

Burke County, ND

Risk-assessment baseline packet

County FIPS: 38013 Release: 2026-10 Data as of: 2026-09-30 Storm Events data through: 2026-06-30

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Summary

Plan status as of 2026-09-30: Expired on 2024-06-16. Plan: Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820), approved 2019-06-17. Since the plan was approved on 2019-06-17: 4 new hazard declarations (4 incidents) and 83 NOAA Storm Events records; details under "What changed since your last plan".

Highest expected annual loss (FEMA National Risk Index, modeled total; see B1-a): Cold Wave (\$1,004,203 a year), Inland Flooding (\$474,869) and Winter Weather (\$91,671).

The tables that follow are organized by the items of FEMA's Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool, Element B (B1-a to B2-c); each heading says which item its tables support.

TERMS USED

EAL: expected annual loss: FEMA's modeled average yearly loss from a hazard.

NRI: FEMA's National Risk Index (version 1.20, December 2025).

NFIP: National Flood Insurance Program.

RL, SRL: repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss: flood-insured properties with repeated claims (definitions in B2-c).

FMA, HMGP: Flood Mitigation Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, FEMA mitigation grants.

PA: FEMA Public Assistance: disaster aid to governments and some nonprofits.

Zone-level: NOAA logged the event for a National Weather Service forecast zone, which may include parts of neighboring counties.

County-coded: NOAA logged the event to this county.

FIPS: the federal code for a place; 38013 is this area.

D0 to D4: U.S. Drought Monitor categories, from abnormally dry (D0) to exceptional drought (D4).

F/EF, EFU: Fujita and Enhanced Fujita tornado ratings; EFU is an unrated tornado.

kt, CONUS: knots (1 kt is about 1.15 mph); the contiguous United States.

CFR: Code of Federal Regulations.

A4-a, E1-a: other items of FEMA's Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool (sources, and changes since the last plan).

Dollars: nominal (as reported, labeled with the year), not adjusted for inflation.

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Plan clock

Status:	Expired on 2024-06-16	Plan:	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)
Approved:	2019-06-17	Days since expiry:	836
Update underway:	none recorded in FEMA's plan tracker		

Until a new plan is approved, FEMA mitigation project grants (HMGP, FMA) need a FEMA exception (44 CFR 201.6(a)(3)).

What changed since your last plan (approved 2019-06-17)

New federal declarations:	4 new hazard declarations (4 incidents): DR-4613-ND (Severe Storm, Straight-Line Winds, and Flooding), DR-4660-ND (Severe Winter Storm and Flooding), DR-4717-ND (Flooding), DR-4934-ND (Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds, and Tornadoes); also 2 COVID-19 declarations (not counted)	Storm Events records since approval:	83 records (data through 2026-06-30)
Repetitive loss now:	FMA RL 0, SRL 0 (44 CFR 77.2); any definition: 0	Repeat-flood change:	this release sets the baseline count.

Sources: 1, 2, 4, 6 (numbered list at the end)

Plan status for every jurisdiction listed in this county

Source: 1

Jurisdiction	Type	Status	Plan	Approved	Expires	Days to expiry <i>negative = days since expiry</i>
Burke County	County	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836
Bowbells city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836
Columbus city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836
Flaxton city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836
Lignite city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836
Portal city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836
Powers Lake city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	Burke & Divide Counties, ND Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019 (FEMA plan 105820)	2019-06-17	2024-06-16	-836

Plan 105820 lists 4 other participants: Crosby city (Divide County); Divide County; Fortuna city (Divide County); Noonan city (Divide County).

State plan status and tribal plans in this state: see the state page.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-a: hazard identification

Hazards NRI does not cover (local data needed)

- dam failure (incl. upstream dams)
- levee failure
- flash flood as its own subtype
- ice jams
- debris flows
- erosion (riverine and coastal)
- land subsidence and sinkholes
- expansive soils

The 18 National Risk Index hazards, ranked by expected annual loss (EAL)

Sources: 5, 6

Rank by EAL	Hazard	NRI risk rating	EAL rating	EAL buildings modeled dollars per year	EAL agriculture modeled dollars per year	Cost of expected deaths and injuries FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage	EAL total (see note) modeled dollars per year	Storm Events records, 1996 to 2026-06-30 count	Why this hazard can be left out NRI Not Applicable, no declaration and no Storm Events record since 1996	Storm Events coverage note
1	Cold Wave	Relatively Low	Relatively Moderate	\$660	\$432,610	\$570,933	\$1,004,203	37		
2	Inland Flooding	Very Low	Very Low	\$474,868	\$1	under \$1	\$474,869	3		
3	Winter Weather	Relatively Low	Relatively Moderate	\$53,231	\$99	\$38,340	\$91,671	94		
4	Tornado	Very Low	Very Low	\$43,342	\$1,018	\$37,625	\$81,985	19		
5	Hail	Very Low	Very Low	\$43,540	\$30,320	\$3,015	\$76,875	93		
6	Strong Wind	Very Low	Very Low	\$31,205	\$19,769	\$8,502	\$59,476	79		Includes 44 High Wind records (a NOAA non-thunderstorm wind type, outside NRI's Strong Wind definition).
7	Ice Storm	Relatively Low	Relatively Low	\$46,983	n/a	\$9,525	\$56,508	1		
8	Wildfire	Very Low	Very Low	\$54,291	\$30	\$992	\$55,314	0		Declared 1 time; no Storm Events record of this type.
9	Lightning	Very Low	Very Low	\$26,393	n/a	\$9,430	\$35,823	9		
10	Drought	Very Low	Very Low	n/a	\$17,076	n/a	\$17,076	21		
11	Heat Wave	Very Low	Very Low	\$517	under \$1	\$3,617	\$4,134	1		
12	Earthquake	Very Low	Very Low	\$1,075	n/a	\$204	\$1,279			Storm Events does not record earthquakes.

Rank by EAL	Hazard	NRI risk rating	EAL rating	EAL buildings modeled dollars per year	EAL agriculture modeled dollars per year	Cost of expected deaths and injuries FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage	EAL total (see note) modeled dollars per year	Storm Events records, 1996 to 2026-06-30 count	Why this hazard can be left out NRI Not Applicable, no declaration and no Storm Events record since 1996	Storm Events coverage note
13	Landslide	Very Low	Very Low	\$5	n/a	\$279	\$284	0		Declared 1 time; no Storm Events record of this type.
	Hurricane	Not Applicable	Not Applicable					0	NRI rates hurricane Not Applicable for this county, and no counted federal declaration for this county names it (EM-3247-ND names it but is not counted as a local occurrence; see B1-d).	No recorded events in Storm Events since 1996 (data through 2026-06-30).

Total = buildings + agriculture + population equivalence; FEMA values each expected death (or 10 injuries) at \$13.7 million (2024 dollars).

NRI risk rating combines expected annual loss with social vulnerability and community resilience; EAL rating rates expected annual loss alone. Both compare this county with all U.S. counties.

Local data needed: state and local wildfire and landslide records (Storm Events records these hazards only in part).

Not applicable to this county per NRI, with no federal declaration and no Storm Events record since 1996: avalanche, coastal flooding, tsunami and volcanic activity. That is the evidence for leaving them out of the plan.

The state hazard mitigation plan also lists hazards for this county; FEMA asks the plan to explain any hazard it leaves out.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-b: hazard location

Affects the whole county (national data give no location within it): Cold Wave, Drought, Hail, Heat Wave, Ice Storm, Lightning, Strong Wind and Winter Weather.

Inland Flooding: The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is the required location source for flooding. See the FEMA Flood Map Service Center (<https://msc.fema.gov>) for this county.

NRI rating of the county's single census tract

Source: 5

Hazard	Census tract NRI risk rating, score 0 to 100
Earthquake	tract 9533 (Very Low, 6.8)
Hurricane	no tract has a National Risk Index rating for this hazard
Landslide	tract 9533 (Relatively Low, 86.5)
Tornado	tract 9533 (Relatively Low, 53.2)
Wildfire	tract 9533 (Relatively Moderate, 92.2)

A tract number is the Census tract number (for example 9533 is Census Tract 9533). FEMA's Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool maps the National Risk Index for every tract: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/resilience-analysis-and-planning-tool>

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-c: hazard extent

Extent: scale, observed range and worst recorded event per hazard

Sources: 6, 7

Hazard	Scale	Records <i>count and years</i>	Observed range	Worst recorded event	Most damaging (when different)	How it applies to jurisdictions	Note
Cold/Wind Chill, Extreme Cold/Wind Chill	wind chill	37 records, 1996 to 2025 (37 zone-level)	1 day to 11 days (median 3 days); 33 with a recorded value	11 consecutive days, 2021-02-05 to 2021-02-15, zone-level		Countywide (zone-level records).	
Frost/Freeze (outside NRI's Cold Wave definition)	crop damage	0					
Drought	U.S. Drought Monitor scale (D0 to D4)	21 records, 2021 to 2025 (21 zone-level)	211 days to 412 days (median 311.5 days); 2 with a recorded value	412 days (about 13.5 months), 2021-04-01 to 2022-05-17, a run of 14 consecutive Storm Events drought records, zone-level		Countywide (zone-level records).	Storm Events enters a drought at D2 or worse east of the Rockies and D3 or worse from the Rockies west (NWS Instruction 10-1605); NRI drought counts D3 and D4 only.
Earthquake	Modified Mercalli (local data)	0					Storm Events does not record earthquakes; the USGS earthquake catalog is the source.
Hail	hail size (inches)	120 records, 1975 to 2025	0.75 in to 2.75 in (median 1 in); 120 with a recorded value	2.75 in hail, 2018-06-14; same size also recorded on 2001-07-19		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Bowbells city (15 records), Lignite city (13 records), Powers Lake city (12 records), Columbus city (11 records), Portal city (10 records), Flaxton city (7 records).	
Excessive Heat, Heat	heat index (in event narratives)	1 record, 2011 (1 zone-level)	4 days; 1 with a recorded value	4 consecutive days, 2011-07-16 to 2011-07-19, zone-level		Countywide (zone-level records).	
Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Tropical Depression	Saffir-Simpson	0					Storm Events files every zone of a storm's episode under the storm's type; flooding from the storm is filed as Flood or Flash Flood records.
Ice Storm	Sperry-Piltz ice scale (local data)	1 record, 2010 (1 zone-level)		No damage reported in 1 record.		Countywide (zone-level records).	
Flash Flood, Flood, Lakeshore Flood	damage and flood days (flood depth: FIRM)	3 records, 2011 to 2023		Flood, 2014-06-28, \$50,000 property; \$25,000 crops (2014 dollars)		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Lignite city (1 record).	Flood depth: see the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map. Storm Events damage is often \$0 or blank for floods, major ones included; FEMA Public Assistance by declaration (B1-d) shows which floods cost the most.
Debris Flow	none (count and damage only)	0					

Hazard	Scale	Records <i>count and years</i>	Observed range	Worst recorded event	Most damaging (when different)	How it applies to jurisdictions	Note
Lightning	annualized frequency (the measure FEMA's Local Mitigation Planning Handbook names)	9 records, 1997 to 2006		Lightning, 2006-08-09, \$250,000 property; crops not reported (2006 dollars)		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Lignite city (5 records), Bowbells city (2 records), Flaxton city (1 record).	Storm Events lists lightning with damage or casualties.
High Wind and Strong Wind (outside NRI's Strong Wind definition)	wind speed (kt and mph)	44 records, 1999 to 2026 (44 zone-level)	35 kt (40 mph) to 62 kt (71 mph) (median 50 kt (58 mph)); 44 with a recorded value	62 kt (71 mph), measurement type not recorded, High Wind, 1999-03-26; NWS zone NDZ002	High Wind, 2011-02-13, \$20,000 property; \$0 crops (zone total, 2011 dollars)	Countywide (zone-level records).	
Thunderstorm Wind	wind speed (kt and mph)	55 records, 1971 to 2026	50 kt (58 mph) to 78 kt (90 mph) (median 54.5 kt (63 mph)); 44 with a recorded value	78 kt (90 mph) estimated gust, Thunderstorm Wind, 2012-07-15	Thunderstorm Wind, 2010-06-24, \$0 property; \$500,000 crops (2010 dollars)	Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Powers Lake city (8 records), Bowbells city (7 records), Flaxton city (3 records), Lignite city (3 records), Columbus city (2 records), Portal city (2 records).	
Tornado	Enhanced Fujita (Fujita before Feb 2007)	28 records, 1969 to 2026	F/EF0 to F/EF3 (median F/EF0); 26 with a recorded value	EF3 tornado, 2010-08-12, 2.55 mi within this county, 400 yd wide, \$700,000 property; \$150,000 crops (2010 dollars)		Event records naming jurisdictions in the plan: Bowbells city (6 records), Portal city (5 records), Powers Lake city (3 records).	Before 1996 a tornado is listed once, under the county where it began, with its whole path's rating and length; from 1996 on, each county lists its own segment. Length is not used to rank tornadoes (see Methods).
Wildfire	acres burned (local data)	0					
Winter Storm, Heavy Snow, Blizzard, Lake-Effect Snow, Winter Weather, Sleet	none in data (snowfall: local data)	94 records, 1996 to 2026 (94 zone-level)		Blizzard, 2022-04-23, \$6,000,000 property; \$0 crops (2022 dollars); NWS zone NDZ002		Countywide (zone-level records).	

In event narratives only (local data needed): wind chill, temperature, heat index, ice thickness, acres burned and snow depth; any physical measure of debris flow and lightning.

Storm Events records are more complete after 1996; before 1996 only Tornado (from 1950), Hail and Thunderstorm Wind (from 1955) exist. Zone-level records from zones that no NWS zone-county file places in this county (mostly before 2020) are not counted here (the Methods page explains the zone matching).

Dollars are nominal (as reported), labeled with the year; not adjusted for inflation.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-d: previous occurrences

Federal declarations for this county: 22 declarations covering 19 separate hazard incidents counted in this packet (declarations for the same incident count once; non-natural and evacuation-only declarations are not counted).

Federal disaster declarations for this county

Sources: 1, 2, 3

Declared	Incident began	FEMA number	Type	Title	Mapped hazard	County Public Assistance <i>federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>	Flags	Notes
2026-09-01	2026-06-07	DR-4934-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds, and Tornadoes	Strong Wind; Tornado	not yet in FEMA's PA summaries (they cover declarations through 2026-06-30)	new since last plan; within last 5 years	
2023-07-05	2023-04-10	DR-4717-ND	Major disaster	Flooding	Inland Flooding	\$30,195	new since last plan; within last 5 years	
2022-07-13	2022-04-22	DR-4660-ND	Major disaster	Severe Winter Storm and Flooding	Inland Flooding; Winter Weather	\$8,562,823.69	new since last plan; within last 5 years	
2021-09-01	2021-06-07	DR-4613-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storm, Straight-Line Winds, and Flooding	Inland Flooding; Strong Wind	\$51,382.93	new since last plan	
2020-04-01	2020-01-20	DR-4509-ND	Major disaster	COVID-19 Pandemic	Non-natural, not counted	\$11,977.43	new since last plan	
2020-03-13	2020-01-20	EM-3477-ND	Emergency	COVID-19	Non-natural, not counted	no Public Assistance recorded	new since last plan	same incident as DR-4509
2011-05-20	2011-04-29	DR-1986-ND	Major disaster	Severe Winter Storm	Winter Weather	\$421,298.51		
2011-05-10	2011-02-14	DR-1981-ND	Major disaster	Flooding	Inland Flooding	\$453,382.04		
2010-02-26	2010-01-20	DR-1879-ND	Major disaster	Severe Winter Storm	Winter Weather	\$68,750.95		
2005-11-21	2005-10-04	DR-1616-ND	Major disaster	Severe Winter Storm and Record and/or Near Record Snow	Winter Weather	\$12,115.11		
2005-09-13	2005-08-29	EM-3247-ND	Emergency	Hurricane Katrina Evacuation	Hurricane: evacuation support, not a local hazard event; not counted	no Public Assistance recorded		
2004-05-05	2004-03-26	DR-1515-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms, Flooding, and Ground Saturation	Inland Flooding	\$232,305.36		
2004-04-02	2004-01-23	EM-3196-ND	Emergency	Snow	Winter Weather	\$9,745.63		

Declared	Incident began	FEMA number	Type	Title	Mapped hazard	County Public Assistance <i>federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>	Flags	Notes
2000-06-27	2000-04-05	DR-1334-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms, Flooding and Ground Saturation	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		
1999-06-08	1999-03-01	DR-1279-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms, Flooding, Snow, Ice, Ground Saturation, Landslides, Mudslides, and Tor	Inland Flooding (primary); also designated: Landslide, Tornado	\$258,766.33		
1997-04-07	1997-02-28	DR-1174-ND	Major disaster	Severe Flooding, Severe Winter Storms, Snowmelt, Spring Rains	Inland Flooding (primary); also designated: Wildfire, Winter Weather	no Public Assistance recorded		
1997-01-12	1997-01-03	DR-1157-ND	Major disaster	Severe Winter Storms and Blizzard Conditions	Winter Weather	no Public Assistance recorded		
1993-07-26	1993-06-22	DR-1001-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms & Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		
1979-04-26	1979-04-26	DR-581-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms, Snowmelt & Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		
1976-04-16	1976-04-16	DR-501-ND	Major disaster	Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		
1970-06-05	1970-06-05	DR-287-ND	Major disaster	Severe Storms & Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		
1969-04-18	1969-04-18	DR-256-ND	Major disaster	Flooding	Inland Flooding	no Public Assistance recorded		

County Public Assistance: applicants the FEMA record places in this county, including any state agencies FEMA files there; statewide rows are listed on the state page; federal share obligated, nominal dollars.

Statewide declarations

Source: 2

Declared	Incident began	FEMA number	Type	Title	Mapped hazard
1957-06-22	1957-06-22	DR-79-ND	Major disaster	Tornado	Tornado

FEMA recorded these with designated area Statewide and no county, so they are listed on every county page in the state and not counted with county rows. Local data needed: whether each one affected this county.

Public Assistance filed under this county for declarations that do not list it: 1 row, \$15,494.25

Sources: 2, 3

FEMA number	Declared	Title	Applicant	PA obligated <i>federal share obligated, nominal dollars</i>
DR-1353-ND	2000-12-29	Severe Winter Storms and Tornadoes	Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative	\$15,494.25

FEMA's Public Assistance summaries file these applicants under this county, but FEMA's declaration rows for these disasters do not designate it (an electric cooperative or district serving several counties, for example). Not in any declaration row above and not counted.

Public Assistance not placed in any North Dakota county: 1 row, \$23,693.61; listed on the North Dakota state page.

Source: 3

Previous occurrences by hazard, with explicit no-event rows

Sources: 2, 6, 7

Hazard	Storm Events records, all years on file <i>(years in the Period column)</i>	Since plan approval <i>records</i>	In the 12 months before plan approval <i>records</i>	Last 5 years <i>records</i>	Declared incidents, all years <i>separate disasters</i>	Declared since approval <i>separate disasters</i>	Period	Statement
Cold Wave	37	4	1	3	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Drought	21	21	0	15	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Earthquake	0	0	0	0	0	0		Storm Events does not record earthquakes; the USGS earthquake catalog is the source.
Hail	120	16	0	11	0	0	1955 to 2026-06-30	
Heat Wave	1	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Hurricane	0	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No recorded events, 1996 to 2026-06-30, NOAA NCEI Storm Events
Ice Storm	1	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Inland Flooding	3	1	0	1	13	3	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Landslide	0	0	0	0	1	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No Storm Events records of this type; 1 federal declared incident (see declarations table)
Lightning	9	0	0	0	0	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	
Strong Wind	99	23	2	18	2	2	1955 to 2026-06-30	Includes 44 High Wind records.
Tornado	28	1	0	1	2	1	1950 to 2026-06-30	
Wildfire	0	0	0	0	1	0	1996 to 2026-06-30	No Storm Events records of this type; 1 federal declared incident (see declarations table)
Winter Weather	94	17	2	15	7	1	1996 to 2026-06-30	

Notable Storm Events records

Sources: 1, 6, 7

Date	Event type	Magnitude or extent	Damage <i>nominal dollars</i>	Deaths, injuries <i>direct only</i>	Location	Flags	Why listed
2022-04-23	Blizzard		\$6,000,000 property; \$0 crops (zone total, 2022 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level	new since last plan; within last 5 years	B1-c worst recorded: Winter Storm, Heavy Snow, Blizzard, Lake-Effect Snow, Winter Weather, Sleet
2021-04-01	Drought		\$0 property; \$0 crops (zone total, 2021 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level	new since last plan	B1-c worst recorded: Drought
2021-02-05	Extreme Cold/ Wind Chill		\$0 property; \$0 crops (zone total, 2021 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level	new since last plan	B1-c worst recorded: Cold/Wind Chill, Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
2018-06-14	Hail	2.75 in	\$500,000 property; \$0 crops (2018 dollars)	0, 0	PORTAL		B1-c worst recorded: Hail
2014-06-28	Flood		\$50,000 property; \$25,000 crops (2014 dollars)	0, 0	LARSON to BATTLEVIEW		B1-c worst recorded: Flash Flood, Flood, Lakeshore Flood
2012-07-15	Thunderstorm Wind	78 kt (90 mph) estimated gust	\$100,000 property; \$0 crops (2012 dollars)	0, 0	NORTHGATE		B1-c worst recorded: Thunderstorm Wind
2011-07-16	Excessive Heat		\$0 property; \$0 crops (zone total, 2011 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level		B1-c worst recorded: Excessive Heat, Heat
2011-02-13	High Wind	35 kt (40 mph) estimated sustained	\$20,000 property; \$0 crops (zone total, 2011 dollars)	0, 0	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level		B1-c most damaging: High Wind and Strong Wind
2010-08-12	Tornado	EF3, 2.55 mi within this county, 400 yd wide	\$700,000 property; \$150,000 crops (2010 dollars)	0, 0	BOWBELLS		B1-c worst recorded: Tornado
2006-08-09	Lightning		\$250,000 property; crops not reported (2006 dollars)	0, 0	LIGNITE		B1-c worst recorded: Lightning
1999-03-26	High Wind	62 kt (71 mph), measurement type not recorded	damage not reported	0, 0	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level		B1-c worst recorded: High Wind and Strong Wind
1998-02-25	Blizzard		damage not reported	0, 1	NWS zone NDZ002 (BURKE), zone-level		deaths or injuries recorded

The full list is in the Excel file, sheet "B1-d Storm Events history" (413 rows).

Location is the place NOAA recorded, as written in its data; it need not be a jurisdiction in this plan.

Local data needed: state-declared emergencies, from your state emergency management agency (federal data do not include them).

Tribal and special-area declarations in this state are listed on the state page.

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-e: probability of future events

Probability: FEMA annualized frequency and descriptor per hazard

Sources: 5, 6

Hazard	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled) <i>unit per row</i>	Unit	In plain terms	Descriptor	Descriptor basis	NRI events or days in its record period (hail, wind and tornado are area-weighted, so can be fractional)	NRI period	Location	Note
Cold Wave	21.7	event-days per year	about 21.7 days per year	Likely	Storm Events event- days in 16 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (53.3%)	413	2005-11-12 to 2024-11-12 (19 years)	countywide	
Drought	22.2	event-days per year	about 22.2 days per year	Likely	Storm Events event- days in 4 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (13.3%)	560	2000 to 2025 (25.25 years; D3 and D4 only)	countywide	
Earthquake	0.000089	annual probability at a location	chance a given location in the county has at least minor-damage shaking in a year: 0.0089%			not shown	modeled	see B1-f	No descriptor (Storm Events does not record earthquakes).
Hail	1.17	events per year	about 1.17 per year	Highly likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	44.7 (modeled)	1986 to 2023 (38 years)	countywide	
Heat Wave	0.526	event-days per year	about 0.526 days per year	Possible	Storm Events event- days in 1 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (3.33%)	7	2005-11-12 to 2024-11-12 (19 years)	countywide	
Hurricane		events per year					1851 to 2024 (Atlantic)	see B1-f	Not Applicable in NRI for this county; no descriptor.
Ice Storm	0.518	event-days per year	about 0.518 days per year	Possible	Storm Events event- days in 1 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (3.33%)	35	1946-12-31 to 2014-02-12 (67 years)	countywide	
Inland Flooding	0.107	event-days per year	about 0.107 days per year	Likely	Storm Events event- days in 3 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (10%)	3	1996 to 2023 (28 years)	see B1-f	
Landslide	0.153	events per year (modeled)	about 1 in 7 years	Likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	not shown	modeled	see B1-f	
Lightning	26.3	days per year with a strike	about 26.3 days per year	Highly likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	not shown	1995 to 2023 (29 years; CONUS)	countywide	
Strong Wind	0.569	events per year	about 0.57 per year	Likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	22	1986 to 2023 (38 years)	countywide	
Tornado	0.198	events per year	about 1 in 5 years	Likely	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled)	not shown	1950 to 2023 (EF2+); 1986 to 2023 (EF0-1)	see B1-f	

Hazard	FEMA annualized frequency (modeled) <i>unit per row</i>	Unit	In plain terms	Descriptor	Descriptor basis	NRI events or days in its record period (hail, wind and tornado are area-weighted, so can be fractional)	NRI period	Location	Note
Wildfire	0.000488	annual probability at a location	chance a given location in the county burns in a year: 0.0488%		Storm Events records in 0 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (0%)	not shown	modeled	see B1-f	No descriptor: no Storm Events record 1996 to 2025
Winter Weather	17.2	event-days per year	about 17.2 days per year	Highly likely	Storm Events event- days in 27 of 30 years, 1996 to 2025 (90%)	326	2005-11-12 to 2024-11-12 (19 years)	countywide	

FEMA annualized frequency (modeled) is the National Risk Index v1.20 (December 2025) estimate of how often a hazard affects this county in a year; it is not recorded events divided by years, and its unit differs by hazard (events, event-days, or days with a lightning strike per year). For earthquake, wildfire, coastal flooding and tsunami the value is the chance (or number of events) at a location in the county, not across the county, so no "1 in N years" is given and the descriptor comes from Storm Events where it has a record (none for earthquake). The Methods page gives each hazard's method, from FEMA's National Risk Index Technical Documentation v1.20.

Where NRI gives event-days, the descriptor comes from the share of years with a Storm Events record; NRI's source records more events, so the two differ.

Descriptor scale used in this packet (defined per unit)

Sources: 5, 6

Unit	Descriptor	Definition
events per year	Highly likely	1 or more per year
events per year	Likely	about once in 1 to 10 years
events per year	Possible	about once in 10 to 100 years
events per year	Unlikely	less than once in 100 years
annual probability	Likely	10% to under 100% chance in a given year
annual probability	Possible	1% to under 10% chance in a given year
annual probability	Unlikely	under 1% chance in a given year
event-days (share of years)	Highly likely	event-days recorded in 90% or more of years
event-days (share of years)	Likely	event-days recorded in 10% to under 90% of years
event-days (share of years)	Possible	event-days recorded in some years but under 10% of years
lightning strike-days	Highly likely	cloud-to-ground strikes on 1 or more days per year

Intensity bands: historical frequency (Storm Events)

Source: 6

Hazard	Band	Years	Events <i>county-coded records</i>	Years in period	Events per year <i>events / years</i>
Hail	1.00-1.99 in	1996 to 2025	64	30	2.13
Hail	2.00 in+	1996 to 2025	4	30	0.133
Thunderstorm Wind (counted as NRI Strong Wind)	50-64 kt	1996 to 2025	22	30	0.733
Thunderstorm Wind (counted as NRI Strong Wind)	65 kt+	1996 to 2025	11	30	0.367
Thunderstorm Wind (counted as NRI Strong Wind)	unmeasured or below 50 kt	1996 to 2025	0	30	0
Tornado	EF0-1	1996 to 2025	17	30	0.567
Tornado	EF2-3	1996 to 2025	1	30	0.0333
Tornado	EF4-5	1996 to 2025	0	30	0
Tornado	unrated (EFU)	1996 to 2025	0	30	0

The bands show how often events of each severity were recorded in this county, to profile how severe events have been (FEMA's probability item asks for the range of intensities).

Hail smaller than 1 inch is not counted: on 2010-01-05 the National Weather Service raised its severe-hail threshold from 3/4 inch to 1 inch, so smaller reports became less common after 2009 (NWS Service Change Notice 09-52). NRI hail frequency uses a 0.75 inch threshold.

Optional: future conditions. Not a required item in the 2025 FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide; some states ask for it. The federal Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation (CMRA) site gives county exposure to future climate conditions (<https://resilience.climate.gov/>).

Supports FEMA checklist item B1-f: hazards that vary across jurisdictions

NRI risk score of the county's single census tract

Source: 5

Hazard	Tract score <i>NRI score, 0 to 100</i>	Rating
Cold Wave	98.6	Very High
Drought	89.6	Relatively Low
Earthquake	6.8	Very Low
Hail	87.0	Relatively Moderate
Heat Wave	4.6	Very Low
Hurricane		Not Applicable
Ice Storm	93.7	Relatively High
Inland Flooding	34.1	Relatively Low
Landslide	86.5	Relatively Low
Lightning	82.4	Relatively High
Strong Wind	80.5	Relatively Moderate
Tornado	53.2	Relatively Low

Hazard	Tract score	Rating
	NRI score, 0 to 100	
Wildfire	92.2	Relatively Moderate
Winter Weather	99.4	Very High

The score ranks a tract against all U.S. tracts (100 = highest). The rating is FEMA's category for the tract's risk value, computed differently, so the two can disagree.

Each jurisdiction (starting figures from federal data)

Sources: 1, 3, 4, 6

Jurisdiction	Type	Plan status	Repetitive loss	Public Assistance to this jurisdiction	Event records naming this place
			FMA RL and SRL (44 CFR 77.2); repeat-flood, any definition	FEMA records matched by applicant name; federal share obligated, nominal dollars	all years; since its plan
Burke County	County	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$896,400.35	0 total; 0 since its plan
Bowbells city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$1,804.24	30 total; 8 since its plan
Columbus city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$10,356.97	13 total; 2 since its plan
Flaxton city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$948.75	11 total; 1 since its plan
Lignite city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	no Public Assistance recorded	22 total; 3 since its plan
Portal city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$19,499.04	17 total; 3 since its plan
Powers Lake city	City	Expired on 2024-06-16	FMA RL 0, SRL 0; any 0	\$6,236.23	23 total; 3 since its plan

Repetitive-loss counts are for whole NFIP communities, which can extend beyond this county (see the note in B2-c).

County Public Assistance in B1-d also includes applicants filed under the county that are not jurisdictions in this plan (for example state agencies, special districts and nonprofits), so the jurisdiction rows add up to less.

Supports FEMA checklist items B2-a and B2-b: vulnerability and potential impacts

Local data needed

The table below gives county-level starting figures; the plan describes impacts for each jurisdiction and its own assets.

- Critical facilities and lifelines per hazard
- A problem statement per jurisdiction per hazard
- Changes in development in hazard-prone areas since the last approval, or a statement of none (E1-a)
- Future assets

County-level starter: exposure, expected annual loss and damage since the plan

Sources: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

Hazard	Building exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Agriculture exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Population exposed <i>people</i>	EAL buildings <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	EAL agriculture <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Cost of expected deaths and injuries <i>FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage</i>	EAL as % of exposure <i>buildings; agriculture where noted</i>	Storm Events damage since 2019-06-17 <i>county-coded records, property plus crops, nominal dollars</i>	Zone-level damage since plan <i>property plus crops, reported for the zone</i>	Public Assistance s <i>nominal dollars</i>
Cold Wave	\$1,146,068,868	\$92,080,476	2,201	\$660	\$432,610	\$570,933	under 0.0001%		\$0	
Drought	n/a	\$49,375,787	n/a	n/a	\$17,076	n/a	0.0346% (agriculture)		\$0	
Earthquake	\$1,902,580,157	n/a	2,201	\$1,075	n/a	\$204	under 0.0001%			
Hail	\$1,146,068,868	\$92,080,476	2,201	\$43,540	\$30,320	\$3,015	0.0038%	\$165,000		
Heat Wave	\$1,146,068,868	\$92,080,476	2,201	\$517	under \$1	\$3,617	under 0.0001%			
Hurricane										
Ice Storm	\$1,146,068,868	n/a	2,201	\$46,983	n/a	\$9,525	0.0041%			

Hazard	Building exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Agriculture exposure <i>modeled dollars</i>	Population exposed <i>people</i>	EAL buildings <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	EAL agriculture <i>modeled dollars per year</i>	Cost of expected deaths and injuries <i>FEMA's dollar value per year, not property damage</i>	EAL as % of exposure <i>buildings; agriculture where noted</i>	Storm Events damage since 2019-06-17 <i>county-coded records, property plus crops, nominal dollars</i>	Zone-level damage since plan <i>property plus crops, reported for the zone</i>	Public Assistance s <i>nominal dollar</i>
Inland Flooding	\$1,145,629,698	\$397	19	\$474,868	\$1	under \$1	n/a (see note)	\$30,000		\$8,6
Landslide	\$1,972,809	n/a	5	\$5	n/a	\$279	0.000241%			
Lightning	\$1,146,068,868	n/a	2,201	\$26,393	n/a	\$9,430	0.0023%			
Strong Wind	\$1,146,068,868	\$92,080,476	2,201	\$31,205	\$19,769	\$8,502	0.00272%	\$48,000	\$0	\$
Tornado	\$1,146,068,868	\$92,080,476	2,201	\$43,342	\$1,018	\$37,625	0.00378%	\$50,000	1 declaration not yet in FEMA's PA summaries (they cover declarations through 20	
Wildfire	\$337,821,696	\$19,867,974	711	\$54,291	\$30	\$992	0.0161%			
Winter Weather	\$1,146,068,868	\$92,080,476	2,201	\$53,231	\$99	\$38,340	0.00464%		\$6,000,000	\$8,5

Totals since 2019-06-17 (Storm Events through 2026-06-30): 28 county-coded records, 28 with a damage value recorded (including \$0), \$293,000; 55 zone-level records, 55 with a damage value recorded (including \$0), \$6,000,000 reported for the zone; Public Assistance: \$8,644,401.62 on 4 counted declarations, 3 of them with Public Assistance; 1 not yet in FEMA's PA summaries (they cover declarations through 2026-06-30).

FEMA does not split Public Assistance by hazard. A declaration mapped to several hazards is listed under each of them with its full amount, so the per-hazard column does not add up to the total; the unit total counts each declaration once.

NRI computes earthquake exposure on its own basis, so it exceeds the county building value in B2-a.

Supports FEMA checklist item B2-a: vulnerability (county context)

County context

Source: 5

Measure	Value
Population	2,201
Building value (total, not at risk)	\$1,146,068,868
Agriculture value (total, not at risk)	\$92,080,476
NRI risk rating (all hazards)	Very Low
Expected annual loss, buildings and agriculture, all hazards	\$1,277,034
Expected annual loss, population equivalence, all hazards (NRI values each statistical life at \$13.7M; a modeled value of expected deaths and injuries, not property damage)	\$682,462
Social vulnerability rating	Very Low
Community resilience rating	Relatively Moderate
NRI version	December 2025

FEMA's all-hazard expected annual loss adds buildings, agriculture and population equivalence; this table gives the property part and the population-equivalence part as separate rows.

Social vulnerability: higher means people are more likely to be harmed and slower to recover. Community resilience: lower means the community is less able to recover. High social vulnerability and low resilience both raise the NRI risk rating.

Supports FEMA checklist item B2-c: repetitive loss properties

Repetitive loss in this county, both definitions

Sources: 1, 4

Definition	Properties	Severe repetitive loss	Properties
Repetitive loss, FMA definition (44 CFR 77.2)	0	Severe repetitive loss, FMA definition (44 CFR 77.2)	0
Repetitive loss, NFIP insurance definition	0	Severe repetitive loss, NFIP insurance definition	0

The state NFIP coordinator's list, the source FEMA's Handbook names, often uses the NFIP insurance definition (second row).

Repeat-flood properties: county total and NFIP communities

Sources: 1, 4

Scope	RL, FMA <i>properties</i>	SRL, FMA <i>properties</i>	RL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	SRL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	Any category <i>properties</i>	Mitigated <i>properties</i>	Currently insured <i>properties</i>
County total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Repeat-flood properties by jurisdiction in the plan (NFIP community)

Sources: 1, 4

Jurisdiction	NFIP community ID	RL, FMA <i>properties</i>	SRL, FMA <i>properties</i>	RL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	SRL, NFIP <i>properties</i>	Any category <i>properties</i>	Mitigated <i>properties</i>	Currently insured <i>properties</i>
Burke County	380377	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bowbells city	380216	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Columbus city	380015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flaxton city	380169	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lignite city	380186	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portal city	380196	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Powers Lake city	380016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Counts by occupancy group for each jurisdiction are in the Excel file, sheet "B2-c Jurisdictions".

Jurisdiction rows are whole NFIP communities and need not add up to the county total: a community that extends into another county is counted in full on each jurisdiction row, while the county table counts only its part in this county.

County repeat-flood properties by occupancy group: 0 in every occupancy group.

Sources: 1, 4

FMA RL and FMA SRL are the Flood Mitigation Assistance definitions (44 CFR 77.2), the ones the FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide cites. NFIP repetitive loss (the FEMA insurance definition) is 2 or more claims over \$1,000 in 10 years, and a property can leave that group once it is mitigated. Also shown: NFIP severe repetitive loss, any category, mitigated and currently insured. The Methods page gives the OpenFEMA field details.

Counts are aggregates of FEMA's public NFIP Multiple Loss Properties file (FEMA's data date 2026-08-02; file version 2026-08-04). No property is identified. County assignment is FEMA's geocode.

In this county 0 properties are FMA repetitive loss but not NFIP repetitive loss, and 0 properties are NFIP repetitive loss but not FMA repetitive loss.

Exact counts; no count suppression.

Sources

Tables cite these sources by number. The full list, for the plan's bibliography (FEMA review item A4-a):

- 1. FEMA, OpenFEMA HazardMitigationPlanStatuses v1, version 2026-09-29T134039Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/HazardMitigationPlanStatuses> (API)
- 2. FEMA, OpenFEMA DisasterDeclarationsSummaries v2, version 2026-09-29T162832Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v2/DisasterDeclarationsSummaries> (API)
- 3. FEMA, OpenFEMA PublicAssistanceFundedProjectsSummaries v1, version 2026-09-29T150754Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/PublicAssistanceFundedProjectsSummaries> (API)

4. FEMA, OpenFEMA NfipMultipleLossProperties v1, version 2026-08-04T164045Z, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.fema.gov/api/open/v1/NfipMultipleLossProperties> (API)
5. FEMA, FEMA National Risk Index 1.20.0 (December 2025), county and census tract tables, version 1.20.0, pulled 2026-09-30, https://www.fema.gov/about/reports-and-data/openfema/nri/v120/NRI_Table_Counties.zip (download, 25 MB), https://www.fema.gov/about/reports-and-data/openfema/nri/v120/NRI_Table_CensusTracts.zip (download, 635 MB)
6. NOAA NCEI, NOAA NCEI Storm Events Database, details files (csvfiles v1.0), version c20260918, pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/pub/data/swdi/stormevents/csvfiles/>
7. NOAA National Weather Service, NWS county-public forecast zones correlation file, version bp03mr20 to bp16ap26 (11 files; newest bp16ap26), pulled 2026-09-30, <https://www.weather.gov/gis/ZoneCounty>
8. U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2024 Gazetteer, 2020 place by county, CT county-to-cousub crosswalk, version 2024-gazetteer, pulled 2026-09-30, https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_counties_national.zip, [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_cousubs_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_cousubs_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_place_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_place_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_unsd_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_unsd_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_elsd_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_elsd_national.zip), [https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gazetteer/2024_Gaz_scsd_national.zip](https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/maps-data/data/gazetteer/2024_Gaz_scsd_national.zip), https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/reference/codes2020/national_place_by_county2020.txt, https://www2.census.gov/geo/docs/reference/ct_change/ct_cou_to_cousub_crosswalk.xlsx (used to match place names and codes; no table prints its values)

What this packet is and what the plan adds

This packet is the federal data for the plan's risk assessment (the summary on page 1 says how it is organized); the plan and FEMA's review decide whether each item is met.

The plan adds what only the community has: local data on assets, critical facilities, development and each jurisdiction's impacts; local hazard history, including state-declared emergencies; the mitigation strategy; and adoption.

How the federal data are built: National Risk Index values are FEMA's model, not counts of events. Storm Events is more complete from 1996; zone-level records are placed by forecast zone, not by location in the county. Public Assistance for a jurisdiction is matched by applicant name. The Methods page gives every rule and the known edge cases.

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Corrections: to report an error, name the packet, the table and what your records show. Contact: contact@hazardplain.org