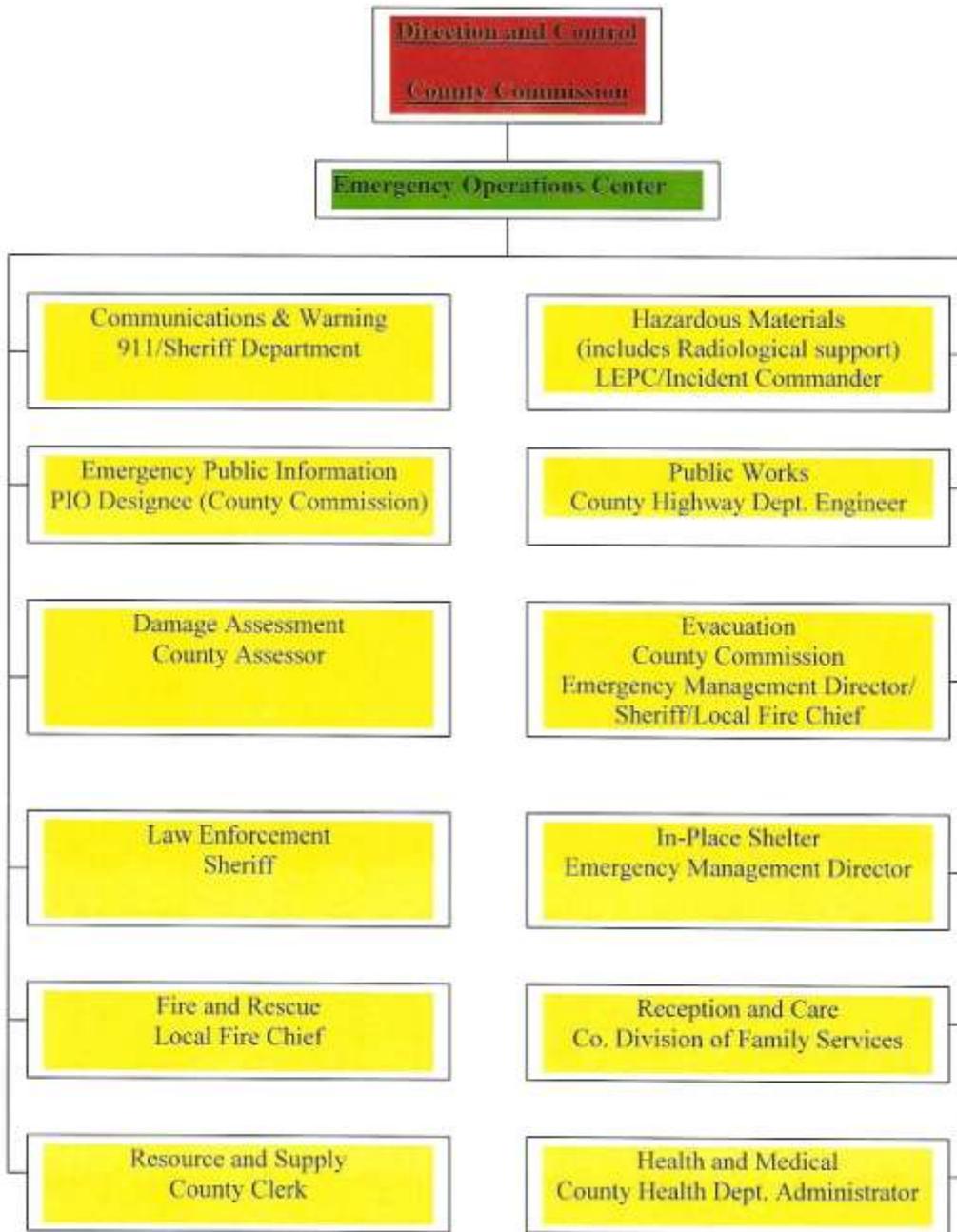

SECTION 3**CITY/COUNTY CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT MISSISSIPPI COUNTY****MITIGATION MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

This section is an update from the approved Mississippi County 2004 Plan. Specific updates include new information on population changes and an updated chart showing changes in city and county regulations. The Mississippi County Sheriff's department and the city of Charleston have had personnel changes within their respective departments.

The Presiding Commissioner of Mississippi County or the mayor in each municipality is responsible for all emergency management activities. The chief elected officials will implement this plan and direct emergency response within their jurisdiction. The Emergency Management Director will:

- a. Brief appropriate officials and new employees on their roles in emergency management.
- b. Coordinate all emergency management activities.
- c. Make decisions on routine day-to-day matters pertaining to emergency management.
- d. Advise elected officials on courses of action available for major decisions.
- e. Insure proper functioning of the EOC during emergency operations.
- f. Act as a liaison with other local, state, and federal emergency management agencies.
- g. Coordinate EOC operations.
- h. Other duties as outlined in the local ordinances, court orders, and agreements.

County Flow Chart-Chain of Command



EXISTING PLANS

Mississippi County has in place an approved Emergency Operations Plan. The plan establishes the guidelines for conducting efficient, effective, coordinated emergency operations involving the use of all resources available to Mississippi County.

Additional information concerning existing plans is listed under Community Profiles.

Mitigation Programs:

Mississippi County has adopted the 2004 natural hazard mitigation plan and is participating in the 2010 plan updates Mississippi County. Mississippi County is a member of the National Flood Insurance Program and administers the National Floodplain Plan, which regulates activities and construction in the county's floodplain. The special flood hazard areas of Mississippi County are subject to inundation which could result in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base; all of which adversely affect the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Development in the prescribed floodplain requires a development permit. Every floodplain development permit application shall include the following:

1. Describe the land on which the proposed work is to be done by lot, block, and tract, house and street address, or similar description that will readily identify and specifically locate the proposed structure of work;
2. Identify and describe the work to be covered by the floodplain development permit;
3. Indicate the use or occupancy for which the proposed work is intended;
4. Indicate the assessed value of the structure and the fair market value of the improvement;
5. Specify whether development is located in designated flood fringe or floodway;
6. Identify the existing base flood elevation and the elevation of the proposed development;

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7. Give such other information as reasonably may be required by the Mississippi County Clerk;
 8. Be accompanied by plans and specifications for proposed construction;
 9. Be signed by the permittee or his authorized agent who may be required to submit evidence to indicate such authority.

City of Charleston:

Residents of the City of Charleston are subject to Floodplain Management regulations. The purpose of those regulations is to promote the public health, safety and general welfare; to minimize those losses described in Section 415.010(A); to establish or maintain the community's eligibility for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program as defined in 44 Code of Federal Regulations. The provisions of those regulations are:

1. Restrict or prohibit uses that are dangerous to health, safety, or property in time of flooding or cause undue increases in flood heights or velocities;
2. Require uses vulnerable to floods, including public facilities that serve such uses, be provided with flood protection at the time of initial construction;
3. Protect individuals from buying lands that are unsuited for the intended development purposes due to flood hazard.

The City of East Prairie has adopted floodplain management regulations very similar to those adopted by the City of Charleston.

The cities of Wilson City, Anniston, Wyatt, Pinhook, and Bertrand, have adopted floodplain management regulations designed to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens.

The city manager of the city of Charleston is authorized to take action as necessary and essential to restrict the usage of water when daily usage exceeds 1,500,000 gallons of water per day. Ice-covered power lines and tree limbs falling on power lines can cause power outages and damage to utilities. Utility companies, county road and bridge crews, and city maintenance workers can mitigate problems caused by winter weather by trimming trees near power lines and placing as many lines underground as possible. (See Table 2 for County and City Regulations)

CITY/COUNTY CAPABILITIES (organization and planning)

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Mississippi County has adopted a plan that establishes the organization and procedures that allow the governments of Mississippi County and the cities therein to save lives, minimize injuries, protect property, preserve functioning civil government, and maintain economic activities essential to Mississippi County's survival and recovery from natural, technological, and war-related disasters. It establishes the guidelines for conducting efficient, effective, coordinated emergency operations involving the use of all resources belonging to Mississippi County or available to it. The primary communications and warning capabilities for Mississippi County are through countywide 911 and within its own law enforcement agency, the Sheriff's Department. Mississippi County's Sheriff's Department dispatches 911 calls for all municipalities except Charleston and East Prairie.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Mississippi County: Mississippi County has no firefighting equipment.

Wilson City: The village of Wilson City has no fire department and is served by Wyatt and Charleston.

Anniston: The city of Anniston has no fire department and is served by the city of Charleston.

East Prairie: The City of East Prairie has twelve volunteer firemen with the following equipment:

2 pumpers	3 exhaust fans
2 supply vans	radios for all firemen
1 tanker	1 master stream appliance
breathing apparatus for all firemen	

Wyatt: The City of Wyatt has ten volunteer firefighters with the following equipment:

1 pumper	1 exhaust fan
1 generator	1 bank of flood lights
breathing apparatus	radios

Charleston City Fire Department: Charleston City Fire Department is composed of seventeen regular firefighters and two volunteers. Firefighters also double as city policemen. The fire department's equipment includes the following:

1 ladder truck	3 generators
2 pumpers	3 exhaust fans
1 tanker	numbers flood lights
radios for all personnel	

Pinhook: The village of Pinhook has no active fire department.

Bertrand: The City of Bertrand has a volunteer fire department of fifteen with the following equipment:

2 pumpers	1 generator
1 van	1 exhaust fan
flood lights	breathing apparatus
radios for all firemen	

POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Mississippi County: Mississippi County has a sheriff, six full-time deputies, and twenty-five reserve officers. It utilizes eight patrol cars.

Wilson City: Wilson City has no active police department and is served by Mississippi County Sheriff's Department.

Anniston: The City of Anniston has no active police department and is served by Mississippi County Sheriff's Department.

East Prairie: The City of East Prairie has a full-time police chief with 8 officers. The city has one car for the chief, one school resource car, one Housing Authority car, and three patrol cars.

Wyatt: The City of Wyatt has a town marshal with no assistance.

Charleston: The City of Charleston has an active police department consisting of seventeen uniformed personnel and seven patrol cars. No reserves are used.

Pinhook: The village of Pinhook has a town marshal with assistance from the Mississippi County Sheriff's Department.

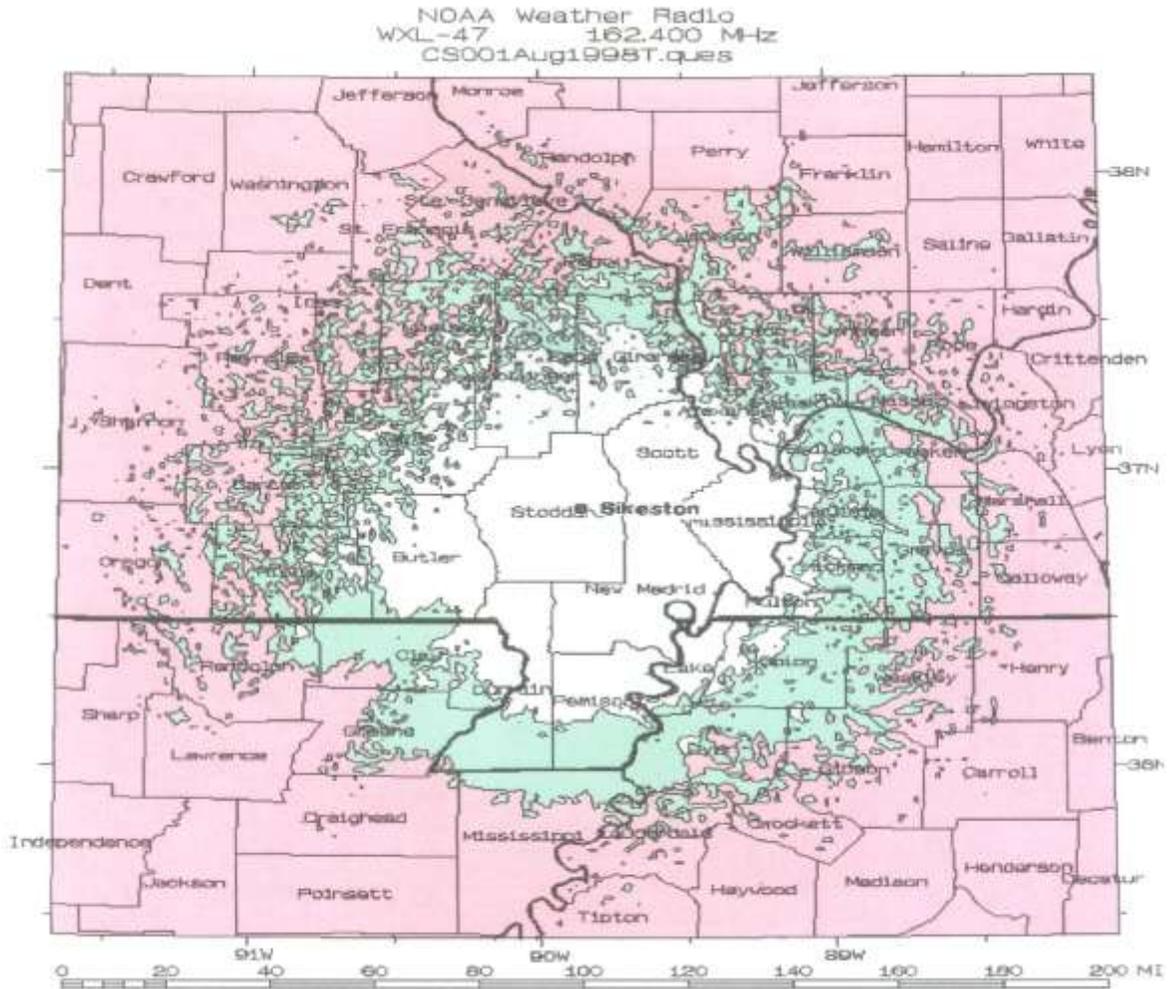
Bertrand: The City of Bertrand has one full-time police officer and one part-time. The City has one police car.

STORM SPOTTERS

Mississippi County participates with the National Weather Service in sponsoring a Storm Spotters program. Twenty-five reserve officers with the Mississippi County Sheriffs department serve as trained spotters. Pending severe weather is broadcast to all municipalities and law enforcement agencies in the county.

NOAA WEATHER RADIOS

The following map shows the availability of receiving NOAA weather transmissions from the Sikeston transmission station. The point of contact for Mississippi County is located in the Sheriff's Office in Charleston.



Source: US Weather Service

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Mississippi County is served by one ambulance service located between Charleston and East Prairie on Highway 105. The service has three ambulances and has 24-hour service available.

HOSPITALS

Mississippi County has no hospitals; county residents utilize facilities in Sikeston and Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Ferguson Medical Group of Sikeston has a clinic in East Prairie and Mississippi County Health Services has a clinic with doctors available in Charleston.

MOBILE COMMAND CENTER

Mississippi County has no mobile command center. The county command center is located in the Sheriff's Department in Charleston.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

The nearest Chapter of the American Red Cross is located in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The Cape Girardeau Chapter serves eighteen counties in Southeast Missouri. Mississippi County is not a chapter county. Red Cross responds and provides emergency assistance in case of disasters. This assistance can be in the form of food, clothing, shelter, cleaning kits, comfort kits, first aid, and supplementary medical care. Red Cross makes available to disaster recipients all resources from the federal, state, and local government and private agencies.

ADVANCED WARNING SYSTEMS

The following cities in Mississippi have no warning systems: Wilson City, Anniston, Wyatt and Pinhook. The cities of East Prairie and Bertrand have new systems, and Charleston has four units, which provide coverage of the city.

All information from "existing plans" listed above has been incorporated into the 2010 Plan Update.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

The Mississippi County Emergency Plan incorporates cooperation with the cities of East Prairie and Charleston and serves to maintain coordination among fire, law enforcement, emergency medical, and public health officers from the county and incorporated areas and adjacent jurisdictions.

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT OF COUNTY POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

COMMITMENTS TO A COMPREHENSIVE MITIGATION PROGRAM

Mississippi County approved the existing all natural hazard mitigation 2004 plan and is participating in the approval of the 2010 Update Plan. The county participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The requirements of its municipal floodplain ordinances reduce some of the county's vulnerability. Continued participation in NFIP and restrictions on flood plain development are one of Mississippi County's mitigation actions in protecting the lives of county residents.

COUNTY LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT IN HAZARD-PRONE AREAS

Mississippi County became part of the National Flood Insurance Program in 1976 (NFIP Community Number 29133). The Mississippi County Commission has established a floodplain management program to maintain the county's eligibility for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. The floodplain management program was last revised in 1999. The county's current ordinance, Floodplain Management Ordinance 60.3(d), is designed to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Mississippi County. A floodplain development permit is required for all proposed construction or other development, including the placement of manufactured homes. No person, firm, corporation, or unit of government shall initiate any development or substantial improvement or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a separate floodplain development permit for each structure or other development. Flood hazard reduction is the ultimate design of the county's floodplain management program.

COUNTY LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES RELATED TO HAZARD MITIGATION IN GENERAL

Mississippi County currently implements mitigation programs as per its 2004 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and is participating in the 2010 Plan Update. The City of Charleston, as previously stated, authorizes its city manager to take action to restrict the usage of water when daily usage exceeds 1,500,000 gallons of water per day.

HOW LOCAL RISK ASSESSMENTS ARE INCORPORATED AND PRIORITIZED INTO LOCAL PLANNING

In Mississippi County, flooding has the potential for having the greatest reoccurring impact upon the county. Recognizing that fact, the county is part of the NFIP and has adopted floodplain ordinances. The county also recognizes the impact that snow, ice storms, tornadoes, and high winds can have upon the county's citizens. The County Road and Bridge crews attempt to clear as many roads as possible to reduce accidents and ensure that citizens have access to employment.

CURRENT CRITERIA USED TO PRIORITIZE MITIGATION FUNDING

Mitigation funding would be primarily based upon the expected probability, damage, and death/injuries as they relate to natural disasters. As was previously mentioned, the probability and frequency of flooding has caused the county to adopt a floodplain management program.

INTEGRATION OF HAZARD MITIGATION WITH THE CITY/COUNTY DEPARTMENTS PLANS

The county Emergency Management Operations Plan includes the participation of all incorporated areas of Mississippi County. Cooperation exists between county/city in the areas of fire protection, law enforcement, emergency medical and health organizations.

HOW THE COUNTY DETERMINES COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF MITIGATION PROGRAMS

Mississippi County currently implements mitigation programs as per its 2004 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and is participating in the 2010 Plan Update. Mitigation action approved in the new plan will be implemented. Implementation will depend upon feasibility, cost, and future natural disasters.

MITIGATION FUNDING OPTIONS INCLUDING CURRENT AND POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, AND PRIVATE

The county and incorporated areas have historically relied upon federal disaster declarations in case of widespread disasters. Sources have included FEMA, SEMA, and various grant programs.

HOW COUNTY GOVERNMENT MEETS REQUIREMENTS FOR HAZARD MITIGATION FUNDING PROGRAMS

The county's Emergency Operations Plan, Floodplain Ordinance, and the measures addressing development are its main criteria for meeting requirements for hazard mitigation programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Recommended improvements include expanded mutual aid agreements among neighboring jurisdictions, updated capabilities of the EOP, additional warning sirens, adopting and implementation of new regulations on stormwater, flash floods, building codes, including seismic codes, adoption of the updated 2010 natural hazard mitigation plan and public education to generally increase public safety.

CITY/COUNTY POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Mississippi County has experienced a 15% decrease in population from 1980 to 2000. None of the incorporated communities in the county has experienced a growth in

population during that same period of time. Primary employment for its citizens is manufacturing (15%), education, health and social services (19.6%), and retail trade (13.2%). Large farms that employ few people dominate the county. Unless jobs become more available for young people, the trend will be a decreasing population in Mississippi County. The following chart illustrates the population trends.

Mississippi County and Incorporated Jurisdictions			
Historical Population Trends			
City	1990	2000	2008
Anniston	281	285	271
Bertrand	692	740	710
Charleston	5085	4732	5111
East Prairie	3416	3227	3066
Pinhook		48	49
Wilson City	219	165	162
Wyatt	367	364	341
Miss. County	14,442	13,427	13,504

Source: US Census

The following table shows city/county regulations:

City and County Regulations							
Jurisdiction	EOP	Zoning	Building Code	Earthquake Design	Subdivision Regulations	Stormwater Regulations	Floodplain Regulations
Miss Co.	Yes		Yes			Yes	Yes
Wilson City	Yes	Yes					
Anniston	Yes		Yes				Yes
East Prairie	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Wyatt	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Charleston	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pinhook	Yes						Yes
Bertrand	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes
Charleston R-I SD	Yes		Yes				
East Prairie R-II SD	Yes		Yes				

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