



SECTION 9. JURISDICTIONAL ANNEXES

9.2 TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Township of Bass River that provides resources and information to assist public and private sectors to reduce losses from future hazard events. This annex is not guidance of what to do when a disaster occurs. Rather, this annex concentrates on actions to reduce or eliminate damage to property and people that can be implemented prior to a disaster. Information presented includes a general overview of the municipality, who in the Township of Bass River participated in the planning process, an assessment of the Township of Bass River’s risk and vulnerability, the different capabilities used in the Township of Bass River, and an action plan that will be implemented to achieve a more resilient community.

9.2.1 Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

The Township of Bass River identified the hazard mitigation plan primary and alternate points of contact and developed this plan over the course of several months with input from many Township of Bass River departments, including **Emergency Management**. The Emergency Management Coordinator represented the community on the Burlington County Hazard Mitigation Planning Partnership and supported the local planning process requirements by securing input from persons with specific knowledge to enhance the plan. All departments were asked to contribute to the annex development through reviewing and contributing to the capability assessment, reporting on the status of previously identified actions, and participating in action identification and prioritization.

The following table summarizes municipal officials that participated in the development of the annex and in what capacity. Additional documentation on the municipality’s planning process through Planning Partnership meetings is included in Volume 1, Section 2 (Planning Process) and Appendix C (Meeting Documentation).

Table 9.2-1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact		Alternate Point of Contact	
Name/Title:	David Cope, Emergency Management Coordinator	Name/Title:	Amanda Somes, Municipal Clerk
Address:	P.O. Box 307, New Gretna, NJ 08224	Address:	P.O. Box 307, New Gretna, NJ 08224
Phone Number:	609.839.9830	Phone Number:	609.296.3337 ext. 6
Email:	cope2771@aol.com	Email:	bassriverclerk@comcast.net
NFIP Floodplain Administrator			
Name/Title:	Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer		
Address:			
Phone Number:			
Email:			
Additional Contributors:			
Name/Title:	Barbara, Assistant OEM Coordinator		



Primary Point of Contact		Alternate Point of Contact	
Method of Participation:	Provided capabilities, reviewed risk assessment,		
Name/Title:	Sally		
Method of Participation:			
Name/Title:	Joey		
Method of Participation:			
Name/Title:			
Method of Participation:			

9.2.2 Municipal Profile

The Township of Bass River is a large, 72 square mile township on the eastern edge of Burlington County in the New Jersey Pinelands. New Gretna is the historic business and residential center of the Township.

Bass River Township is governed by a Commission Form of Government. Voters elect three (3) Commissioners. At-large, nonpartisan, every four years. The Mayor is elected by the Board of Commissioner at reorganization for a four-year term. The Mayor presides over the Board of Commissioners.

This three-member governing body is empowered to enact local ordinances, to levy municipal taxes and conduct the affairs of our community. Each Commissioner acts as department head with no single chief executive. In almost all cases, it can review and approve the actions of other Bass River Township committees and agencies. The Board of Commissioners conducts all of its business during monthly meetings open to the public.

All legislative powers of the Township are exercised by the Board of Commissioners. These powers can take the form of a resolution, ordinance, or proclamation.

According to the U.S. Census, the 2020 population for Township of Bass River was 1,355, a 6.2 percent decrease from the 2010 Census. Data from the 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates indicate that 18.3 percent is 65 years of age or older, 4.9 percent of the population is 5 years of age or younger, 0 percent is non-English speaking, 12.9 percent has a disability, and 7 percent is below the poverty level. Communities must deploy a support system that enables all populations to safely reach shelters or to quickly evacuate a hazard area.

9.2.3 Jurisdictional Capability Assessment and Integration

The Township of Bass River performed an inventory and analysis of existing capabilities, plans, programs, and policies that enhance its ability to implement mitigation strategies. Volume 1, Section 5 (Capability Assessment) describes the components included in the capability assessment and their significance for hazard mitigation planning. The jurisdictional assessment includes the following analyses:

- An assessment of legal and regulatory capabilities.



- Development and permitting capabilities.
- An assessment of administrative and technical capabilities.
- An assessment of fiscal capabilities.
- An assessment of education and outreach capabilities.
- Classification under various community mitigation programs.
- The community's adaptive capacity to withstand hazard events.

For a community to succeed in reducing long-term risk, hazard mitigation must be integrated into the day-to-day local government operations. As part of the hazard mitigation analysis, planning/policy documents were reviewed, and each jurisdiction was surveyed to obtain a better understanding of their progress toward plan integration. The updated mitigation strategy provided an opportunity for the Township of Bass River to identify opportunities for integration of mitigation concepts that can be incorporated into municipal procedures.

Planning, Legal, and Regulatory Capability and Integration

The table below summarizes the regulatory tools that are available to the Township of Bass River. The comment field provides information as to how the capability integrates hazard mitigation and risk reduction.

Table 9.2-2. Planning, Legal, and Regulatory Capability and Integration

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Individual / Department / Agency Responsible
Codes, Ordinances, & Regulations				
Building Code	Yes	Title 15 Building and Construction	Local	Zoning Officer
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> The Township has adopted the State Uniform Construction Code which sets standards for construction to protect against damages from hazard events. The BOCA Basic Fire Prevention Code and all amendments and supplements and the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code are enforced locally within the Township.				
Zoning/Land Use Code	Yes	Title 17 Zoning	Local	Zoning Officer
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> The specific purposes of this title are as follows: To guide and regulate the orderly growth and development of the Township in accordance with a comprehensive plan; to protect the established character and the social and economic well-being of the community; to secure safety from fire, panic, overcrowding and other dangers, and provide adequate light, air and property access; to lessen congestion and to facilitate adequate provision for transportation, schools, parks and other public facilities and services; to prevent overcrowding of land and buildings and avoid undue concentration of population; to preserve and enhance important characteristics of the natural environment, and to conform to the New Jersey Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan.				
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	Title 16 Subdivision and Site Plans	Local	Zoning Officer
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> The purpose of this title shall be to provide rules, regulations and standards to guide land subdivision and site planning in the township in order to promote the public health, safety, convenience and general welfare and to conform to the New Jersey Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan. It shall be administered to insure the orderly growth and development, the conservation, protection and proper use of land, and adequate provisions for circulation, utilities and services.				
Site Plan Ordinance	Yes	Title 16 Subdivision and Site Plans	Local	Zoning Officer



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Individual / Department / Agency Responsible
<p><i>How does this reduce risk?</i></p> <p>No subdivision or site plan approval request shall be accepted unless submitted in plat form and no plat shall be accepted for consideration unless it conforms to the following requirements as to form, content and accompanying information, and complies with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 46:23 et seq. (Map Filing Law), as amended. The plat shall be drawn by an engineer or land surveyor as required by law, licensed to practice in the state of New Jersey, and shall bear the signature, seal, license number and address of the engineer and/or land surveyor. Within the Pinelands area all plats, upon submission, must comply with additional requirements.</p>				
Stormwater Management Ordinance	Yes	Chapter 13.08 Stormwater Management	Local	Zoning Officer
<p><i>How does this reduce risk?</i></p> <p>The Township has two stormwater control standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model Stormwater Control Standards for Non-Pinelands Portion of Bass River Township : The purpose of this article is to establish minimum stormwater management requirements and controls for "major development." Model Stormwater Control Ordinance for Pinelands Area Municipalities: purpose of this article to establish minimum stormwater management requirements and controls for major development, consistent with the statewide stormwater requirements at N.J.A.C. 7:8, the regulations and standards contained in the Pinelands CMP, and the provisions of the adopted master plan and land use ordinances of the Township of Bass River. 				
Post-Disaster Recovery/ Reconstruction Ordinance	No	-	-	-
<p><i>How does this reduce risk?</i></p>				
Real Estate Disclosure	Yes	Senate Bill 3110; P. L. 2023, c. 93, July 3, 2023	State	Sellers and Landlords of commercial or residential property
<p><i>How does this reduce risk?</i></p> <p>For leases, the law amends the New Jersey Truth-in-Renting Act, N.J.S.A. 46:8-43 et seq., to require every landlord to notify in writing each of the landlord's tenants, prior to lease signing or renewal, whether the property is located in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Special Flood Hazard Area ("100-year floodplain") or Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area ("500-year floodplain") and if the landlord has actual knowledge that the rental premises or any portion of the parking areas of the real property containing the rental premises has been subjected to flooding. The law does not apply to (1) landlords who lease commercial space or residential dwellings for less than one month, (2) residential dwellings in a premises containing not more than two units, (3) owner-occupied premises containing not more than three units, or (4) hotels, motels, or other guest houses serving transient or seasonal guests for a period of less than 120 days.</p> <p>The model notice is to contain the heading "Flood Risk" and questions for the landlord to answer regarding the landlord's actual knowledge of past flooding of the property. The questions regarding the property being in a FEMA Special or Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area shall not contain the option for "unknown." To determine how the questions are to be answered, FEMA's current flood insurance rate maps for the leased premises area must be consulted. The landlord will be required to answer whether the rental premises or any portions of the parking areas of the real property containing the rental premises ever experienced any flood damage, water seepage, or pooled water due to a natural flood event and, if so, the number of times that has occurred.</p> <p>The notice to residential tenants must also indicate that flood insurance may be available to renters through FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program to cover their personal property and contents in the event of a flood and that standard renter's insurance does not typically cover flood damage.</p> <p>For sales, the law also amends the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8-1 et seq., to require sellers of real property to disclose, on the property condition disclosure statement, whether the property is located in the FEMA Special or Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area and any actual knowledge of the seller concerning flood risks of the property to the purchaser before the purchaser becomes obligated under any contract for the purchase of the property.</p> <p>The disclosure statement must contain the heading "Flood Risk" and ask the seller the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is any or all of the property in the Special Flood Hazard Area ("100-year floodplain") or a Moderate Risk Flood Hazard Area ("500-year floodplain") according to FEMA's current flood insurance rate maps? 				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Individual / Department / Agency Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the property subject to any requirement under federal law to obtain and maintain flood insurance on the property? Properties in the Special Flood Hazard Area with mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders are required to obtain and maintain flood insurance. Have you ever received assistance from, or are you aware of any previous owners receiving assistance from FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration, or any other federal disaster flood assistance for flood damage on the property? For properties that have received flood disaster assistance, the requirement to obtain flood insurance passes down to all future owners. Is there flood insurance on the property? A standard homeowner's insurance policy typically does not cover flood damage. Is there a FEMA elevation certificate available for the property? If so, it must be shared with the buyer. An elevation certificate is a FEMA form, completed by a licensed surveyor or engineer, that provides critical information about the flood risk of the property and is used by flood insurance providers to determine the appropriate insurance rating for the property. Have you ever filed a claim for flood damage to the property with any insurance provider? If the claim was approved, what was the amount received? Has the property experienced any flood damage, water seepage, or pooled water due to a natural flood event, such as heavy rainfall, coastal storm surge, tidal inundation, or river overflow? If so, how many times? 				
Not all provisions of this law have become effective at the time of the writing of this plan.				
Growth Management	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Environmental Protection Ordinance	Yes	Chapter 12.08 Trees; Chapter 15.28 Stream Encroachment	Local	Zoning Officer
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Chapter 12.08 Trees: The governing body of Bass River Township does herein declare that Pinelands forests are an important cultural, ecological, scenic and economic resource; sound management of the forest resource will ensure its sustainability, health and productivity; forestry is encouraged throughout the municipality as a means to sustain and protect the natural, cultural and social fabric of the Pinelands. It is the purpose of this ordinance to ensure that forestry activities are carried out in such a way as to provide for the long term maintenance and sustainability of Pinelands forests and forest resources.				
Chapter 15.28 Stream Encroachment: It is determined that the flood fringe areas of delineated streams within the township are subjected to flooding and that such flooding is a danger to the lives and properties of the public; that such flooding is also a danger to the natural resources of the township, Burlington County and state; and unregulated development, the placement of fill, or construction within these flood fringe areas results in increased flood damages, erosion damages and adverse impacts on the ecological resources within the downstream of the township. It is therefore determined that it is in the public's interest to regulate the development of real property within the flood fringe areas of delineated streams pursuant to the Flood Hazard Area Control Act, N.J.S.A. 58:16A-50 et seq. and related rules, N.J.A.C. 7-13 and to establish standards to regulate construction and the placement of fill within these areas. The township accepts the responsibility empowered to it by the Flood Hazard Area Control Act to regulate stream encroachments within the flood fringe areas of delineated streams.				
Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Yes	Chapter 15.24 Flood Hazard Areas	Local	Floodplain Administrator
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
It is the purpose of this chapter to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Protect human life and health; B. Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects; C. Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public; D. Minimize prolonged business interruptions; E. Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, streets, bridges located in areas of special flood hazard; F. Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas; G. Ensure that potential buyers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and H. Ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions. 				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Individual / Department / Agency Responsible
The flood damage prevention ordinance does not align with the updated model ordinance from NJ DEP.				
Wellhead Protection	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> There are no public wellheads in the Township.				
Emergency Management Ordinance	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Climate Change Ordinance	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Other	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Planning Documents				
Comprehensive/Master Plan	Yes	Master Plan, 2009	Local	Planning/Zoning Board
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> The Master Plan sets long term goals and guidance for development in the Township.				
Capital Improvement Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Disaster Debris Management Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Floodplain Management or Watershed Plan	Yes	Floodplain Management Plan, 2013; Watershed Management or Protection Plan, 2007	Local	Planning
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes	Municipal Stormwater Management Plan, 2007	Local	Planning
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> The municipal stormwater management plan (MSWMP) documents the strategy for the Bass River Township to address stormwater-related impacts. The creation of this plan is required by N.J.A.C. 7:14A-25 Municipal Stormwater Regulations. This plan contains all of the required elements described in N.J.A.C. 7:8 Stormwater Management Rules. The plan addresses groundwater recharge, stormwater quantity, and stormwater quality impacts by incorporating stormwater design and performance standards for new major development, defined as projects that disturb one or more acre of land. These standards are intended to minimize the adverse impact of stormwater runoff on water quality and water quantity and the loss of groundwater recharge that provides baseflow in receiving water bodies. The plan describes long-term operation and maintenance measures for existing and future stormwater facilities. A "build-out" analysis has not been included in this plan since the majority of land within the Township belongs to the state forest and a large portion of the Township falls under the Pinelands Commission jurisdiction requiring very low densities. The plan addresses the review and update of existing ordinances, the Township master plan, and other planning documents to allow for project designs that include low impact development techniques. The Township has no needs for a mitigation strategy therefore no variance or exemption of the design and performance standards will be permitted. The goals of this MSWMP are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Reduce flood damage, including damage to life and property; B. Minimize, to the extent practical, any increase in stormwater runoff from any new development; C. Reduce soil erosion from any development or construction project; D. Assure the adequacy of existing and proposed culverts and bridges, and other in-stream structures; E. Maintain groundwater recharge; F. Prevent, to the greatest extent feasible, an increase in nonpoint pollution; 				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Individual / Department / Agency Responsible
<p>G. Maintain the integrity of stream channels for their biological functions, as well as for drainage; H. Minimize pollutants in stormwater runoff from new and existing development to restore, enhance, and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of the state, to protect public health, to safeguard fish and aquatic life and scenic and ecological values, and to enhance the domestic, municipal, recreational, industrial, and other uses of water; and I. Protect public safety through the proper design and operation of stormwater basins. To achieve these goals, this plan outlines specific stormwater design and performance standards for new development. Additionally, the plan proposes stormwater management controls to address impacts from existing development. Preventative and corrective maintenance strategies are included in the plan to ensure long-term effectiveness of stormwater management facilities. The plan also outlines safety standards for stormwater infrastructure to be implemented to protect public safety.</p>				
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Open Space Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Urban Water Management Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Habitat Conservation Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Economic Development Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Shoreline Management Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Community Forest Management Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Transportation Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Agriculture Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Climate Action/ Resiliency/Sustainability Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Tourism Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Business/ Downtown Development Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Other	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Response/Recovery Planning				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Individual / Department / Agency Responsible
Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	Emergency Operation Plan, 2022	Local	OEM
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i> The Emergency Operations Plan covers short-term response to address emergency needs in hazard events.				
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Strategic Recovery Planning Report	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA)	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Post-Disaster Recovery Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Public Health Plan	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				
Other	No	-	-	-
<i>How does this reduce risk?</i>				

Development and Permitting Capability

The table below summarizes the capabilities of the Township of Bass River to oversee and track development.

Table 9.2-3. Development and Permitting Capability

Indicate if your jurisdiction implements the following	Yes/No	Comment:
Do you issue development permits? • If yes, what department is responsible?	No	The Township of Bass River has an Interlocal Service Agreement with the Township of Little Egg Harbor for building, electrical, and plumbing services. All three services are coordinated through the Little Egg Harbor Construction Office located in the Little Egg Harbor Administrative Building, 665 Radio Road in Little Egg Harbor.
If you do not issue development permits, what is your process for tracking new development?	N/A	Maintain communication with the Township of Little Egg Harbor.
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	No	-
Do you have a buildable land inventory? • If yes, please describe	No	-
Describe the level of build-out in your jurisdiction.	N/A	There is little to no areas remaining for future development in the Township. Much of the land in the Township is located within the



Indicate if your jurisdiction implements the following	Yes/No	Comment:
		Pinelands Preservation, Special Agricultural Production, or Coastal Wetlands. Redevelopment may be possible within Highway Commercial, Rural Development, and Village Commercial zones.

Administrative and Technical Capability

The table below summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to the Township of Bass River and their current responsibilities that contribute to hazard mitigation.

Table 9.2-4. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comments (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Administrative Capability		
Planning Board	Yes	The Bass River Township Planning Board has the following powers and responsibilities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt and amend the master plan; 2. Review and participate in the state and federal programs; 3. Administer site plan and subdivision ordinances; 4. Assemble data on a continued basis; 5. Prepare the six-year capital improvements program; 6. Report to the municipal governing body on proposed development regulations submitted to the board by the governing body within thirty-five (35) days after submission to the board; and 7. To exercise authority regarding the preservation of historic resources and issue certificates of appropriateness
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Yes	The Zoning Board of Adjustment has power to interpret provisions of this title in proceedings before the board and to interpret any terms, clause, or word in the title. Such interpretative powers also applies to the zoning map. The zoning board of adjustment may grant variances from undue hardship
Planning Department	No	-
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	-
Environmental Board/Commission	No	The Environmental Commission for the Township is no longer active.
Open Space Board/Committee	No	-
Economic Development Commission/Committee	No	-
Public Works/Highway Department	Yes	Public Works is responsible for the Township dump, tree trimming, traffic diversion, and street plowing.



Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comments (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
		Public Works played a large role in assisting during the covid-19 pandemic.
Construction/Building/Code Enforcement Department	Yes	The Township of Bass River has an Interlocal Service Agreement with the Township of Little Egg Harbor for building, electrical, and plumbing services. All three services are coordinated through the Little Egg Harbor Construction Office located in the Little Egg Harbor Administrative Building, 665 Radio Road in Little Egg Harbor.
Emergency Management/Public Safety Department	Yes	<p>Bass River Township Office of Emergency Management.</p> <p>Bass River Township is serviced by the New Jersey State Police out of the Tuckerton barracks. Bass River Township is serviced by the New Gretna Volunteer Fire Company located on North Maple Avenue between the Municipal Building and the Bass River Elementary School.</p> <p>Bass River Township is part of the Burlington County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Pinelands Regional CERT Team. The Pinelands Team consist of teams from Bass River, Medford, Shamong, and Tabernacle. Each township team is under control of the local Township Emergency Management Coordinator. William Lowe, the Tabernacle Emergency Management Coordinator, is the overall Coordinator for Pinelands Regional CERT.</p> <p>CERT Members must go through a 20 hour training program and are not permitted to self-activate. They operate under the direction of the Pinelands or local coordinator.</p>
Warning Systems / Services (mass notification system, outdoor warning signals, etc.)	Yes	The Township uses the County emergency notification system. The Burlington County Emergency Notification System is switching providers from CodeRED to Swift911 in order to save money and better coordinate with surrounding counties.
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (stormwater maintenance, tree trimming, etc.)	Yes	Public Works completes tree trimming and stormwater maintenance. The NJ Forest Fire Service maintains fire break plowing annually and controlled burns every other year.
Mutual aid agreements	Yes	Mutual aid agreements are in place with surrounding municipalities
Human Resources Manual <i>e.g., Do any job descriptions specifically include identifying or implementing mitigation projects or other efforts to reduce natural hazard risk?</i>	No	-



Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comments (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Other	No	-
Technical/Staffing Capability		
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Yes	Guzzi Engineering
Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices	Yes	Guzzi Engineering
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	Yes	Guzzi Engineering
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	No	-
Professionals trained in conducting damage assessments	Yes	Tax assessor or engineer
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS and/or Hazards United States (HAZUS) – Multi-Hazards (MH) applications	No	-
Environmental scientist familiar with natural hazards	Yes	Guzzi Engineering
Surveyor(s)	Yes	Guzzi Engineering
Emergency Manager	Yes	David Cope, Emergency Management Coordinator
Grant writer(s) <i>Consider the following - Are data and maps from the HMP used to support documentation in grant applications?</i>	No	-
Resilience Officer	No	-
Other (this could include stormwater engineer, environmental specialist, etc.)	No	-

Fiscal Capability

The table below summarizes financial resources available to the Township of Bass River.

Table 9.2-5. Fiscal Capabilities

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use? (Yes/No)
Community development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	Yes
Capital improvements project funding	No
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	No
User fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	No
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	No
Stormwater utility fee	No
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
Incur debt through special tax bonds	Yes
Incur debt through private activity bonds	Yes
Withhold public expenditures in hazard-prone areas	Yes
Other federal or state Funding Programs	Yes
Open Space Acquisition funding programs	No
Other (for example, Clean Water Act 319 Grants [Nonpoint Source Pollution])	No



Education and Outreach Capability

The table below summarizes the education and outreach resources available to the Township of Bass River.

Table 9.2-6. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Outreach Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment:
Public information officer or communications office	No	-
Personnel skilled or trained in website development	No	-
Hazard mitigation information available on your website	Yes	Bass River Township has a website where one can access information about Township departments, government, community, business, minutes and agendas, ordinances, forms and documents, and see news and announcements and the Township calendar with upcoming meetings. The Township has information on the homepage for residents to search for FEMA flood data and on flood insurance premiums.
Social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach	Yes	OEM has a Facebook account, New Gretna has a Facebook account.
Citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation	No	-
Warning systems for hazard events	Yes	Sirens, county can trigger reverse 911.
Natural disaster/safety programs in place for schools	No	The Bass River Township Elementary School has closed. Students now attend Little Egg Harbor elementary schools in Ocean County.
Does the jurisdiction have any public outreach mechanisms / programs in place to inform citizens on natural hazards, risk, and ways to protect themselves during such events? • If yes, please describe.	No	-

Community Classifications

The table below summarizes classifications for community programs available to the Township of Bass River.

Table 9.2-7. Community Classifications

Program	Participating? (Yes/No)	Classification (if applicable)	Date Classified (if applicable)
Community Rating System (CRS)	No	-	-
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	No	-	-
Public Protection (ISO Fire Protection Classes 1 to 10)	Yes*	Unsure	-
Storm Ready Certification	No	-	-
Firewise Communities classification	No	-	-



New Jersey Sustainable Jersey Community	No	-	-
Other	No	-	-

Note:

N/A Not applicable

NP Not participating

- Unavailable

* At the time of this plan update, the Township was unsure of the classification and date classified for its participation in the Public Protection (ISO Fire Protection Classes 1 to 10) program.

Adaptive Capacity

Adaptive capacity is defined as “the ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or respond to consequences” (IPCC 2014). Each jurisdiction has a unique combination of capabilities to adjust to, protect from, and withstand a future hazard event, future conditions, and changing risk. The table below summarizes the adaptive capacity for each identified hazard of concern and the jurisdiction’s capability to address related actions using the following classifications:

- Strong: Capacity exists and is in use.
- Moderate: Capacity might exist; but is not used or could use some improvement.
- Weak: Capacity does not exist or could use substantial improvement.

Table 9.2-8. Adaptive Capacity

Hazard	Adaptive Capacity – Strong/Moderate/Weak
Dam Failure	Moderate
Disease Outbreak	Strong
Drought	Moderate
Earthquake	Moderate
Extreme Temperature	Strong
Flood	Moderate
Severe Weather	Moderate
Severe Winter Weather	Strong
Wildfire	Moderate

9.2.4 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Compliance

This section provides specific information on the management and regulation of the regulatory floodplain, including current and future compliance with the NFIP.

NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA)

Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Summary

The following table summarizes the NFIP statistics for the Township of Bass River.



Table 9.2-9. NFIP Summary

Active Policies	Total Premium in Force	Number of Losses	Total Net Payment	Repetitive Loss Properties
31	\$27,048	46	\$1,248,920.15	4

Source: NFIP 2023
 Notes: Data current as of October 2023
 RL Repetitive Loss
 SRL Severe Repetitive Loss
 RL FMA Definition Any insurable building that has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.
 RL NFIP Definition Any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) within any rolling ten-year period, since 1978.

Flood Vulnerability Summary

The following table provides a summary of the NFIP program in the Township of Bass River.

Table 9.2-10. NFIP Summary

NFIP Topic	Comments
Flood Vulnerability Summary	
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you maintain a list of properties that have been damaged by flooding? 	Along Bass River, Mullica River, and tributaries.
Do you maintain a list of property owners interested in flood mitigation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many homeowners and/or business owners are interested in mitigation (elevation or acquisition)? 	None interested since Sandy recovery.
Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, state what projects are underway. 	No
How do you make Substantial Damage determinations? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many were declared for recent flood events in your jurisdiction? 	OEM and the tax assessor are responsible for substantial damage determinations. The Township uses the traditional 50 percent threshold for substantial damage. Staff are trained in windshield assessments.
How many properties have been mitigated (elevation or acquisition) in your jurisdiction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there are mitigated properties, how were the projects funded? 	Several homes were elevated post-Sandy.
Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If not, state why. 	Yes
NFIP Compliance	
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Engineer
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	No
Do you have access to resources to determine possible future flooding conditions from climate change?	Yes, Rutgers and NJDEP.



NFIP Topic	Comments
Does your floodplain management staff need any assistance or training to support its floodplain management program? • If so, what type of assistance/training is needed?	None at this time
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services you provide (e.g. permit review, GIS, education/outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Permit review, inspections, etc.
How do you determine if proposed development on an existing structure would qualify as a substantial improvement?	50 percent
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Staffing, funding
Does your jurisdiction have any outstanding NFIP compliance violations that need to be addressed? • If so, state the violations.	No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?	According to State records, the Township has not had a CAC or CAV visit.
• What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance? • What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	Chapter 15.24 Flood Hazard Areas 2013
Does your floodplain management program meet or exceed minimum requirements? • If exceeds, in what ways?	Meet
Are there other local ordinances, plans or programs (e.g., site plan review) that support floodplain management and meeting the NFIP requirements? For instance, does the planning board or zoning board consider efforts to reduce flood risk when reviewing variances such as height restrictions?	Stormwater ordinance
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No

9.2.5 Growth/Development Trends

Understanding how past, current, and projected development patterns have or are likely to increase or decrease risk in hazard areas is a key component to appreciating a jurisdiction’s overall risk to its hazards of concern. The table below summarizes recent and expected future development trends, including major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development.

Table 9.2-11. Number of Building Permits for New Construction

Type of Development	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA	Total	Within SFHA
Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the previous HMP* (total/within regulatory floodplain)										
Single Family										
Multi-Family										



Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)										
Total Permits Issued										

SFHA Special Flood Hazard Area (1% annual chance flood event)

* Only location-specific hazard zones or vulnerabilities identified.

Table 9.2-12. Recent and Expected Future Development

Property or Development Name	Type (e.g., Res., Comm.)	# of Units / Structures	Address and Parcel ID	Known Hazard Zone(s)	Description/Status of Development
Recent Major Development from 2019 to Present					
None Identified					
Known or Anticipated Major Development in the Next Five (5) Years					
None Anticipated					

9.2.6 Jurisdictional Risk Assessment

The hazard profiles in Volume 1, Section 4 (Risk Assessment) provide detailed information regarding each plan participant’s vulnerability to the identified hazards. Section 4.2 (Methodology) and Section 4.4 (Hazard Ranking) provide detailed summaries for the Township of Bass River’s risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking discussed later in this section.

Hazard area extent and location maps provided below illustrate the probable areas impacted within the jurisdiction based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this plan and are adequate for planning purposes. Maps were generated only for those hazards that can be identified clearly using mapping techniques and technologies and for which the Township of Bass River has significant exposure. The maps also show the location of potential new development, where available.



Figure 9.2-1. Township of Bass River Hazard Area Extent and Location Map 1

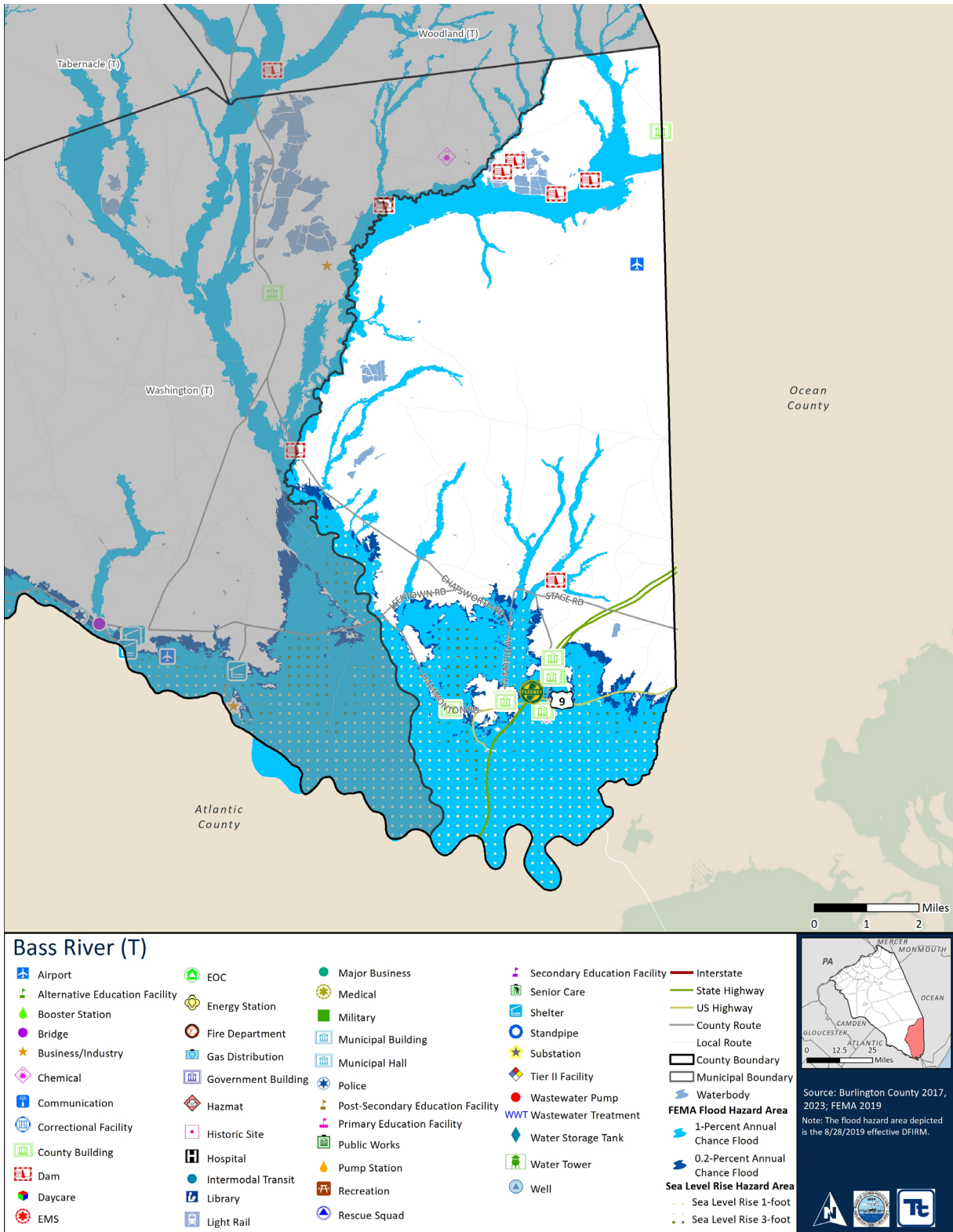
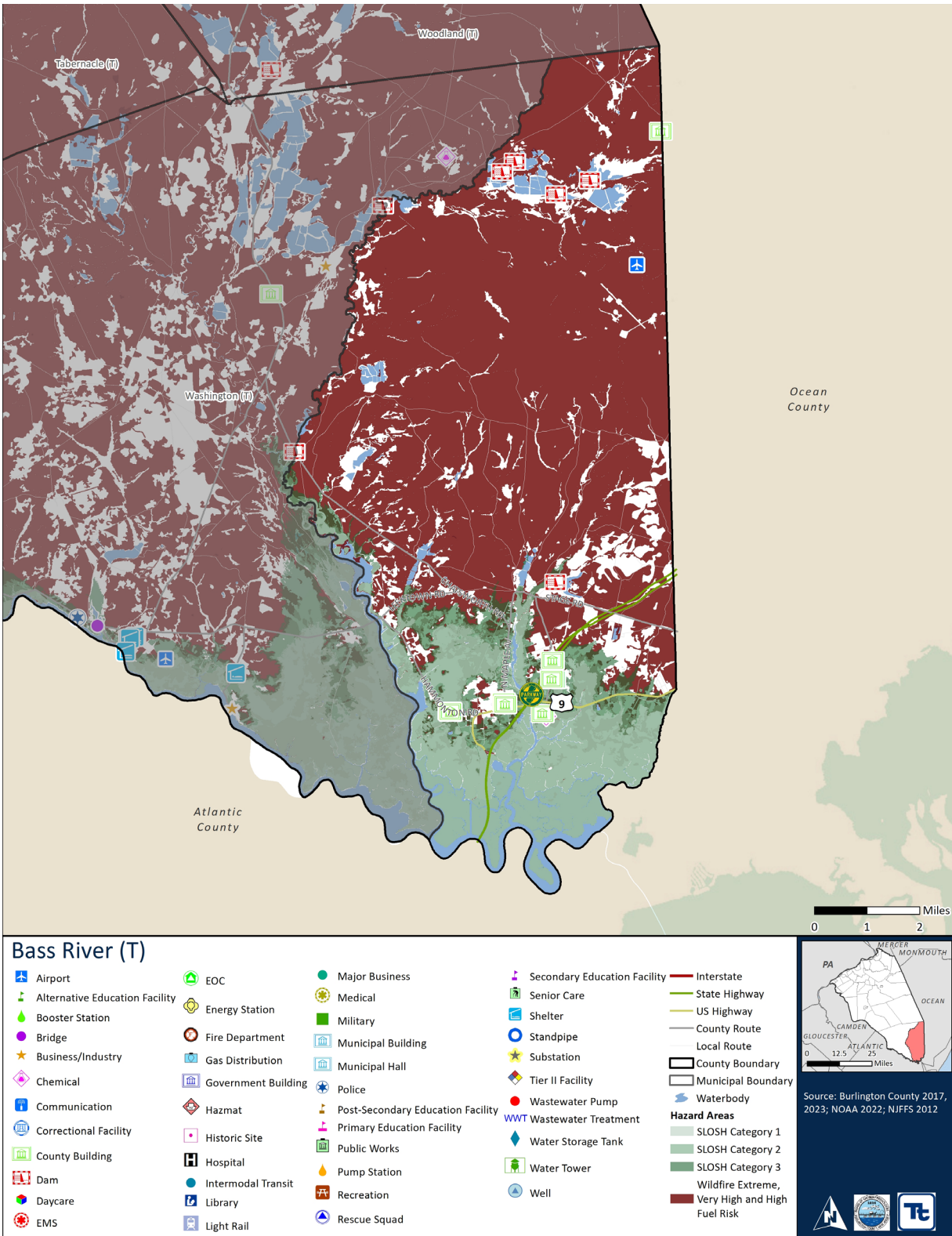




Figure 9.2-2. Township of Bass River Hazard Area Extent and Location Map 2





Hazard Event History

Burlington County has a history of natural and non-natural hazard events, as detailed in Volume I, Section 4 (Risk Assessment). A summary of historical events is provided in each of the hazard profiles and includes a chronology of events that have affected the County and its municipalities.

The Township of Bass River’s history of federally declared (as presented by FEMA) and significant hazard events [as presented in NOAA-National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)] is consistent with that of the County. The table below provides details regarding municipal-specific loss and damages the Township of Bass River experienced during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update. Information provided in the table below is based on reference material or local sources.

Table 9.2-13. Hazard Event History Since 2019

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration if applicable)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Municipal Summary of Damages and Losses
January 20, 2020 – May 11, 2023	Covid-19 Pandemic (EM-3451-NJ, DR-4488-NJ)	Yes	Burlington County accounted for 115,985 positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of New Jersey, and 1,265 of the reported deaths. A total of 991,269 vaccinations were delivered in the County to both residents and non-residents.	The Township was subject to closures and masking/social distancing requirements. A testing and vaccination site was set up.
August 4, 2020	Tropical Storm Isaias (DR-4574-NJ)	Yes	Tropical Storm Isaias brought high winds and heavy rain to Burlington County; some areas of the County reported more than 6 inches over several hours. Burlington County Central Communications fielded over 400 emergency calls and 1,400 non-emergency calls, many for flooded basements and residences.	Although the County was impacted, the Township did not report damages.
September 1-3, 2021	Remnants of Hurricane Ida (EM-3573-NJ, DR-4614-NJ)	Yes	The remnants of Hurricane Ida produced heavy rainfall, flash floods, and a tornado (EF-1) that moved through Edgewater Park, Beverly, Burlington Township and Burlington City. Rainfall totals exceed 3 inches in parts of County; 4 water rescues occurred due to flash flooding.	Although the County was impacted, the Township did not report damages.
June 2, 2023	Wildfire	N/A	A wildfire in Bass River State Forest of roughly 5,000 acres resulted in dense smoke. An	The Garden State Parkway was closed between the Exit 38 and Exit 63.



Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration if applicable)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Municipal Summary of Damages and Losses
			inversion in the atmosphere caused a combination of smoke and fog to reduce visibility to dangerous levels.	

Source: FEMA 2023, NOAA NCEI 2023

Notes:

DR Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA)

EM Emergency Declaration (FEMA)

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

N/A Not applicable

Hazard Ranking and Vulnerabilities

The hazard profiles in Volume 1, Section 4 (Risk Assessment) have detailed information regarding each plan participant’s vulnerability to the identified hazards. The following summarizes the Township of Bass River’s risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking.

Hazard Ranking

This section provides the community specific identification of the primary hazard concerns based on identified problems, impacts and the results of the risk assessment as presented in Volume 1, Section 4 (Risk Assessment). The ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard; the potential impacts of the hazard on people, property, and the economy; and community capabilities to address the hazard and changing future climate conditions. Mitigation action development uses the inputs from the evaluation to target those hazards with highest level of concern.

As discussed in Volume 1, Section 4.4 (Hazard Ranking), each participating jurisdiction has differing degrees of risk exposure and vulnerability compared with the County as a whole. Therefore, each municipality ranked the degree of risk to each hazard as it pertains to their community. The table below summarizes the hazard risk/vulnerability rankings of potential natural hazards for the Township of Bass River. The Township of Bass River reviewed the County hazard risk/vulnerability risk ranking table and individual results to reflect the relative risk of the hazards of concern to the community.

Table 9.2-14. Hazard Ranking Input

Hazard	Hazard Ranking – High/Medium/Low
Dam Failure	Medium
Disease Outbreak	Medium
Drought	Low
Earthquake	Low
Extreme Temperature	Medium
Flood	High
Severe Weather	High
Severe Winter Weather	Medium



Hazard	Hazard Ranking – High/Medium/Low
Wildfire	High

Critical Facilities

The table below identifies critical facilities and lifelines in the community located in the 1-percent and 0.2-percent floodplain and presents Hazus-MH estimates of the damage and loss of use to critical facilities as a result of a 1-percent annual chance flood event.

Table 9.2-15. Potential Flood Losses to Critical Facilities and Community Lifelines

Name	Type	Exposure	
		1% Event	0.2% Event
75 - Highway Maint Gas Station - New Gretna	County Building	Yes	Yes
Lake Absegami Dam	Dam	Yes	Yes
Harrisville Dams, New Jersey No Name # 107 Dam	Dam	Yes	Yes
Harrisville Dams, New Jersey No Name # 108 Dam	Dam	Yes	Yes

Source: Burlington County 2023; Burlington County Planning Partnership 2023; FEMA 2019

Identified Issues

After review of the Township of Bass River’s hazard event history, hazard rankings, jurisdiction specific vulnerabilities, hazard area extent and location, and current capabilities, the Township of Bass River identified the following vulnerabilities within their community:

- A recent audit of New Jersey’s model ordinances by FEMA for conformance with NFIP, resulted in a review of existing local flood damage prevention ordinances. Based upon FEMA’s review, specific language related to NFIP regulations was not consistent. Additionally, it was determined that better coordination was needed between the three sets of regulations that regulate development and construction in the floodplain. These regulations are: the NFIP implemented by local floodplain administrators, the New Jersey Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) implemented at the State level by the NJDEP, and the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) implemented by the local Construction Official. NJDEP used this feedback to develop a model Code Coordinated Ordinance and continues to work with municipalities to update flood damage prevention ordinances to the Code Coordinated Ordinance.
- Major disaster events can result in large amounts of debris that overwhelm normal trash collection operations. Depending on the amount generated, temporary staging areas for debris collection may be needed. The municipality does not have a disaster debris management plan in place. During a disaster that results in debris, the municipality plan with outlined responsibilities is needed to adequately address post-disaster cleanup operations.
- The municipality does not have a Substantial Damage Management Plan in place, nor do they have a formal process in place when conducting substantial damage determinations. The



municipality is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.

- Frequent flooding events have resulted in damages to residential properties. These properties have been repetitively flooded as documented by paid NFIP claims. The Township has four repetitive loss properties, but other properties may be impacted by flooding as well. At risk areas include Bucto Lane and Route 9.
- While the New Jersey Forest Fire Service completes prescribed burns to reduce available fuel for forest fires, private property is not maintained and can result in high wildfire risk for individual properties.
- The Township does not have an emergency shelter in place. The Bass River Elementary School closed in 2019 and was recently sold to a private owner who plans to remodel the facility.
- The National Weather Service (NWS) provides a certification called StormReady to locales that adopt certain weather preparedness principles and planning. The Township is currently not a member of the StormReady program.

**This issue was identified as a specific area of concern based on resident response to the Franklin County Hazard Mitigation public survey.*

9.2.7 Mitigation Strategy and Prioritization

This section discusses past mitigations actions and status, describes proposed hazard mitigation initiatives, and prioritizes actions to address over the next five years.

Past Mitigation Initiative Status

The following table indicates progress on the community's mitigation strategy identified in the 2019 HMP. Actions that are in progress are carried forward and combined with new actions as part of this plan update and are included in the tables with prioritization. Previous actions that are now on-going programs and capabilities are indicated as such and previously presented in the 'Capability Assessment' earlier in this annex.



Table 9.2-16. Status of Previous Mitigation Actions

Project #	Project	Responsible Party	What is the status? (e.g., In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed) If in progress or completed, please describe the funding source, cost and who is implementing.	If you did not complete the action, should the action be included in the 2024 HMP (i.e., there is still a need, this is still a priority)?		
				Yes/No	If Yes, please describe the original problem (i.e., hazard, location, historic losses)	If Yes, identify the responsible department/person to implement the project.
BR- 1 (former BR-1)	Install new infrastructure at the end of Amasas Landing Rd.	Bass River OEM and Board of Commissioners	Completed. Retaining wall was completed.	No	-	-
BR- 2 (former BR-3)	Public Outreach/Education in storm and flood preparedness and notification procedures.	OEM Board of Commissioners	Ongoing capability	No	-	-
BR- 3 (former BR-4)	Provide planning and engineering information to residents and businesses. Include information on acquisition, elevation, and relocation, structural modifications, flood proofing, or relocation.	Township Engineer Board of Commissioners OEM	Ongoing capability. Information available Town Hall	No	-	-
BR- 4 (former BR-5)	Evaluate and repair flood prone areas on US#9, CR 542, and Maple Ave.	NJ DOT County DOT	No Progress	No	-	-
BR- 5 (former BR-7)	Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to promote natural hazard risk reduction to include: • Disaster preparedness • Hazard mitigation	Municipality with support from Planning Partners, County Planning, NJOEM, FEMA	Ongoing capability	No	-	-
BR-6 (former BR-8)	Improve municipal communications systems to include information sharing with county and surrounding municipalities.	OEM with support from County, NJOEM and FEMA	Complete	No	-	-
BR- 7 (former BR-13)	Enhance resilience to severe storms by joining the NOAA "Storm Ready" program.	OEM with support from County, NJOEM and FEMA	No Progress	Yes	The Township is currently not a	OEM



Project #	Project	Responsible Party	What is the status? (e.g., In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed) If in progress or completed, please describe the funding source, cost and who is implementing.	If you did not complete the action, should the action be included in the 2024 HMP (i.e., there is still a need, this is still a priority)?		
				Yes/No	If Yes, please describe the original problem (i.e., hazard, location, historic losses)	If Yes, identify the responsible department/person to implement the project.
					member of the StormReady program.	
BR-8	Coordinate with the facility managers at County Buildings in the Township to support the mitigation of vulnerable structures via retrofit (e.g. elevation, flood-proofing) or relocation to protect structures from future damage. Phase 1: Identify most cost-effective mitigation option Phase 2: Work with facility manager to implement selected action based on available funding and local match ability.	Municipality with support from County	Discontinue	No	-	-
BR-9	Coordinate with the facility managers at Viking Yacht Co. Corp in the Township to support the mitigation of vulnerable structures via retrofit (e.g. elevation, flood-proofing) or relocation to protect structures from future damage. Phase 1: Identify most cost-effective mitigation option Phase 2: Work with facility manager to implement selected action based on available funding and local match ability.	Municipality with support from County	Ongoing Capability. Viking Yacht continues to be a close partner with the Township. The Corporation and Township regularly discuss risk reduction and provide support to one another.	No	-	-
BR-10	During future updates of the Master Plan, Floodplain Management Plan, or the Emergency Operation Plan, work to integrate hazard mitigation	Municipality	Ongoing capability	No	-	-



Project #	Project	Responsible Party	What is the status? (e.g., In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed) If in progress or completed, please describe the funding source, cost and who is implementing.	If you did not complete the action, should the action be included in the 2024 HMP (i.e., there is still a need, this is still a priority)?		
				Yes/No	If Yes, please describe the original problem (i.e., hazard, location, historic losses)	If Yes, identify the responsible department/person to implement the project.
	principles and recommendations into the plans. Additionally, use these hazard mitigation principles and plan recommendations to update local building and zoning codes to create a more resilient community.					
BR-11	<p>The Township will promote and support non-structural flood hazard mitigation alternatives for at risk properties within the floodplain, specifically those that have been identified as Repetitive Loss (RL) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL). At risk areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bucto Lane Route 9 <p>Alternatives would include acquisition/relocation or elevation depending on feasibility, and the completion of initiative is dependent on funding, benefits versus cost, and willing participation of property owners.</p>	Municipality with support from County	In Progress. Repetitive loss mitigation has continued since Superstorm Sandy. The Township has several repetitive loss properties remaining.	Yes	Frequent flooding events have resulted in damages to residential properties. These properties have been repetitively flooded as documented by paid NFIP claims. The Township has four repetitive loss properties, but other properties may be impacted by flooding as well. At risk areas include Bucto Lane and Route 9.	Floodplain administrator



Additional Mitigation Efforts

In addition to the mitigation initiatives completed in the table above, the Township of Bass River identified the following mitigation efforts completed since the last HMP:

- The Harrisville Dam had many trees growing on the earthen berm surrounding the dam, leading to concerns that falling trees or continued growth could result in failure of the berm. The trees were removed, and the berm was regraded in 2017.
- The white pines surrounding the 80-foot Bass River State Forest fire tower had grown to the point that views from the fire tower were obstructed. The New Jersey Forest Fire Service conducted clear cutting of the large pines to restore views in 2020.

Proposed Hazard Mitigation Initiatives for the HMP Update

The Township of Bass River participated in a mitigation action workshop in October 2023 and was provided the following FEMA publications to use as a resource as part of their comprehensive review of all possible activities and mitigation measures to address their hazards: FEMA 551 'Selecting Appropriate Mitigation Measures for Flood prone Structures' (March 2007) and FEMA 'Mitigation Ideas – A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards' (January 2013).

The table below indicates the range of proposed mitigation action categories. Both the four FEMA mitigation action categories and the six CRS mitigation action categories are listed in the table to further demonstrate the wide range of activities and mitigation measures selected.

Table 9.2-17. Analysis of Mitigation Actions by Hazard and Category

Hazard	FEMA						CRS			
	LPR	SIP	NSP	EAP	PR	PP	PI	NR	SP	ES
Dam Failure	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Disease Outbreak		X				X				X
Drought	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Earthquake	X	X			X	X				X
Extreme Temperature	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Flood	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Severe Weather	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Severe Winter Weather	X	X		X	X	X	X			X
Wildfire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X

Note: Mitigation categories are described below the Mitigation Initiatives.



The following pages list the specific mitigation initiatives Township of Bass River would like to pursue in the future to reduce the effects of hazards. The initiatives are dependent upon available funding (grants and local match availability) and may be modified or omitted at any time based on the occurrence of new hazard events and changes in Township priorities.

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Action 2024-Bass River-01. Code Coordinated Ordinance

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator
Supporting Agencies:	Construction Official, Administration, NFIP State Coordinator, FEMA Regional Office
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Flood
Description of the Problem:	A recent audit of New Jersey’s model ordinances by FEMA for conformance with NFIP, resulted in a review of existing local flood damage prevention ordinances. Based upon FEMA’s review, specific language related to NFIP regulations was not consistent. Additionally, it was determined that better coordination was needed between the three sets of regulations that regulate development and construction in the floodplain. These regulations are: the NFIP implemented by local floodplain administrators, the New Jersey Flood Hazard Area Control Act (FHACA) implemented at the State level by the NJDEP, and the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) implemented by the local Construction Official. NJDEP used this feedback to develop a model Code Coordinated Ordinance and continues to work with municipalities to update flood damage prevention ordinances to the Code Coordinated Ordinance.
Description of the Solution:	After obtaining the appropriate review and concurrence by the NFIP State Coordinator and the FEMA Regional Office, the municipality will update and adopt the Code Coordinated Ordinance.
Estimated Cost:	Staff time
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years
Goals Met:	1, 2, 5, 7
Benefits:	The updated ordinance will improve floodplain management, meet NFIP requirements, and increase resilience of new and substantially improved structures in the floodplain.
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The action will result in better regulation of construction standards within the Special Flood Hazard Area where significant risk to socially vulnerable populations exists.
Impact on Future Development:	The action will result in stronger regulation of construction standards for future development in the Special Flood Hazard Area.
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Critical facilities and lifelines located in the Special Flood Hazard Area will be required to meet the same requirements as general building construction that are set forth in the ordinance.
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will improve floodplain management capabilities through better outlining of responsibilities and administrative procedures.
Climate Change Considerations:	The updated ordinance includes the State’s higher standards that are in place to address heightened flood risk due to climate change such as



	those for floodway rise and mandatory freeboard have been incorporated in these new model ordinances.	
Mitigation Category:	Local Plans and Regulations	
CRS Category:	Preventative	
Priority:	Medium	
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	Current problem exists
	Modify existing flood damage prevention ordinance	Time intensive
	Leave NFIP	Residents lose flood insurance coverage

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Action 2024-Bass River-02. Disaster Debris Management Plan

Lead Agency:	Public Works	
Supporting Agencies:	OEM	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Dam Failure, Drought, Earthquake, Extreme Temperature, Flood, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	Major disaster events can result in large amounts of debris that overwhelm normal trash collection operations. Depending on the amount generated, temporary staging areas for debris collection may be needed. The municipality does not have a disaster debris management plan in place. During a disaster that results in debris, the municipality plan with outlined responsibilities is needed to adequately address post-disaster cleanup operations.	
Description of the Solution:	The municipality will develop a disaster debris management plan. This plan will establish procedures and guidelines for managing disaster debris in a coordinated, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective manner. The plan will identify responsibilities for execution of the plan. The plan will align with permitted temporary collection areas.	
Estimated Cost:	Staff time	
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals:	5, 6	
Benefits:	The action will result in increased quicker and more efficient cleanup after disaster events.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	N/A	
Impact on Future Development:	N/A	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	N/A	
Impact on Capabilities:	The action will result in increased post disaster capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events. This action will increase the capabilities to respond to these events.	
Mitigation Category:	Local Plans and Regulations	
CRS Category:	Emergency Services	
Priority:	High	
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	-



	Rely on federal cleanup	These services may or may not be available
	Rely on state cleanup	These services may or may not be available

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Action 2024-Bass River-03. Substantial Damage Management Plan

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator
Supporting Agencies:	OEM, Tax Assessor, Public Works
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Dam Failure, Drought, Earthquake, Extreme Temperature, Flood, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	<p>Officials in NFIP-participating communities are responsible for regulating all development in SFHAs by issuing permits and enforcing local floodplain requirements, including Substantial Damage, for the repairs of damaged buildings. After any disaster event, they must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine where the damage occurred within the community and if the damaged structures are in an SFHA. • Determine what to use for “market value” and cost to repair; uniformly applying regulations will protect against liability and promote equitable administration. • Determine if repairing plus improving the damaged structure equals or exceeds 50% of the structure’s pre-damage value. • Require permits for floodplain development. <p>The municipality does not have a Substantial Damage Management Plan in place, nor do they have a formal process in place when conducting substantial damage determinations. The municipality is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.</p>
Description of the Solution:	<p>The municipality will develop a Substantial Damage Management Plan, following the six step planning process in 2021 <i>Developing a Substantial Damage Management Plan</i> (https://crsresources.org/files/500/developing_subst_damage_mgmt_plan.pdf). This plan will outline responsibilities for Substantial Damage determinations, determining market value, and permit approval processes following a disaster event.</p>
Estimated Cost:	Low
Potential Funding Sources:	Municipal budget
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years to develop the plan; ongoing to maintain and update the plan
Goals Met:	1, 2 5, 7
Benefits:	This plan will provide a process in making Substantial Damage Determinations and allow the municipality to make these determinations and meet NFIP requirements more quickly.
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Substantially damaged structures are required to be rebuilt to be compliance with current codes. Socially vulnerable populations may not have the financial means to make these improvements. This action may allow for the identification of potential resources to address substantial damages to structures owned by socially vulnerable populations.



Impact on Future Development:	A Substantial Damage Management Plan would include all existing, current, and future development in the municipality.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	A Substantial Damage Management Plan would include all critical facilities and lifelines in the municipality.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action improves disaster recovery capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events. This action provides additional planning for disaster recovery.	
Mitigation Category:	Local Plans and Regulations	
CRS Category:	Emergency Services, Preventative	
Priority:	Medium	
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	-
	Rely on state or federal resources following disaster events	Resources may not be available during major widespread events
	Establish MOUs with outside agencies to conduct Substantial Damage Determinations	A plan outlining responsibilities is still necessary to prevent missing important requirements

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Action 2024-Bass River-04. Repetitive Loss Mitigation

Lead Agency:	Floodplain Administrator
Supporting Agencies:	Administration
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Flood, Severe Weather
Description of the Problem:	Frequent flooding events have resulted in damages to residential properties. These properties have been repetitively flooded as documented by paid NFIP claims. The Township has four repetitive loss properties, but other properties may be impacted by flooding as well. At risk areas include Bucto Lane and Route 9.
Description of the Solution:	The Township will conduct outreach to 10 flood-prone property owners, including RL/SRL property owners and provide information on mitigation alternatives. After preferred mitigation measures are identified, collect required property-owner information and develop a FEMA grant application and BCA to obtain funding to implement acquisition/purchase/moving/elevating residential homes in the flood prone areas that experience frequent flooding (high risk areas).
Estimated Cost:	Staff time
Potential Funding Sources:	BRIC, FMA, HMGP, match from property owners
Implementation Timeline:	2 years
Goals Met:	1, 2
Benefits:	Eliminates flood damage to homes and residences, which creating an open space for the municipality and increasing flood storage.
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collecting data regarding homeowners that reside within flood prone areas provides an opportunity to introduce location-specific opportunities for assistance. Removing homes from the floodplain immediately removes the risk to life and property.
Impact on Future Development:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased outreach to homeowners within a flood prone area will limit construction in areas that are prone to hazard events. Homes may be acquired, which will remove those structures from the floodplain and prevent future development on those sites.
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Removing structures from the floodplain decreases the demand on utilities and emergency services including health and medical, law enforcement, and search and rescue.
Impact on Capabilities:	Removing the risk from the immediate floodplain via acquisition of properties will free up resources for search and rescue and other emergency operations as needed.
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the frequency and severity of severe rainfall, flash flooding, riverine flooding, and coastal flooding from sea level rise and storm surge events. Removing structures from the floodplain will reduce the response and recovery costs as a result of these events, and decrease the loss of human life as a result of these events.



	Elevating structures will reduce the recovery costs as a result of these events.	
Mitigation Category:	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
CRS Category:	Property Protection	
Priority:	High	
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	-
	Levee around floodplain	Costly, not enough room
	Deployable flood barriers	Requires deployment. Residents may not have adequate time to deploy, especially those who are elderly or disabled.

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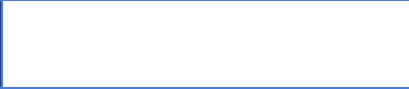
Action 2024-Bass River-05. Outreach on Private Burn Permitting

Lead Agency:	OEM	
Supporting Agencies:	Administration	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	While the New Jersey Forest Fire Service completes prescribed burns to reduce available fuel for forest fires, private property is not maintained and can result in high wildfire risk for individual properties.	
Description of the Solution:	The Township will explain the limitations of the New Jersey Forest Fire Service mitigation techniques and encourage homeowners to apply for private burn permits to do private local controlled burns.	
Estimated Cost:	Staff time	
Potential Funding Sources:	Operating budget	
Implementation Timeline:	2 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
Benefits:	This action will educate private property owners on wildfire risk and	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	This action may provide information for socially vulnerable property owners in wildfire prone areas.	
Impact on Future Development:	This action will be completed for all properties that are located in wildfire prone areas.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	N/A	
Impact on Capabilities:	N/A	
Climate Change Considerations:	Due to increasing drought and extreme heat, wildfire events may increase in frequency and intensity. This action address increasing wildfire risk.	
Mitigation Category	Education and Awareness Programs, Natural Systems Protection	
CRS Category	Public Information, Natural Resources	
Priority	High	
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	-
	Only complete outreach on wildfire risk	No mitigation actions presented and risk likely to remain high
	Pursue easement approach to conduct burning on behalf of property owners	Costly to the Township and may not be legally feasible



Action 2024-Bass River-06. Explore Use of Bass River Elementary as an Emergency Shelter

Lead Agency:	OEM	
Supporting Agencies:	Administration, Property Owner	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	All Hazards	
Description of the Problem:	The Township does not have an emergency shelter in place. The Bass River Elementary School closed in 2019 and was recently sold to a private owner who plans to remodel the facility.	
Description of the Solution:	OEM will work with the owner of the Bass River Elementary School to establish an MOU to use the Elementary School as a potential emergency shelter when necessary. OEM will also discuss potentially remodeling portions of the facility to allow for sheltering and medical response in disaster events.	
Estimated Cost:	Low for agreement to be established. Additional costs would be dependent on evaluation of the facility as an existing shelter and necessary retrofitting.	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, BRIC	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 5, 6, 7	
Benefits:	Establishment of an emergency shelter for municipal and regional use.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Socially vulnerable populations often require sheltering during hazard events. This action would providing a centralized location for sheltering.	
Impact on Future Development:	This action would provide sheltering for residents of current and future development.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action would establish a new lifeline facility.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action would result in increased emergency response capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to result in increased storm activity that would result in sheltering needs.	
Mitigation Category:	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
CRS Category:	Emergency Services, Property Protection	
Priority:	High	
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	No change
	Build a new emergency shelter	Costly
	Convert the fire department into an emergency shelter	The facility does not have the room necessary to house more



than a few people due to space restrictions.

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Action 2024-Bass River-07. Join StormReady Program

Lead Agency:	OEM
Supporting Agencies:	Administration
Hazard(s) of Concern:	Severe Storms, Flooding
Description of the Problem:	The National Weather Service (NWS) provides a certification called StormReady to locales that adopt certain weather preparedness principles and planning. The Township is currently not a member of the StormReady program.
Description of the Solution:	The Township will coordinate with the local NWS office to complete all necessary requirements to become a StormReady community.
Estimated Cost:	Staff time
Potential Funding Sources:	N/A
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining the StormReady certification demonstrates to the public that existing hazardous weather plans meet the community's needs. • Community Rating System (CRS) points will become available that can reduce flood insurance premiums for home and business owners.
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	To become certified, a community must demonstrate that they have methods of communication available 24 hours a day that reach the whole community during a severe weather event, and that all members of the community are incorporated into emergency planning efforts.
Impact on Future Development:	This action will result in increased warning system capabilities for all current and future development.
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Being a part of the StormReady program would result in improved critical facility readiness.
Impact on Capabilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves coordination between emergency managers, NWS personnel, and members of the community to develop and issue timely and effective warnings ahead of severe weather events. • StormReady requires participation in regular exercises to test and demonstrate readiness for severe weather events.
Climate Change Considerations:	As severe weather events increase and trends become less predictable year-to-year, emergency and hazardous weather plans will need to be updated more frequently and potentially for events that are not typical for the area.
Mitigation Category:	Local Plans and Regulations, Education and Awareness Programs
CRS Category:	Emergency Services, Public Information
Priority:	High



	Action	Evaluation
Alternatives:	No Action	-
	Increase warning system capabilities without StormReady guidance	No CRS points would be available. Less public awareness and support from NWS.
	Hire third party to conduct emergency warning system improvements	Costly. No CRS points would be available. Less public awareness and support from NWS.

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The prioritization criteria provided in Volume 1, Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy) identify 14 evaluation/prioritization criteria to complete the prioritization of mitigation initiatives. For each new mitigation action, a numeric rank is assigned (-1, 0, or 1) for each of the 14 evaluation criteria to assist with prioritizing actions as 'High', 'Medium', or 'Low.' The table below provides a summary of the prioritization of all proposed mitigation initiatives for the HMP update.

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Table 9.2-18. Summary of Prioritization of Actions

Project Number	Project Name	Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost-Effectiveness	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social Vulnerability	Administrative	Hazards of Concern	Climate Change	Timeline	Community Lifelines	Other Community Objectives	Total	High / Medium / Low
Action 2024-Bass River-01	Code Coordinated Ordinance	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	10	Medium
Action 2024-Bass River-02	Disaster Debris Management Plan	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	11	High
Action 2024-Bass River-03	Substantial Damage Management Plan	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	-1	1	1	1	0	0	1	9	Medium
Action 2024-Bass River-04	Repetitive Loss Mitigation	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	12	High
Action 2024-Bass River-05	Outreach on Private Burn Permitting	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	12	High
Action 2024-Bass River-06	Explore Use of Bass River Elementary as an Emergency Shelter	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	High
Action 2024-Bass River-07	Join StormReady Program	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	High

Note: Volume 1, Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy) conveys guidance on prioritizing mitigation actions. Low (0-6), Medium (7-10), High (11-14).