

## INTRODUCTION

### **Purpose of the Plan**

Natural hazard mitigation is defined as actions or activities designed to reduce or eliminate losses resulting from natural disasters. Historical records indicate that natural disasters have affected the people of Stoddard County, causing injury, death, damages to property and economic loss. The occurrence of natural disasters affects all areas of the county. There is no way to predict exactly where and when natural disasters may occur or to prevent hazard events from occurring. However, the impacts of natural hazard events such as the potential for injuries, loss of life, and property damage can be reduced through the application of prudent actions and strategies.

The 2011 Stoddard County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update (“Plan Update”) represents a multi-jurisdictional effort between Stoddard County, its municipalities, and other public sector entities and organizations. The Plan Update will establish a guide for actions that can be undertaken to help Stoddard County prepare for potential natural disasters. This plan only addresses natural hazards that may affect Stoddard County. Man-made or technological hazards are not discussed, unless in reference to the cascade of damages that may result from a natural hazard event. All natural hazards, whether they affect Stoddard County or not will be discussed in Section 2 of the Plan Update.

The Stoddard County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is an updated version of the original 2006 version of the plan developed in conformance with the requirements of Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“DMA 2000”). The original Plan was adopted and approved by the Stoddard County Commission on July 8, 2005. The Plan was FEMA-approved on January 13, 2006. The original Plan will be referenced in this document as the “2006 Plan.” DMA 2000 required local governments to develop and approve a natural hazard mitigation plan by November 1, 2004 to be eligible for federally funded mitigation assistance in the future. Mitigation plans will be a prerequisite to

receive mitigation assistance for all federally declared disasters. Mitigation plans must be updated every 5 years.

The Stoddard County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was updated in 2011 but not approved until 2012. This will ensure that the county and other participating jurisdictions within the county will continue to be eligible for hazard mitigation grant funding for five years from the date of the Plan Update approval.

The Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) provided funding for the development of the plan, matched by in-kind donations from Stoddard County, its municipalities, and private organizations. In Missouri, SEMA requested the regional planning commissions to work with local governments to develop the hazard mitigation plans. With the agreement of Stoddard County, SEMA contracted the hazard mitigation planning effort to the Bootheel Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission (BRPC). BRPC worked in collaboration with the county, municipalities and school districts to develop the Stoddard County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update.

The primary duties and responsibilities of the Bootheel Regional Planning Commission in the Plan Update process are spelled out in the signed Memorandum of Agreement with SEMA. Hereafter referred to as Consultant, the Regional Planning Commission agrees to the following:

- Consultant agrees that the Stoddard County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan must meet the requirements of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988.
- Consultant agrees to develop and produce a local government “Hazard Mitigation Plan” for SEMA in accordance with all terms contained in FEMA publications.
- Consultant agrees that the successful development of the Hazard Mitigation Plan must include the open public involvement of local units of government and other local and regional public or private sector bodies or agencies that influence hazard management or development policies within a local government.

- The Consultant must be prepared to participate and at times facilitate the development of the plan and conduct meetings necessary to include pertinent local entities that include public schools.
- Consultant agrees and understands that any and all services shall be performed only with the consent of SEMA.
- Consultant agrees that the final product must be delivered in a timely fashion and shall include a paper and electronic copy of the finished product.
- No part of this Plan will be subcontracted nor will external contributors be used.

### **Plan Organization and Content**

The Plan Update which includes elements and information prescribed by FEMA's July 1, 2008 publication Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guide is part of the Plan Update. This document was designed to assist municipalities in defining the requirements for both new and updated mitigation plans. The Plan Update includes the following contents:

- **Introduction:** The introduction provides an overview of the plan's format, assurance of compliance with regulations, authority for conduct of the plan, public involvement, participating jurisdictions and plan preparation methodology and schedule
- **Executive Summary:** Provides basic information relating to the development of the plan.
- **Section I:** Provides a description of the political, natural, cultural, demographic, socio-economic, and developmental characteristics of Stoddard County and its municipalities.
- **Section II:** Provides an analysis of the natural hazards addressed in the plan, a review of historical disaster events, evaluation of future risks and assessment of vulnerability by jurisdiction to future hazard events.
- **Section III:** Provides an analysis of county and city capabilities such as fire and police and mitigation management policies.
- **Section IV:** The Mitigation section describes the range of mitigation categories and activities that may be employed by a community. It also outlines the mitigation goals, actions, and strategies developed by Stoddard

- County and its’ communities. Plan maintenance processes and procedures are outlined in this section.
  
- Appendix: The appendix includes county/city/school district adoption resolutions, government building/facility repetitive loss listings, maps, acronyms,
  
- Definitions and multi-hazard mitigation resource directory and bibliography.

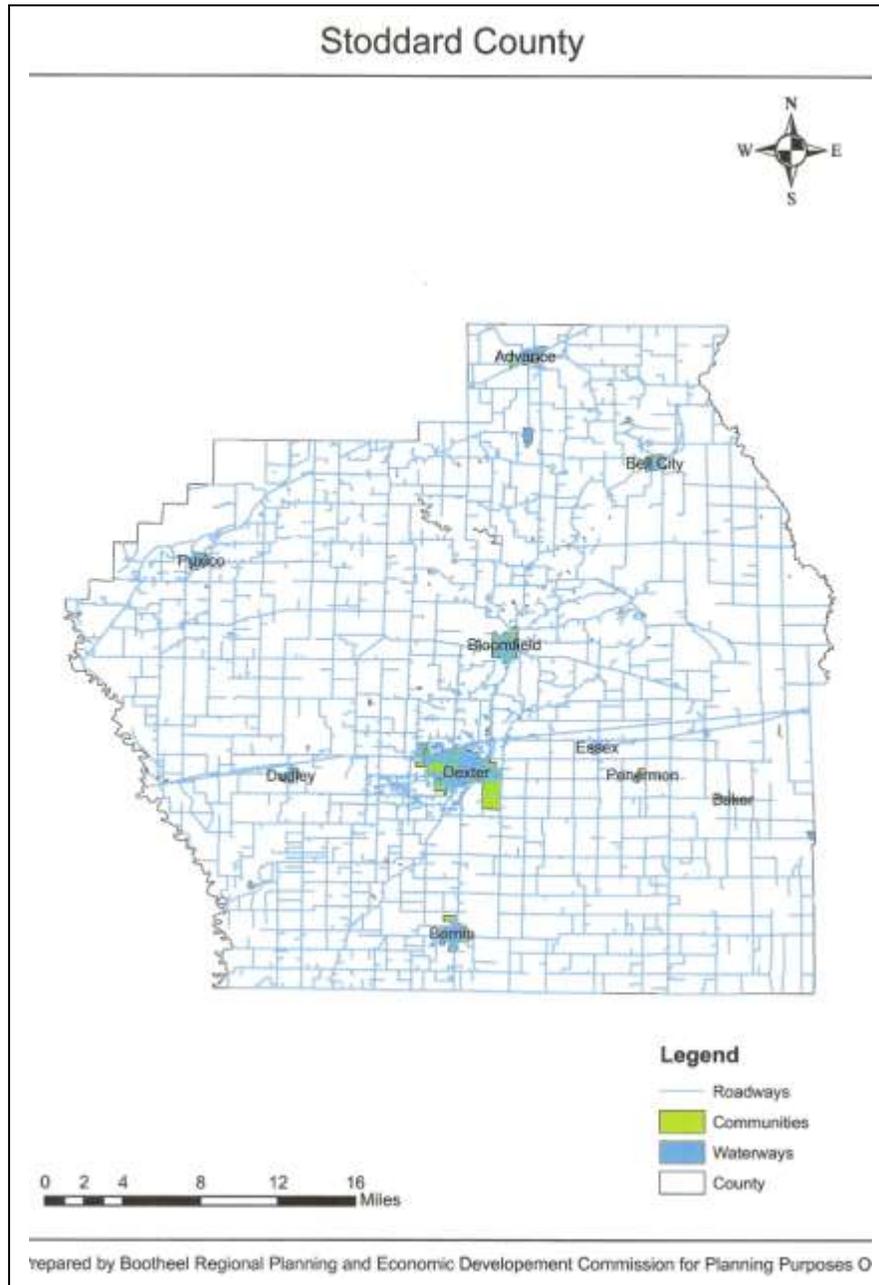
**Plan Review and Update Process**

Jurisdictions requesting participation in the Plan Update include the following: Stoddard County, cities of Advance, Bernie, Bell City, Bloomfield, Dexter, Dudley, Essex, Puxico, Pendermon and the following school districts: Advance R-IV, Bell City R-II, Bloomfield R-XIV, Bernie R-XIII, Dexter R-XI, Puxico R-VIII, Richland R-I and Three Rivers College (See map of Stoddard County-page 6)

The Plan Update process for all sections of the plan began with a review of each section from the 2006 Stoddard County Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Planning Committee. The majority of revised and updated material in the plan was developed from local jurisdiction review and comment, information submitted by participating jurisdictions and Plan Advisory Committee meetings. The table below describes the revisions and updates incorporated into each section of the plan.

Plan Section	Updated Material
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated list of plan participants</li> <li>• Revised and expanded purpose of plan</li> <li>• Inserted map of county and listed municipalities</li> <li>• Added public involvement section describing public meetings and involvement of public agencies</li> <li>• Inserted chart to show specific involvement by communities in the planning process.</li> <li>• Inserted chart to show how public participants reviewed specific information and how that information was incorporated into the planning process</li> <li>• Revised timeframe for document preparation</li> </ul>
Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remained basically the same</li> </ul>

Summary	
Section I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated county population</li> <li>• Expanded information concerning NFIP</li> <li>• Updated public school information and included information on high education</li> <li>• Updated information on city/town/village profiles</li> </ul>
Section II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded information on Risk Assessment at beginning of section</li> <li>• Provided expanded description of natural hazards eliminated</li> <li>• Included information on disaster declarations in the Bootheel</li> <li>• Included events for each hazard that occurred from 2005-2009 or beyond</li> <li>• Expanded upon natural hazards such as hail, lightening, levee failure, and different types of flooding</li> <li>• Provided better mapping such as tornado touchdown incidents, levee maps, drought maps and expanded information on types of flooding in the county</li> <li>• Added likely location subsections for each hazard</li> <li>• Revised county hazard identification and analysis</li> </ul>
Section III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed city/county capabilities and made some changes on fire/police protection</li> <li>• Updated information on county/regional hospitals</li> <li>• Updated historical population trends and county/city/school district regulations</li> </ul>
Section IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded on public involvement section</li> <li>• Added and documented public involvement of school administrators</li> <li>• Provided better analysis of STAPLEE</li> <li>• Revised chart on Proposed Mitigation Evaluation</li> <li>• Revised Mitigation Process for the county/cities</li> <li>• Updated Plan Maintenance Process</li> <li>• Revised 5-year update of hazard mitigation plan</li> </ul>
Appendix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised resolution of intent to participate for counties/cities and added resolution for school districts.</li> <li>• Revised and updated floodplain maps</li> </ul>



**Assurance statements of compliance with FEMA**

This county/city mitigation update plan complies with SEMA’s and FEMA’s planning guidance: FEMA regulations, rules, guidelines, and checklists; Code of Federal Regulations; and existing Federal and State laws; and such other reasonable criteria as the President/Governor, Federal/State congresses and SEMA/FEMA may establish in

consultation with County/City governments while the plan is being developed.

### **Basis for planning authority**

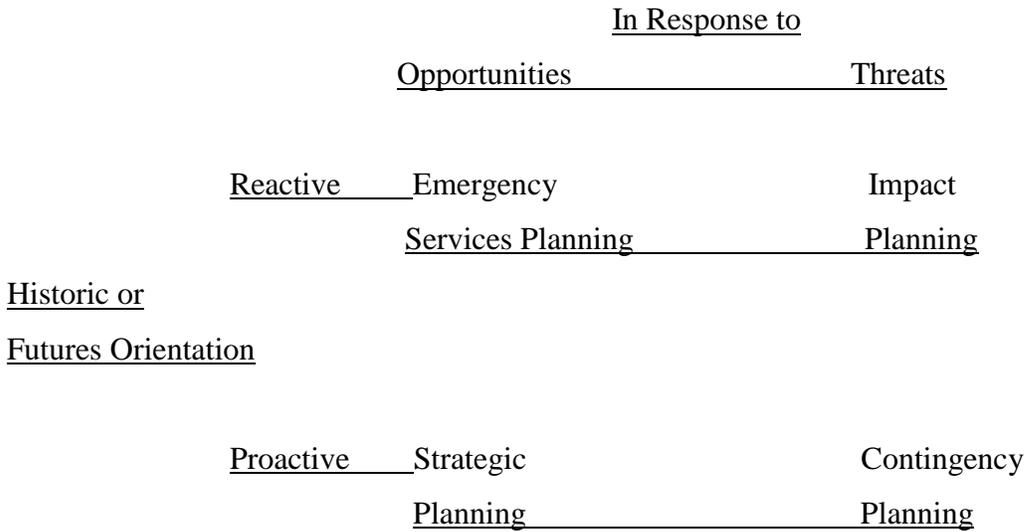
The basis for authority to create a natural hazard mitigation plan lies in Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5165. This act was enacted under Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), P.L. 106-390. Section 104 is the legal basis for FEMA's Interim Final Rule for 44 CFR Parts 201 and 206, published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2002.

### **Sunshine Law**

In accordance with Missouri's "sunshine law" (RSMo 610.010, 610.020, 610.023, and 610.024), the public was notified each time the plan, or sections of the plan, was presented for review. Input from each public official (city and county) was solicited by mailing an explanatory letter and a copy of the particular draft. These mailings were disbursed on a schedule that allowed officials sufficient time to review the draft prior to the next public county commission, city council, or board of aldermen meeting. Input for the general public was solicited through media outlets and various reminders at public gatherings.

### **The Planning Process**

The planning and review process is important because it serves as a vehicle for participants to think about the future. The process is generally considered more important than the document, or "plan," that results from the process. Often, "plans" are put on the shelf, yet the thinking that went into the plans has significant influence. Planning may take a historic or futures orientation and be in response to opportunities or threats. There maybe four types of local plans, depending on whether the plan was designed to take advantage of opportunities or respond to threats and whether the plan was reactive or proactive. Accordingly, a 2x2 matrix can be used to describe the types of local hazard plans.



Emergency Services Planning represents efforts to take measures to minimize the impact of a hazardous event on people and property. These commonly are mitigation actions taken immediately prior to, during, or in response to a hazardous event.

Impact Planning represents attempts to respond to a negative event such as structural mitigation projects that are intended to lessen the impact of a hazard by modifying the natural progression of the hazard event. The projects are usually designed by engineers and managed or maintained by public works staff.

Contingency planning involves developing appropriate responses to anticipated events.

Strategic planning is comprehensive and long range. It examines external opportunities and includes plans to take advantage of such opportunities.

The planning process described above was the model used for the Plan Update process. The Bootheel Regional Planning Commission, on behalf of Stoddard County invited many entities to participate in the development of the Stoddard County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Those involved in the planning process included the county, cities, school districts, area colleges, emergency planners, police,

fire chiefs, ambulance personnel, and general citizens. Notice of meetings and requests to respond were published in local newspapers serving Stoddard County and adjoining counties. Each participating jurisdiction was required to participate in the review process as defined below.

- Provide information to support plan update through at least one of the following methods:
- Completion of worksheets or questionnaires
- Review draft plan as presented
- Attend public meetings
- Communicate with Bootheel staff through phone calls or e-mail
- Provide comments on draft plan
- Formally adopt the mitigation plan

All jurisdictions listed as participants in the Plan Update met the minimum participation requirements as indicated in the table below. Documentation in the form of sign-in sheets for attendance at group meetings is documented in Section 4 of the Plan.

The initial planning process began on October 27, 2009 when Bootheel RPC staff met with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) in Dexter. Plan updates were discussed.

In December 2009, a questionnaire was mailed to each participating jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction was asked to review its approved mitigation plan and suggest changes as needed. Jurisdictions were asked to list mitigation activities from the 2006 Plan taken as a result of recent natural disasters such as floods and ice storms.

Bootheel RPC staff met with Stoddard County Superintendents in Dexter on January 21, 2010. Topics discussed at the meeting include:

- Discussion of Plan updates
- School districts involvement in the process
- Reviewed Goals & Actions

- Discussed Pre-Mitigation Grant Program

Bootheel RPC staff met with County Commissioners on January 25, 2010 to discuss mitigation plan update. Topics of meeting included:

- Discussion of Plan Updates
- Reviewed Importance of Plan
- Reviewed Goals & Actions
- Discussed Pre-Mitigation Grant Program
- Discussed County Jurisdictions Involved in Plan

Bootheel RPC hosted a Planning Committee meeting and workshop on June 8 and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to discuss mitigation programs and activities in the Bootheel. Presenters were from the University of Missouri and Missouri Department of Economic Development. Participants included Stoddard County Emergency Management officials as well officials from throughout the Bootheel.

On July 19, 2010 a draft copy of the updated plan was mailed to each mayor in Stoddard County and with a request to response to the proposed changes. In addition an article was published in The Daily Statesman, a newspaper of general circulation in the county, asking for comments and suggestions as they relate to the Plan Update. The table below includes more detail information about each jurisdiction's participation in the development of the Plan Update.

<b>Jurisdiction Participation in Five Year Update-Stoddard County</b>						
<b>Nature of Participation</b>	<b>Attended Meetings or work sessions</b>	<b>Reviewed Sections of the draft plan</b>	<b>Submitted Hazard analysis data</b>	<b>Reviewed Mitigation goals &amp; actions</b>	<b>Reviewed Plan Update draft</b>	<b>Formally adopted plan</b>
Stoddard County	X	X		X	X	
Advance	X	X	X	X	X	
Bernie	X	X	X	X	X	
Bell City	X	X	X	X	X	
Bloomfield	X	X	X	X	X	
Dexter	X	X	X	X	X	
Dudley	X	X	X	X	X	
Essex	X	X	X	X	X	
Puxico	X	X	X	X	X	
Penernom	X	X	X	X	X	
Advance R-IV	X	X		X	X	
Bell City R-II	X	X		X	X	
Bernie R-XIV	X	X		X	X	
Bloomfield R-XIV	X	X		X	X	
Dexter R-XI	X	X		X	X	
Puxico R-VIII	X	X		X	X	
Richland R-I	X	X		X	X	
Three Rivers College	X	X		X	X	

The review process is shown in the following steps:

1. Define review process to county and local officials and school district/college representatives.
2. Schedule meetings and work sessions for county and local officials and school district/college representatives.
3. Review sections of draft plan
4. Analyze hazard data
5. Review mitigation goal actions
6. Formally adopt updated plan

## **Participants and jurisdictions represented**

The list of primary participants in the planning process is shown below. These participants were involved in all phases of the review process.

- Greg Mathis, Stoddard County Presiding Commissioner
- Frank Sifford Stoddard County Associate Commissioner
- Carol Jarrell, Stoddard County Associate Commissioner
- Jodie Lemons, Stoddard County Assessor
- Leeman Schirrell, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of Advance
- Howard Pikey, Mayor, City of Bell City
- James Tillman, Mayor, City of Bernie
- Scott Staggs, Mayor, City of Bloomfield
- Joe Webber, City of Dexter
- Lucille Mullins, Mayor, City of Dudley
- Travis Worley, Mayor, City of Essex
- Doyle Mitchell, Mayor, City of Puxico
- Chester Hill, Mayor, City of Pendermon
- Emergency Management Director, Stoddard County
- Michael Redman, Superintendent of Schools, Advance R-IV
- Rhonda Niemczyk, Superintendent of Schools, Bell City R-II
- Nicholas Thiele, Superintendent of Schools, Bloomfield R-XIV
- John Boyd, Superintendent of Schools, Bernie R-XIII
- Kenneth Jackson, Superintendent of Schools, Dexter R-XI
- Kyle Dare, Superintendent of Schools, Puxico R-VIII
- Michael Kiehne, Superintendent of Schools, Richland R-I

As part of the planning process, the chart below describes how participating jurisdictions reviewed existing plans, reports, and technical documents and integrated information from these documents into Plan Updates. All jurisdictions were given a copy of the draft Plan Update for review.

Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan	Growth Management Plan	Flood Damage Prevention Ord.	Flood Insurance Studies	Hazard Vulnerability Analysis	Emergency Management Plan	Zoning Ordinance	Building Code	Drainage Ordinance	Critical Facilities Maps	Existing Land Use Maps	Elevation Certificates	State Plan	HAZUS	Does Jurisdiction have this document? (Yes/No)	Reviewed (Yes/No)	Method of incorporation into the hazard mitigation plan
Stoddard Co.	x		x	x		x				x	x	x			Y	Y	
Advance	x			x		x	x	x	x						Y	Y	
Bernie	x					X	x	x	x		x				Y	Y	
Bell City	x			x		x		x			x				Y	Y	
Bloomfield	x		x			x			x						Y	Y	
Dexter	x		x			x	x	x	x		x				Y	Y	
Dudley	x		x	x		x					x	x			Y	Y	
Essex	x					x			x		x				Y	Y	
Puxico	x					x		x	x		x				Y	Y	
Penermon				x			x	x							Y	Y	
Advance R-IV						x		x							Y	Y	
Bell City R-II						x		x							Y	Y	
Bernie R-XIII						x		x							Y	Y	
Bloomfield R-XIV						x		x							Y	Y	
Dexter R-XI						x		x							Y	Y	
Puxico R-VIII						x		x							Y	Y	
Richland R-I						x		x							Y	Y	
3 Rivers CC						x		x							Y	Y	

### Timeframe for preparation

The Plan Update development timeline includes the following:

- Define review process to county and local officials, as well as school districts and colleges, October, 2009
- Schedule meetings and work sessions, November, 2009
- Review sections of draft plan, December, 2008
- Analyze hazard data, January, 2010
- Review mitigation goals and actions, February, 2010
- Plan submitted to SEMA by July 31, 2012
- Finalized plan submitted to SEMA by October 31, 2012
- Plan approved by SEMA/FEMA by November, 2012