

# FLOOD MITIGATION CONCEPTS & FUNDING

An aerial photograph showing a bridge over a river. A significant portion of the bridge deck is missing, leaving a large gap. The river water is turbulent and appears to be flowing through the gap. The surrounding area is densely wooded with green trees. In the upper left, a multi-lane highway runs parallel to the river, with several vehicles and orange traffic cones visible. The overall scene suggests a major infrastructure failure due to flooding.

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# FLOOD MITIGATION CONCEPTS & FUNDING



If you encounter any technical difficulties, please send a private chat message to Michele York, or email [Michele.York@Nebraska.gov](mailto:Michele.York@Nebraska.gov)



To ask a question or provide comment, utilize the **chat box**, **raise hand**, or **unmute** yourself and chime in!



**This webinar is being recorded** and will be posted for those unable to attend.

# WELCOME!



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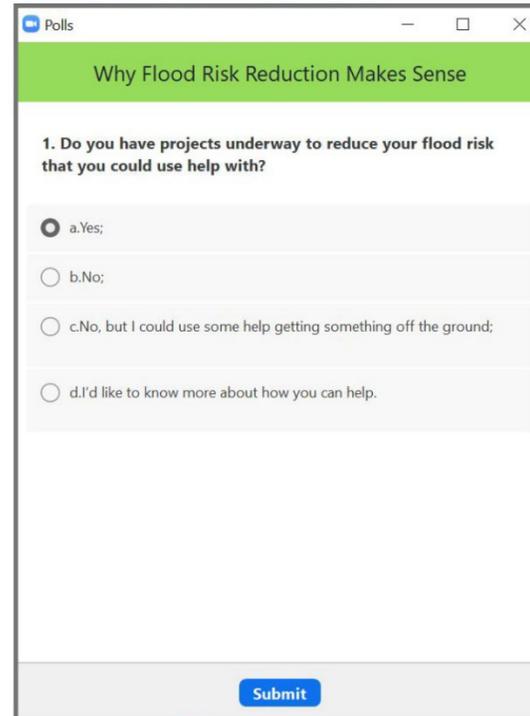
**Adele Phillips, CFM**

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# POLLS

- Total of 4 poll questions
- Polls are anonymous
- Answer all poll questions to receive participation credit\*



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Polls". The poll title is "Why Flood Risk Reduction Makes Sense". The question is "1. Do you have projects underway to reduce your flood risk that you could use help with?". There are four radio button options: "a.Yes;", "b.No;", "c.No, but I could use some help getting something off the ground;", and "d.I'd like to know more about how you can help.". A blue "Submit" button is located at the bottom of the form.

# AGENDA

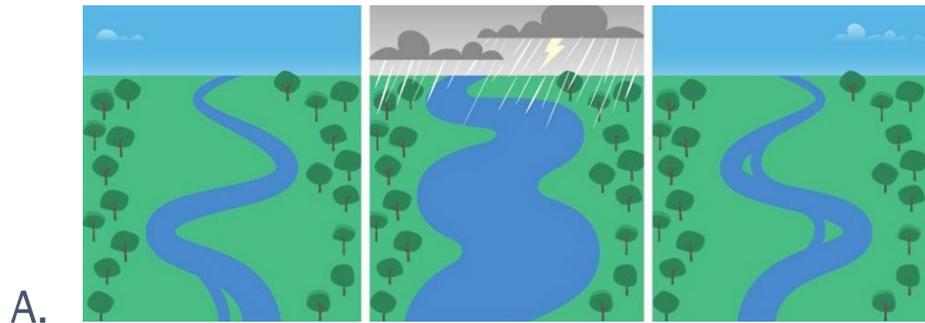
- 01 Flood Mitigation Concepts
- 02 Planning Resources
- 03 Financial Resources
- 04 NEMA's Role and Resources

# 01 ACKNOWLEDGE THE PROBLEM

- Floodplains are inherently hazardous
- Flooding is the most frequently reported hazard in Nebraska
- 30-year mortgage: a floodplain residence has 26% chance of flooding
- Climate models show that NE is getting wetter\*, and
- Storm events will:
  - ↑ Frequency
  - ↑ Scale and Intensity
  - ↓ Predictability

# 01 ACKNOWLEDGE THE PROBLEM

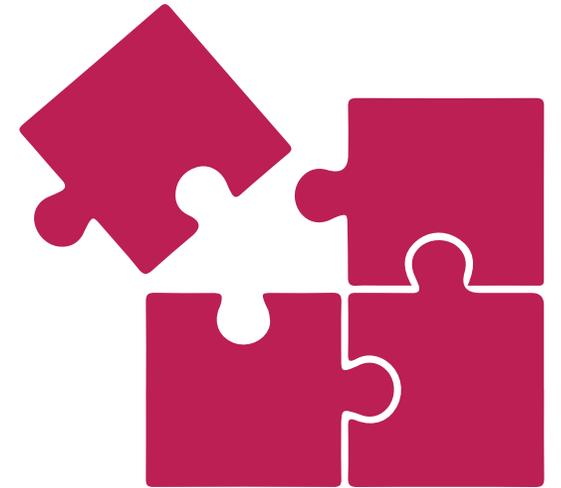
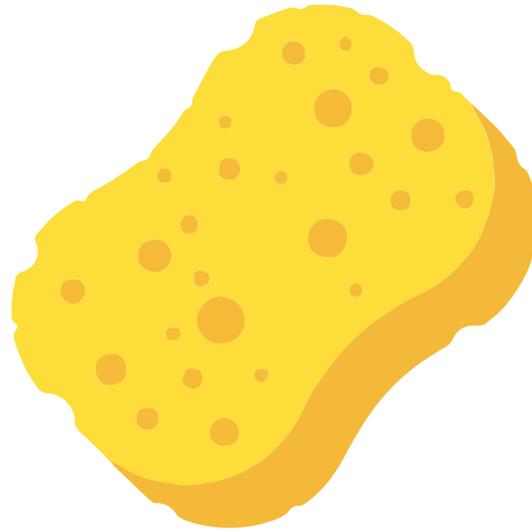
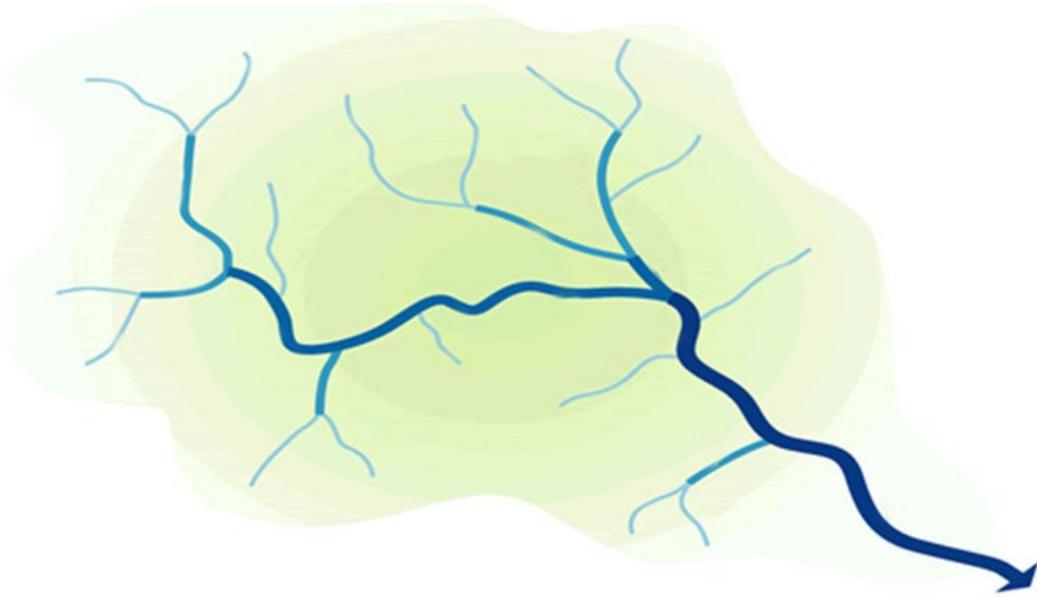
Past decisions create problems today



# 01 WHY ACT?

- Life, livelihoods, and property safeguarded
- Quality of life improves
- Natural floodplain functions preserved
- Flood insurance costs decrease
- Local economy benefits
- Community resilience improves

# 01 YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS



# 01 YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS



# 01 YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS



# 01 OPTIONS: MOVING THE NEEDLE

Traditional stormwater management collects, conveys, detains:



COLLECT



CONVEY



DETAIN

# 01 LET'S BRAINSTORM



- 1 minute
- List at least 3 *flood* mitigation strategies in the chat
- Try not to repeat others (but if you do, that's ok!)

# 01 AG SOLUTIONS



BEFORE



AFTER

# 01 AG SOLUTIONS

## 5.3 inch Rainfall Event

### Management:

- No-till Crop Rotation
- Cover Crops
- Planned Grazing Management

Infiltration Rate= 6 in/hr

143,906  
gallons of water/Ac  
Stored

### Management:

- Conventional Tillage
- Small Grains
- No Cover Crops
- No Grazing

Infiltration Rate= 0.6 in/hr

16,507  
gallons of water/Ac  
Stored

# 01 ROAD SOLUTIONS



# 01 ROAD / URBAN SOLUTIONS



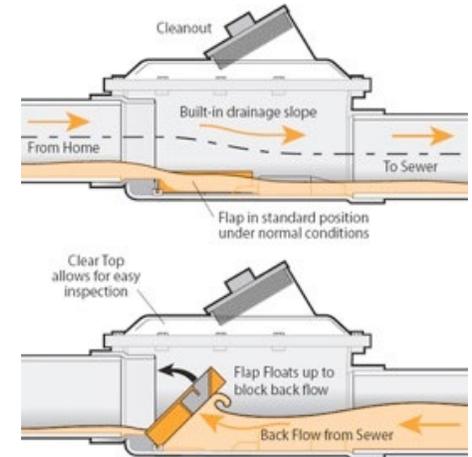
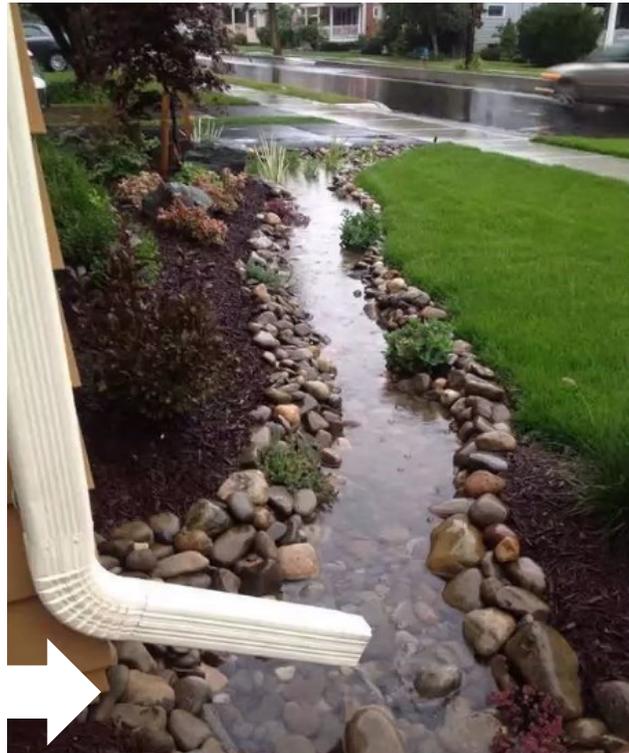
# 01 URBAN SOLUTIONS



# 01 RESIDENTIAL SOLUTIONS



# 01 RESIDENTIAL SOL.



# 01 ELEVATION, BUY-OUTS & RELOCATION



# 01 HABITAT-PROMOTING SOLUTIONS



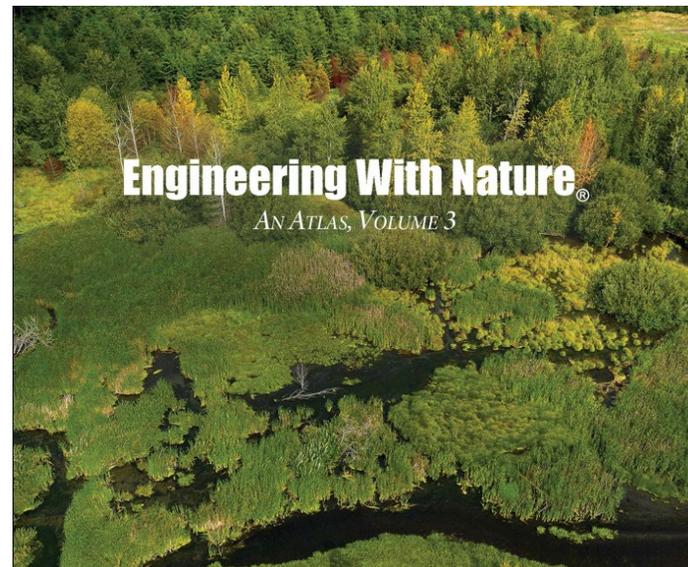
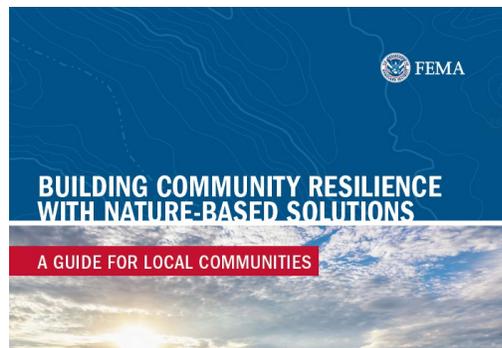
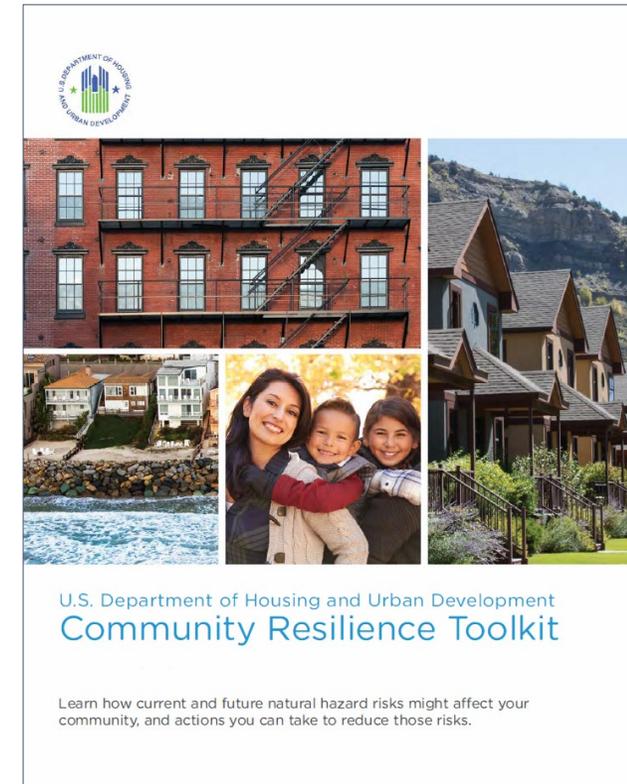
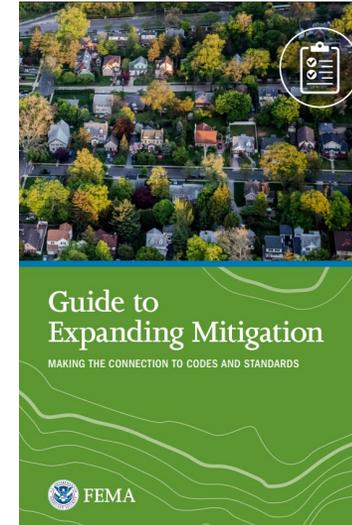
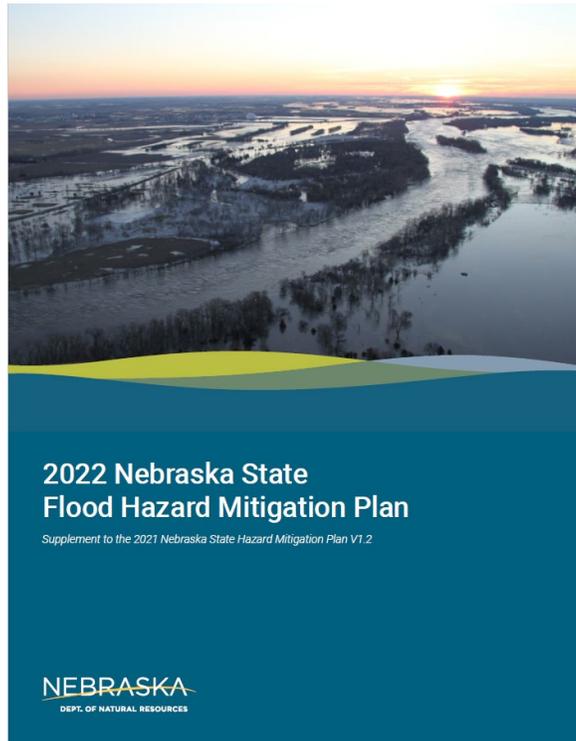
# 01 NATURE-IMITATING SOLUTIONS



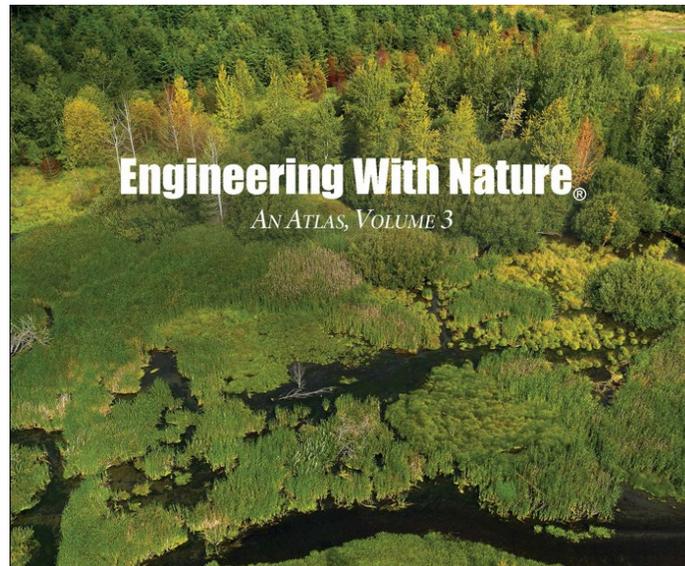
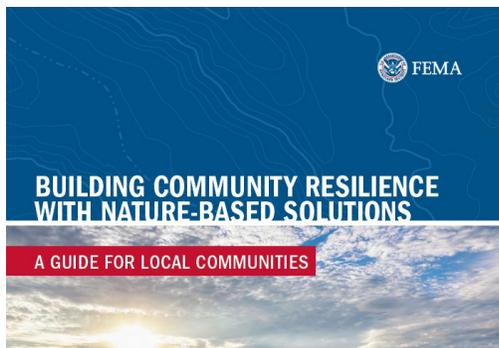
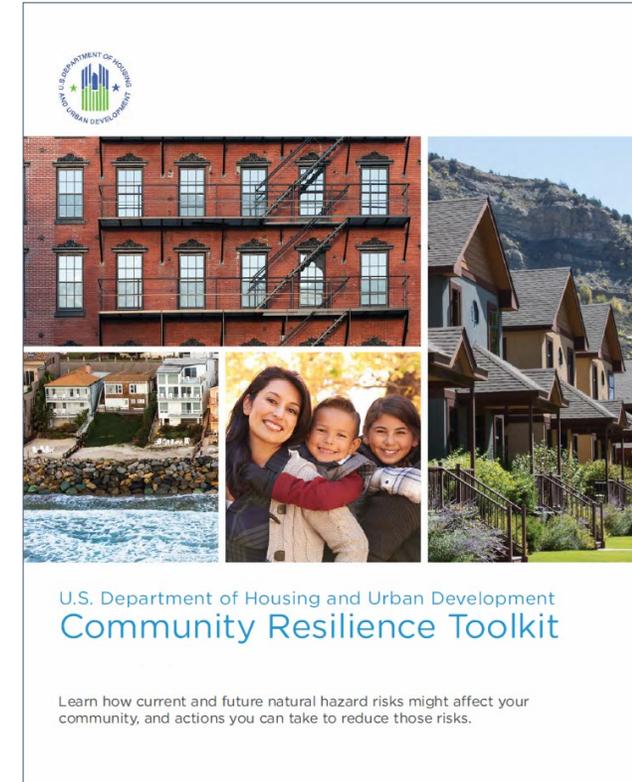
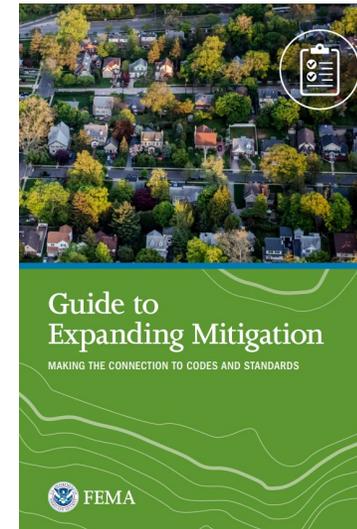
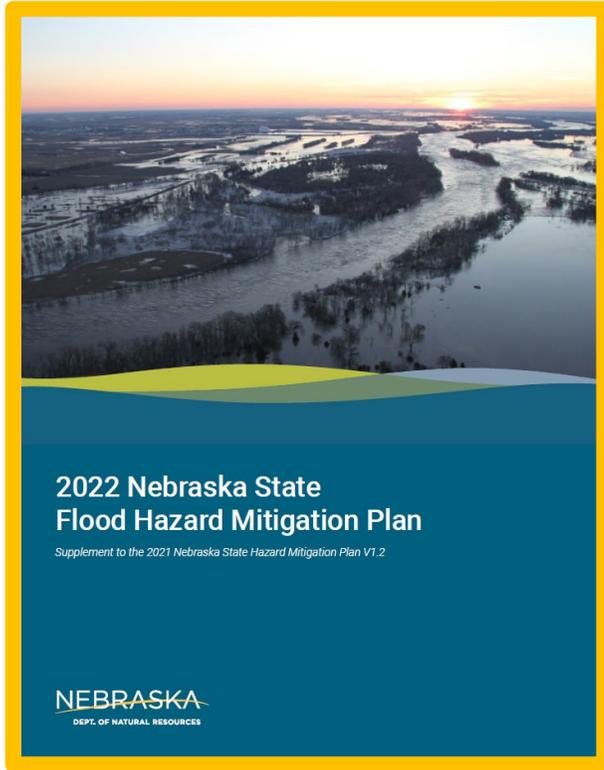
# 01 MORE SOLUTIONS!

- Strategic growth planning
- Zoning regulations
- Early warning systems
- Education and awareness events
- Aquifer storage and recovery
- Floodplain restoration....

# 01 LOOKING FOR MORE IDEAS?



# 02 LOOKING FOR MORE IDEAS?



# 02 STATE FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

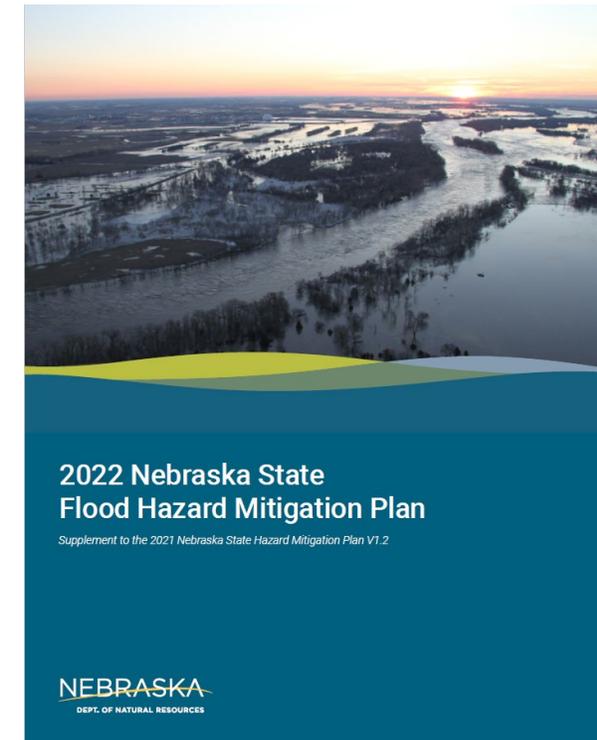
Ch. 3: Risk Assessment

Ch. 4: Mitigation Strategy

Ch. 5: Funding Resources

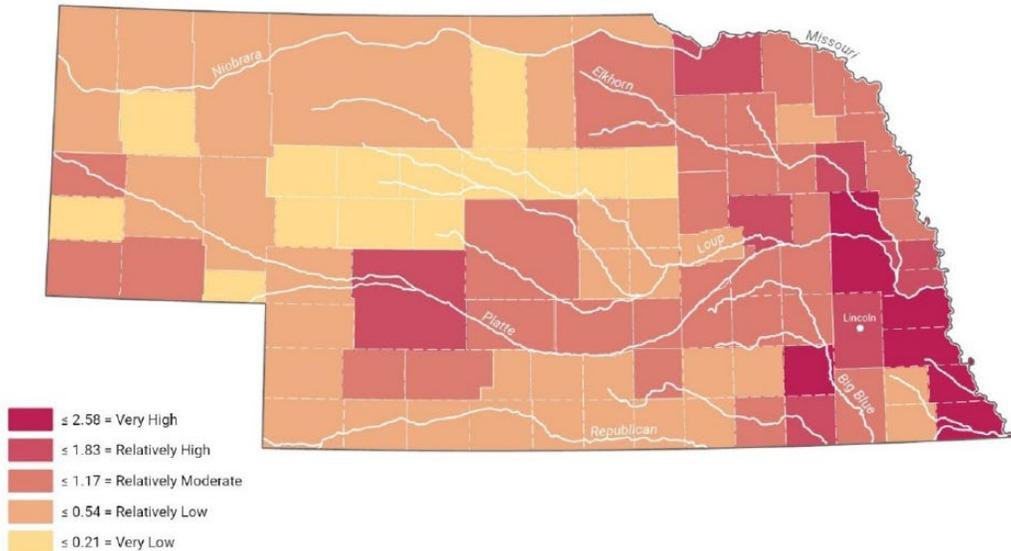
Appx B: Risk Assessment data

Appx C: Mitigation Action Project  
Sheets



# 02 STATE FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Figure 10: Annualized Frequency of Riverine Flooding by County



## Flood Mitigation Strategies and Practices Project Sheets

This appendix is a compilation of flood mitigation strategies and practices to assist local communities in their flood risk mitigation planning efforts. The appendix is divided into four sections based on the type of mitigation activity, respectively: Local Plans/Regulations, Education Awareness Programs, Natural Systems Protection, and Structure & Infrastructure. Each project page contains a description of the strategy, its applicability, step-wise approach to implementation, relative cost considerations, and references or links for additional information. The project pages are intended to serve as a menu of mitigation strategies (with supporting information) that communities can choose and incorporate directly into their mitigation planning activities.

### Table of Contents

- Integration of Comprehensive Flood Hazard Planning.....3
- Municipal Code Requirements.....4
- Stormwater Management Ordinances.....5
- Floodplain Ordinances.....6
- Compensatory Storage Ordinances.....7
- Low Impact Development.....8
- Emergency Preparedness Planning and Communication.....9
- Stormwater and Flood Education.....10
- Natural Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs).....11-12
- Maintain/Enhance Floodplain.....13
- Floodplain Acquisition and Relocation.....14
- Construction and Maintenance of Structural Measures.....15

NEBRASKA  
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

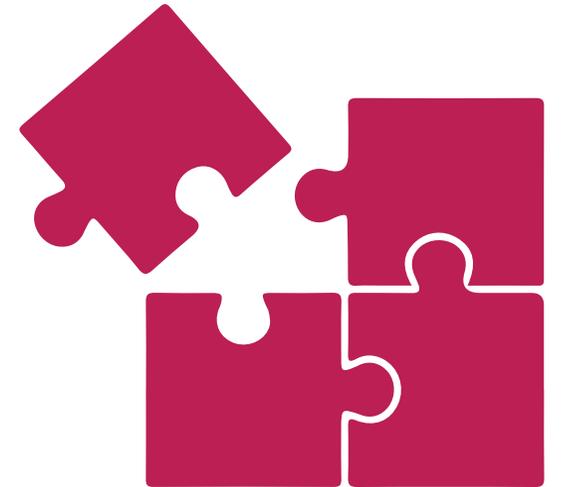
Category	Strategies & Practices	Undeveloped Areas	Developed Areas	Low Cost	Low Maintenance	Nature-Based
Integration of Comprehensive		X	X	X	X	
			X	X		
			X	X		
		X	X	X		
		X	X	X		
			X	X		X
		X	X	X	X	
		X	X	X		
			X	X	X	X
		X	X		X	X
			X			

Table B-6: Critical Facilities<sup>1</sup> and Other Assets at Risk of Riverine Flooding<sup>2</sup>

County	Natural and Cultural Assets			Population	Structures		Land Use	Emergency		Dams and Levees		Transportation					Utilities		Total Values of Improvements at Risk <sup>4</sup> (\$)		
	Wetlands <sup>5</sup> (acres)	Threatened and Endangered Species Range <sup>6</sup> (acres)	Cultural Resources <sup>7</sup> (count)	Vulnerable Population <sup>8</sup> (count)	State Owned <sup>9</sup> (count)	Local or Privately Owned <sup>10</sup> (count)	Agricultural Lands <sup>11</sup> (acres)	Emergency Management <sup>12</sup> (count)	Emergency Response <sup>13</sup> (count)	Dams <sup>14</sup> (count)	Levees <sup>15</sup> (miles)	Roadway <sup>16</sup> (miles)		Bridges and Culverts (count)			Railroad <sup>17</sup> (miles)	Electric Transmission Lines <sup>18</sup> (miles)		Other <sup>3</sup> (count)	
												State	Local	State Bridges <sup>19</sup>	State Culverts <sup>20</sup>	Local					
Adams	3,946	40,206	1	1	0	671	23,324	2	2	21		5.5	99.6	9	10	179	10.6	26.9		\$49,228,153	
Antelope	7,154	64,728	4		0	786	32,954			6		22.5	150.9	13	11	96	14.3	32.5		\$31,252,035	
Arthur <sup>21</sup>																					
Banner <sup>21</sup>																					
Blaine <sup>21</sup>	0	0																			
Boone <sup>21</sup>	0	4					0.3						0.9			2					
Box Butte <sup>21</sup>																					
Boyd	11,163	35,870	1		0	527	4,792		1	19		6.0	50.9	6	11	41		3.3		\$6,880,900	
Brown <sup>21</sup>																					
Buffalo	19,525	88,065	2	1	0	1,485	26,154	1	2	50		12.7	156.8	37	24	257	3.7	49.9		\$181,356,355	
Burt	6,390	68,488	1	1	0	271	55,131		1	13	0.7	8.1	69.2	15	9	97	6.4	18.4		\$3,229,214	
Butler	4,973	41,772	4		0	792	23,143			41	0.0	12.9	111.9	19	13	167	7.7	6.8	1	\$23,179,215	
Cass	7,717	40,443	2		0	1,532	17,122	2	5	29	15.1	6.3	91.7	40	10	146	34.7	12.1		\$146,019,276	
Cedar	7,273	50,113	1		0	472	33,201	1		6		13.8	107.7	27	16	144		9.5		\$19,569,430	
Chase	4,256	14,267	1		0	36	4,413			14		1.1	17.9	3	3	20	1.4	3.9		\$1,428,647	
Cherry <sup>21</sup>																					
Cheyenne	3,320	80,960	5	1	0	1,597	46,130		2	14	0.0	18.6	165.5	16	24	70	18.7	13.2		\$90,234,501	
Clay	8,559	39,741	0		0	252	21,583			28	1.0	12.2	113.0	8	9	102	7.8	11.9		\$11,973,735	
Colfax	4,813	62,006	1		0	1,834	38,416	2		7	4.1	10.4	172.0	13	3	172	5.2	6.0		\$106,872,450	
Cuming	7,057	55,260	0		0	1,169	33,554	4	2	2	2.2	27.4	145.2	24	10	218		4.3	2	\$77,709,083	
Custer <sup>21</sup>	0	3					0						0.0								
Dakota	3,568	22,581	1		0	384	15,094	4	1	7	20.2	6.2	46.4	10	2	40	6.4	16.4		\$54,269,570	
Dawes	8,577	58,030	1		0	359	5,956			43		3.2	32.7	19	17	38	8.1	8.6		\$20,501,745	
Dawson	13,552	68,487	1	2	0	1,147	18,372		1	52		13.2	123.6	25	27	106	5.6	40.5		\$96,646,180	
Deuel	2,340	36,201	0	2	0	383	20,837	3	1	4		29.5	102.7	18	22	11	13.2	9.3	1	\$16,071,185	

# 03 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- Bonds
- Revolving Loan Funds
- Government Grants
- Private Foundation Grants
- Local and Regional Fee Programs
- Public – Private Partnerships



# 03 GRANT & LOAN SOURCES

- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)
- FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants (FMA) & Swift Current
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Nebraska Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund
- Nebraska Riparian Vegetation Management Task Force

# 03 GRANT & LOAN SOURCES

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- HUD Community Development Block Grants (CDGB)
- USDA-Rural Development
- EPA
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
- Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET)
- Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF)
- Transportation grants

# 03 NEDNR & NEMA GRANT SOURCES

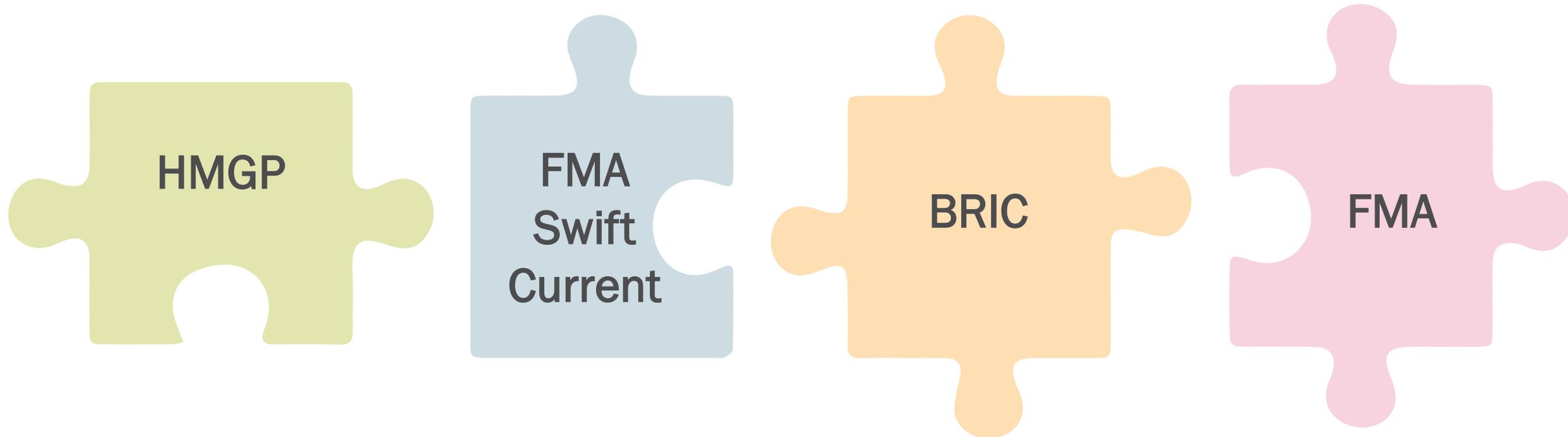
Rebuild my community **after a major disaster** in a way that reduces future disaster losses.

Reduce risk to **NFIP-insured buildings after a major disaster** in a way that reduces future disaster losses.

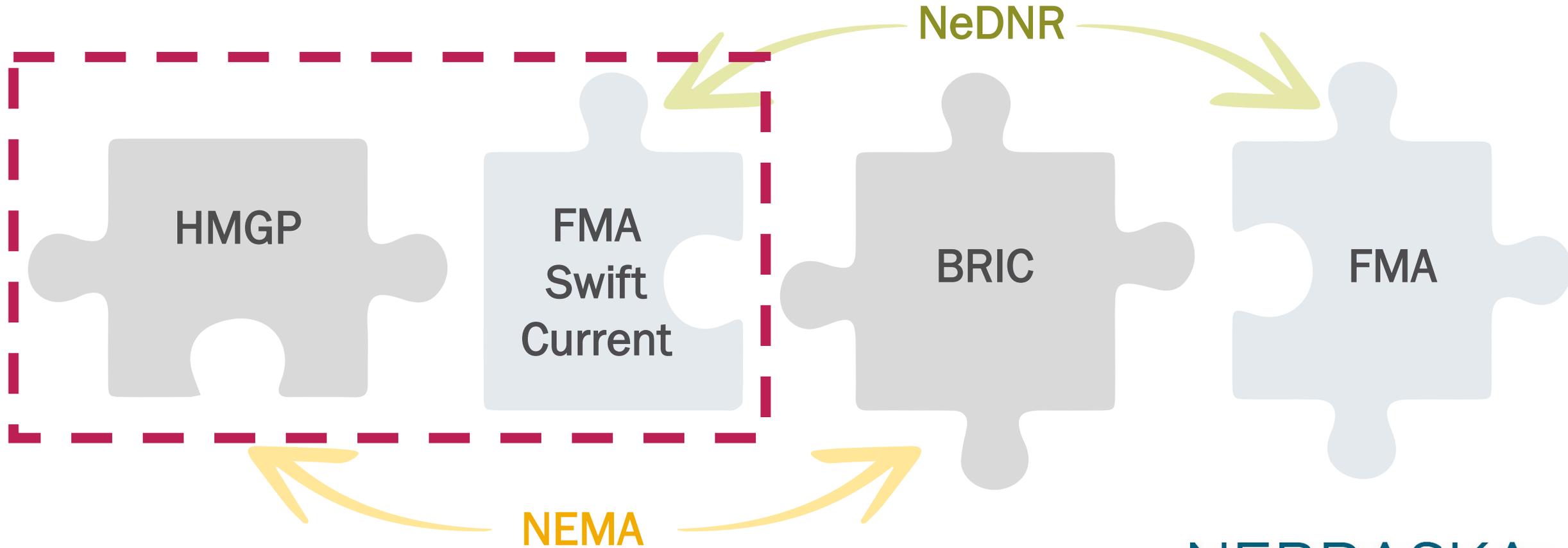
Help my community reduce risks from **future disasters** and natural hazards.

Reduce the risk of **flood damage to NFIP-insured buildings.**

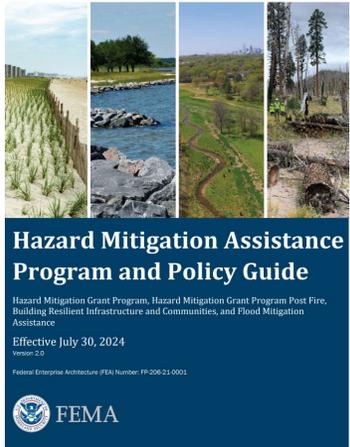
# 03 NEDNR & NEMA GRANT SOURCES



# 03 NEDNR & NEMA GRANT SOURCES

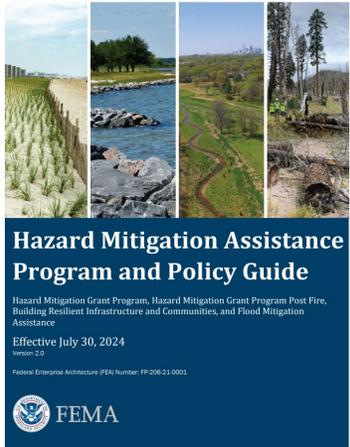


# 03 ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES



Flood-Related Mitigation Actions	HMGP	FMA Swift Current	BRIC	FMA
Project Scoping	■	■	■	■
New Plan Creation	■	?	■	■
Property Acquisition	■	■	■	■
Structure Elevation	■	■	■	■
Mitigation Reconstruction	■	■	■	■
Localized Flood Risk Reduction	■	■	■	■
Stabilization	■	?	■	■
Post-Fire Flood and Sediment Control	■	?	■	■
Codes and Standards Adoption	5%	?	■	■

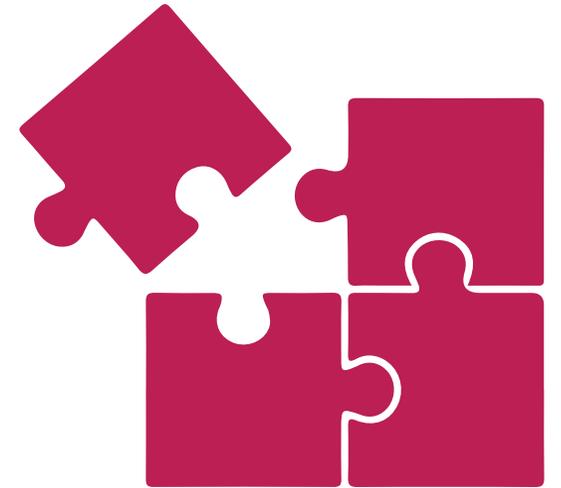
# 03 ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES



Flood-Related Mitigation Actions	HMGP	FMA Swift Current	BRIC	FMA
Dry Floodproofing (Non-residential)	■	■	■	■
Public Awareness and Education	5%	?	■	■
Warning System	5%	?	■	■
Aquifer Recharge, Storage and Recovery	■	?	■	■
Wetland Construction	?	?	■	■
Utility Protection / Retrofit	?	?	■	■
Infrastructure Protection	■	?	■	■
Green Infrastructure / Low Impact Design	■	?	■	■
Innovative Mitigation Projects	5%	?	■	■

# 03 TIPS TO BE COMPETITIVE

- Form partnerships
- Start small
- Fund project components or phases
- Research the grant:
  - Eligibility
  - The funder's interests / objectives
- Tell the story of your community
- Demonstrate prior success



# 03 TIPS TO BE COMPETITIVE

- Leverage Need:
  - Community Disaster Resilience Zone (CDRZ)
  - Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)
  - National Risk Index (NRI)
- Flood Insurance Policy Count
- Disaster Declaration Status

# Hazard Mitigation at NEMA

## Activities and Resources

# Hazard Mitigation Assistance

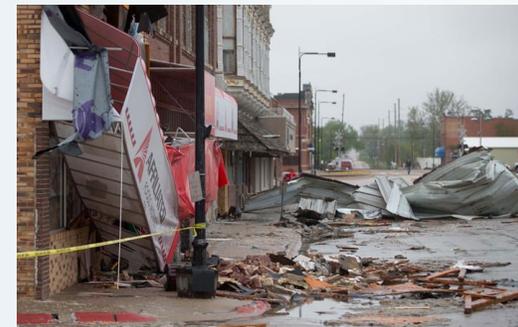
- Authorized by the *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act* (CFR 44) section 404
  - This is different from Public Assistance Mitigation which is authorized under Section 406 of the Stafford Act.
- Funding is available State-Wide, not just disaster impacted areas
- Projects can include damaged and non-damaged facilities/infrastructure



# Common Natural Hazards

Include but are not limited to:

- Riverine flooding
- Urban flooding
- High wind
- Drought
- Landslides
- Extreme temperatures
- Wildfire



# Hazard Mitigation Grants

HMA Program Comparison	 HMGP	 HMGP Post Fire	 BRIC	 FMA
Program Type	Post-disaster	Post-disaster	Pre-disaster	Pre-disaster
Funding Availability	Presidentially declared disaster	FMAG-declared disaster	6% set aside from federal post-disaster grant funding	Annual appropriations
Competitive?	No	No	Yes	Yes
Eligible Applicants	States, federally recognized tribes, territories and the District of Columbia (DC)	States, federally recognized tribes, territories and DC	States, federally recognized tribes, territories and DC	States, federally recognized tribes, territories and DC
Eligible Subapplicants	State agencies, local governments, tribes and private nonprofit organizations	State agencies, local governments, tribes and private nonprofit organizations	State agencies, local governments and tribes	State agencies, local governments and tribes
Hazard Mitigation Plan Requirement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
NFIP Participation	Communities with projects in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs)	Communities with projects in SFHAs	Communities with projects in SFHAs	Subapplicants and properties

## FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Programs:

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program-Post Fire (HMGP-Post Fire)**
- **Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)**

# HMA Funding

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
  - Funding eligible after a federally declared disaster
  - Open to the entire State, not just the impacted area
  - Managed by the Hazard Mitigation Unit at NEMA
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Post Fire
  - Funding eligible after a Fire Mitigation Assistance Grant
  - Wildfire impacted area prioritized; may be available to other areas with justification
  - Primary benefit of project must address wildfire mitigation
- Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities
  - Yearly, 6% set-aside from all federally declared disasters in the previous year
  - 2 Categories: state set-aside and nationwide competitive
  - Managed by the Hazard Mitigation Unit at NEMA

## Open Grants

- DR-4420 (Spring 2019)
  - DR-4521 (Covid-19)
  - DR-4616 (Summer 2021)
  - DR-4641 (Winter 2022)
  - DR-4662 (Spring 2022)
  - FM-5436 (Spring 2022)
  - FM-5462 (Spring 2023)
  - DR-4778 (Spring 2024)
  - DR-4786 (Spring 2024)
- Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC)
    - FY2020
    - FY2021
    - FY2022
    - FY2023

**All grants combined estimate 71 million dollars**

# BRIC & FMA Update

- FEMA will likely release the 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in Fall/Winter 2024
  - BRIC 2023 applications are currently under FEMA review
  - BRIC 2022 projects are being awarded
  - BRIC 2020 and BRIC 2021 projects are in progress
  - We are identifying potential mitigation projects now – still accepting NOIs
    - Please specify on the NOI if you want the project to be considered for BRIC
  - NEMA and NeDNR will work together to develop, review, and submit the BRIC and FMA applications for Nebraska
- 

# Eligible Mitigation Projects

- Hazard Mitigation Plans & planning related activities
- Project scoping / Advance assistance
- Property acquisition for open space
- Mitigation reconstruction
- Stabilization
- Flood risk reduction
- Floodproofing
- Safe room (Community & Residential)
- Aquifer recharge, storage, & recovery
- Wildfire mitigation
- Retrofit
- Secondary power source
- Warning system



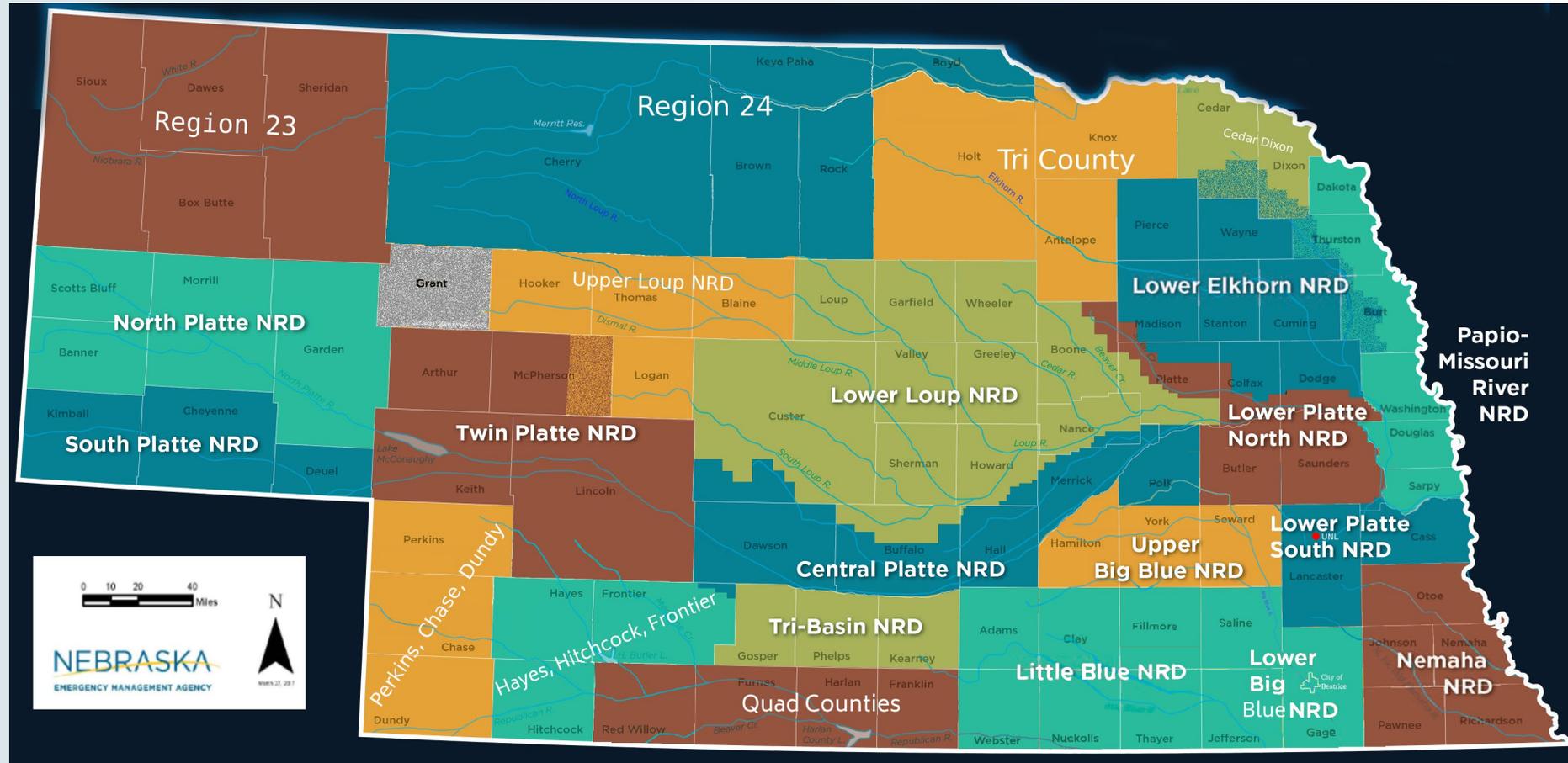
# Ineligible Mitigation Activities

Some examples of activities that are not eligible for HMA:

- Activities that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure.
- Projects for which ANY physical work has occurred PRIOR to award or approval.
- Activities dependent on contingent actions to be effective and/or feasible (not stand alone).
- Activities that only address manmade hazards.
- Activities required as a result of negligence, to remedy code violations, or reimbursement of legal obligations.
- Activities associated with facilities or land owned by another federal entity.
- Preparedness and response measures & equipment (sandbags, EOCs, fire stations).
- The cost of any functionality or finishing not directly required for meeting FEMA-approved criteria (decorative elements, landscaping, ornamentation, etc.).
- Activities that address unmet needs from a disaster, not related to mitigation.

# Local Hazard Mitigation Plans

- 21 Mitigation Plans
- Most are housed within the NRD's
- Participating is required to receive any HMA Funding



# How to Apply



All potential subapplicants must fill out a **Notice of Interest (NOI)**:

- Submit for every project/idea regardless of the grant/funding type
- Each NOI is reviewed for eligibility and general feasibility
- NOIs are retained until funding opportunities becomes available
- Subapplicants are contacted when a prioritized by the Governor's Taskforce and invited to apply
- The NOI is not the application

**Apply on NEMA Hazard Mitigation Website:**

<https://nema.nebraska.gov/hazard-mitigation.php>

# How to Apply

On the right side of the webpage, the **Notice of Interest (NOI) Form** can be found under Documents in the Quick Links menu.



## QUICK LINKS

[Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants](#)

[Hazard Mitigation Planning](#)

[Hazard Mitigation Resources](#)

[Public Assistance](#)

[Nebraska's Residential Tornado Safe Room Program](#)

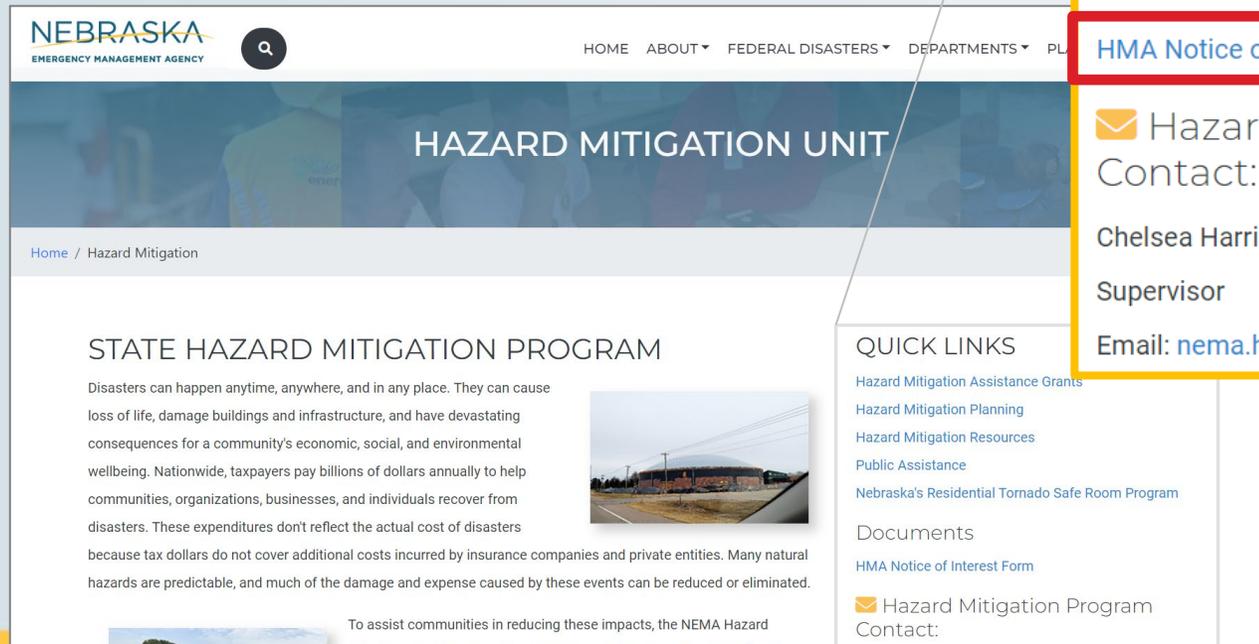
## Documents

[HMA Notice of Interest Form](#)

 **Hazard Mitigation Program Contact:**

Chelsea Harris, State Hazard Mitigation Officer & Program Supervisor

Email: [nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov](mailto:nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov)



The screenshot shows the website header with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency logo and navigation menu. The main content area features a blue banner for the Hazard Mitigation Unit. Below the banner, there is a breadcrumb trail and a section titled 'STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM' with a paragraph of text and a small image of a building. A 'QUICK LINKS' sidebar is visible on the right side of the page, containing the same links as the callout box, with the 'HMA Notice of Interest Form' link highlighted in a red box.

# How to Apply

Applicant Information

Submission Date

Applicants Name \*

Applicant Type \*

Population of project benefiting area \*

Primary Point of Contact Name \*

Primary POC Title \*

Agency/Organization \*

Mailing Address \*

Email \*

Phone Number \*

**Supporting Documents**  
Attach any completed or preliminary BCA documents or surveys/studies in support of this project

browse files"/>

Send me a copy of my responses

[Privacy Notice](#) | [Report Abuse](#)

- Updated fillable NOI
- Can attach all supporting documentation
- By checking the box above the submit button a copy of the NOI will be sent to the subapplicant
- Click 'Submit' button at the end
- No need to download, print, or email the NOI to submit

# Application Process

## If project NOI prioritized by the Governor's Taskforce

- NEMA HM Unit will contact subapplicant:
  - Confirming their intention to move forward with the project.
  - Discuss application development timeline and process.
  - Assist with application development as needed by the subapplicant.
    - For HMGP: NEMA provides the application
    - For BRIC: Subapplicant is directed to FEMAGo



# Upcoming Events

- **G318 – Local Mitigation Planning**
  - The NEMA HM team is available to teach G318 to local officials
  - This course provides training in how to complete a local hazard mitigation plan.
  - Request course through your PET region or the NEMA training team
  - Southeast PET Region **September 25 - 26**
- **Engagement Opportunities**
  - The NEMA HM is looking for opportunities to talk with entities and organizations about mitigation
  - Many folks outside EM are involved in HM, like roads departments, school districts, clerks, planning committees – we want to talk to them!
  - Please pass our contact info to these groups
  - NEMA HMA Workshop

# NEMA Hazard Mitigation Team

## Chelsea Harris

State Hazard Mitigation Officer

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## Erica Wertz

Deputy State Hazard Mitigation Officer

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## Marisa Alvares

Programs Specialist

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## Kevin Cotter

Program Specialist

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## Angelina Allen

Program Specialist

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***Please contact inbox with any questions:***

## Hazard Mitigation Inbox

[nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov](mailto:nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov)

# Links / Resources

NEMA Website:

<https://nema.nebraska.gov>

NEMA Hazard Mitigation Website:

<https://nema.nebraska.gov/hazard-mitigation.php>

NEMA Hazard Mitigation Email Inbox:

[nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov](mailto:nema.hazardmitigation@nebraska.gov)

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance (2023):

[https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_hma\\_guide\\_062024.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_hma_guide_062024.pdf)

FEMA Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions, Guide for Local Communities (2021):

[https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_riskmap-nature-based-solutions-guide\\_2021.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_riskmap-nature-based-solutions-guide_2021.pdf)

An aerial photograph showing a bridge crossing a wide, brown river. The bridge is partially obscured by a large, white, bold text overlay. On the road leading to the bridge, a red pickup truck is parked, and several orange traffic barrels are set up to close off traffic. A few people are standing near the edge of the road. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and grass. The text "QUESTIONS?" is centered over the bridge and river area.

**QUESTIONS?**

# THANK YOU!



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**Erica Wertz**

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**Adele Phillips, CFM**

Flood Mitigation Planner  
NeDNR

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## FEMA Survey on Your Training Needs!

FEMA is conducting a historic survey about the training needs of Floodplain Administrators. Please help our office and help improve floodplain management trainings in Nebraska by completing this survey. The survey is open until September 30, 2024.

The survey will allow our office to learn about your overall and training needs as well as the challenges and barriers you face in meeting those needs. Hearing directly from Floodplain Administrators will help our office better serve you. You may have received a couple of emails from FEMA's headquarters and regional offices. This is the same survey described in their email. Only one survey can be submitted per NFIP participating community.

The survey and more information can be accessed in several ways:

- Online at this link: [www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/training](https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/training)
- By contacting FEMA via email at [fema-fpmtraining@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-fpmtraining@fema.dhs.gov) and request a survey be mailed to your office.