



20. TOWN OF JACKSON

This jurisdictional annex to the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) provides information to assist public and private sectors in the Town of Jackson with reducing losses from future hazard events. This annex is not guidance of what to do when a disaster occurs; its focus is on actions that can be implemented prior to a disaster to reduce or eliminate damage to property and people. The annex presents a general overview of Jackson, describes who participated in the planning process, assesses Jackson's risk, vulnerability, and capabilities, and outlines a strategy for achieving a more resilient community.

20.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

The Town of Jackson identified primary and alternate HMP points of contact and developed this plan over the course of several months, with input from many Town departments. The Town Supervisor represented the community on the Washington County HMP Planning Partnership and Steering Committee and supported the local planning process 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.

Table A summarizes Town officials who participated in the development of the annex and in what capacity. Additional documentation of the Town's planning activities through Planning Partnership meetings is included in Volume I.

Table A. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: Jay Skellie, Supervisor Address: 2355 State Route 22, Cambridge, NY Phone Number: 518-854-3035 Email: jskellie@washingtoncountyny.gov	Name/Title: Address: Phone Number: Email:
<i>National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator</i>	
Name/Title: Jay Skellie, Supervisor	



20.2 COMMUNITY PROFILE

20.2.1 Community Classifications

Table B summarizes classifications for community programs available to Jackson.

Table B. Community Classifications

Program	Participating? (Yes/No)	Classification	Date Classified
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	No	-	-
Community Rating System (CRS)	No	-	-
Firewise Communities classification	No	-	-
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	-	-
Public Protection (ISO Fire Protection Classes 1 to 10)	No	-	-
NYSDEC Climate Smart Community	No	-	-
Other: Organizations with mitigation focus (advocacy group, non-government)	No	-	-

N/A = Not applicable

20.2.2 Community Profile

The Town of Jackson is in southcentral Washington County, with the State of Vermont forming part of its eastern boundary. All of the north town line is defined by 16.5 miles of the Batten Kill, a tributary of the Hudson River. The town is bordered on the northeast by the Town of Salem; the northwest by the Town of Greenwich; to the south by the Towns of Cambridge and White Creek; and a small portion to the west by the Town of Easton. The town has a total area of 37.5 square miles (approx. 24,000 acres), of which half is devoted to agriculture and 200 acres is water. In addition to the Batten Kill, significant waterbodies in the town include Clark Pond, Dead Pond, Hedges Lake, Lake Lauderdale, the Owl Kill, and Schoolhouse Pond.

According to the U.S. Census, the 2020 population for the Town of Jackson was 1,723 which makes up 2.8 percent of the county. Data from the 2022 American Community Survey indicates that 5.6 percent of the population is 5 years of age or younger, 25.5 percent is 65 years of age or older, 0.0 percent is non-English speaking, 7.3 percent is below the poverty threshold, and 11.3 percent is considered disabled.

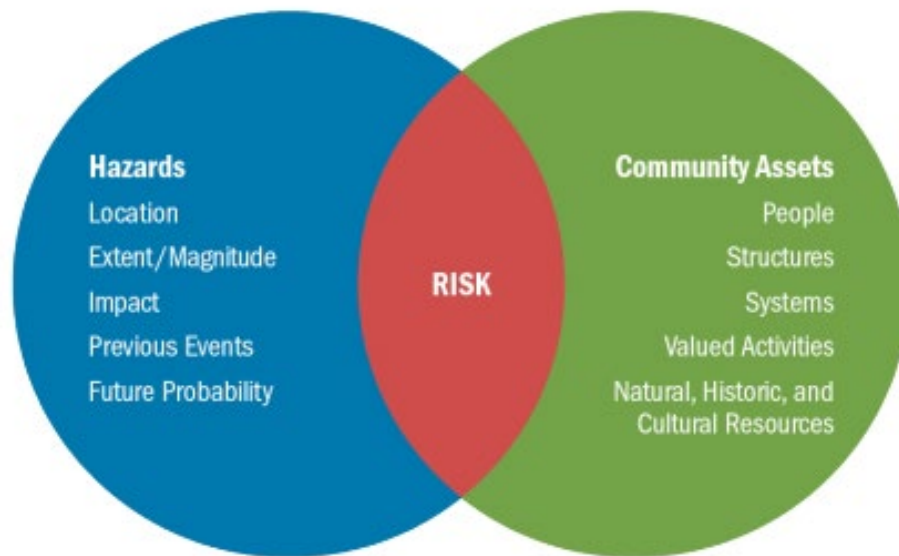
20.3 JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

The hazard profiles in Volume I provide detailed information regarding each planning partner's vulnerability to the identified hazards, including summaries of Jackson's risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking. Key local risk assessment information is presented below.

Each jurisdiction has unique assets, vulnerabilities and overall risk. A multi-jurisdictional plan needs to identify every hazard (from the whole planning area). In hazard mitigation planning, risk is the potential for damage or loss when natural hazards interact with people or assets, as shown in the figure below. These assets may be buildings,

infrastructure or natural and cultural resources. A risk assessment is a robust, data-driven analysis. It explains what might happen. It also finds where the local jurisdiction is vulnerable to hazards.

Each community must describe how the selected hazards affect its jurisdiction. Some hazards will have similar effects across the area: extreme temperatures, windstorms, winter weather, drought, heavy rain, etc. Some have a smaller location and will vary based on geography. Multi-jurisdictional plans must explain these differences.



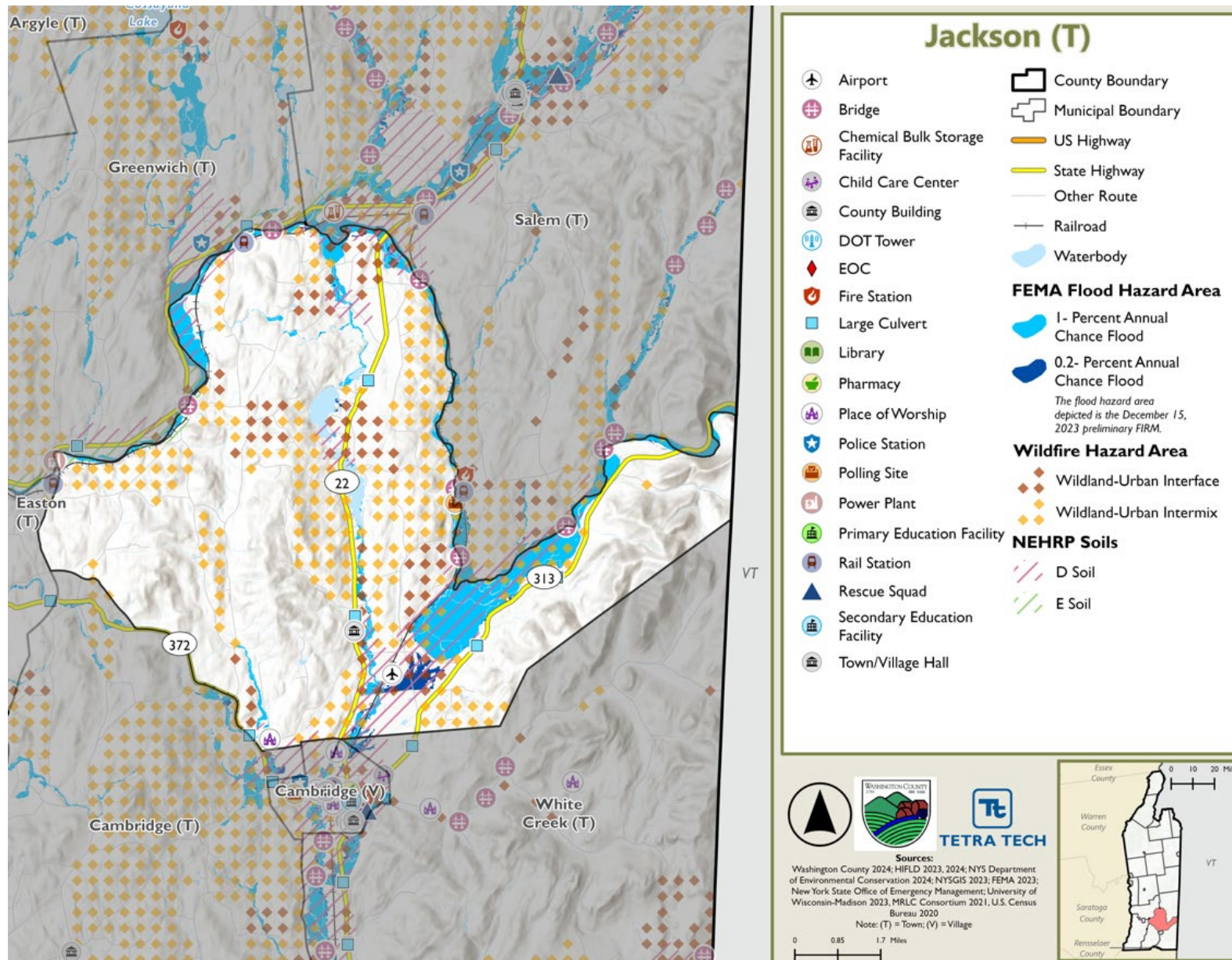
Risk is the relationship, or overlap, between hazards and community assets. The smaller the overlap, the lower the risk.

20.3.1 Hazard Area

The hazard area map below illustrates the probable hazard areas impacted within the Town, as shown in Figure 1. This map is based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this plan and is adequate for planning purposes. The map is provided only for hazards that can be identified clearly using mapping techniques and technologies and for which Jackson has significant exposure. It also shows the location of potential new development, where available.



Figure 1. Jackson FEMA Flood, Wildfire, and Earthquake Hazard Area Extent and Location





20.3.2 Previous Event History

The history of natural and non-natural hazard events in Jackson is detailed in Volume I, where each hazard profile includes a chronology of historical events that have affected the County and its municipalities. Table C provides details on loss and damage in Jackson during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update.

Table C. Hazard Event History in Jackson

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Jackson
January 20, 2020 - May 11, 2023	Disease Outbreak (FEMA-DR-4480)	The first confirmed case of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States was reported on January 20, 2020. Washington County reported over 19,000 positive cases and more than 1,200 fatalities.	The Town was subject to mask mandate and social distancing requirements.
August 10, 2020	Tornado	Scattered storms produced an EF1 tornado in Washington County. The tornado had 90 mph wind speeds, causing shingle and roof damage to homes and uprooting trees. The County had approximately \$75,000 in property damage and \$10,000 in crop damage.	Minimal damage tree limbs on the roads. Small amount of crop damage. Don't know if any farms collected insurance.
August 24, 2020	Heavy Rain and Flooding	Scattered storms impacted parts of Washington County, bringing between four and six inches of rain. This led to 8 flooded roadways, 21 flooded structures, 1 water rescue, several cars partially submerged, and the Whitehall Junior-Senior High School being significantly damaged by the flood waters. Overall, 40 homes and 13 businesses or non-profit organizations sustained damage totaling approximately \$16 million in property damage.	Jackson was not hit as hard as Northern Washington County. Water levels were up on the Battenkill but no flooding. Small amount of washouts on dirt roads.

EM = Emergency Declaration (FEMA)

FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency

DR = Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA)

N/A = Not applicable



20.3.3 Critical Facilities

Table D. Critical Facilities Flood Vulnerability

Name	Type	Vulnerability		Addressed by Proposed Action	Already Protected to 0.2% Flood Level (describe protections)
		1% Annual Chance Event	0.2% Annual Chance Event		
C180089	Large Culvert	Y	Y	-	Facility was replaced.

Source: Washington County 2024; HIFLD 2023, 2024; NYS Department of Environmental Conservation 2024; NYS GIS 2023

In addition to critical facilities that are exposed to flooding, there are no high hazard dams located within the Town.

20.3.4 Local Hazard Impacts Assessment

Table E. Local Hazard Impacts Assessment

Hazard Name	Local Impacts
Dam Failure	No known impact
Earthquake	No known impact
Extreme Temperature	No known impact
Flood	Very little impact. A lot of the floodplain is farmland. The warmer winters have significantly reduced the ice buildup on the Battenkill so there have been a decrease in springtime ice jams/snow melt related flooding.
Severe Weather	Some impact to travel and power lines
Severe Winter Weather	Some impact to travel and power lines
Wildfire	No known impact

20.3.5 Vulnerable Community Assets

Table F. Vulnerable Community Assets

Community Asset	Hazard Impacts and Asset Vulnerabilities	Community Asset	Hazard Impacts and Asset Vulnerabilities
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Agriculture	Some crop damage	Local Roads	Some washouts. Murray Hollow Road floods because of the steep Vermont mountains and undersized culverts. 4 or 5 residences up this road and it is a dead end. The Town Replaced 2 of the 5 bridge/culverts in this area and upsized a culvert on the road using BridgeNY funds in summer 2024. The county owns them now since they are over 20 feet.
Airports	No known impacts	Major Employers	No known impacts
Area: Concentration of Businesses	No known impacts	Medical Centers (non-hospital)	Not applicable
Area: Concentration of Residences	No known impacts	Natural Resources	Town lakes attract seasonal tourism. Many second home owners. Town has very low income and high income areas. No known impactss
Bridges	No known impacts	Neighborhoods	No known impacts
City Hall/Courthouse	Town Hall just had generator installed. (using ARPA funds). The central location serves as a hub.	Parks and Recreational Sites	No known impacts
College/University	Not applicable	Place of Worship	Not applicable
Community Centers/Hubs	Not applicable	Private Property	Not applicable
Community Activities: major local events including festivals and economic drivers such as beaches, skiing, farming, fishing, etc.	Not applicable	Public Transportation	No known impacts
Cultural/Historic Buildings/Sites	No known impacts	Schools (K-12)	Not applicable
Culverts	No known impacts	Small Businesses	No known impacts
Elder-care Facilities	Not applicable	Supermarkets/Grocery Stores	Not applicable



Fire/Police Stations	Not applicable	Transportation - Mobile Asset Storage	Not applicable
Gas Stations	Not applicable	Utilities	No known impacts
Highways	No known impacts. Town barns use a portable generator.	Wastewater Treatment Plants	Not applicable
Hospitals	Not applicable	Waterfront	No known impacts
Other	The Amish population in the Town has increased.	Drinking Water Resources	Not applicable

20.3.6 Dams

The table below includes all dams in the Town of Jackson. This dam data is sourced from NYSDEC's inventory of dams and lists selected attributes of each dam. The dam classification (high, medium or low) corresponds to dam hazard classifications:

- **Class A: Low Hazard** - Dam failure may cause relatively minor economic or environmental damage.
- **Class B: Intermediate Hazard** - Dam failure may cause significant economic or environmental damage, but loss of life is not expected. There are about 570 Intermediate Hazard dams in New York.
- **Class C: High Hazard** - Dam failure may cause loss of life or other severe consequences. There are about 427 High Hazard dams in New York.
- **Class D: No Hazard** - Dams which have failed or have been removed and no longer present a risk.

In 2019, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Rehabilitation Grant Program, which has the potential to enhance New York's Dam Safety Program by providing technical, planning, design, and construction assistance in the form of grants for rehabilitation of eligible High Hazard Potential Dams (Class C dams).

Class C, or High Hazard Potential dams, are attributed to any dam whose failure or mis-operation will cause loss of human life and significant property damage. However, dams with other Classifications may still present real and present risks to people and property.

Table G. Dams Located in the Municipality

State ID	Name	River Name	Owners	Owner Type	Purposes	Classification
242-5108	Billings Reservoir Dam	None	AMERICAN WATER	Private	Water Supply - Primary	Low Hazard Dam
242-1873	Truehart Farm Pond Dam	Center Falls	PETER TRUEHART	Not applicable	Other	Low Hazard Dam



20.3.7 Hazard Ranking and Vulnerabilities

The participating jurisdictions have differing degrees of vulnerability to the hazards of concern, so each jurisdiction ranked its own degree of risk to each hazard. The community-specific hazard ranking is based on problems and impacts identified by the risk assessment presented in Volume I. Mitigation actions were developed for all high-ranked hazards. For jurisdictions that do not have two or more high rankings, medium rankings that have associated actions can be considered as hazards of concern.

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; community capabilities to address the hazard; and changing future climate conditions. Impacts from a particular hazard may have decreased due to an implemented project or relocation of an asset that was previously at risk. Alternatively, risk may have increased because population has increased in a hazard prone area.

Table H. Hazard Ranking

Hazard Name	Hazard Ranking in 2018 HMP	Frequency (2018 – present): Increased, Decreased, Stayed the Same	Impacts (2018 – present): Increased, Decreased, Stayed the Same	Description of frequency and impacts (2018 – present):	Future Events (present – 2030): Will Increase, Decrease, Stay the Same	Hazard Ranking
Dam Failure	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	None	Same	Low
Earthquake	Medium	Same	Same	None	Same	Medium
Extreme Temperature	Not applicable	Same	Same	None	Same	Medium
Flood	High	Same	Same	Increased stormwater issues due to severe rain events. The Town has a hilly topography so 2–3-inch rainfalls send water downhill and washout both gravel and paved roads. The town is approximately 60% paved, 40% unpaved dirt/gravel.	Same	High
Severe Weather	High	Same	Same	More high wind events. Powerlines run through rural backroad areas. Wind related power outages occur more in the summer. Times of outages vary, typically 6 hours but can be out for 1.5 days	Same	High
Severe Winter Weather	High	Same	Same	Snow storms lead to downed trees and power outages. Increased heavy wet snow and ice storms are downing power lines and trees in rural areas.	Same	High
Wildfire	High	Same	Same	-	Same	Medium



20.4 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. Recent and expected future development trends, including major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development, are summarized in Table I through Table L.

20.4.1 Development and Permitting

Table I. Development and Permitting Capability

Question	Answer
Does your municipality or the county issue building permits for development in your community?	Washington County
What is your process for tracking building permits?	Performed by Washington County
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	Performed by Washington County
Does your community have a buildable land inventory? If yes, please describe.	The Town has available space for buildout.

Table J. Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the Previous HMP

	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
2019				
Total Permits	2	0	1	3
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2020				
Total Permits	2	0	0	2
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2021				
Total Permits	8	0	1	9
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2022				
Total Permits	5	0	0	5
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2023				
Total Permits	2	0	0	2
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2024				
Total Permits	4	0	0	4



	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0

SFHA = Special Flood Hazard Area (1% flood event)

Table K. Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2019 to 2024

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones	Description / Status of Development
None Identified					

Table L. Known or Anticipated Major Development and Infrastructure in the Next Five Years

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones*	Description / Status of Development
None Anticipated					

20.5 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

This section provides specific information on the management and regulation of the regulatory floodplain, including current and future compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The floodplain administrator listed in Table A is responsible for maintaining this information.

20.5.1 NFIP Statistics

Table M summarizes the NFIP policy and claim statistics for Jackson.

Table M. Town of Jackson NFIP Summary of Policy and Claim Statistics

# Policies	0
# Claims (Losses)	0
Total Loss Payments	\$0.00
# Repetitive Loss Properties (NFIP definition)	0
# Repetitive Loss Properties (FMA definition)	0
# Severe Repetitive Loss Properties	0

NFIP Definition of Repetitive Loss: The NFIP defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the NFIP within any rolling 10-year period since 1978.

FMA Definition of Repetitive Loss: FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building that has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.



Definition of Severe Repetitive Loss: A residential property covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and: (a) That has at least four NFIP claim payments over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000; or (b) For which at least two separate claims payments have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building. At least two of the claims must have occurred within any 10-year period, more than 10 days apart.

Source: FEMA, 2024

20.5.2 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Flood Vulnerability Summary

The HMP Team provided information on participation in and continued compliance with the NFIP in the table below.

Table N. NFIP Summary

NFIP Topic	Comments
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction.	Areas along the Battenkill river are prone to flooding.
Are areas of your community located in a floodplain (1% and .2%)? If yes, please describe.	Yes, along the Battenkill.
Who is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA)? Do they serve any roles other than FPA? Do they have adequate training and capacity for this role?	Yes, Town Supervisor is FPA
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	N/A
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	None, at this time.
What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance?	Local Law #1
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	1992
When was the latest effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) adopted, if applicable?	2024
Explain NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, inspections, engineering capability, GIS, etc.)	Washington County Code Enforcement.
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in your community, if any?	Unknown, the Town does not handle floodplain management, the County is responsible.
Does your floodplain management staff need any assistance or training to support its floodplain management program? If yes, what type of assistance/training is needed?	No, not at this time.



NFIP Topic	Comments
How many NFIP policies are in your community? What is the total premium and coverage?	Unknown
How many claims have been paid out in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims?	None, at this time.
How do you make Substantial Damage determinations? What is the process to make sure these structures are brought into compliance?	Washington County Code Enforcement
How do you determine if proposed development on an existing structure would qualify as a substantial improvement?	Washington County Code Enforcement
How many Substantial Damage determinations were declared for recent flood events in your jurisdiction?	None, at this time.
Does the community track the number of buildings in the floodplain? If so, how many structures are in special flood hazard area (SFHA)?	No, the Town does not track.
How many structures (residential and non-residential) are exposed to flood risk within the community outside of the regulatory maps?	Unknown
Does the community maintain elevation records? If yes, please describe.	No, the Town does not maintain records for elevation.
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage.	Along the Battenkill.
How does the community teach property owners or other stakeholders about the importance flood insurance?	The County handles floodplain management within the Town.
What digital sources (like the FEMA Map Service Center, National Flood Hazard Layer) or non-regulatory tools does your community use?	New FEMA maps A few new structures are included in the updated floodmap's SFHA.
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?	No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?	2023



NFIP Topic	Comments
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No, not at this time.

20.6 JURISDICTIONAL CAPABILITY INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

The Town of Jackson conducted a comprehensive inventory and assessment of its existing capabilities, plans, programs, and policies that support the implementation of hazard mitigation strategies. As part of this process, the Hazard Mitigation Planning (HMP) Team conducted a detailed review of the Town's existing capabilities, comparing them against a comprehensive list of hazard mitigation-related capabilities. It is important to note that the absence of certain types of capabilities was not interpreted as a deficiency in local capabilities, but rather as a reflection of the Town's specific needs and context.

Volume I, *Chapter 13 Capability Assessment* and the *Capability Inventory and Assessment* section of the Washington County Jurisdictional Annex collectively outline the full range of capabilities available at the County level, which includes resources and programs that extend to and benefit the Town. For additional information on these shared resources and collaborative efforts, please refer to these resources.

The tables below provide a summary of jurisdictional-specific capabilities currently in effect that support hazard mitigation efforts. The jurisdictional assessment for this annex includes analyses of the following:

- Planning and regulatory capabilities
- Development and permitting capabilities
- Administrative and technical capabilities
- Fiscal capabilities
- Education and outreach capabilities
- Classification under various community mitigation programs
- Adaptive capacity to withstand hazard events

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

20.6.1 Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

Planning and regulatory capabilities are the plans, policies, codes, and ordinances that prevent and reduce the impacts of hazards.



Ordinances

Table O. Ordinances

Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments	Responsible Department / Agency / Organization
Building Codes	Yes, Local Law #1	Yes, the building code is adequately administered and enforced by the County Code Enforcement.	County Code Enforcement
Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Yes, local Law #1 of 1992	It is the purpose of this local law to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in the Town.	Town Supervisor
Real Estate Disclosure Requirements	Yes, Property Condition Disclosure Act, NY Code - Article 14 §460-467	The NYS mandate requires sellers to disclose to potential buyers whether their property is located in a designated floodplain.	NYS Department of State, Real Estate Agent
Site Plan Code	Yes, Local Law #2 of 2017, Site Plan Review	The purpose of this local law is to enhance the character and promote health and safety of the Town through the Site Pla Review process.	Planning Board
Subdivision Code	Yes, Local Law #1 of 2020, Subdivision Regulations	The purpose of this local law to regulate and designate Town lands to be divided into smaller plats, in an orderly and efficient way to promote economic development.	Planning Board

Plans

Table P. Planning Capabilities

Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments	Responsible Department / Agency / Organization
Comprehensive Plan	Yes, Draft Comprehensive Plan, 2024	The Town is currently in the process of developing the 2024 comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan will outline the goals and strategies for the Town and promote sustainable growth for the future.	Town Board and Planning Board
County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA)	Yes, 2022	County has planned responses and the Town is included in the CEPA.	County Emergency Management Team
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)	No	County has planned responses.	-



Emergency Operations Plan	No	County has planned responses.	-
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20.6.2 Administrative and Technical Capability

The HMP Team inventoried its existing Administrative and Technical Capabilities against the full capability list of hazard mitigation-related capabilities. The absence of other staff was not considered a gap in local capabilities. The table below summarizes staff and personnel resources for the Town.

Table Q. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes	With neighboring fire departments
Personnel skilled or trained in website development	No	The Town hires assistance when needed
Planning Board	Yes	Yes the department is adequate to enforce regulations but is always open to new training opportunities for staff. Seven staff members.
Public Works/Highway Department	Yes	Yes the department is adequate to enforce regulations but is always open to new training opportunities for staff. Five staff members.

20.6.3 Fiscal Capability

The table below summarizes financial resources available to the Town of Jackson.

Table R. Fiscal Capabilities

Capability Type	Is this funding capability currently in use in the Municipality? If yes, please describe.
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	No
Capital improvement project funding	No
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes, the Town has the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes.
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	No



Capability Type	Is this funding capability currently in use in the Municipality? If yes, please describe.
Withhold public expenditures in hazard-prone areas	No
Other Federal (non-FEMA) funding programs	Yes, Culvert/Bridge NY
FEMA funding programs	Yes, funding was used to replace one of the bridges referenced in the last HMP.
Other State funding programs	Yes, Culvert/Bridge NY
Open Space Acquisition funding programs	No
Other (for example, Clean Water Act 319 Grants [Nonpoint Source Pollution])	No

20.6.4 Education and Outreach Capability

Table S. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Capability Type	Is this education and outreach capability currently in use in the Municipality? If yes, please describe.
Community Newsletter	No
Hazard awareness campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, school programs, public events)	No
Hazard mitigation information available on your website	Yes, the Town contains hazard mitigation information for residents located on the Town website.
Local News	Yes, posted notices in local paper
Natural disaster/safety programs in place for schools	No
Organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations	No
Public information officer or communications office	No
Social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach	Yes, through the Town web page.
Warning systems for hazard events	Yes, done through County cell phone alerts.
Other	No

20.6.5 Hazard Capability Assessment

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 HMP Team ranked the local government's capability to address risks and impacts of each hazard based on the risk and capability assessments performed above.



- *Strong: Capacity exists and effectively manages the impacts of this hazard.*
- *Moderate: Capacity exists but is not used or needs some improvement.*
- *Weak: Capacity exists and needs substantial improvement*
- *None: Capacity does not exist.*
- *N/A: This hazard is not a risk to my community.*

Table T. Adaptive Capacity

Hazard	Strong, Moderate, Weak, None
Dam Failure	Moderate
Earthquake	Weak
Extreme Temperature	Moderate
Flood	Moderate
Severe Weather	Strong
Severe Winter Weather	Strong
Wildfire	Moderate

20.7 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND PRIORITIZATION

This section discusses the status of mitigation actions from the previous HMP, describes proposed hazard mitigation actions, and prioritizes actions to address over the next five years.

20.7.1 Past Mitigation Action Status

The table below indicates progress on the Town's mitigation strategy identified in the 2018 HMP. Actions that are still recommended but not completed or that are in progress are carried forward and combined with new actions as part of the mitigation strategy for this plan update. Previous actions that are now ongoing programs and capabilities are indicated as such and are presented in the capability assessment earlier in this annex.

Table U. Status of Previous Mitigation Actions

T. Jackson-1 — Staff Training		
Hazards Addressed	☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Town Highway, Code Enforcement, County	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	Town employees are able to expand their capabilities by attending trainings on various topics.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Send Town staff to county and state trainings, and complete certification programs with respect to hazard risk management in Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), Recovery Planning, Damage Estimates, and Debris Management.	



Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Not applicable	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable	
If discontinue, explain why	Completed action.	
T. Jackson-2 — Floodplain Management Trainings		
Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☐ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Town Supervisor	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	Trainings for the Floodplain Administrator strengthen a jurisdiction's ability to reduce its risk of flood exposure. By attending trainings, the Floodplain Administrator ensure they are current with their knowledge on current and anticipated rules and regulations regarding the floodplain, floodway, and flood-prone areas.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Send local Floodplain Administrator to County and State trainings and complete certification programs with respect to floodplain management to ensure code enforcement and proper inspections.	
Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☒ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Not applicable	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable	
If discontinue, explain why	Completed action.	
T. Jackson-3 — Internet Expansion		
Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☐ Flood	☐ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire



Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Internet Providers, Utility Companies	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	Internet connectivity throughout the Town is insufficient and may increase the vulnerability of residents, visitors, and business owners.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Improve access to internet service throughout the Town.	
Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	In Progress - Progress Underway	
Please describe the current status selection:	Progress underway. Washington Co. has struggled with internet access, and it is a particular problem with Jackson. County has started reimbursement program for using Starlink because there are roads with 12-15 residences that don't have internet access because service providers aren't running lines down the roads.	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	The Town Board will seek funding to improve access to internet service throughout the Town.	
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable	
T. Jackson-4 — Town Website Updates		
Hazards Addressed	☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Code and Enforcement, County Public Safety	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	The Town's website is missing information which can be helpful to educate residents, visitors, and businesses within the jurisdiction on regulations to follow, hazard risks, news, and assist in provide transparency of government.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Update Town website to include Town codes, ordinances, and annual budgets, as well as links to information on natural hazard and risk management.	
Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☒ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Proposed - Not Started	
Please describe the current status selection:		
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include	



If include, revise/reword as appropriate	The Town Board will work to update Town website to include Town codes, ordinances, and annual budgets, as well as links to information on natural hazard and risk management.
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If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable
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T. Jackson-5 — Bridge Improvements

Hazards Addressed	☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	County, State	
Action Location	Town-wide at Bridges	
Summary of Original Problem	Bridges in Town may be susceptible to impacts from the identified hazards of concern. Severe weather causing periods of heavy rain leading to flooding conditions which can cause obstructions; severe winter weather can lead to ice jams and snow melt, contributing to flooding conditions; wildfires can cause debris to fall onto the bridges impacting the infrastructure; shaking from earthquakes may damage the stability of a bridge; and extreme temperatures can cause the construction materials of a bridge to expand and/or contract.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Develop a timeline and action plan for the five bridges to be approved by the Town of Jackson for the replacement and upgrades to minimize flood obstructions and alleviate any flooding issues associated with the bridge (According to Washington County DPW, the largest bridge is in need of immediate replacement).	
Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	In Progress - Progress Underway	
Please describe the current status selection:	Progress underway	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	One of the five/bridge culverts still needs to be addressed so this action is not fully completed.	
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable	

T. Jackson-6 — Mudslide and Debris Runoff Mitigation

Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	-	
Action Location	Kenyon Hill, Colfax, and Carney Cassidy Roads	



Summary of Original Problem	Kenyon Hill, Colfax, and Carney Cassidy Roads are prone to closures from mudslides and debris runoff due to the surrounding slopes. During periods of heavy rain, conditions where there is snow melt, or flooding conditions off the steep grades, mudslides and debris runoff is apt to occur.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Initiate engineering study of three roadways in the Town (Kenyon Hill, Colfax, and Carney Cassidy Roads) to devise solutions to reduce incidents of roadway closure from mud slides and debris runoff. The study will be presented to the Highway Department for review and to identify next steps.	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	In Progress - Progress Underway	
Please describe the current status selection:	Project underway	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	The Town Highway Department has begun paving portions of these roads to mitigate the washouts on dirt/gravel roads but needs to continue this effort in order to mitigate the problem. The Town proposes continued paving and additional ditching along these roads to mitigate stormwater runoff issues since there are full time residences on these roads.	
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable	
T. Jackson-7 — Skellie Road Riverbank Stabilization		
Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	County, NYS DEC	
Action Location	Skellie Road	
Summary of Original Problem	The riverbank along Skellie Road is unstable and prone to erosion following heavy rains from severe weather, water from melted snow, and flooding conditions.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Skellie Road riverbank stabilization. Install additional rock veins and line riverbank with more large rocks.	
Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Completed	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	



If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Completed
If discontinue, explain why	Action completed

T. Jackson-8 — Erosion-Resistant Crop Ordinance

Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Code Enforcement	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	Agricultural practices have resulted in mudslides and washouts from loose soil. These occurrences have caused road closures. The Town may benefit from instituting an ordinance requiring best practices be followed for soil management and erosion control on agricultural lands.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Pass an ordinance to require best practices for erosion-resistant crop planting. If not adhered to, will result in monetary responsibility for cleanup costs following subsequent mudslides and washouts.	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	In Progress - Progress Underway	
Please describe the current status selection:	Progress underway	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Most of the farms are using cover crops that are climate friendly and stabilizes the soil. Famers have extended buffer zones on their lands 50-60 feet of additional natural habitat to buffer the floodplains.	
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable	

T. Jackson-9 — Ackley Road Culvert

Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	-	
Action Location	Ackley Road	
Summary of Original Problem	There is an undersized culvert on Ackley Road which is contributing to roadway flooding.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Install culvert on Ackley Road – increase culvert size to alleviate road washouts in this area along farming fields.	



Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Not applicable	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable	
If discontinue, explain why	Completed action. And increased green/buffer areas to slow sediment flow.	
T. Jackson-10 — Construction Procedures Ordinance		
Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☐ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Code Enforcement	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	While the current issue is focused on Nesbitt Road and Hedges Lake, the entirety of the Town would benefit from a Construction Procedures ordinance to limit, and/or avoid, debris, runoff, and erosion of roads.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Develop an ordinance to address proper construction and maintenance procedures to avoid debris, runoff, and erosion of private roads impacting Nesbitt Road and Hedges Lake during heavy rain and flooding events.	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	In Progress - Progress Underway	
Please describe the current status selection:	The Town has worked with County Soil and Water dept. to educate homeowners about how to protect/reinforce driveways and reduce runoff. This has helped.	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	The Town Board will develop an ordinance to address proper construction and maintenance procedures to avoid debris, runoff, and erosion of private roads impacting Nesbitt Road and Hedges Lake during heavy rain and flooding events.	
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable	
T. Jackson-11 — Johnson Road Flood Mitigation Study		
Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☐ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire



Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	NYS DOT, NYS DEC, property owners	
Action Location	Johnson Road	
Summary of Original Problem	Roads and properties on Johnson Road are susceptible to flood damages.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Conduct an investigation of the roadway and homes along Johnson Road and determine long-term resolution to reduce or alleviate flooding along this section of the Town. However, the Town will need to work with NYS DOT and private property owners as the Town does not have jurisdiction to install culverts in this area.	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Town reset the slope of the road to get the drainage tubes/covers in the right spot to keep the road free of water. It has helped.	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable	
If discontinue, explain why	Completed action	
T. Jackson-12 — Driveway Height Ordinance		
Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Code Enforcement	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	Driveways in Town are at inconsistent heights which can make it difficult to maintain and upkeep roadways, in particular when road paving is performed.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Develop an ordinance to require proper labeling and minimum standard for a driveway and road. This will allow for improvements to roadway and public safety.	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Discontinued - Ongoing Capability	
Please describe the current status selection:	Not applicable	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable	



If discontinue, explain why	Ongoing capability.	
T. Jackson-13 — Town Highway Garage Emergency Generator		
Hazards Addressed	☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	-	
Action Location	Town Highway Garage	
Summary of Original Problem	The Town Highway Garage, a critical facility, requires an emergency generator to maintain its operations in the event of an emergency or incident.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	As part of the structural and safety improvements to the Town Highway Garage, purchase and install backup generator to allow for continuous operations during utility failures.	
Action Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Not applicable	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable	
If discontinue, explain why	Completed action	
T. Jackson-14 — Comprehensive Plan Development		
Hazards Addressed	☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	Planning Department	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	The Town does not have a written Comprehensive/Master Plan.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Complete Town Comprehensive Plan and get Town board approval to help secure future grant funding for goals/projects identified in plan.	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Proposed - Not Started	
Please describe the current status selection:		
Next Steps		



Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	The Planning Department will work to complete the Town Comprehensive Plan and get Town board approval to help secure future grant funding for goals/projects identified in plan.
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable

T. Jackson-15 — Sheltering Assessment

Hazards Addressed	☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Board	
Supporting Agency / Department	County Public Safety	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	There are currently no short- or long-term sheltering locations in the Town.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Conduct a sheltering assessment, identify optimal site for short and long-term sheltering for Town of Jackson residents, and establish a mutual aid agreement with appropriate municipality or institution	
Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	Completed	
Please describe the current status selection:	Not applicable	

Next Steps

Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Discontinue
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	Not applicable
If discontinue, explain why	Action completed.

T. Jackson-16 — Excavator

Hazards Addressed	☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☐ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Lead Agency / Department	Town Highway Dept.	
Supporting Agency / Department	Town Board	
Action Location	Town-wide	
Summary of Original Problem	The Town has a need for an excavator to assist with drainage improvements, debris management, and other emergency and maintenance needs.	
Summary of Solution (Project)	Purchase an excavator to provide for local personnel to conduct drainage improvements, debris management, and other needs in the town. Once purchase of new equipment is secured, construct additions to the highway department barn to house the new equipment. This construction of the addition will begin once the equipment is ordered.	



Action Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
Current Status	In Progress - Progress Underway	
Please describe the current status selection:	Progress underway: Currently the Town leases or exchanges services with neighboring jurisdictions.	
Next Steps		
Include in the 2025 HMP or Discontinue?	Include	
If include, revise/reword as appropriate	The Town Highway Department will explore funding options to purchase an excavator to provide for local personnel to conduct drainage improvements, debris management, and other needs in the town. Once purchase of new equipment is secured, construct additions to the highway department barn to house the new equipment. This construction of the addition will begin once the equipment is ordered.	
If discontinue, explain why	Not applicable	

20.7.2 Additional Mitigation Efforts

In addition to the mitigation actions completed in Table U, Jackson identified the following mitigation efforts completed since the last HMP:

- Shelter Assessment for Emergency Services
- Backup Generator for Critical Utilities
- Updated Ordinance for driveways and roadways
- Flood Assessment on along Johnson Road
- Culvert Upgrades
- Riverbank Stabilization along Skellie Road
- Staff Floodplain Management Trainings
- Large Culvert: C180089, and Bridges: C149, C150 were all replaced.

Since the adoption of the County's first HMP, Jackson has made significant mitigation progress in the following areas:

- Floodplain Management Training
- Stormwater Management Upgrades
- Emergency Services
- Flood Assessment and Studies

20.7.3 Identified Issues

The Town of Jackson has identified the following vulnerabilities within their community for mitigation strategy development:



- Internet connectivity throughout the Town is insufficient and may increase the vulnerability of residents, visitors, and business owners.
- The Town's website is missing information which can be helpful to educate residents, visitors, and businesses within the jurisdiction on regulations to follow, hazard risks, news, and assist in provide transparency of government.
- Bridges in Town may be susceptible to impacts from the identified hazards of concern. Severe weather causing periods of heavy rain leading to flooding conditions which can cause obstructions; severe winter weather can lead to ice jams and snow melt, contributing to flooding conditions; wildfires can cause debris to fall onto the bridges impacting the infrastructure; shaking from earthquakes may damage the stability of a bridge; and extreme temperatures can cause the construction materials of a bridge to expand and/or contract.
- Kenyon Hill, Colfax, and Carney Cassidy Roads are prone to closures from mudslides and debris runoff due to the surrounding slopes. During periods of heavy rain, conditions where there is snow melt, or flooding conditions off the steep grades, mudslides and debris runoff is apt to occur.
- Agricultural practices have resulted in mudslides and washouts from loose soil. These occurrences have caused road closures. The Town may benefit from instituting an ordinance requiring best practices be followed for soil management and erosion control on agricultural lands.
- While the current issue is focused on Nesbitt Road and Hedges Lake, the entirety of the Town would benefit from a Construction Procedures ordinance to limit, and/or avoid, debris, runoff, and erosion of roads.
- The Town does not have a written Comprehensive/Master Plan.



- The Town has a need for an excavator to assist with drainage improvements, debris management, and other emergency and maintenance needs.

20.7.4 Proposed Hazard Mitigation Actions for the HMP Update

Jackson participated in the mitigation strategy workshop and identified hazard mitigation actions to reduce the risks and impacts of hazards the community ranked as high-risk. Hazard risk ranking was specific to each community in the County and was based on quantitative (i.e., analysis of the best available data) and qualitative risk assessment processes (i.e., evaluation of previous occurrences, likelihood of future occurrences and vulnerabilities to people and community services; buildings and critical infrastructure; the natural environment and other local priorities).

Implementation of these actions are dependent upon available funding (grants and local match availability) and local capacity and may be modified or omitted at any time based on the occurrence of new hazard events and changes in local priorities.

Volume I identifies fourteen evaluation criteria for prioritizing the mitigation actions. Below, Table V provides the prioritization criteria score for each proposed mitigation action.



Action 2025-JacksonT-01. Internet Access Program

Lead Agency:	Town Board		
Supporting Agencies:	Internet Providers, Utility Companies		
Hazards of Concern:	☒ Dam Failure ☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	Internet connectivity throughout the Town is insufficient and may increase the vulnerability of residents, visitors, and business owners.		
Description of the Solution:	Washington Co. has struggled with internet access, and it is a particular problem with Jackson. County has started reimbursement program for using Starlink because there are roads with 12-15 residences that don't have internet access because service providers aren't running lines down the roads. The Town Board will seek funding to establish and fund a long-term program to improve access to internet service throughout the Town.		
Estimated Cost:	Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years		
Goals Met:	4		
Benefits:	Increased access to emergency alerts and services.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Improved internet access will help reduce disparities in access to education, employment, and emergency information for low-income households, elderly residents, and individuals with disabilities.		
Impact on Future Development:	Reliable internet infrastructure will support future residential and commercial development, making the Town more attractive to new residents and businesses.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Enhanced connectivity will improve operational efficiency and emergency response capabilities for critical facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, and shelters.		
Impact on Capabilities:	Strengthens the Town's ability to communicate during emergencies, coordinate response efforts, and deliver public services effectively.		
Climate Change Considerations:	Improved internet infrastructure supports adaptive capacity by enabling remote monitoring, early warning systems, and access to climate-related data and resources.		
Mitigation Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☐ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☒ Public Information (PI)	☐ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☐ High	☒ Medium	☐ Low
Alternatives	Action	Evaluation	
	No action	-	
	Public Wi-Fi hotspots in key community areas	Limited in scope and reliability	



Offer incentives to internet services providers	May require policy changes
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Action 2025- JacksonT-02. Town Website Updates

Lead Agency:	Town Board		
Supporting Agencies:	Code and Enforcement, County Public Safety		
Hazards of Concern:	☒ Dam Failure ☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Town's website is missing information which can be helpful to educate residents, visitors, and businesses within the jurisdiction on regulations to follow, hazard risks, news, and assist in providing transparency of government.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town Board will work to update Town website to include Town codes, ordinances, and annual budgets, as well as links to information on natural hazard and risk management.		
Estimated Cost:	Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years		
Goals Met:	5		
Benefits:	Better-informed residents and businesses.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Improved access to information can help socially vulnerable populations better understand risks, available resources, and how to respond during emergencies, reducing disparities in preparedness.		
Impact on Future Development:	A transparent and informative website supports responsible development by making codes and regulations easily accessible to developers and property owners.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Improved communication and access to emergency information can enhance coordination and preparedness for critical facilities and lifeline services.		
Impact on Capabilities:	Strengthens the Town's communication and outreach capabilities, especially during emergencies or hazard events.		
Climate Change Considerations:	Provides a platform to share climate adaptation strategies, updates on changing risk profiles, and promote sustainable practices.		
Mitigation Category	☐ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☒ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☐ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☒ Public Information (PI)	☐ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☐ High	☒ Medium	☐ Low
Alternatives	Action		Evaluation



	No Action	-
	Printed community guide with hazard and code information	Lacks flexibility and real time updates
	Host digital literacy workshops	Requires scheduling, staff and attendance, which may limit reach

Action 2025-JacktonT-03. Bridge Improvements

Lead Agency:	Town Highway Department	
Supporting Agencies:	County Public Works, NYS DOT	
Hazards of Concern:	☒ Dam Failure ☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Bridges in Town may be susceptible to impacts from the identified hazards of concern. Severe weather causing periods of heavy rain leading to flooding conditions which can cause obstructions; severe winter weather can lead to ice jams and snow melt, contributing to flooding conditions; wildfires can cause debris to fall onto the bridges impacting the infrastructure; shaking from earthquakes may damage the stability of a bridge; and extreme temperatures can cause the construction materials of a bridge to expand and/or contract.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town Highway Department will develop a timeline and action plan for the last remaining problem bridge/culvert from the five problem sites identified in the last HMP, the rest of which have been addressed.	
Estimated Cost:	Low- Timeline/Action Plan, High-Bridge Repairs	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget, FEMA HMGP, FMA, BridgeNY	
Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years	
Goals Met:	1,2,3	
Benefits:	Infrastructure will be protected from future hazard damages.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Not applicable	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	- Ensures transportation routes remain open and accessible to the public for daily use and evacuation needs. - Provides a point of access for first responders into communities that may have faced damage from a hazard event on either side of the bridge.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Increases community resiliency to flooding events in vulnerable areas that would normally be vulnerable to prolonged isolation after high-water events.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Ensure the bridge structure is impervious to erosion at its base due to rising water levels.	
Mitigation Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☒ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)



CRS Category	☒ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☐ Public Information (PI)			☐ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)		
Priority	☒ High		☐ Medium		☐ Low	
Alternatives	Action			Evaluation		
	No action			-		
	Conduct regular inspections and maintenance without replacement			Does not address structural vulnerabilities		
	Restrict or reroute traffic during severe weather events			Reactive, does not improve resilience of the bridge itself		

Action 2025-JacksonT-04. Mudslide and Debris Runoff Mitigation

Lead Agency:	Town Highway Department	
Supporting Agencies:	-	
Hazards of Concern:	☐ Dam Failure ☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Kenyon Hill, Colfax, and Carney Cassidy Roads are prone to closures from mudslides and debris runoff due to the surrounding slopes. During periods of heavy rain, conditions where there is snow melt, or flooding conditions off the steep grades, mudslides and debris runoff is apt to occur.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town Highway Department has begun paving portions of these roads to mitigate the washouts on dirt/gravel roads but needs to continue this effort to mitigate the problem. The Town proposes continued paving and additional ditching along these roads to mitigate stormwater runoff issues since there are full time residences on these roads.	
Estimated Cost:	High	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town budget, FEMA HMGP, FMA, PDM	
Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years	
Goals Met:	1,2,6,7	
Benefits:	Reduced road closures and improved transportation reliability.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Improved road access ensures that vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those without alternative transportation, can safely evacuate or receive emergency services during severe weather events.	
Impact on Future Development:	Improved slope stability and road reliability may encourage safe development in nearby areas, while also guiding zoning and land-use decisions.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Ensures continued access for emergency vehicles, utility services, and supply chains, especially during and after severe weather events.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Strengthens the Town's ability to plan for and mitigate slope-related hazards and supports long-term infrastructure resilience.	



Climate Change Considerations:	Increased frequency and intensity of rainfall events due to climate change may worsen slope instability. This action helps the Town adapt to future climate-related risks.		
Mitigation Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☒ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☒ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☐ Public Information (PI)	☒ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☒ High	☐ Medium	☐ Low
Alternatives	Action	Evaluation	
	No action	-	
	Remove properties impacted by stream overflow	Costly	
	Construct a floodwall to prevent flooding	Cost prohibitive and could ruin natural floodplain function	

Action 2025-JacksonT-06. Construction Procedures Ordinance

Lead Agency:	Town Board
Supporting Agencies:	Code Enforcement
Hazards of Concern:	☐ Dam Failure ☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood ☒ Severe Weather ☐ Severe Winter Weather ☐ Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	While the current issue is focused on Nesbitt Road and Hedges Lake, the entirety of the Town would benefit from a Construction Procedures ordinance to limit, and/or avoid, debris, runoff, and erosion of roads.
Description of the Solution:	The Town Board will develop an ordinance to address proper construction and maintenance procedures to avoid debris, runoff, and erosion of private roads impacting Nesbitt Road and Hedges Lake during heavy rain and flooding events.
Estimated Cost:	Low
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget
Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years
Goals Met:	1,2,6
Benefits:	Supports safer development and construction practices.
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Not applicable
Impact on Future Development:	Improves access to safer land use and construction standards.
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Minimizes risk to roads, utilities, and emergency access routes from erosion and unstable construction.
Impact on Capabilities:	Builds technical knowledge and resilience in land use and construction practices.



Climate Change Considerations:	Supports long-term sustainability and hazard mitigation in changing environmental conditions.		
Mitigation Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☐ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☒ Public Information (PI)	☐ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☒ High	☐ Medium	☐ Low
Alternatives	Action	Evaluation	
	No action	-	
	Physical barriers or drainage systems	Reactive, doesn't address source of problem	
	Rely on voluntary compliance	Compliance is inconsistent	

Action 2025-JacksonT-07. Comprehensive Plan Development

Lead Agency:	Town Board
Supporting Agencies:	Planning Department
Hazards of Concern:	☒ Dam Failure ☒ Earthquake ☒ Extreme Temperature ☒ Flood
	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town does not have a written Comprehensive/Master Plan.
Description of the Solution:	The Planning Department will work to complete the Town Comprehensive Plan and get Town board approval to help secure future grant funding for goals/projects identified in plan. Since the last plan there has also been an increase in solar development with the potential for much more on farmland in the Town. The Town law already prohibits commercial battery storage but the Comprehensive Plan should include strategies for solar development siting and potential fire/smoke risks. Solar panels may impact view sheds which is a concern of many homeowners and should be addressed in this plan.
Estimated Cost:	Low
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget
Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years
Goals Met:	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
Benefits:	This action will have the Town develop a comprehensive plan. The integration of hazard mitigation principles will present the opportunity for the Town to identify areas of the Town which may be impacted by hazards and plan for future land use accordingly.



Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The inclusion of hazard mitigation principles into the comprehensive plan may include discussions on how hazard risks may impact socially vulnerable populations in the Town.		
Impact on Future Development:	This action will have a direct impact on future land use in the Town, as the comprehensive plan guides land use principles in the Town.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Developing the comprehensive plan to include hazard mitigation principles may present an opportunity to discuss hazard risks to critical facilities and lifelines in the Town.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will enhance the existing planning capabilities of the Town, making it more resilient.		
Climate Change Considerations:	The comprehensive plan can incorporate climate adaptation strategies, helping the Town prepare for increased risks from extreme weather, flooding, and temperature variability due to climate change.		
Mitigation Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☒ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☐ Public Information (PI)	☐ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☐ High	☒ Medium	☐ Low
Alternatives	Action		Evaluation
	No action		-
	Use County or Regional plans		Lacks specific local context
	Develop basic land use map only		Limited planning support

Action 2025-JacksonT-08. Excavator

Lead Agency:	Town Highway Department		
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board		
Hazards of Concern:	☐ Dam Failure ☐ Earthquake ☐ Extreme Temperature ☐ Flood	☒ Severe Weather ☒ Severe Winter Weather ☒ Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Town has a need for an excavator to assist with drainage improvements, debris management, and other emergency and maintenance needs.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town Highway Department will explore funding options to purchase an excavator to provide for local personnel to conduct drainage improvements, debris management, and other needs in the town. Once purchase of new equipment is secured, construct additions to the highway department barn to house the new equipment. This construction of the addition will begin once the equipment is ordered.		
Estimated Cost:	Medium		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		



Implementation Timeline:	1-5 years		
Goals Met:	3		
Benefits:	Improves response time for drainage and debris issues.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Not applicable		
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Ensures access to and protection of roads and utilities during and after severe weather events.		
Impact on Capabilities:	Increases the Town's self-sufficiency and operational readiness for hazard response and routine maintenance.		
Climate Change Considerations:	More frequent and intense storms due to climate change will increase the need for rapid debris removal and drainage improvements.		
Mitigation Category	☒ Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) ☐ Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	☐ Natural Systems Protection (NSP) ☐ Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	☒ Preventative Measures (PR) ☐ Property Protection (PP) ☐ Public Information (PI)	☐ Natural Resource Protection (NR) ☐ Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) ☐ Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	☐ High	☒ Medium	☐ Low
Alternatives	Action	Evaluation	
	No action	-	
	Rental	Delays during emergencies; Costly over time	
	Rely on County or State	Slows response time	



Table V. Summary of Prioritization of Actions

Project Number	Project Name	Scores for Evaluation Criteria															High / Medium / Low
		Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost-Effectiveness	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social Vulnerability	Administrative	Hazards of Concern	Climate Change	Timeline	Community Lifelines	Other Local Objectives	Total	
2025-JacksonT-01	Internet Expansion	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	10	Medium
2025-JacksonT-02	Town Website Updates	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	8	Medium
2025-JacksonT-03	Bridge Improvements	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-JacksonT-04	Mudslide and Debris Runoff Mitigation	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-JacksonT-05	Erosion-Resistant Crop Ordinance	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	12	High
2025-JacksonT-06	Construction Procedures Ordinance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	12	High
2025-JacksonT-07	Comprehensive Plan Development	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	10	Medium
2025-JacksonT-08	Excavator	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	9	Medium

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