

Executive Summary

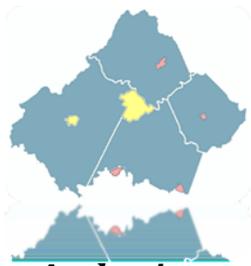
This plan is an update of the Region 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The original Hazard Mitigation Plan for Region 2000 was written in 2006. Although it is an update, this document has been redesigned so that it looks, feels, and reads differently than the original. This is due to several factors: new hazard information has become available that drives new definitions of risk, the region has matured and new capabilities are now available that drive new definitions of risk, the region has matured and new capabilities are now available, and the new format will allow readers to more easily understand the content. In addition, the original Hazard Mitigation Plan included several action items that have been completed, creating an opportunity for developing new mitigation strategies.

Mitigation is defined in the English language as “the action of lessening in severity or intensity”. Hazard mitigation focuses on lessening the severity and intensity of identified hazards as well as protecting life and property. A hazard mitigation plan produces specific measures to be taken by a community to reduce the vulnerability from hazards of future events and reducing the recovery time from damages incurred. Such a plan is created through a planning process with input from citizens, business owners, public safety officials, and other stakeholders.

This plan update includes an updated list of identified natural hazards that are considered to be a threat to each county, an update to the evaluation and analysis of the risks of exposure each jurisdiction in Region 2000 has, an update to the strategy for long and short mitigation of identified natural hazards and a plan for on-going review and maintenance of the Region 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan. With these updated items, the plan follows the requirements for local mitigation planning as required under Section 322 of the Stafford Act (42U.S.C. 5165) and 44 CFR Part 201 as the necessary components of a local hazard mitigation plan and the new regulations for the program per 2012.

The Project Management Team reviewed each section of the plan to make sure the protocols adequately served the purpose of the plan. The plan maintenance section was reviewed and confirmed. The mitigation strategies section was reviewed and updated to include new mitigation strategies and update the ones in the existing plan.

In 2006, the Center for Geospatial Information Technology at Virginia Tech was contracted by Region 2000 to carry out the original Hazard Mitigation Plan. This update process was carried out in house by Region 2000 staff. Funding for the project was provided through a grant from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management with the appropriate match made by each local government in Region 2000.



Authority

Section 209 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-228, as amended), Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), as amended by Section 201 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, outlines the steps for state and local governments to assess and mitigate all hazards as a requirement of receiving federal disaster assistance. A key requirement of the law is the creation of a local hazard mitigation plan.

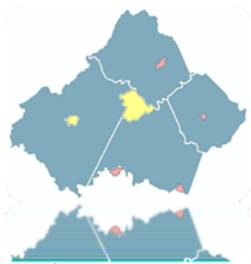
The adoption of the Region 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2013 by the participating jurisdictions assures continuing entitlement for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant assistance through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, and other federally-funded programs.

Jurisdictions

The Region 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan is multi-jurisdictional in scope, covering the following jurisdictions:

The area covered by this plan includes:

Participating Communities	
Counties	Towns
Amherst County	Town of Altavista
Appomattox County	Town of Appomattox
Bedford County	Town of Amherst
Campbell County	Town of Brookneal
	Town of Pamplin City
Cities	
City of Bedford	
City of Lynchburg	



The Region 2000 Hazard mitigation Plan and its 2013 update fulfills the requirements of the Sections 201.6(a)(3) and 201.6(c)(5) of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 as administered by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and FEMA, for multi-jurisdictional planning participation and adoption. This plan is awaiting evaluation and approval from FEMA before it can be evaluated and adopted by the eleven participating local governments. (Resolutions have not yet been adopted. Resolutions will become available upon approval by FEMA).

Participation

All jurisdictions listed in the above section of the Region 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan participated in the creation of the original plan and this update to the plan. Representatives who were unable to attend planning meetings were given the opportunity to participate through meeting minutes and the review of draft material. Each jurisdiction will have participated through a formal resolution to be adopted, approving the plan update.

Participation in the Region 2000 hazard mitigation planning update process included a project management team and public participation. The project management team was made up of local officials from each jurisdiction, setting a meeting schedule and tracking participation and follow-up measures. The public participation side of the planning process included building awareness of the plan through public workshops and giving opportunities for plan review and comments. Region 2000 staff and the PMT oversaw the public education process and agreed that it was integral to the update.

Participation in the update included a series of four PMT meetings to review and update the plan. In addition, two public hearings were administered by Region 2000 staff and the PMT before the draft was provided to the participating localities' governing bodies. Dates and times of public meetings were available through the Region 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update webpage.

Each of the jurisdictions in this plan was represented by either elected officials and/or staff from the locality with knowledge of local safety and emergency response. The membership of the PMT is in accordance with the requirements of Section 44 CFR 201.6(b)(2) for a multi-jurisdictional plan and the members are listed on the following page.

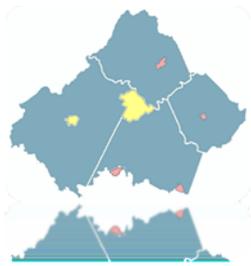


Table 1.1 Project Management Team Members

Name	Jurisdiction
Gary Roakes	Amherst County
Kelvin Brown	Amherst, Town of
Freddie Godsey	Appomattox County
Johnnie Roark	Appomattox County
Roxanne Paulette	Appomattox, Town of
Bob Mitchell	Pamplin City, Town of
Bart Warner	Bedford City
Seth Mowles	Bedford County
Marci Stone	Bedford County
Jack Jones	Bedford County
Tracy Fairchild	Campbell County
Randall Johnson	Campbell County
Dan Witt	Altavista, Town of
Mike Crews	Brookneal, Town of
Bill Aldridge	Lynchburg City
Todd Styles	Volunteer Firefighter
Philipp Gabathuler	Region 2000
Bob White	Region 2000