



Role of Mitigation Post-Disaster

Following a disaster, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) mitigation programs play a critical role developing and integrating disaster operations policies, procedures and training under the National Response Plan. The Regional and Disaster Support Branch within the Mitigation Directorate acts as the coordination point for mitigation disaster operations and activities.

Hazard Mitigation Field Operations Mission

The mission of hazard mitigation is to protect lives and prevent or reduce the loss of property from hazard events. Post-disaster, this is accomplished through comprehensive efforts authorized by the Stafford Act, as amended by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, the National Flood Insurance Act, the Flood Insurance Reform Act and Executive Orders. FEMA hazard mitigation staff partner with State, local and Tribal governments to:

- Assess factors that contributed to disaster effects
- Identify risk reduction opportunities
- Educate the public and local government officials in methods to reduce future risks
- Promote hazard mitigation community planning and project development that will result in sustainable community development
- Provide grants to fund hazard mitigation projects
- Assist communities in marketing the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Provide technical assistance to state, tribal and local governments to utilize rebuilding as an opportunity for enhanced local codes and ordinances
- Identify and document proven mitigation actions and projects
- Quantify the benefits of hazard mitigation

Hazard Mitigation Organizational Elements

Under the National Response Framework, Hazard Mitigation exists as a Branch under the Operations Section. The Hazard Mitigation Branch Director and management support staff are responsible for hazard mitigation field operations functions, which are carried out by four groups: Floodplain Management and Insurance, Hazards and Performance Analysis (HPA), Community Education and Outreach (CEO) and Hazard Mitigation Grants and Planning.

Floodplain Management and Insurance

The Floodplain Management and Insurance group serves as the Joint Field Office (JFO) point of coordination and resource on flood insurance. The group also promotes community participation in the NFIP and ensures compliance with NFIP regulations, including sub-damage requirements.

Mitigation Cadre

Mitigation deploys a cadre of staff to help coordinate and implement mitigation and insurance activities during disaster response and recovery. The Regional and Disaster Support Branch at FEMA Headquarters is responsible for managing the Mitigation cadre through staffing, training, credentialing and catastrophic deployment.

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"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards."

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