

Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) Data Documentation Template – Hurricane Wind

FEMA reviews Benefit-Cost Analyses (BCAs) for all proposed mitigation projects submitted under the FEMA grant programs to determine whether the information provided in the application is:

1. Credible and well-documented
2. Prepared in accordance with accepted FEMA BCA practices
3. Able to demonstrate that the project is cost-effective

The following template can be used to assist in the collection and entering of information to meet these requirements within the BCA Tool. One way to use this tool is to highlight or circle the source and use the last column to record the software input and justification for values that vary from the FEMA Standard Value (Default).

Obtained	Input	Documentation Summary	Potential Sources	Software Input/Justification
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name, address, county, and latitude/longitude for each project structure	Include contact information and whether building is historic. User MUST provide latitude/longitude	Documents available from homeowner, local building inspector, local tax assessor's office, or title documents.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project Information	Project Information includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Number • Analyst Name and Contact Information • Grant Program • Project Point of Contact (POC) 	Information available from the project manager or POC.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scope of Work (SOW) (required)	Should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem Description and Proposed Solution • Description of Existing Conditions 	The SOW is available from the project manager. The BCA Cost Estimation module will walk the user through costs that are valid for each project type.	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Schedule • Cost Estimate • Engineering schematics, detailed engineering drawings, or engineering designs 		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hurricane Wind Mitigation Project Type	Refer to your project SOW to determine the type of mitigation project. Project types include shutters, load path, roof, acquisition, code plus, or other.	The project manager or engineer can provide the SOW. Engineering designs may also provide this information.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project Useful Life (PUL)	The estimated amount of time (in years) that the mitigation action will be effective. The PUL is based on the type of mitigation.	Sources include the PUL table provided in the BCA Tool dynamic help, the project manager, or the project engineer.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cost Estimate	<p>All anticipated project and maintenance costs should be detailed over the useful life of the project. Avoid the use of lump-sum costs. The Cost Estimate should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The source of the estimate and a copy of the documentation supporting each source • The base year of all cost estimates and any deviations due to the anticipated date of construction • Anticipated environmental resource remediation or historic property treatment measures 	Provide contractor or Standard Cost Estimating software estimates. Source should be government representative or professional with relevant expertise.	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other related construction/demolition/relocation costs, such as survey permitting, site preparation, and material disposal • Other acquisition costs, such as appraisals, legal recordation, displacement costs for renters, or maintenance 		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wind Gust/Wind Speed	<p>The wind speed data is a default value based on either the zip code or latitude and longitude for the structure in the proposed project area. Default wind speed data in the software is provided in 3-second gusts for multiple return periods.</p> <p>If the standard default value is overridden, credible documentation, such as engineering studies or a justification and calculation on how the wind speeds were derived, is required.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exposure	<p>Exposure is the characteristics of the ground roughness and surface irregularities in the vicinity of a building. The categories are based on the natural topography, vegetation, and constructed facilities surrounding the project location.</p>	<p>Potential sources narrative, aerial, or map showing surrounding area.</p>	

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Size of Building	The total enclosed square footage of the building. Acceptable forms of documentation include appraisals, tax records, survey, homeowner estimates, or measured drawings accompanied by photographs.	Data is available from assessor, owner, local tax office or appraiser's office, surveyor, or title documents with building footprint.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Replacement Value (BRV)	Enter cost per square foot to build a comparable structure. Acceptable forms of documentation include a letter from a construction company, contracting firm, or local building inspector; photocopies of pages from standard cost reference manuals; or tax records.	Sources can include a local building inspector, construction company, architect, building engineer, or standard cost estimating software. If tax records are used, the source must be an assessor.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Construction Type	The type of construction refers to the primary building material of the structure (wood, masonry, steel, etc.).	Refer to a structural engineer, contractor, or building inspector to determine the type of construction.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Type	The Building Type is one of the most critical data elements for determining an accurate Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). This should be based on design drawings prepared by architect or building engineer and determined by a building official, a registered professional engineer, or a licensed architect.	Building type should be based on design drawings prepared by architect or building engineer and determined by a building official, a registered professional engineer, or a licensed architect.	

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of Rent	Loss of Rent is for rental properties <i>only</i> and does not include one-time costs.	Provide receipts for rent payments or owner's records as documentation.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Displacement Costs	Costs of occupants displaced to temporary quarters while damage is repaired. Includes rent and other monthly costs, such as furniture rental and utilities, and one-time costs, such as moving and utility hook-up fees.	Information sources include copies of ads for local rentals in the community, records of phone contacts with rental agencies, and receipts from similar rentals. Extra commuting costs and day care may be estimated as long as the estimation methodology is explained.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contents Value	Provide detailed descriptions of contents, their value, and the means by which the value was assessed for all residential and non-residential buildings.	Review insurance records, appraisals, purchase receipts, or estimates based on current market prices for similar contents. Contents do not include items that are permanent parts of the building, such as electrical and plumbing systems.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Residential: Loss of Service	Critical facility types include fire station, hospital, police station, and other. The fire station facility type includes fire fighting, search and rescue, public shelter, and Emergency Medical Services, if they are located in the same facility. The hospital facility type includes in-patient hospitals and emergency rooms. Other medical facilities, such as nursing	Information regarding the number of people served by a critical facility (or by alternate hospitals) can be obtained from the municipality, facility operations managers, or documents such as annual reports. Information regarding the distance (in miles) between the critical facility and alternate facility can be	

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		<p>homes, are included in the “other” facility type.</p> <p>Necessary documentation for Critical Facility Type is determined by the Facility Type selected, however it may include information to support the following data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of people served by the critical facility • The type of area served by a fire station or a police station • The distance (in miles) between the critical facility and alternate facility • The number of police officers working a particular facility • The number of police officers that would serve the area if a police station was shut down 	<p>obtained from facility operations managers or municipal officials. Local maps or GPS software can be used as documentation of the distance.</p> <p>Information regarding the number of police officers can be obtained from the municipality, facility operations managers, or documents such as annual reports.</p> <p>Information regarding the number of police officers that would serve the area if a police station were shut down can be obtained from municipal officials or facility operations managers who can provide the appropriate number on official letterhead.</p> <p>Many police stations have emergency plans that outline the number of critical staff needed to serve the area should a police station shut down.</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Residential: Service Type Provided	<p>A structure may provide multiple services. For example, a municipal building may house a government agency and a library. You may enter additional rows and select all that apply from the drop-down menu.</p> <p>Government – Local, municipal,</p>	<p>Information regarding the annual operating budget can be obtained from the agency providing the service or it can be obtained from an annual report. If an agency has multiple facilities, enter only the portion of the budget that pertains</p>	

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		<p>State, Federal, or Indian Tribal government agencies</p> <p>Library – Public information depository</p> <p>Education – Primary, secondary, college, university, or trade school, public or private</p> <p>Medical – Out-patient medical facility, rehabilitation center, or nursing home</p> <p>EMS – Emergency Medical Service not co-located with a fire station or hospital</p> <p>Shelter – Facility designed to provide safe, temporary housing during a hazard event</p> <p>EOC – Emergency Operations Center</p> <p>Once the Service Type is selected, you must enter the annual operating budget of the agency providing the Service.</p>	to the location of the proposed mitigation.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Damages/Losses Avoided	Can include damages/losses such as debris removal, emergency management costs, or disruption of life. Documentation must be provided for all elements.	Supply owners' bills, affidavits from emergency management, or other credible documentation.	