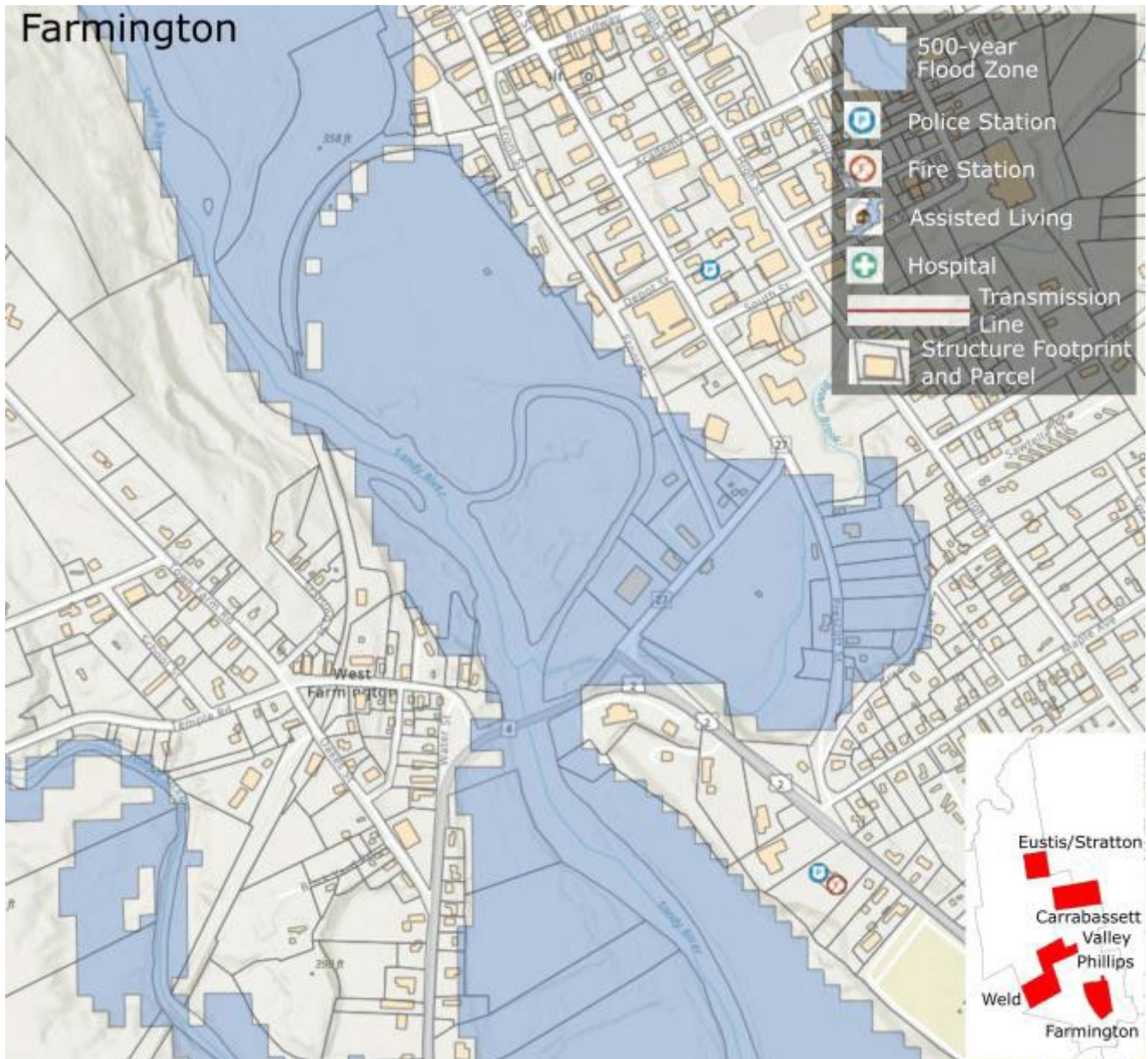
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The following is a summary of the extent of flow data for the Sandy River, based on data obtained from the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine:

Sandy River near Madrid Township (northwest of Phillips):

Date	Gage Height (feet)	Flow (cfs)
June 29, 2009	8.50	2,240
Mar 31, 2010	7.64	1,530
Aug 28, 2011	10.90	5,210
June 3, 2012	8.80	1,850
Oct 30, 2013	9.60	2,820
April 15, 2014	8.82	1,870
April 21, 2015	8.28	1,380

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Jan 10, 2016	8.12	1,269
July 1, 2017	9.84	3,180
Oct 30, 2018	9.89	3,260
April 27, 2019*	8.33	1,420

National Weather Service, 2023

*Not maximum for year

Note: This is the only Franklin County gauge found on the website. No information available on flood heights.

The following is a summary of flow data for rivers flowing through Franklin County, taken at sites outside Franklin County.

Sandy River at Mercer

Flood Stage: 12 feet
 Moderate Flood: 15 feet
 Major Flood: 17 feet

Date	Gage Height (feet)	Flow (cfs)
Dec 28, 1969	14.65	29,100
Jan 10, 1978	13.50	25,000
Apr 28, 1979	13.48	24,900
Apr 1, 1987	19.25	51,100
May 13, 1989	13.33	25,300
Dec 2, 1006	13.30	25,200
Apr 4, 2005	13.73	27,300

National Weather Service, 2023

Carrabassett River at N Anson

Flood Stage: 15 feet
 Moderate Flood: 20 feet
 Major Flood: 25feet

Date	Gage Height (feet)	Flow (cfs)
Mar 19, 1936	21.17	30,800
Mar 27, 1953	20.76	30,400
Apr 1, 1987	26.66	50,700
Aug 9, 2011	20.53	31,600

National Weather Service, 2023

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Previous Occurrences

Some flooding occurs every year, but some of the most significant and widespread flooding events since 1970 are shown in the table below.

Historical Summary of Major Flood Events in Franklin County Since 1970			
Year	Month	General Description	Presidential Disaster Declaration #
1970	Jan-Feb	Severe storms, ice jams, flooding	284
1973	April 24		n.a., Presidential request denied
1973	July 1		n.a., SBA
1978	Feb 8	High winds, flooding	550
1986	January	Roads, bridges, dams, clean up	n.a.
1987	April 1	Roads, bridges, homes, public buildings, sanitation facilities, erosion	788
1989	May	Severe storms, flooding	830
1992	March 27	Heavy rains and ice jams; roads and culvert damages	940
1993	April	The Easter flood: heavy rains, snow melt and flooding damaged roads and culverts	988
1996	Jan	January thaw and heavy rains caused flooding and ice jams damaged roads and culverts, drainage systems	1106
1998	June 13- July 1	Heavy rains damaged roads and drainage systems	1232
2000	March 28, April 26	Flooding from heavy rains, spring run-off, ice jams	1326
2001	March 5-31	Flooding from severe winter storms, high winds, heavy rains, run-off, ice jams	1371
2004	Dec 11 - 31	Flooding from severe storms, snow melt, ice jams	1508
2005	March 29– May 3	Flooding from severe storms, snow melt and ice jams	1591
2007	April 15 - 23	The Patriots Day storm; flooding from severe storms	1693
2009	June 18 – July 8	Severe storms, flooding, landslides	1852
2011	August 28	Heavy rain from Tropical Storm Irene washed out two bridges on Route 27 in Carrabassett Valley.	n.a.
2017	Oct 29-Nov 1	Severe storm and flooding	4354

Source: FEMA website and MEMA records

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Flood Losses in Dollars by Town and Federal Disaster Declaration Since 1987 (dollar values are accurate to the year of each disaster declaration)									
Town	Disaster Declaration								
	788 April, 1987	988 April, 1993	1326 March, 2000	1371 March, 2001	1508 Dec, 2004	1591 March, 2005	1693 April, 2007	1852 August 2009	4354 Oct 2017
Franklin County	58,093	25,430	11,136	7,311	13,618	131,316	43,261	0	4,199
Avon	1,106	3,983	27,464	0	10,695	33,155	44,293	0	13,094
Carrabassett Valley	44,696	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	285,126
Carthage	45,109	5,049	9,052	0	25,121	39,915	89,144	0	0
Chesterville	12,091	0	0	64,468	8,171	47,084	34,201	0	0
Coplin Plantation	8,072	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dallas Plantation	0	0	0	0	4,838	0	0	0	0
Eustis	5,711	0	0	0	0	0	13,737	0	0
Farmington	118,343	0	6,278	6,882	1,018	26,094	34,303	24,850	11,904
Industry	16,326	43,906	11,077	0	19,041	26,605	90,612	0	0
Jay	155,995	4,631	6,451	0	10,627	32,722	10,651	0	0
Kingfield	15,495	0	10,048	7,664	8,420	11,667	0	0	41,304
New Sharon	13,646	12,088	39,650	0	33,595	17,315	111,829	40,194	11,148
New Vineyard	95,896	19,014	17,417	15,222	13,436	29,812	29,305	69,125	0
Phillips	110,286	25,422	13,280	3,833	5,247	5,987	44,788	415,551	106,551
Rangeley	8,885	7,032	177,196	0	16,063	7,268	72,702	0	9,786
Rangeley Plt	8,929	20,603	9,776	0	4,410	12,707	86,917	0	21,584
Sandy River Plt	15,697	0	2,403	0	1,207	10,670	0	0	43,913
Strong	54,240	24,692	3,049	2,490	18,944	11,073	15,947	18,393	0
Temple	124,536	9,135	16,866	0	10,282	41,875	22,119		109,362
Weld	77,747	2,975	12,326	0	18,192	16,348	43,482	141,258	0
Wilton	443,753	64,819	0	8,059	0	24,231	50,880	30,801	15,340
Other	0	0	2,276 ¹	4,000 ²	4356 ³	0	0	0	0
Total	1,435,440	269,767	375,542	119,929	227,282	525,844	838,171	740,172	366,779

¹Strong Water District; ²MSAD 58; ³Franklin Memorial Hospital & MSAD 9

Source: FEMA and Franklin County EMA

Probability of Occurrence

The probability of the occurrence of the base flood is 1% in any given year, or once in 100 years. There is insufficient climate change data to revise this probability. Nuisance flooding, including localized ice jams and flash floods occur about once every ten years.

Increasing atmospheric temperature contributes to a greater capacity for air to hold moisture and therefore a potentially greater occurrence of rainfall in the affected area relative to baseline conditions. Annual precipitation trends show a general increase in the region and model projections indicate that this trend is expected to continue through 2100. Precipitation is expected to occur more frequently as rainfall and less frequently as snowfall when compared to historic trends, with potential impacts on the timing and extent of specific inland flood mechanisms such as snowmelt flooding and ice jams. Further, current trend analyses suggest that increasing precipitation coincides with an increase in the

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intensity of events. For example, decadal trends from Farmington, Maine indicate a two- to three-times greater occurrence of 2, 3, and 4 inch rainfall events during the recent decade 2004-2020, relative to all preceding decades (from Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2023 Update).

Maine peakflow analyses from 2020 show some evidence of increasing annual peakflows and no evidence for decreasing annual peak flows. Peakflow trends vary substantially depending on the period analyzed and the stream gage, making it difficult to attribute trends to known causes that are expected to continue into the future. Annual peak streamflows and other frequently occurring floods have increased at most stream gages during the last century for watersheds in Maine with minimal human influence. Trends in peak flows that occur infrequently, such as the 100-yr peak flow, are more difficult to assess because analyses depend on very high peak flows that occur a few times per century or less. Changes in the frequency and magnitude of peak streamflows do not always track those in heavy precipitation in Maine — the 99th percentile precipitation only results in the 99th percentile streamflow 36% of the time in the United States. In the Northeast, much of the increase in precipitation has occurred in seasons outside of the primary flood season. Furthermore, decreases in winter snowpack modeled to occur with increasing air temperatures can offset increased flows caused by increased precipitation. Statistical hydrologic models such as Maine’s peakflow equations assume stationarity (from Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan).

WINTER STORMS

Introduction

All of Franklin County is subject to severe winter storm events. The southern parts of the county which contain the vast majority of the population, are very susceptible to ice storms. The entire county is very susceptible to blizzards. One of the worst storms in Franklin County was the ice storm of 1998, which caused \$861,472 in damages throughout the entire county. This event severely damaged the electrical transmission system, and caused major damage to the forest, blocked many roadways with debris and ice, and caused some limited building damages. However, the most damaging winter storms in the county are blizzards which over-task the highway snow removal operations and cause localized power outages. Maintaining heavy equipment, properly insulating pipes and mitigating water runoff are just a few of the things that are being done to reduce the effects of some of these storms.

Severe winter storms do not ordinarily have an immediate impact on flooding. However, they add to the snow pack, which in the January thaw or springtime can lead to rapid snowmelt, runoff and flooding. Ice jams can exacerbate flooding by temporarily blocking, then releasing large volumes of water, often with disastrous downstream impacts.

It is expected that a severe winter storm will cause damage in Franklin County at least once every three years.

Severe winter weather conditions are distinguished by low temperatures, strong winds, and often large quantities of snow.

Types of Winter Storms in Franklin County. A single winter storm may include one or more of the following:

- **Blizzard.** A combination of heavy snow and high winds. Sustained winds or frequent gusts of 35 miles per hour (mph) or more with heavy falling or blowing snow limiting visibility to ¼ mile

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or less that persists for three or more hours. The combination of conditions along with subfreezing temperatures brings potentially life-threatening traveling conditions.

- **Heavy Snow Storm.** A snowfall of 6 inches or more within 24 hours which disrupts or slows transportation systems and public safety departments' response capability.
- **Ice Storms.** Freezing rain is liquid water precipitation that freezes upon impact with the sub-freezing surface. Any amount of freezing rain can be dangerous for travel conditions on untreated roads. An ice storm is used to describe occasions when damaging accumulations of ice are expected during freezing rain situations. Mean radial ice coating at least one fourth inch in thickness is heavy enough to begin to damage tree branches, overhead wires, and similar objects. A mean radial ice coating of one half inch is heavy enough to produce destructive widespread power outages.
- **Nor'easter.** Nor'easters are extra-tropical coastal storms that can produce tremendous amounts of precipitation and strong winds. When the precipitation is in the form of snow, sleet or freezing rain, it can damage overhead utility lines and become a highway driving hazard. The Gulf Stream follows a path up the eastern seaboard, bringing major storms with it to the Gulf of Maine. Air streams containing much colder air flow down from Canada and collide with the Gulf Stream over the New England region.
- **Sleet Storm.** Sleet is defined as pellets of ice composed of frozen or mostly frozen raindrops of refrozen or partially melted snowflakes. These pellets of ice usually bounce after hitting the ground or other hard surfaces. Heavy sleet is a relatively rare event defined as an accumulation of ice pellets covering the ground to a depth of one half inch or more. Sleet can be extremely slick and hazardous to drive on compared to snow, but it doesn't drift or cause low visibilities.

Location of Hazard

The entire county is subject to severe storms every winter, but historically, the northern and northwestern areas receive more snowfall.

Location of Severe Winter Storm Impact Areas. In terms of snowfall, northern parts of Franklin County receive on average 25-75" more snow than in the southern parts of the county. This pattern suggests that snow management may be more challenging and timely in the smaller northern communities. The map on the next page shows snowfall totals for Franklin County.

A number of municipalities identified specific areas that are susceptible to severe winter storms. These areas were identified in the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2015 and the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2023.

Dallas Plantation: The entirety of our municipality is susceptible to severe winter storms.

Carthage: Drifting, ice jams along River Road.

Chesterville: Ice jams - George Thomas Road, South River Road, power outages – all roads.

Eustis: Stratton Brook, Eustis Dam on South Branch Dead River.

Farmington: Intervale, Route 4 Main Street /Hippach Field.

Industry: Greenwood Brook Road, Bailey Road, ice jams.

Kingfield: Tufts Pond Road.

Jay: Entire town susceptible to power outages from snow/ice but no specific areas more so than others.

New Sharon: George Thomas Road bridge area, Rt. 41 Crowell Pond, York Hill, Kimball Pond, Rt. 41 Cape Cod Hill, Swann Road.

Phillips: 1. Ice jams: See flooding, 2. Power outages: town wide, 3. Snow drifts: Tory Hill Road, Pinkham Hill Road.

Strong: Hartwell Brook, Sandy River, Valley Brook, Bean Brook.

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Weld: The entire town is susceptible to severe winter storms. Seven brooks feed Webb Lake and several are candidates for ice jams and associated flooding (Houghton, Bowly, West Brook, East Brook).

Wilton: Ice jams downstream of Wilson Lake. The entirety of our municipality is susceptible to severe winter storms. Ice storms with freezing rain are extremely dangerous for motor vehicles on the Temple Road, Walker Hill Road and most of our roads due to their steep grade.

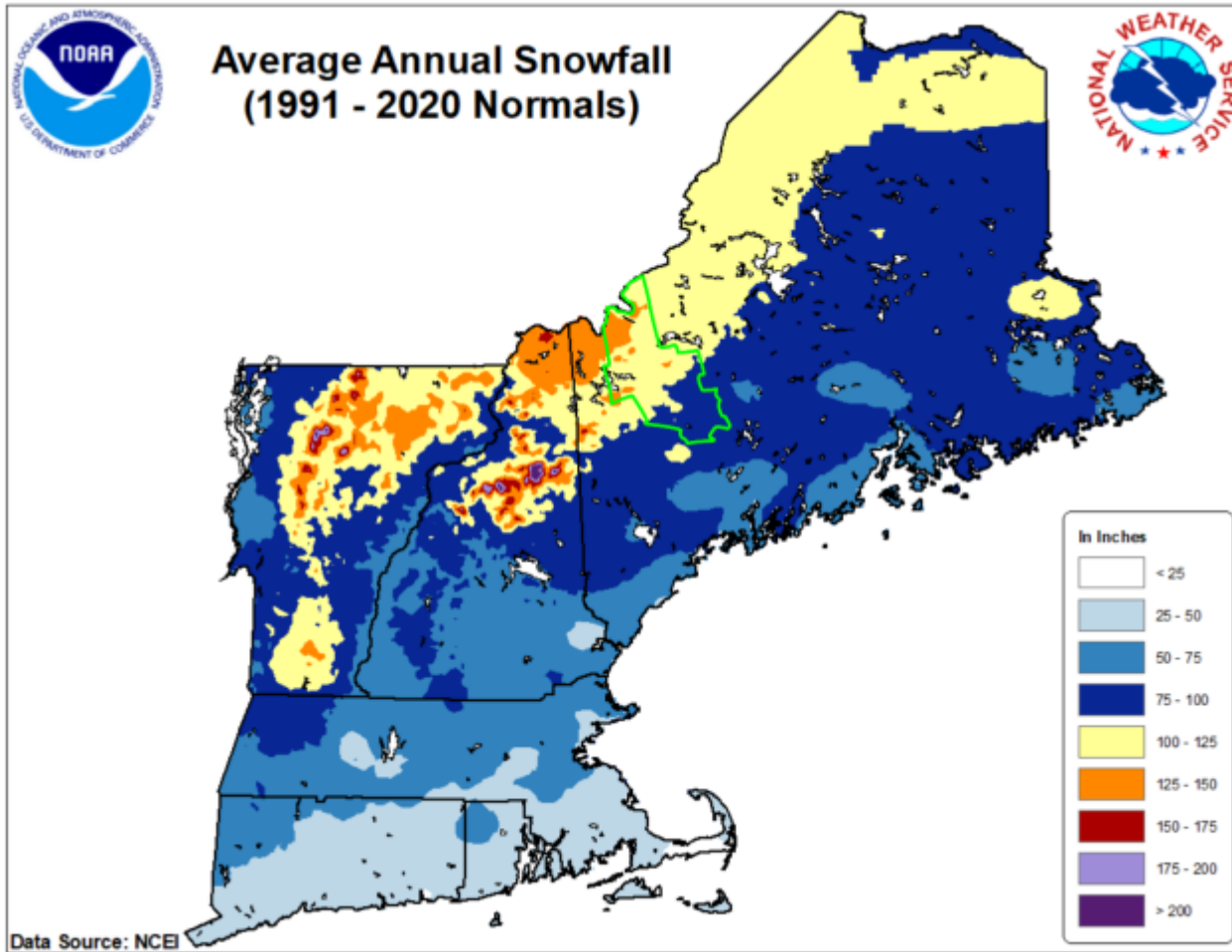


Figure above: Average annual snowfall totals for Franklin County (highlighted in green).

Extent (Severity) of the Hazard

During the winter months, Franklin County often has heavy snowfall, or snow combined with high winds, freezing rain or ice storms. Nor'easters, the most severe form, occur during the winter, spring and fall. They rarely develop during the summer. Precipitation amounts can exceed several inches of water equivalent (20-30 inches of snow or more), while wind speeds can be equal to or greater than those for hurricanes that reach Maine. Loss of electrical power and communication services can occur when utility lines yield under the weight of ice and snow. These conditions can impede the response time of ambulance, fire, police and other emergency services, especially to remote or isolated residents.

Average seasonal snowfall amounts generally increase in the northern and northwestern parts of the county. Total seasonal snowfall ranges between 90 to 110-plus inches. Higher snowfall totals may be found locally, particularly at higher elevations in the northwest mountains. Snowfall extent in Franklin

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County is generally higher than average for the state. The National Weather Service implements a Snowfall Warning Criteria of 8 inches forecast over 24 hours versus the 6 inch criteria implemented for southern and coastal parts of Maine.

From 1996 to 2021, NOAA reports that there have been 49 extreme cold events, 248 heavy snow events, 3 ice storms, 109 winter storms, and 13 winter floods in Franklin County (NOAA Storm Events Database <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>).

The snowfall season usually runs from late October (in the north) or November (most of the rest of the county) to April and sometimes into May. Occasionally an early season storm can bring snow in the first weeks of October. January is usually the snowiest month throughout the state with many stations averaging over 20 inches of snow in that month with December usually averaging out to be the second snowiest month.

Previous Occurrences

The following is a summary of some of the most severe winter storms in Franklin County during the past 40 years, primarily as reflected in either Presidential Disaster Declarations or Presidential Emergency Declarations.

Key:

- DR: Disaster Declaration
- EM: Emergency Declaration
- TBD: To be Determined

Historical Summary of Major Winter Storm Events in Franklin County Since 1970			
Year	Month	General Description	Presidential Declaration #
1978	January	Rain, snow, ice	N.A.
1993	March 13-14	Maine blizzards, severe winds and snowfall	3099-EM
1998	Jan 5-25	“The Great Ice Storm of 98” Power outages, loss of heat, refrigeration, sanitation services, forestry damages	1198-DR
2001	Mar 5-31	Maine severe winter storm	3164-EM
2002, 2003	Dec 17 – June 1	Extreme winter weather; severe cold and front	1468-DR
2003	Dec 6-7	Maine snow – winter storms and extreme cold	3190-EM
2003	Dec 14-15	Maine snow – winter storms and extreme cold	3194-EM
2005	Feb 10-11	Maine snow – winter storms and extreme cold	3206-EM
2005	March 9	Maine snow – winter storms and extreme cold	3209-EM
2017	Feb 13	Blizzard closed state and town offices. Public was warned to avoid any unnecessary travel	N.A.
2017	Mar 14	Blizzard conditions	N.A.

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2020	Mar 23-24	Winter storm; 8-10 inches	N.A.
2021	April 16	Slush and heavy snow led to tree damage and isolated power outages	N.A.

The ice storm of January, 1998 caused over \$861,000 in damages throughout the county. The following table provides a town-by-town summary of damages. Note that the Town of Jay was the hardest hit, incurring over \$163,000 in total damages.

Ice Storm of January, 1998 Town-by-Town Summary of Damages in 1998 Dollars	
Town or School Administrative Unit	Damages
Franklin County	\$1,188
Avon	18,743
Carrabassett Valley	5,503
Carthage	16,409
Chesterville	32,089
Dallas Plantation	24,841
Eustis	8,150
Farmington	58,791
Industry	98,951
Jay	163,423
Kingfield	39,047
Madrid	20,627
New Sharon	35,996
New Vineyard	38,500
Phillips	30,312
Rangeley	88,806
Rangeley Plantation	11,391
Strong	24,917
Temple	9,672
Weld	41,288
Wilton	57,834
SAD # 9	4,874
SAD # 58	30,122
Total	\$861,472

Probability of Occurrence

The probability of a severe winter storm occurring in Franklin County is 100% in any given year. Climate change is unlikely to reduce this probability.

No probability studies have been done, but Franklin County’s location in the Northeast, and its long experience with winter storms indicate that every year, between November and April, such storms will occur. The locations where such storms are the most intense will vary from year to year. It is uncertain whether ice storms will become more or less common in a warmer climate, but there is a tendency toward more extreme weather events in relation to warmer temperatures driving an intensified hydrologic cycle. Warmer winter temperatures may lead to a greater occurrence of ice and heavy snow hazards. If colder temperatures prevail, the precipitation will be in the form of snow, as was the case in the record-breaking “snow year” of 2014-2015 that blanketed the Northeast.

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WILDFIRE

All parts of Franklin County are subject to wildfires. However, the northern portion of the county has the least accessibility to the productive forest land due to the lack of roads and development, and the southern portion of the county has a larger number of homes and businesses within the urban-wildland interface.

A wildfire is an unplanned fire that burns vegetative cover such as grass, timber or slash. Wildfire is a natural phenomenon initially finding its origin in lightning. However, humans have become the greatest cause of wildfires in Maine. There are two types of wildfires:

- Wildland fires are defined as those fires that burn vegetative cover: grass, brush, timber, or slash
- Wildland urban interface fires are created where homes or other structures meet with highly volatile forest fuels.

Location of Hazard

All parts of the county are potentially subject to wildfire. However, the northern portion of the county presents the greatest acreage of productive forestland and the southern portion presents the greatest danger to destruction of homes and businesses. The Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service Forest Protection Division tracks all reported fire occurrences in the state on an annual basis. These are coded by cause: campfire, children, debris burning – which can include backyard burning as well as the agricultural practice of “burning over” blueberry fields, incendiary (includes arson), lightning, machinery, miscellaneous, railroad and smoking.

Location of Wildfire Impact Areas. The following is a summary of areas that are susceptible to wildfires, as identified in the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2015 and the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2023.

Chesterville: Sand Pond Road, East Shore Drive, Tripp Road, Fellows Cove Road, Adams Road, Diller Line, Bachelder’s Mill Road, Chesterville Hill, Moose Run, Hilltop Road.

Dallas Plantation: Nearly the entirety of our properties is susceptible to wildfire/forest fires. To note: of 250,000+ acres over 200,000 are in tree growth. Remote, limited access homes are a feature of our lifestyle and are a draw to our area.

Carthage: 80% of the town is wooded, with several homes off-road.

Eustis: Eustis Ridge Road, North Branch of the Dead River at Myers Ledge Hyde School area.

Industry: Greenwood Brook Road.

Jay: Entire town is rural with forests on property or nearby.

Kingfield: All not on Main Street or in Village area.

New Sharon: Hawk Lane, Outer Kimball Pond Road, Clearwater Road, Shadagee Road, Hemlock Hollow, Porcupine Corner, (intersection of Beans Corner and Glenn Harris), Intervale Road extension, end of Beans Corner Road house and camp in woods.

Phillips: 80% of the residential structures in the town are located within the wildland urban interface (WUI). The area of highest concentration of structures within the WUI is along the Toothaker Pond Road between Toothaker Pond and the Reeds Mills Road.

Strong: Day Mountain, Freeman TWP.

Weld: Most of the town is forest. There are several gravel roads with residences. Some are dead ends. Lots of older residents.

Wilton: There are multiple dead end roads throughout the town. Hanslip Road, Pease Pond area, Shea Street, Butterfield Road, Macgrath Road, Varnum Pond area, Tobin Flat Road.

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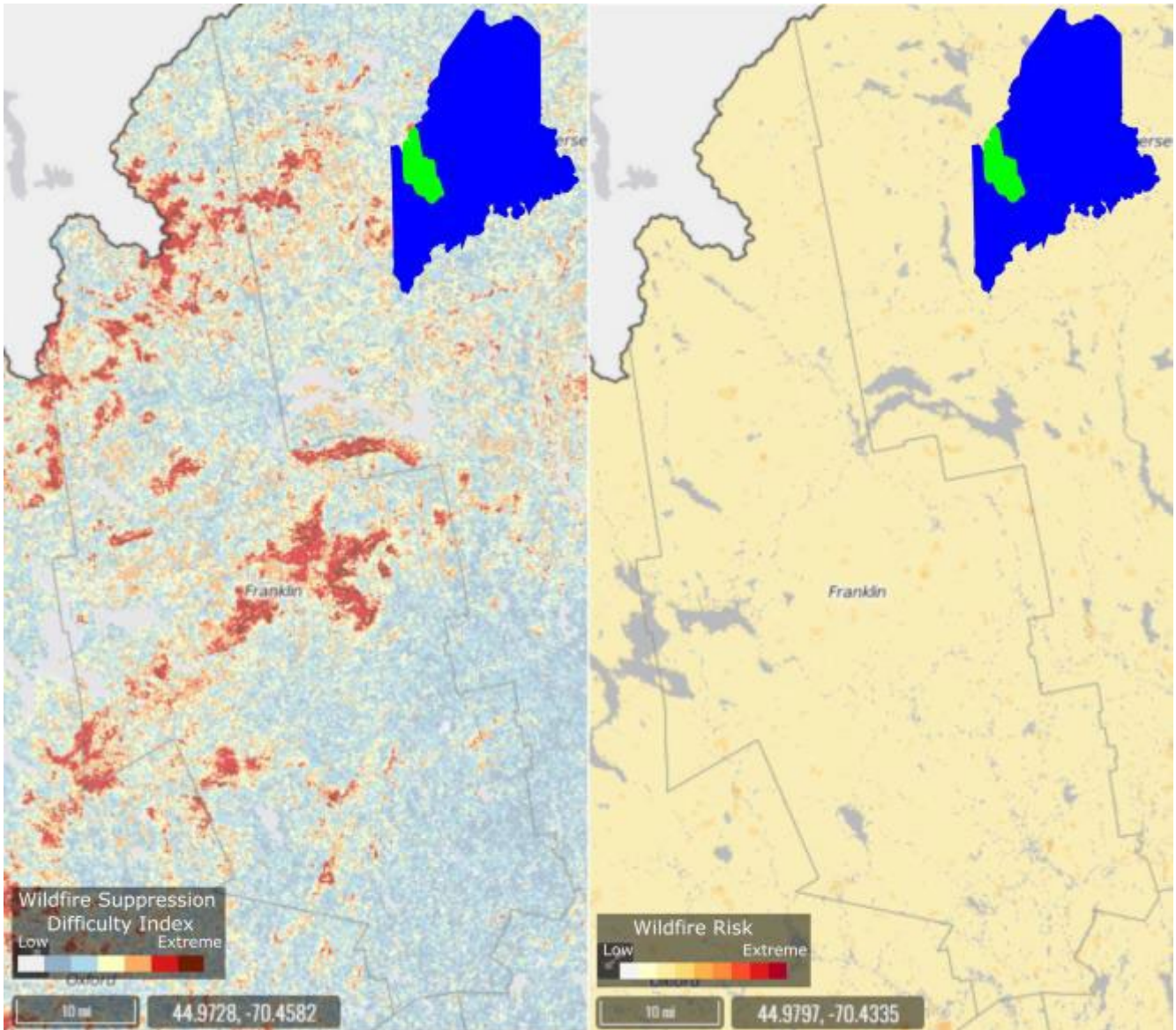


Figure above: map indicating wildfire suppression difficulty (difficulty in performing fire control work) and burn probability (probability that a location will experience a wildfire within a 1-year time period). Many mountainous and remote areas of Franklin County have high suppression difficulty, though in general burn probability is relatively low (Northeast-Midwest Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal: wrap.northeastmidwestwildfirerisk.com/).

Extent (Severity) of the Hazard

Franklin County could be subject to wildfires. The most severe forest fire in the State of Maine's recent history was in October, 1947, devastating 205,687 acres and causing 16 deaths. However, most of the damages were confined to Cumberland, Hancock, Oxford and York Counties.

The Maine Forest Service (MFS) provides wildfire protection services for all Maine's forest lands. In the Unorganized Territory, MFS is the only fire suppression entity and is often requested to respond to structure and vehicle fires as well as wildland fires. The goals of the MFS are to keep the number of

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forest fire starts to less than 1,000 and annual acreage loss to less than 3,500. The MFS has met these goals in recent years because of:

- Quick and effective initial attack on all fires;
- Effective air detection and aerial suppression;
- Modern forest firefighting equipment;
- Strong emphasis on fire prevention, including state control of statewide burning permits;
- Aggressive training and preparation;
- Improved access to remote areas of the state;
- Northeast Forest Fire Compact membership, providing resources during periods of high fire danger;
- Proactive public information campaigns;
- Law enforcement; and
- Extensive automated weather stations providing accurate daily information used to assist in planning fire operations.

In addition to the above initiatives, the MFS has launched a community assessment program aimed at focusing its fire prevention efforts on geographical areas of the state with high concentrations of wildfires. The assessment involves working with local officials and the public to identify vulnerable homes in the wildland/urban interface. The MFS then prepares a community wildfire protection plan that contains guidelines that homeowners can use to protect their homes. The emphasis is on maintaining a 30-foot defensible space around the homes.

Previous Occurrences

Historically, forest fires were one of the state's most significant hazards. Today, about 90% of all forest fires are caused by human activity, while 10% are caused by lightning. During dry periods, fire danger increases rapidly.

Based on information obtained from the Maine Forest Service, there have been no major fires in Franklin County in recent years. All of the wildfires known to have occurred were confined to relatively small land areas.

Probability of Occurrence

The probability of a major wildfire is 10% in any given year, or once every 10 years, as calculated by the Maine Forest Service. There is insufficient climate change data to revise this probability.

The MFS anticipates that, based on historical records of fires, there will be an average of 550 low acreage fires in Maine from all causes. A low acreage fire is less than 1,000 acres. While the probability of a major wildfire, based on the last 115 years of wildfire data, is once a decade, it is currently unclear as to how changing climate conditions may either contribute to or inhibit future wildfire events. Most wildfires, however, are likely to occur between the months of April and October.

Recent changes in Maine's weather patterns have resulted in "extremes" to become more of the norm. Long term drought, as cataloged by the US Drought Monitor, shows that Maine is not immune to longer periods of time without sustained precipitation. Additionally, we have increasingly experienced longer periods of time with uncharacteristically low relative humidity. In fact, in 2022 Maine experienced a continuous 5-day period with relative humidity less than 20 percent. National Weather Service records show that this had not happened since 1948.

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LANDSLIDES

Based in part on the Mass Wasting Profile contained in the Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update.

General Definition. The rapid movement of earth materials down-slope under the force of gravity along a rupture surface. The following factors or a combination of factors may trigger a landslide:

1. **Undermining Slope.** Removing the base or toe of a slope through natural or human processes, resulting in unstable areas upslope.
2. **Adding weight to slope.** Overloading a slope due to human alteration (buildings, roads) or natural processes (growth of large trees, addition of water weight from snowmelt or rainfall).
3. **Wet conditions.** High water content in the pore spaces of unconsolidated earth materials decreases friction between particles and reduces slope strength. Wet conditions also add water weight to a slope. Snowmelt and heavy rain are the most common causes of wet conditions, but other sources include septic leach fields and other manmade drainage outlets.
4. **Earthquakes.** Shaking causes a slope to lose strength. Man-made vibrations (drilling, blasting, etc.) can also trigger landslides.

Types of Landslides

There are many different types of landslides, and sometimes an individual landslide can have the characteristics of multiple types. When assessing a landslide, it is best to categorize it as the type it most resembles since a perfect match is unlikely. Landslides may start with slow movement (inches to feet per day) that ends in very rapid movement (feet per second), or they may happen very rapidly without warning. The most common types of landslides in Maine are described in detail below.

Creep. Common statewide on slopes consisting of unconsolidated earth materials.

Rockfalls. Most common in areas with exposed bedrock on steep slopes, such as in the mountainous western and central regions of the state (Oxford, Franklin, Somerset, and Aroostook Counties). May also occur anywhere there are steep man-made exposures of bedrock, such as road cuts.

Rotational Landslides/Slumps. May occur statewide on slopes of unconsolidated earth materials, but most common in river cut bank areas shortly after periods of high water, especially where the Presumpscot Formation soil association is present. In river corridors, erosion tends to occur during high flows at the outside of a channel bend. The base of the river bank is eroded/undermined leading to slumping or sliding as flood waters recede and expose the now unstable bank.

Translational Landslides. Most common in mountainous areas with thin soils on steep slopes. Most likely to occur during or after prolonged wet periods when water adds weight to the slope and/or reduces the strength of the earth materials.

Flows. May occur on slopes of unconsolidated earth materials statewide but require water-saturated earth materials, making flows more likely after prolonged wet conditions. Flows may also result from disturbance and liquefaction of the Presumpscot Formation.

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Spread Landslides. May occur in areas of southern Maine where the Presumpscot Formation glaciomarine deposit is present, usually at lower elevations in valleys. Lidar topographic data recently revealed many prehistoric spread landslides associated with the Presumpscot Formation.

Location of Hazard

Landslides have occurred in Franklin County, primarily along the steep banks of the Sandy River. Between May 7 and May 8, 2010, a large landslide occurred along the south side of the Sandy River in Chesterville. A large section of the riverbank and a portion of the George Thomas Road failed and created a large landslide over 250 feet long. Fortunately, no one was injured. The Town of Chesterville immediately blocked off the road to traffic and began the process of seeking funding (see projects) to address the damage.

Landslides occur on landslide-prone bluffs in excess of 20 feet in height in widely scattered locations throughout the county, but primarily along the Sandy River. According to a written report on the Chesterville landslide prepared by the Maine Geological Survey (MGS), the Chesterville landslide was not unique to this area. There is evidence of previous landslide scarps, slumps and creeps (earth flow) along the Sandy River both to the east and west, and on the north and south sides of the river. These features suggest an ongoing history of slope movement, subsidence, and site instability. Landslides and erosion along Whittier Road in Farmington accelerated after tropical storm Irene (see projects).

Extent (Severity) of the Hazard

According to the Maine Geological Survey record of inland landslides, the largest known landslide to occur in Franklin County disturbed 27 acres. However, the majority of identified landslide sites are less than 8 acres. A total of 43 landslides have been reported in Franklin County, the majority of which occurred in prehistoric times

The MGS report notes that there are two basic principles to note in determining areas at risk for landslides:

1. It is likely that landslides will occur where they have occurred in the past; and
2. Landslides are likely to occur in similar geological, geomorphological, and hydrologic conditions (risk factors) as they have in the past.

The MGS report also stated that since 2005, there has been a marked increase in the occurrence of large, damaging landslides in Maine. The risk factors (which are found along the Sandy River) include:

1. An area underlain by glacial-marine deposits
2. High relief (20 feet or higher)
3. Over-steepened slopes
4. Precipitation – landslides have generally occurred at the same time of year (spring) and can occur after unusually high precipitation events. The high precipitation rates of the past few years appear to have increased the potential for landslides.

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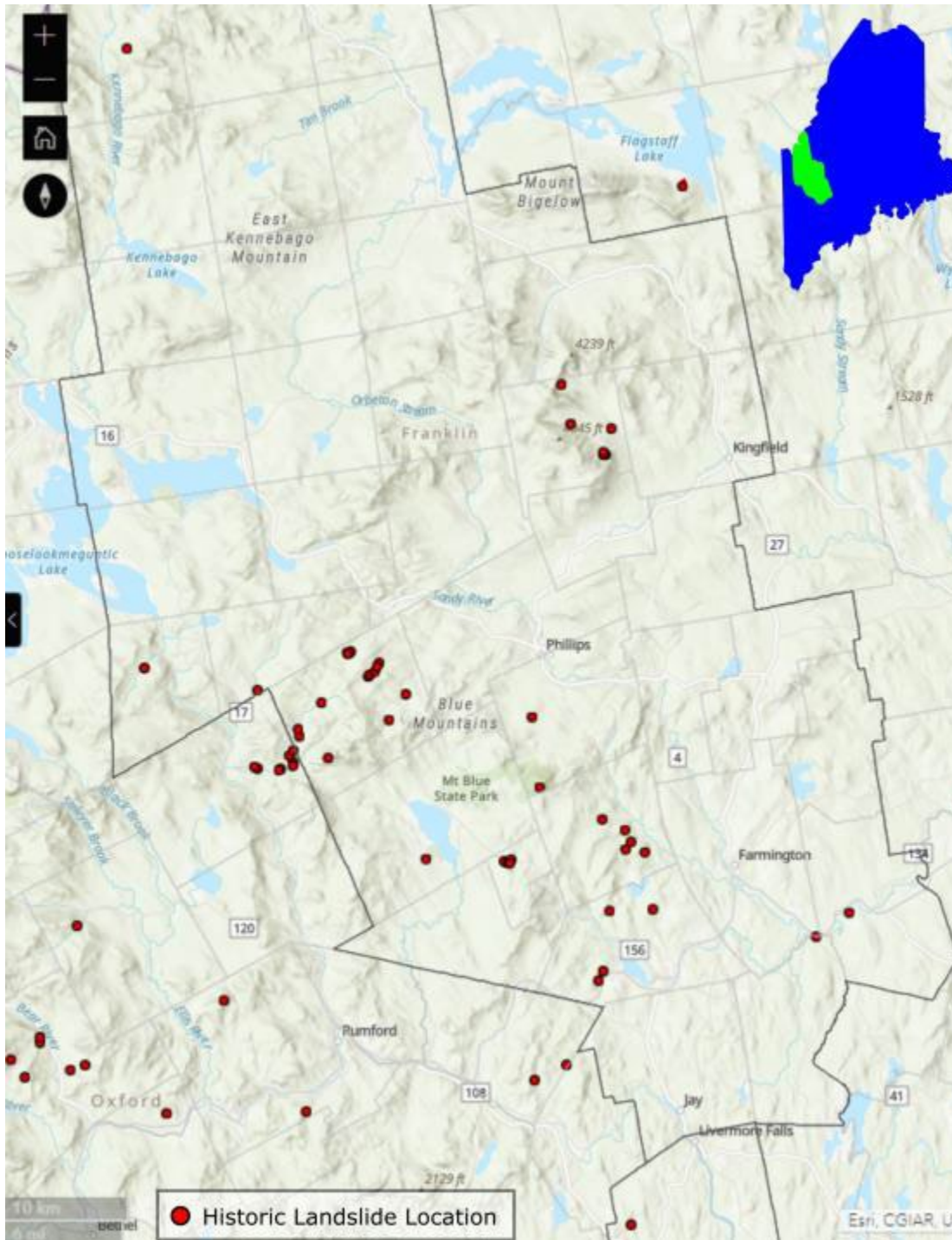


Figure above: Historic landslide locations in Franklin County mapped by Maine Geological Survey (<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/hazards/landslides/inland/index.shtml>)

Previous Occurrences

There is no known comprehensive history of landslides in Franklin County, in part because landslides have affected individual properties, not entire communities. However, there was a prior landslide on the George Thomas Road just to the west of the May, 2010 landslide. The MGS survey reported that

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there is evidence of prior landslides to the east and west of the May, 2010 landslide, and on both sides of the Sandy River. Landslide and erosion damage also occurred along Whittier Road in Farmington.

The following is a list of known, statewide landslide events for the modern era, 1950 to the present. The only Franklin County landslide on the list is the 2010 Sandy River landslide in Chesterville (Source: Maine Geological Survey).

- 2021, Rockport, Maine: a small spread landslide occurred along Glen Cove, displacing several cubic yards of soil on a private property (Figure 3.49).
- 2020, Westbrook, Maine: A spread landslide occurred along the Presumpscot River directly opposite of the 1868 landslide (see description below).
- 2016, Brunswick, Maine: A rotational landslide occurred in the Bugnanuc coastal bluff area with a history of similar events.
- 2010, Sandy River, Chesterville, Maine: A rotational landslide along the river forced the town to relocate a road.
- 2007, Brunswick and Gilead, Maine: The “Patriot’s Day Storm” triggered a coastal bluff landslide in Brunswick and gullying/possible flows along the Wild River in Gilead. A house was condemned due to the Brunswick landslide. A similar event was noted along the Wild River in 1998.
- 2006, Greenbush, Maine: A rotational landslide along the Penobscot River threatened U.S. Route 2.
- 2006, Mount Desert Island, Maine: Earthquakes trigger roadcut and mountainside rockfalls in Acadia National Park, blocking roads and hiking trails.
- 2005, Wells, Maine: A rotational landslide along the Merriland River resulted in removal of at least one nearby home. In March 2019, another small rotational landslide occurred in this area.
- 1996, Rockland, Maine: A coastal bluff rotational landslide destroyed two homes that had been evacuated. A similar event occurred in the same harbor in 1973.
- 1990, Grafton, Maine: A translational landslide occurred on Mount Hittie.
- 1983, Gorham, Maine: A spread landslide along the Stroudwater River destroyed a home that was under construction.
- 1966, Waterville, Maine: A rotational landslide occurred along the Kennebec River, threatening a local park known as Couture Field.

Probability of Occurrence

The probability of a major landslide is 1% in any given year, or once every 100 years. This probability is based on the observation that major landslides are more likely to occur during major flooding events (note that these landslides would typically only occur with these large floods – less so for more frequent nuisance floods).

There are no specific statistical studies of landslide probability in Maine due to the small sample size of events with a known age and/or location. Geologic research can increase the sample size of dated prehistoric landslides, but the locations of landslides included in this sample are heavily dependent on permission to access features on private property. Many historic landslides have been documented, but their exact locations are often unknown or have been altered beyond recognition. Modern landslides are increasingly difficult to document, as landowners become hesitant to report any issues that may affect their property values. However, based on the MGS report, landslides are fairly common along the Sandy River, both to the east and west of the May, 2010 landslide, and on both sides of the river.

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Many historic and modern landslides have occurred in spring during prolonged wet periods fed in part by seasonal snowmelt. Current climate projection models indicate trends that may indirectly impact the occurrence and seasonal timing of mass wasting in Maine, but such events continue to be very difficult and often impossible to predict.

Multi-Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

Franklin County is a large, sparsely populated, rural county located in Western Maine. There are only 29,456 people living in 1,789 square miles. There are 17 organized towns (47.5% total area), 4 four organized plantations (8% total area), 24 unorganized townships (42.5% of total area) and three gores (2% of total area). There are no cities in Franklin County. Ninety two percent of Franklin County is forest, with 54% being wildland acreage. There are more than 100 lakes, ponds, and streams located in the county.

The planning team analyzed multi-jurisdictional risks for flooding, winter storms, wildfires and landslides. The team identified flooding as the most significant risk to the entire county, followed by severe winter storms, wildfires and landslides.

Flooding. In terms of flooding, all areas of the county are subject to the same general risk, although several communities have a greater number of structures in the floodplain and tend to suffer greater flood losses. Some of the county's most serious flooding has been in areas where there are residential and/or commercial structures including the intervale area along the Sandy River in the vicinity of McDonald's in the Town of Farmington, the intervale area in Temple, areas along the Sandy River in Phillips and New Sharon, Route 41 in New Sharon and areas along the Carrabassett River in Kingfield.

Severe Winter Storms. In terms of severe winter storms, all areas of the county are subject to the same general risk, although areas of higher elevation generally experience more snowfall.

Wildfires. Although all areas are at risk from wildfires, it is the less densely populated areas of the smaller communities that face extensive acreage losses. This is due to the lack of roadways (accessibility within the forest land).

Landslides. All areas of steep slopes along rivers are subject to landslides.

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B2. Vulnerability and Impacts

Does the plan include a summary of the jurisdiction's vulnerability and the impacts on the community from the identified hazards? Does this summary also address NFIP insured structures that have been repetitively damaged by floods? (Requirement CFR §201.6(c)(2)(ii))

B2-a. Vulnerability to Hazards

The plan must describe the vulnerability of each participant to the identified hazards. The description must include current and future hazards (including people) and the risk that makes them susceptible to damage from the identified hazards. For plan updates, the risk assessment must meet element E1-a.

The vulnerability description must include a summary of the hazard and its consequences on the participants and their assets. A list of assets without context is not sufficient.

Vulnerability of Franklin County to each Hazard

Note: In accordance with the requirements of Element E1-a, there have been no development changes that have affected Franklin County's overall vulnerability.

Flooding. Some of the county's most serious flooding has been in areas where there are residential and/or commercial structures including the intervale area along the Sandy River in the vicinity of McDonald's in the Town of Farmington, the intervale area in Temple, areas along the Sandy River in Phillips and New Sharon, Route 41 in New Sharon and areas along the Carrabassett River in Kingfield. With the exception of the aforementioned areas, most of the developed areas in Franklin County are located outside of designated flood plains and are thus not very vulnerable to flooding. On the other hand, much of the county is very rural in nature, and is served by a network of rural roads that do not have proper storm drainage systems. These roads are very vulnerable to flooding caused by heavy downpours and/or the blockage of drainage systems by ice or debris, even though these roads may not be in an identified flood plain.

Portions of Wilton, Industry and Rangeley are vulnerable to dam breach flooding. In Wilton, there is one high hazard dam on Wilson Pond. Depending on wave crest and other factors, a dam breach on Wilson Pond could flood a number of structures in low lying areas adjacent to Wilson Stream. There are three significant hazard dams in Franklin County including one in Rangeley and two in Industry. In the event of a dam breach, properties in the immediate area would be impacted, but no lives would be expected to be lost. All other dams in Franklin County are low hazard dams and do not pose any threats to lives or property other than the properties of the dam owners.

Winter storms. Franklin County's location in Northern New England places it in a high-risk area for winter storms. While the majority of winter storms in Franklin County occur during the winter season of December through March, there are occasional winter storms in the late fall (November and early December) and in the spring (March – April). However, the severity of storms is typically most serious in January and February, with storms in the earlier and later parts of the seasons usually being of lesser magnitudes.

The time of day at which storms occur is also important, as overnight storms allow for the closure of schools and businesses, whereas storms during the day force people to travel home during storm conditions. Based on past experience, storms are most likely to occur overnight or during the morning, but afternoon storms are still somewhat likely.

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A major blizzard of the severity that occurred in 1998 could impact nearly all of Franklin County and threaten overhead electric and telephone lines. Roads may be closed due to washouts and debris in roads from trees and utility lines.

As noted earlier in this Assessment Franklin County has been included in a number of Presidential Disaster Declarations for winter storms. Franklin County contains at-risk populations that could be impacted by a major winter storm

Wildfires. Franklin County is heavily forested and is vulnerable to forest fires. However, all of the organized municipalities in Franklin County are served by capable fire departments. The Maine Forest Service has been very active in forest fire prevention activities, and, through meetings convened by the Franklin County Emergency Management Agency, meets periodically with municipal fire chiefs on matters related to wildfire prevention and response activities.

Ninety two percent of Franklin County is forested, and 54% consists of wildland acreage. The county is close to the estimated acreage of forest land present at the time of European settlement. Well-distributed rainfall normally reduces forest fire risks, but seasonal variations, rapidly draining soils and unusually dry periods can induce major blazes. In addition, insect damage (such as the hemlock woolly adelgid and spruce budworm) diseases, severe weather, and residential and commercial developments in wooded areas greatly increase the potential for catastrophic fires. Over time, a considerable fuel supply can accumulate from the ignitable slash of some logging operations and/or from dead trees left standing on the forest floor after insect infestations.

Landslides. Landslides are not widespread in Franklin County, but they have occurred in a number of locations along the Sandy River. Landslides have threatened homes, and several along the Sandy River have had to be moved. The May 2010 landslide is very close to two driveways that provide the only access to two homes on the inland side of the George Thomas Road. Because of the closure of the George Thomas Road, the only access to a number of properties located on that road was to go south on Route 41, north on Route 134, and west on the George Thomas Road over a small bridge that is sometimes under water during heavy rain events. The road has since been relocated away from the river.

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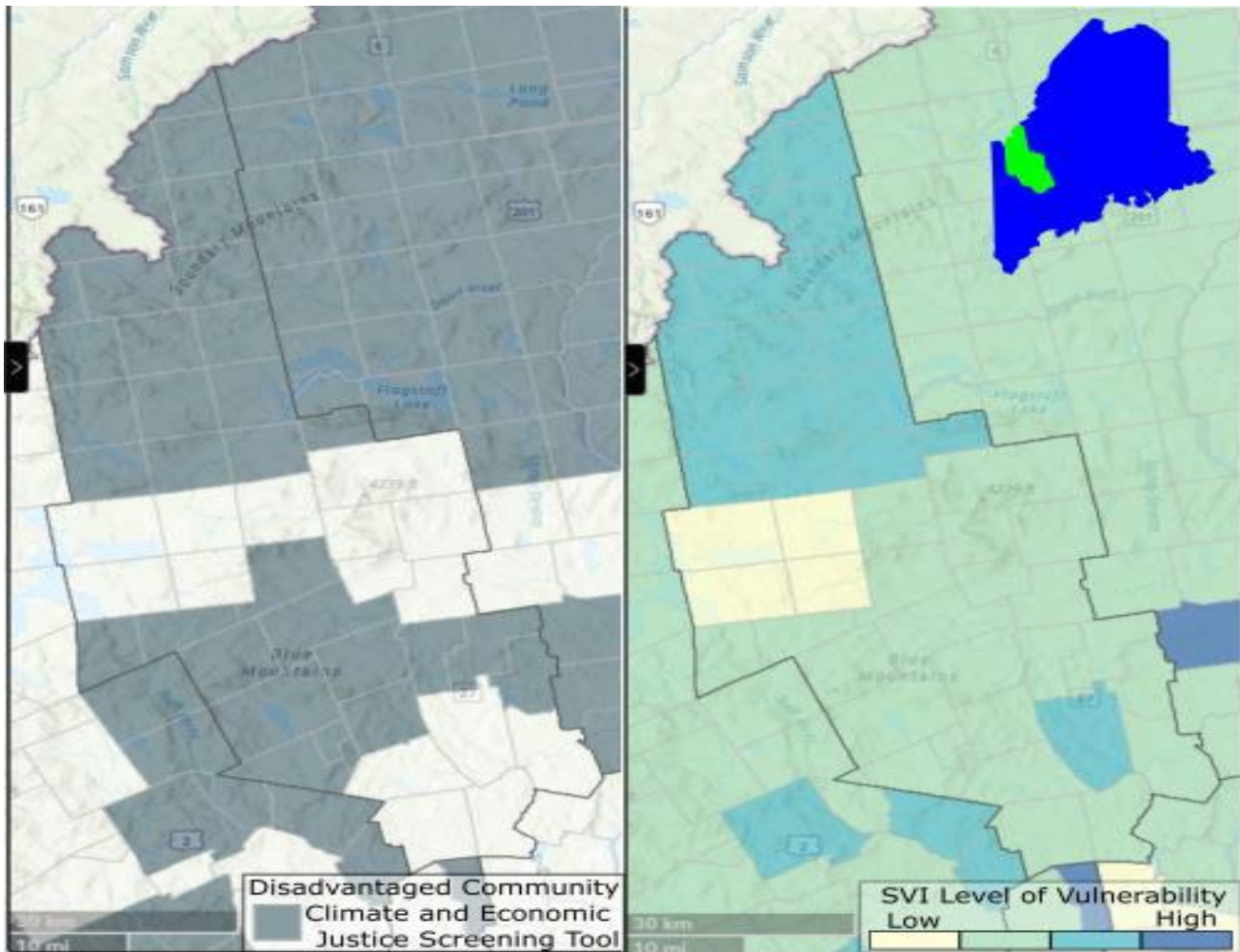


Figure above: Disadvantaged communities in Franklin County. Left: Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool ([Justice40](#)) indicates the majority of communities in Franklin County are disadvantaged and therefore as a baseline may be more vulnerable to natural hazards. Right: US Center for Disease Control Social Vulnerability Index map ([CDC SVI](#)) indicates areas in blue with SVI score of 0.5 or greater, indicating moderate to high vulnerability.

Vulnerability of Existing People, Structures, Critical Facilities, Systems/Infrastructure, and Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources

The Hazard Mitigation Team identified existing people, structures, critical facilities, systems/infrastructure and natural, historic, and cultural resources located within the county and the hazards to which these are vulnerable.

A critical facility is defined as a facility in either the public or private sector that provides essential products and services to the general public, is otherwise necessary to preserve the welfare and quality of life in Franklin County, or fulfills important public safety, emergency response, and/or disaster recovery functions. The critical facilities in Franklin County are municipal offices, fire, police stations, town garages, hospitals and clinics, water and waste water treatment facilities, and hazardous material sites.

Flooding

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- **People.** While everyone living below the county’s single high hazard dam, in flood plains, or traveling along flooded roads, could potentially be impacted by flooding, elderly and/or disabled people could be most at risk due to mobility issues.
- **Structures.** Some of the county’s most serious flooding has been in areas where there are residential and/or commercial structures including the intervale area along the Sandy River in the vicinity of McDonald’s in the Town of Farmington, the intervale area in Temple, areas along the Sandy River in Phillips and New Sharon, Route 41 in New Sharon and areas along the Carrabassett River in Kingfield.
- **Critical facilities.** Due to the varied topography within the county and the availability of higher elevation sites within all municipalities, nearly all critical facility structures are located outside of floodplains. Possible exceptions include some wastewater treatment plants, due to the need to locate these facilities at lower elevations as well as bridges and roads during extreme flooding events.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Roads and their associated storm drainage systems are the most vulnerable category of infrastructure. Much of the county is very rural in nature and is served by a network of rural roads that do not have proper storm drainage systems. These roads are very vulnerable to flooding caused by heavy downpours and/or the blockage of drainage systems by ice or debris. Electrical and communications systems could also be at risk during a flooding event.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** There are no natural, historic, or cultural resources known to be at risk from flooding.

Summary of Flood Vulnerability by Town						
	Androscoggin River	Sandy River	Carrabassett River	N Branch Dead R	Dam Breach	Other*
Avon						
Carrabassett Valley						
Carthage						X
Chesterville						
Coplin Plantation						
Dallas Plantation						X
Eustis				X		X
Farmington		X				X
Industry					X	
Jay	X					X
Kingfield			X			
New Sharon		X				
New Vineyard						
Phillips		X				X
Rangeley					X	
Rangeley Plt						
Sandy River Plt						
Strong		X				X
Temple		X				
Weld						
Wilton					X	X

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Summary of Flood Vulnerability by Town						
	Androscoggin River	Sandy River	Carrabassett River	N Branch Dead R	Dam Breach	Other*
Unorganized						

*See Location of Flooding Hazard under Flood Profile

Winter storms

- **People.** Everyone in the county could potentially be impacted by severe winter storms. However, elderly and/or disabled people could be most at risk due to mobility issues as well as medical issues.
- **Structures.** All structures in Franklin County could be vulnerable to winter storms. Damages can include burst water pipes during power outages, interior water damages due to ice dams forming on roofs, and occasionally, roof collapses due to heavy snow loads.
- **Critical facilities.** All critical facilities in Franklin County could be vulnerable to winter storms in the same manner that individual buildings are vulnerable. However, some of the critical facilities throughout the county have back-up generator systems which allow heating systems to continue operating during a power outage.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Roads and their associated storm drainage systems are the most vulnerable category of infrastructure. They can become temporarily blocked due to heavy snow falling over a short period of time, or ice which can build on their surfaces. Water main breaks due to cold weather can also occur. Roads and their storm drainage systems can become blocked due to heavy snow and ice and debris such as tree limbs. Electrical and communications systems could also be at risk during a severe winter storm event.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** There are no natural, historic, or cultural resources known to be at risk from severe winter storms.

See Location of Hazard under Winter Storms profile for specific municipal locations that are subject to severe winter storms.

Wildfires

- **People.** People living in the wildland/urban interface are at potential risk from a wildfire. Elderly and/or disabled people could be most at risk due to mobility issues.
- **Buildings.** Buildings located in the wildland/urban interface could be vulnerable to wildfires. Damages can include fire, smoke and water from fire-fighting efforts.
- **Critical facilities.** Wildfires in Franklin County have tended to be relatively small and have not been a threat to critical facilities. In the event of a very large wildfire, some critical facilities could be damaged by fire and smoke.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Power, phone and cable lines could be damaged during a wildfire. Roads and their storm drainage systems are much less vulnerable, although road access to certain areas could be blocked by fires and by emergency fire-fighting vehicles. Electrical and communications systems could also be at risk during a wildfire event.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** There are no natural, historic, or cultural resources known to be at risk from wildfires.

See Location of Hazard under Wildfire profile for specific municipal locations that are subject to wildfires.

Landslides

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- **People.** People living along the Sandy River are at potential risk from landslides. Elderly and/or disabled people could be most at risk due to mobility issues.
- **Structures.** Buildings located along the Sandy River could be vulnerable to landslides if they are located close to the river in a landslide-prone area.
- **Critical Facilities.** There are no known critical facilities in Franklin County that are threatened by potential landslides.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Power, phone and cable lines could be damaged during a landslide, as could roads and their storm drainage systems. Road access could also be blocked by a landslide.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** There are no natural, historic, or cultural resources known to be at risk from landslides.

See Location of Hazard under Landslides profile for more detail.

Vulnerability of **Future People, Structures, Critical Facilities, Systems/Infrastructure, Natural, Historic and Cultural Resources**

The Maine State Economist projects that Franklin County will gradually gain population in the coming years. The projections show a 2028 population of 33,145, which is an increase of 625 people or 2% from the 2023 population of 32,520. Given this modest projected growth in population, it is likely that there will be very little in the way of new buildings, infrastructure or critical facilities and little likelihood that any new construction would be vulnerable to the identified hazards. There is no data on the projected vulnerability of these resources from climate change.

Flooding

- **People.** Franklin County's population is expected to grow at a modest rate of 1,660 people over the next five years, or about 125 people on an annual basis. There are few, if any, areas where new construction to accommodate this growth would be permitted in areas subject to flooding. Most of the expected growth is expected to be in remote, rural areas.
- **Structures.** All of the municipalities in Franklin County are in the flood insurance program, and all have municipal shoreland zoning ordinances that generally prohibit the construction of residential and non-residential structures in floodplains. Unlike other parts of the country, Maine does not experience the cycle of widespread flooding devastation in its floodplains, followed by intensive development pressures and subsequent rebuilding. Therefore, flooding of future buildings is not likely to be a serious issue in Franklin County.
- **Critical facilities.** Because of the requirements of the Flood Insurance Program, as well as shoreland zoning requirements and a greater awareness of flooding in all communities, future critical facilities will continue to be located outside floodplain areas. The exception may be wastewater treatment plants, due to the need to locate these facilities at lower elevations.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Future roads and their associated storm drainage systems would seem to be the most likely category of infrastructure that would be vulnerable to flooding. However, state and local road construction standards generally ensure that new roads are properly constructed with adequate storm drainage systems. Most if not all roads in the public domain must be designed by a registered professional engineer. Therefore, flooding of future roads is not likely to be a serious issue in Franklin County.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** Natural resources exist in flood plain areas, so these would be vulnerable to future flooding. There are no known plans for future historic or cultural facilities, so these would not be vulnerable to future flooding.

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Winter storms

- **People.** Franklin County’s future population is expected to be vulnerable to winter storms to the same extent as the county’s current population.
- **Structures.** New buildings in Franklin County will be less vulnerable to winter storms. Damages may include burst water pipes, but many newer buildings will be better insulated than older ones, thus being better able to retain heat during longer periods of time when there is a power outage. There will be less interior water damage due to ice dams forming on roofs because the roofs of newer buildings generally are properly vented, which allows the roofs to remain cold. Roof collapses due to heavy snow loads will be very rare because newer roofs are designed to withstand heavy snow loads.
- **Critical facilities.** Future critical facilities in Franklin County will be vulnerable to winter storms in the same manner that individual buildings will be vulnerable. However, some of them will have back-up generator systems which will allow heating systems to continue operating during a power outage.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Roads will continue to be the most vulnerable category of infrastructure. New roads can be just as easily blocked on a temporary basis due to heavy snowfall, ice building up on the road surface, and debris such as tree limbs accumulating on the road surface during a storm event. However, it is unlikely that Franklin County will experience much new road construction, with the possible exception of small road segments serving subdivisions.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** Natural resources would be vulnerable to future winter storms. There are no known plans for future historic or cultural facilities, so these would not be vulnerable to future winter storms.

Wildfires

- **People.** Franklin County’s future population is expected to be vulnerable to wildfires to the same extent as the county’s current population, but future residents who locate in remote rural areas are expected to be more vulnerable to wildfires.
- **Structures.** Future buildings located in the wildland/urban interface may be vulnerable to wildfires. Damages can include fire, smoke and water from fire-fighting efforts. However, given the modest population increases projected for Franklin County, there will not be many new buildings located in the wildland/urban interface.
- **Critical facilities.** Future critical facilities may be vulnerable to a very large wildfire. However, the expectation is that there will be very few new critical facilities constructed during the life of this plan.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Future power, phone and cable lines can be damaged during a wildfire, although the level of future construction is expected to be minimal, primarily because of the modest population increases projected for the county.
- **Natural, Historic, Cultural Resources.** Natural resources would be vulnerable to future wildfires. There are no known plans for future historic or cultural facilities, so these would not be vulnerable to future wildfires.

The Maine Forest Service’s (MFS) Forest Protection Division provides forest fire protection services for all of Maine’s forest lands. MFS’ goals are to keep the number of forest fire starts to less than 1,000 and annual acreage loss to less than 3,500. Since 2002, MFS has met those goals because of:

- Quick and effective initial attack on all fires;
- Effective air detection and aerial suppression;
- Modern forest fire-fighting equipment;

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- Strong emphasis on fire prevention, including State control of statewide burning permits;
- Aggressive training and preparation;
- Improved access to remote areas of the State;
- Northeast Forest Fire Compact membership, providing resources during periods of high fire danger;
- Proactive public information campaigns;
- Law enforcement; and
- Extensive automated weather stations providing accurate daily information used to assist in planning fire operations

In 2001, the MFS developed a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Committee. This committee was assigned the responsibility of assessing the risk of wildfire to homes within and near forested areas. MFS has printed and distributed over 4,000 brochures and has developed public service announcements alerting homeowners to the potential threat of wildfire in interface areas and what they can do to limit their exposure to the threat of wildfires. MFS has also partnered with the National Park Service to deliver software that can determine risk in Maine communities.

MFS has also launched a community assessment program aimed at focusing its fire prevention efforts on geographical areas of the state with relatively high occurrences of wildfires. The assessment involves working with local officials and the public to identify vulnerable homes in the urban/wildland interface. MFS then prepares a community wildfire protection plan that contains guidelines that homeowners can use to protect their homes. The emphasis is on maintaining a 30-foot defensible space around homes.

Landslides

- **People.** Franklin County does not expect future residents to locate along those portions of the Sandy River that are subject to landslides, so it is unlikely they would be vulnerable to landslides.
- **Structures.** Future buildings located along the Sandy River may be vulnerable to landslides if they are constructed on a steep bluff over 20 feet in height. However, local shoreland zoning ordinances generally require that such structures be set back 75 and sometimes 100 feet from the normal high water mark.
- **Critical Facilities.** The expectation is that there will be very few new critical facilities constructed during the life of this plan. It is unlikely that any would be located on a steep bluff overlooking the Sandy River.
- **Systems/Infrastructure.** Future power, phone and cable lines may be vulnerable to landslides if they are located on a steep bluff in a landslide-prone area. It is unlikely that future roads would be located on steep banks along the Sandy River, so it is unlikely that future roads would be vulnerable to landslides.

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B2-b. Potential Impacts of Hazards

The plan must describe the potential impacts on each participating jurisdiction and its identified assets. Impacts must include the effects of climate change, changes in population patterns (migration, density or the makeup of socially vulnerable populations), and changes in land use and development.

The potential impacts on Franklin County are not expected to be different from the impacts described previously in the profiles of each hazard – flooding, winter storms, wildfires and landslides and in the previous discussion of climate change. There is no data on the impacts of climate change on Franklin County as a whole, or on specific municipal jurisdictions.

Impacts of each hazard on Franklin County

Flooding. In addition to damages to residential and commercial structures in some locations, the typical damages resulting from flooding in Franklin County include damages to roads and their respective drainage systems. Historically, flood damages have included partial or complete road washouts, as well as severe erosion of roadside ditches, resulting in hazards to motorists if their vehicles go off the road. In some cases, entire communities have been partly or completely isolated because the only road serving the town has been damaged by floods. This is not expected to change over the next five years.

There could be a risk from dam breach flooding in Wilton, Industry and Rangeley.

Winter storms. The impacts of winter storms include road closures (and the subsequent inability of emergency vehicles to provide help), the loss of power for extended periods of time, high costs to local governments for snow removal efforts, and loss of income to businesses and individuals due to business closures. Roof collapses, both residential and commercial, are rare but they can occur when snow loads become extreme. This is not expected to change over the next five years.

The snowpack makes an important contribution to both surface and groundwater supplies, and years with a low snowpack can lead to water shortages by late summer. Melting of the snowpack in April and May is often gradual enough to prevent serious flooding, although there have been times when a quick melt has led to disastrous conditions.

Wildfires. The primary impacts include damages to homes located in the wildland-urban interface and loss of valuable timberland. A larger percentage of homes in rural towns are located in the wildland-urban interface than homes in village areas. The northern part of the county includes vast tracts of forestland that could be damaged by wildfires. This is not expected to change over the next five years.

Landslides. The primary impacts include damage to roads and other infrastructure located along the Sandy River, restriction of access to portions of the community as well as individual properties, threats to residential and non-residential properties located near the river, and the creation of dangerous situations for the traveling public and property owners. This is not expected to change over the next five years.

Franklin County's population is projected to grow at a modest rate over the next five years, so there will be little in the way of changes in population patterns (migration, density, or the makeup of vulnerable populations), and very little in the way of changes in land use and development. Most future development in the county is expected to consist of single family homes on individual lots in scattered, often remote locations. The effects of climate change will include increasing temperatures

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with corresponding changes in the length of winter and the growing season, and rainfall patterns. However, these changes are not expected to significantly alter the impacts of flooding, severe winter storms, wildfire or landslides. Maine’s State NFIP Coordinator has indicated that new, digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps will be generated for many of the river basins within Franklin County, but the full process to incorporate effective flood maps within municipal floodplain ordinances will exceed the 5-year period of this plan. Detailed projections of climate change impacts of each hazard for each jurisdiction contained in this plan are not available as of this writing. However, projections of losses have been prepared for each jurisdiction, as reflected in the following pages. Since the calculations rely on worst-case scenarios, it is likely they would account for any minor variations caused by climate change.

Assessing Impacts: Estimating Potential Losses

Overview. This section of the plan relies on historical damages as the basis for estimating future losses, subject to the following:

- Historical damage estimates have been updated, using the Consumer Price Index shown below;
- Presidential Disaster Declarations have been used where possible, updated for inflation using the Consumer Price Index below;
- Where statewide or county damages are used to determine damages for a specific jurisdiction, the damages are pro-rated using the 2020 Census.

The average annual Consumer Price Index for various years is shown below, based on a value of 100 for the years 1982-1984. Since the calculations rely on worst-case scenarios, it is likely they would account for any minor variations caused by climate change.

Consumer Price Index 1982-1984 = 100		
1947 = 22.3	1994 = 148.2	2009 = 214.5
1980 = 82.4	1995 = 152.4	2010 = 218.1
1981 = 90.9	1996 = 156.9	2011 = 224.9
1982 = 96.5	1997 = 160.5	2012 = 229.6
1983 = 99.6	1998 = 163.0	2013 = 233.0
1984 = 103.9	1999 = 166.6	2014 = 236.7
1985 = 107.6	2000 = 172.2	2015 = 237.0
1986 = 109.6	2001 = 177.1	2016 = 240.0
1987 = 113.6	2002 = 179.9	2017 = 245.1
1988 = 118.3	2003 = 184.0	2018 = 251.1
1989 = 124.0	2004 = 188.9	2019 = 255.7
1990 = 130.7	2005 = 195.3	2020 = 258.8
1991 = 136.2	2006 = 201.6	2021 = 271.0
1992 = 140.3	2007 = 207.3	
1993 = 144.5	2008 = 215.3	

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Flooding. This plan uses worst-case, real-life damages to calculate potential flood losses, and assumes that historic patterns will hold for the future. The worst case flood is the April Fool's Day flood of 1987, which resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration of \$100,000,000 in damages to 10 counties. Using the Consumer Price Index, the damages in 2021 dollars would be \$238,556,000 (multiply \$100 million by 271.0, the Consumer Price Index for 2021, and divide by 113.6, the Consumer Price Index for 1987).

The methodology for calculating potential losses in Franklin County is to assume the greater of:

- 1) Actual damages updated using the Consumer Price Index for 2021 (column B in the table below; actual times 271.0, divided by 113.6), or
- 2) Flood losses based on \$189 per capita (column C in the table below). The \$189 figure is calculated by taking the 2020 population of the 14 counties that suffered damages in 1987 (1,264,159), and dividing it into total 1987 flood damages in 2021 dollars (\$238,556,000) to get a per capita cost of \$189. Each town's population is multiplied by \$189 to get potential damages.

The maximum flood loss (column D) is the greater of column B or C.

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Potential Flood Damages in Franklin County					
Municipality	2020 Population	A. Maximum Flood losses	B. Max. losses updated by CPI	C. Losses Based on \$189/capita	D Maximum Potential Loss
Avon	450	\$44,293 ⁵	\$57,904	\$85,050	\$85,050
Carrabassett Valley	673	\$285,126 ⁷	\$315,256	\$127,197	\$315,256
Carthage	509	\$89,144 ⁵	\$116,537	\$96,201	\$116,537
Chesterville	1,328	\$64,468 ²	\$98,650	\$250,992	\$250,992
Coplin Plantation	131	\$8,072 ¹	\$19,256	\$24,759	\$24,759
Dallas Plantation	304	\$4,838 ³	\$6,941	\$57,456	\$57,456
Eustis	641	\$13,737 ⁵	\$17,958	\$121,149	\$121,149
Farmington	7,592	\$118,343 ¹	\$282,314	\$1,434,888	\$1,434,888
Industry	788	\$90,612 ⁵	\$118,456	\$148,932	\$148,932
Jay	4,620	\$155,995 ¹	\$372,135	\$873,180	\$873,180
Kingfield	960	\$41,304 ⁷	\$45,669	\$181,440	\$181,440
New Sharon	1,458	\$111,829 ⁵	\$146,192	\$275,562	\$275,562
New Vineyard	721	\$95,896 ¹	\$228,766	\$136,269	\$228,766
Phillips	898	\$415,551 ⁶	\$525,008	\$169,722	\$525,008
Rangeley	1,222	\$72,702 ⁵	\$95,042	\$230,958	\$230,958
Rangeley Plt	184	\$86,917 ⁵	\$113,625	\$34,776	\$113,625
Sandy River Plt	128	\$43,913 ⁷	\$48,553	\$24,192	\$48,553
Strong	1,122	\$54,240 ¹	\$129,393	\$212,058	\$212,058
Temple	527	\$124,536 ¹	\$297,089	\$99,603	\$297,089
Weld	376	\$141,258 ⁶	\$178,466	\$71,064	\$178,466
Wilton	3,835	\$443,753 ¹	\$1,058,599	\$724,815	\$1,058,599
Unorganized	989	\$131,316 ⁴	\$182,215	\$186,921	\$186,921
Franklin County	29,456	\$2,637,843	\$4,454,024	\$5,567,184	\$6,965,244

¹1987 DR-788; ²2001 DR-1371; ³2004 DR-1508; ⁴2005 DR-1591; ⁵2007 DR-1693; ⁶2009 DR-1852; ⁷2017 DR-4354.

Winter storms. This plan uses worst-case, real-life damages to calculate potential winter storm damages, and assumes that historic patterns will hold for the future. For Franklin County, the worst storm is the ice storm of 1998, which resulted in a statewide Presidential Disaster Declaration of \$47,748,466. The actual damages were closer to \$100,000,000 because the Disaster Declaration did not cover damages to power lines and private structures. Using the Consumer Price Index, the \$47.7 million in damages would be \$79.3 million in 2021 dollars (multiply \$47.7 million by 271.0, the CPI for 2021, and divide by 163.0, the CPI for 1998). The damages in Franklin County totaled \$861,472, which would be \$1.43 million in 2021 dollars.

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The methodology for calculating potential losses in Franklin County is to assume the greater of:

- 1) Actual damages updated using the Consumer Price Index (column B in the table below), or
- 2) Winter storm losses based on \$58 per capita (column C in the table below). The \$58 figure is calculated by taking the 2020 population of the 16 counties that suffered damages in 1987 (1,362,359) and dividing it into total 1998 ice storm damages in 2021 dollars (\$79.3 million) to get a per capita cost of \$58. Each town's 2020 population is multiplied by \$58 to get potential damages.

The maximum winter storm loss (column D) is the greater of column B or C.

Potential Winter Storm Damages in Franklin County				
	A. Actual 1998 Ice Storm Damages	B. Updated Ice Storm Losses Using CPI	C. Winter Storm Losses Based on \$58/Capita	D. Maximum Potential Winter Storm Loss
Avon	\$18,743	\$31,162	\$26,100	\$31,162
Carrabassett Valley	\$5,503	\$9,149	\$39,034	\$39,034
Carthage	\$16,409	\$27,281	\$29,522	\$29,522
Chesterville	\$32,089	\$53,351	\$77,024	\$77,024
Coplin Plantation	\$0	\$0	\$7,598	\$7,598
Dallas Plantation	\$24,841	\$41,300	\$17,632	\$41,300
Eustis	\$8,150	\$13,550	\$37,178	\$37,178
Farmington	\$58,791	\$97,745	\$440,336	\$440,336
Industry	\$98,951	\$164,514	\$45,704	\$164,514
Jay	\$163,423	\$271,704	\$267,960	\$271,704
Kingfield	\$39,047	\$64,919	\$55,680	\$64,919
New Sharon	\$35,996	\$59,846	\$84,564	\$84,564
New Vineyard	\$38,500	\$64,009	\$41,818	\$64,009
Phillips	\$30,312	\$50,396	\$52,084	\$52,084
Rangeley	\$88,806	\$147,647	\$70,876	\$147,647
Rangeley Plt	\$11,391	\$18,938	\$10,672	\$18,938
Sandy River Plt	\$0	\$0	\$7,424	\$7,424
Strong	\$24,971	\$41,516	\$65,076	\$65,076
Temple	\$9,672	\$16,080	\$30,566	\$30,566
Weld	\$41,288	\$68,645	\$21,808	\$68,645
Wilton	\$57,834	\$96,154	\$222,430	\$222,430
Other*	\$34,996	\$58,184	n.a.	\$58,184
Unorganized**	\$21,815	\$36,269	\$57,362	\$57,362
Franklin County	\$861,472	\$1,432,266	\$1,708,448	\$2,081,220

* School administrative districts

** Includes Madrid, which was a town in 1998 but has since been reabsorbed into the UT.

Wildfires. This plan uses worst-case, real-life damages to calculate potential wildfire losses, and assumes that historic patterns will hold for the future. The 1947 fire was the worst on record, although it was actually a series of wildfires that flared over Eastern and Southern Maine. The 1947 fire caused an estimated \$30,000,000 in damages to Cumberland, Hancock, Oxford and York Counties. The damage in 2021 dollars would be about \$365 million (multiply \$30 million by 271, the CPI for 2021, and divide by 22.3, the CPI for 1947). While there is significantly more development in each of these

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counties today than there was in 1947, fire-fighting capabilities have also increased substantially since that time so there may be no need to further increase the damage estimate. The probability that a wildfire such as the 1947 fire will hit Maine during the five-year period covered by this plan is not high.

The methodology for calculating potential wildfire losses in Franklin County is based on the damages that occurred in the 1947 fire in Cumberland, Hancock, Oxford and York Counties. The 2020 population of the four counties is 628,296. Divide \$365 million (the 1947 fire cost in 2021 dollars) by 628,296 to get a per capita cost of \$581. Multiply each town's 2020 population by \$581 to get potential wildfire damages.

Potential Wildfire Damages in Franklin County		
	Year-Round Population 2020	Potential Wildfire Damages (Population x \$581)
Avon	450	\$261,450
Carrabassett Valley.	673	\$391,013
Carthage	509	\$295,729
Chesterville	1,328	\$771,568
Coplin Plantation	131	\$76,111
Dallas Plantation	304	\$176,624
Eustis	641	\$372,421
Farmington	7,592	\$4,410,952
Industry	788	\$457,828
Jay	4,620	\$2,684,220
Kingfield	960	\$557,760
New Sharon	1,458	\$847,098
New Vineyard	721	\$418,901
Phillips	898	\$521,738
Rangeley	1,222	\$709,982
Rangeley Plantation	184	\$106,904
Sandy River Plantation	128	\$74,368
Strong	1,122	\$651,882
Temple	527	\$306,187
Weld	376	\$218,456
Wilton	3,835	\$2,228,135
Unorganized**	989	\$574,609
Franklin County	29,456	\$17,113,936

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Landslides. The following is an excerpt from the Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2023 Update (note: landslides are included in the broader term “mass wasting”).

“MEMA conducted a geospatial analysis to identify public road sections located adjacent to known landslide locations. This analysis was held under the assumption that these locations may be prone to future mass wasting events with the potential to damage roads. All public road sections within 20 meters of landslide disturbance sites were selected...These road segments consist of 55.8 miles in total length and host an average of 4,107 vehicles per day based on annual average daily traffic calculations provided by MaineDOT. Municipalities are responsible for ...34.62 total miles.”

“Potential dollar losses to jurisdictions based on road exposure may exceed \$51 million dollars in total. However, a single mass wasting event will generally be localized to within a mile of road length or less. In this case, losses may be closer to \$1.5 to \$2 million.” Two MaineDOT-managed road sections may be potentially exposed in Franklin County with a total mileage of 3.3 miles, which would equate to a replacement cost of \$5 to \$6.6 Million.

Development Trends

Note: See Element E-1 for a more detailed analysis of development trends.

There has been no change in vulnerability in Franklin County over the past five years. Land use within Franklin County ranges from small village areas to suburban residential areas, to rural areas, farms and forest land. The largest community in the county is Farmington, with a 2020 population of 7,592.

All of the municipalities in Franklin County have enacted floodplain ordinances to prevent new commercial, industrial, and institutional development within flood zones. All of the towns in Franklin County are members of the NFIP program, and all have shoreland zoning ordinances. The Unorganized Territory is regulated by Maine’s Land Use Planning Commission.

Franklin County is growing very slowly. Based on Census data, between 1990 and 2000, the County’s population grew from 29,008 to 29,467, for a gain of 459 people, or 1.6%. Between 2000 and 2010, the County gained 1,301 people, or 4.4%, growing from 29,467 people to 30,768 people. From 2010 to 2020, the county lost 1,312 people, a decline of 4.3%. The county’s population in 2020 was approximately the same as it was in the year 2000. Between 2010 and 2020, all municipalities in Franklin County except Eustis, New Sharon, Rangeley and Temple lost population.

The Maine State Economist projects that Franklin County will gradually gain population in the coming years. The projections show a 2028 population of 33,145, which is a modest increase of 625 people or 2% from the 2023 population of 32,520.

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Population Projections Franklin County				
	Census 2020	Projections		% Change 2023-2028
		2023	2028	
Avon	450	440	442	0%
Carrabassett Valley	673	806	835	4%
Carthage	509	539	544	1%
Chesterville	1,328	1,372	1,407	3%
Coplin Plantation	131	160	162	1%
Dallas Plantation	304	298	301	1%
Eustis	641	625	640	2%
Farmington	7,592	7,880	8,158	4%
Industry	788	931	952	2%
Jay	4,620	4,653	4,692	1%
Kingfield	960	988	1,011	2%
New Sharon	1,458	1,424	1,456	2%
New Vineyard	721	805	832	3%
Phillips	898	1,027	1,045	2%
Rangeley	1,222	1,167	1,188	2%
Rangeley Plt	184	184	187	2%
Sandy River Plt	128	127	128	0%
Strong	1,122	1,165	1,174	1%
Temple	527	518	522	1%
Weld	376	427	439	3%
Wilton	3,835	3,976	4,009	1%
Unorganized	989	985	993	1%
Franklin County	29,456	32,520	33,145	2%

<p>B2-c. Repetitively Flooded NFIP-Insured Structures</p> <p>The plan must address repetitively flooded NFIP-insured structures by including the estimated numbers and types (residential, commercial, institutional, etc.) of repetitive/severe repetitive loss properties.</p>

Repetitive Losses (flood Insurance)

Based on information obtained from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), there have been six repetitive losses in Franklin County, as shown in the table below. In accordance with the Federal Privacy Act, the addresses, owner names or claim information of these repetitive loss properties are not disclosed.

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FEMA Definition of Repetitive Loss Property: A repetitive loss property is a structure covered by a contract for flood insurance made available under the NFIP that:

- (a) Has incurred flood-related damage on 2 occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event; and
- (b) At the time of the second incidence of flood-related damage, the contract for flood insurance contains increased cost of compliance coverage.

Franklin County Repetitive Loss Properties						
	Repetitive Losses			# losses	\$ Buildings	\$ Contents
	Total #	Residential	Non-Res.			
Carrabassett Valley	2	2	0	6	\$99,066	\$20,616
Farmington	1	0	1	3	\$21,472	\$15,600
Kingfield	2	2	0	4	\$157,552	\$1,530
Temple	1	1	0	2	\$2,216	\$2,146
Total	6	5	1	15	\$280,306	\$39,892

Source: Maine State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update

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ELEMENT C. MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Mitigation Strategy Requirements

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 44 CFR §201.6(c)(3))

C1-a. Authorities, Policies, Programs, Funding and Resources

The plan must describe how the existing authorities, policies, programs, funding and resources of each participant are available to support the mitigation strategy. This must include a discussion of the existing building codes and land use and development ordinances or regulations. Capabilities may be described in a table or narrative.

C1. Existing Authorities, Policies, Programs, Funding and Resources

Below is a summary of existing authorities, policies, programs, funding and resources available to accomplish hazard mitigation. See also the table that follows this summary.

- **Town Manager:** If a town has a town manager, the role varies greatly across the county. In many cases, a town manager may also have the roles and responsibilities of the road commissioner or EMA director. In the table below, “TM” indicates town manager; and “AA” indicates administrative assistant.
- **Board of Selectmen or Board of Assessors:** If a town has no town manager, that role is filled by a Board of Selectmen, or in the case of a plantation, by a Board of Assessors. Depending on the community’s capacity, the board might also serve as road commissioner.
- **Code Enforcement Officer:** There are no towns in Franklin County with staff resources devoted exclusively to hazard mitigation. None are known to have a municipal engineer, planner or GPS specialist on staff. However, all municipalities are required to have a code enforcement officer whose role is to ensure that the community is in compliance with all state laws and municipal codes and ordinances that support hazard mitigation, such as standards of public health, safety, public works, building codes and more.
- **Public Works or Road Commissioner:** Some of the larger towns have a public works director, but most will have a road commissioner. As previously noted, the road commissioner might also be the town manager or board of selectmen.
- **Flood Hazard Ordinance:** All of the towns are in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and have a flood hazard ordinance in effect. In the following table, the designation “LUPC” indicates that the plantation’s flood plains are under the regulatory jurisdiction of the state’s Land Use Planning Commission.
- **Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.** All of the towns in Franklin County are required to have a shoreland zoning ordinance, whether adopted by the municipality or imposed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The designation LUPC indicates that the plantation’s shorelands are under the regulatory jurisdiction of the State’s Land Use Planning Commission.
- **Form of Government:** In the following table, the letter “T” indicates town meeting form of government and the designation LUPC indicates that the plantation is governed by the state’s Land Use Planning Commission.
- **Resources:** In addition to staffing or other expertise, funding resources are from local taxes and/or grants.
- **Building Code:** The Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) applies to all towns within the State of Maine. Enforcement of MUBEC is required for municipalities with

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populations meeting or exceeding 4,000 residents based on the U.S. Census Bureau's most recent decennial census. As of the 2020 Census, Farmington, Jay and Wilton meet this population threshold in Franklin County. Municipalities with populations below this threshold may also adopt (and are encouraged to adopt) MUBEC. MUBEC is made up of the following codes and standards: 2015 International Residential Code (IRC), International Building Code (IBC), International Existing Building Code (IEBC), International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) <https://www.maine.gov/dps/fmo/building-codes>

- **Culvert Sizing Design Guidance:** Approved by the Maine Department of Transportation Environmental Office in 2015, this guidance replaces older practices to ensure new culverts withstand larger peak flows currently experienced in streams and rivers. This design guidance is implemented for state/public roads and strongly encouraged for local, county and municipal roads. www.maine.gov/mdot/edi/docs/CulvertSizing52115.pdf
- **Tree Care and electricity transmission/distribution lines:** Central Maine Power implements tree pruning and removals within rights of ways to reduce potential service interruptions during and after severe summer or winter storms. www.cmpco.com/wps/portal/cmp/outages/weareready/treecare
- **Community Action Partnerships:** Community Action Partnership is a national, 501(c)3 nonprofit membership organization that provides technical assistance, training, and other resources to Community Action Agencies, nonprofit and public groups funded by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), a federal program that allocates funding to states to connect Americans to greater opportunity. The Maine Community Action Partnership (MeCAP) is the statewide organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of Maine people by advocating for, promoting and supporting the work of the 10 regional Maine community action agencies. The mission of MeCAP and partner agencies align with the mitigation goals of this plan by reducing the overall vulnerability of disadvantaged communities through use of whole community approaches <https://mecap.org/our-network>
- **Expansion/Improvements:** All jurisdictions in Franklin County could expand and improve their existing capabilities if additional funds, beyond their existing tax bases, became available to address the hazard mitigation projects listed in this plan.
- **Other Regional Planning Capabilities:** Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) provides regional planning support serving the Western Maine communities of Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford Counties. AVCOG provides technical assistance to support local economic development, land-use planning, transportation planning, and environmental management.
- **Land Use Planning Commission:** The Land Use Planning Commission serves as the planning and zoning authority for the unorganized and deorganized areas of the State, including townships and plantations. These areas either have no local government or have chosen not to administer land use controls at the local level. The commission issues permits for smaller development projects, such as home constructions and camp renovations. For larger development projects requiring Department of Environmental Protection review under the Site Location of Development Law, the commission certifies that proposed land uses are allowed and that proposed development activities comply with applicable land use standards.
- **Other state-level laws that impact zoning/land use:** Other state laws exist that support community efforts for mitigation actions in their jurisdiction or authorize municipalities with the right to adopt their own ordinances. A reference guide to these laws and how they may be enforced is provided here: <https://legislature.maine.gov/doc/7182>

Key to table on next page:

TM – Town Manager
T - Town
AA – Administrative Assistant
LUPC – Land Use Planning Commission
X - Yes

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Existing Authorities, Policies, Programs and Resources Available to Accomplish Hazard Mitigation							
Town	Town Manager	Code Enforcement Officer	Public Works or Road Commissioner	EMA Director	Flood Hazard Ordinance	Shoreland Zoning Ordinance	Form of Government
Avon		X	X	X	X	X	T
Carrabassett Valley	TM	X	X		X	X	T
Carthage		X		X	X	X	T
Chesterville	AA	X	X		X	X	T
Coplin Plt		X	X	X	LUPC	LUPC	LUPC
Dallas Plt		X	X	X	LUPC	LUPC	LUPC
Eustis		X	X	X	X	X	T
Farmington	TM	X	X	X	X	X	T
Industry		X	X		X	X	T
Jay	TM	X	X		X	X	T
Kingfield	AA	X	X	X	X	X	T
New Sharon		X	X	X	X	X	T
New Vineyard	AA	X	X	X	X	X	T
Phillips	TM	X	X	X	X	X	T
Rangeley	TM	X	X	X	X	X	T
Rangeley Plt		X	X		LUPC	LUPC	LUPC
Sandy River Plt		X	X	X	LUPC	LUPC	LUPC
Strong		X		X	X	X	T
Temple		X	X	X	X	X	T
Weld		X	X	X	X	X	T
Wilton	TM	X	X	X	X	X	T

While Franklin County EMA does not have any direct authority to implement hazard mitigation projects in the municipalities, it does:

- Oversee the preparation of the county Hazard Mitigation Plan and its updates
- Support hazard mitigation planning/training
- Coordinate activities of local EMA directors and
- Participate in grant application development.

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C1-b. Ability of Each Participant to Expand/Improve Capabilities

The plan must describe the ability of each participant to expand on and improve the capabilities described in the plan.

All jurisdictions in Franklin County could expand and improve their existing capabilities in the following ways:

- All of the municipalities in Franklin County could address hazard mitigation projects listed on the following pages if additional funds, beyond funds raised from their existing tax bases, became available to them.
- A handful of towns have zoning ordinances including Carrabassett, Farmington and Wilton. In addition, the state's Land Use Planning Commission governs all land use development in plantations and the Unorganized Territory. Municipalities that do not have zoning could prepare and adopt a zoning ordinance. Drafting a zoning ordinance would generally require technical and possibly legal assistance, as well as support from the community. Zoning ordinances can be controversial in small rural communities.
- The Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) applies in all communities in excess of a population of 4,000. Communities not meeting that population threshold could adopt a building code in conformance with MUBEC.
- All of the municipalities in Franklin County could take advantage of various funding sources that support mitigation such as FEMA BRIC, HMGP, and state Community Resilience Partnership Grants.

C2. Participation in the NFIP

Does the plan address each jurisdiction's participation in the NFIP and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate? (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(c)(3)(ii))

C2.-a. Describe Participation in the NFIP

The plan must describe participation in the NFIP for each participant, as applicable, in accordance with NFIP regulatory requirements. The following information must be provided for each participant:

1. Adoption of NFIP minimum floodplain management criteria via local regulation (see table below);
2. Adoption of the latest effective flood insurance rate map (FIRM), if applicable (see table below);
3. Implementation and enforcement of local floodplain management regulations to regulate and permit development of SFHAs. The State of Maine requires that all municipalities have a code enforcement officer and further, that all code enforcement officers undergo training and certification at the state level. Proper administration and enforcement of floodplain management ordinances is part of the training program. As shown in the table below, all municipalities in Franklin County (17) have joined the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and as a condition of participation in the program, have enacted floodplain management ordinances that limit new development in floodplain areas.

All of the plantations and unorganized townships in Franklin County are under the jurisdiction of Maine's Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC). LUPC has agreed to administer and enforce the NFIP for all communities that are under its control and has modified its

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requirement to include floodplain management regulations. As shown in the table below, all four plantations are in the NFIP by virtue of the fact that they are under the jurisdiction of the LUPC.

Maine officials anticipate and expect that municipalities in Franklin County will:

- Participate in NFIP training offered by the State and/or FEMA (or in other training) that addresses flood hazard planning and management.
- Address NFIP monitoring and compliance activities.
- Identify and become knowledgeable of non-compliant structures in the community.
- Inspect foundations at time of completion before framing to determine if lowest floor is at or above Base Flood Elevation (BFE).
- Enhance local officials, builders, developers, local citizens and other stakeholders' knowledge of how to read and interpret the FIRM.
- Work with elected officials, the state and FEMA to correct existing compliance issues and prevent any future NFIP compliance issues through continuous communications, training and education.

Based on contacts with Maine's NFIP Coordinator, municipalities are not required to check in with Maine's NFIP Program, but NFIP staff check up on them in the form of Community Assistance Contacts (CACs – by phone, and Community Assistance Visits (CAVs – in person). The in-person visits only amount to about 12 or so communities a year. They are expected to administer and enforce the NFIP and to keep their ordinances up to date to remain in good standing with the Program.

4. Appointment of a designee or agency to implement the addressed commitments and requirements of the NFIP. The code enforcement officer is the designated entity for addressing the commitment of the NFIP. Depending on the local ordinance, additional approvals (e.g. local planning board) may also be required. The Land Use Planning Commission is the designated agency in the plantations and Unorganized Territory, as described above.
5. Description of how participants implement the substantial improvement/substantial damage provisions of their floodplain management regulations after an event. There is no statewide entity that monitors the administration of local floodplain management ordinances. The Franklin County EMA, which does not have the legal authority or resources to monitor the administration and enforcement of local ordinances, is not aware of any municipality that has had to use this provision within the past five years.

The table below summarizes the participation of Franklin County municipalities in the NFIP.

Abbreviations

M: No elevation determined – All Zone A, C and X

L: Original FIRM by letter - All Zone A, C and X

NSFHA: No Special Flood Hazard Area – All Zone C

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Franklin County Communities Participating in the NFIP					
Town	Init FHB¹	Init FIRM¹	Curr Eff Map Date¹	Reg-Emer Date¹	Adoption and Enforcement²
Avon	11-10-75	4-1-09	4-1-09 (L)	4-10-09	X
Carrabassett Valley	2-4-77	5-3-90	12-5-90	5-3-90	X
Carthage	8-6-76	8-19-85	8-19-85 (M)	8-19-85	X
Chesterville	2-21-75	8-19-85	8-19-85 (M)	8-19-85	X
Coplin Plt	-	-	NSFHA	4-30-84	X
Dallas Plt	2-14-75	8-19-85	2-23-00	8-19-85	X
Eustis	12-13-74	8-19-85	8-19-85 (M)	8-19-85	X
Farmington	9-6-74	5-19-81	7-3-95	5-19-81	X
Industry	1-21-75	8-19-85	8-19-85 (M)	8-19-85	X
Jay	2-21-75	11-15-89	11-15-89	11-15-89	X
Kingfield	9-13-74	6-5-89	11-7-01	6-5-89	X
New Sharon	6-21-74	8-19-85	8-19-85 (M)	8-19-85	X
New Vineyard	2-21-75	11-1-85	11-1-85 (M)	11-1-85	X
Phillips	6-14-74	6-18-80	4-17-95	6-18-80	X
Rangeley	2-7-75	8-19-85	9-8-99	8-19-85	X
Rangeley Plt	-	-	NSFHA	4-30-84	X
Sandy River Plt	-	-	NSFHA	4-30-84	X
Strong	6-14-74	7-2-80	6-15-94	7-2-80	X
Temple	12-6-74	4-1-87	4-20-00	4-1-87	X
Weld	2-14-75	8-19-85	8-19-85 (M)	8-19-85	X
Wilton	2-28-75	2-17-89	8-23-01	2-17-89	X

¹ Source: FEMA Community Status Book Report as of January 2023

² Based on all available information, this community has adopted and continues to enforce a floodplain management ordinance, including regulating new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas. Franklin EMA is not aware of any new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas.

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C3. Goals

Does the plan include goals to reduce/avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(c)(3)(i))

C3-a. Goals to Reduce Identified Hazards

The plan must include goals to reduce the risk of the identified hazards. The goals must be consistent with the hazards identified in the plan. Goals may be presented as general statements applying to more than one hazard, or they may be itemized to each of the identified hazards. (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(c)(3)(i))

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Team reviewed the goals identified in the 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan and determined that these goals, plus one additional community resilience goal as shown below, should guide this 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. The goals relate to the hazards profiled in this plan and to increasing countywide resilience including all participating jurisdictions, and include the following:

Community Resilience Partnership: Engage municipalities in the Community Resilience Partnership and the team of organizations working to implement and assist with state grant opportunities, to mitigate hazards such as increasing community resilience to climate change.

Flooding: Reduce potential loss of life, injury and property damage in Franklin County caused by flooding.

Winter storms: Reduce potential loss of life, injury and property damage in Franklin County caused by winter storms, water runoff and erosion.

Wildfires: Reduce potential loss of life, injury and property damage in Franklin County caused by wildfires.

Landslides: Reduce potential loss of life, injury and property damage in Franklin County caused by landslides.

C4. Mitigation Actions and Projects

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 44 CFR §201.6(c)(3)(ii))

C4-a. Analysis

The mitigation strategy must include an analysis of a comprehensive range of actions or projects that the participants considered to specifically address vulnerabilities identified in the risk assessment. (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(c)(3)(ii))

C4-b. Actions

Each plan participant must identify one or more mitigation actions the participant(s) intends to implement for each hazard addressed in the risk assessment.

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COUNTY-WIDE MITIGATION ACTIONS

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP. Through grants and direct support to municipal and tribal governments, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy, and to become more resilient to climate change effects such as to extreme weather, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more. (<https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership>) **Note: The actions under the category of Community Resilience Partnership address the four hazards identified in this plan.**

Mitigation Actions	Responsibility/Funding/ Timeframe	Status
<p>A. Coordination with Regional Coordinators and Service Providers. Work with municipalities, plantations and the Unorganized Territory to maximize the use of Community Resilience Partnership Community Action grant funding to support hazard mitigation in Franklin County.</p> <p>Analysis: The recently announced Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) through the State of Maine Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) can be used to help municipalities mitigate natural hazards. The CRP was created to support Maine communities facing climate change and to provide Community Action Grants which support two categories of climate action by communities: 1) actions from the List of Community Actions, an approved list of climate mitigation and adaptation activities that align with the strategies of Maine Won’t Wait, the state climate action plan, and 2) other projects proposed by a community that support capacity building, planning and implementation projects.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget; FEMA Emergency Management Performance Grant/ 2023-2028</p>	<p>New</p>

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FLOODING. In Franklin County, the most likely damages caused by flooding are the destruction of roadways caused by washouts and undercutting. There are very few critical facilities in the 100 year flood zone. Flooding may shut down business, resulting in major losses of income for local businesses and residents.

Mitigation Actions	Responsibility/Funding/Timeframe	Status
<p>A. 406 Funding. Maximize the use of 406 mitigation funds through the Public Assistance (PA) Program to implement priority mitigation actions in this plan.</p> <p>Analysis: This is an important aspect of the PA program for several reasons. Because it is written into the PA scope of work and budget, the work can be completed more quickly than by going through the 404 grant program. Because the State pays 15% of the local share, the community only pays 10%, lessening the financial burden after a disaster for infrastructure protection and improvement.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ As 406 funds become available/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>406 funds were not available during 2016 plan</p>
<p>B. Dam Exercises. Continue to participate in dam safety exercises.</p> <p>Analysis: Because High hazard potential dams can cause loss of life and property damage in the event of a failure, these exercises promote greater awareness of the risk, the need to keep the emergency plans current and identification of actions to mitigate dam breach risks.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA as exercises are scheduled/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA has continued to do this</p>
<p>C. Infrastructure Mitigation Upgrades. Inform local officials of training exercises, technical assistance and potential funding opportunities aimed at upgrading/upsizing infrastructure or otherwise mitigating risks from undersized infrastructure such as culverts.</p> <p>Analysis: Since there is constant turnover of public officials, and funding resources constantly ebb and flow, information flow is critical to keeping current officials up to date.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA as exercises are scheduled/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA has continued to do this</p>
<p>D. Public Education. Utilize social media and other forms of communication including the EMA website to provide public service announcements on hazard mitigation topics such as flood insurance.</p> <p>Analysis: Providing public information on hazard mitigation through a variety of formats helps promote informed public participation on formulating and supporting mitigation actions such as those contained in this plan.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>New Franklin County EMA has continued to do this</p>

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SEVERE WINTER STORMS

In Franklin County, the most likely damages caused by a severe winter storm event are the loss of electrical power from downed power lines, and blocked roadways from tree debris or snow and ice. There has not been any loss of life caused by severe winter storms to this date.

Mitigation Actions	Responsibility/Funding/Timeframe	Status
<p>A. Generators. Assist interested municipalities in applying for fire or mitigation grant funds for generators at all critical facilities that are not in flood hazard areas to mitigate against power loss.</p> <p>Analysis: As of a FEMA policy change in 2012, generators for critical facilities are eligible for mitigation funding. Generators can ensure the proper functioning of critical facilities during emergencies, thus making the whole community more resilient.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ FEMA Emergency Management Performance Grant and ARPA funds 2023-2028</p>	<p>This continues to be a high priority item</p>
<p>B. 406 Funding. Maximize the use of 406 mitigation funds through the Public Assistance (PA) Program to implement priority mitigation actions in this plan.</p> <p>Analysis: This is an important aspect of the PA program for several reasons. Because it is written into the PA scope of work and budget, the work can be completed more quickly than by going through the 404 grant program. Because the State pays 15% of the local share, the community only pays 10%, lessening the financial burden after a disaster for infrastructure protection and improvement.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ As 406 funds become available/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>406 funds were not available during 2016 plan</p>
<p>C. Public Education. Utilize social media and other forms of communication including the EMA website to provide public service announcements on hazard mitigation topics such as severe winter storms.</p> <p>Analysis: Providing public information on hazard mitigation through a variety of formats helps promote informed public participation on formulating and supporting mitigation actions such as those contained in this plan.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA has continued to do this</p>

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Mitigation Actions	Responsibility/Funding/Timeframe	Status
<p>D. Infrastructure Upgrades. Inform local officials of training exercises, technical assistance and potential funding opportunities aimed at upgrading/upsizing or otherwise mitigating risks from undersized infrastructure.</p> <p>Analysis: Since there is constant turnover of public officials, and funding resources constantly ebb and flow, information flow is critical to keeping current officials up to date.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA has continued to do this</p>

WILDFIRES

In Franklin County, the most likely damages caused by a wildfire event are to prime timberland, and destruction of personal and real property, especially homes. The loss of electrical power is possible, since the majority of high voltage transmission lines pass through heavily wooded areas.

Mitigation Actions	Responsibility/Funding/Timeframe	Status
<p>A. Public Education. Work with towns to mitigate risks from wildfire: Notify local officials of fire prevention workshops offered by the Maine Forest Service (MFS). Include fire prevention information on the EMA website. Include “fire-wise” information on the EMA website.</p> <p>Analysis: The MFS has a wide variety of resources that can be accessed by communities and businesses. These range from website information to individual consultations on methods for reducing potential damages from wildfires.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA has continued to do this</p>

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LANDSLIDES

In Franklin County, landslides occur on landslide-prone bluffs in excess of 20 feet in widely scattered locations, but primarily along the Sandy River.

Mitigation Actions	Responsibility/Funding/ Timeframe	Status
<p>A. Problem Identification. Work with state officials and municipalities to identify areas that may be prone to landslides.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>New</p>
<p>B. Mitigation. If funds are available, and if grant conditions can be met, assist municipalities in applying for grant funds to mitigate high risk landslide areas that threaten structures, roads and/or other infrastructure.</p>	<p>Franklin County EMA/ County EMA budget/2023-2028</p>	<p>Several projects have been completed with grant funds.</p>

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Franklin County – Comprehensive Range of other Actions Considered but not Included

The Franklin County actions included on the preceding pages are aimed primarily at working cooperatively with other jurisdictions and agencies to mitigate hazards and build resilience throughout the county. Other actions that were considered, but not included in this plan, are generally of limited scope and/or of such magnitude that they would consume limited staff resources without a county-wide benefit. These include:

- **Work with local officials to identify alternatives.** This effort would likely yield few results because local road commissioners and other officials involved with local mitigation have already gone through this process and have informally, through their knowledge of local conditions and problems, identified the best projects for inclusion in this plan. This was an informal process that did not rely on written criteria or a formal evaluation process.
- **Develop benefit cost ratios for specific projects.** This endeavor would first involve a great deal of data-gathering at the local level. Local officials would have to be convinced that the potential project should supersede other local priorities. EMA staff would have to be heavily involved in the application process. Finally, even if the effort resulted in a federal mitigation grant, it would benefit a small area in one community.
- **Undertake a detailed evaluation of floodplain management administration and enforcement.** In all likelihood, this would prove to be administratively burdensome, and expensive, without adding much if anything to community resilience. There is no state or other entity that compiles statistics on floodplain administration and enforcement. Local administrative records may not be readily available. Franklin County EMA does not have the authority to monitor local administration and enforcement. Finally, there is very little development activity in Franklin County, and likely very little, if any, in floodplain areas.
- **Refine flood maps.** Some local floodplain maps lack sufficient detail to allow local officials and landowners to accurately determine floodplain boundaries. However, it would be very expensive, and probably not cost effective, for Franklin County to hire consultants to further refine existing information. Finally, this endeavor would do very little to improve resilience throughout the county.

Rating of Actions and Establishment of Priorities

The Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Team established priorities by hazard for the general mitigation actions set forth on the previous pages. The Team used the following criteria to rank each of the actions:

1. Life safety
2. Population benefited
3. Probability of community acceptance
4. Probability of funding
5. Feasibility of implementation

Each strategy was rated high (3 points), medium (2 points) or low (1 point) for each of the criteria, with the result that priorities were established by total score (the higher the points, the higher the priority).

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Rating of Community Resilience Partnership Actions						
	Life and Safety	Population Benefitted	Probability Community Acceptance	Probability Funding	Feasibility of Implementation	Total Score
A. Coordination with Regional Coordinators and Service Providers	3	3	3	3	3	15

Rating of Flood Mitigation Actions						
	Life Safety	Population Benefitted	Probability Community Acceptance	Probability Funding	Feasibility of Implementation	Total Score
A. 406 Funding	3	3	3	3	3	15
B. Dam Exercises	3	2	3	3	3	14
C. Infrastructure Upgrades	3	2	3	1	3	12
D. Public Education	3	3	3	3	3	15

Rating of Severe Winter Storm Mitigation Actions						
	Life Safety	Population Benefitted	Probability Community Acceptance	Probability Funding	Feasibility of Implementation	Total Score
A. Generators	3	2	3	3	3	14
B. 406 Funding	2	3	3	2	3	13
C. Public Education	1	1	3	3	3	11
D. Infrastructure Upgrades	3	3	3	1	1	11

Rating of Wildfire Mitigation Actions						
	Life Safety	Population Benefitted	Probability Community Acceptance	Probability Funding	Feasibility of Implementation	Total Score
A. Public Education	3	2	3	3	3	14

Rating of Landslide Mitigation Actions						
	Life Safety	Population Benefitted	Probability Community Acceptance	Probability Funding	Feasibility of Implementation	Total Score
A. Problem Identification	3	1	1	1	1	7
B. Mitigation	3	2	3	2	3	13

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LOCAL PROJECTS

Projects listed in priority order. Franklin County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan encompasses the previously described organized towns and plantations and Franklin County’s portion of the Unorganized Territory (24 unorganized townships and three gores). Most municipalities in the county identified one or more projects consistent with the county-wide goals and actions, to mitigate hazards at the local level. The jurisdictions, as well as the specific projects they will pursue, are listed in priority order in the following table. The time frames shown are based upon the availability of materials and funding.

Completed projects are designated in italics and are displayed with a color background.

Criteria for prioritization. The list of local projects was developed separately by each municipality in consultation with the county. Local officials did not use formal, written criteria for the identification of local projects. Local officials utilized the following criteria to develop and informally prioritize the list of projects:

- local knowledge of the frequency and extent of local damages,
- local knowledge of project priorities, based on frequency and severity of damages,
- local knowledge of the benefits that could result from the projects,
- local knowledge of the weather, the geography and topography of the community, and
- the technical and financial abilities of their respective communities to address hazards and mitigate the impacts of hazards.

How the actions will be implemented. The table below identifies a timeframe for each project, and identifies one or more parties who will be responsible for implementation. If the towns apply for grant funds, a benefit/cost analysis will be undertaken.

Use of a cost-benefit analysis. Many of the jurisdictions included in this plan are small towns run by volunteers. These towns have tight budget constraints. They do not have staff, resources or funding to prepare cost-benefit analyses for the projects included in this plan. However, in virtually all cases involving expenditure of local funds for implementation, there will be a very rigorous, line-by-line analysis of cost effectiveness during the budget review process and subsequent public discussion. This review is at least equal to a formal benefit-cost calculation because each expenditure item will be carefully scrutinized rather than simply being plugged into a formula. For purposes of grant applications, however, MEMA and the county EMA have made it clear to local officials that a formal cost benefit analysis will have to be prepared in the event they apply for mitigation funding.

Status of projects. The table below contains a status column that identifies new, deferred or completed mitigation projects. For deferred projects, the “status” column lists the reason or reasons that no changes occurred.

Timeframe. The vast majority of projects are carry-overs from the last plan update, so an approximate time frame has been assigned to each project, subject to the availability of funds which, in most cases, have not been secured as of this writing. The time frames start when funding becomes available and permitting is completed.

- Short Term: 1-2 years
- Medium Term: 3-4 years
- Long Term: 5 years

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Community inaction to date does not mean lack of interest. Most communities do not have the funds to implement the projects, in part because scarce local resources are dedicated to winter and summer road maintenance, school costs and county budgets, to name a few. Therefore, for all of the reasons stated above, projects with the status “Deferred – lack of funds” may have to be carried over to the next planning cycle.

The time frames set forth in this plan are subject to change if funding sources become available.

Potential Funding Sources.

Potential funding sources for local projects include, but are not limited to:

- Local tax money
- MaineDOT local road assistance funds
- Governor’s resilience grants
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant funds
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) culvert grants
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds
- Other (e.g. private benefactors, emerging grant programs)
- MaineDOT Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP)

Note: In most cases, municipalities have not made a decision about which funding source to pursue for specific actions. The term “Local \$” in the following table refers to local tax dollars as the likely funding source because that is the most obvious source as of this writing. However, this designation does not preclude pursuing other funding sources such as the Governor’s resilience grants.

Note: References to culverts on the following pages refer to upsizing or lengthening culverts, unless otherwise stated. Over the years, FEMA has established project useful life standards for typical mitigation project types. FEMA’s project useful life standard for culverts ranges from 25-50 years, depending on type of materials used. Other examples are: generators - 19 years, elevations – 30 years, and acquisition/demolitions - 100+ years.

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Hazard Mitigation Projects

Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
All Jurisdictions	1) Flooding. Coordinate with Franklin EMA on efforts to mitigate risks from flooding.	Unknown	Long Term	Local Officials	New
	2) Winter Storms. Coordinate with Franklin EMA on efforts to mitigate risks from severe winter storms.	Unknown	Long Term	Local Officials	New
	3) Wildfires. Coordinate with Franklin EMA on efforts to mitigate risks from wildfires.	Unknown	Long Term	Local Officials	New
	4) Landslides. Coordinate with Franklin EMA on efforts to mitigate risks from landslides.	Unknown	Long Term	Local Officials	New
Avon	1) Improve ditching, upsize culverts as needed.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) <i>Bob Option Road: Upsize (3) 15" x 40' culverts and add (2) 36" x 40' culverts; riprap intake; add surface base and shoulder gravel.</i>	\$43,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with town funds.</i>
Carrabassett Valley	Narrow gauge Trail: Riprap 800' along the Carrabassett River.	\$93,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
Carthage	1) Winter Hill Road: Pave 2,000' x 21' on steep Hill.	\$39,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Wind turbine developer will fund for next five years
	2) Judkins Road: Upsize culvert.	\$30,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
(Carthage)	3) Goodwin Road: Install toe-in and pave low water crossing 1,200'.	\$16,500	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Toe-in and ditching only completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	4) Storer Hill Road: Ditch 5,000' and add surface gravel and pave.	89,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds less paving; looking for paving funds
	5) Upper Glover Bridge Road: Install toe in and pave low water crossing 200'.	\$6,500	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds; not paved
	6) Lower Glover Bridge Road: Install toe in low water crossing and pave 1,300'.	\$22,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds; not paved
	7) River Road: Riprap steep road bank 100' x 30' x 3'	\$13,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	8) Storer Hill Road: Ditching and upsize and lengthen culvert.	\$6,000	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA funds - 2014
Chesterville	1) Chesterville Hill Road: (1) 20" x 40' SB Culvert 400', ditching, check dams, fractured rock.	\$8,500	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Culvert upsize completed; ditching needs to be done
	2) Norton Road: Upsize culverts and add overflow culvert.	\$6,000	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Overflow culvert installed; existing culverts to be upsized
	3) Sandy River Road: Upsize 3 culverts with one span at Parker Pond.	\$200,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	4) Chesterville Road: Upsize culverts.	\$8,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with town funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
(Chesterville)	<i>5) Norcross Road: Install check- dams and improve ditch line, upsize culvert.</i>	\$8,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>
	<i>6) George Thomas Road landslide: Instead of repairing 300+ feet of road, town had test borings done to determine viable options. Bypass was the best alternative for both environmental and financial reasons. Engineered design. ME DEP and USACE permitted. Project completed in Oct 2012.</i>	\$305,000	<i>3 months from mobilization to de-mobilization</i>	<i>Engineering Firm Contractor Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed in 2012 with DR-1852 HMGP grant</i>
Coplin Plantation	Improve ditching, upsize culverts as needed.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Long Term	Board of Assessors	Deferred; lack of funds
Dallas Plantation	1) Improve ditching, upsize culverts as needed.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	<i>2) Jim Bubier Hill Road: Ditch 500' install 18" x 40' culvert with plunge pool add 36" x 30' culvert and blast ledge in ditch line.</i>	\$26,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with town funds</i>
	<i>3) Redding Road: Elevate 2,600' x 21' x 3' on average and riprap slope.</i>	\$78,000	<i>Long Term</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed</i>
Eustis/ Stratton	1) Eustis Fire Department: Replace manual generator with larger 14KW automatic standby generator.	\$11,000 Local \$	Short term	Fire Department	New
	2) Improve ditching, upsize culverts as needed.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Tim Pond Road: Install dry hydrant, Tim Brook.	\$6,000	Medium term	Fire Department	New

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
	4) Eustis Village Road: Install dry hydrant, Pumpkin Pond.	\$6,000	Medium term	Fire Department	New
	5) Flagstaff Road: Install dry hydrant, North Branch Dead River.	\$6,000	Medium term	Fire Department	New
	6) Route 27 on the Pines Stretch: Install dry hydrant, Trout Brook.	\$6,000	Medium term	Fire Department	New
	7) Route 27 at the Boat Launch: Install dry hydrant, Flagstaff Lake.	\$6,000	Medium term	Fire Department	New
	8) <i>Eustis Ridge Road: Elevate 800' x 28' x 3' and repave, ditch 9,000' and riprap ditch line, pave shoulders 12,000' x 3' and add (10) 24" x 40' culverts upsize (6) 24" x 40' and (1) 48" x 40 hdpe culvert.</i>	\$245,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with town funds</i>
Farmington	1) Farmington Fire Department: add 60 kw backup generator.	\$36,742 Local \$	Short Term	Fire Department	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Clover Mills Road (Cummings Brook): remove 3 metal 48" failing culverts and upgrade with 8' box culvert and elevate road 200'x30'x5'.	\$400,000 Local \$	Short Term	Public Works	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Cushman Drive: Rip Rap and vegetate 500' x 75' x 3'.	\$295,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Public Works	Deferred; lack of funds
	4) Front Street: Elevate 500' x 21' x 3', upsize existing culvert to 48" x 40', riprap and repave.	\$38,000 Local \$	Short Term	Public Works	In planning stage

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
(Farmington)	5) 168 Front Street: Upgrade old downstream storm drains and basins from Front Street to Sandy River to take care of storm drainage from in-town Farmington.	\$297,326 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Completed
	6) Whittier Road: Stabilize 400' of Sandy River bank. Obtained core samples to determine best course of action. Final design of "engineered log jam" included large rock, geotextile fabric and root wads. Project permitted by ME DEP and USACE and completed Sept 2013; re-plantings were necessary due to less than 70% survival in 2014.	\$405,000	Completed	Contractors and Town of Farmington	Construction completed 2013 with DR-4032 HMGP grant. Replanting in 2015
	7) Pump Station #2: Build 12' x 12' insulated building to house pump.	\$10,000	Completed	Public Works	Completed with town funds
	8) Pump Station #4: Build 12' x 12' insulated building to house pump.	\$10,000	Completed	Public Works	Completed with town funds
	9) Lake Avenue Pump Station: Install 5' extension to access hole.	\$6,000	Completed	Public Works	Completed with town funds
	10) West Farmington Pump Station: Install 5' extension to access hole.	\$6,000	Completed	Public Works	Completed with town funds
	11) Treatment plant Access Road: Raise Road 200' x 21' x 3', repave and add 48" culvert.	\$13,000	Completed	Public Works	Completed with town funds.
Industry	1) Greenwood Brook Road: Ditch 500', elevate road 2,600' x 21' x 1' add (3) 15" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$36,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Partially completed with FEMA PA and town funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
<i>Industry</i>	2) Baily Road: Elevate 1,250' x 21' x 2'; improve ditch line 1,250' and add (2) 15" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$30,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Partially completed with FEMA PA and town funds; needs ditching
	3) Shaw Hill Road Upper: Elevate 500' x 21' x 2' and add 15" x 40' hdpe culvert.	\$10,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	4) Shaw Hill Road Lower: Ditch 1,000' and add 15" x 40' hdpe culvert.	\$5,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds
Jay	1) Morse Hill Road: Elevate 3,000' x 21' x 3' and repave.	\$100,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
Kingfield	1) Tufts Pond Road.	\$1,000,000 Local \$	Spring 2023	Road Commissioner	Bid awarded to Jordan Excavation
	2) West Kingfield Road/Bridge "Lander Bridge."	\$100,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New
	3) West Kingfield Road: Ditching, drainage, culverts, resurfacing.	\$1,000,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New
	4) Rapid Stream/End of WK Road and Blanchard: – river stabilization.	Unknown Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New
	5) Island Road: Sluiceway/ River stabilization.	\$250,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	6) Cedar Street: Washouts, ditching, culverts, drainage.	\$350,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New
	7) Riverside Street: Culverts and resurfacing.	\$400,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
(Kingfield)	8) Stanley Ave/Bridge “Roxbury.”	\$150,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New
New Sharon	1) Kimble Pond Road: Improve ditching and upsize culverts.	\$25,000 Local	Short Term	Road Commissioner	New
	2) York Hill Road: Improve ditching and upsize culverts.	\$20,000 Local	Short Term	Road Commissioner	New
	3) Crystal Vale Road: Bridge replacement on Bullen Mills Road Bridge 15 ton load limit bridge to dead end so 12 full-time residents would not be isolated.	\$700,000 Local	Short Term	Road Commissioner	New
	4) Swan Road: Culvert upgrade.	\$8,000 Local	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	New
	5) George Thomas Road: Bridge upgrade – Crowell Pond continuously floods Route 41.	\$500,000 Local	Long Term	Road Commissioner	New
	6) Lane Road near Route 2: Upgrade or remove bridge.	\$400,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	7) Improve ditching, upsize culverts as needed.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	8) <i>Lane Road middle part: Upsize culvert.</i>	\$150,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Completed with town funds
	9) <i>Kimble Pond Road: Elevate road 2,600' x 21' x 1'.</i>	\$35,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>
	10) <i>York Hill Road: Elevate road 1,600' x 21' x 1'.</i>	\$22,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
New Vineyard	1) Miller Road: Upsize 30" to 36" x 40' culvert, remove debris and install debris catcher on intake to culvert.	\$10,400 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Adams Brook Road: Install 5' x 21' x 30' bottomless box culvert and raise approaches, add two cross culverts.	\$18,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Eastmont Drive: Install 36" x 40' culverts and riprap intake and outlet.	\$9,500 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	4) High Street: Upsize existing culvert to 36" x 40' culvert, ditch and riprap intake and outlet.	\$10,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	5) Brahmer Road: Ditch and add 15" x 40' hdpe and elevate two dips in road.	\$10,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	6) Wells Road: Install Bottomless box culvert 5' x 40', and riprap.	\$22,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
Phillips	1) Davenport Hill Road: Ditch 550', elevate 3,600' x 21' x 3', upsize existing 48" x 40' culvert to 96" squash culvert, add 8' x 40' bottomless box and (3) 24" x 40' hdpe culvert.	\$185,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Pinkham Hill Road: Ditch 7,500', blast ditch line as needed, add (7) 24" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$29,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Bray Hill Road: Ditch 5,200' and add (2) 36" x 40' and (5) 18" x 40' culverts and riprap intake and outlets.	\$24,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Partially completed with FEMA PA and town funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
(Phillips)	4) East Madrid Road: Ditch 400' add 5' x 40' bottomless box culvert and add (4) 18" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$32,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Partially completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	5) Reeds Mill Road: Ditch 5,000' and add (5) 18' x 40' and (2) 24" x 40' and (1) 36" x 40' hdpe culverts and riprap intake and outlet.	\$24,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Partially completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	6) Number Six Road: Geo engineer S. Branch Sandy River, use gravel to elevate road .Install 8' x 40' box culvert and add (6) 24" x 40' culverts.	\$285,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds
	7) Parlin Road: Ditch 4,000', elevate 1,000' x 1' and add (4) 18" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$24,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds.
	8) Tory Hill Road: Upsize (15) culverts to 15" x 40' hdpe culverts, ditch 7,500' and add check dams in ditch line.	\$36,000	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with FEMA PA and town funds. Site damaged in 2009
Rangeley	1) Mingo Loop Causeway: Build up shoulders and riprap entire length of causeway.	\$260,000 Local \$	Long Term	Town Manager	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Bald Mountain Road: Ditch and elevate 14,000' of road, replace twin 36" culverts with 10' box culvert.	\$175,000 Local \$	Long Term	Town Manager	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) McCard Road: Ditch and elevate road, add (9) 15" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$72,000	Short Term	Town Manager	Partially completed with town funds
	4) Gile Road: Upsize two 50' x 18" culverts with two 50' x 30" ADS culverts and rip-rap.	\$35,000 Local \$	Short Term	Town Manager	Deferred; lack of funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
(Rangeley)	5) Old Skiway Road: Upsize 30" culvert to 42" ADS culvert and rip-rap.	\$33,000 Local \$	Short Term	Town Manager	Deferred; lack of funds
	6) Haley Pond Dam: Rebuild concrete structure and rehabilitate gate mechanism.	\$150,000 Local \$	Long Term	Town Manager	Deferred; lack of funds
	7) Target Road: Ditch and elevate 5,500' x 21' x 1', add (6) 15" x 40' and (1) 18" x 40' hdpe culverts and repave.	\$135,000 Local \$	Short Term	Town Manager	Partially completed; still needs elevation of road
	8) Haley Pond Road: Ditch and elevate road add (9) 15" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$72,000	Completed	Town Manager	Completed with town funds
	9) Quimby Road: Ditch and stone line 2,000', add 1) 30" x 60' and (1) 15" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$47,000	Completed	Town Manager	Completed with town funds
Rangeley Plantation	1) Beamis Road: Upsize existing 12" x 40' cmp to 18" x 40' hdpe and add (2) 36" x 40' hdpe culverts and extend (1) 48" and (1) 60" cmp by 8' each and riprap intake and outlets.	\$15,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Birches Beach Road: Add 18" x 40' hdpe culvert and ditch 500'.	\$3,500	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with town funds
Sandy River Plantation	1) Improve ditching, upsize culverts as needed.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Town Hall Road: Repaired Bridge footings.	\$11,600	Completed	Road Commissioner	Completed with town funds
Strong	1) Spaulding Road: Elevate road 400' x 21' x 6' and add 60" x 40' squash pipe.	\$38,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Partially completed with FEMA PA and town funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
<i>(Strong)</i>	2) Burbank Hill Road: Upsize culvert and ditch at the intersection with Route 149.	\$150,000+ Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Generator for emergency shelter, town office, water office, library.	\$39,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Selectmen	Planning design phase
Temple	1) Intervale Road: Geo-engineer Temple River to return river to original channel, upsize (3) 36" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$72,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Day Mountain Road: Ditch 6,200', upsize (2) 24" x 40' hdpe culverts.	\$18,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>
	3) Kennison Road: Ditch 7,500'.	\$21,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>
	4) Waltonen Road: Elevate road 1,500' x 21' x 2' and add 48" x 40' culvert.	\$26,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>
	5) Varnum Pond Road: Ditch 2,600'.	\$7,500	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with FEMA PA and town funds</i>
Unorganized Territory	1) Madrid Township: Reed Mills Road, Construct slope protection using gabion baskets 300' x 30' x 3'.	\$270,000 Local \$	Long Term	County Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Salem Township: Howard Road, Construct slope protection using gabion baskets 100' x 6' x 3'	\$18,000 Local \$	Short Term	County Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Alder Stream Township: Route 27 Sarampus Falls Rest Area: Install dry hydrant, North Branch Dead River.	\$6,000	Medium term	Eustis Fire Department	New

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	4) Coburn Gore: Arnold Pond: Install dry hydrant.	\$6,000	Medium term	Eustis Fire Department	New
	5) Coplin Plantation: Kennebago Road: Install dry hydrant South Branch of Dead River.	\$6,000	Medium term	Eustis Fire Department	New
	6) Jim Pond township: King and Bartlett Road: Install dry hydrant, North Branch of Dead River.	\$6,000	Medium term	Eustis Fire Department	New
	7) Wyman Township: Route 27 and Stoney Brook Road: Install dry hydrant, Stoney Brook.	\$6,000	Medium term	Eustis Fire Department	New
Weld	1) Byron Road: Ditch 1500' and blast ledge as needed, add check dams; upsize (4) 24" x 40' hdpe's, add 5' x 3'x 40' bottomless box culvert, add 24" x 50' overflow culvert. Add 2000' x 24' x 8" gravel to road.	\$52,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Some work done including one culvert upgrade, ditching, addition of gravel
	2) Cushman Road: Ditch 600', upsize existing 24" to 36" x 40' hdpe and elevate dip in road 200' x 16' x 2' on average and stabilize slope.	\$12,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Center Hill Road, Site Two: Ditch and line 6,000'	\$26,000 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	4) Upper Temple Road: Elevate 1000' x 21' x 2' and stabilize shoulders.	\$28,000 Local \$	Medium Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	5) West Brook Road: Move section of road along riverbank, build 700' of gravel road.	\$37,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds

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Town	Project (in Order of Priority)	Cost Est.	Time Line	Responsible Agency	Status
	6) Kennedy Bridge, Temple Road: Upgrade to new bridge with steel girders supporting a precast concrete deck.	\$313,000 To \$398,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	New
	7) Bowley Brook Bridge Cushman Road: Upgrade to new bridge with steel girders supporting a precast concrete deck.	\$313,000- \$398,000 Local \$	Long Term	Road Commissioner	New
	8) West Brook Bridge: Upgrade to new bridge with steel girders supporting a precast concrete deck.	\$626,000- \$926,000 Local \$ + MaineDOT	Long Term	Road Commissioner	New
	9) <i>Center Road: Improve ditch line by removing ledge and stone lining ditches, upsize culverts and add additional cross culverts.</i>	\$64,000	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Road Commissioner</i>	<i>Completed with 404 and 406 funds</i>
Wilton	1) Cemetery Road: Upsize existing culverts with twin 36" x 40' hdpes and riprap intake and outlets.	\$8,700 Local \$	Short Term	Road Commissioner	Deferred; lack of funds
	2) Pond Road: Elevate 300' x 21' x 12" and repave, upsize 24" x 40' with 36" x 40' culvert.	\$12,000 Local \$	Short Term	Director Public Works	Deferred; lack of funds
	3) Butterfield Road: Elevate 100' x 21' x 18" and repave, upsize 24" x 40' with 6' x 4' x 40' bottomless box culvert.	\$36,000	Medium Term	Director Public Works	Deferred; lack of funds

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ELEMENT D. PLAN MAINTENANCE

D1. Public Participation in the Plan Maintenance Process

Is there discussion of how each community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process? (Requirement CFR §201.6(c)(4)(iii))

D1-a. How Participants Will Seek Public Participation

The plan must describe how the participant(s) will continue to seek public participation after the plan has been approved and during the plan's implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Franklin County EMA will take the initiative on behalf of Franklin County municipalities to obtain public participation in the plan maintenance process. This will include:

- Discussions of the importance of the plan and progress made on implementation at EMA directors' meetings;
- Presentation of the plan at various meeting of regional organizations that include Franklin County EMA including meetings of the county commissioners involving EMA as an agenda item;
- Postings of information on the plan, as well as solicitations of public comments, on Franklin EMA's website.

D2. Description of Method and Schedule

Is there a description of the method and schedule for keeping the plan current (monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle)? (Requirement CFR §201.6(c)(4)(i))

D2-a. How When and by Whom

The plan must identify how, when and by whom the plan will be tracked for implementation over its five-year cycle (monitoring).

During the five year period covered by this plan, the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will review existing hazards of concern and determine whether any new hazards should be included in the next plan update. The status of current mitigation projects will be updated and new projects will be added as needed. Once all hazards, projects, maps and county information have been updated, and public input has been obtained, the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan draft will be submitted to MEMA for review and recommendations before the final draft is forwarded to FEMA for review and approval pending adoption (APA). After APA, the towns will adopt the plan for final approval and start another five year cycle.

Monitoring the Plan. Franklin County has developed a method to ensure that regular review and update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan occurs. Progress on the plan will be monitored via periodic meetings with MEMA and/or local EMA meetings and following every federally declared disaster. On an annual basis, Franklin County EMA will meet with EMA directors to conduct a risk assessment and project review.

The county EMA also intends to work with MEMA officials, local units of government and others in periods following disasters to better understand how the region can mitigate future damages to people, roads, critical facilities, residential structures and businesses. The mitigation plan and project

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application process will also be addressed at each federal declaration kick-off meeting and will be reinforced via email announcements for workshops and grant application deadlines.

D2-b. Assessing Plan for Effectiveness

The plan must identify how, when and by whom the plan will be assessed for effectiveness at achieving its stated purpose and goals (evaluating).

Evaluating the Plan. Annually and after each disaster declaration, Franklin County EMA, in consultation with the Planning Team, will review the hazards contained in the risk assessment portion of the plan, as well as the strategies contained in the strategy section, to determine their relevance to changing situations and land developments in the county, as well as changes in state or federal policy, and to ensure that they are addressing current and expected conditions.

D2-c. Review and Revision of Plan

The plan must identify how, when and by whom the plan will be reviewed and revised at least once every five years (updating).

Updating the Plan. The Franklin County EMA Office will have 18 months to update and make changes to the plan before submitting it to the state hazard Mitigation officer. At the beginning of the fourth year of implementation of this plan, the county EMA will convene a meeting of the local EMA directors, who will serve as liaisons to other municipal staff and officials. Based on the evaluation of the plan, proposed changes will be prepared for the following five-year period. The county EMA and the county Hazard Mitigation Planning Team will rely on EMA Directors for input, as well as public input obtained through public workshops, mailings, and phone-in meetings. Proposed changes to the plan will be submitted to the Maine Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for review.

D3. Integration into other Planning Mechanisms

Does the plan describe a process by which each community will integrate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate? (Requirement CFR §201.6(c)(4)(ii))

D3-a. Process of Integration

The plan must describe the community's process to integrate the plan's data, information, and hazard goals and actions into other planning mechanisms.

D3-b. Identification of Local Planning Mechanisms

The plan must identify the local planning mechanisms where hazard mitigation information/actions may be integrated. The identified list of planning mechanisms must be applicable to the plan participant(s) and not contradict the identified capabilities.

D3-c. Description of each Participant's Process

A multi-jurisdictional plan must describe each participant's individual process for integrating information from the mitigation strategy into their identified planning mechanisms.

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Information on municipal projects will be integrated into other planning mechanisms when each municipality determines it has or will have sufficient funds to implement one or more of the projects shown in Element C. In such cases, each project will be incorporated into municipal warrant items, budgets, municipal appropriations, bid documents and contracts for work. In some instances, information on specific projects will be incorporated into one or more grant applications. There is no set schedule when such incorporation will take place, and no guarantee that it will take place at all. In fact, if the past is any guide, and if high fuel costs continue to take a toll on municipal budgets, many municipalities will not have the funds to undertake any of the listed projects.

County government is very limited in scope and authority in the State of Maine and does not guide and control planning or development within its borders. Within Maine, most government authority is with state statutes and rules and with municipal “Home Rule” ordinances. All of the townships in the Unorganized Territory fall under the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission, and are therefore controlled and governed by the State of Maine.

In addition to the planning mechanisms mentioned above, such as warrant articles and budgets, other planning mechanisms at the municipal level, and the extent to which they have incorporated or will incorporate hazard mitigation, include:

- **Local flood plain management ordinances;** as documented in Element C, 17 municipalities have joined the Flood Insurance Program and have adopted floodplain management ordinances aimed at managing development in flood-prone areas. In addition, 4 plantations (and all of the Unorganized Territory) are in the Flood Insurance Program by virtue of being under the regulatory jurisdiction of the State’s Land Use Planning Commission. These ordinances, and the laws governing the Land Use Planning Commission, have already incorporated the general goals contained in this plan of reducing potential loss of life, injury and property damage, and damages to public infrastructure.
- **Shoreland zoning ordinances;** all of the towns in Franklin County are required to have a shoreland zoning ordinance, whether adopted by the municipality or imposed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The State’s Land Use Planning Commission has adopted shoreland protection controls for the 4 plantations in Franklin County as well as the county’s portion of the Unorganized Territory. Shoreland zoning ordinances contain requirements for locating structures outside of known flood hazard areas and/or for complying with the requirements of municipal flood plain management ordinances. As such, all of the jurisdictions in Franklin County have already incorporated into their shoreland zoning ordinances the general goals contained in this plan of reducing potential loss of life, injury and property damage, and damages to public infrastructure.
- **Subdivision review requirements;** Maine state law contains criteria that local officials must use in conducting subdivision reviews. One of the criteria contains a specific reference to FEMA’s Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps and Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and requires elevation above the 100-year flood plain:

“Flood areas. Based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps and Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and information presented by the applicant whether the subdivision is in a flood-prone area. If the subdivision, or any part of it, is in such an area, the subdivider shall determine the 100-year flood elevation and flood hazard boundaries within the subdivision. The proposed subdivision plan must include a condition of plan approval requiring that principal structures in the subdivision will be

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constructed with their lowest floor, including the basement, at least one foot above the 100-year flood elevation”

In effect, this statutory requirement already incorporates floodplain management goals contained in the plan into the local subdivision review process.

- **Local comprehensive plans;** (many of the municipalities have adopted a comprehensive plan). Comprehensive plans are policy documents that address a wide range of issues affecting the future of the community, and those relating to public safety and environmental protection would be consistent with the strategies contained in this plan. In general, local comprehensive plans do not include recommendations on specific projects, although they may contain more general recommendations that roads and their associated infrastructure be upgraded as funds become available.
- **Capital improvement plans;** Some of the larger municipalities have capital improvement plans; most of the smaller ones do not, but they do have local budgeting processes which are used to examine potential expenditures in detail and establish overall spending priorities. In either case, the budget review process is used to evaluate and recommend a course of action for actions contained in the hazard mitigation plan.
- **Local Budgeting Processes;** These processes are used to examine potential expenditures in detail and establish overall spending priorities. The budget review process is used to evaluate and recommend a course of action for actions contained in the hazard mitigation plan.
- **Road maintenance planning efforts;** These may include priorities for local improvements, but not necessarily engineering studies or cost benefit analyses. In some cases, these planning efforts may include consideration for one or more of the projects contained in the plan.
- **Emergency management and mitigation planning;** Franklin County EMA is the catalyst for helping all jurisdictions focus on hazard mitigation planning including the consideration and refinement of information on hazards contained in this plan and mitigation projects.
- **Fire prevention planning and coordination,** including participation in mutual aid agreements and multi-town wildfire training exercises; These are the “on the ground” efforts that help build awareness of wildfire hazards and the steps that can be taken at the local level to reduce wildfire hazards.
- **Grant writing;** Most of the county’s municipalities have been active in applying for grants to address municipal priorities which might include funding for one or more of the projects contained in this plan.

Note: See Strategy section of this plan for a town-by-town summary of existing authorities, policies, programs and resources available to accomplish hazard mitigation.

All towns in Franklin County hold annual town meetings which are an integral part of public planning. These meetings allow all citizens equal opportunity to communicate their concerns and opinions on the state of the town and how to move forward with these concerns. The citizens in attendance at these meetings have a vested interest in the town and how and what is funded annually. Through the municipal budget process and long-term planning based on the identified mitigation actions, towns will be better able to allocate funding for these projects to safeguard their communities.

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There were very few ordinance-related mitigation actions identified by the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Team. The majority of the mitigation actions that were identified are educational, and the vast majority of the projects listed by individual communities are structural. In addition, the county EMA Director provides information to local units of government, as well as technical assistance.

Following approval of the Plan by FEMA, the County EMA will send a copy to all municipalities in the county with a recommendation that local comprehensive planning efforts, municipal road maintenance planning efforts, emergency management programs and local fire prevention programs will be utilized to their greatest extent to complete the community's mitigation projects. The county will encourage the local municipalities to address the hazards in their comprehensive plans and land use ordinances.

The County EMA office will monitor the implementation of projects that were listed by the communities. The County EMA office will also continue to assist municipalities with the completion of FEMA Pre-Disaster and Hazard Mitigation Grant applications.

At the local level there has been implementation progress in some areas, but no known actions in other areas:

- Comprehensive plans – no State money for new plans or updates
- Capital improvement plans/local budget processes – see list of projects completed with town funds
- Road maintenance planning efforts – many towns in Franklin County are now using MEMA's Road Tracker to document repair costs
- Emergency management and mitigation planning – none known to have occurred
- Ordinances –no state money for new ordinances or updates
- Grant applications – many of the county's municipalities have been active in applying for grants to address mitigation issues

In addition, the county EMA and all municipal EMAs have continued to advise their respective jurisdictions on pending hazard events, such as winter storms, as well as posted public service announcements in public locations such as municipal offices.

The county EMA has notified municipal EMAs and local officials of hazard mitigation workshops such as those related to the pre-disaster and hazard mitigation grant programs, and workshops with hazard mitigation content such as those sponsored by Maine's Local Roads Center that deal with the use of geo-textiles.

In addition, Franklin County has been very active in helping towns apply for grants to implement projects as documented in Element C. Municipalities have also implemented a number of projects on their own. As documented in Element C, many projects have been completed, and there are some that were partially completed.

Franklin County is dedicated to involving the public directly in the continual reshaping and updating of the hazard mitigation plan. The Hazard Mitigation Planning Team is responsible for the review and update of the plan. Although the Team represents the public to some extent, the public will be able to directly comment on and provide feedback about the plan. All meetings will continue to be open to the public for opportunities to comment on and provide meaningful input on the plan.

Copies of the plan will be provided to the municipalities' emergency directors and kept on hand at all municipal town officers in the County. The existence and location of these copies will be publicized by posting flyers in all the town offices. Contained in the plan is the address and phone number of the Franklin County EMA office, which is responsible for keeping track of public comments on the plan.

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The Franklin County EMA office will also provide a public comment period at each meeting of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team. The purpose of the public comment period is to provide a public forum for input. The county EMA office will be responsible for providing public notice for each meeting of the Hazard Planning Team, for hosting the meeting, and for including information about the public comment period.

A public meeting will also be held prior to completion of the plan. This public meeting will provide the public a forum for which they express concerns, opinions, or ideas about the plan. The county EMA office will publicize and host their meeting.

Public outreach will continue to be a high priority for Franklin County EMA. Current public outreach efforts include:

- Communication with the public through EMA's website. Some of the topics currently on the website include
 - Upcoming meetings and workshops
 - Information about hurricanes, air quality, EEE
 - Wilderness first aid training opportunities
 - Narrow band deadline
 - Why mitigation planning is important
 - Public safety answering points
- Participation in MEMA's annual Maine Preparedness Conference and strategy session
- Presentations to local schools
- An EMA booth at the Farmington Fair
- Ongoing meetings of the Franklin County Citizen Emergency Response Team
- Mock emergency drills
- Participation in county directors' meetings
- Monthly meetings with MEMA staff
- Sponsorship of workshops
- One-on-one meetings with local officials and interested citizens

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ELEMENT E. PLAN UPDATE REQUIREMENTS

E1. Changes in Development

Was the plan revised to reflect changes in development? (Requirement CFR §201.6(d)(3))

E1-a. Changes in Hazard-Prone Areas

The plan must describe changes in development that have occurred in hazard-prone areas and how they have increased or decreased the vulnerability of each jurisdiction since the previous plan was approved. If no development changes affected the jurisdiction's overall vulnerability, this must be stated within the plan.

There have been no known development changes in hazard-prone areas that have affected any jurisdiction's overall vulnerability. There are few resources available in Franklin County to track development trends in jurisdictions, let alone whether they occur in hazard-prone areas. However, there are multiple programs to mitigate against unchecked development in flood plains, such as community participation in NFIP through enforcement of Flood Insurance Rate Maps in local floodplain ordinances, as described elsewhere in Element C of this plan.

One alternative pursued in this plan is to use remote sensing data to estimate trends in land use changes and identify where these changes may intersect with hazard-prone areas. Sentinel satellite imagery used to categorize land cover/land use types provide change detection for global development at 30 meter resolution over multiple years. This analysis can be replicated for any terrestrial location on earth within the time range of 2017-2021, as of the writing of this plan¹. Hazard layers can then be overlain on the development change maps², and the overlaps indicate development in hazard-prone areas. Franklin County unfortunately has no digital FIRMs and this assessment cannot be performed for flood hazards. The following figures and table denotes development trends overall in the county, but also within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). As noted in Element B, the WUI is a region of mixed development and forestland where the occurrence of wildfires is generally more likely than in urban and undeveloped areas.

Overall net development in Franklin County is largest in the Town of Jay, with 2.5% by area. Low and even negative development trends exist in smaller communities further north. In terms of development in WUI, the greatest increase is in Jay with 2% by area. In comparison, and based on this analysis, the greatest rate of development in Maine occurred in the Town of Boothbay Harbor, with 12% by area. Results suggest that changes in development since the previous plan update have had no measurable impact on community risk associated with natural hazards.

¹ Sentinel Online: <https://sentinels.copernicus.eu/web/sentinel/thematic-areas/land-monitoring/land-cover-use-and-change-detection-mapping>

² Maine Risk Map: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/202cb7e1444c4881b44b7586136ef9e7/>

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan –2023 Update

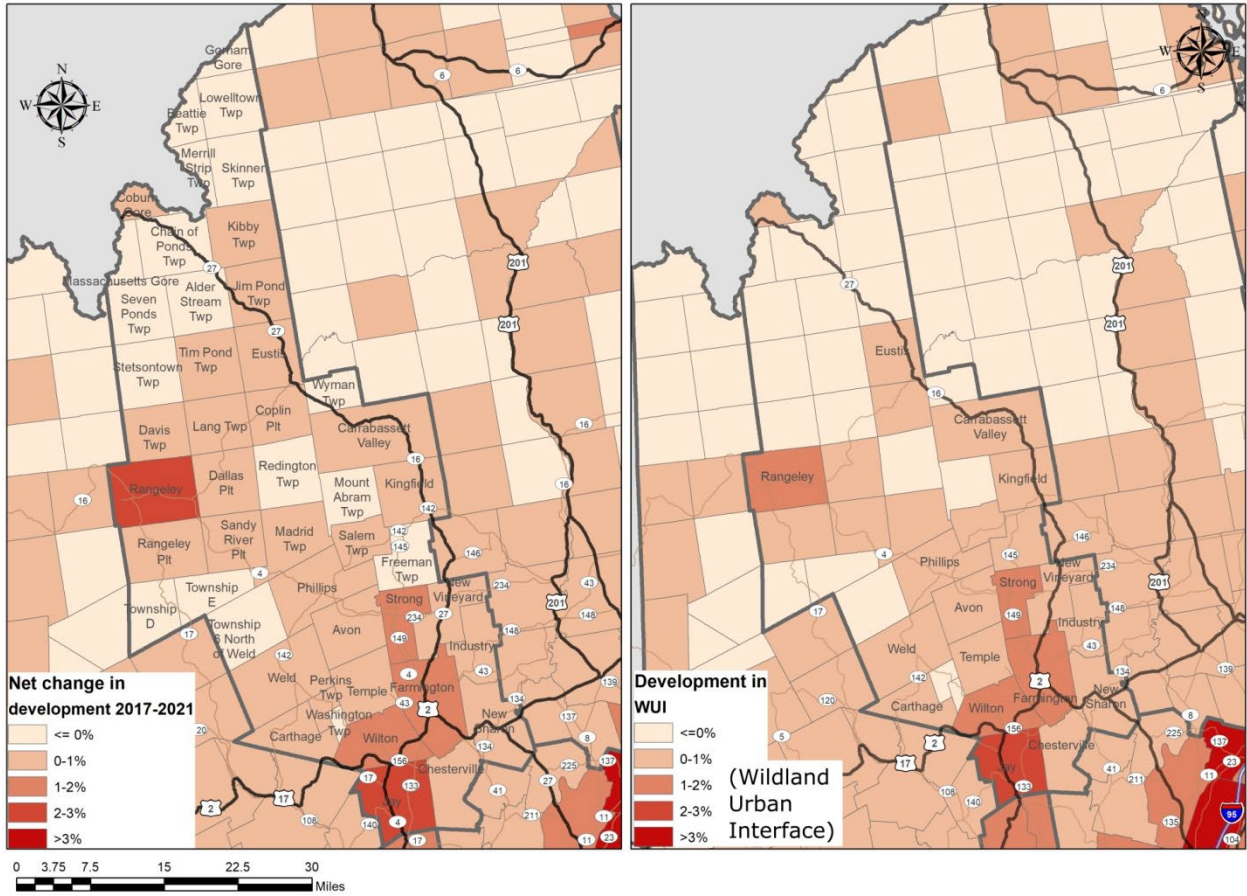


Figure: Franklin County changes in development by municipal jurisdictions based on Sentinel land cover/land use change detection data.

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan –2023 Update

Sentinel land cover detection indicates minimal development in known hazard-prone areas.

TOWN	Area (sq mi)	% net development	% development in WUI
Jay	49.168677	2.54%	2.01%
Rangeley	55.592995	2.10%	1.95%
Wilton	42.798413	1.62%	1.49%
Farmington	55.789906	1.54%	1.32%
Strong	28.925801	1.40%	1.15%
Chesterville	37.530233	0.69%	0.56%
Phillips	50.959409	0.68%	0.52%
New Sharon	46.795320	0.58%	0.28%
Avon	41.619650	0.54%	0.38%
Carrabassett Valley	77.574054	0.52%	0.51%
Kingfield	43.253625	0.51%	0.48%
Dallas Plt	40.381427	0.47%	0.30%
Eustis	41.448607	0.43%	0.21%
New Vineyard	36.194250	0.33%	0.23%
Carthage	33.446646	0.26%	0.21%
Industry	31.062170	0.20%	0.17%
Sandy River Plt	35.256104	0.11%	0.05%
Temple	35.735022	0.11%	0.12%
Rangeley Plt	47.488756	0.10%	0.11%
Weld	62.838161	0.10%	0.07%
Coplin Plt	33.027689	0.08%	0.09%

E2. Changes in Priorities

Was the plan revised to reflect changes in priorities and progress in local mitigation efforts?
(Requirement CFR §201.6(d)(3))

E2-a. How Plan was Revised due to Change in Priorities

The plan must describe how it was revised due to a change in priorities for each jurisdiction. If the participant(s) had no change in priorities since the last approval of the mitigation plan, this must be stated.

Franklin County EMA requested each municipality, by survey and in public meetings, to indicate how their actions have changed in priority, either by the addition of new actions and/or by changes in existing, uncompleted actions. Changes are indicated by the order in which projects are listed, with top priority projects being at the top of the list.

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan –2023 Update

E2-b. Status of Mitigation actions

The plan must describe the status of all hazard mitigation actions in the previous plan by identifying whether they have been completed or not, for each jurisdiction. For actions that are not complete, the plan must state whether the action is no longer relevant or will be included in the updated action plan.

In Element C, Strategy, there is a “status” column in the table of municipal actions that describes the status of each strategy. All actions that are new are identified as such. Actions that have not been completed are included in the updated plan are identified by the phrase “Deferred, lack of funds.” Actions that have been completed are shown by italics and shaded background

E2-c. Integration into other planning mechanisms

The updated plan must explain how the jurisdiction(s) integrated information from the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, as a demonstration of progress in local hazard mitigation efforts. If information from the previous plan was not integrated into other planning mechanisms, this must be stated.

Completed projects. Information on municipal projects that have been completed or are underway have been integrated into other planning mechanisms. These projects were incorporated into municipal warrant items, budgets, municipal appropriations, bid documents and contracts for work.

Local flood plain management ordinances. As documented in Element C, all of Franklin County’s municipalities have joined the Flood Insurance Program and have adopted floodplain management ordinances aimed at managing development in flood-prone areas. In addition, four plantations (and all of the Unorganized Territory) are in the Flood Insurance Program by virtue of being under the regulatory jurisdiction of the state’s Land Use Planning Commission. These ordinances have already incorporated the general goals contained in this plan of reducing potential loss of life, injury and property damage, and damages to public infrastructure.

Shoreland zoning ordinances. All of the towns in Franklin County are required to have a shoreland zoning ordinance, whether adopted by the municipality or imposed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The State’s Land Use Planning Commission has adopted shoreland protection controls for the four plantations in Franklin County as well as the county’s portion of the Unorganized Territory. Shoreland zoning ordinances contain requirements for locating structures outside of known flood hazard areas and/or for complying with the requirements of municipal flood plain management ordinances. As such, all of the jurisdictions in Franklin County have already incorporated into their shoreland zoning ordinances the general goals contained in this plan of reducing potential loss of life, injury and property damage, and damages to public infrastructure.

Subdivision review requirements. Maine state law contains criteria that local officials must use in conducting subdivision reviews. One of the criteria contains a specific reference to FEMA’s Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps and Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and requires elevation above the 100-year flood plain:

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan –2023 Update

“Flood areas. Based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps and Flood Insurance Rate Maps, and information presented by the applicant whether the subdivision is in a flood-prone area. If the subdivision, or any part of it, is in such an area, the subdivider shall determine the 100-year flood elevation and flood hazard boundaries within the subdivision. The proposed subdivision plan must include a condition of plan approval requiring that principal structures in the subdivision will be constructed with their lowest floor, including the basement, at least one foot above the 100-year flood elevation”

In effect, this statutory requirement already incorporates floodplain management goals contained in the plan into the local subdivision review process.

Capital improvement plans. Some of the larger municipalities have capital improvement plans; most of the smaller ones do not, but they do have local budgeting processes which are used to examine potential expenditures in detail and establish overall spending priorities. In either case, the budget review process is used to evaluate and recommend a course of action for actions contained in the hazard mitigation plan. All of the projects listed in this plan as being complete went through a local budget review process.

Local budgeting processes (which are used to examine potential expenditures in detail and establish overall spending priorities). The budget review process was used to evaluate and recommend a course of action for actions contained in the hazard mitigation plan which are listed as complete.

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2023 Update

ELEMENT F. PLAN ADOPTION REQUIREMENTS

F2. Multi-jurisdictional plans. For multi-jurisdictional plans, has the governing body of each jurisdiction officially adopted the plan to be eligible for certain FEMA assistance? (Requirement 44 CFR §201.6(c)(5)):

F2-a. Requirements. To receive approval, the participants must adopt the plan and provide documentation that the adoption has occurred.

Participants that submit their adoption documentation separately from the other multi-jurisdictional plan participants will not receive a new expiration date.

Participating jurisdictions that adopt the plan more than one year after Approval Pending Adoption (APA) status has been issued must either:

- Validate that their information in the plan remains current with respect to both the risk assessment (no recent hazard events, no changes in development) and their mitigation strategy (no changes necessary); or
- Make the necessary updates before submitting the adoption resolution to FEMA.

This plan is a multi-jurisdiction plan. Municipalities that participated in the preparation of this plan include the following (Franklin County participated on behalf of the Unorganized Territory):

- Avon
- Carrabassett Valley
- Carthage
- Chesterville
- Coplin Plantation
- Dallas Plantation
- Eustis
- Farmington
- Industry
- Jay
- Kingfield
- New Sharon
- New Vineyard
- Phillips
- Rangeley
- Rangeley Plantation
- Sandy River Plantation
- Strong
- Temple
- Weld
- Wilton

Other jurisdictions include the Unorganized Territory.

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2023 Update

A copy of the resolution that will be adopted by each participating jurisdiction is shown below. Franklin County will adopt the resolution on behalf of the Unorganized Territory.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, natural and man-made disasters may occur at any time, we recognize that to lessen the impacts of these disasters we will save resources, property and lives in Franklin County;

And whereas the creation of a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan is necessary for the development of a risk assessment and effective mitigation strategy;

And whereas, the towns and plantations in Franklin County as well as Franklin County (on behalf of its portion of the Unorganized Territory) are committed to the mitigation goals and measures as presented in this plan;

Therefore the boards of selectmen of the incorporated towns and boards of assessors for the plantations hereby ADOPT the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update; and

Therefore, Franklin County, acting on behalf of the county and its portion of the Unorganized Territory, hereby adopts the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES – Town/Plantation of _____

Name _____ Title _____ Date _____

Name _____ Title _____ Date _____

Name _____ Title _____ Date _____

Name _____ Title _____ Date _____

Name _____ Title _____ Date _____

Appendix

- Franklin County January 20th Kick off Meeting invitation Email
 - January 20th Kick off Meeting Sign in Sheet
 - Agenda for January 20th Kick off Meeting
- Franklin County February 15th Kick off Meeting Invitation Email
 - February 15th Kick off Meeting Sign in Sheet
 - Agenda for February 15^h Kick off Meeting
- List of contacts invitation and information was distributed to
 - Copy of Hazard Mitigation Survey sent to towns
 - Copy of Hazard Mitigation Citizen Survey
- Copies of emails sent to agencies representing underserved communities
- Proof of posting for public comment period on EMA Facebook page
- Proof of posting for public comment period on EMA Website
 - Public comment period session Agenda

From: [Tim Hardy](#)
Subject: FW: 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting
Date: Friday, January 6, 2023 11:23:48
Attachments: [Mitigation Survey FCEMA 2023.docx](#)
[Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan- 2016 Projects.pdf](#)

From: Sara Bickford <SBickford@franklincountymaine.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2023 10:59 AM
To: Tim Hardy <THardy@franklincountymaine.gov>
Cc: Amanda Simoneau <ASimoneau@franklincountymaine.gov>
Subject: 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting

Hello,

Franklin County Emergency Management Agency would like to invite you to join us on **January 20th at 9:30am in the Franklin County Superior Courtroom** for our 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan kick off meeting! We encourage all town officials, public works officials and local EMA directors to join and learn more about some of the projects that qualify for the hazard mitigation funding. Participation in the plan is required to have your towns projects submitted. We understand our county is large and if you are unable to attend this kick off meeting, we will organize another meeting in the northern part of the county to create more accessibility for some of you northern folks.

Attached please find a short survey form to fill out and bring to the kickoff meeting. Also attached is a list of past projects to give you an idea of what types of projects can be submitted.

We look forward to seeing you all and getting this project off the ground!

Sara Bickford

*Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator
Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
TEL: 207-860-4277
EMAIL: SBickford@Franklincountymaine.gov*

Franklin County Emergency Management Agency

140 Main Street, Suite 1, Farmington Maine 04938

Event/Meeting 2023 Hazard Mitigation Update Facilitator(s): Sara Bickford, Amanda Simoneau, Tim Hardy

Location: Franklin County Superior Court House Date: 1/20/2023 Time: 9:30am to _____

Name	Signature	Agency Representing	Contact Number	Email Address	Travel Time
1 Mark Bousseau	<i>Mark Bousseau</i>	MFS Town of Phillips	772-8773	Mark.Bousseau@maine.gov	
2 Steve Durrin	<i>Steve Durrin</i>	Industry	7705050	stew4949@gmail.com	
3 Phil Hutchins	<i>Phil Hutchins</i>	Farmington	491-0199	phut@ms3.farmington-maine.org	
4 Jan Kiernan	<i>Jan Kiernan</i>	Farm. Photo Woods	491-4868		
5 Leia Durrell	<i>Leia Durrell</i>	Farmington	207-491-0512	ldurrell@farmington-maine.org	
6 Richard Doughty	<i>Richard Doughty</i>	WELD	207-229-7940	rdoughty@WELD-MAINE.ORG	
7 Sonny Doughty	<i>Sonny Doughty</i>	Wilton Fire	207-491-8898	wtd@wiltonfire.org	
8 John Mussé	<i>John Mussé</i>	Wilton Public Works	207-491-8247	jh.musse@wiltonmaine.org	
9 Sam Roy	Zoom	MEMA		Samuel.Roy@maine.gov	
10 Mike Booker	Zoom	Jay		JFDcheifbooker@gmail.com	
11 Maureen Haley	Zoom	Phillips		PhillipsTownOffice@TDS.net	
12 Linda Jones	Zoom	Dallas Pkt.		Linda.Jones@dallasplantation.com	
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Total participants: _____ Travel time: _____ Meeting Hours: _____ Total Hours: _____ EMPG: _____ DAH: _____



Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions.
 - **EMA Folks**
 - **Rich Rothe**
 - **Samuel Roy – MEMA**
2. What is the Hazard Mitigation Plan?
3. Why is the Hazard Mitigation Plan important?
4. How the Hazard Mitigation Plan affects your community.
5. Open Discussions and Questions

Location: Franklin County Superior Courtroom,
140 Main Street, Farmington, Maine 04938

Date/ Time: January 20th 9:30AM

From: [Tim Hardy](#)
Subject: FW: Northern County Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting 02/15/2023
Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 10:55:05
Attachments: [Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan- 2016 Projects.pdf](#)
[Mitigation Survey FCEMA 2023.docx](#)
[Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting Agenda Northern Meeting.docx](#)

From: Sara Bickford <SBickford@franklincountymaine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 10:23 AM
To: Tim Hardy <THardy@franklincountymaine.gov>
Subject: Northern County Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting 02/15/2023

Hello,

We will be holding our second Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting for the Northern part of the county on **February 15th at 2:00PM located at the Carrabassett Valley Fire Department – 502 Backburn Way, Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947**. This meeting will be offered via Zoom as well (link is listed below). If you could review the past projects document that is attached here and fill out the survey form prior to the meeting that would be wonderful. As always if you have any question, please reach out!

*Guests may join remotely with **Zoom ID 531 268 2243** & Passcode of **04947** or:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5312682243?pwd=TGxrUExKcXdqQTdlZUZhYUVteG5GZz09>

To use a traditional phone to call 1-929-205-6099 and follow prompts for Meeting ID and Access

Thank you!

Sara Bickford

*Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator
Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
TEL: 207-860-4277
EMAIL: SBickford@Franklincountymaine.gov*

Franklin County Emergency Management Agency

140 Main Street, Suite 1, Farmington Maine 04938

Event/Meeting: Hazard Mitigation - Carra Bassett Facilitator(s): Sara Billkerod, Tim Hardy
Fire Department Amanda Simoneau

Location: _____ Date: 2/13/23 Time: 2:00 to _____

Name	Signature	Agency Representing	Contact Number	Email Address
1 Sprague Wisis	<i>[Signature]</i>	EUSTIS	246-4391	
2 Bob Carleton	<i>[Signature]</i>	FRANKLIN County	446-6751	
3 Brad Timberlake	<i>[Signature]</i>	Franklin RCC	305-5935	Btimberlake@franklincountymaine.gov
4 Tim Hardy	<i>[Signature]</i>	FR/EMA	491-4763	
5 Sara Billkerod	<i>[Signature]</i>	FN EMA	986-1381	
6 Richard Doughty		Weld - Selectman		
7 Dan Demers		Weld		
8 Amanda Simoneau	<i>[Signature]</i>	Franklin EMA	491-5959	
9 Rich Rothe	<i>[Signature]</i>	Consultant	446-0776	rothe@midmaine.com
10 Sam Roy	<i>[Signature]</i>	MEMA	242-8241	samuel.roy@maine.gov
11 Amy Bernard	<i>[Signature]</i>	Franklin City DT	778-6614	abernard@franklincounty.maine.gov
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Round Trip Travel in Minutes

Page _____ of _____

Total participants: _____ Travel time: _____ Meeting Hours: _____ Total Hours: _____ EMPG: _____ D4H: _____



Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions.
 - **EMA Folks**
 - **Rich Rothe**
 - **Samuel Roy – MEMA**
2. What is the Hazard Mitigation Plan?
3. Why is the Hazard Mitigation Plan important?
4. How the Hazard Mitigation Plan affects your community.
5. Open Discussions and Questions

Location: Carrabassett Valley Fire Department,

5002 Blackburn Way, Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947

Date/ Time: February 15th 2:00PM

Members:

(sandyriver@myfairpoint.net) Amy Bernard (ABernard@franklincountymaine.gov)	sandyriver@myfairpoint.net ABernard@franklincountymaine.gov
Anne Lambert (selectmanlambert@gmail.com)	selectmanlambert@gmail.com
Avon (avontownoffice@yahoo.com) Bob Carlton (Bob@freemanridgeforestry.com)	avontownoffice@yahoo.com Bob@freemanridgeforestry.com
Brenda Medcoff (chestervilleceo@myfairpoint.net)	chestervilleceo@myfairpoint.net
Carey Keep (keep_7@msn.com) Carol Cochran (townclerk@weld-maine.org)	keep_7@msn.com townclerk@weld-maine.org
carthage@myfairpoint.net chestervillecodes@gmail.com Dallas Plantation (TownClerk@dallasplantation.com)	carthage@myfairpoint.net chestervillecodes@gmail.com TownClerk@dallasplantation.com
Dave Cota (towncvtm@adelphia.net) dbarker@sugarloaf.com Dennis ONeil (deo45@yahoo.com) Earl Ross (rangeleypwd@myfairpoint.net)	towncvtm@adelphia.net dbarker@sugarloaf.com deo45@yahoo.com rangeleypwd@myfairpoint.net
Eric Hilton (selectmanhilton@gmail.com)	selectmanhilton@gmail.com
Erik Hellgren (erikhellgren@rocketmail.com)	erikhellgren@rocketmail.com
Gene Hutchinson (jhutchinson@myfairpoint.net)	jhutchinson@myfairpoint.net
Greta Espeaignnette - Avon (avonfirstselectman@gmail.com)	avonfirstselectman@gmail.com
Heinz Goosman (wasw@wiltonmaine.org) Janet White (brayhilllady@gmail.com) Jason Swiney (jasonswiney@gmail.com) Jody Farmer (jtfarmerllc@gmail.com) Joe Roach (townmanager@rangeleyme.org)	wasw@wiltonmaine.org brayhilllady@gmail.com jasonswiney@gmail.com jtfarmerllc@gmail.com townmanager@rangeleyme.org
John Johnson (jhighway@jay-maine.org)	jhighway@jay-maine.org
John Archer (jarcherselectman@gmail.com)	jarcherselectman@gmail.com
John Masase (highway@wiltonmaine.org)	highway@wiltonmaine.org
John Pond (ejpondandsons@gmail.com) Kathy Fearon (eustisclerk@roadrunner.com)	ejpondandsons@gmail.com eustisclerk@roadrunner.com
Keith Savage (publicworks@rangeleyme.org)	publicworks@rangeleyme.org
Keith Savage (wwtphill@myfairpoint.net)	wwtphill@myfairpoint.net
Kelley Hutchinson (roads@weld-maine.org)	roads@weld-maine.org

Lance Harvell (lanceharvell@hotmail.com)	lanceharvell@hotmail.com
Larry Blodgett (ldb@myfairpoint.net)	ldb@myfairpoint.net
Leanna Ross Target (kingfieldmaine@gmail.com)	kingfieldmaine@gmail.com
Lee Ireland (eireland@fchn.org)	eireland@fchn.org
Linda Bauer (selectwomanbauer@gmail.com)	selectwomanbauer@gmail.com
Linda Jones (Linda.Jones@dallasplantation.com)	Linda.Jones@dallasplantation.com
Matthew Smith (mwsmith@farmington-maine.org)	mwsmith@farmington-maine.org
Maureen Haley (phillipstownoffice@tds.net)	phillipstownoffice@tds.net
Mike Pond (mikepond4343@gmail.com)	mikepond4343@gmail.com
Pam Griswold (townclerk@newsharon.maine.gov)	townclerk@newsharon.maine.gov
Perry Ellsworth (pellsworth@wiltonmaine.org)	pellsworth@wiltonmaine.org
Peter Farnsworth (pbf@tds.net)	pbf@tds.net
Phillip Hutchins (Phutchins@Farmington-Maine.org)	Phutchins@Farmington-Maine.org
publicworkschesterville@gmail.com	publicworkschesterville@gmail.com
Rangeley Plantation (rangplt@myfairpoint.net)	rangplt@myfairpoint.net
Rayleen (townofstrongclerk@yahoo.com)	townofstrongclerk@yahoo.com
Reggie Hammond (rhammond42@myfairpoint.net)	rhammond42@myfairpoint.net
Richard Doughty (rdoughty@weld-maine.org)	rdoughty@weld-maine.org
Russell Black (Blackacres@juno.com)	Blackacres@juno.com
Scott Landry (shireins@gwi.net)	shireins@gwi.net
Shelley Lowell (lowellrangeleyselect@gmail.com)	lowellrangeleyselect@gmail.com
Shiloh LaFreniere (jmanager@jay-maine.org)	jmanager@jay-maine.org
Stephen Millett (smillett@farmington-maine.org)	smillett@farmington-maine.org
Steve Bunker (stephan.bunker@gmail.com)	stephan.bunker@gmail.com
Stewart Durrell (stew4949@gmail.com)	stew4949@gmail.com
Strong Town Office (strongtownoffice@yahoo.com)	strongtownoffice@yahoo.com
Temple Fire Dept. (templefire@netzero.net)	templefire@netzero.net
Temple Selectpersons (selectpersonoftemple@yahoo.com)	selectpersonoftemple@yahoo.com
Terry Brann (tbrann@franklincountymaine.gov)	tbrann@franklincountymaine.gov
Tiffany Baker (TBaker@franklincountymaine.gov)	TBaker@franklincountymaine.gov
Tiffany Maiuri (maiuri@maine.edu)	maiuri@maine.edu

Timothy LeSiege (selectmanlesiege@gmail.com)	selectmanlesiege@gmail.com
Tom Lillis (ceo@rangeley.me.org)	ceo@rangeley.me.org
Tom Marcott (bluemtn@tds.net)	bluemtn@tds.net
Tom Skolfield (skolfield@tds.net)	skolfield@tds.net
Town of Chesterville (chestervilleselectboard@myfairpoint.net)	chestervilleselectboard@myfairpoint.net
Town of Industry (industry@beeline-online.net)	industry@beeline-online.net
Town of New Vineyard (townofnewvineyard@gmail.com)	townofnewvineyard@gmail.com
Town of Temple (templetownoffice@yahoo.com)	templetownoffice@yahoo.com
townofchestervillemaine@gmail.com	townofchestervillemaine@gmail.com
Travis Pond (selectmanpond@gmail.com)	selectmanpond@gmail.com
Wayne DuBois (oasis74@midmaine.com)	oasis74@midmaine.com

Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey 2023

In order to begin updating the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Franklin County Emergency Management Agency requests your participation by providing answers to the following questions. Completion of this survey is one of several ways that each municipality can stay involved in the update process.

In addition to completing this survey, we will be requesting your assistance at a later date to update the list of mitigation projects contained in the current Hazard Mitigation Plan. The 2023 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan update will profile flooding, severe winter and summer storms, and wildfires.

1. Community Name:
2. Flooding: Please identify areas in your community that are susceptible to damages from flooding and/or that have had repeated flood damages (such as road overtopping, culvert damages):
3. Severe winter storms: Please identify areas in your municipality that are susceptible to severe winter storms (such as ice jams and power outages):
4. Severe summer storms: Please identify areas in your municipality that are susceptible to severe summer storms (such as power outages, debris removal):
5. Wildfire/property damages: Please identify areas in your municipality that would be susceptible to wildfire/forest fires (such as homes or vacation properties built in the woods):
6. Vulnerable populations: Please identify vulnerable populations in your municipality (for example, are there any dead-end roads where residents could be isolated):
7. Governance: When does your Select Board, Board of Assessors or City Council regularly meet (for example, first Monday of the month):
8. Local contact information: Please list the name, telephone number, email address and physical address of someone in your community that can be contacted about hazard mitigation:

Thank you for taking the time to fill out and return this survey! **Please return by either email or regular mail.**

Sara Bickford- Sbickford@franklincountymaine.gov
Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
140 Main Street Suite 1
Farmington, Maine 04938
Phone: 207-778-5892

Franklin County Citizens Hazard Mitigation Planning Survey 2023

Citizen input for the Hazard Mitigation Plan is important, we highly encourage any interested folks to provide their feedback.

1. Community Name:	
2. Flooding: Please identify areas in your community that are susceptible to damages from flooding and/or that have had repeated flood damages (such as road overtopping, culvert damages):	
3. Severe winter storms: Please identify areas in your municipality that are susceptible to severe winter storms (such as ice jams and power outages):	
4. Landslides: Please identify areas in your municipality that are susceptible to severe landslides:	

<p>5. Wildfire/property damages: Please identify areas in your municipality that would be susceptible to wildfire/forest fires (such as homes or vacation properties built in the woods):</p>	
<p>Any Other Comments:</p>	

Thank you for taking the time to fill out and return this survey! **Please return by either email or regular mail.**

**Sara Bickford- Sbickford@franklincountymaine.gov
Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
140 Main Street Suite 1
Farmington, Maine 04938
Phone: 207-778-5892**

Sara Bickford

From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 14:50
To: 'info@community-concepts.org'
Cc: Amanda Simoneau; Tim Hardy; 'richrothe79@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

Please note this update to my last email....

Franklin County EMA will be hosting a public comment review session on April 11th at 2:30PM located at the Franklin County Superior Courtroom located at 140 Main Street, Farmington, Maine 04938 or via [Zoom](#) Meeting Code: 492 510 0482 Passcode: 030621. We look forward to hearing any feedback from the public!

Sara Bickford

*Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator
Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
TEL: 207-860-4277
EMAIL: SBickford@Franklincountymaine.gov*

From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 10:35 AM
To: 'info@community-concepts.org' <info@community-concepts.org>
Cc: Amanda Simoneau <ASimoneau@franklincountymaine.gov>; Tim Hardy <THardy@franklincountymaine.gov>; 'richrothe79@gmail.com' <richrothe79@gmail.com>
Subject: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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TEL: 207-860-4277
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From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 14:50
To: 'farmington.dhhs@maine.gov'
Cc: Amanda Simoneau; Tim Hardy; 'richrothe79@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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From: Sara Bickford
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To: 'farmington.dhhs@maine.gov' <farmington.dhhs@maine.gov>
Cc: Amanda Simoneau <ASimoneau@franklincountymaine.gov>; Tim Hardy <THardy@franklincountymaine.gov>; 'richrothe79@gmail.com' <richrothe79@gmail.com>
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From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 14:49
To: 'hcc@fchn.org'
Cc: Amanda Simoneau; Tim Hardy; 'richrothe79@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 14:51
To: 'cwhittier@uwtva.org'
Cc: Amanda Simoneau; Tim Hardy; 'richrothe79@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
TEL: 207-860-4277
EMAIL: SBickford@Franklincountymaine.gov*

From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 10:36 AM
To: 'cwhittier@uwtva.org' <cwhittier@uwtva.org>
Cc: Amanda Simoneau <ASimoneau@franklincountymaine.gov>; Tim Hardy <THardy@franklincountymaine.gov>; 'richrothe79@gmail.com' <richrothe79@gmail.com>
Subject: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 14:51
To: 'Judith Frost'
Cc: Amanda Simoneau; Tim Hardy; 'richrothe79@gmail.com'
Subject: RE: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 10:35 AM
To: 'Judith Frost' <jfrost@wmca.org>
Cc: Amanda Simoneau <ASimoneau@franklincountymaine.gov>; Tim Hardy <THardy@franklincountymaine.gov>; 'richrothe79@gmail.com' <richrothe79@gmail.com>
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From: Sara Bickford
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 14:49
To: 'ttaylor@westernmainetrans.org'; 'czurhorst@westernmainetrans.org'; 'sbuchanan@westernmainetrans.org'
Cc: Amanda Simoneau; Tim Hardy; 'richrothe79@gmail.com'
Subject: FW: Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft
Attachments: 2023 Franklin County Hazard Mitigation Draft.pdf; Citizen Mitigation Survey FCEMA 2023.docx

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 - CLYDE'S SAFETY MESSAGES
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 - PSA – Winter
 - PSA- Fall

Weather Alerts

- There are no active watches, warnings or advisories

Local Weather

- Local Agencies**
- UMF Full Scale Exercise

- State Agencies**
- Franklin County EMA Facebook Page
 - Franklin County Weather- National Weather Service

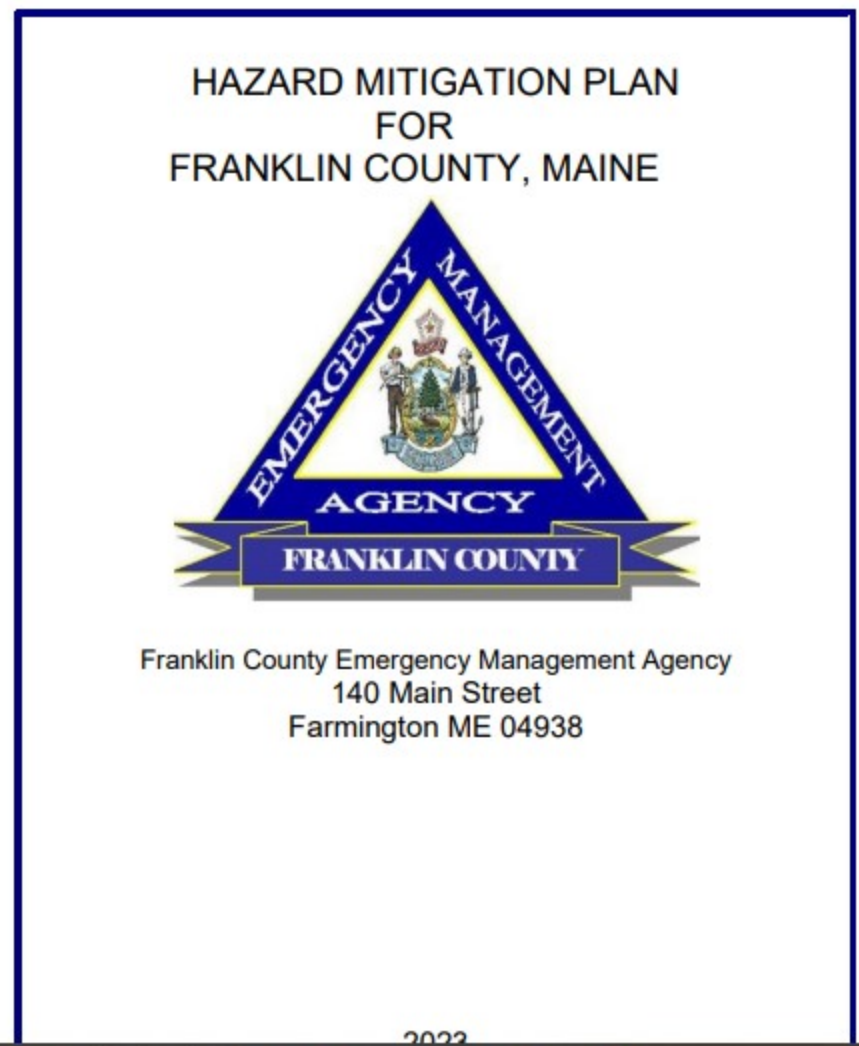
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- March 2023
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Franklin County 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft

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Franklin County Emergency Management Agency

Intro

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140 Main Street, STE 1, Farmington, ME, United States, Maine

+1 207-778-5892

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Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
 Published by Sara Bickford · March 28 at 10:30 AM

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Please view the Hazard Mitigation Draft here:
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/.../urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:098ecbc8...>

We would also love to hear from you via this Hazard Mitigation Citizen Survey:
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/.../urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:79aebb97...>



Promote



Franklin County Emergency Management Agency
2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Comment Session

1. Welcome and Introductions.
 - **EMA Folks**
 - **Rich Rothe**
2. Overview of plan updates
3. Questions and comments

Location: Franklin County Superior Courtroom, 140 Main Street, Farmington, Maine 04938

Date/ Time: April 11th, 2023