



Georgia Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency

Hazard Mitigation Department



What is Hazard Mitigation?

FEMA's definition of Hazard Mitigation is “any **sustained action** taken to reduce or eliminate the **long-term risk** to human life and property from [natural] hazard events”.



Pooler, GA 10/8/2016; Josh Galemore/Savannah Morning News



Mitigation Benefits

Mitigation generates savings while enhancing community resilience

 National Institute of BUILDING SCIENCES™		ADOPT CODE	ABOVE CODE	BUILDING RETROFIT	LIFELINE RETROFIT	FEDERAL GRANTS
Overall Benefit-Cost Ratio		11:1	4:1	4:1	4:1	6:1
Cost (\$ billion)		\$1 /year	\$4 /year	\$520	\$0.6	\$27
Benefit (\$ billion)		\$13 /year	\$16 /year	\$2200	\$2.5	\$160
	Riverine Flood	6:1	5:1	6:1	8:1	7:1
	Hurricane Surge	not applicable	7:1	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
	Wind	10:1	5:1	6:1	7:1	5:1
	Earthquake	12:1	4:1	13:1	3:1	3:1
	Wildland-Urban Interface Fire	not applicable	4:1	2:1	not applicable	3:1

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Hazard Mitigation Assistance



FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants

Post-disaster

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Pre-disaster

- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program



- The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants to States, local governments, and qualifying private nonprofits to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration.
- The HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
- Eligible Applicants: **State Agencies, Local Governments, and Non-Profits**
- States and Local Governments **must have federally approved Hazard Mitigation Plan** to qualify for mitigation funding.
- Plans are updated every 5 years.



Mitigation through the HMGP

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is a post-disaster grant program that:

- 75% federal/25% non-federal cost share;
- Extra 10% for PA Declared Counties
- *Must be cost effective (benefit-cost ratio greater than 1.0)*
- Must comply with all federal/state requirements



HMGP Application Timeframe

Day 1 = Disaster Declaration:

- Joint Field Office (JFO) operations
- Support Mitigation Implementation Plan

30 days:

- Initial Estimate for HMGP Received

45-90 days:

- HMGP announced
- HMGP priorities established
- Applicant briefings conducted

180 days:

- State receives a 6-month HMGP estimate
- Pre-applications received and reviewed
- Full applications requested

365 days:

- State receives a 12-month lock-in letter (final program value)
- Full applications reviewed and submitted to FEMA

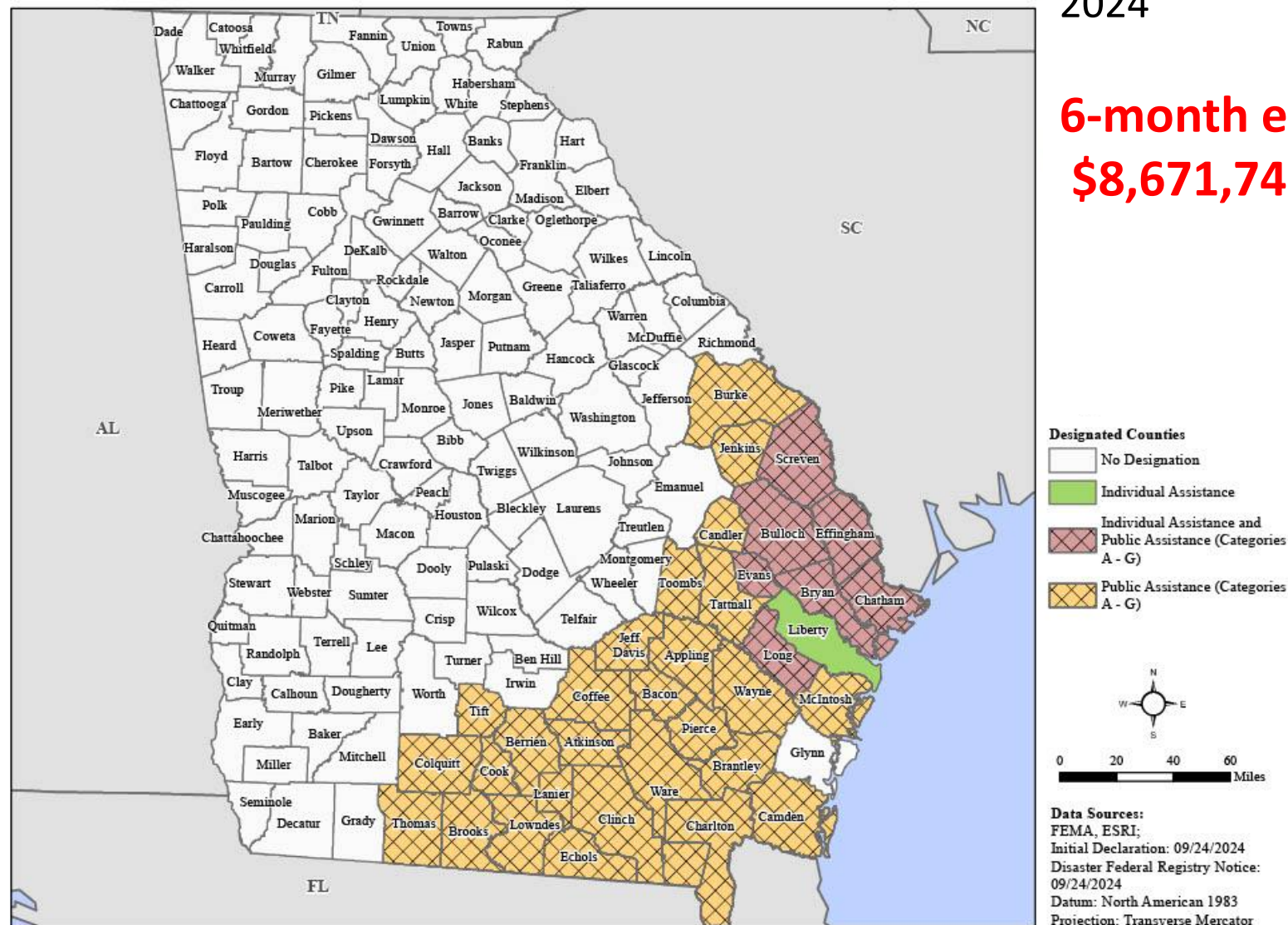


Hurricane Debby DR 4821

FEMA-4821-DR, Georgia Disaster Declaration as of 09/24/2024

Declaration Date: Sep 24, 2024

**6-month estimate:
\$8,671,749.98**



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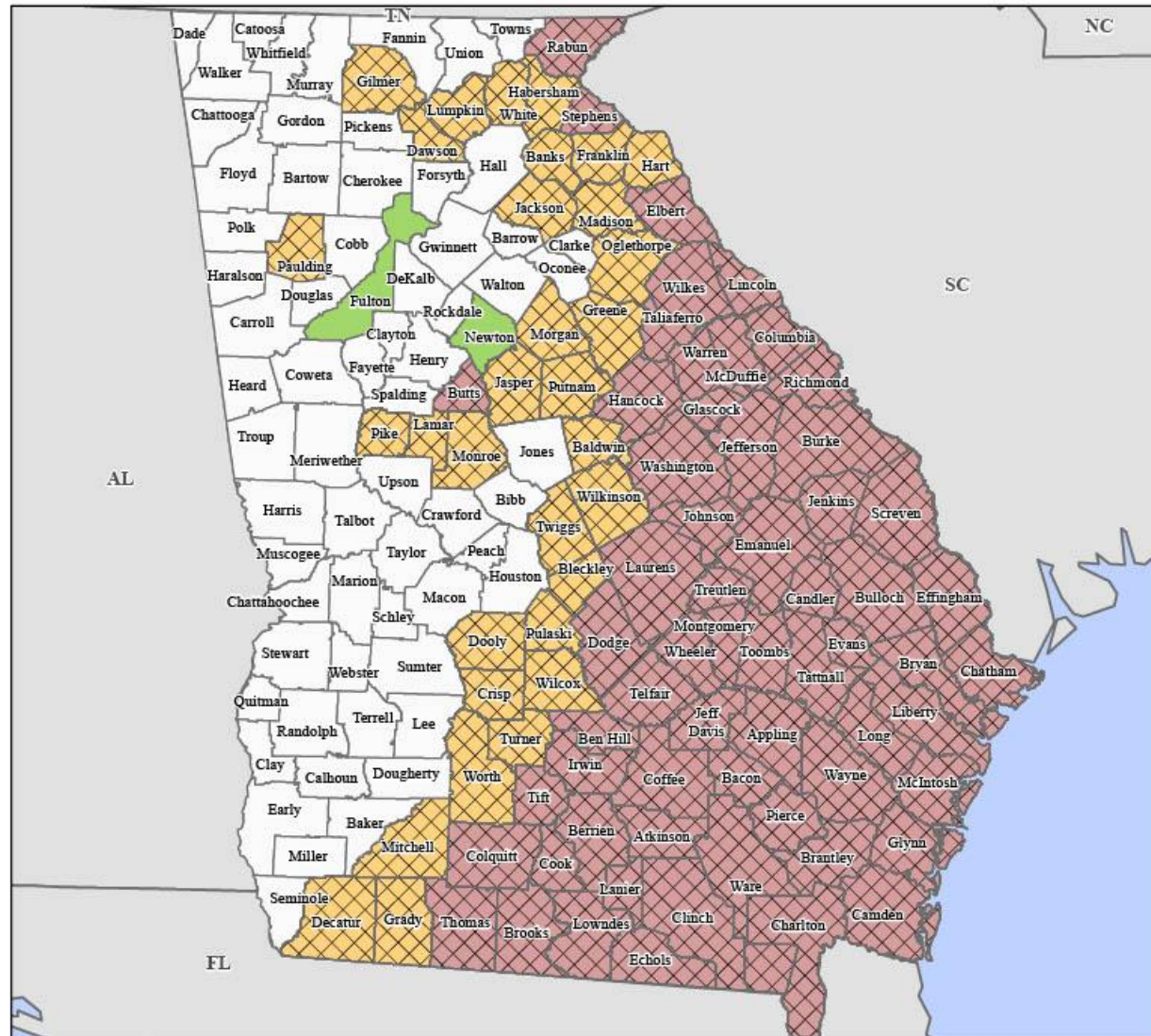


Hurricane Helene DR 4830

FEMA-4830-DR, Georgia Disaster Declaration as of 11/04/2024

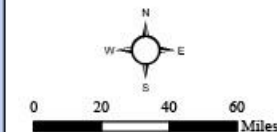
Declaration Date: Sep 30, 2024

**6-month estimate:
\$282,864,579.84**



Designated Counties

- No Designation
- Individual Assistance
- Individual Assistance and Public Assistance (Categories A - G)
- Public Assistance (Categories A - G)



Data Sources:

FEMA, ESRI;
Initial Declaration: 09/30/2024
Disaster Federal Registry Notice:
Amendment #11: 11/04/2024
Datum: North American 1983
Projection: Transverse Mercator

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Types of Mitigation Projects

Eligible Project Types

- **Voluntary property acquisition**
- **Structure Elevation**
- **Generators for Critical Facilities**
- **Flood Risk Reduction Projects**
- **Community safe room construction**
- **Wildfire Mitigation, including reforestation**
- **Initiative Projects (HMGP Only)**
- **State and local plan updates**



Project Approval/Implementation

- Upon FEMA approval, an approval package will be mailed to Subrecipient.
- Recipient-Subrecipient Agreement executed and returned to State.
- Kick-off meeting held with Subrecipient to discuss implementation.
- Up to three years to complete the project.
 - Quarterly Reports
 - Progress Payments
 - Site Visit
- Final Inspection and closeout



Mitigation Resources - Documents

GEMA/HS website has resources (documents and website links) to help local communities update their plans and develop mitigation projects

<https://gema.georgia.gov/hazard-mitigation>

- HMA Pre-applications
- FEMA Mitigation Planning Guides
- GEMA/HS Mitigation Planning Documents
- HM and Long-term Recovery Planning
- Laws – Regulations – Policies
- Other Resources
- State Hazard Mitigation Strategy



Summary

- **Hazard Mitigation actions save lives, protect property, reduce disaster losses, and build community resilience.**
- **Must have federally approved mitigation plan to access mitigation funds and must be updated every 5 years.**
- **Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants assist subapplicants to implement projects identified in local mitigation plans.**





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6/23/2025



Risk Reduction – Assigned Areas

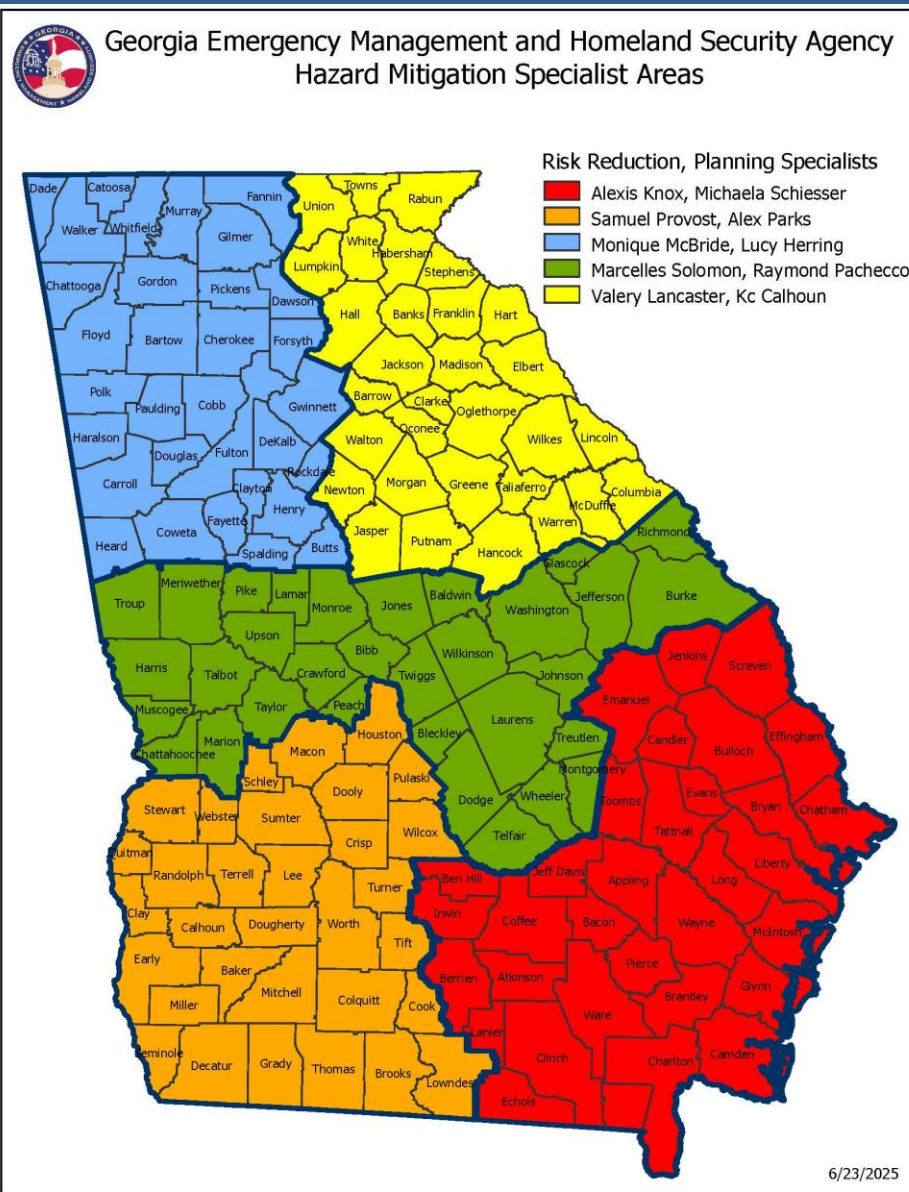
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