

DEP AGREEMENT NO. CM835

Coastal Management Evaluation of the Dixie County Comprehensive Plan

Dixie County Board of County Commissioners

Final Project Report



**Locklear
& Associates**



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June 2019

Final Project Report for CM835

Coastal Management Evaluation of the Dixie County Comprehensive Plan

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Coastal Vulnerability Analysis Report

Attachment 2: Comprehensive Plan Amendments & Recommendations

Attachment 3: 2015 Dixie County Comprehensive Plan

Attachment 4: Committee Meeting Minutes & Sign-In Sheets

Executive Summary

As a County with over 32 miles of coastline, Dixie County's economy and quality of life have historically been linked to its shores, tidal wetlands, farm fields, and the resources of the Gulf of Mexico. Because of its location, low elevations, and dependence on the coast, Dixie County is particularly vulnerable to the effects of Sea Level Rise (SLR), loss of low-lying land and structures, saltwater intrusion into surface water and ground water, and increased flooding from storm events. Changes in sea levels have the potential to impact existing infrastructure and natural resources in the short-term and also the durability of future development with long-term design life. Long-range planning and accounting for changes in sea level that may be expected in the County will help lead to informed decisions for public and private investments by minimizing risk and potential for damage to both existing and future resources. This assessment is being prepared through the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP) administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The objective of this assessment is to identify the impacts of SLR and coastal flooding, as well as build and/or plan the resiliency of the County to withstand sea level rise and future storms through the recommendations of Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Results of the SLR and Coastal Vulnerability Analysis indicate that inundation from SLR will affect a range of resources, including but not limited to; infrastructure, land use, and natural resources, as well as increase the risk to public safety. SLR and storm surge scenarios have been mapped and can be found in the Coastal Vulnerability Analysis Report included in Attachment 1.

Methodology

The data sources employed in this study include UF GeoPlan Sea Level Sketch Planning Tool, NOAA SLOSH Display Viewer, ESRI GIS data sets provided by the Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL), Locklear & Associates survey data points, and local residential knowledge. In addition to these sources, this study employs data from the Dixie County Property Appraiser on parcel and owner data information corresponding to the coastal communities targeted within Dixie County.

A coastal vulnerability analysis report was prepared utilizing the above referenced draft resources to analyze and facilitate areas of interests that correspond to SLR for the three communities (Jena, Horseshoe Beach, and Suwannee) within Dixie County.

Two committee meetings were then held in conjunction with the preparation of the analysis report to explain the findings to the representative stakeholders of Dixie County. Representatives of the three coastal communities were purposely sought to provide local expertise to the difficulties each community was experiencing so they could accurately be represented in the recommended comprehensive plan amendments. In addition to local residents, committee members included county personnel, water and sewer management, and local business leaders. Meeting minutes and sign-in sheets of the committee meetings are included in Attachment 4.

The final report produced comprehensive plan amendments and recommendations for areas anticipated to be impacted based on predicted sea level rise along Dixie County coastline. These recommendations are included in Attachment 2 and correspond to the 2015 Dixie County Comprehensive Plan in Attachment 3.

Outcome

The combination of a subsiding coastline, increasing rate of SLR, and accelerating frequency and severity of storms points to a growing threat to the viability of every Dixie County community that borders a tidally-influenced waterway. These are extremely difficult topics of conversation in shore communities, which have a well-established cultural, as well as financial, connection to their patterns of development. Community feedback and constructive conversation were made difficult by an unwillingness to accept the SLR projection curves and flood data being presented.

In the course of analysis with the three selected coastal towns, it became clear that additional research is needed relating to managing land-use changes, municipal obligations for providing services, costs and benefits of strategies, and how to allow legally for strategic disinvestment. Adjustments to development strategies and plan amendments were preliminary conducted and analyzed by utilizing the information found in the coastal vulnerability analysis report dated December 2018.

The comprehensive plan is an evolving document and requires continual observation of ever-present threats to Dixie County, its coastline and its residents. A stronger more resilient County would better protect its residents, lessen the burden of emergency management services during county/state emergencies, and thus limit the economic support required of state and county agencies.

Further Recommendations

Additional recommendations found through this analysis was the need to establish a more pronounced coastal high hazard area for impacted areas located in SLR flood zones. Coastal high hazard zones would be restricted to more stringent building codes and strategies that could potentially lessen the impact of emergency management services provided by the Dixie County. This in turn would minimize financial rebuilding efforts and shorten the duration of residential displacement.

Additionally, the adoption of SLR specific amendments into the newest county comprehensive plan and the creation of a county-wide adaptation plan would benefit the county and continue efforts toward becoming more resilient.

ATTACHMENT 1

Coastal Vulnerability Analysis Report Dixie County, Florida

COASTAL VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS REPORT TASK 1

FOR

DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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1. Executive Summary

a. Context

Patterns of development that characterize the Dixie County coast have left many people and structures dangerously vulnerable to subsiding and eroding coastlines, increasingly frequent and severe storms, and growing flood risks associated with sea level rise (SLR). A majority of Dixie County is characterized by wetlands and given its proximity to an elevation near sea level, makes it much more susceptible to flooding during major storm events.

b. Project Objective

As new studies and data have been released, it has become evident that sea level rise and storm surge pose increasing risk to the Dixie County coastline. The result was to fund a coastal comprehensive planning approach that would identify actions municipalities could take to respond to coastal hazards while protecting Dixie County's coastal resources. In assessing the past 68 years of recordable storm event data, Dixie County has had over \$85 million dollars in property damage due to either flooding, storm surge or hurricane related flood events (Table 1). This Task 1 (Coastal Vulnerability Analysis Report) will utilize the University of Florida's Geoplan Sketch Tool to analyze sea level rise and also NOAA's SLOSH Display 1.79 Software to factor storm surge threats to Dixie County's coastline.

REPORTED STORM EVENTS (1950-2018)					
DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA					
LOCATION	DATE	TYPE	INJURIES	PROPERTY DAMAGE	CROP DAMAGE
DIXIE (ZONE)	3/10/1998	Flood	0	\$35,000,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	9/2/1998	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$250,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	9/28/1998	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$400,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	9/17/2000	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
HORSESHOE BEACH	9/25/2002	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	8/13/2004	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	9/15/2004	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	9/26/2004	Flood	0	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	7/9/2005	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	7/10/2005	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	8/28/2005	Hurricane (typhoon)	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	8/28/2005	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	6/12/2006	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$75,000.00	\$0.00
DIXIE (ZONE)	8/24/2008	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
HORSESHOE BEACH	8/25/2010	Flood	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
COASTAL DIXIE (ZONE)	6/25/2012	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
HINES	4/30/2014	Flood	0	\$399,000.00	\$0.00
JONESBORO	8/2/2015	Flood	0	\$250,000.00	\$0.00
COASTAL DIXIE (ZONE)	6/6/2016	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
COASTAL DIXIE (ZONE)	9/1/2016	Storm Surge/tide	0	\$43,100,000.00	\$0.00
Totals:			0	\$85,684,000.00	\$0.00

Table 1 - Reported Storm Events (NOAA, 2018)

c. Process

The primary goals of this project are: (Task 1) to utilize existing tools to assess the vulnerability of coastal communities in Dixie County, and; (Task 2) to develop language to revise the County's Comprehensive Plan to protect our citizens, businesses, and visitors while also being compliant with the "peril of flood" provisions of the Florida Statute. These tasks will guide the decision-making process for future development, infrastructure projects and programs to assist local economic growth and business resilience.

Progressive risk management is critical to avoiding delays in service, loss of assets, loss of resources, and most importantly loss of life. An understanding of the risks that critical infrastructure will be exposed to throughout its life cycle such as SLR inundation, storm surge, and flooding must be established early on in the planning phase. Projects in need of a greater factor of safety related to potential inundation should consider designing for the upper limit of the blue-

shaded zone (Appendix A). Examples of such projects may include evacuation routes planned for reconstruction, communications infrastructures, energy substations and networks, government buildings and financial institutions.

For minimal risk infrastructure projects, the lowermost curve of the RSLC projections (Figure 8, NOAA 2017 VLM) may be applied. Minimal risk projects include infrastructure expected to be constructed and then replaced within the next 10 years, projects that are easily replaceable or with limited impacts when failure occurs (i.e. flash board risers). Additionally, planning for adaptation should be considered during the initial phase of a project. Appropriate project determination should be made on whether a project qualifies for mid-life cycle risk assessment. If adjustment is not feasible for the type of high risk infrastructure proposed and inundation seems apparent, the project should be designed to accommodate the projected SLR at conception or select another project site. To ensure a conservative design approach is used, the upper limit of the projection (Table 3, NOAA 2017 High) should be used for projects with design lives of a minimum of 50 years.

d. Planning Scenarios

Dixie County's coastal communities face risks from rising sea levels, erosion, and coastal storms that are likely to affect future development patterns. For this reason, it is important that towns consider altering their current development form in favor of future growth and conservation land-use patterns that will minimize their extent of exposure to coastal risk and increase resilience to flood events. To achieve this objective, it may be necessary to shift existing and proposed growth from areas that are, or will be inundated due to SLR.

e. Recommendations

The combination of a subsiding coastline, increasing rate of SLR, and accelerating frequency and severity of storms points to a growing threat to the viability of every Dixie County community that borders a tidally-influenced waterway. These are extremely difficult topics of conversation in shore communities, which have a well-established cultural, as well as financial, connection to their patterns of development.

In the course of analysis with the three selected coastal towns, it became clear that additional research is needed relating to managing land-use changes, municipal obligations for providing services, costs and benefits of strategies, and how to allow legally for strategic disinvestment. The report concludes by analyzing potential increases in SLR and storm surges to the coastline of Dixie County for further discussion involving adjustments to county standards and development strategies. Adjustments to development strategies and plan amendments will be conducted in Task 2 of the Florida Resilient Coastline Program for Dixie County utilizing the information found in this Task 1 Coastal Vulnerability Analysis Report dated December 2018.

2. Terms & Definitions

Bathymetry: The water depth relative to mean sea level.

BEER: Bureau of Economic and Business Research

DFE: Design Flood Elevation. The elevation of the design flood, taken as the greater of the base flood elevation shown on the FIRM or the flood shown on a community's flood hazard map.

DU: Dwelling Unit. A single unit providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation. (2017, Florida Building Code)

Freeboard: A safety factor, typically measured above a flood elevation.

FLUM-2016: Future Land Use Map 2016.

FRCR: Florida Resilient Coastline Program

GIS: Geographic Information System. A designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of geographical data.

Hazardous Waste Generators: Facilities that include wastes listed in 40 CFR Part 261, Subpart D of the Federal Regulations as hazardous in regards to classification of ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity by the DEP.

Inundation: Flooding

MOMS: Maximum of maximums. The maximum storm surge heights for all hurricanes of a given category, regardless of forward speed, storm trajectory, landfall location, etc.

MHHW: Mean Higher High Water. The average of all high-water heights observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch – the specific 19-year period adopted by the National Ocean Service as the official time segment over which tide observations are taken and reduced to obtain mean

values (e.g., mean lower low water, etc.) for tidal datum. The higher high tide extent is interpolated from regional tidal stations and is dynamic along the shoreline.

NOAA: National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

NWS: National Weather Service

POFA: Peril of Flood Act, Florida Senate Bill signed into law in 2015 requiring consideration of future flood risk from storm surge and sea level rise in certain portion of local government comprehensive plans.

RSLC: Relative Sea Level Change.

SLOSH: Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes. A computerized numeric model developed by the NWS to estimate surge heights resulting from historical, hypothetical, or predicted hurricanes.

SLR: Sea Level Rise. An increase in global mean sea level resulting from an increase in the volume of water in the world's oceans.

SLOSH Basin: A geographical region with known values for topography and bathymetry.

Storm Surge: Water that is pushed toward the shore by the force of winds swirling around a storm.

USACE: United States Army Corps of Engineers

3. Existing Regulation

While the focus of this project is the coastal vulnerability of Dixie County, it is important to understand the interrelation between various coastal land use regulations and planning policies. Some of these are state and national policies designed to address the risk associated with rising sea levels and coastal storms; meanwhile, others may need to be modified to address risk so communities can minimize their vulnerabilities to coastal hazards.

Local governments are the front line of risk response as it relates to land use and development impacts. Local elected officials, planning boards, and boards of adjustment are the primary arbiters of the location, form, and intensity of municipal development. These local bodies exercise considerable influence over a community's development pattern and, through the planning and development approval process, hold substantial sway over the extent to which a municipality is prepared to respond to risks of future hazards. Dixie County's land use laws delegate ample discretion to municipal officials to consider sea level rise projections in order to promote adaptation and mitigation strategies in local land use control and capital budgeting. Through local plans, land use and development decisions, and capital investments in local services and infrastructure, municipalities can minimize considerably their exposure to storms and the expense of recovery and adaptation.

4. Coastal Communities

Dixie County is located in the northern region of Florida. It is bordered by Lafayette County, Taylor County, Gilchrist County, and Levy County. The southwest border is comprised of approximately 34 miles of coastline in the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, the Suwannee River serves as Dixie County's southern boundary, and the Steinhatchee River serves as the northern boundary. Dixie County's land area covers roughly 704 square miles of relatively flat topography including areas of wetlands and floodplains. The highest elevations in Dixie County are located in the northeastern portion of the county (at 62 feet above sea level) while lower elevations are found in the western and southern regions. The average elevation in Dixie County is 42 feet above mean sea level. The geographical consistency is predominately rural with the majority of forests and salt marsh. Residential and commercial are the primary uses with residential development only accounting for 15% of its total area. Cross City, the county seat and largest population center, is located along US-19 and Highway 27A, SR-55 and CR-351. The only two incorporated towns within Dixie County boundaries are Cross City and Horseshoe Beach. Total county population reached just over 16,000 in late 2017. Three coastal communities were targeted for analysis due to their proximity along Dixie's Gulf border which include the towns of Horseshoe Beach, Jena, and Suwannee. See Figure 1 for clarification of the Dixie County project scope boundary as well as the location of the coastal communities.

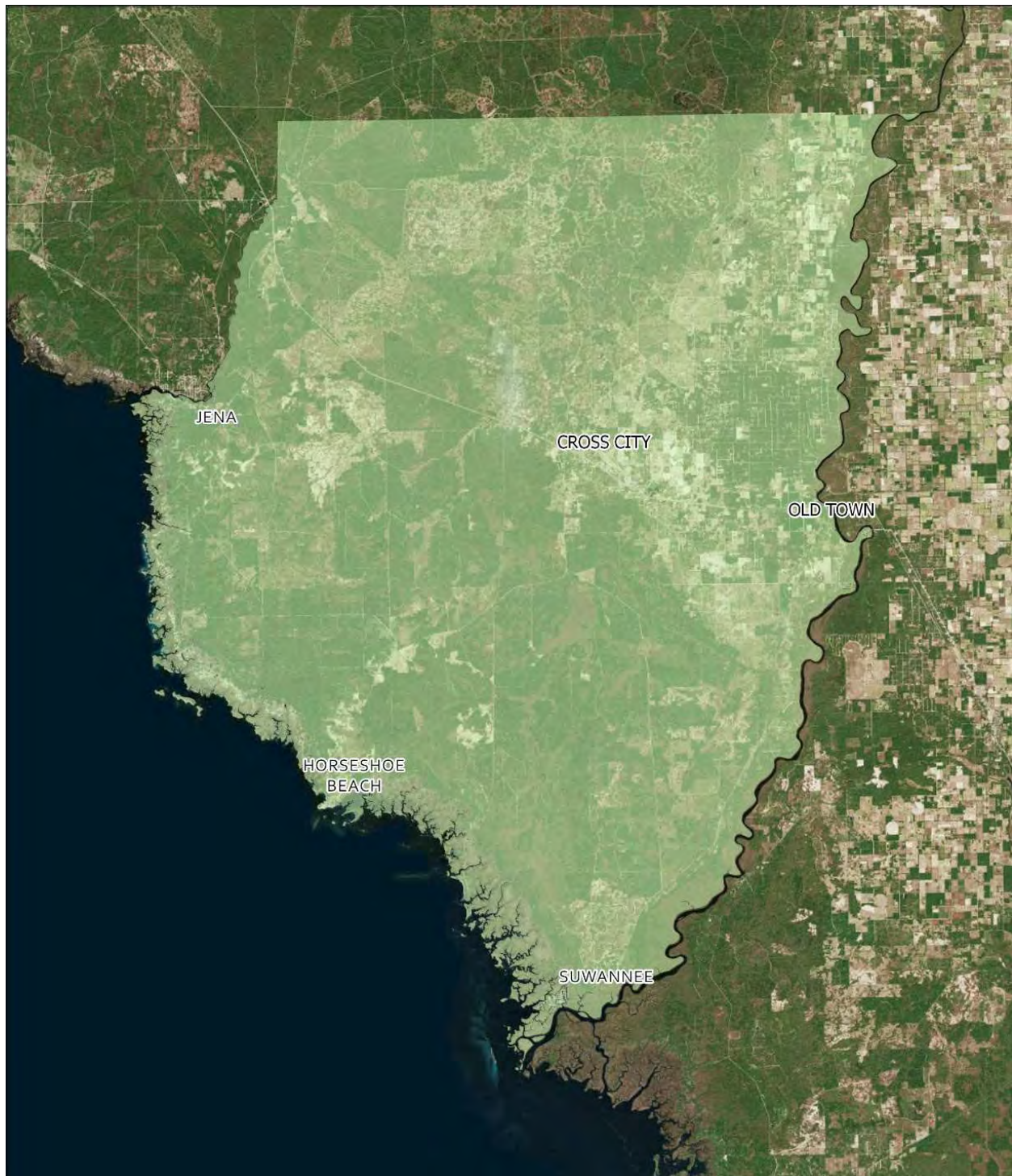


Figure 1 - Dixie County, Florida (2018)

a. Town of Horseshoe Beach

Horseshoe Beach is one of the two incorporated towns in Dixie County. It is located in southern Dixie County on the Gulf of Mexico. County Road 351 provides the only main access to the Town and is utilized as an emergency evacuation route designated by the County. The greatest impacts surrounding Horseshoe Beach is the Gulf of Mexico as the town resides directly on the coast. Horseshoe Beach is a small town covering an area of approximately 0.45 square miles and is comprised entirely of environmentally sensitive areas of low density surrounded by agriculture, conservation and environmentally sensitive areas – very low density areas. The land use details are shown in Table 2. Horseshoe Beach contains one fire station (Station 61), zero police stations, zero medical facilities or major utilities. The Horseshoe Beach Water Treatment Plant is located approximately 1 mile north of town. Displayed in Figure 2 is the Town of Horseshoe Beach perimeter boundary and Figure 3 displays the available registered parcels.



Figure 2 - Town of Horseshoe Beach Aerial (2018)



Figure 3 - Town of Horseshoe Beach Parcel Overlay (2018)

b. Town of Jena

The town of Jena is an unincorporated community located in Dixie County along the southern Steinhatchee river border across from the town of Steinhatchee. Jena resides as the Northern town of Dixie County's boundary and is located approximately 33 miles south of Perry, Florida. Jena's closest waterway, the Steinhatchee River, is the greatest impact variable surrounding SLR variations and it is also its major lifeline for both tourism and development. The area covers approximately 1.50 square miles with land use designations of residential – moderate density, commercial and conservation. It is surrounded by conservation and environmentally sensitive areas of both very low and low density. The land use of Jena is broken down into detail in Table 2. Jena contains one fire station (Station 51), zero police stations and zero medical facilities. The closest immediate medical facility is Doctor's Memorial Hospital DMH Steinhatchee Family Medicine in Steinhatchee across the Steinhatchee River. The closest utility is the Big Bend Water Authority also located in Steinhatchee. Displayed in Figure 4 is the Town of Jena perimeter boundary and Figure 5 displays the available registered parcels.

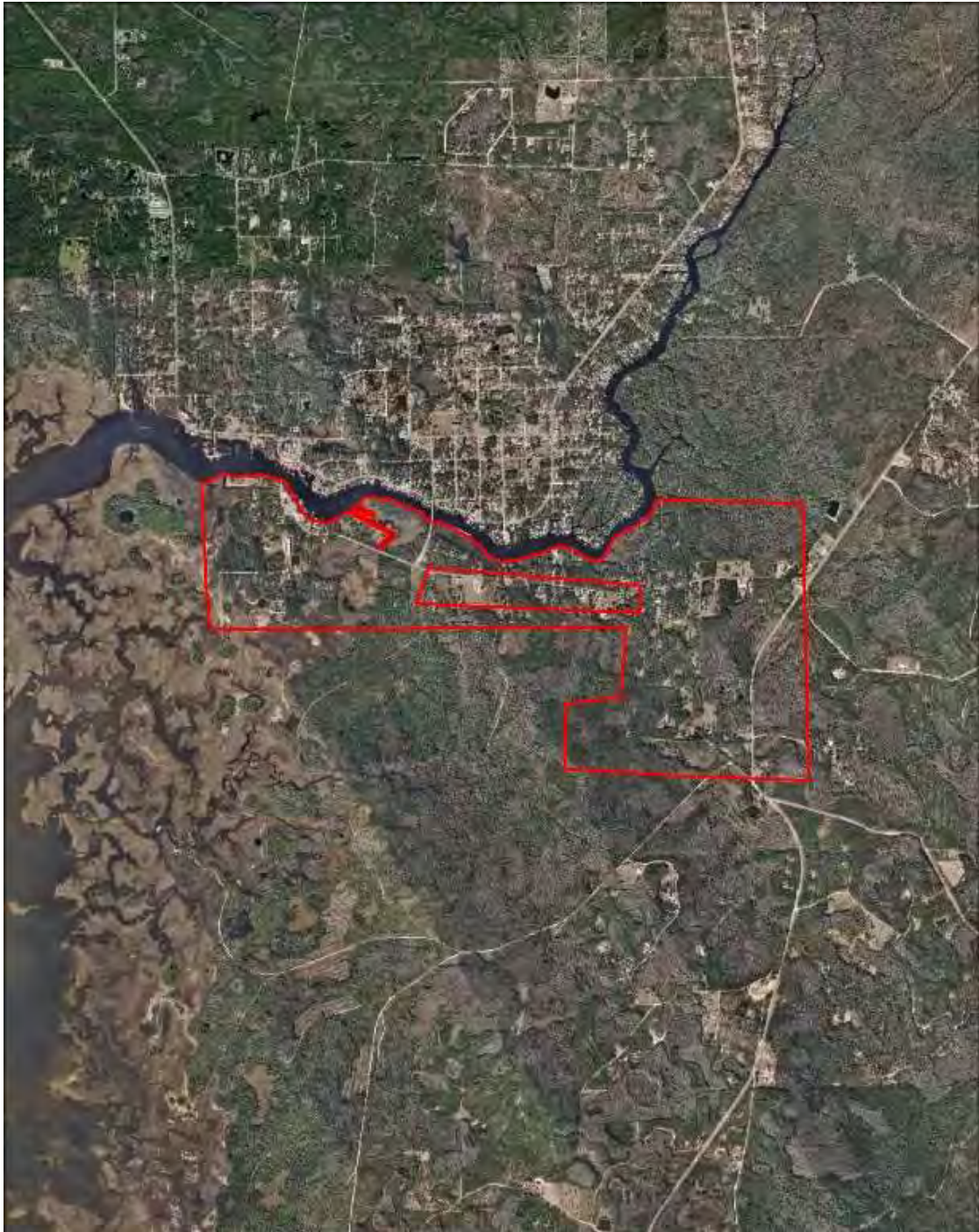


Figure 4 - Town of Jena Aerial (2018)

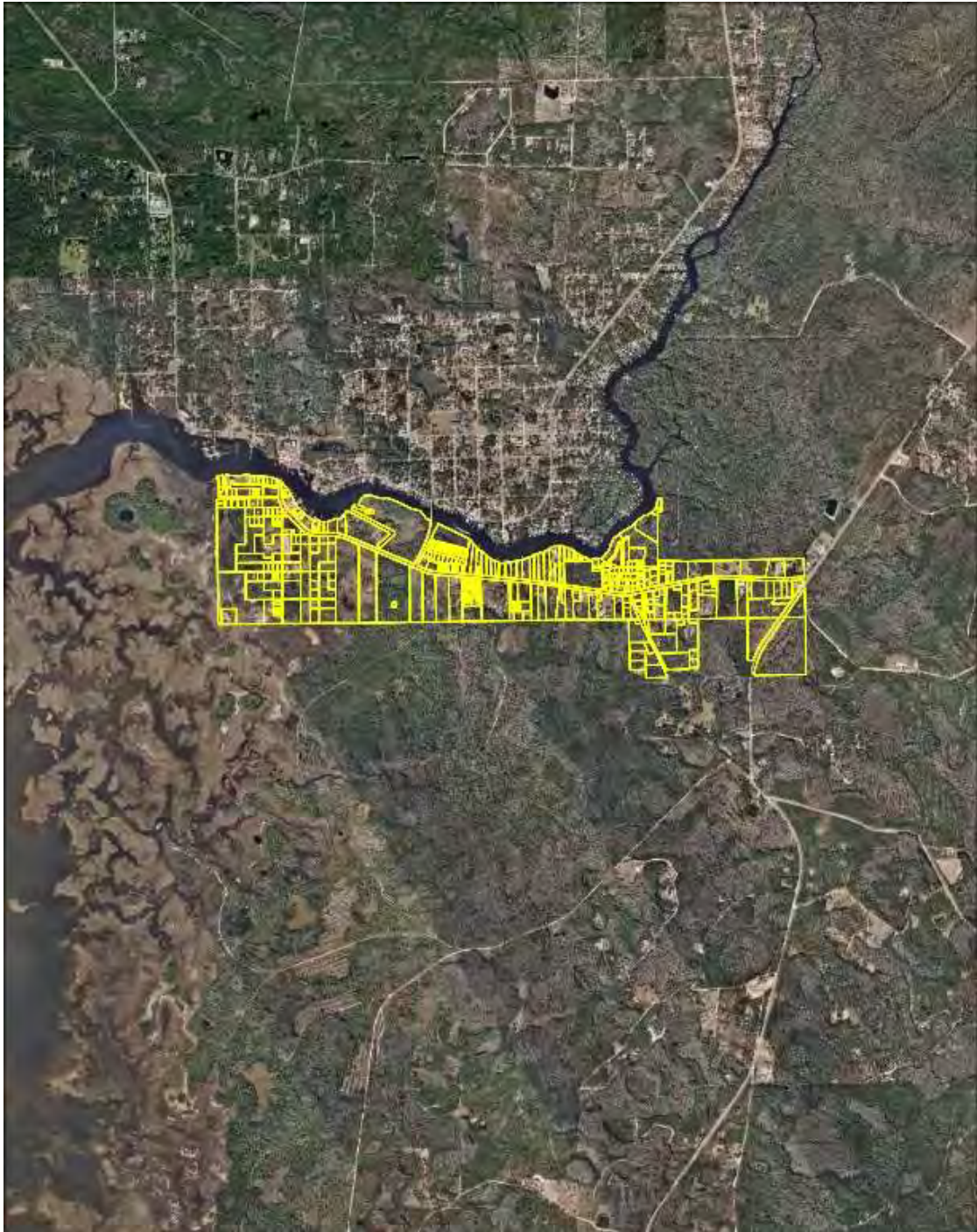


Figure 5 - Town of Jena Parcel Overlay (2018)

c. Town of Suwannee

The town of Suwannee is an unincorporated community located in Dixie County and one of the largest undeveloped delta-estuarine systems in the United States. The town lies on the North border of the Suwannee River protected by the 52,935-acre Lower Suwannee Wildlife Refuge and is the southern end of the Big Bend region. The town itself covers approximately 1.5 square miles with a few outlying properties to the Northeast. SE 349 Highway is the only main road into Suwannee and is a main emergency evacuation route as designated by Dixie County Emergency Services. Land designation is comprised entirely of residential – moderate density (Table 2) and is surrounded by conservation and environmentally sensitive areas - very low density. Suwannee contains one fire station (Station 71), zero police stations and zero medical facilities in the immediate area. Suwannee Water & Sewer Plant is located approximately 2.25 miles northeast of town. Displayed in Figure 6 is the Town of Suwannee perimeter boundary and displayed in Figure 7 are the available registered parcels.



Figure 6 – Town of Suwannee Aerial (2018)

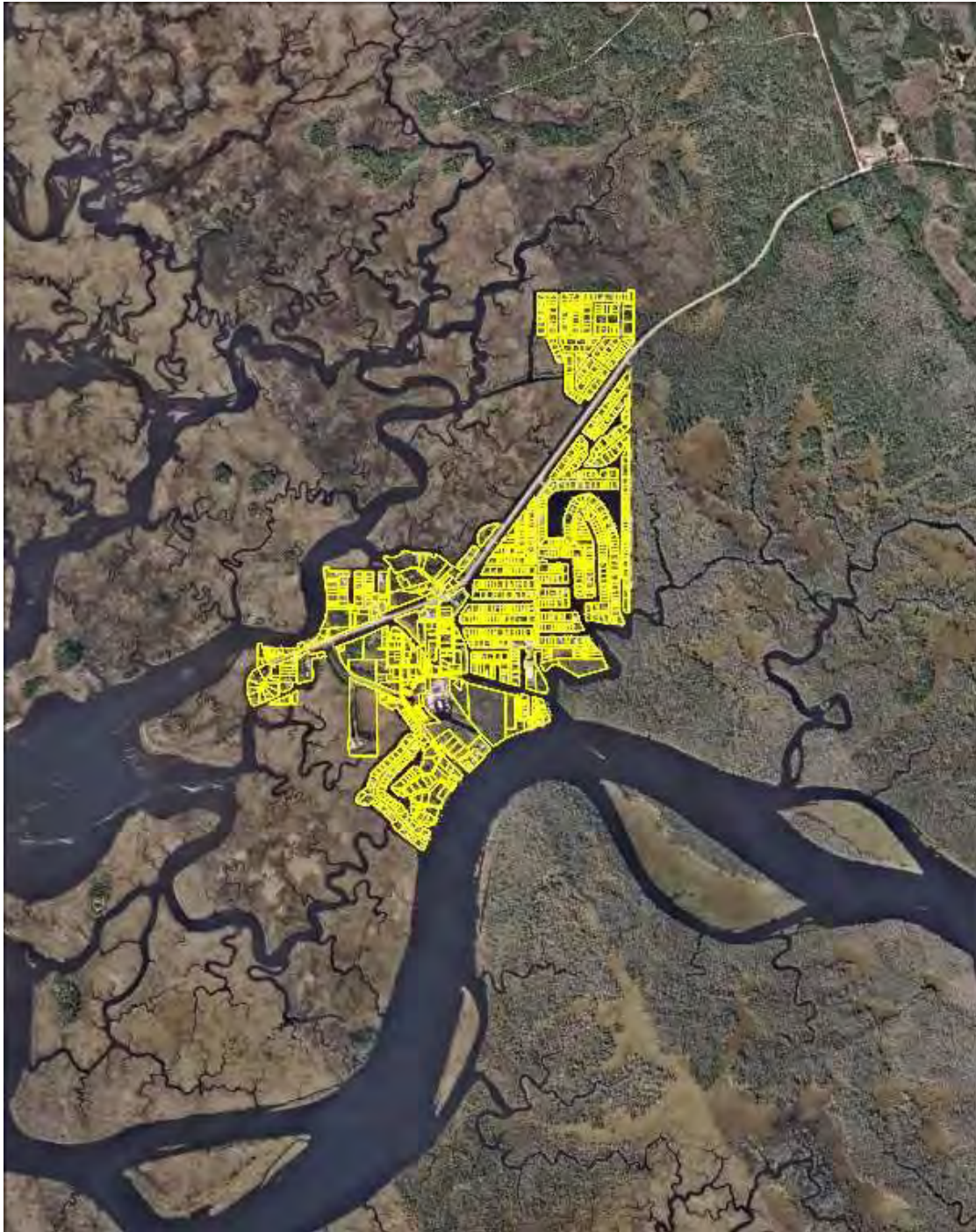


Figure 7 - Town of Suwannee Parcel Overlay (2018)

5. Planning Methods

a. Vulnerability Analysis and Plan Evaluation

As an initial step to understanding the development patterns, objectives, vulnerabilities to coastal hazards, and the character of the coastal communities, Locklear & Associates examined existing studies and available plans. Dixie County is a rural county that has experienced continual growth since 2010. According to the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida, Dixie County has increased its resident population from 16,422 (2010) to 16,726 (2017), representing a 2% increase in growth since 2010. Additionally, it is expected that the population will rise to 17,000 for 2020 and 18,200 for 2040. Dixie County's Future Land Use Map – 2016 (Appendix D) identifies the significant future land use patterns in the County with roughly 90% of the coastline reserved as conservation land and the remaining land classified as environmentally sensitive areas – very low density (less than or equal to one dwelling unit per 40 acres). This leaves minimal opportunity available for new construction. Due to the county's low-lying topography, much of the undeveloped coastal acreage are wetland areas. Additionally, with the multiple designations of environmentally sensitive areas, conservation areas and agriculture use, there is minimal land availability for substantial construction in most of the county. These land use designations are designed and utilized to preserve the rural, agricultural based economy, and conservational areas. Moderate to high density residential and commercial use are available and can be found in the Towns of Horseshoe Beach, Jena and Suwannee as specified in Table 2 (Future Land Use by Coastal Town) and Appendix D (FLUM-2016).

FUTURE LAND USE			
Classification	Coastal Town		
	Horseshoe Beach	Jena	Suwannee
No Future Land Use Classification	0%	0%	0%
Conservation	0%	5%	0%
Recreation	0%	0%	0%
Public	0%	0%	0%
Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Very Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 40 acres)	0%	0%	0%
Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 10 acres)	100%	0%	0%
Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Moderate Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 5 acres)	0%	0%	0%
Agriculture - Very Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 40 acres)	0%	0%	0%
Agriculture - Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 10 acres)	0%	0%	0%
Agriculture - Moderate Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 5 acres)	0%	0%	0%
Agriculture - Medium Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 2 acres)	0%	0%	0%
Residential - Low Density (≤ 2 d.u. per acre)	0%	70%	0%
Residential - Moderate Density (≤ 4 d.u. per acre)	0%	0%	100%
Residential - Medium Density (≤ 8 d.u. per acre)	0%	0%	0%
Residential - High Density (≤ 20 d.u. per acre)	0%	0%	0%
Commercial	0%	25%	0%
Industrial	0%	0%	0%

*Dixie County FLUM-2016

Table 2 - Future Land Use by Coastal Town

b. Software Utilization

The GeoPlan Sketching Tool provided by the University of Florida was used for analyzing the potentially impacted Dixie County coastline and the isolated communities from SLR. Each location was run through SLR scenarios depicting various depths and displayed against available GIS maps for Dixie County. SLR scenarios were mapped by using inundation surfaces created by the University of Florida GeoPlan Center through values generated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Sea Level Change Curve Calculator (2015.46), USACE SLR projections (2013), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) SLR projections (2012), NOAA tide gauge data, NOAA tidal surfaces, and a 5-meter horizontal resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM).

SLR PROJECTIONS	
Curve	Description
C1	USACE Low (2013)/ NOAA Low (2012)
C2	USACE Intermediate (2013) / NOAA Intermediate Low (2012)
C3	NOAA Intermediate High (2012)
C4	USACE High (2013)
C5	NOAA High (2012)

Table 3 - SLR Curve Designations

Inundation models were generated with an additional hydrologic connectivity filter applied to help in removing isolated inundated areas not connected to a major waterway and are displayed in SLR projections for years 2040, 2060, 2080, & 2100 (Appendix A – SLR Projections).

Inundated models available for manipulation were created through 2013. Utilization of the USACE latest revised Change Curve Calculator (2017.55) and known values from the Cedar Key II, Florida Gauge reflects higher than estimated values for modeled curves C1 through C5. Additional modeling and investigation may be necessary to accurately reflect adjusted SLR values. See Figure 8 for RSLC Projections.

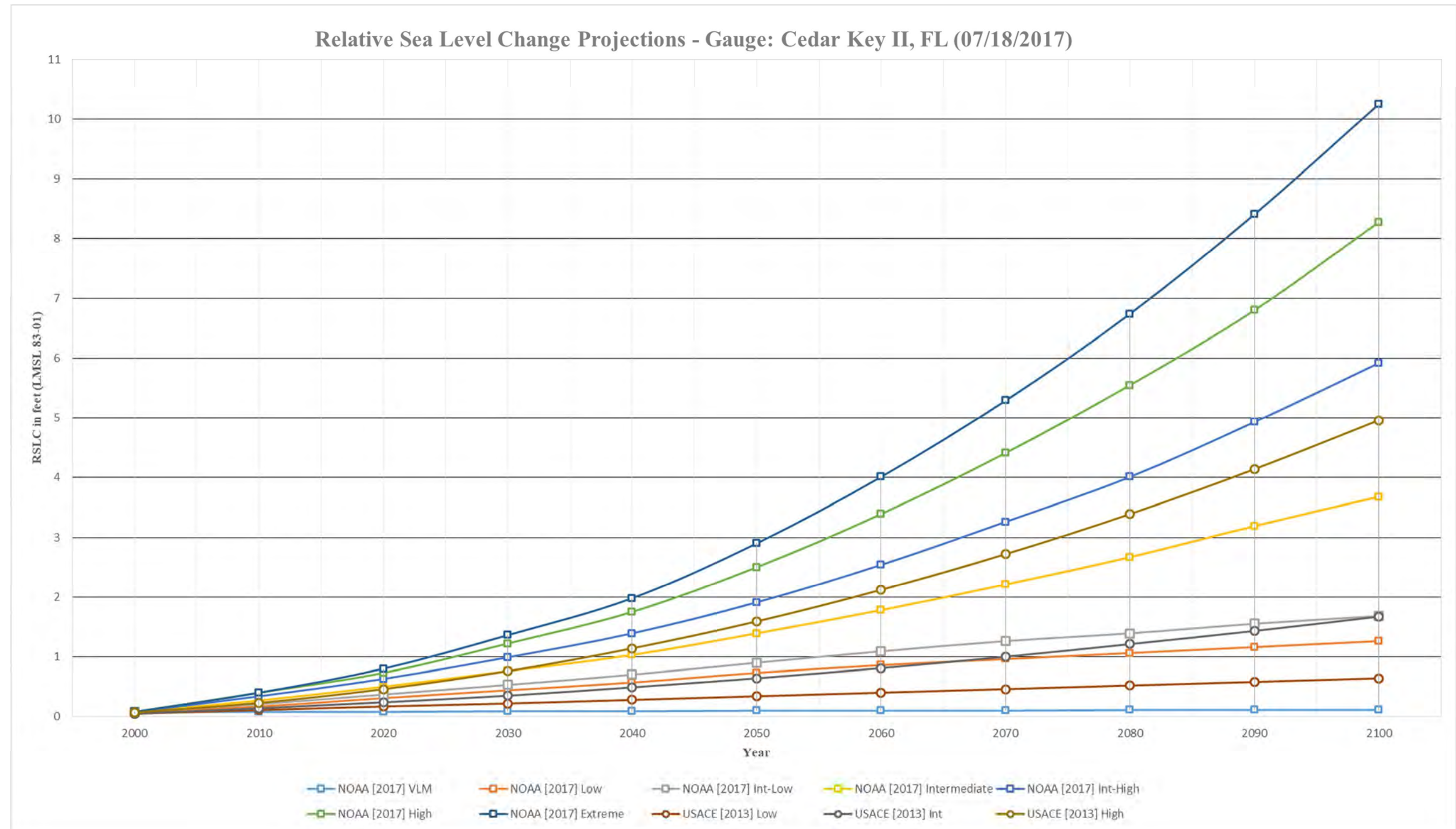


Figure 8 - Relative Sea Level Change by Year

In conjunction with rising sea levels, flooding issues become compounded during hurricane season. Massive winds and pressure changes cause water levels to surge, lengthening the radius of flood zones. The project team utilized NOAA's SLOSH Display Program to analyze current storm surge levels to Dixie County's coastline. The team gauged affected areas and worst-case scenario water levels that could potentially be expected if a large storm system landed.

The SLOSH program consists of a set of equations derived from the Newtonian equations of motion (shallow water equations) and the continuity equation applied to a rotating fluid with a free surface. Applied to known topography of set area or basin, theoretical hurricane simulations are run with varying pressure, wind speed, direction, radius and location. The output are generated water level variations. The historical data is updated annually to minimize margin of error. It can be expected that with SLR and continual storm propagation, the storm surge levels will be expected to rise and need to be monitored for further threat mitigation.

The project team applied the Cedar Key SLOSH Basin and ran MOM (Maximum of maximums) scenario storms at high tide to replicate worst-case scenarios. The three coastal communities were pinned for observation regarding expected water levels due to the generated storm surge levels. Results from each scenario are shown in Appendix B. Note that the figures displayed are for flood level threats at a current state and will continue to intensify as sea levels rise.

c. Community Engagement and Observations

As part of the Task 2 scope of the Florida Resilient Coastline Program in Dixie County, an interactive planning process will be compiled that will allow for public and county to participate and contribute input. This will benefit in assessing public perception and awareness of SLR in the surrounding areas. Joint efforts will be required in moving forward with proactive approaches in evaluating future developmental standards.

d. Summary of Critical Issues

The three coastal communities referenced in the project are coastal communities that have several characteristics found in many communities along Florida's north coast. Each is surrounded by

extensive patches of environmentally sensitive areas. Each has a coastline that is at least minimally developed with residential, limited commercial and water dependent uses. Each is experiencing recurring flooding, particularly during substantial rain events. Each is inhabited by residents who have a strong attachment to the shore, have passed their houses down from generation to generation, and are likely to recoil at the thought of retreating from those homes, regardless of whether they are year-round or seasonal dwellings. Each coastal community also experiences specific issues – flooding, shoreline protection, infrastructure vulnerability, and planning/zoning/land use controls – that may become increasingly problematic as the impacts of SLR continue to grow. And although all three communities experience these issues, the impact the issues have in each town and the priority each are assigned in addressing them vary based on the community's character, composition, and resources.

i. Flooding from SLR

County correspondence have documented occurrences of stormwater backing up into town streets during rainfall events. It is unclear from the studies the project team reviewed if this issue is a result of lack of maintenance, the elevations of the infrastructure, or backflow from the adjacent waterbodies. The towns do experience periodic nuisance flooding on the streets from high tides during the spring due to water breaching sea walls and overflowing into adjacent streets. Construction of current roads in the towns suggest the inability to accurately route flood waters to local canal systems.

Critical analysis of SLR projections portrayed water levels potentially reaching outer parcel boundaries by 2060 and submersion by as early as 2080. SLR level boundaries across the entire coastline could reach 1.5 miles to 5 miles inland by year 2040, irrespective of storm surge progression. By year 2100, those numbers could grow to as much as 8 miles inland near the Perpetual Wildlife Management Area between Horseshoe Beach and Suwannee.

1. Town of Horseshoe Beach

SLR projections indicate that a rise in water level will effect primarily waterways and low lying areas in 2040. Significant flooding is expected to make a larger impact on the surrounding

community around 2 feet of sea level rise. This corresponds to flooded roadways and submerged residential properties not currently elevated. The 2 foot level of water can be seen as early as 2060 with the USACE High (2013) water levels. By Year 2100, with an approximate 4.0 feet of sea level rise, it could be anticipated that the entire Town of Horseshoe Beach could be submerged and unlikely to be accessed by land vehicles.

2. Town of Jena

Due to the Town's elongated shape and proximity away from the Coastline, the Town of Jena's impact to increasing SLR progresses mainly from the Western boundary. By 2060, low lying depressions and properties immediately adjacent to the Steinhatchee River will be impacted with a rise in sea level of approximately 2.0 feet. At the simulated 3.0 foot mark, a majority of the Town will begin to be impacted with 50% of the Town's parcels expecting to have standing water on their properties (Appendix A). The edge of the Steinhatchee River by Year 2100 could be expected to encroach approximately 50 feet to the South onto adjoining properties.

3. Town of Suwannee

The Town of Suwannee with its proximity to the surrounding conservation area will see an encroachment of water with a minimal 1.0 foot rise in sea level. At 2.0 feet of sea level rise, properties to the West and Southeast could be expected to be submerged and properties with coastline and river access will be effected with submersion or permanent standing water.

ii. Flooding from Storm Surge

Storm surge flood levels evaluated using NOAA's SLOSH program indicated a rise of 5 feet on the coast due to a direct impact from a Tropical Storm (≤ 73 mph winds) with the effects propagating as far as 5-8 miles inland (Appendix B). All three coastal towns' boundaries are fully encompassed within approximately 3 miles of the coastline indicating that the business and residences in the Town will be



Photo Courtesy of Dixie County

affected. The height and range of inland propagation rises significantly with a Category 3 storm (111-129 mph winds) to approximately 17 feet and 15 miles respectively. A substantial Category 5 storm (≥ 157 mph winds) could create heights of 28 feet of surge and effect facilities up to 20 miles inland. These scenarios were assessed based on a maximum of maximums (MOM) storm rating involving precise large storm situations for Dixie County.

iii. Shoreline Protection

The tidal marshes that border all or portions of the coasts of the three coastal municipalities provide flood and wave attenuation for landward communities. All of these marshlands are vulnerable to erosion and sea level rise. As the marshes erode and shrink over time, the level of protection they provide will diminish and community vulnerability to future storm surges and wind, wake, and wave action may increase. Hardscape development restricts the natural ability of the marsh to migrate inland. As of FDEP's 2017 report on "Critically Eroded Beaches in Florida", the total eroded shoreline for Dixie County totaled 0.6 miles. This included Shired Island, Bird Island and Cotton Island.

iv. Infrastructure Susceptibility

Critical Facilities: At a minimum, capital improvement plans should evaluate age of infrastructure, elevation as it relates to current and projected sea levels, current condition, and useful life, in the context of future expected conditions and vulnerability to risk. The majority of affected structures in the three coastal towns consist of residential homes, however the fire stations currently residing in all three communities become susceptible to SLR within as little as 3.0 feet (Appendix A). Station 51 in Jena, Station 61 in Horseshoe Beach, and Station 71 in Suwannee are assumed to be impacted by levels of SLR in increments of 4.0 feet, 3.0 feet, and 4.0 feet respectively.

Critical infrastructure, such as storm drains and pump stations, which serve low-lying communities, experience frequent inundation. This inundation can occur during normal tide cycles as well as coastal storm events. Minimal information is available about the vulnerability of the critical infrastructure serving each of the three coastal towns.

Utility Vulnerability: Horseshoe Beach, Jena, and Suwannee are susceptible to flooding from coastal storms, which can lead to power outages and damage to utility infrastructure.

Water Supply: All three Towns are supplied water via public water systems relatively close to their town centers. These facilities are expected to be encroached by SLR and storm surges which could potentially contaminate water supplies.

Sewer System: Lack of power during major storm events can create backups and render sewer systems that serve large areas of communities inoperable. Currently, lift stations are scattered throughout all three communities and due to the low-lying topography become compromised around 3.0-4.0 feet range of water level rise.

Hazardous Waste Generators: Only one hazardous waste generator is currently registered within the three coastal communities, Horseshoe Beach (Appendix C, Hazardous Waste Generators). Sea level rise projections found in Appendix A indicate a submersion rate for the Town of Horseshoe Beach to be approximately 4.0 feet. This is modeled as an extreme case in the year 2080 and an average case in the year 2100. A majority of Dixie County's hazardous waste generators are found in Cross City and Old Town, these sites though not immediately impacted by SLR, become a factor for consideration in Category 4 and Category 5 storm surge levels (Appendix B).

Road Access: There is only one major road leading into Suwannee (SE 349 HWY) and Horseshoe Beach (CR-351). Hindrance and accessibility issues can be exacerbated in an emergency or evacuation scenario, when the roads are likely to become impassable. Due to the small number of major roadways in the vicinity of the coastal towns, it is recommended that the roadways listed in Figure 9 be evaluated for future improvements for inclusion in Task 2 of the Dixie County FRCR.

VULNERABLE MAJOR ROADWAYS
CR-351
FL HWY 51
CR-358
FL HWY 361
SE 349 HWY

Figure 9 - Vulnerable Major Roadways

v. Land Use & Zoning Controls

1. Land Use Planning

In 2015, Florida Senate passed SB 1095/House passed HJ 803 resulting in the Peril of Flood Act, approved by the Governor (<https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2015/1094/?Tab=BillHistory>). The Act specifies requirements for jurisdictions required to have a coastal management element in their comprehensive plan. The Act requires the coastal management redevelopment element to:

1. Include development and redevelopment principles, strategies, and engineering solutions that reduce flood risk in coastal areas which results from high-tide events, storm surge, flash floods, storm water runoff, and the related impacts of sea level rise.
2. Encourage the use of best practices development and redevelopment principles, strategies and engineering solutions that will result in the removal of coastal real property from flood zone designations established by FEMA.
3. Identify site development techniques and best practices that may reduce losses due to flooding and claims made under flood insurance policies issued in this state.
4. Be consistent with, or more stringent from, the flood-resistant construction requirements in the Florida Building Code and applicable flood plain management regulations set forth in 44 C.F.R part 60.
5. Require that any construction activities seaward of the coastal construction control lines established pursuant to s. 161.053 be consistent with chapter 161.
6. Encourage local governments to participate in the FMA CRS program to achieve flood insurance premium discounts for residents.

Current local master plans, zoning ordinances, capital investment plans (where they exist), water management plans, stormwater management plans, and hazard mitigation plans do not reflect a high level of detail for flood inundation risks and will need to be evaluated for reconciliation.

The principal purpose of the analysis was to establish a baseline assessment of existing conditions and an evaluation of future development potential. The procedures for the analysis consisted of using the output from the

Geoplan Sketching Tool and SLR projection curves. The project team mapped all parcels in Horseshoe Beach, Jena, and Suwannee and ran a focused analysis on rising SLR for years 2040, 2060, 2080 and 2100. These areas were selected based on their large population density that were within a marginal proximity to the coastline of Dixie County. These towns will continue to be representative samples for the County as sea levels rise.



Photo Courtesy of Dixie County

2. Zoning Regulations

A limited amount of developable property is available in certain zoning districts and in the coastal communities in general. The County's master plan will need to be reviewed and updated given the established data and the potential impacts to their currently permitted improvement projects, land use intensity, zoning controls, and natural resource constraints.

3. Environmental Regulations

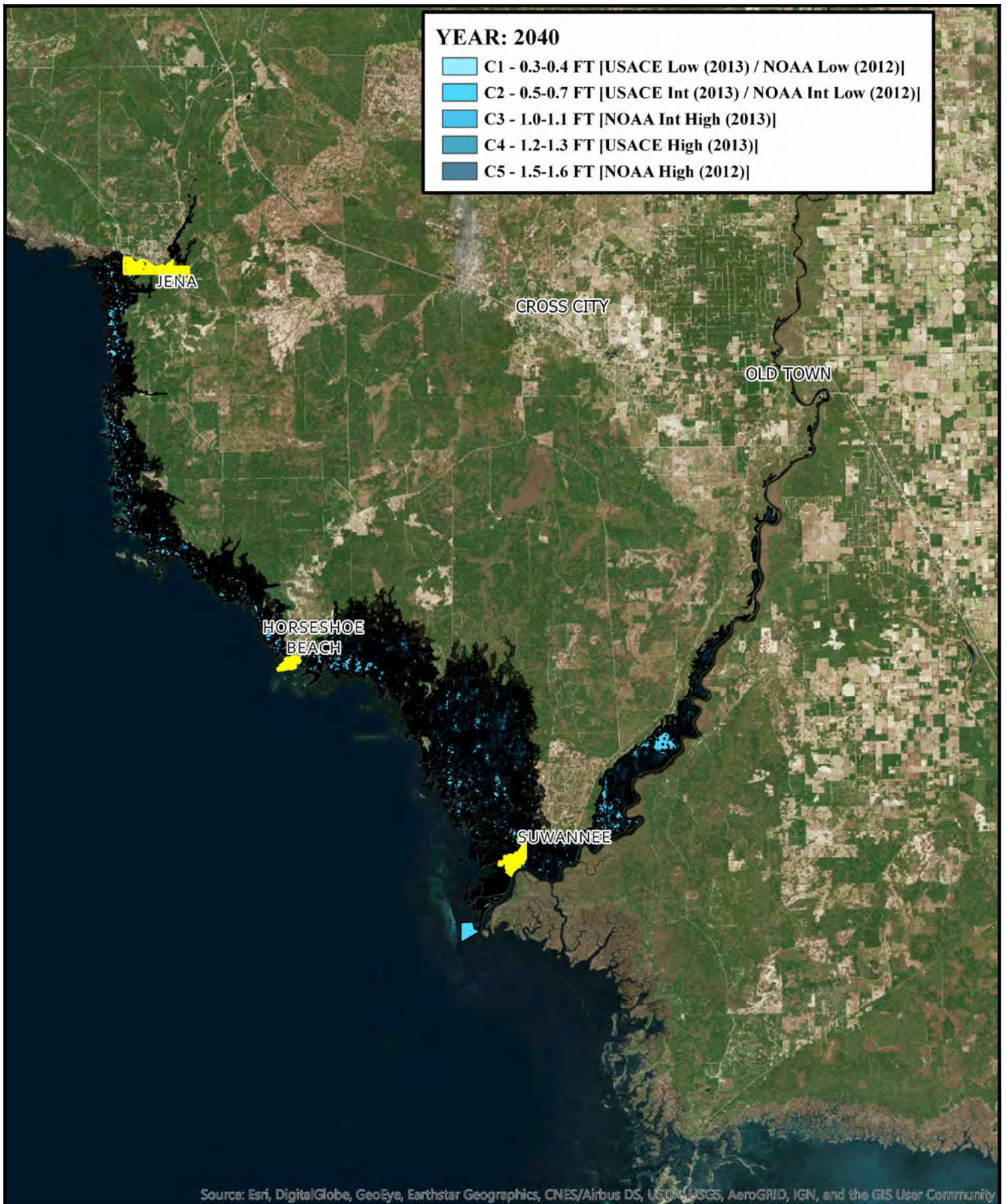
Development is currently limited or prohibited in certain environmentally sensitive areas of the coastal communities, including wetlands, flood plains and critical wildlife habitats.

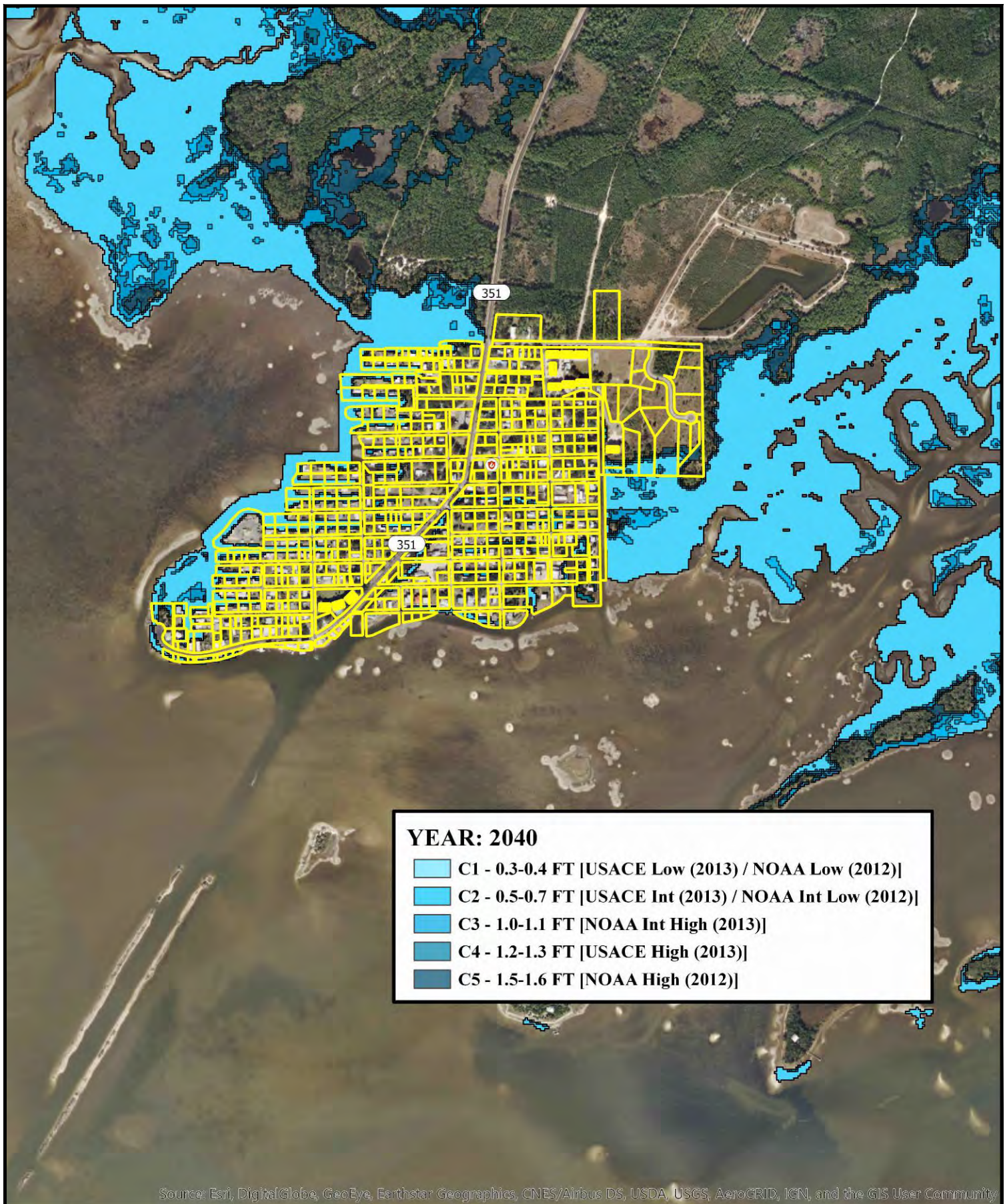
APPENDIX A

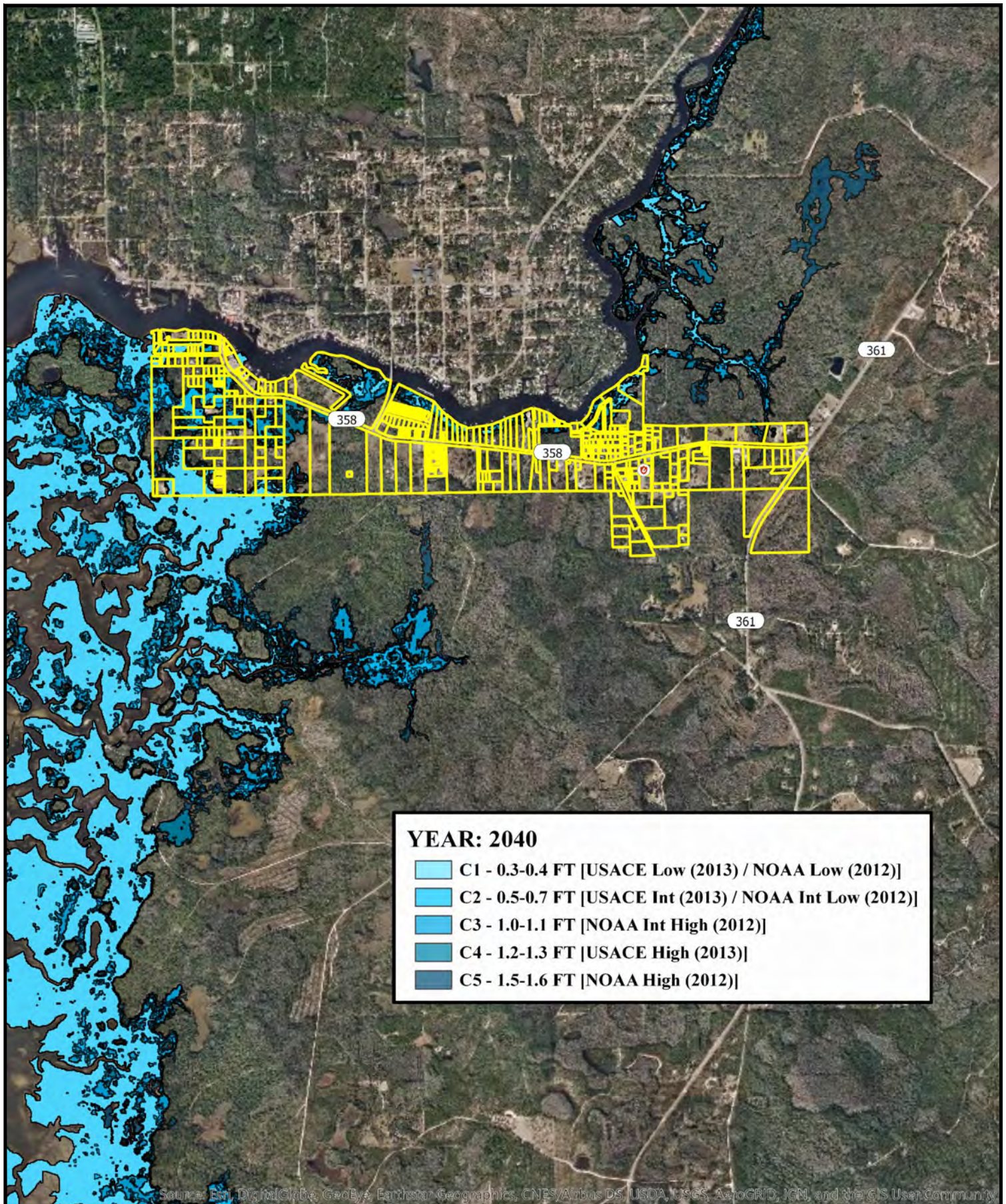
SLR Projections

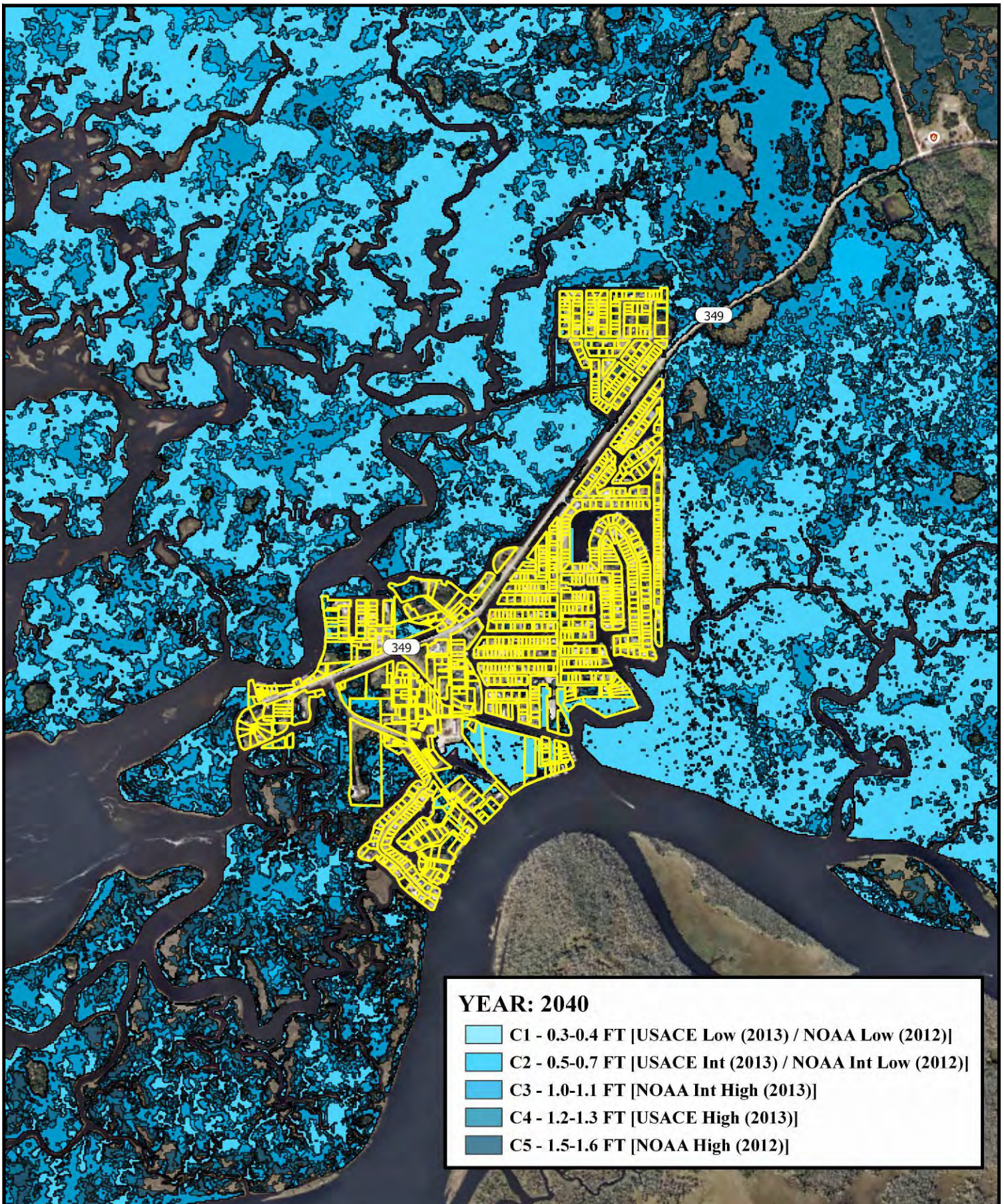
YEAR: 2040

-  C1 - 0.3-0.4 FT [USACE Low (2013) / NOAA Low (2012)]
-  C2 - 0.5-0.7 FT [USACE Int (2013) / NOAA Int Low (2012)]
-  C3 - 1.0-1.1 FT [NOAA Int High (2013)]
-  C4 - 1.2-1.3 FT [USACE High (2013)]
-  C5 - 1.5-1.6 FT [NOAA High (2012)]



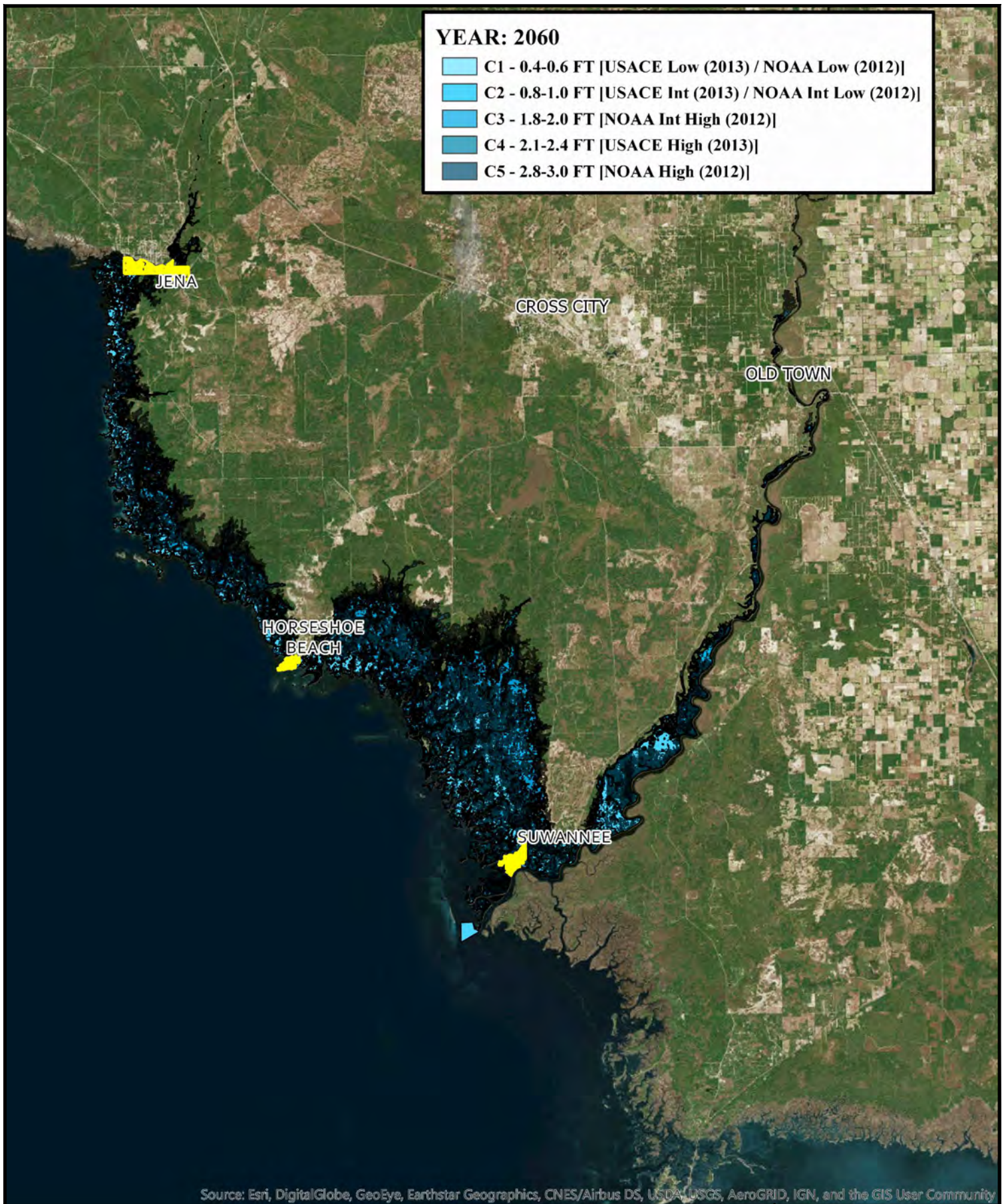


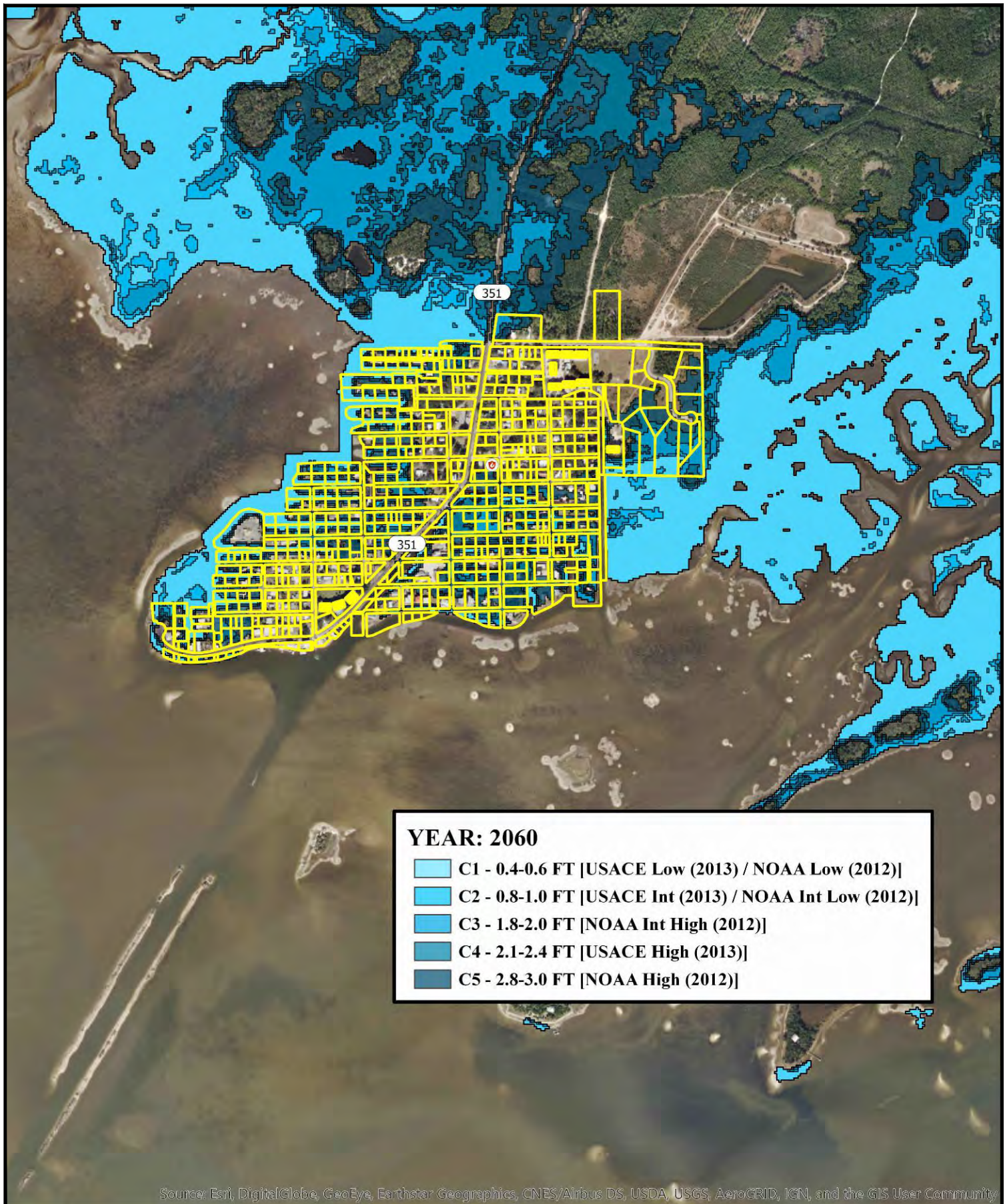


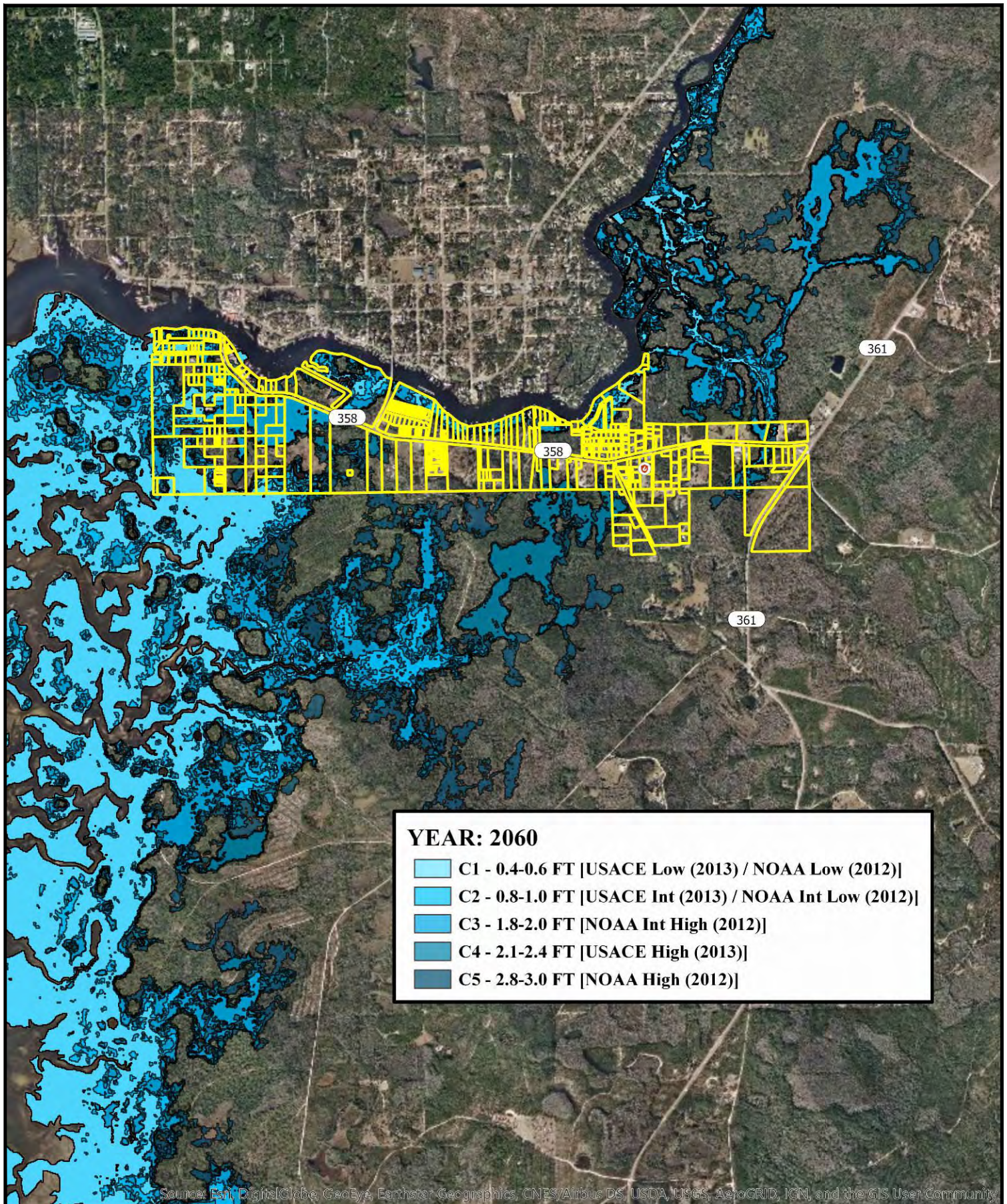


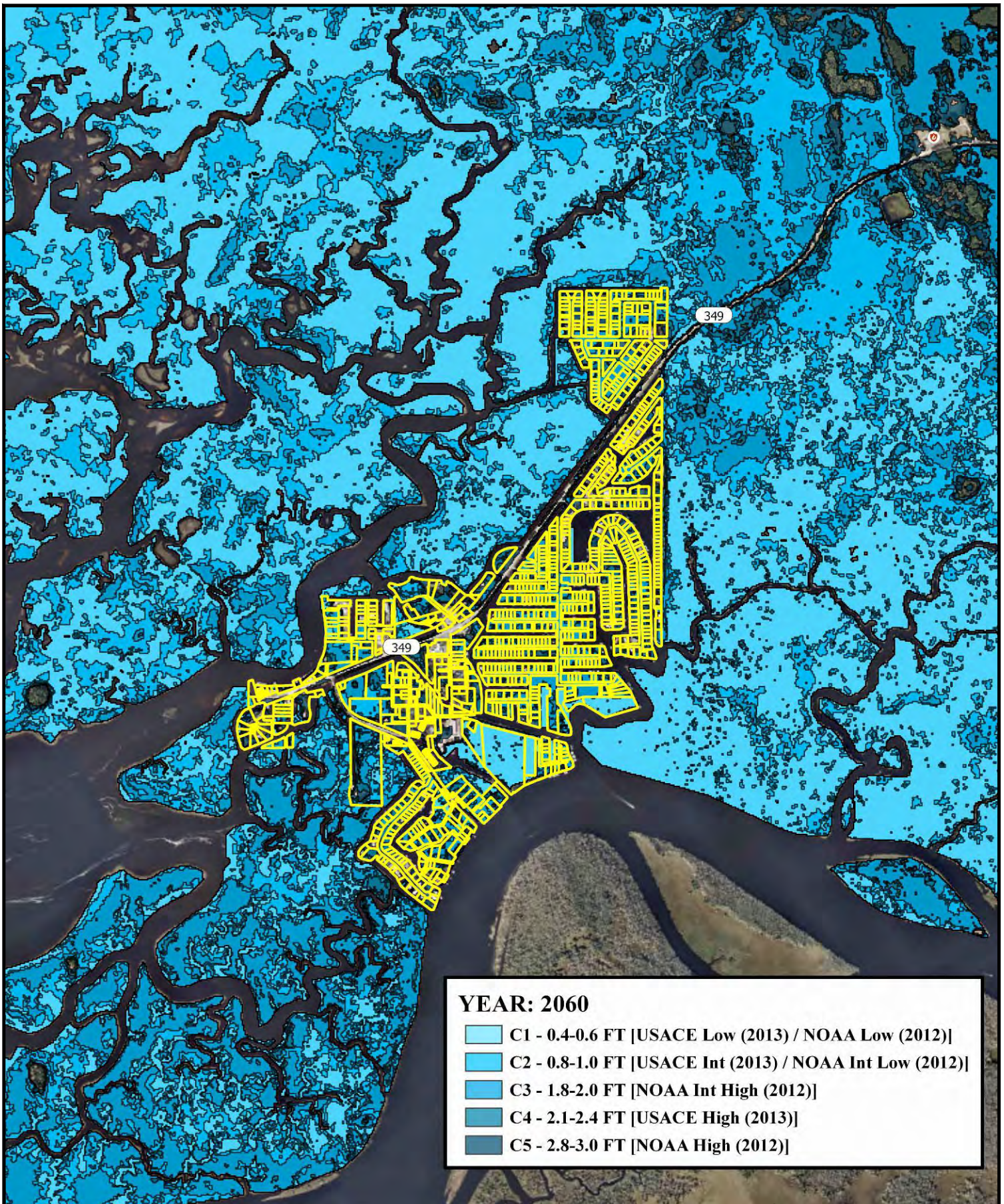
YEAR: 2060

-  C1 - 0.4-0.6 FT [USACE Low (2013) / NOAA Low (2012)]
-  C2 - 0.8-1.0 FT [USACE Int (2013) / NOAA Int Low (2012)]
-  C3 - 1.8-2.0 FT [NOAA Int High (2012)]
-  C4 - 2.1-2.4 FT [USACE High (2013)]
-  C5 - 2.8-3.0 FT [NOAA High (2012)]



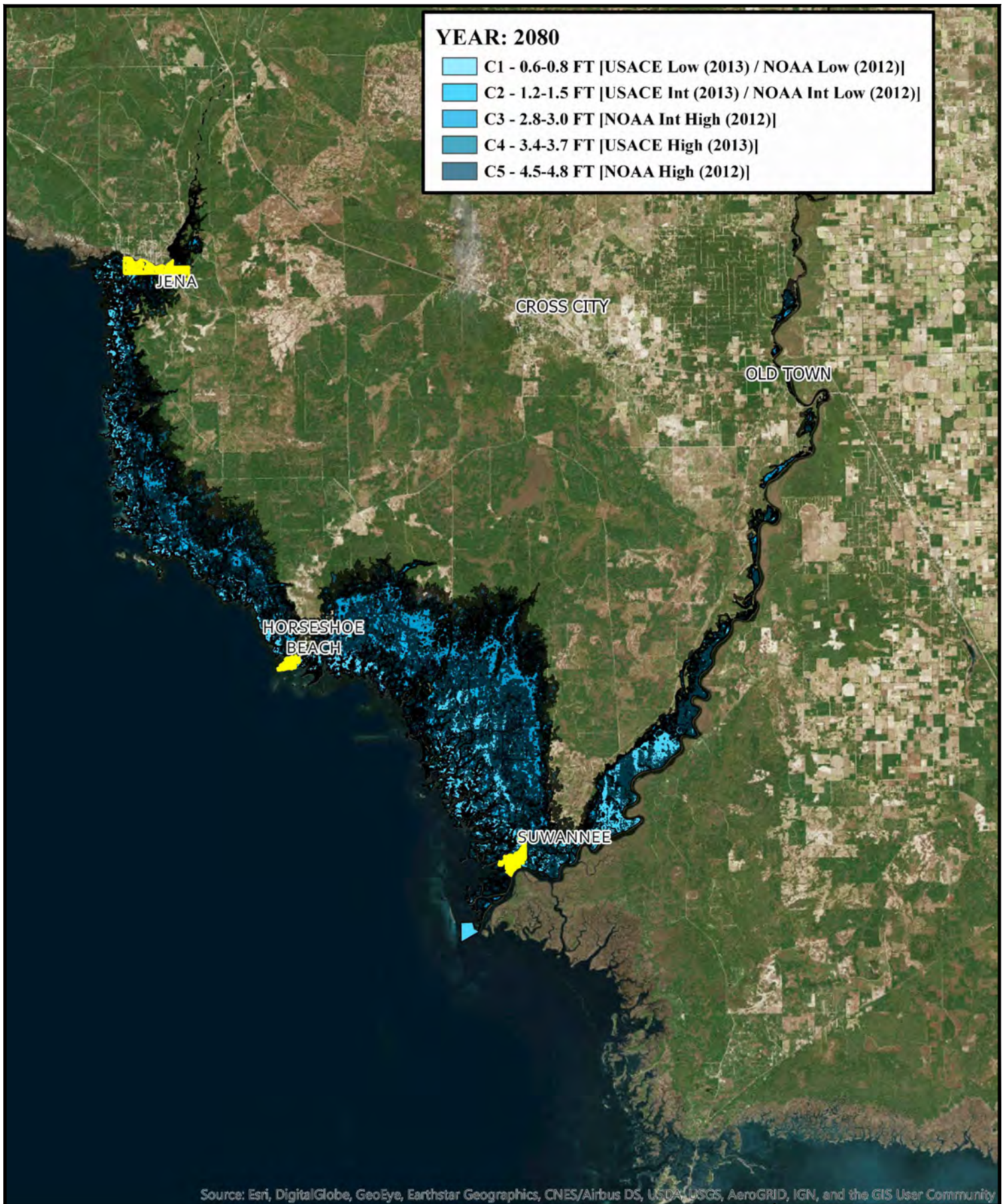


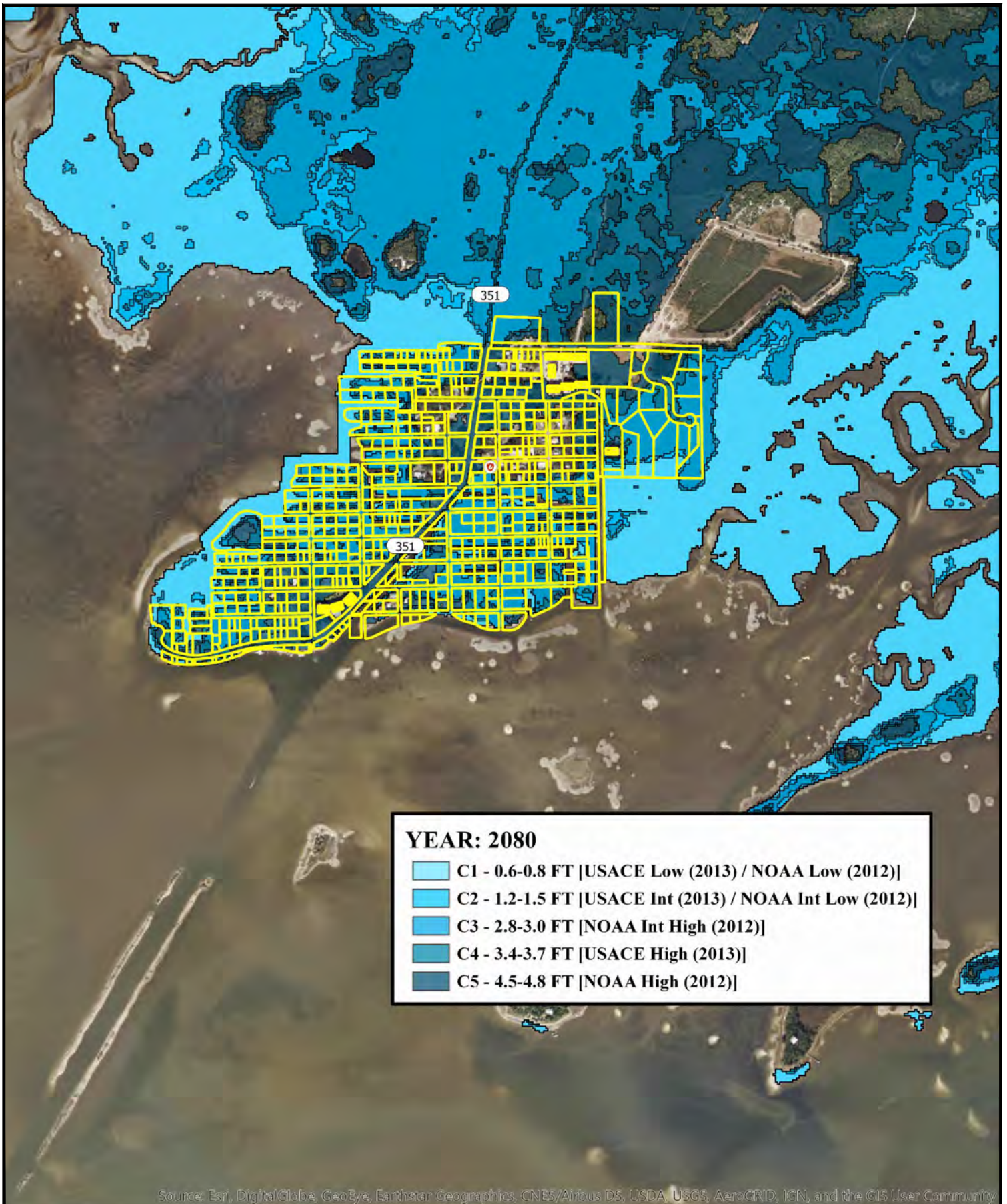


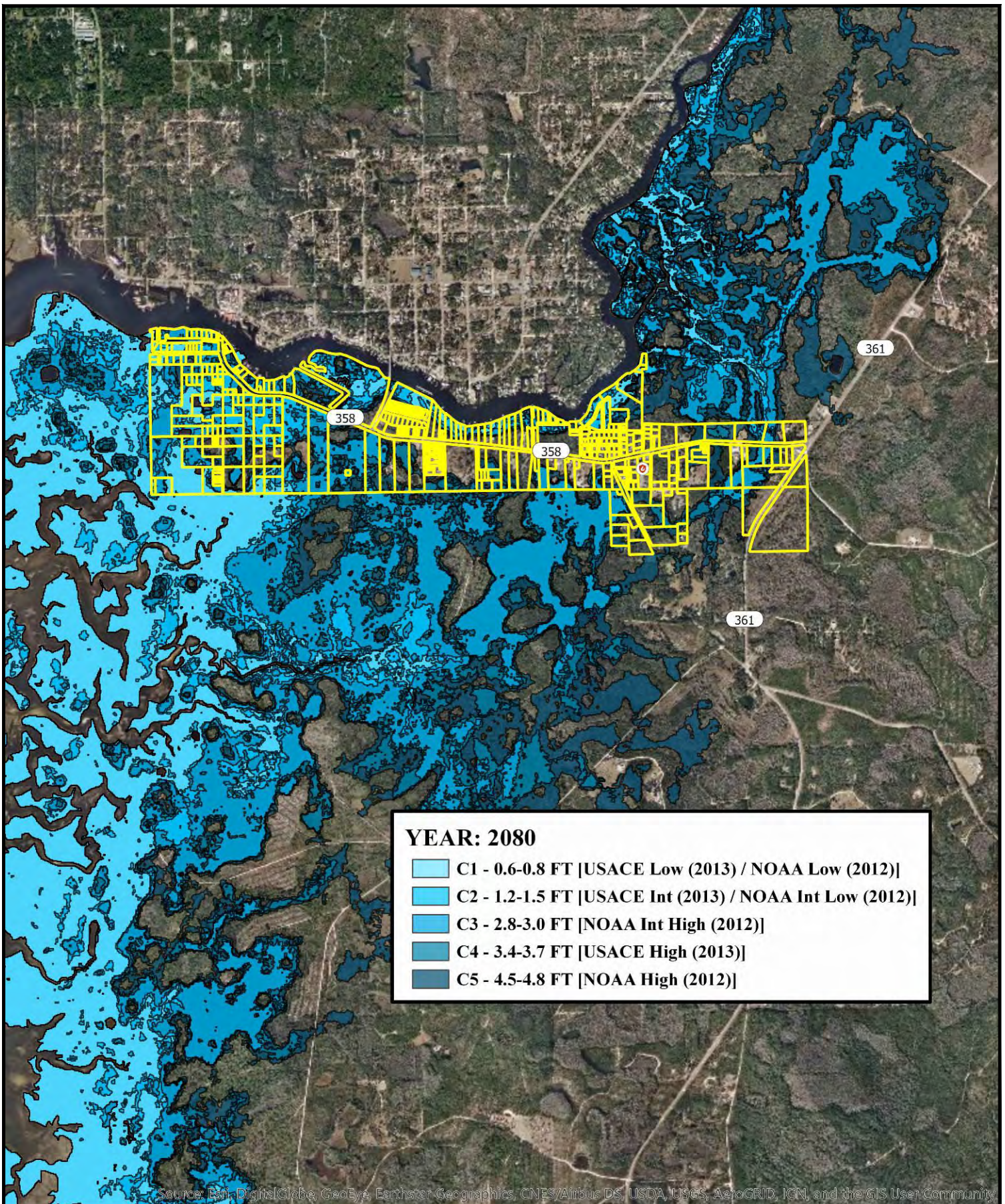


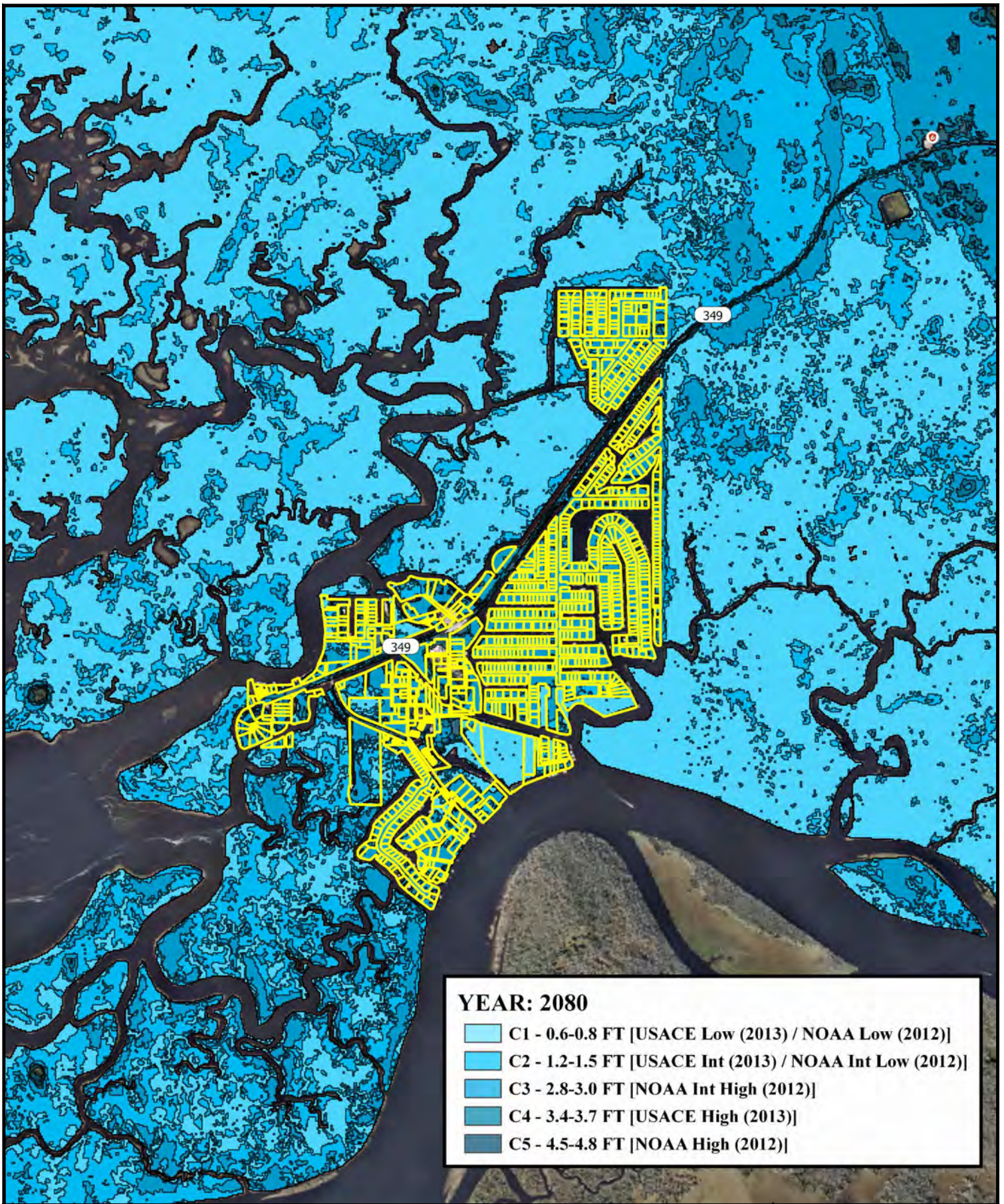
YEAR: 2080

-  C1 - 0.6-0.8 FT [USACE Low (2013) / NOAA Low (2012)]
-  C2 - 1.2-1.5 FT [USACE Int (2013) / NOAA Int Low (2012)]
-  C3 - 2.8-3.0 FT [NOAA Int High (2012)]
-  C4 - 3.4-3.7 FT [USACE High (2013)]
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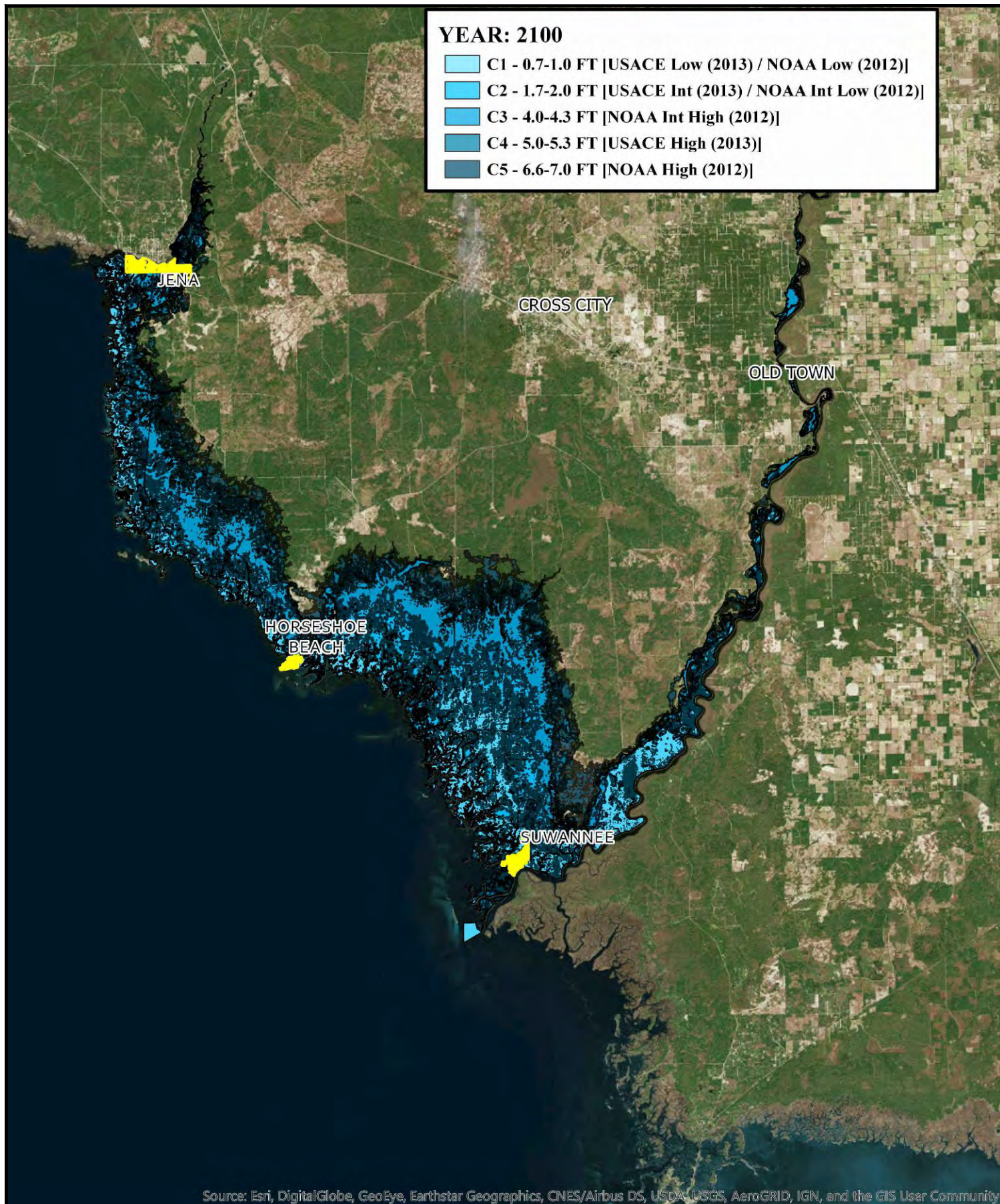


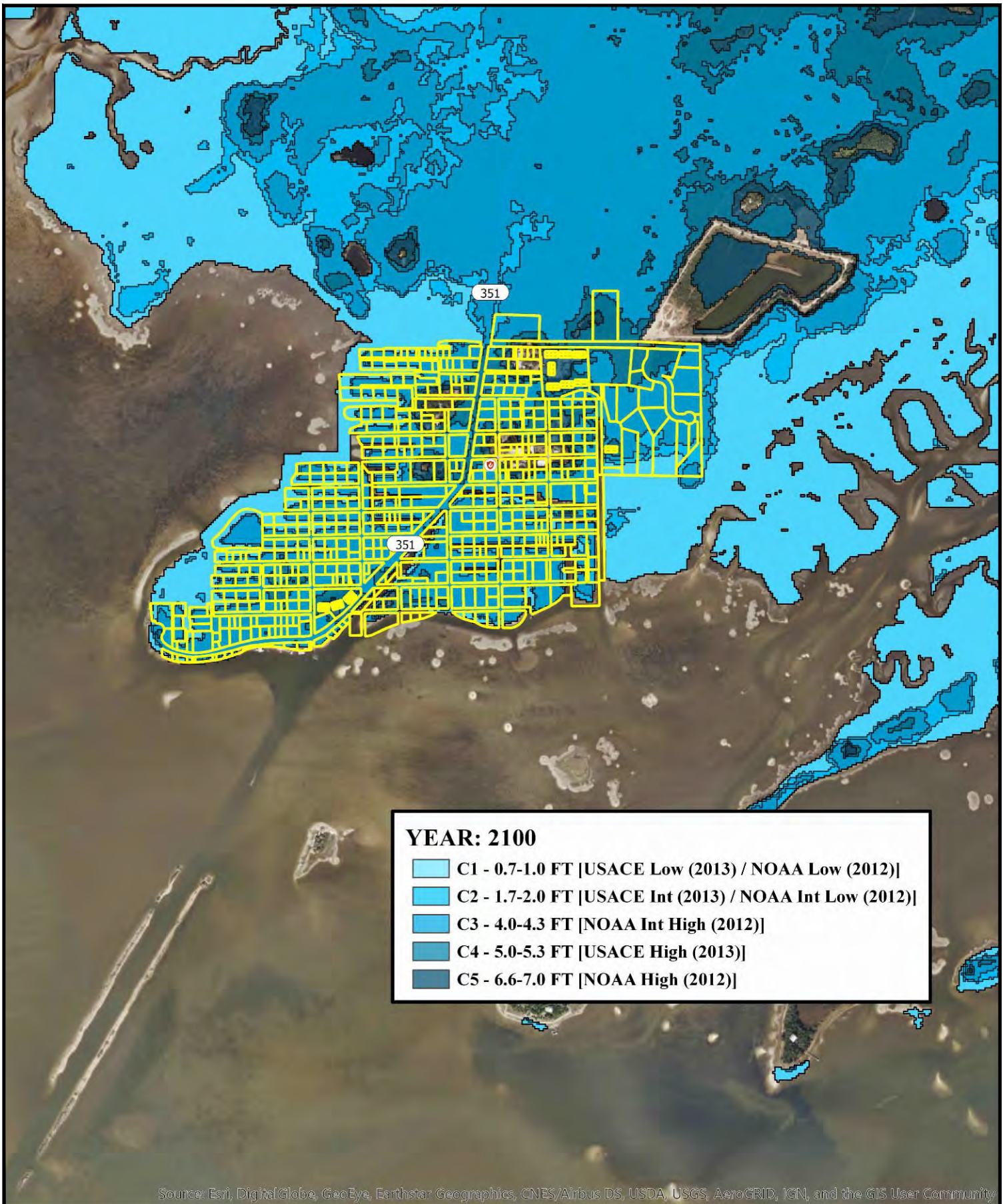


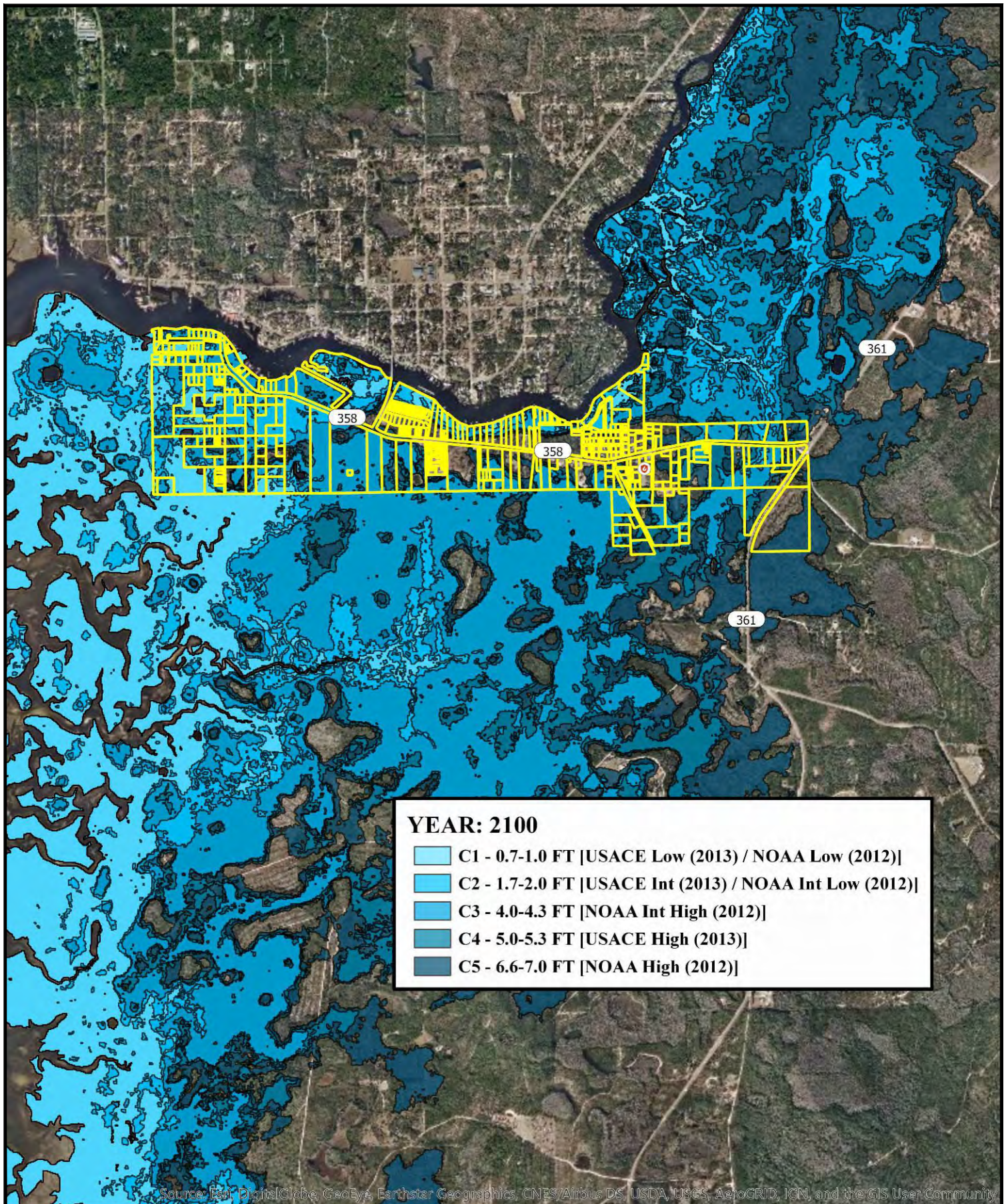


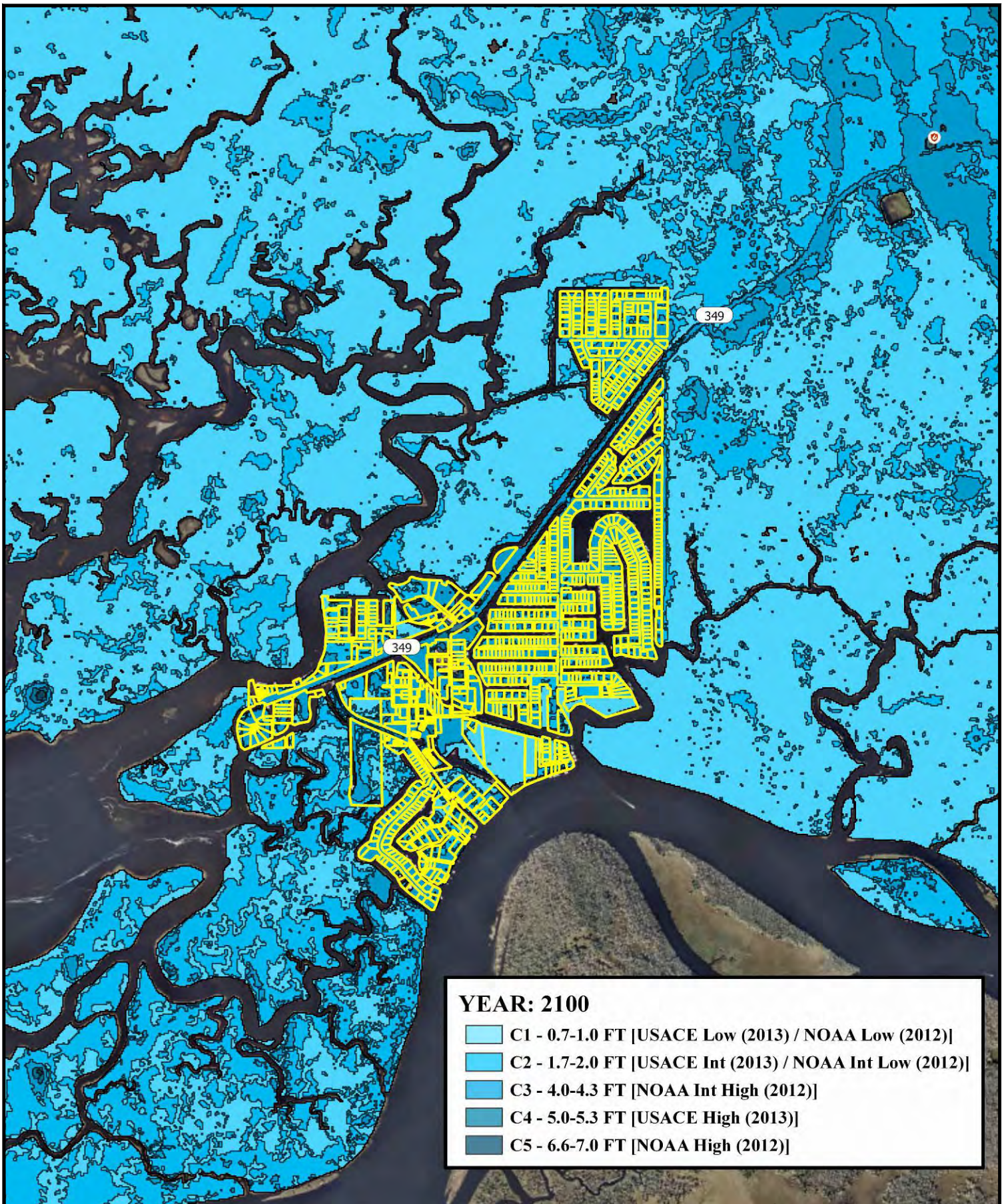
YEAR: 2100

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-  C2 - 1.7-2.0 FT [USACE Int (2013) / NOAA Int Low (2012)]
-  C3 - 4.0-4.3 FT [NOAA Int High (2012)]
-  C4 - 5.0-5.3 FT [USACE High (2013)]
-  C5 - 6.6-7.0 FT [NOAA High (2012)]



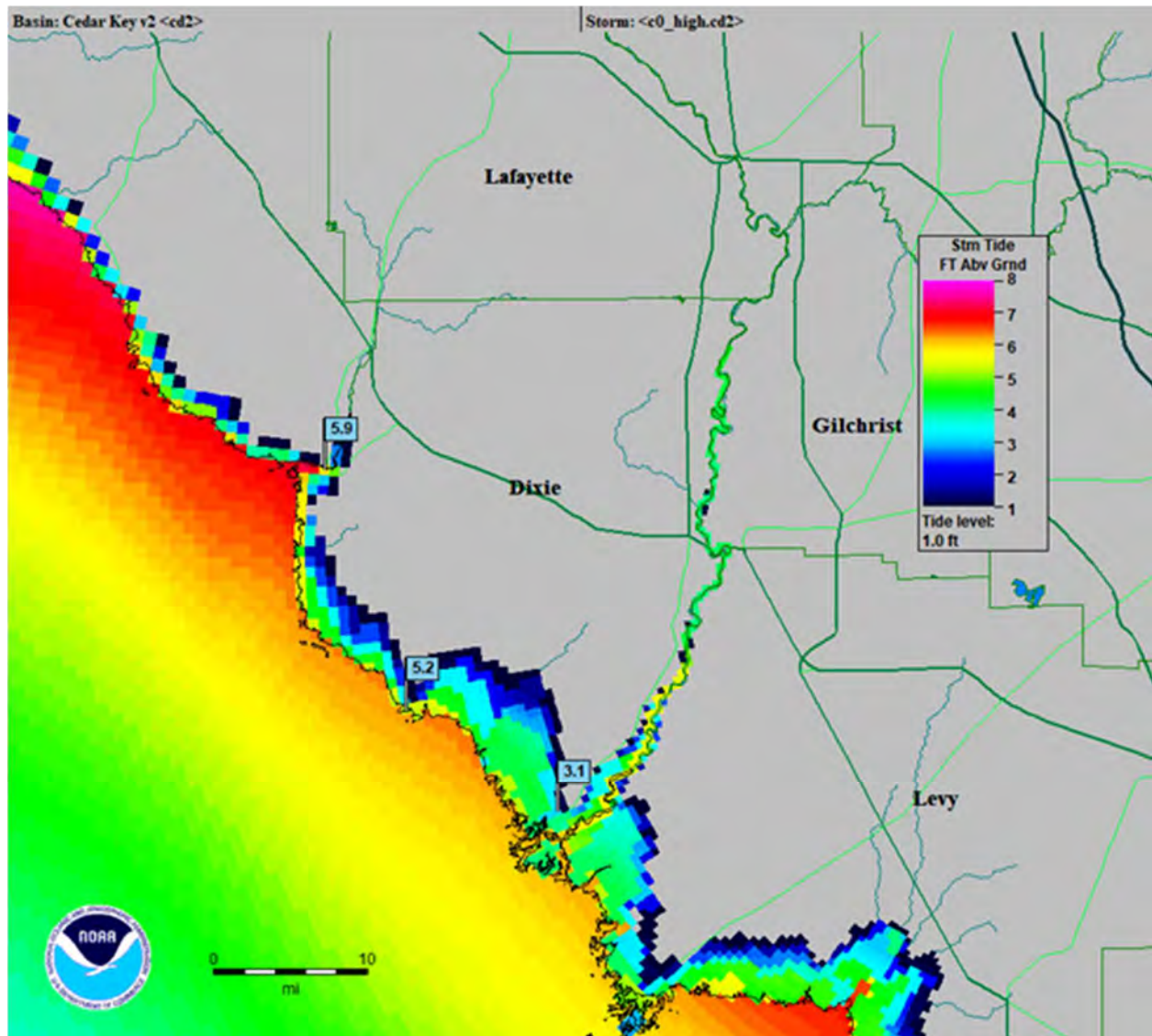




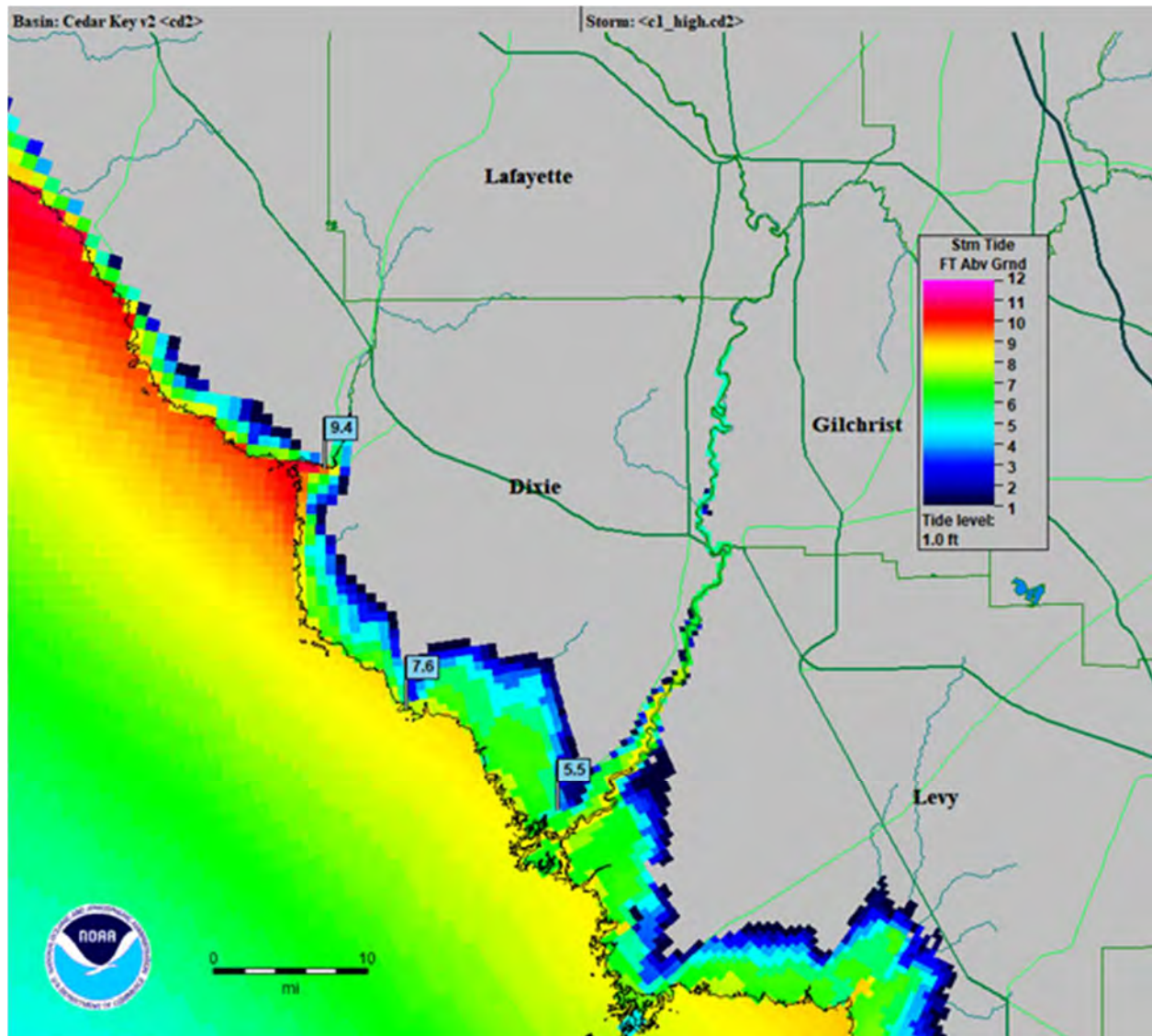


APPENDIX B

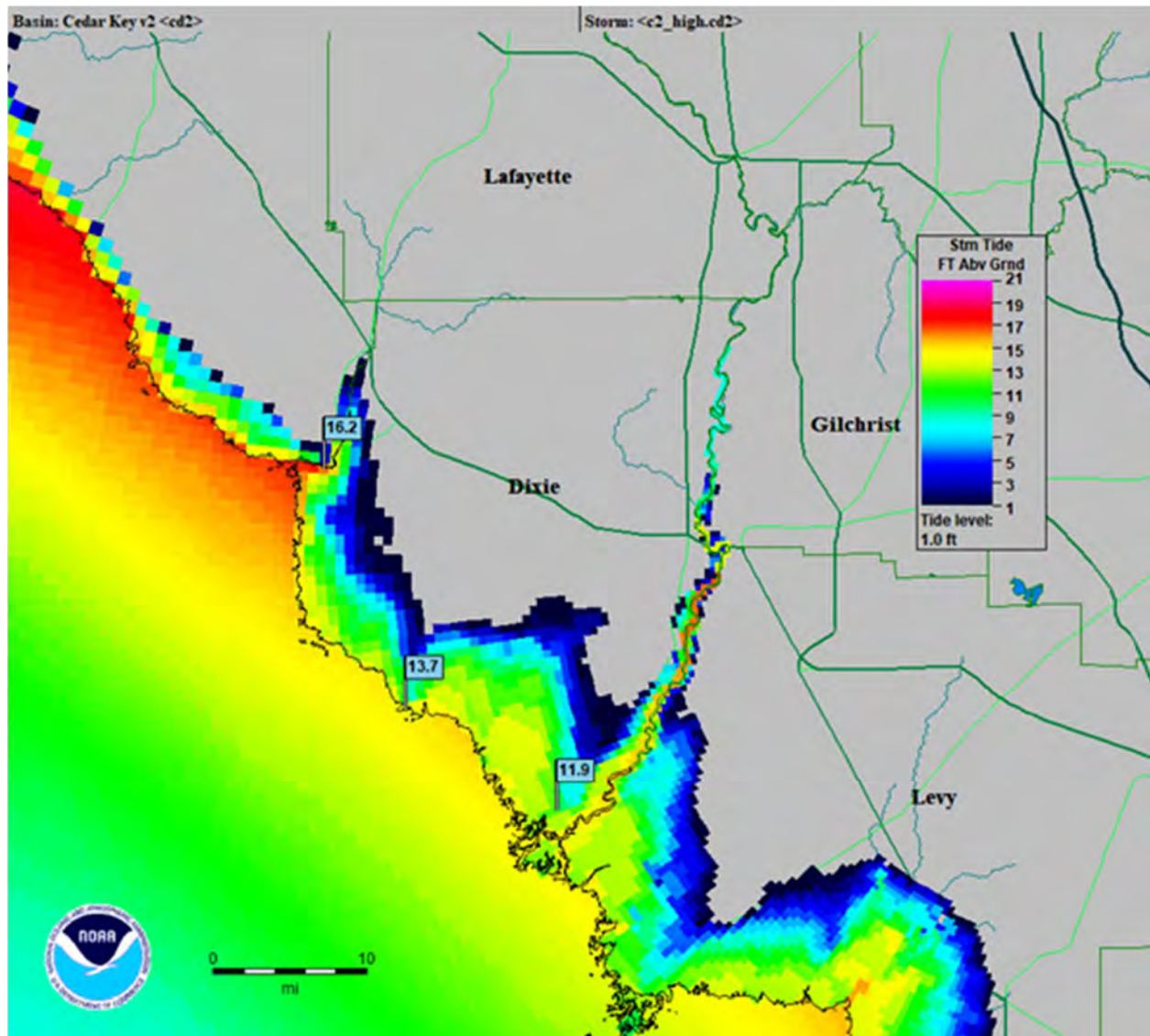
SLOSH Models



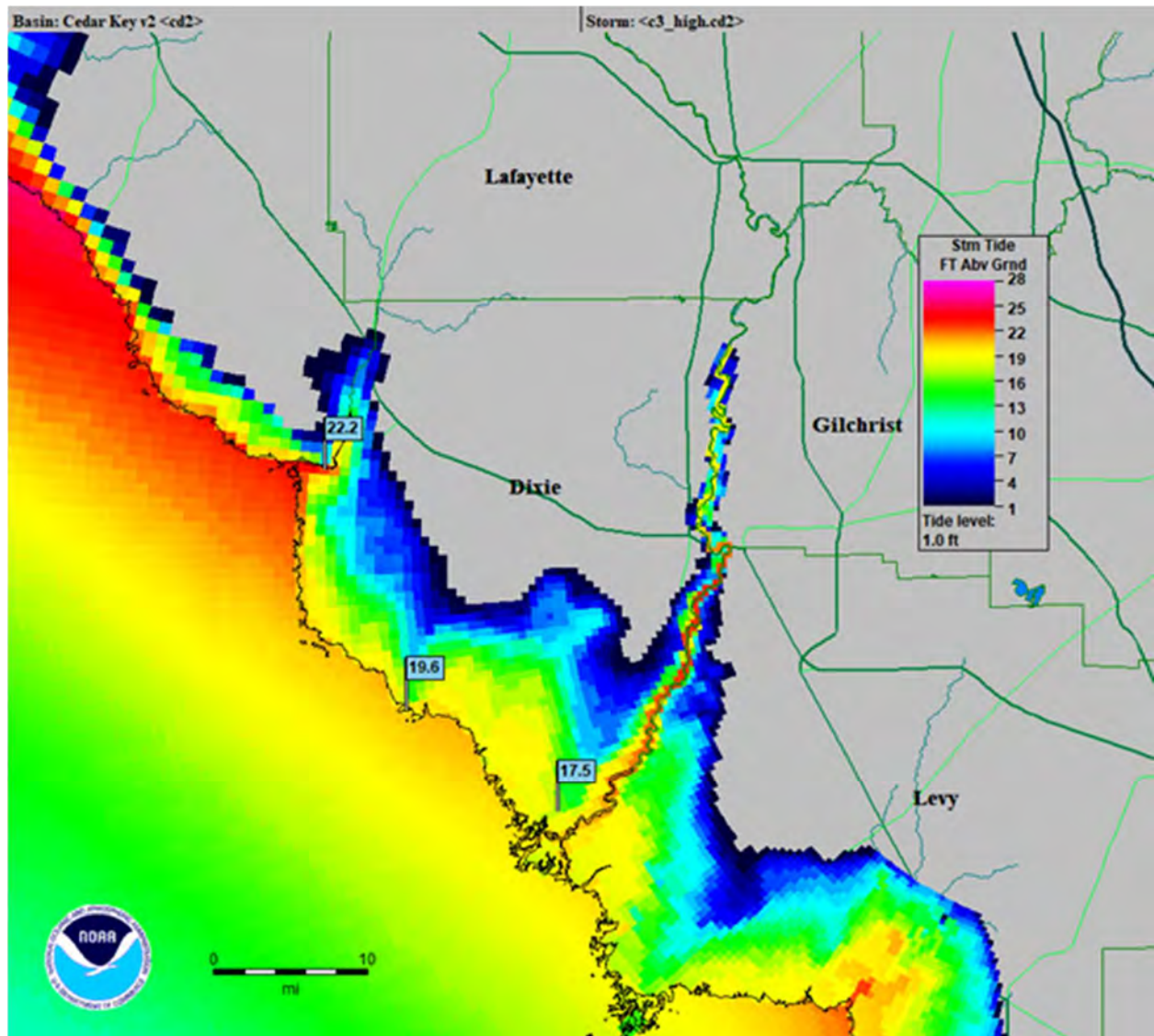
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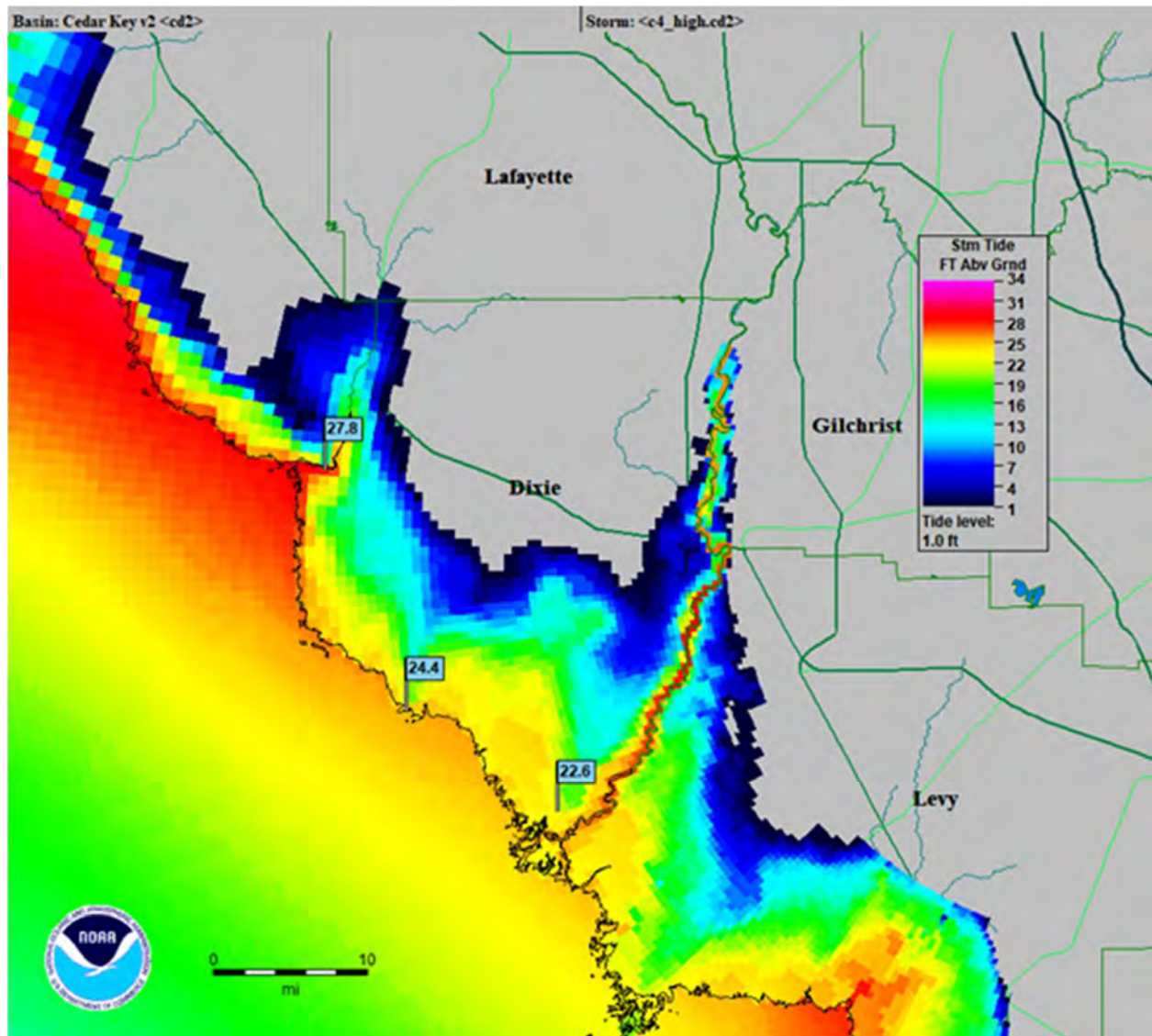
Category 1 MOM, High Tide (NOAA SDP)



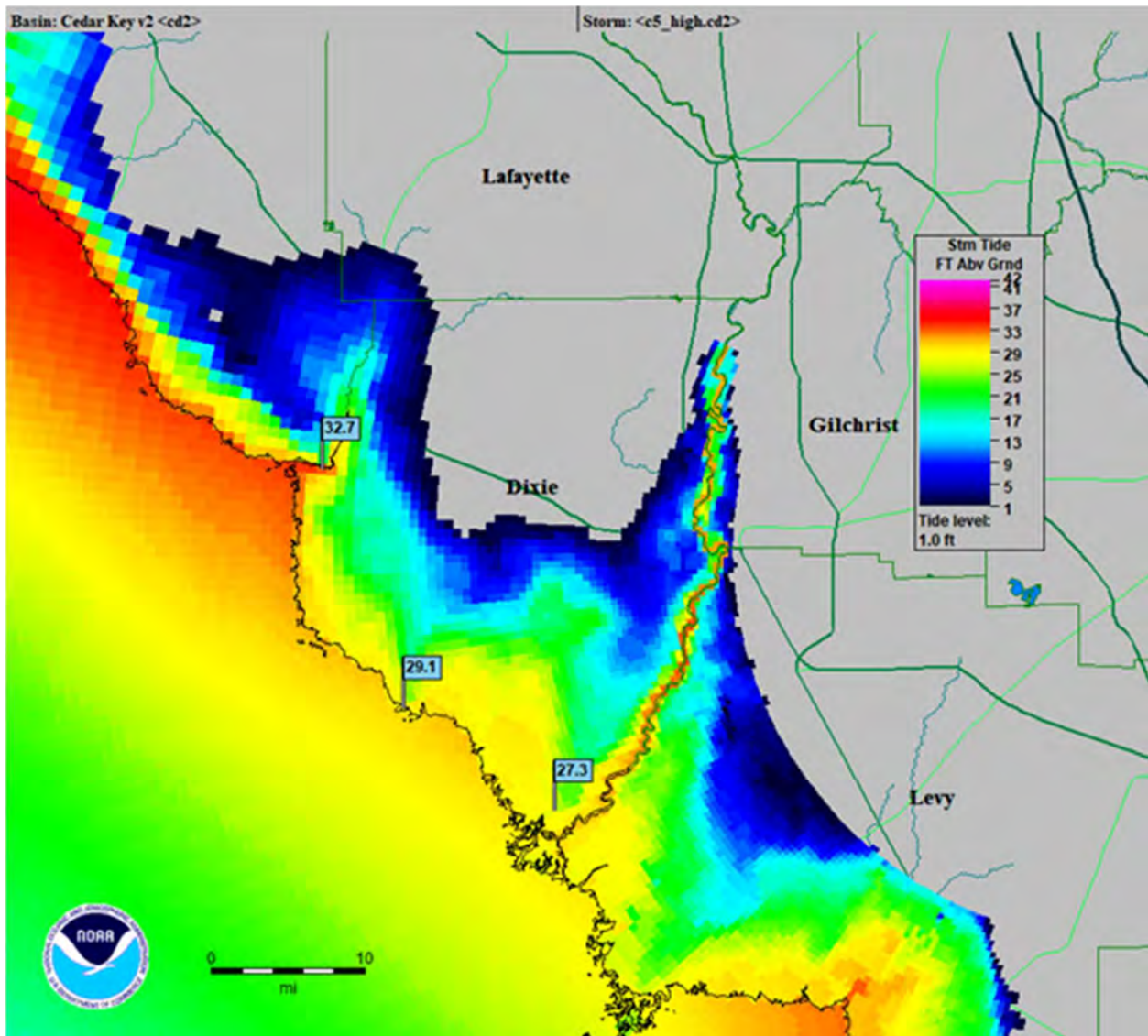
Category 2 MOM, High Tide (NOAA SDP)



Category 3 MOM, High Tide (NOAA SDP)



Category 4 MOM, High Tide (NOAA SDP)



Category 5 MOM, High Tide (NOAA SDP)

APPENDIX C

Dixie County Hazardous Waste Generators

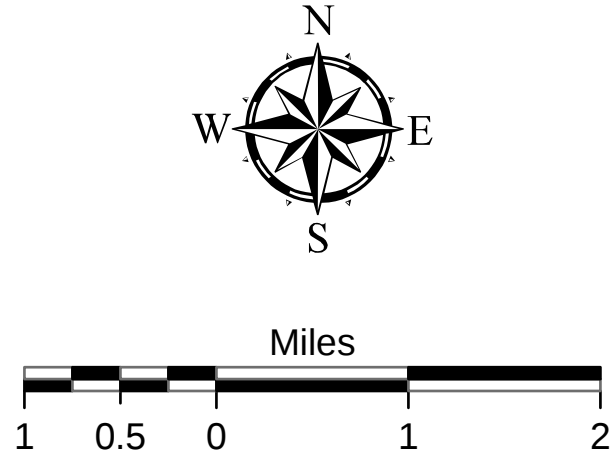
HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATORS		
Facility-Site ID	City	Facility Name
FLR000097675	Old Town	Southeast Energy
FLD980600159	Cross City	Georgia-Pacific Wood Products LLC
FL0000040709	Cross City	Cross City Automotive Repair
FL0000070995	Old Town	OLTNFLN
FL0000964866	Horseshoe Beach	USAF Horseshoe Beach AEROSTAT
FLD982166076	Cross City	Griner's Chevrolet Olds Inc.
FLD981925118	Cross City	Suwannee Lumber Company
FLR000114272	Shamrock	A-C Sons Continental Turpentine
FLD984226506	Cross City	Packaging Corporation of American
FLD984234674	Old Town	Anderson Columbia
FLD984252627	Cross City	Cross City Bindery
FLR000054932	Old Town	Robarts Paint & Body

APPENDIX D

FLUM-2016

Dixie County

Future Land Use Plan Map 2016



LAFAYETTE COUNTY

TAYLOR COUNTY
Steinhatchee River

GILCHRIST COUNTY

LEVY COUNTY
Suwannee River

FUTURE LAND USE PLAN MAP CLASSIFICATIONS

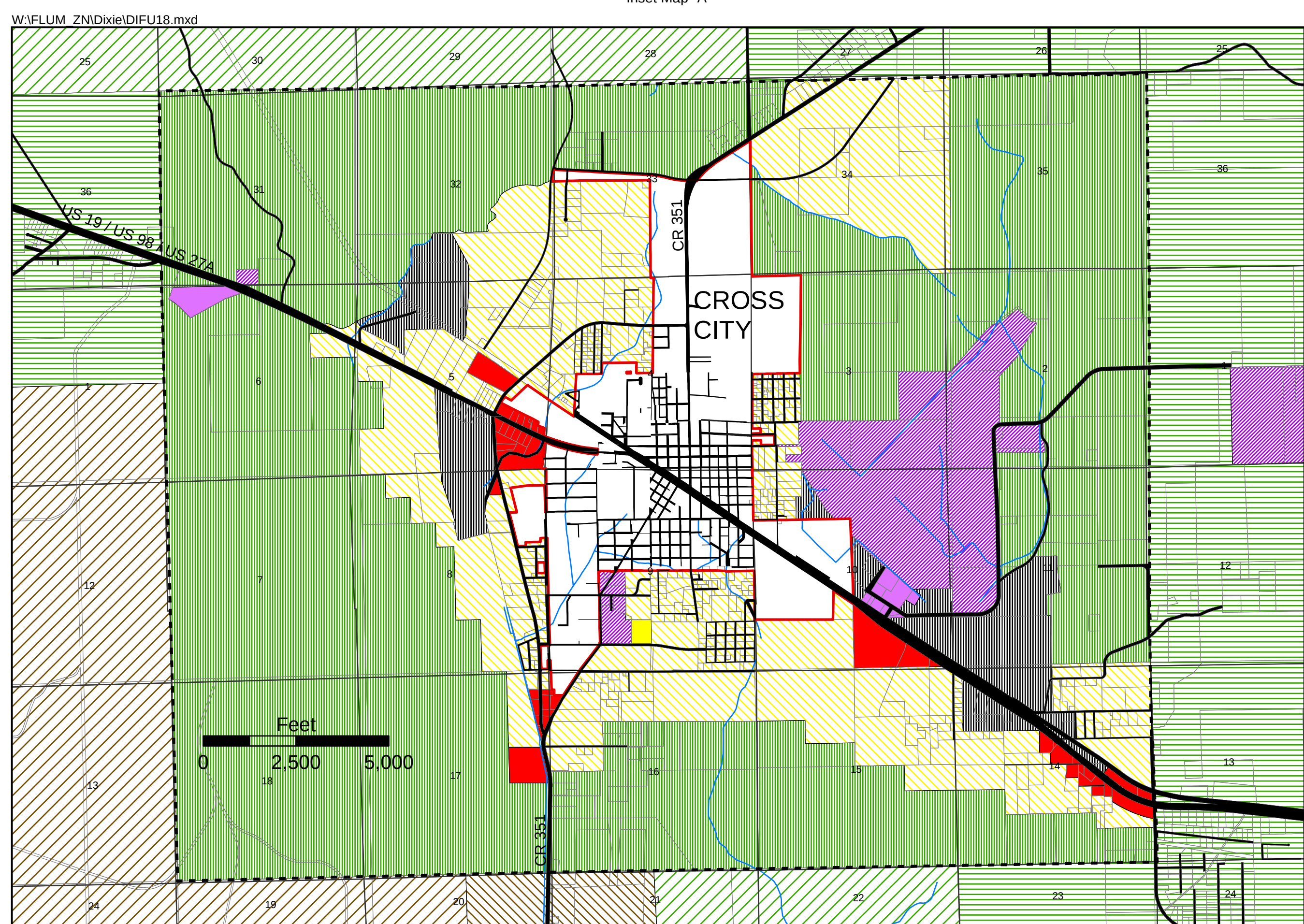
- No Future Land Use Classification
- Conservation
- Recreation
- Public
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Very Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 40 acres)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 10 acres)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Moderate Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 5 acres)
- Agriculture - Very Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 40 acres)
- Agriculture - Low Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 10 acres)
- Agriculture - Moderate Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 5 acres)
- Agriculture - Medium Density (≤ 1 d.u. per 2 acres)
- Residential - Low Density (≤ 2 d.u. per acre)
- Residential - Moderate Density (≤ 4 d.u. per acre)
- Residential - Medium Density (≤ 8 d.u. per acre)
- Residential - High Density (≤ 20 d.u. per acre)
- Commercial
- Industrial

OTHER MAP FEATURES

- County Boundary Line
- Incorporated Area
- Designated Urban Development Area
- Lake
- River or Stream
- Coastal High Hazard Area
- Category 1 Storm Surge Boundary (Based on Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) Computerized Storm Surge Model)

Source: County Property Appraiser, 2011.

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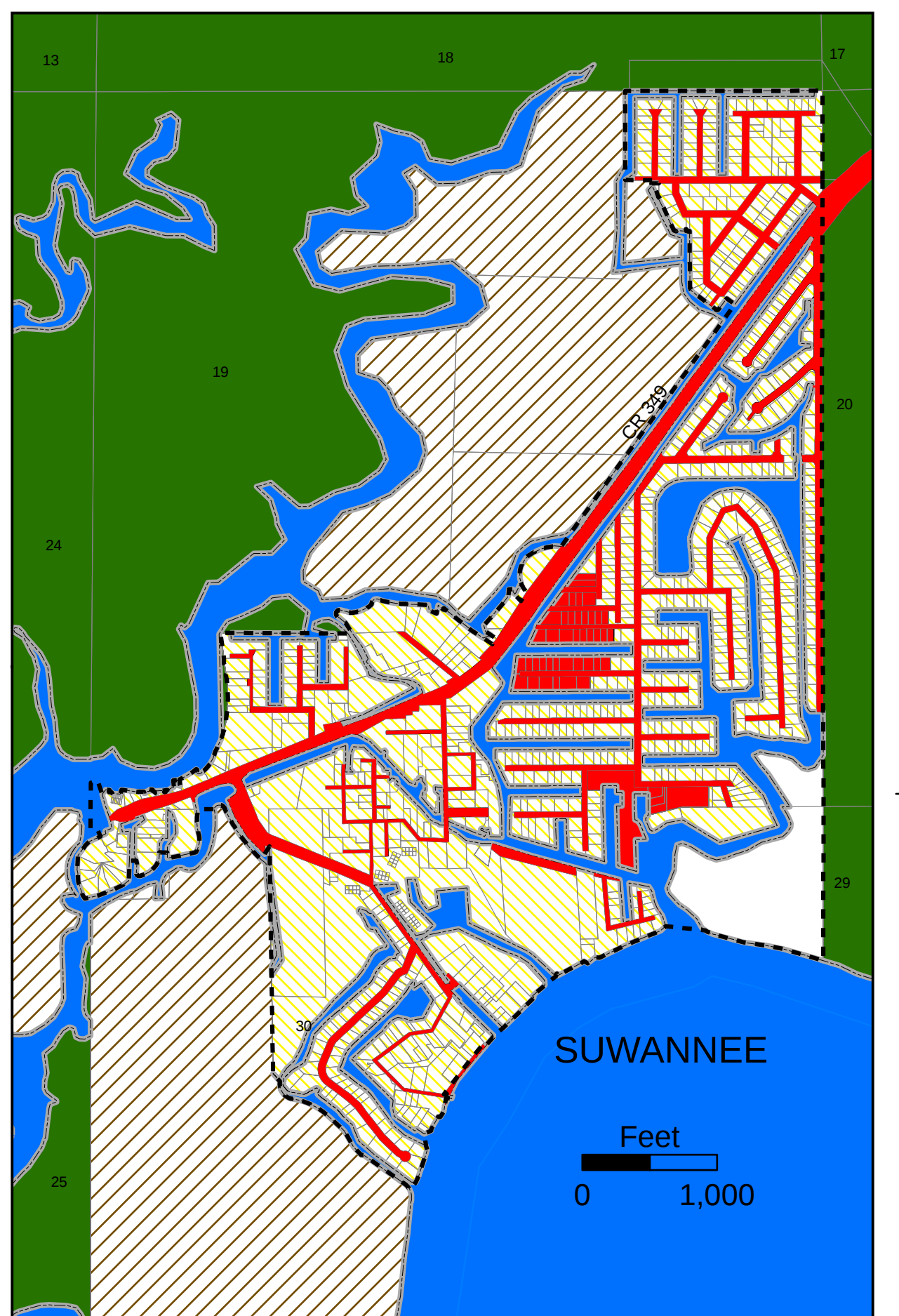


SUWANNEE
See Inset Map "B"

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AMENDED ON NOVEMBER 7, 1991 BY ORDINANCE NO. 91-06
AMENDED ON DECEMBER 21, 1995 BY ORDINANCE NO. 95-14
AMENDED ON NOVEMBER 7, 1996 BY ORDINANCE NO. 96-15
AMENDED ON NOVEMBER 2, 2000 BY ORDINANCE NO. 00-05
AMENDED ON FEBRUARY 1, 2001 BY ORDINANCE NO. 01-02
AMENDED ON AUGUST 16, 2001 BY ORDINANCE NO. 01-06
AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2006 BY ORDINANCE NO. 06-05
AMENDED ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 BY ORDINANCE NO. 11-05
AMENDED ON MAY 3, 2012 BY ORDINANCE NOS. 12-02 AND 12-03
AMENDED ON APRIL 2, 2013 BY ORDINANCE NO. 13-01
AMENDED ON JUNE 5, 2014 BY ORDINANCE NO. 14-07



Inset Map "B"



APPENDIX E

Resources

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“Projections of Florida Population by County, 2020-2045, with Estimates for 2017” Volume 51,
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https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/reference/ua/Defining_Rural.pdf

APPENDIX F

GIS Metadata

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      <abstract>The primary goals of this project are: (Task 1) to utilize existing tools to assess the vulnerability of coastal communities in Dixie County, and; (Task 2) to develop language to revise the County's Comprehensive Plan to protect our citizens, businesses and visitors while also being compliant with the "peril of flood" provisions of the Florida Administrative Code. This process will guide the decision-making process for future development, infrastructure projects and programs to assist local economic growth and business resilience.</abstract>
      <purpose>Patterns of development that characterize the Dixie County coast have left many people and structures dangerously vulnerable to subsiding and eroding coastlines, increasingly frequent and severe storms, and growing flood risks associated with SLR. Much of Dixie County is characterized by wetlands and given the proximity to at or near sea level elevation, making it much more susceptible to flooding during major storm events.</purpose>
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ATTACHMENT 2

Comprehensive Plan Amendments & Recommendations

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREAS*Existing:***Policy I.2.1**

The County shall restrict development within unsuitable areas due to flooding, storm surge, sea level rise, improper drainage, steep slopes, rock formations, and adverse earth formations, unless acceptable methods are formulated by the developer and approved by the County to solve the problems created by the unsuitable land conditions.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENTS*Existing:***Policy VIII.5.2**

The County shall replace or renew community facility plants damaged due to storm surge, sea level rise, extreme rainfall or flood only where such facility can meet minimum requirements for flooding.

COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT*New:***Policy IX.1.5**

Sloping revetments and interlocking blocks shall be used in high energy areas to more effectively dissipate wave forces, boat wakes and reduce the effects of bottom scouring. New bulkheads and seawalls shall only be used to protect existing development and shall be located landward of coastal wetlands and their ecotones.

Policy IX.2.7

Retrofitting of substandard public drainage systems shall occur during repair, expansion, or redevelopment activities. This policy is intended to address water quality problems resulting from inadequately maintained systems, or those systems constructed previous to a complete understanding of the effects of stormwater runoff on water quality.

Policy IX.2.8

No development will be approved in flood hazard areas and floodways, that is, on land immediately adjacent to major drainage and receiving streams, rivers or low areas which are known to be subject to flooding or rushing water and which therefore, create a hazard to life and property. Rather, the County will encourage that these lands be reserved for conservation, open space, and recreation.

Policy IX.2.9

Buffer zones of vegetation and/or riprap, to provide for an environment for native vegetation, should be established between any area of urban development and adjacent waterways. The

native vegetation should consist of coastal plants identified in Section 62-340.450, Florida Administrative Code.

Policy IX.2.10

The County shall prevent and regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood hazards to other lands.

Existing:

Policy IX.5.2

The County shall limit development which is vulnerable to natural hazards such as sea level rise, storm surge, excessive flooding, and high winds within coastal high hazard areas.

New:

Policy IX.5.4

Land development activities that are feasible only through dredging and filling of submerged and wetland areas should be discouraged.

Existing:

Policy IX.6.2

The County shall participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and regulate development and installation of utilities in flood hazard areas in conformance with or stricter than the programs' requirements for minimizing damage cause by flooding, storm surge and sea level rise.

Policy IX.8.3

The County shall require the removal, relocation or structural modification of unsafe structures, as appropriate, if rebuilt, require structures which have suffered damage to an extent of more than ~~70~~ 49 percent of their replacement value at the time of such damage to be rebuilt in conformance with current building requirements.

New:

Policy IX.9.4

Docks and piers should not obstruct navigation or public use of waters, and they should be constructed in a manner that does not restrict water flow, nor block views to the water.

OBJECTIVE IX.12: The County shall adopt and implement strategies which increase community resiliency and protect property, infrastructure, and cultural and natural resources from the impacts of sea level rise, changes in rainfall patterns, and extreme weather events.

Policy IX.12.1

The County shall increase regional resilience by sharing technical expertise, participating in annual summits, assessing local vulnerabilities, advancing agreed upon mitigation and adaptation strategies, and developing joint state and federal legislation policies and programs.

Policy IX.12.2

The County shall utilize best practices and initiate mitigation strategies to reduce the flood risk in coastal areas that result from high tide events, storm surge, flash floods, stormwater runoff, and the related impacts of sea level rise.

Policy IX.12.3

The County shall implement engineering solutions, contingent upon funding, to reduce the risk of flood in coastal areas, which may include the installation of stormwater drainage improvements.

Policy IX.12.4

By 2021, the County shall investigate the feasibility of the use of Adaptation Areas as provided by Section 163.3177(6)(g)(10), Florida Statutes, to identify areas of vulnerable to coastal storm surge and sea level rise impacts.

Policy IX.12.5

All dredging spoil material shall only be placed on suitable upland. Where feasible, sandy spoil should be used for barrier island construction and restoration.

ATTACHMENT 3

2015 Dixie County Comprehensive Plan

DIXIE COUNTY

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Adopted

March 15, 1990 by Ordinance No. 90-02

Amended

November 7, 1991 by Ordinance No. 91-06

December 21, 1995 by Ordinance No. 95-14

September 16, 1999 by Ordinance No. 99-07

November 16, 2006 by Ordinance No. 06-05

August 27, 2008 by Ordinance No. 08-06

December 4, 2008 by Ordinance Nos. 08-07 and 08-08

January 15, 2009 by Ordinance No. 09-02

April 16, 2015 by Ordinance No. 15-05

DIXIE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ELEMENTS

Future Land Use

Transportation

Housing

Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, Potable Water and
Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge

Conservation

Recreation and Open Space

Intergovernmental Coordination

Capital Improvements

Coastal Management

Public School Facilities

Prepared for
Board of County Commissioners

Prepared by
Local Planning Agency

With Assistance from

North Central Florida Regional Planning Council
2009 N.W. 67th Place
Gainesville, FL 32653
352.955.2200

Adopted
March 15, 1990 by Ordinance No. 90-02

Amended
November 7, 1991 by Ordinance No. 91-06
December 21, 1995 by Ordinance No. 95-14
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November 16, 2006 by Ordinance No. 06-05
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January 15, 2009 by Ordinance No. 09-02
April 16, 2015 by Ordinance No. 15-05

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INTRODUCTION

Organizations must plan if effective progress is to be made towards reaching an objective. Those agencies charged with directing the growth of a community are no exception. The interaction of factors causing the growth and development of an area requires careful planning as a prerequisite to orderly growth. Three basic reasons are often given to justify the need for planning:

1. Meet events which are expected to happen;
2. Accomplish desired objectives; and
3. Avoid unwanted conditions.

In 1985, the Florida Legislature enacted and the Governor signed into law the "Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act." This legislation requires all local governments in Florida to revise and update the comprehensive plan for their respective jurisdictions in conformance with the provisions of the afore stated Act.

This comprehensive planning process involves essentially four basic steps:

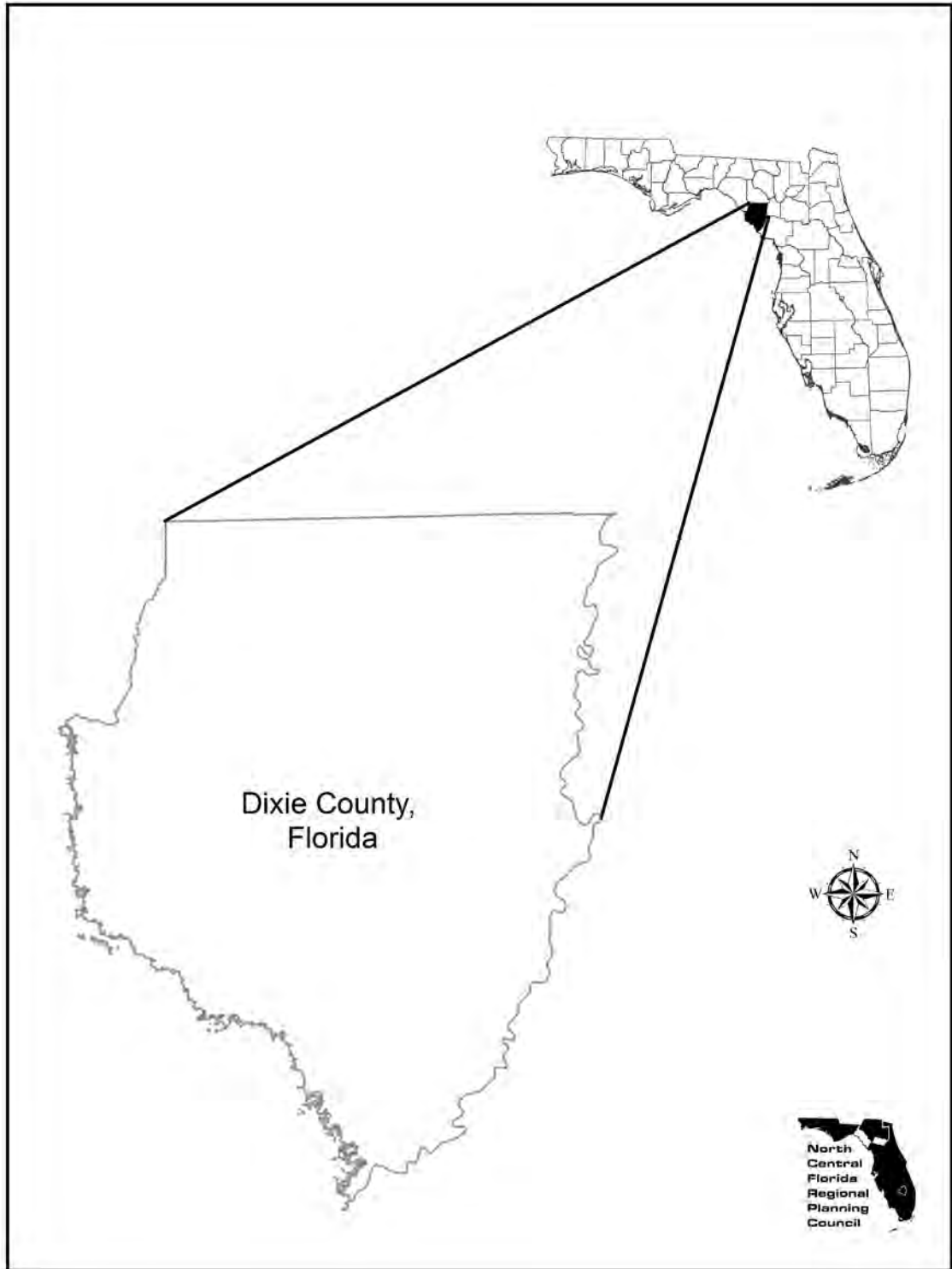
1. The collection and analysis of pertinent data concerning the physical and socio-economic characteristics of the study area;
2. The formulation of goals for future growth and development;
3. The development of objectives and policies guided by the goals; and (4) the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

Step (1) was accomplished through the preparation of the Data and Analysis document which, although not a part of the Comprehensive Plan in that it is not an adopted document with legal status, provided a basis for the formulation of the Comprehensive Plan. Steps (2) and (3) are the essence of the Comprehensive Plan and are contained within this document entitled Plan Elements. Step (4) is accomplished through the preparation, adoption and enforcement of land development regulations as mandated by the above referenced Act and by the construction of capital improvement projects identified within the Comprehensive Plan.

GENERAL SETTING OF THE COUNTY

The unincorporated area of the County is approximately 711 square miles or 454,951 acres in area. The County is located in the north central portion of the state of Florida and is bordered on the north by Lafayette County, on the east by Gilchrist County and on the west by Taylor County. The Suwannee River forms a boundary on the east, the Steinhatchee River forms a boundary on the northwest and the Gulf of Mexico forms a boundary on the west.

The central portion of the County contains the County seat which is the Town of Cross City containing 1,728 persons in 2013 which accounts for 10.5 percent of the County's total population.



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FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT

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FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

This Future Land Use Element and Future Land Use Plan map and map series, designates the future general distribution, location and extent of the uses of land within the unincorporated areas of the County. The purpose of this Future Land Use Element is to provide for the appropriate distribution of population densities and building and structural densities and intensities. The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data, contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

The following goal, objectives and policies provide for distribution of future land use, as well as, guidance for such future land use. The focal point around which this Future Land Use Element is centered is the relationship between urban development areas and rural areas of the County, and the uses and intensity of such uses for each area. As the unincorporated areas of the County are primarily rural in character and use, there is an opportunity to provide appropriate direction for the future location and concentration of urban uses. The concentration of urban uses within the urban development areas of the County should enable both the public and private sectors to feasibly plan for the logical provision of needed public facilities and services to serve the residents of the County.

FUTURE LAND USE GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL I - IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVING THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY, DEVELOPMENT SHALL BE DIRECTED TO THOSE AREAS WHICH HAVE IN PLACE, OR HAVE AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE, THE LAND AND WATER RESOURCES, FISCAL ABILITIES AND SERVICE CAPACITY TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE MANNER

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Urban development areas are those areas shown on the County's Future Land Use Plan Map.

These areas are not urban service areas for public facilities, but are areas to which higher density agricultural, residential (single family, multi-family, and mobile homes) and commercial and industrial uses are to be directed so that at such time as public facilities may be provided, they can be done so in an efficient and economical manner.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| OBJECTIVE I.1 | The County shall continue to direct future population growth and associated urban development to urban development areas through the establishment of such urban development areas within this Comprehensive Plan. |
| Policy I.1.1 | The County shall limit the location of higher density residential and high intensity commercial and industrial uses to arterial or collector roads identified on the County Future Traffic Circulation Map where public facilities are available to support such higher density or intensity. |
| Policy I.1.2 | The County's land development regulations shall be based on and be consistent with the following land use classifications and corresponding standards for densities and intensities within designated urban development areas: |

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

Agriculturally classified lands are lands which are predominantly used for crop cultivation, livestock, specialty farms, silviculture areas and dwelling units.

Agricultural Medium Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 2 acres.

PUBLIC LAND USE

Lands classified as public consist of public buildings and grounds, other public facilities, (including sewer systems, solid waste systems, drainage systems and potable water systems), public health systems, and educational uses.

Public uses shall be limited to an intensity of 0.25 floor area ratio.

Lands classified as conservation use are public and private lands devoted to the conservation of the unique natural functions within these lands and silviculture and agriculture activities conducted under best management practices. Privately owned lands may be designated as conservation within this Comprehensive Plan upon petition of the property owner or the owners agent and amendment of the Future Land Use Plan Map.

CONSERVATION LAND USE

Conservation uses shall be limited to public access and residential and non-residential uses necessary to manage such conservation lands (i.e. ranger stations, research stations and park amenities).

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

Lands Classified as Environmentally Sensitive are areas which are considered in need of special planning and treatment regarding land development regulation. These are not preservation areas, but land uses permitted within these areas are to provide mitigating measures to protect the natural functions of the County's environmentally sensitive areas as designated within this Comprehensive Plan as regionally significant areas.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas are lands within the 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Insurance Rate Map, as amended, which are located in the Suwannee River Corridor, Steinhatchee River Corridor, Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge, Lime Sink, Salt Marsh, Freshwater Marsh with Direct Sheet Flow to Salt Marsh, Wannee Natural Area and Mallory Swamp as identified within Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan shall conform with the following densities provided that an average lot size of 10 acres is maintained with no lot being less than 5 acres in size, nor having a length to width ratio of greater than 3 to 1. In addition, the County shall prohibit the location of non-residential uses such as industrial activities and commercial uses within these areas, although resource-based activities, such as campgrounds of less than 100 campsites, may be allowed as special exceptions.

Environmentally Sensitive

Very Low Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 40 acres.

Environmentally Sensitive

Low Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 10 acres.

Environmentally Sensitive

Moderate Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres.

RECREATION LAND USE

Lands classified as recreation use consist of areas used for user based and resource based recreation uses.

Recreation uses shall be limited to an intensity of .25 floor area ratio.

RESIDENTIAL LAND USE

Residential use classifications provide locations for dwelling units at low, medium, medium high and high density, within the designated urban development areas as defined within this Comprehensive Plan. In addition, public, charter, and private elementary and middle schools and high schools are permitted within low and moderate, medium and high density residential land use classifications.

Residential Low Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 2.0 dwelling units per acre.

Residential Moderate Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 4.0 dwelling units per acre.

Residential Medium Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 8.0 dwelling units per acre.

Residential Medium High Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 12.0 dwelling units per acre.

Residential High Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 20.0 dwelling units per acre.

COMMERCIAL LAND USE

Lands classified as commercial use consist of areas used for the sale, rental and distribution of products, or performance of services as well as public, charter and private elementary, middle and high schools.

Commercial uses shall be limited to an intensity of .25 floor area ratio.

INDUSTRIAL LAND USE

Lands classified as industrial consist of areas used for the manufacturing, assembly processing or storage of products, as well as public, charter and private schools teaching industrial arts curriculum.

Industrial uses shall be limited to an intensity of .25 floor area ratio.

Policy I.1.3

The County shall allocate amounts and mixes of land uses for residential, commercial, industrial, public and recreation to meet the needs of the existing and projected future populations.

- Policy I.1.4 The County shall limit the designation of residential, commercial and industrial lands depicted on the Future Land Use Plan Map to acreage which can be reasonably expected to develop by the year 2025 based upon:
1. Best available population data; and
 2. Best available housing need data.
- Policy I.1.5 The County shall continue to maintain standards for the coordination and siting of proposed urban development near agricultural or forested areas, or environmentally sensitive areas (including but not limited to wetlands and floodplain areas) to avoid adverse impact upon existing land uses.
- Policy I.1.6 The County shall govern future urban development within designated urban development areas in conformance with the land topography and soil conditions, and within an area which is or will be served by public facilities and services.
- Policy I.1.7 The County shall continue to have a neighborhood commercial district to provide small scale retail and service establishments which will serve the convenience needs of adjacent residential neighborhoods.
- Policy I.1.8 The County shall require the location of public, private and charter school sites to be consistent with the following criteria:
1. The proposed school location shall be compatible with present and projected use of adjacent property;
 2. Adequate public facilities and services are, or will be available concurrent with the development of the school;
 3. There are no significant environmental constraints that would preclude development of an educational facility on the site;
 4. There will be no adverse impacts on archaeological or historic sites or structures listed on the State of Florida Historic Master Site File, which are located on the site;
 5. The proposed location is well drained and soils are suitable for development or are adaptable for development and outdoor educational purposes with drainage improvements;
 6. The proposed site can accommodate the required parking and circulation of vehicles on the site; and
 7. Where feasible, the proposed site is so located to allow for co-location with parks, libraries and community centers.
- Policy I.1.9 The County shall require the development of public, private and charter school sites to be consistent with the following standards:
1. Middle and high schools shall be located on collector or arterial roadways, as functionally classified within the Comprehensive Plan, which have sufficient capacity to carry traffic to be generated by the school and are suitable for high volume traffic during evening and special events as determined by generally acceptable traffic engineering standards;

	2. The location, arrangement and lighting of play fields and playgrounds shall be located and buffered as may be necessary to minimize impacts to adjacent residential property; and 3. All structural setbacks, building heights, and access requirements shall be governed by the County's land development regulations.
OBJECTIVE I.2	The County shall continue to maintain land development regulations which regulate the location of land development consistent with topography and soil conditions.
Policy I.2.1	The County shall restrict development within unsuitable areas due to flooding, improper drainage, steep slopes, rock formations and adverse earth formations, unless acceptable methods are formulated by the developer and approved by the County to solve the problems created by the unsuitable land conditions.
OBJECTIVE I.3	The County shall continue to require that proposed development be approved only where the public facilities meet or exceed the adopted level of service standard.
Policy I.3.1	The County shall establish procedures for the review of proposed development to determine it's impact on level of service standards for public facilities so that such public facilities will meet the County's level of service standards and are available concurrent with the impacts of development.
OBJECTIVE I.4	The County shall maintain innovative land development regulations, which shall include planned residential development regulations.
Policy I.4.1	The County's land development regulations shall contain specific and detailed provisions to manage future growth and development to implement the Comprehensive Plan which shall contain at a minimum the following provisions to: 1. Regulate the subdivision of land; 2. Regulate the use of land and water consistent with this Element and ensure the compatibility of adjacent land uses and provide for open space; 3. Protect environmentally sensitive lands identified within the Conservation Element; 4. Regulate areas subject to seasonal and periodic flooding and provide for drainage and stormwater management; 5. Protect potable water wellfields and aquifer recharge areas; 6. Regulate signage; 7. Ensure safe and convenient onsite traffic flow and vehicle parking needs; and 8. Provide that development orders and permits shall not be issued which result in a reduction of the level of service standards adopted in this Comprehensive Plan.

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES FOR RURAL AREAS

Rural areas are those areas located outside the designated urban development areas shown on the County's Future Land Use Plan Map.

OBJECTIVE I.5 The County shall continue to maintain the rural character of rural areas by limiting development activity to those uses and densities which are identified within the following policies.

Policy I.5.1 The County shall permit agricultural, conservation, recreation and public uses, the processing, storage and sale of agriculture products, conventional single family dwellings, mobile homes, churches and other houses of worship and uses requiring approval as special exceptions.

Policy I.5.2 The County's land development regulations shall be based on and be consistent with the following land use classifications and corresponding standards for densities and intensities within rural areas:

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

Agriculturally classified lands are lands, which are predominantly used for crop cultivation, livestock, specialty farms, silviculture areas and dwelling units.

Agricultural density within the following land use categories provided that an overall density of 1 unit per 5 acres is maintained, with a minimum lot size of 2 acres permitted within areas designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map as Agricultural Moderate Density and provided that any subdivision containing lots less than 5 acres in size have a direct access to a publicly owned paved road.

Agricultural Very Low Density	shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 40 acres.
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Agricultural Low Density	shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 10 acres.
--------------------------	--

Agricultural Moderate Density	shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres.
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Agricultural Medium Density	shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 2 acres.
-----------------------------	---

Lands classified as public consist of public buildings and grounds, other public facilities, (including sewer systems, solid waste systems, drainage systems and potable water systems), public health systems, and educational uses.

PUBLIC LAND USE

Public uses shall be limited to an intensity of .25 floor area ratio.

Lands classified as conservation use are public and private lands devoted to the conservation of the unique natural functions within these lands and silviculture and agriculture activities conducted under best management practices. Privately owned lands may be designated as conservation within this Comprehensive Plan upon petition of the property owner or the owners agent and amendment of the Future Land Use Plan Map.

CONSERVATION LAND USE

Conservation uses shall be limited to public access and residential and non-residential uses necessary to manage such conservation lands (i.e. ranger stations, research stations and park amenities).

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

Lands Classified as Environmentally Sensitive are areas which are considered in need of special planning and treatment regarding land development regulation. These are not preservation areas, but land uses permitted within these areas are to provide mitigating measures to protect the natural functions of the County's environmentally sensitive areas as designated within this Comprehensive Plan as regionally significant areas.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas are lands within the 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Insurance Rate Map, as amended, which are located in the Suwannee River Corridor, Steinhatchee River Corridor, Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge, Lime Sink, Salt Marsh, Freshwater Marsh with Direct Sheet Flow to Salt Marsh, Wannee Natural Area and Mallory Swamp as identified within the Appendix of this Comprehensive Plan shall conform with the following densities provided that an average lot size of 10 acres is maintained with no lot being less than 5 acres in size, nor having a length to width ratio of greater than 3 to 1. In addition, the County shall prohibit the location of non-residential uses such as industrial activities and commercial uses within these areas, although resource-based activities, such as campgrounds of less than 100 campsites, may be allowed as special exceptions.

Environmentally Sensitive

Very Low Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 40 acres.

Environmentally Sensitive

Low Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 10 acres.

Environmentally Sensitive

Moderate Density shall be limited to a density of less than or equal to 1 dwelling unit per 5 acres.

Lands classified as recreation use consist of areas used for user based and resource based recreation uses.

RECREATION LAND USE

Recreation uses shall be limited to an intensity of .25 floor area ratio.

Policy I.5.3

The County, as part of the site plan review process shall maintain provisions whereby public facilities shall be so located as to discourage the proliferation of urban sprawl.

- Policy I.5.4 Notwithstanding the vesting rights policy contained within this plan element, the County shall allow the use of a parcel of property solely as a homestead by an individual who is the grandparent, parent, stepparent, adopted parent, sibling, child, stepchild, adopted child, or grandchild of the person who conveyed the parcel to said individual, notwithstanding the density or intensity of use assigned to the parcel in the Plan. Such a provision shall apply only once to any individual.
- Policy I.5.5 The areas within the 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Insurance Rate Map, as amended, which are located in the regionally significant areas identified within the Appendix of this Comprehensive Plan shall maintain an average lot size of 10 acres with no lot being less than 5 acres in size or having a length or width ratio of greater than 3 to 1. In addition, non-residential uses such as industrial activities and non-marine oriented commercial uses shall be prohibited from locating within these areas, although resource-based activities, such as campgrounds of less than 200 campsites, may be allowed as special exceptions.

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

FOR BOTH URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREAS AND RURAL AREAS

- OBJECTIVE I.6 The County shall continue to include within the site plan review process to be adopted as part of the land development regulations, that adjacent land uses shall not be adversely impacted by any change in land use.
- Policy I.6.1 The County shall continue to maintain mechanisms which protect public lands from the adverse impact of adjacent incompatible land uses, which include but are not limited to high density residential land use, commercial and industrial land use and mining activity.
- Policy I.6.2 The County shall permit neighborhood commercial districts to provide small scale retail service establishments which will serve the convenience needs of adjacent areas within the designated urban development areas and rural areas of the County. Neighborhood Commercial activities are not shown on the Future Land Use Plan Map; rather these commercial activities should be accommodated throughout the County as market forces determine the need. Neighborhood Commercial uses shall be approved through the amendment of the Official Zoning Atlas and shall not require an amendment to the Future Land Use Plan Map.
- Policy I.6.3 The County shall require a special permit for mining and limit mining activity to those areas designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map as agricultural.
- Policy I.6.4 The County shall maintain provisions for adequate drainage, stormwater management, open space and convenient on site traffic flow and needed vehicle parking for all development.
- Policy I.6.5 The County shall limit the intensity of development by requiring that the length of lots does not exceed four times the width of lots for the location of dwelling units within all land use categories which permit dwelling units.

Policy I.6.6	The County shall participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and regulate development and the installation of utilities in flood hazard areas in conformance with the requirements of the program.
OBJECTIVE I.7	The County shall continue to identify and designate blighted areas which are feasible for redevelopment or renewal, through the updating of the housing condition survey based on the Affordable Housing Needs Assessment prepared by Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing.
Policy I.7.1	The County shall request federal and state funds to redevelop and renew any identified blighted areas, where the County finds there is a competitive feasibility to receive such funding.
Policy 1.7.2	The County's three identified communities of Jena, Suwannee and Old Town meet the definition in Section 163.3164(50) Florida Statutes for "Urban Services Areas" and therefore, are designated "Urban Redevelopment" pursuant to Section 163.3164(49) Florida Statutes furthering the County's Comprehensive Plan. This allows these areas to be ready for development and redevelopment as shown on the Map, Illustration A-XIII. The County shall continue to implement programs to assist those areas with new capital improvements, public utilities, and recreational facilities.
OBJECTIVE I.8	The County shall continue to work towards the elimination or reduction of uses inconsistent with the character and future land uses of the County, through establishing such inconsistent uses as non-conformities to be defined within the land development regulations.
Policy I.8.1	The County shall maintain provisions for nonconforming; lots, uses of land, structures, characteristics of use and use of structures and premises.
Policy I.8.2	The land development regulations shall provide for the combination of lots of record in continuous frontage in single ownership. These regulations shall consider, at a minimum, the following criteria: 1. The stage of development (developed, undeveloped, partially developed); 2. The ownership pattern of the development; 3. Whether the health, safety and welfare of the public is protected; and 4. Whether the density/intensity provisions of the comprehensive plan can be met.
Policy I.8.3	A dwelling unit made non-conforming by policies adopted in this plan which is the residence of the owner may be replaced, expanded or reconstructed.
Policy I.8.4	The County shall provide for the rebuilding of residences or rebuilding of non-conforming uses or structures which are destroyed or damaged by an act of God. All rebuildings shall be consistent with other plan policies and applicable land development regulations.
Policy I.8.5	The Board of County Commissioners, where appropriate, may recognize the existence of a commercial use or zoning which was lawful at the time it was erected, or the zoning granted. The Board may recognize such use/zoning by placing a zoning district on the use/zoning which allows for that type of use/zoning; provided, however, that it does not have any significant adverse affects on adjacent properties and/or character of the area in which it is located.

Policy I.8.6	The County shall provide for the recognition by the Board of County Commissioners of legal non-conforming uses and permitting the rebuilding or expansion of existing non-conforming uses which do not have any significant adverse effects on adjacent properties and/or the character of the area in which it is located. Expansion of non-conforming uses and rebuilding of non-conforming uses, other than residences and uses or structures destroyed or damaged by an act of God, shall not occur more than once. The expansion or rebuilding shall not result in an increase of the intensity of use which exceeds 50 percent of the existing intensity of use. However, a less intense use which may still be non-conforming with the plan may be permitted. All expansions and/or rebuilding permitted must be consistent with other plan policies, and applicable land development regulations.
Policy I.8.7	The County shall provide a process for the recognition of vested development rights.
OBJECTIVE I.9	The County, shall continue to use a Historic Preservation Agency appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to assist the Board of County Commissioners with the designation of historic landmarks and landmark sites or historic districts within the unincorporated area of the County based upon criteria utilized for the National Register of Historic Places and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings. The Historic Preservation Agency shall review applications for historic designation and after conducting a duly noticed public hearing shall make a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners based upon the criteria stated in the maintenance and reuses of historical structures policy contained within the Future Land Use Element of this Comprehensive Plan.
Policy I.9.1	The County shall maintain a listing of all known prehistoric and historic sites within the unincorporated area of the County. This list shall be based on the Florida Master Site File developed and maintained by the Florida Department of State and updated annually by the County Historic Preservation Agency.
Policy I.9.2	The County shall establish the following standards for the maintenance or adaptive reuse of historic structures and sites: 1. The effect of the proposed work on the landmark or the property upon which such work is to be done; 2. The relationship between such work and other structures on the historic housing site; 3. The extent to which the historic architectural significance, architectural style design, arrangement, texture, materials, and color of the historic housing will be affected; and 4. Whether the denial of a certificate would deprive the property owner of reasonable beneficial use of his or her property.

OBJECTIVE I.10	The County shall adopt regulations to protect natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands (including but not limited to wetlands and floodplains). For the purposes of this Comprehensive Plan "wetlands" means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils. Soils present in wetlands generally are classified as hydric or alluvial, or possess characteristics that are associated with reducing soil conditions. The prevalent vegetation in wetlands generally consists of facultative or obligate hydrophytic macrophytes that are typically adapted to areas having soil conditions described above. These species, due to morphological, physiological or reproductive adaptations, have the ability to grow, reproduce or persist in aquatic environments or anaerobic soil conditions. Florida wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bayheads, bogs, cypress domes and strands, sloughs, wet prairies, riverine swamps and marshes, hydric seepage slopes, tidal marshes, mangrove swamps and other similar areas. Florida wetlands generally do not include longleaf or slash pine flatwoods with an understory dominated by saw palmetto.
Policy I.10.1	The County shall continue to include provisions for the protection of community potable water supply wells by limiting approval of land uses within the area designated by the land development regulations as a wellfield protection area.
Policy I.10.2	The County shall continue to include provisions which will mitigate the adverse effects of land uses on environmentally sensitive areas. In addition, the County shall prohibit the location of any structure, other than permitted docks, piers, walkways, or essential services (upon approval of the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation and the Water Management District) within a wetland.
Policy I.10.3	As part of the County's development review process the impacts on agricultural and forested areas shall be assessed and identified prior to development approval.
Policy I.10.4	As part of the County's development review process environmentally sensitive land shall be identified for protection. These environmentally sensitive lands shall include, but not be limited to, wetlands, floodprone areas, areas designated as prime groundwater aquifer recharge areas and critical habitat areas for designated rare, threatened, endangered, or species of special concern.
OBJECTIVE I.11	The County shall maintain a process for coordination with agencies responsible for the implementation of any regional resource planning and management plan prepared pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes.
Policy I.11.1	The County shall require that all proposed development which is subject to the provisions of any regional resource planning and management plan be consistent with such plan and that the proposed development be reviewed for such consistency during the development review process.

OBJECTIVE I.12	The County shall a process for coordination with the Water Management District of all proposed development plans within the drainage basin of any designated priority water body to provide the Water Management District an opportunity to review such development to determine if the development is consistent with any approved management plans within that basin.
Policy. I.12.1	The County shall include a provision which requires the developer to submit development plans for all proposed development within the drainage basin of any designated priority water body to the Water Management District for review and comment as to the consistency of the proposed development with any approved management plan within such basin prior to development review by the County.
OBJECTIVE I.13	The County shall maintain land development regulations which regulate the location of land development consistent with topography and soil conditions
Policy I.13.1	The County shall restrict development within unsuitable areas due to flooding, improper drainage, steep slopes, rock formations and adverse earth formations, unless acceptable methods are formulated by the developer and approved by the County to solve the problems created by the unsuitable land conditions.
OBJECTIVE I.14	The County shall maintain land development regulations which require that proposed development be approved only where the public facilities meet or exceed the adopted level of service standard.
Policy I.14.1	The County shall maintain procedures for the review of proposed development to determine the impact on level of service standards for public facilities.
OBJECTIVE I.15	The County shall maintain innovative land development regulations, which shall include planned residential development regulations.
Policy I.15.1	The County shall maintain specific and detailed provisions to manage future growth and development to implement the Comprehensive Plan which shall contain at a minimum the following provisions to: 1. Regulate the subdivision of land; 2. Regulate the use of land and water consistent with this Element and ensure the compatibility of adjacent land uses and provide for open space; 3. Protect environmentally sensitive lands identified within the Conservation Element; 4. Regulate areas subject to seasonal and periodic flooding and provide for drainage and stormwater management; 5. Protect potable water wellfields and aquifer recharge areas; 6. Regulate signage; 7. Ensure safe and convenient onsite traffic flow and vehicle parking needs; and 8. Provide that development orders and permits shall not be issued which result in a reduction of the level of service standards adopted in this Comprehensive Plan.

OBJECTIVE I.16

The location of electrical substations shall be permitted in any land use category, except the Conservation future land use category and any Historic Preservation Overlay district as depicted on the Future Land Use Plan Map. All other essential services, which are hereby defined to include and be limited to electrical transmission and distribution lines, water distribution lines and mains, sanitary sewer collection lines, force mains and lift stations, natural gas transmission and distribution lines and mains, telephone lines and substations and cable television lines shall be exempt from any County approval and shall be permitted in any land use category.

Policy I.16.1

The County shall allow electrical substations as a permitted use by right within all land use classifications, except Conservation future land use category and any Historic Preservation Overlay district as depicted on the Future Land Use Plan Map. New distribution electric substations should be constructed to the maximum extent practicable, to achieve compatibility with adjacent and surrounding land uses. The following standards intended to balance the need for electricity with land use compatibility shall apply to new distribution electric substations.

1. In nonresidential areas, the distribution electric substation shall comply with the setback and landscaped buffer area criteria applicable to other similar uses in that district.
2. In residential areas, a setback of up to 100 feet between the distribution electric substation property boundary and permanent equipment structures shall be maintained, as follows:
 - a. For setbacks between 100 feet and 50 feet, an open green space shall be formed by installing native landscaping, including trees and shrub material. Substation equipment shall be protected by a security fence.
 - b. For setback of less than 50 feet, a buffer wall 8 feet high or a fence 8 feet high with native landscaping shall be installed around the substation.

OBJECTIVE I.17

The County shall permit public uses by special exception within any zoning district.

Policy I.17.1

The public uses shown on the Future Land Use Plan Map which existed at the time of adoption of this plan shall continue to be permitted within any zoning district by special exception and shall not require an amendment to the Future Land Use Plan Map. Public Uses include structures or grounds used by a private institution, municipal, county regional, state, or federal entity for a public service.

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TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

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II TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

A transportation system which provides for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods is needed to support existing and future development. The purpose of this plan element is to identify the types, locations and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares and transportation routes in the County and establish a framework for making policy decisions in planning for future transportation needs. The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data, contained in the Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Transportation Element is closely related to the Future Land Use Element. This is due to the inherent two-way relationship between land use and transportation. Land use patterns directly affect the demand for transportation facilities, with more intensive land uses generating more traffic and requiring greater degrees of accessibility. Conversely, the transportation network affects land use in that access provided by transportation facilities (existing or proposed) influences the use of land located adjacent to these facilities.

In addition to the Future Land Use Element, the Transportation Element is coordinated and consistent with the remaining plan elements as required by the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act. Further, the County's transportation system does not stop at political boundaries. Therefore, coordination between other local governments is a necessary prerequisite to a functional transportation system. The goal, objectives and policies of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element establish guidelines to be followed which provide for coordination between various governmental entities.

The following goal, objectives and policies of this plan element are intended to serve as the plan for transportation needs. The objectives and policies herein provide a basis for addressing transportation needs within the County.

TRANSPORTATION GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL II - PROVIDE FOR A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WHICH SERVES EXISTING AND FUTURE LAND USES.

OBJECTIVE II.1 The County shall maintain a safe, convenient and efficient level of service standard which shall be maintained for all roadways.

Policy II.1.1 Establish the Service Standard as noted below at peak hour for the following roadway segments within the County as defined within the Florida Department of Transportation "2013 Quality/Level of Service Handbook".

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
1	U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 from County west boundary to Cross City west limits	4-D	Principal Arterial - Other	Rural	B
2	U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 from Cross City east limits to S.R. 349	4-D	Principal Arterial - Other	Rural	B
3	U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 from 349 to County east boundary	4-D	Principal Arterial - Other	Rural	B
4	S.R. 349 from U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55 to County north boundary	2-U	Minor Arterial	Rural	D
5	S.R. 51 from County west boundary to County north boundary	2-U	Minor Arterial	Rural	D
6	C.R. 358 from County north boundary to C.R. 361	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
7	C.R. 358 from C.R. 361 to U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
8	C.R. 351 from Horseshoe Beach north limits to Cross City south limits	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
9	C.R. 351 from Cross City north limits to S.R. 349	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
10	C.R. 349 from County west boundary to U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
11	C.R. 340 from S.R. 349 to County east boundary	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
12	Unnamed County Road from County west boundary to C.R. 357	2-U	Minor Collectors	Rural	D

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
13	Tiger Ridge Road from C.R. 357 to C.R. 353	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
14	C.R. 357 from County north boundary to Tiger Ridge Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
15	C.R. 357 from Tiger Ridge Road to C.R. 358	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
16	C.R. 358 from U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55 to C.R. 357	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
17	C.R. 358 from C.R. 357 to U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
18	C.R. 353 from Tiger Ridge Road to S.R. 349	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
19	C.R. 353 from C.R. 351 to Tiger Ridge Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
20	C.R. 351A from C.R. 351 to S.R. 349	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
21	C.R. 351A from C.R. 351 to U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
22	C.R. 351 from U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55 to C.R. 351	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
23	C.R. 361 from C.R. 358 to Unnamed County Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
24	C.R. 361 from Unnamed County Road to County west boundary	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
25	Unnamed County Road from C.R. 361 to C.R. 351	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
26	Unnamed County Road from C.R. 351 to C.R. 357	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
27	C.R. 357 from C.R. 351 to Unnamed County Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
28	C.R. 357 from Unnamed County Road to County west boundary	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
29	C.R. 55A from U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 to C.R. 349	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
30	C.R. 346A from C.R. 349 to C.R. 317	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
31	C.R. 317 from U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 to C.R. 346A	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D

D = Divided
U = Undivided

Note: U.S. 19/98/27A is a Strategic Intermodal System facility.

Policy II.1.2

The County shall continue to control the number and frequency of connections and access points of driveways and roads to arterial and collector roads to be in conformance with Chapter 14-96 and 14-97, Florida Administrative Code, in effect on January 1, 2003 and the following requirements for County roads.

1. Permitting 1 access point for ingress and egress purposes to a single property or development;
2. Permitting 2 access points if the minimum distance between the 2 access points exceeds 20 feet;
3. Permitting 3 access points if the minimum distance between each access point is at least 100 feet; or
4. Permitting more than 3 access points where a minimum distance of 1,000 feet is maintained between each access point.

Policy II.1.3.

The County shall require the provision of safe and convenient on-site traffic flow, which includes the provision for vehicle parking.

Policy II.1.4.

The County shall, for any development which is required to provide a site plan or any development requiring platting, include requirements for additional right-of-way width for bicycle and pedestrian ways to be provided for all proposed collector and arterial roadways, as integrated or parallel transportation facilities.

Policy II.1.5	In accordance with Section 163.3180(5)(h)1.c., Florida Statutes, as amended, the County shall provide a means by which the landowner will be assessed a proportionate share of the cost of providing the transportation facilities necessary to serve the proposed development. However, in accordance with Section 163.3180(5)(h)2., Florida Statutes, as amended, the landowner shall not be held responsible for contributing to deficient transportation facilities.
OBJECTIVE II.2	The County shall continue to require that all traffic circulation system improvements be consistent with the land uses shown on the future land use plan map by limiting higher density and higher intensity land use locations to be adjacent to collector or arterial roads.
Policy II.2.1	The County shall, as part of the capital improvement scheduling of roadway improvements, review all proposed roadway improvements to determine if such improvement will further the direction of the Future Land Use Plan Element. Where the roadway is operated and maintained by another jurisdictional authority, the County shall notify such jurisdiction, in writing, if any identified roadway improvement plan is not consistent with the provisions of the Future Land Use Plan Element.
OBJECTIVE II.3	The County shall continue to coordinate its traffic circulation planning efforts with the Florida Department of Transportation for consistency with the Department's 5-Year Transportation Plan.
Policy II.3.1.	The County shall, during the capital improvements planning process, review all proposed roadway improvements for consistency with the Florida Department of Transportation's 5-Year Transportation Plan.
OBJECTIVE II.4	The County shall continue to provide for the protection of existing and future right-of-ways from building encroachment by establishing right-of-way setback requirements for all structures along new or realigned collector and arterial roadways to be provided for by either the developer or purchased as additional right-of-way.
Policy II.4.1	The County shall maintain provisions which require all structures along new or realigned collector or arterial roadways to provide additional setbacks for the future need of additional right-of-way. Such additional right-of-way shall be provided by the developer of the land as part of the development review process or shall be purchased by the agency improving the roadway.
Policy II.4.2	Properties under the same ownership or those consolidated for development shall be treated as one property for the purposes of access management and shall not receive the maximum potential number of access points for that frontage indicated under minimum access spacing standards.
Policy II.4.3	Large commercial developments shall be required to provide and/or extend nearby local and collector streets and provide street connections with surrounding residential areas so residents may access the development without traveling on arterial streets.
Policy II.4.4	Shopping centers shall be required to provide a unified access and circulation plan and require any out parcels to obtain access from the unified access and circulation system.

- Policy II.4.5 Existing lots unable to meet the access spacing standards for arterials shall obtain access from platted side streets, parallel streets, service roads, joint and cross-access or the provision of easements;
- Policy II.4.6 Adequate corner clearance shall be maintained at crossroad intersections with arterials.
- Policy II.4.7 The County shall encourage cross-access connections easements and joint driveways, where available and economically feasible.
- Policy II.4.8 The County shall encourage closure of existing excessive, duplicative, unsafe curb cuts or narrowing of overly wide curb cuts at the development site.

III

HOUSING ELEMENT

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III HOUSING ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The following goal, objectives and policies constitute the Housing Element providing for decent, safe and sanitary housing at affordable costs and in sufficient quantities to meet the needs of both existing and future County residents. The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

This plan element of the County's Comprehensive Plan establishes a guide for the County to follow in addressing the housing needs of the unincorporated area. The Housing Element addresses the main goal for housing within the County through the year 2025, as well as measurable objectives which are established to meet the County's housing goal. In addition, each objective is followed by one or more corresponding policies to provide guidance and direction towards the accomplishment of the objective.

HOUSING GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL III - PROVIDE DECENT, SAFE AND SANITARY HOUSING IN SUITABLE ENVIRONMENTS AT AFFORDABLE COSTS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COUNTY'S PRESENT AND FUTURE CITIZENS, INCLUDING THOSE RESIDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

OBJECTIVE III.1 The County shall continue to provide for affordable housing in accordance with the affordable housing needs assessment. In addition, the following definition of affordable housing shall be used to define affordable housing types to be permitted for the existing and anticipated population. For the purposes of this Comprehensive Plan, "affordable housing" means housing for which monthly rents or monthly mortgage payments, including taxes, insurance, and utilities, do not exceed 30 percent of that amount which represents the percentage of the median adjusted gross annual income for the households. Thirty percent is not the limit if the mortgage lender is satisfied that the household can afford a higher percent. Consideration must be given to the following groups:

1. Moderate Income Person-120% of the median income;
2. Low Income Person-80% of the median income;
3. Very Low Income Person-50% of the median annual income.
4. Extremely Low Income Person” - 30 percent of the median income.

Non-owner occupied units should be reserved for low, very low income or extremely low households as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at a monthly cost (including utilities) that does not exceed 30% of the total monthly income. In addition, the County will be required to conduct an affordable housing needs assessment.

Policy III.1.1 The County shall include as part of its adopted citizen participation plan a provision to insure that representatives of the local private and non-profit housing industry be provided opportunities to participate in housing related planning activities conducted by the County.

Policy III.1.2	The County shall permit the construction of government subsidized housing only within areas which are served by public facilities which meet or exceed the adopted level of service standards established in the other elements of this Comprehensive Plan.
OBJECTIVE III.2	The County shall continue to promote the maintenance of a safe and sanitary housing stock and the elimination of substandard housing conditions, as well as the establishment of provisions for the structural and aesthetic improvement of housing through adoption of minimum housing standards.
Policy III.2.1	The County, to address the quality of housing and stabilization of neighborhoods, shall include minimum housing standards for structural strength, stability, sanitation, adequate light and ventilation and safety to life and property from fire and other hazards incident to the construction, alteration, repair, removal, demolition, use and occupancy of residential buildings. 1. Every dwelling unit shall contain not less than a kitchen sink, lavatory, tub or shower and a water closet; 2. Every dwelling unit shall have both a cold water and a hot water supply; 3. Every dwelling unit shall have heating facilities; and 4. All exterior walls and roofs shall be structurally sound and free of defects.
Policy III.2.2	The County shall include historic sites and structures preservation regulations which address the identification and improvement of historically significant housing and shall regulate alterations, demolitions, relocation and new construction for historically significant housing.
OBJECTIVE III.3	The County shall continue to make available site opportunities for extremely low, very low, low, and moderate income families and mobile homes through the Future Land Use Element in order to provide adequate sites for extremely low, very low, low and moderate income households, address the creation and/or preservation of affordable housing and address adequate sites and the distribution of housing types. The County shall use the resources of the State Housing Initiatives Partnership and Community Development Block Grant programs to address these needs.
Policy III.3.1	The County shall address the creation of housing for extremely low, very low, low and moderate income persons through the use of the State Housing Initiatives Partnership and Community Development Block Grant programs.
Policy III.3.2	The County address adequate sites and distribution of housing types.
Policy III.3.3	The County shall include within the land development regulations Residential, (mixed) Single Family/Mobile Home, Residential Mobile Home and Mobile Home Park districts to promote the location of affordable low to medium density single family housing within designated urban areas as defined within this Comprehensive Plan
OBJECTIVE III.4	The County shall continue to facilitate the provision of group homes such as Long-Term Residential Care facilities (LTRC) or foster care facilities, as licensed or funded by the Florida Department of Children and Families, and Adult Congregate Living Facilities (ACLF) as licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration, within residential areas or areas of residential character.

- Policy III.4.1 The County shall continue to permit homes of six or fewer residents, in lower density residential areas as prescribed in Chapter 419, Florida Statutes, in effect upon adoption or amendment of this policy. The term community residential home shall include long-term residential care facilities licensed by the Florida Department of Children and Families and adult congregate living facilities licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration.
- Policy III.4.2 The County shall permit homes of more than six residents which meet the definition of a community residential home as provided in Chapter 419, Florida Statutes, within medium and high density residential land use categories be based upon the following criteria:
1. The County shall approve the siting of a community residential home, unless the County determines that the siting of the home at the site selected:
 - a. Does not meet applicable licensing criteria established and determined by the Florida Department of Children and Families and the Agency for Health Care Administration, including requirements that the home be located to assure the safe care and supervision of all clients in the home; and
 - b. Would result in such a concentration of community residential homes in the area in proximity to the site selected or would result in a combination of such homes with other residences in the community, such that the nature and character of the area would be substantially altered. (A home that would be located within a radius of 1,200 feet of another existing community residential home shall be considered to be an over concentration of such homes that substantially alters the nature and character of the area. A home that would be located within a radius of 500 feet of a low- or moderate-density residential land use category shall be considered to substantially alter the nature and character of the area).
- OBJECTIVE III.5 The County shall continue to implement programs for the demolition of housing through the adoption of hazardous building regulations consistent with Chapter 553 (Building Construction Standards), Florida Statutes.
- Policy III.5.1 The County shall continue to enforce a hazardous building code and shall require the rehabilitation or demolition and clearance of housing and other structures which pose a threat to public safety consistent with Chapter 553 (Building Construction Standards), Florida Statutes.
1. The hazardous building code consistent with Chapter 553 (Building Construction Standards), Florida Statutes shall be remedial and shall be constructed to secure the beneficial interest and purposes which are public safety, health and general welfare through provisions dealing with structural strength, stability, sanitation, adequate light and ventilation, and safety to life and property from fire and other hazardous incident to the construction alteration, repair, removal, demolition, use and occupancy of building, structure or premises;
 2. The provisions shall apply to unoccupied and unsafe buildings and shall apply equally to new and existing conditions; and

	3. Provisions to protect classified historical structures requiring architectural and engineering plans bearing the seal of a registered professional architect or engineer shall be included.
Policy III.5.2	The County shall apply for federal and state housing assistance when the County can meet the eligibility requirements to receive a program award, In the case of assistance programs which use a scoring system based upon U.S. Bureau of Census data as a factor in determining award, such data shall be reviewed by County staff and a determination shall be made as to the probability of program award prior to application, Where such raw scores provide a low probability of funding, the County may decline to apply for such assistance program until such time as the raw scores improve the County's standing for award.
Policy III.5.3	The Local Planning Agency shall develop neighborhood or sector plans to study and make recommendations to the Local Governing Body regarding the conservation of such neighborhoods, when existing residential neighborhoods are being considered for Future Land Use Plan Map amendments.
OBJECTIVE III.6	The County shall continue to provide for the restoration or rehabilitation for adaptive reuse of historically significant housing by requiring that no person may undertake alteration of the exterior part of County designated historic housing or demolish or relocate such housing without the Historic Preservation Agency review and approval of such demolition, alteration or relocation.
Policy III.6.1	The County hereby provides that after conducting a public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners shall review an application for a certificate of appropriateness for new construction, alterations, demolition or relocation of County designated historic housing and shall approve or deny such applications based upon the following guidelines: 1. The effect of the proposed work on the landmark or the property upon which such work is to be done; 2. The relationship between such work and other structures on the historic housing site; 3. The extent to which the historic architectural significance, architectural style, design, arrangement, texture, materials and color of the historic housing will be affected; and 4. Whether the denial of a certificate would deprive the property owner of reasonable beneficial use of his or her property.
OBJECTIVE III.7	The County shall continue to assure the availability of relocation housing as a prerequisite to housing rehabilitation or neighborhood revitalization activities, which result in the displacement of residents.
Policy III.7.1	The availability of relocation housing shall be researched and verified by County staff prior to commencement of any governmental housing rehabilitation or neighborhood revitalization program to be enacted by the County, which results in the displacement of residents.

- OBJECTIVE III.8 The County shall continue to coordinate information regarding County housing programs with the Housing Authority so that the Authority has the latest information available regarding local housing conditions and needs. In addition, the County shall cooperate with the Housing Authority in the planning of the housing assistance programs of the Housing Authority.
- Policy III.8.1 The County shall coordinate County housing programs with the Housing Authority and the private sector to participate in planning for the provision of a supply of housing to accommodate the full range of life stages and economic capabilities of the County's residents.

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IV

SANITARY SEWER, SOLID WASTE,
DRAINAGE, POTABLE WATER AND
NATURAL GROUNDWATER AQUIFER RECHARGE
ELEMENT

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IV
SANITARY SEWER, SOLID WASTE, DRAINAGE, POTABLE WATER
AND NATURAL GROUNDWATER AQUIFER RECHARGE ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The following plan element provides direction for the use, maintenance and location of general sanitary sewer, solid waste, drainage, potable water facilities and natural groundwater aquifer recharge areas in conformance with the future land use element of this Comprehensive Plan.

The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

The future growth of the County depends upon the safe, adequate and economical means for the provision of public facilities and services. This portion of the Comprehensive Plan provides a goal, objectives and policies which direct the implementation and use of such public facilities in a logical and economic fashion, as well as, in a manner which is consistent with the State of Florida Comprehensive Plan, the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan and the various elements of this Comprehensive Plan.

GOAL IV-1 - ENSURE THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC FACILITIES IN A TIMELY, ORDERLY EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY'S POPULATION.

OBJECTIVE IV.1 The County shall continue to mitigate deficiencies by undertaking capital improvement projects in accordance with the schedule contained in the Capital Improvements Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy IV.1.1 The County shall provide that within the schedule contained in the Capital Improvements Element, capital improvement projects needed for replacement or correction of existing deficiencies be given priority over providing for future facility needs:

1. If they are imminently needed to protect the public health and safety, which shall be given the highest priority; and
2. If existing facilities are not meeting maintenance or operation level of service standards adopted herein, which shall be given the second order of priority.

SANITARY SEWER FACILITY SUBELEMENT

GOAL IV-2 - ENSURE THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES IN A TIMELY, ORDERLY, EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY'S POPULATION.

OBJECTIVE IV.2 The County shall continue to coordinate the extension of, or increase in the capacity of sanitary sewer facilities by scheduling the completion of public facility improvements and requiring that they are concurrent with projected demand.

Policy IV.2.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for sanitary sewer facilities.

	FACILITY TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
	Individual Septic Tanks	Standards as specified in Chapter 64E-6, Florida Administrative Code, in effect January 1, 2013, as amended.
	Community Sanitary Sewer System	70 gallons per capita per day
Policy IV.2.2	The County shall prohibit the installation of septic tanks in locations with unsuitable soils or within wetland areas which do not meet the installation requirements of Chapter 64E-6, Florida Administrative Code in effect January 1, 2013, as amended.	
Policy IV.2.3	The County shall allow existing septic tanks and package wastewater treatment facilities to remain in service until such time as centralized sanitary sewer service is accessible, conditioned on the following requirements. - The County shall not issue an occupational license to the owner or tenant of a building located in an area classified industrial on the County Future Land Use Plan Map or used for industrial or manufacturing purposes or its equivalent, when such site is served by an onsite sewage disposal system without the owner or tenant first obtaining an annual operating permit from the County Health Department; and - The County shall not issue a certificate of land development compliance to a new owner or tenant of a building located in an area zoned industrial on the County Official Zoning Atlas or used for industrial or manufacturing purposes, or its equivalent, or which operates a business which has the potential to generate toxic, hazardous or industrial waste water, when such site is served by an onsite sewage disposal system without the owner or tenant first obtaining an annual operating permit for an onsite sewage disposal system from the County Health Department.	
Policy IV.2.4	The County shall allow the temporary use of package wastewater facilities within urban development areas where a centralized wastewater service has been planned and is part of the five year schedule of improvements within the Capital Improvements Element of this Comprehensive Plan to serve development until such time as the centralized sanitary sewer system is accessible.	
Policy IV.2.5	The land development regulations shall limit development which proposes the construction of package wastewater treatment facilities outside the urban development areas to public uses and special use facilities such as rest stops, parks and resource based recreation uses.	
Policy IV.2.6	The County shall permit centralized sanitary sewer systems outside of the designated urban development areas where such systems are owned and operated by local government or a governmental authority and such facility serves areas where private sanitary sewer facilities are not adequate to protect surface and ground water quality. Further, the County shall require all development to connect to publicly owned and operated centralized sanitary sewer systems, where such service is available to the development.	

SOLID WASTE FACILITY SUBELEMENT

GOAL IV.3 - ENSURE THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SOLID WASTE FACILITIES IN A TIMELY, ORDERLY, EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY'S POPULATION.

OBJECTIVE IV.3 The County shall continue to coordinate the extension of, or increase in the capacity of solid waste facilities by scheduling the completion of public facility improvements and requiring that they are concurrent with projected demand.

Policy IV.3.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for solid waste disposal facilities:

FACILITY TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Solid Waste Landfill	2.8 cubic yards per capita per year

Policy IV.3.2 The County shall schedule, design operate and maintain solid waste disposal facilities in a manner which minimizes the effects of such facilities on water and air resources.

DRAINAGE FACILITY SUBELEMENT

GOAL IV-4 - ENSURE THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC DRAINAGE FACILITIES IN A TIMELY, ORDERLY, EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY'S POPULATION.

OBJECTIVE IV.4 The County shall continue to coordinate the extension of, or increase in the capacity of drainage facilities by scheduling the completion of public facility improvements and requiring that they are concurrent with projected demand.

Policy IV.4.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for drainage facilities.

LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

For all projects not exempted from Chapter 40B-4 and 62-25, Florida Administrative Code, stormwater management systems must be installed such that the peak rate of post-development runoff will not exceed the peak-rate of pre-development runoff for storm events up through and including either one of the following design storms.

1. A design storm with a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall depth with Natural Resource Conservation Service Type II distribution falling on average antecedent moisture conditions for projects serving exclusively agricultural, forest, conservation, or recreational uses; or
2. A design storm with 100-year critical duration rainfall depth for projects serving any land use other than agricultural, silvicultural, conservation, or recreational uses.
3. Facilities which directly discharge into an Outstanding Florida Water shall include an additional level of treatment equal to the runoff of the first 1.5 inches of rainfall from the design storm consistent with Chapter 62-25.025(9), Florida Administrative Code, in order to meet the receiving water quality standards of Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be

designed so as not to lower the receiving water quality below the minimum conditions necessary to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

4. All other stormwater management projects shall be required to adhere to the standards for treatment in accordance with Chapter 40-B4, Florida Administrative Code (rules of the Suwannee River Water Management District) and the Suwannee River Water Management District Environmental Resource Permitting Applicant's Handbook. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as to not lower the receiving water quality or degrade the receiving water body below the minimum conditions necessary to maintain their classifications as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Any development exempt from Chapter 62-25 or 40B-4, Florida Administrative Code, as cited above and which is adjacent to or drains into a surface water, canal, or stream, or which empties into a sinkhole, shall first allow the runoff to enter a grassed swale or other conveyance designed to percolate 80 percent of the runoff from a three year, one hour design storm within 72 hours after a storm event. In addition, any development exempt from Chapter 62-25 or 40B-4, Florida Administrative Code, which is directly discharged into an Outstanding Florida Water shall include an additional level of treatment equal to the runoff of the first 1.5 inches of rainfall from the design storm consistent with Chapter 62-25.025(9), Florida Administrative Code in order to meet the receiving water quality standards of Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as not to lower the receiving water quality below the minimum condition necessary to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

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| Policy IV.4.2 | The County shall continue to implement provisions which prohibit the construction of structures or landscape alterations which would interrupt natural drainage flows, including sheet flow and flow to isolated wetland systems. |
| Policy IV.4.3 | The County shall continue to require a certification, by the preparer of the permit plans, that all construction activity undertaken shall incorporate erosion and sediment controls during construction. |
| Policy IV.4.4 | In order to maintain the water quality of the natural surface water bodies and natural floodways of rivers, streams and creeks, native vegetation within such natural surface water bodies and floodways shall be retained in a natural state. Harvesting, cutting and clearing activities, excluding silviculture activities conducted in accordance with the silviculture policy contained in the Conservation Element of this Comprehensive Plan, shall be restricted to the removal of exotic weeds. Such removal of exotic weeds shall only be conducted as part of a vegetative management program, and shall be consistent with federal, state and water management district regulations. |

POTABLE WATER FACILITY SUBELEMENT

GOAL IV-5 - ENSURE THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC POTABLE WATER FACILITIES IN A TIMELY, ORDERLY, EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANNER AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY'S POPULATION.

OBJECTIVE IV.5 The County shall continue to coordinate the extension of, or increase in the capacity of potable water facilities by scheduling the completion of public facility improvements and requiring that they are concurrent with projected demand.

Policy IV.5.1 The County hereby establishes the following level of service standards for potable water.

FACILITY TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Private individual water wells	Standards as specified in Chapter 62-22, Florida Administrative Code.
Steinhatchee/Jena Community Potable Water System	100 gallons per capita per day
Suwannee Community Potable Water System	70 gallons per capita per day
Horseshoe Beach Community Potable Water System	130 gallons per capita per day

Policy IV.5.2 The County shall permit residential densities in excess of 2 dwelling units per acre, but less than or equal to 4 dwelling units per acre, only within areas served by centralized potable water systems, and residential densities in excess of 4 dwelling units per acre only within areas served by centralized potable water and centralized sewer systems.

Policy IV. 5.3 The County shall consult with the applicable water supply utility prior to issuance of a building permit or its functional equivalent to ensure that adequate water supplies and facilities will be in place and available no later than the anticipated date of issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent.

NATURAL GROUNDWATER AQUIFER RECHARGE SUBELEMENT

GOAL IV-6 - ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY BY ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE ORDERLY USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND IN A MANNER WHICH WILL PROMOTE SUCH PROTECTION AND AVAILABILITY.

OBJECTIVE IV.6 The County shall require that no sanitary sewer facility have any discharge or spray irrigation of primary treated effluent into designated high groundwater aquifer recharge areas as designated by the Water Management District and depicted in Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy IV.6.1 The County shall continue to require that during the development review process, all proposed development within the drainage basin of any designated priority water body shall be coordinated with the Water Management District and ensure that any proposed development is consistent with any approved management plans within that basin.

OBJECTIVE IV.7	The County shall continue to coordinate with the Water Management District to protect the functions of high groundwater aquifer recharge areas as designated by the Water Management District and depicted in Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan and natural drainage features, by requiring all subdividers to provide construction plans for conceptual review and comment by the Water Management District prior to construction plan approval by the County.
Policy IV.7.1	The County shall provide for the limitation of development adjacent to natural drainage features to protect the functions of the feature by enforcing a design standard that requires all development to conform to the natural contours of the land and leave natural drainage ways undisturbed. In addition, no development shall be constructed so that such development impedes the natural flow of water from higher adjacent properties across such development.
Policy IV.7.2	The County shall provide for the limitation of development and associated impervious surfaces in high groundwater aquifer recharge areas as designated by the Water Management District and depicted in Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan to protect the functions of the recharge area through requirement of the following standards. 1. Stormwater management practices shall not include drainage wells and sinkholes for stormwater disposal. New development, redevelopment and when expansion occurs, existing development shall be prohibited from discharging stormwater into an active sinkhole. Where development is proposed in areas with existing drainage wells, these wells shall be abandoned, including adequate sealing and plugging according to Chapter 62-28, Florida Administrative Code; 2. Well construction, modification or closure shall be regulated in accordance with the criteria established by the Water Management District and the Florida Department of Health; 3. Abandoned wells shall be closed in accordance with the criteria established in Chapter 62-28, Florida Administrative Code; 4. No person shall discharge or cause to or permit the discharge of a regulated material to the soils, groundwater, or surfacewater; 5. No person shall tamper or bypass or cause or permit tampering with or bypassing of the containment of a regulated material storage system, except as necessary for maintenance or testing of those components; and 6. The County shall require that the following impervious surface coverages (including buildings and paved areas such as driveways) be maintained within high groundwater aquifer recharge areas, as follows: a. For parcels equal to or greater than 1 acre - impervious surface shall not exceed 20 percent; and b. For parcels less than 1 acre - impervious surface shall not exceed 40 percent. 7. The following uses shall be prohibited in high groundwater aquifer recharge areas as shown on Appendix A of this Comprehensive plan, unless it can be demonstrated that the material in the quantity and/or solution stored or the conditions under which it is to be stored does not pose a hazard to human health and environment:

- a. Wholesale bulk fuel storage;
- b. Chemical manufacturing;
- c. Pesticide manufacturing;
- d. Battery reclamation or manufacturing;
- e. Electronics manufacturing using halogenated solvents;
- f. Hazardous waste transfer sites;
- g. Any site defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act as a treatment storage or disposal facility for hazardous waste;
- h. Regional pesticide distribution site; and
- i. Underground storage tank for the storage of hazardous material except underground petroleum storage tanks.

OBJECTIVE IV.8 The County shall continue to assist the Water Management District with the implementation of its water conservation rule, when water shortages are declared by the District. Whereby, during such shortages, water conservation measures shall be implemented for the use and reuse of water of the lowest acceptable quality for the purposes intended. In addition, the County shall assist the Water Management District with the dissemination of educational materials regarding the conservation of water prior to peak seasonal demand.

Policy IV.8.1 The County shall continue to enforce water use restrictions during a Water Management District declared water shortage, and, in addition, cooperate with the Water Management District with the dissemination of educational materials regarding the conservation of water prior to peak seasonal demand.

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CONSERVATION ELEMENT

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CONSERVATION ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The following goal, objectives and policies constitute the Conservation Element providing for the promotion of the conservation, use and protection of the County's natural resources. The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data, contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

Conservation uses are defined as activities within land areas designated for the purpose of conserving or protecting natural resources or environmental quality and within this plan includes areas designated for such purposes as flood control, protection of quality or quantity of groundwater or surface water, floodplain management, or protection of vegetative communities or wildlife habitats.

The Future Land Use Plan map addresses conservation future land use as defined above. The conservation future land use category shown on the Future Land Use Plan map identifies public lands which have been designated "conservation" for the purpose of protecting natural resources or environmental quality.

The Future Land Use Plan map series includes the identification of flood prone areas, wetlands, existing and planned waterwells, rivers, bays, lakes, minerals and soils, which are land cover features, but are not land uses. Therefore, although these natural resources are identified within the Future Land Use Plan map series, they are not designated on the Future Land Use Plan map as conservation areas. However, the constraints on future land uses of these natural resources are addressed in the following goal, objective and policy statements.

CONSERVATION GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL V - CONSERVE, THROUGH APPROPRIATE USE AND PROTECTION, THE RESOURCES OF THE COUNTY TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF NATURAL FUNCTIONS.

OBJECTIVE V.1 The County shall maintain provisions within the site plan review process to protect air quality by requiring the appropriate siting of development and associated public facilities.

Policy V.1.1 The County shall require that all appropriate air quality permits are obtained prior to the issuance of development orders, so that minimum air quality levels established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection are maintained in the County.

OBJECTIVE V.2 The County, in order to protect the quality and quantity of current and projected water sources, shall continue to require a 500 foot wellfield protection area around community water system wells. In addition, the County in order to protect high groundwater aquifer recharge areas as designated by the Water Management District and depicted in Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan, shall continue to limit development in these areas as specified in the groundwater aquifer recharge protection policy contained within the Sanitary Sewer, Drainage, Potable Water and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy V.2.1	The County as part of the development review process shall require the coordination of development plans with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Water Management District to assist in monitoring uses which may impact the current and projected water sources of the County.
Policy V.2.2	The County shall protect the present water quality classification established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by prohibiting industrial uses, commercial uses and intensive agricultural uses, such as milking barns and chicken houses, to be located adjacent to the County's surface water bodies. For the purpose of this Comprehensive Plan "surface water" means water above the surface of the ground whether or not flowing through definite channels, and including: 1. A natural or artificial pond, lake, reservoir, or other area which ordinarily or intermittently contains water and which has a discernible shoreline; or 2. A natural or artificial stream, river, creek, channel, ditch, canal, conduit culvert, drain, waterway, gully, ravine, street, roadway swale or wash in which water flows in a definite direction, either continuously or intermittently and which has a definite channel, bed or banks; or 3. Any wetland.
Policy V.2.3	The County shall review and comment on proposals for the purchase of environmentally sensitive lands by the State of Florida, as part of the Florida Forever Program as listed by the Acquisition and Restoration Council for the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, Water Management District, or U.S. Government, under the programs administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Florida Department of Community Florida Department of Environmental Protection or the land acquisition programs of the Water Management District.
Policy V.2.4	The County shall require a 35-foot natural buffer around all wetlands and prohibit the location of residential, commercial and industrial land uses within the buffer areas, but allow agriculture, silviculture and resource-based recreational activities within buffer areas subject to best management practices.
Policy V.2.5	The County shall, through the development review process, require that post-development runoff rates and pollutant loads do not exceed pre-development conditions.
Policy V.2.6	The County shall require all new development to maintain the natural functions of environmentally sensitive areas, including but not limited to wetlands and 100-year floodplains so that the long term environmental integrity and economic and recreational value of these areas is maintained.
Policy V.2.7	The County shall provide for the regulation of development within 100-year floodplains in order to maintain the flood-carrying and flood storage capacities of the floodplains and reduce the risk of property damage and loss of life.

Policy V.2.8	The County shall provide for the conservation of wetlands through prohibiting any development or dredging and filling, which would significantly alter their natural functions and by only allowing non-intensive agricultural, aquaculture and silviculture consistent with best management practices manuals developed by the Florida Forest Service and the Florida Department of Agriculture. For the purposes of this Comprehensive Plan "wetlands" means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and a duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils. Soils present in wetlands generally are classified as hydric or alluvial, or possess characteristics that are associated with reducing soil conditions. The prevalent vegetation in wetlands generally consists of facultative or obligate hydrophytic macrophytes that are typically adapted to areas having soil conditions described above. These species, due to morphological, physiological or reproductive adaptations, have the ability to grow, reproduce or persist in aquatic environments or anaerobic soil conditions. Florida wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bayheads, bogs, cypress domes and strands, sloughs, wet prairies, riverine swamps and marshes, hydric seepage slopes, tidal marshes, mangrove swamps and other similar areas. Florida wetlands generally do not include longleaf or slash pine flatwoods with an understory dominated by saw palmetto.
Policy V.2.9	The County shall support the Water Management District in their conducting of water conservation programs.
Policy V.2.10	The County shall coordinate with the plans of the Water Management District for the emergency conservation of water sources.
Policy V.2.11	The County shall, as part of the developmental review process, limit development to low density and non- intensive uses in high groundwater aquifer recharge areas designated by the Water Management District and depicted in Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan, in accordance with the requirements stipulated in the high groundwater aquifer recharge policy contained in the Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, Potable Water and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element of this Comprehensive Plan in order to maintain the natural features of these areas.
Policy V.2.12	The County as part of the development review process shall require the maintenance of the quantity and quality of surface water runoff within natural drainage basins.
Policy V.2.13	The County as part of the development review process shall require that all hazardous waste generators properly manage their own wastes and require that new hazardous waste generators comply with all applicable federal and state permitting requirements before approving any development plans.
Policy V.2.14	The County shall require a 75-foot regulated natural buffer adjacent to all perennial rivers, streams and creeks identified as regionally significant areas within Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan and prohibit the location of residential, commercial and industrial land uses within the buffer areas, but allow agriculture, silviculture and resource-based recreational activities within buffer areas subject to best management practices.

Policy V.2.15	The County shall require a 35-foot regulated natural buffer adjacent to all other perennial rivers, streams and creeks and prohibit the location of residential, commercial and industrial land uses within the buffer areas, but allow agriculture, silviculture and resource-based recreational activities within buffer areas subject to best management practices.
Policy V.2.16	The County hereby expands the title of its existing Shores and Estuarine Systems Map in its Comprehensive Plan, Illustration A-II to also represent the County's Ecological Corridor Map covering the upland areas within a 1/4 mile of the Steinhatchee River and Suwannee River located in its jurisdiction to further the environmental protection goals prepared by the Suwannee River Water Management District, Federal, State or other local governments.
Policy V.2.17	The County shall establish and maintain a conservation land management program aimed at increasing protection or enhancement of surface water quality by coordinating with regulatory agencies, and enhancing non-point pollution treatment on public lands to require swales in road rights-of-way, install retention areas designed in a park like setting along new roadways, and design future facilities and structures to drain toward natural holding areas for pre-treatment.
OBJECTIVE V.3	The County shall continue to require special mining permits and that such permits be coordinated with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; require that all subdivision plats be approved in a manner which will protect and conserve the natural functions of soils; and establishing a coordination process by which adjacent local governments, other governmental entities and research and interest groups have input into the identification and preservation of unique vegetative communities.
Policy V.3.1	The County shall require that any mining permit be coordinated with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection so that areas disturbed by mining activities are reclaimed to productive and beneficial use.
Policy V.3.2	The County shall submit proposed subdivision plats to the Soil and Water Conservation District and request the District's review and comments regarding topographic, hydrologic and vegetative cover factors during the development review process in order to protect and conserve the natural functions of soils.
Policy V.3.3	The County shall require, during the development review process that multiple use of forest resources, where appropriate, be required to provide for timber production, recreation, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, erosion control and maintenance of water quality.
Policy V.3.4	The County shall cooperate with adjacent local governments, other governmental entities, research and interest groups to conserve and protect unique vegetative communities located within the County and adjacent local government jurisdictions.

OBJECTIVE V.4	The County shall continue to implement measures to identify and protect native wildlife and their habitats, including state and federally protected plant and animal species (endangered, threatened and species of special concern), within proposed development sites and protect these natural resources from the impacts of development by the use of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Critical Wildlife Conservation Areas, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Regionally Significant Natural Resources map series to identify habitats which potentially contain endangered, threatened or species of special concern, and rare or unique vegetative communities prior to granting development approval.
Policy V.4.1	The County shall cooperate with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conversation Commission in the monitoring and inventorying of wildlife and wildlife habitats within the County.
Policy V.4.2	The County shall assist in the application and compliance with all Federal and state regulations which pertain to endangered and rare species.
Policy V.4.3	The County shall consult with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission prior to the issuance of a development order where there is an indication that such issuance would result in an adverse impact to any endangered or rare species. All new development will maintain the natural functions of environmentally sensitive areas, including but not limited to wetlands and 100-year floodplains so that the long term environmental integrity and economic impact and recreation value of these areas is maintained.
Policy V.4.4	The County shall cooperate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in inventorying and monitoring aquaculture activities within the County.
Policy V.4.5	The County shall address during the development review process the mitigation of development activities within environmentally sensitive areas, which include but are not limited to those areas identified as regionally significant areas, within Appendix A of this Comprehensive Plan to ensure that the possible impacts created by the proposed development activity will not significantly alter the natural functions of the these significant natural resources. All new development will maintain the natural functions of environmentally sensitive areas, including but not limited to wetlands and 100-year floodplains so that the long term environmental integrity and economic impact and recreation value of these areas is maintained.
Policy V.4.6	The County shall initiate development and implementation of a local wildlife habitat protection and management program, and shall coordinate with state and federal wildlife programs.
Policy V.4.7	The County shall implement a public education program on the need to protect and manage the habitat of threatened and endangered species and species of special concern.
Policy V.4.8	The County shall request the assistance of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to conduct inventories of State and federally protected plant and animal species in the County.

Policy V.4.9	The developer of any proposed development which is equal to or greater than 20 acres and located within areas identified by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas shall be required to evaluate the impacts to endangered, threatened, or species of special concern and rare or unique vegetative communities; provided, however, if competent and substantial scientific evidence demonstrating that an endangered, threatened or species of special concern, wildlife habitat or rare and unique vegetative community is located within the area of any proposed development which is equal to or greater than 20 acres is presented to the County at the time of a preliminary plat or site and development plan is reviewed by the County, the developer shall evaluate the impacts on such habitats or communities. As a condition of permit approval of any proposed development within these areas, such evaluation shall consist of a survey of the development site conducted by the developer to identify the presence of any state and federally protected plant and animal species. If protected species are found on the development site or would be affected by the development, a management plan shall be required from the developer, including necessary modifications to the proposed development, to ensure the preservation of the protected species and their habitat. The County shall require the use of best management practices for the conservation, appropriate use and protection of fisheries, wildlife and wildlife habitats, identify and protect native wildlife and their habitats, including state and federally protected plant and animal species (endangered, threatened and species of special concern), within proposed development sites and protect these natural resources from the impacts of development by the use of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Strategic Habitat Conservation Areas maps, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan Regionally Significant Natural Resources map series to identify habitats which potentially contain endangered, threatened or species of special concern, and rare or unique vegetative communities prior to granting development approval. Both the survey and the management plan shall be done in consultation with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, but the final approval of the management plan shall be by the County.
Policy V.4.10	The County shall coordinate with Federal, State and local agencies or nonprofit environmental organizations in managing natural areas and open spaces.
Policy V.4.11	The County shall develop and implement, in coordination with regulatory agencies and the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, a Comprehensive Management Plan for public lands to restore or enhance the site's natural hydrology, degraded natural areas or removal of non-native vegetation.
Policy V.4.12	The County shall continue to implement a program and set of standards to protect natural vegetative communities and listed species habitat from the adverse impacts of development.

OBJECTIVE V.5

The County, in order to protect significant natural resources in a manner which is in conformance with and furthers the North Central Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan, as amended October 27, 2011, hereby adopts the following maps as they apply to the unincorporated areas of the County as part of the Future Land Use Map Series of this Comprehensive Plan:

1. Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Ground Water Resources, dated October 27, 2011;
2. Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Natural Systems, dated October 27, 2011;
3. Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Planning and Resource Management Areas, dated October 27, 2011;
4. Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Planning and Resource Management Areas (Surface Water Improvement Management Water Bodies), dated October 27, 2011;
5. Regionally Significant Natural Areas - Surface Water Resources, dated October 27, 2011; and
6. Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Coastal and Marine Resources, dated October 27, 2011.

The following policies provide direction for the use of these maps in applying the referenced policies of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy V.5.1

The map entitled Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Ground Water Resources, dated October 27, 2011, included within the Future Land Use Map Series, identifies groundwater resources for the application of the provisions of the high groundwater aquifer protection policy of the Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, Potable Water and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy V.5.2

The map entitled Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Natural Systems, dated October 27, 2011, included within the Future Land Use Map Series, identifies listed species for the application of the provisions the critical wildlife habitat policy of this element.

Policy V.5.3

The maps entitled Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Planning and Resource Management Areas, dated October 27, 2011, included within the Future Land Use Map Series, identifies publicly owned regionally significant lands for application of the provisions of the conservation land use policy of the Future Land Use Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

Policy V.5.4

The maps entitled Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Planning and Resource Management Areas (Surface Water Improvement Management Water Bodies), dated October 27, 2011, included within the Future Land Use Map Series, identifies surface water management improvement water bodies for the application of the provisions of the surface water runoff policy of this element.

Policy V.5.5

The map entitled Regionally Significant Natural Areas - Surface Water Resources, dated October 27, 2011, included within the Future Land Use Map Series, identifies surface water resources for the application of the provisions of the surface water and riverbank protection policies of this element.

Policy V.5.6	The map entitled Regionally Significant Natural Resources - Coastal and Marine Resources, dated October 27, 2011, included within the Future Land Use Map Series, identifies coastal and marine resources for the application of the provisions of the coastal management policies of the Coastal Management Element.
OBJECTIVE V.6	The County shall protect the most sensitive resources within the springshed, including the principal areas of ground water contribution and recharge, sinkholes, depressions and stream to sink features, the area immediately adjacent to the spring and spring run.
Policy V.6.1	The County shall use acquisition funding programs such as the Florida Forever Program, Florida Community Trust, Rural and Family Land Protection Program and other to acquire fee simple or less than fee ownership through conservation easements on land within the delineated springshed that has been identified as critical or sensitive resources.
Policy V.6.2	The County shall use other innovative approaches to protect sensitive resources, such as the transfer of development rights, performance zoning, open space zoning, on site density transfer and other techniques to maximize the establishment of open space areas.
OBJECTIVE V.7	The County shall define and delineate environmental overlay protection zones to protect the springshed and spring system resources and designate appropriate land uses in these zones.
Policy V.7.1	The County shall designate low density and intensity land uses, including conservation lands and recreation areas, on the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan in and around critical springshed resources and sensitive springshed areas. Following the preparation and issuance of springshed maps for magnitude one springs by the Florida Geological Survey of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the County shall adopt a springshed overlay protection zone map that designates critical springshed resources and sensitive springshed areas for magnitude one springs. The County will also implement structural and nonstructural best management practices for these designated critical springshed resources based on the publication Protecting Florida's Springs: Land Use Planning Strategies and Best Management Practices, November 2002; as follows: 1. Limit impervious surfaces by size of residential lots and for non-residential use; 2. Develop a list of native and drought tolerant plants and require a percentage of these plants in landscape plans; 3. Require a protection zone around sinkholes with direct connection to the aquifer; 4. Require a site analysis for structure location if sinkholes or karst features are present on site; 5. Require swales where appropriate; 6. Use alternative stormwater treatment systems such as bio-retention areas that are designed to better treat stormwater in springshed protection zones; and 7. Use best management practices for residential development consistent with the Florida Yards and Neighborhood Program.

VI

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

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VI RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The data collected for this element and analysis of this data has been provided to evaluate existing recreation facilities and to plan for the future recreation needs of the County. Although this data and analysis are not part of this element, they serve to provide a foundation or guideline for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive plan.

The following goal, objectives and policies for resource based and activity based recreation facilities within the County will provide the proper relationship of size, number, type and location of the different park and recreation needs for the County as they are implemented. The level of service standards established within the policies provide guidelines for determining the optimum quantities of recreational resources and facilities for the County's population and individual population demands upon the facilities themselves.

RECREATION GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL VI - ENSURE THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF ADEQUATE RECREATION FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE FOR CITIZENS AND VISITORS AND ACCESS TO THESE FACILITIES FOR ALL PERSONS, REGARDLESS OF SPECIAL NEED OR CONDITION.

OBJECTIVE VI.1 The County shall continue to provide vehicular and pedestrian access to County owned activity and resource based recreation facilities, as appropriate.

Policy VI.1.1 The County shall maintain the number of access points to water oriented recreational resources for the County which will meet or exceed the level of service standards contained herein for resource based water related activities.

OBJECTIVE VI.2 The County shall maintain accurate recreation activity/facility inventories so that accurate levels of service can be determined based upon the total public and private recreation resources available to the County.

Policy VI.2.1 The County shall establish and maintain cooperative policies with other units of government, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management District, School Board and community organizations to meet recreation demands.

OBJECTIVE VI.3 The County shall continue to require new subdivisions or re-subdivisions to allocate land for parks and recreation facilities so the County's recreation facilities are provided in quantities to maintain the adopted level of service standards for recreation as contained herein.

Policy VI.3.1 The County hereby adopts the following level of service standards for resource based recreation facilities:

ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Swimming (non-pool)	1 access point at a beach, spring, river lake or pond for every 25,000 persons to be served.
Fishing (non-boat)	1 access point for every 10,000 persons to be served.

	ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
	Fishing (boat)	1 boat ramp for every 5,000 persons to be served.
	Camping (R/V and tent)	1 acre of campground within a 25 mile radius of the County for every 25,000 persons to be served.
	Picnicking	1 picnic table for every 500 persons to be served.
	Hiking	1 mile of available hiking trail within a 25 mile radius of the County for every 10,000 persons to be served.
	Nature Study	7 acres of managed conservation area within a 25 mile radius of the County for every 10,000 persons to be served.
Policy VI.3.2	The County hereby adopts the following level of service standards for activity based recreation facilities:	
	ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
	Golf	1 18 hole golf course for every 65,200 persons to be served.
	Football/Soccer	1 multi-purpose playing field for every 15,000 persons to be served.
	Baseball/Softball	1 baseball/softball field for every 6,000 persons to be served.
	Tennis	1 tennis court for every 7,500 persons to be served.
Policy VI.3.3	The County hereby adopts the following level of service standards for local and Regional park minimum acreage requirements:	
	ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
	Local Parks	2.0 acres per 1,000 population
	Regional Parks	3.0 acres per 1,000 population
Policy VI.3.4	The County shall, through the annual capital improvements budgeting process, shall identify funding sources to correct or improve existing deficiencies in County-owned park and recreation facilities in accordance with the level of service standards contained herein.	
OBJECTIVE VI.4	The County shall continue to require open space to be provided for new development and re-development.	
Policy VI.4.1	The County shall maintain specific standards for the provision of open spaces by development or re-development.	
Policy VI.4.2	The County, as part of the procedure for monitoring and evaluation of the Comprehensive Plan, shall recommend as appropriate, the purchase of lands for open spaces by public agencies and subsequent to such land purchase, to support and assist, when possible, in the management of such lands.	

OBJECTIVE VI.5

The County hereby adopts and shall maintain a Master Greenway Trails Map, Illustration A-XIII, including existing and proposed recreational trail systems and conservation greenways, to link existing and new open space and outdoor recreational areas and trailheads together.

Policy VI.5

Land acquisition and conservation easement efforts will focus on continuing to establish new linkages and enhancing existing greenways and recreation trail systems, including acquiring land for destination outdoor recreation activities and trailheads.

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VII

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

ELEMENT

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VII INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this element is to establish a goal and planning objectives with corresponding policies for the coordination process and procedures with adjacent local governments, regional and state agencies.

The data collected for this element and analysis of this data identified the process of intergovernmental coordination and determined the effectiveness of the intergovernmental coordination instruments with are in force to implement agreements for services between the County and its governmental counterparts. Although the data and corresponding analysis are not part of this element, they serve to provide a foundation or guideline for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive plan.

Based upon this analysis the following goal, objectives and policies provide a plan which as implemented will provide a means of problem and need resolution between the County and adjacent local governments and other governmental and service agencies.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL VII -ESTABLISH POLICIES AND PROCESSES AMONG THE VARIOUS PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES TO ACHIEVE COORDINATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, ENSURE COMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT, ADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICES AND EFFICIENT USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES BETWEEN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| OBJECTIVE VII.1 | The County shall continue to coordinate its comprehensive planning with the School Board, Water Management District, adjacent local government comprehensive plans and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of the land. |
| Policy VII.1.1 | The County shall establish a procedure, as part of the Comprehensive Plan review and amendment process, that all plan amendments proposed within the Comprehensive Plan are coordinated with adjacent local governments, the School Board, Water Management District, Regional Planning Council, State and other units of government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land. |
| Policy VII.1.2 | The County shall use the Regional Planning Council's informal mediation process to resolve conflicts with other units of government. |
| Policy VII.1.3 | The County shall establish interlocal agreements for the provision of services across jurisdictional boundaries. |

Policy VII.1.4	The County shall coordinate its comprehensive planning with the School Board pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning by reviewing and commenting on the Five-Year Facilities Work Program of the School Board annually; reviewing and commenting on the Educational Plant Survey of the School Board; providing growth and development trend reports to the School Board annually; reviewing and commenting on future school sites for consistency with the Comprehensive Plan; providing notification of Comprehensive Plan amendments, rezonings, and development proposals to the School Board; considering co-location and shared use opportunities for community facilities with the School Board; providing applications for residential development to the School Board for a determination of whether there is adequate school capacity to accommodate the proposed residential development; and jointly evaluating with the School Board proportionate share mitigation options if school capacity is not available.
OBJECTIVE VII.2	The County shall provide adjacent units of local government, School Board, Water Management District, Regional Planning Council and the Florida Department of Community Affairs the opportunity to comment on Comprehensive Plan amendments, except small scale development amendments.
Policy VII.2.1	The County, as part of the subdivision, multi-family, commercial and industrial site and development plan review process, shall review the relationship of proposed development to the existing comprehensive plans of adjacent local governments.
Policy VII.2.2	The County, as part of the monitoring and evaluation process of the Comprehensive Plan shall review the relationship of the Comprehensive Plan to the existing comprehensive plans of adjacent local governments.
Policy VII.2.3	The County shall provide information, as necessary, to assist adjacent units of local government manage growth within their respective jurisdictions.
Policy VII.2.4	The County shall manage estuaries that fall under the jurisdiction of more than one local government in a consistent and coordinated manner.
OBJECTIVE VII.3	The County shall continue to coordinate the establishment and amendment of level of service standards for public facilities with state and local entities having operational and maintenance responsibility for such facilities prior to the adoption or any amendment of such level of service standards.
Policy VII.3.1	The County, as part of the Comprehensive Plan monitoring and evaluation process, shall coordinate amendments of any level of service standards with appropriate state, regional and local agencies, such as the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Water Management District, Regional Planning Council, adjacent local governments and the School Board prior to such amendment.
OBJECTIVE VII.4	The County shall continue to coordinate with the Water Management District regarding all development proposals with the potential for impacting the water resources of the County. Subdividers shall provide construction plans for conceptual review and comment by the Water Management District prior to construction plan approval by the County.

Policy VII.4.1	The County through the development review process shall coordinate all development proposals with the Water Management District for all development proposals within the watershed of any designated Surface Water Management and Improvement Act priority water body
OBJECTIVE VII.5	The County shall continue to coordinate the Comprehensive Plan with the School Board Facilities Plan.
Policy VII.5.1	The County shall coordinate land use and school facility capacity planning in accordance with a land use and school facility planning interlocal agreement entered into by the County, City and School Board.
OBJECTIVE VII.6	The County shall continue to provide all other units of local government located within the County, the opportunity to comment on the siting of facilities with countywide significance, including locally unwanted land uses.
Policy VII.6.1	The County, as part of the development review process, shall review the relationship of any facilities with countywide significance, including locally unwanted land uses, to the existing comprehensive plans of all other units of local governments located within the County.
OBJECTIVE VII.7	All development shall be located in a manner, which does not diminish the level of service of the County's public facilities less than the level of service standard established within the Comprehensive Plan.
Policy VII.7.1	In order to coordinate the effective and efficient provision and siting of high density and high intensity developments within the unincorporated area, the County shall endeavor to coordinate facilities planning with the municipalities and the School Board.
OBJECTIVE VII.8	The County shall coordinate with the Suwannee River Basin Nutrient Management Working Group to address solutions to any identified nutrient loading problems with the potential for impacting the water resources of the County.
Policy VII.8.1	The County shall use the findings of the Suwannee River Basin Nutrient Management Working Group to formulate a strategy to address solutions to identified nutrient loading problems with the potential for impacting the surface and groundwater resources of the County.
OBJECTIVE VII.9	The County shall establish a technical advisory committee to identify and implement joint planning areas, especially for the purpose of annexation, municipal incorporation, and joint infrastructure service areas.
Policy VII.9.1	The technical advisory committee shall be comprised of appropriate County staff representatives. In addition, the County shall also invite staff representatives from the municipalities located within the County to participate as members of the technical advisory committee. The technical advisory committee shall be responsible for making recommendation to the appropriate local governing bodies concerning annexation, municipal incorporation, joint infrastructure service areas and other related joint planning issues.
Policy VII.9.2	The County shall use the informal mediation process of the Regional Planning Council to resolve annexation issues with the municipalities located within the County.

Policy VII.9.3	The County shall work with the municipalities located within the County to encourage annexation to meet the criteria for “urban in character” as specified within Chapter 171, Florida Statutes.
Policy VII.9.4	The County shall work with the municipalities located within the County where an urban services report is required by Chapter 171, Florida Statutes for annexation. Such report shall address the fiscal issues related to urban services for residents within the Designated Urban Development Areas as designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan that are not yet annexed by the municipalities to minimize the time that one jurisdiction is providing services to an area for which it is not receiving revenue.
Policy VII.9.5	The County shall coordinate level of service standards with the municipalities located within the County for those services provided by the County within municipalities.
Policy VII.9.6	The County shall continue to coordinate with the municipalities located within the County as well as the Florida Department of Transportation to maintain level of service standards for shared roadways.
Policy VII.9.7	The County shall coordinate with the municipalities located within the County as well as the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to maintain level of service standards for County recreational facilities within municipalities and state recreational facilities within the unincorporated area of the County.
Policy VII.9.8	The County shall coordinate with the municipalities located within the County to resolve planning issues within the Designated Urban Development Areas as designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan.
Policy VII.9.9	The County shall coordinate planning efforts with the municipalities located within the County for the provision of centralized potable water, sanitary sewer, drainage improvements and recreation facilities within the Designated Urban Development Areas as designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map of the Comprehensive Plan.

VIII

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT

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VIII CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The following goal, objectives and policies for capital improvement provide strategic planning for the financing and construction of improvements identified as part of the capital improvements Data and Analysis document.

The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data, contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

This element is not intended to be a capital improvement program for the County and therefore, considers only those public facilities which are planned for under the requirements of Chapter 163, Florida Statutes.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL VIII - THE COUNTY SHALL ANNUALLY ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM WHICH COORDINATES THE TIMING AND PRIORITIZES THE DELIVERY OF THE NEEDS ADDRESSED WITHIN THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF THIS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

OBJECTIVE VIII.1 The County shall continue to provide capital improvements to correct the existing and projected deficiencies as identified within the schedule of improvements and funding of this plan element, by adopting an annual capital improvements budget which is consistent with the schedule of improvements and funding.

Policy VIII.1.1 The County shall establish as part of the annual budgeting process the following criteria for the evaluation of proposed capital improvement projects:

Criteria

1. The County shall assess the level of service for the public facilities which have adopted level of service standards established by the Comprehensive Plan, on an annual basis, prior to or concurrent with the County's budget process;
2. The County shall schedule only those projects which are consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of this Comprehensive Plan and which do not exceed the County's fiscal capacity;
3. The County shall identify those existing or projected public facility needs, which occur or are projected to occur, due to deficiencies in the maintenance of adopted levels of service standards;
4. The capital improvement projects identified which are eminently needed to protect the public health and safety shall be given the highest priority;
5. The capital improvements projects related to the maintenance and operation of existing facilities, which due to existing or projected needs, do not or are not expected to meet the adopted level of service standard for such facility shall be given the second order of priority;

6. The capital improvement projects with the greatest deficiencies based upon the established level of service standards within the Comprehensive Plan shall be given the third order of priority; and
7. The capital improvement projects, which due to deficiencies based upon the established level of service standard within the Comprehensive Plan, are needed to provide public facilities to areas which have received development approval prior to the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan shall be given the fourth order of priority; and
8. All other capital improvement projects shall be given the fifth order of priority.

Policy VIII.1.2 The County shall, upon identification of a need for drainage facility improvements due to deficiencies based upon the established level of service standards within the Comprehensive Plan, coordinate plans for improvements with the Water Management District prior to scheduling such drainage facility improvement.

Policy VIII.1.3 The County shall review the effectiveness of the capital improvements planning program through the Procedure for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Capital Improvements Element, within this plan element.

Policy VIII.1.4 The County shall annually assess capacity of existing facilities to address any existing or projected deficiencies in adopted level of service standards in order to prepare an annual update to the Five-Year Schedule of Improvements that identifies, schedules, and specifies funding for any capital improvement projects needed to maintain level of service standards.

OBJECTIVE VIII.2 The County shall continue to require all decisions regarding the issuance of development permits shall be consistent with the established level of service standards adopted for public facilities within the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy VIII.2.1 TRANSPORTATION LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

Establish the Service Standards as noted below at peak hour for the following roadway segments within the County as defined within the Florida Department of Transportation "2013 Quality/Level of Service Handbook."

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
1	U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 from County west boundary to Cross City west limits	4-D	Principal Arterial - Other	Rural	B
2	U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 from Cross City east limits to S.R. 349	4-D	Principal Arterial - Other	Rural	B
3	U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 from 349 to County east boundary	4-D	Principal Arterial - Other	Rural	B

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
4	S.R. 349 from U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 to County north boundary	2-U	Minor Arterial	Rural	D
5	S.R. 51 from County west boundary to County north boundary	2-U	Minor Arterial	Rural	D
6	C.R. 358 from County north boundary to C.R. 361	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
7	C.R. 358 from C.R. 361 to U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
8	C.R. 351 from Horseshoe Beach north limits to Cross City south limits	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
9	C.R. 351 from Cross City north limits to S.R. 349	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
10	C.R. 349 from County west boundary to U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
11	C.R. 340 from S.R. 349 to County east boundary	2-U	Major Collector	Rural	D
12	Unnamed County Road from County west boundary to C.R. 357	2-U	Minor Collectors	Rural	D
13	Tiger Ridge Road from C.R. 357 to C.R. 353	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
14	C.R. 357 from County north boundary to Tiger Ridge Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
15	C.R. 357 from Tiger Ridge Road to C.R. 358	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
16	C.R. 358 from U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55 to C.R. 357	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
17	C.R. 358 from C.R. 357 to U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
18	C.R. 353 from Tiger Ridge Road to S.R. 349	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
19	C.R. 353 from C.R. 351 to Tiger Ridge Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
20	C.R. 351A from C.R. 351 to S.R. 349	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
21	C.R. 351A from C.R. 351 to U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
22	C.R. 351 from U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55 to C.R. 351	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
23	C.R. 361 from C.R. 358 to Unnamed County Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
24	C.R. 361 from Unnamed County Road to County west boundary	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
25	Unnamed County Road from C.R. 361 to C.R. 351	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
26	Unnamed County Road from C.R. 351 to C.R. 357	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
27	C.R. 357 from C.R. 351 to Unnamed County Road	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D

ROADWAY SEGMENT NUMBER	ROADWAY SEGMENT	NUMBER OF LANES	FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION	AREA TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE
28	C.R. 357 from Unnamed County Road to County west boundary	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
29	C.R. 55A from U.S. 19/98/27A/ S.R. 55 to C.R. 349	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
30	C.R. 346A from C.R. 349 to C.R. 317	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D
31	C.R. 317 from U.S. 19/98/27A/S.R. 55 to C.R. 346A	2-U	Minor Collector	Rural	D

D = Divided
U = Undivided

Note: U.S. 19/98/27A is a Strategic Intermodal System facility.

SANITARY SEWER LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

FACILITY TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
	Individual Septic Tanks Standards as specified in Chapter 64E-6, Florida Administrative Code, in effect January 1, 2013, as amended.
Community Sanitary Sewer System	70 gallons per capita per day

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

FACILITY TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Solid Waste Landfill	2.8 cubic yards per capital per year

DRAINAGE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

For all projects not exempted from Chapter 40B-4 and 62-25, Florida Administrative Code, within the County, stormwater management systems must be installed such that the peak rate of post-development runoff will not exceed the peak-rate of pre-development runoff for storm events up through and including either one of the following design storms:

1. A design storm with a 10-year, 24-hour rainfall depth with Natural Resources Conservation Service Type II distribution falling on average antecedent moisture conditions for projects serving exclusively agricultural, forest, conservation, or recreational uses; or

2. A design storm with 100-year critical duration rainfall depth for projects serving any land use other than agricultural, silvicultural, conservation, or recreational uses.
3. Facilities which directly discharge into an Outstanding Florida Water shall include an additional level of treatment equal to the runoff of the first 1.5 inches of rainfall from the design storm consistent with Chapter 62-25.025(9), Florida Administrative Code, in order to meet the receiving water quality standards of Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as not to lower the receiving water quality below the minimum conditions necessary to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.
4. All other stormwater management projects shall be required to adhere to the standards for treatment in accordance with Chapter 40-B4, Florida Administrative Code (rules of the Suwannee River Water Management District) and the Suwannee River Water Management District Environmental Resource Permitting Applicant's Handbook. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as to not lower the receiving water quality or degrade the receiving water body below the minimum conditions necessary to maintain their classifications as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

Any development exempt from Chapter 62-25 or 40B-4, Florida Administrative Code, as cited above and which is adjacent to or drains into a surface water, canal, or stream, or which enters a ditch which empties into a sinkhole, shall first allow the runoff to enter a grassed swale or other conveyance designed to percolate 80 percent of the runoff from a three year, one hour design storm within 72 hours after a storm event. In addition, any development exempt from Chapter 62-25 or 40B-4, Florida Administrative Code, as cited above, which is directly discharged into an Outstanding Florida Water shall include an additional level of treatment equal to the runoff of the first 1.5 inches of rainfall from the design storm consistent with Chapter 62-25.025(9), Florida Administrative Code, in order to meet the receiving water quality standards of Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code. Stormwater discharge facilities shall be designed so as not to lower the receiving water quality below the minimum condition necessary to assure the suitability of water for the designated use of its classification as established in Chapter 62-302, Florida Administrative Code.

POTABLE WATER LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

FACILITY TYPE	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Private Individual Water Wells	Standards as specified in Chapter 62-22, Florida Administrative Code.
Steinhatchee/Jena Community Potable Water System	100 gallons per capita per day
Suwannee Community Potable Water System	70 gallons per capita per
Horseshoe Beach Community Potable Water System	130 gallons per capita per

RESOURCE BASED RECREATION ACTIVITY/FACILITY LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Swimming (non-pool)	1 access point at a beach, spring, river, lake or pond for every 25,000 persons to be served.
Fishing (non-boat)	1 access point for every 10,000 persons to be served.
Fishing (boat)	1 boat ramp for every 5,000 persons to be served.
Camping (Recreation Vehicle and tent)	1 acre of campground within a 25 mile radius of the County for every 25,000 persons to be served.
Picnicking	1 picnic table for every 500 persons to be served.
Hiking	1 mile of available hiking trail within a 25 mile radius of the County for every 10,000 persons to be served.
Nature Study	7 acres of managed conservation area within a 25 mile radius of the County for every 10,000 persons to be served.

ACTIVITY BASED RECREATION ACTIVITY/FACILITY LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Golf	1 18 hole golf course for every 65,200 persons to be served.
Football/Soccer	1 multi-purpose playing field for every 15,000 persons to be served.
Baseball/Softball	1 baseball/softball field for every 6,000 persons to be served.
Tennis	1 tennis court for every 7,500 persons to be served.

PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD
Elementary	100 percent of program Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.
Middle	100 percent of program Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.
High School	100 percent of program Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.

Policy VIII.2.2	The County shall use the following level of service standards in reviewing impacts of new development and redevelopment upon the need for new public parks and open space land for local and regional parks minimum acreage requirements: <table> <tr> <th>ACTIVITY</th><th>LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD</th></tr> <tr> <td>Local Parks</td><td>2.0 acres per 1,000 population</td></tr> <tr> <td>Regional Parks</td><td>3.0 acres per 1,000 population</td></tr> </table>	ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD	Local Parks	2.0 acres per 1,000 population	Regional Parks	3.0 acres per 1,000 population
ACTIVITY	LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD						
Local Parks	2.0 acres per 1,000 population						
Regional Parks	3.0 acres per 1,000 population						
Policy VIII.2.3	The County shall require that public facilities have a capacity which meets or exceeds the adopted level of service standard.						
Policy VIII.2.4	The County shall require an amendment to this Comprehensive Plan for the elimination, deferral or delay of construction of any transportation capital improvements project, which is needed to maintain the adopted level of service standard and which has been listed in the County's 5-year Schedule for the Capital Improvements Element.						
OBJECTIVE VIII.3	The County shall continue to enforce subdivision improvement standards which, where required by such regulations the subdivider shall grade and improve streets, install sidewalks, street name signs, street lights, fire hydrants, curbs and gutters, install stormwater facilities and where community sanitary sewer and potable water service is available, install sanitary sewer and water mains.						
Policy VIII.3.1	The County shall require that all proposed subdivisions which include an existing street shall be required to improve the street to conform to the standards established within the land development regulations.						
OBJECTIVE VIII.4	The County shall maintain an annual capital improvements budgeting process to manage the fiscal resources of the County, so that needed capital improvements, identified within the Comprehensive Plan, are provided for existing and future development and re-development.						
Policy VIII.4.1	The County shall incorporate within the County's annual budgeting process, a capital improvements budget which addresses the needed projects found in the schedule of improvements and funding of this plan element.						
Policy VIII.4.2	The County shall limit the issuance of development permits to areas where the adopted level of service standards for the provision of public facilities found within the Comprehensive Plan are maintained. This provision also includes areas where development orders were issued prior to the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan.						
Policy VIII.4.3	The County shall establish a policy as part of the annual capital improvements budgeting process to issue revenue bonds only when the maximum total of the annual payment for all revenue bonds does not exceed 20 percent of the County's annual non-ad valorem operating revenues.						
Policy VIII.4.4	The County shall establish a policy as part of the annual capital improvements budgeting process to request issuance of general obligation bonds only when the maximum general obligation bonding capacity does not exceed 20 percent of the property tax base.						

- Policy VIII.4.5 The County shall apply for federal or state grant funding for projects which recognize the policies of other elements of this comprehensive plan whenever available and where it has been determined that the County has competitive standing in any ranking process for determining program award.
- OBJECTIVE VIII.5 The County shall continue to limit expenditures for infrastructure which subsidize growth within the coastal management area as identified within this Comprehensive Plan to those public facility needs identified within the Coastal Management Element.
- Policy VIII.5.1 The County shall limit the extension of the service areas of potable water and sanitary sewer systems owned and operated by the County to the designated urban development areas as identified within the Comprehensive Plan, excepting where such systems are owned and operated by local government or a governmental authority and such facility serves areas where private sanitary facilities are not adequate to protect surface and ground water quality.
- Policy VIII.5.2 The County shall replace or renew community facility plants damaged due to storm surge or flood only where such facility can meet minimum requirements for flood proofing.

IMPLEMENTATION

FIVE YEAR SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS

The five year schedule of improvements shown in Table VIII-1 is the implementation mechanism of the Capital Improvements Element to stage the timing, location, projected cost and revenue sources for any capital improvement needs identified within the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The following schedule documents the economic feasibility of the County's Comprehensive Plan and is based upon the Data and Analysis Report, which although not a part of this plan, provides the foundation for the determination of the economic feasibility of any projects listed.

TABLE VIII-1
FIVE YEAR SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS
2015-2020

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SCHEDULE	PROJECTED COSTS	GENERAL LOCATION	REVENUE SOURCE	CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER ELEMENTS
Dixie County Middle/High School	2015	10,217,280	Location not Specified	School District	Yes
Dixie County Middle/High School	2016	10,217,280	Location not Specified	School District	Yes
Dixie County Middle/High School	2017	10,217,280	Location not Specified	School District	Yes

Source: Data and Analysis Report, November 30, 1987, and revised January 1999 and revised May 2008 and School District Five-Year Work Plan 2014-2015.

PROCEDURE FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT

The role of monitoring and evaluation of the Capital Improvements Element is important to the effectiveness of the County's planning program. This is due to the fluctuations in the revenues and expenditures of the County due to market and economic conditions.

The revenues and expenditures of the County will be used to predict fiscal trends in order to maintain the County's adopted level of service standards for public facilities and recreation. Therefore, the Capital Improvements Element requires a continuous program for monitoring and evaluation, and pursuant to Chapter 163, Part II, Florida Statutes, this element will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that the fiscal resources are available to provide the public facilities needed to support the established level of service standards.

The annual review is the responsibility of the County's Local Planning Agency. County staff as appointed by the Board of County Commissioners will serve as advisory counsel to the Local Planning Agency dealing with all fiscal issues.

The Local Planning Agency shall consider the following points during the annual review to assist in the determination of findings and recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners:

1. The review of the criteria used to evaluate capital improvement projects in order to ensure that projects are being ranked in their appropriate order of priority;
2. The County's effectiveness in maintaining the adopted level of service standards;
3. The impacts of service provisions of other local, regional or state agencies upon the County's ability to maintain the adopted level of service standards;
4. Efforts by the County to secure grants or private funds, whenever available, to finance the provision of needed capital improvements;
5. The consideration of any corrections, updates and modifications concerning costs, and revenue sources;
6. The consistency of the Capital Improvements Element with the other elements of the Comprehensive Plan and most particularly its support of the Future Land Use Element;
7. The County's ability to provide public facilities within respective geographic service areas in order to determine any need for boundary modification or adjustment; and
8. The appropriateness of including within the 5-Year Schedule of Improvements those identified improvements needed for the latter part of the planning period.

The findings and recommendations of the Local Planning Agency will be transmitted to the Board of County Commissioners for review at a scheduled public hearing. Subsequent to review of the findings and recommendations of the Local Planning Agency, the Board of County Commissioners shall direct County staff to provide the Local Planning Agency with an updated 5-Year schedule of Improvements and any drafts for amendments to the Capital Improvements Element as deemed necessary by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Local Planning Agency shall consider the annual amendment of the 5-Year Schedule of Improvements at the first scheduled date for consideration of amendments to the County's Comprehensive Plan. All amendments to the Schedule or elements except for corrections, updates, and modifications concerning costs; revenue sources; acceptance of facilities pursuant to dedications which are consistent with the plan; or the date of construction of any facility enumerated in the capital improvements element, shall be adopted in accordance with Section 163.3187, Florida Statutes, as amended.

CONCURRENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Chapter 163, Florida Statutes requires the adoption of a concurrency management system to ensure that facilities and services needed to support development are available concurrent with the impacts of such development. This concurrency management system is designed to ensure that prior to the issuance of a development order and development permit that the adopted level of service standards required within this Comprehensive Plan for roads, potable water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, drainage and recreation and open space will be maintained.

The County has adopted policies within this Comprehensive Plan, which establish level of service standards for public facilities; the concurrency management system in turn provides a mechanism for the County to ensure the maintenance of the standards concurrent with the impacts of development.

The minimum requirements for concurrency within this management system are as follows:

1. For Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage and Potable Water Facilities
 - a. Prior to the issuance of a building permit or its functional equivalent, the County will consult with the applicable water supply utility to ensure that adequate water supplies and facilities will be in place and available no later than the anticipated date of issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent.
 - b. A development order or permit may be issued, subject to the condition that, at the time of issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent, if the necessary facilities and services are in place and available to serve the new development; or
 - c. At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary public facilities and services are guaranteed in an enforceable development agreement, pursuant to Section 163.3220, Florida Statutes, or an agreement or development order issued pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, to be in place and available to serve new development at the time of the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent.
2. For Parks and Recreation Facilities
 - a. At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are in place or under actual construction; or
 - b. A development order or permit is issued subject to the condition that, at the time of the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent, the acreage for the necessary facilities and services to serve the new development is dedicated or acquired by the County, or funds in the amount of the developer's fair share are committed; and
 - (1) A development order or permit is issued subject to the conditions that the necessary facilities and services needed to serve the new development are scheduled to be in place or under actual construction not more than one year after issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent as provided in the County's adopted 5-Year Schedule of the Capital Improvements Element; or
 - (2) At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are the subject of a binding executed agreement which requires the necessary facilities and services to serve the new development to be in place or under actual construction not more than one year or under actual construction not more than one year after issuance of a development order or permit or its functional equivalent; or

- (3) At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are guaranteed in an enforceable development agreement, pursuant to Section 163.3220, Florida Statutes, or an agreement or development order issued pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, to be in place or under actual construction not more than one year after issuance of a development order or permit or its functional equivalent.

3. For Transportation Facilities

- a. At the time a development order or permit is issued the necessary facilities and services are in place or under construction; or
- b. A development order or permit is issued, subject to the condition that the necessary facilities and services needed to serve the new development are scheduled to be in place or under actual construction no more than three years after issuance of a building permit or its function equivalent that results in traffic generation as provided in the County's 5-Year Schedule of the Capital Improvements Element. The schedule of capital improvements may recognize and include transportation projects included in the first three years of the applicable, adopted Florida Department of Transportation five-year work program.
- c. At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are the subject of a binding executed agreement which requires the necessary facilities and services to serve the new development to be in place or under actual construction not more than three years after the issuance of a building permit or its functional equivalent; or
- d. At the time a development order or permit is issued the necessary facilities and services are guaranteed on an enforceable development agreement, pursuant to Section 163.3220, Florida Statutes, or an agreement or development order issued pursuant to Chapter 380, Florida Statutes, to be in place or under actual construction not more than three years after issuance of a building permit or its functional equivalent.

4. For Public School Facilities

- a. At the time a final subdivision or site plan approval for residential uses is issued the necessary public school facilities and services are in place; or
- b. A final subdivision or site plan approval for residential uses is issued, subject to the condition that the necessary public school facilities and services needed to serve the new development are scheduled to be in place or under actual construction no more than three years after issuance of final subdivision or site plan approval as provided in the County's 5-Year Schedule of the Capital Improvements Element; or
- c. A final subdivision or site plan approval for residential uses is issued, subject to the execution of a legally binding mitigation agreement between the applicant, School Board and County. This agreement shall be supported by a bond, deposit of funds or other acceptable financial means to assure performance of the proportional share mitigation agreed to by the developer.

CONCURRENCY DETERMINATION PROCEDURES

A concurrency test shall be made of the following public facilities and services for which level of service standards have been established in this Comprehensive Plan, which are

1. Transportation,
2. Sanitary sewer,
3. Solid waste,
4. Drainage,
5. Potable water;
6. Recreation and open space; and
7. Public School Facilities

The concurrency test for facilities and services will be determined by comparing the available capacity of a facility or service to the demand created by the proposed project. Available capacity will be determined by adding together the total excess capacity of existing facilities and the total capacity of any new facilities which meet the previously defined concurrency standards and subtracting any capacity committed through concurrency reservations or previously approved development orders.

1. For development orders and permits, the following determination procedures shall apply, as follows;
 - a. If an applicant desires to determine whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate their proposed project, the Land Development Regulation Administrator shall make an informal non-binding determination of whether there appears to be sufficient capacity in the public facilities and services to satisfy the demands of the proposed project.
If there appears to be insufficient capacity, the Land Development Regulation Administrator shall then make a determination of what public facilities or services would be deficient if the proposed project were approved.
 - b. There are certain development approvals that are ineligible to receive concurrency reservation because they are too conceptual and, consequently, do not allow an accurate assessment of public facility impacts. These development approvals are land use amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and rezoning requests. Those development approvals shall receive a non-binding concurrency determination.
 - c. Any concurrency determination, whether requested as part of an application for development approval or without an application for development approval, is a non-binding determination of what public facilities and services are available at the date of inquiry. The issuance of a Certificate of Concurrency Compliance shall be the only binding action, which reserves capacity for public facilities and services.
2. For roadways determination procedures shall apply, as follows:
 - a. The County shall provide level of service information as set forth in the most recent Data and Analysis Report in support of the County's Comprehensive Plan. If this level of service information indicates a level of service failure, the applicant may either
 - (1) Accept the level of service information as set forth in the most recent Data and Analysis Report supporting the County's Comprehensive Plan, or
 - (2) Prepare a more detailed Highway Capacity Analysis as outlined in the Highway Capacity Manual, 2010; or
 - (3) Conduct a traffic impact analysis following the procedures outlined in the most currently acceptable Florida Department of Transportation, published handbook and reports.

- b. If the applicant chooses to do a more detailed analysis the applicant shall submit the completed alternative analysis to the Land Development Administrator for review, and Land Development Administrator shall review the alternative analysis for accuracy and appropriate application of the methodology.
 - c. If the alternative methodology, after review and acceptance by the Land Development Administrator, indicates an acceptable level of service, the alternative methodology shall be used in place of the most recent Data and Analysis to support the County's Comprehensive Plan.
- 3. For sanitary sewer, solid waste, drainage, potable water, and recreation and open space determination procedures shall apply, as follows:
 - a. The County shall provide level of service information as set forth in the most recent Data and Analysis Report in support of the County's Comprehensive Plan.
 - b. If such level of service information indicates that the proposed project would not result in a level of service failure, the concurrency determination would be that adequate facility capacity at acceptable levels of service was available.
 - c. If such level of service information indicates that the proposed project would result in a level of service failure, the concurrency determination would be that adequate facility capacity at acceptable levels of service was not available at the date of application or inquiry.
- 4. For Public School Facilities the following determination procedures shall apply:
 - a. The School Board staff will review and determine school capacity of each school type.
 - b. Development applications must include the number and type of units, and projection of students by type of school based on the student generation rates established by the School Board.
 - c. The County will transmit completed applications for residential development to the School Board for a determination of whether there is adequate school capacity to accommodate the proposed residential development, based on the adopted Level of Service standards.
 - d. Within forty-five (45) days from the date of the initial transmittal, consistent with the development review process and schedule of the County, the School Board staff will review the completed application and report in writing to the County whether adequate school capacity exists for each level of school.
 - e. If the School Board determines that adequate capacity does not exist but that mitigation may be an acceptable alternative, the development application will remain active pending the conclusion of the mitigation negotiation period.
 - f. The County will issue a School Concurrency Determination only upon:
 - (1) The School Board's written determination that adequate school capacity will be in place or under actual construction within three years after the issuance of final subdivision or site plan approval for each school type without mitigation; or
 - (2) The execution of a legally binding mitigation agreement between the applicant, School Board, and County. This agreement shall be supported by a bond, deposit of funds or other acceptable financial means to assure performance of the proportionate share mitigation agreed to by the developer.
 - g. If the School Board determines that adequate capacity will not be in place or under actual construction within three years after the issuance of final subdivision or site plan approval and mitigation is not an acceptable alternative, the County and municipalities will not issue a School Concurrency Determination and will deny the residential development order or defer action until such time as the School Board reports that capacity is available or acceptable mitigation agreement is approved by the School Board and the County.

CERTIFICATE OF CONCURRENCY COMPLIANCE

A Certificate of Concurrency Compliance shall only be issued upon final development approval. The Certificate of Concurrency Compliance shall remain in effect for the same period of time as the development order or permit granting final development approval. If the development approval does not have an expiration date, the Certificate of Concurrency Compliance shall be valid for 12 months from the date of issuance.

Unless development commences on or before the expiration date of the Certificate of Concurrency Compliance, the reserved capacity is forfeited by the applicant.

In such cases where there are competing applications for public facility capacity, the order of priority shall apply, as follows:

1. Issuance of a building permit based upon previously approved development orders permitting redevelopment;
2. Issuance of a building permit based upon previously approved development orders permitting new development;
3. Issuance of new development orders permitting redevelopment;
4. Issuance of new development orders permitting new development.

In conclusion, the following conditions apply to the County's concurrency management system:

1. Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan can be made as often as necessary. In addition, changes can be made to the Capital Improvements Element by ordinance if the changes are limited to the technical matters listed in Chapter 163, Part II, Florida Statutes, as amended.
2. No development order shall be issued which would require the Board of County Commissioners to delay or suspend construction of any of the capital improvements on the 5-Year schedule of the Capital Improvements Element.
3. If by issuance of a development order a substitution of a comparable project on the 5-Year schedule is proposed, the applicant may request the County to consider an amendment to the 5-Year schedule in one of the twice annual amendment reviews.
4. The result of any development not meeting adopted level of service standards for public facilities shall be cessation of the affected development or the reduction of the standard for level of service (which requires an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan).

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COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

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IX COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Coastal Management Element does not stand alone as the only portion of the Comprehensive Plan relating to coastal areas. Provisions of other plan elements of this comprehensive Plan also provide guidance concerning the management of the Coastal Management Area.

Where the provisions of this plan element exceed the provisions of other plan elements of this Comprehensive Plan, the provisions of this plan element shall prevail as they apply to development in the Coastal Management Area.

For example, the objectives and policies for future land uses permitted within the Coastal Management Area are included within the Future Land Use Element and depicted on the Future Land Use Plan map. This feature is also true of level of service standards for public facilities, which is found within the Traffic Circulation Element, the Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, Potable Water, and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element, and the Recreation and Open Space Element of this Comprehensive Plan.

The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data, contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this portion of the Comprehensive Plan.

The following goal, objectives and policies guide the appropriate use of the Coastal Management Area, as well as provide for guidance for the protection of human life and real and personal property in the case of a natural disaster.

GOAL IX - PROTECT, CONSERVE OR ENHANCE COASTAL RESOURCES, REDUCE VULNERABILITY OF COASTAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES TO NATURAL HAZARDS AND ENSURE PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE SHORELINE.

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT

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| OBJECTIVE IX.1 | The County shall continue to request assistance from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge Management Office, and the Big Bend Aquatic Preserve Management Office to assist the County with the identification and protection of the coastal wetlands and seagrasses to ensure that there will be no net loss of the existing coastal natural resources of the County. |
| Policy IX.1.1 | Coastal wetlands and seagrass areas within the County shall be deemed environmentally sensitive, in recognition of their many natural functions and values and, to further the public interest, shall be protected from incompatible land uses. The County shall afford protection to these resources regardless of size. |
| Policy IX.1.2 | The definition of coastal wetlands to be used for regulatory purposes by the County shall be the most comprehensive definition of the definitions of wetlands within the County Coastal Management area used by the Suwannee River Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Representatives of these agencies will be contacted for assistance in identifying the location of all coastal wetlands areas within the County. |

Policy IX.1.3	The location of the upland edge of coastal wetland areas shall be identified at the time of site development review on a site-by-site basis. The County shall not issue a development order or permit for a parcel until all coastal wetland areas on that parcel and wetlands immediately adjacent to the parcel that could be impacted by the development have been identified and located.
Policy IX.1.4	No development including residential development, shall be permitted within a coastal wetland area unless project alternatives that would avoid wetland impacts are unavailable and mitigation is provided by the applicant to offset adverse impacts. For purposes of this policy, sufficient mitigation is as required by Florida Administrative Code Rules 62-312.300 through 62-312.390. It is intended that all standards in these citation are to apply to all new development and redevelopment.
OBJECTIVE IX.2	The County shall provide for the maintenance or improvement of the environmental quality of coastal wetland areas and seagrass beds through the implementation of the following policies.
Policy IX.2.1	Elevated piers, docks and walkways within the coastal management area as designated within this comprehensive plan will be no more than 4 feet in width, in conjunction with a permit from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, pursuant to Chapter 62-27, Florida Administrative Code, are allowed within seagrass and coastal wetland areas.
Policy IX.2.2	Within seagrass and coastal wetland areas, all piers, docks and walkways will be constructed on pilings.
Policy IX.2.3	No pier, dock or walkway shall be located on submerged land which is vegetated with seagrasses except as is necessary to reach water at a depth of one foot below the lowest point in a boat including the motor for docking facilities. The docking terminus shall not be located over a seagrass bed.
Policy IX.2.4	Bulkheads and seawalls will be permitted only to stabilize disturbed shorelines or to replace deteriorated existing bulkheads and seawalls. Rip-rap will be placed at the toe of all replaced bulkheads and seawalls.
Policy IX.2.5	The County will not permit drainfields for septic tanks in coastal wetland areas.
Policy IX.2.6	Alteration of coastal wetland areas by chemical defoliant will not be permitted. Any coastal wetland area which serves as an active nesting site or as a nesting, resting or breeding area for a colony of birds shall not be altered.
OBJECTIVE IX.3	The County shall maintain within the adopted land development regulations the following criteria stated within the following policies to provide guidance to the Local Planning Agency and Board of County Commissioners for the determination of shoreline land uses to be permitted within the County's Coastal Management Area.
Policy IX.3.1	The County shall maintain the following priority in the development of standards for the location of water dependent uses along the shoreline as follows: 1. Commercial fishing; 2. Public use marinas; 3. Other water oriented recreation;

	4. Water related uses; 5. Water dependent industries or utilities; and 6. All other permitted uses.
Policy IX.3.2	The County shall maintain standards for the permitting of marinas which address at a minimum; land use compatibility, availability of upland support services, existing protective status or ownership, hurricane contingency planning, protection of water quality, water depth, environmental disruptions and mitigation actions, availability for public use, and economic need and feasibility.
OBJECTIVE IX.4	Protection of Beaches and Dunes. Not applicable
OBJECTIVE IX.5	The County through the Procedure for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Capital Improvements Element, shall limit expenditures that subsidize development within coastal high-hazard areas, to the restoration or enhancement of natural resources.
Policy IX.5.1	The County's coastal high hazard area shall be that area which is below the elevation of the category 1 storm surge line as established by the Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) computerized storm surge model.
Policy IX.5.2	The County shall limit development which is vulnerable to natural hazards such as storm surge and high winds within coastal high hazard areas.
Policy IX.5.3	The County, as part of the development review process, shall require the location of public facilities away from coastal high-hazard areas, where such public facilities have the potential for being damaged during a storm. Public facilities, which are owned and operated by local government or a governmental authority and such facility serves areas where private sanitary facilities are not adequate to protect surface and ground water quality, shall be permitted to be located within coastal high-hazard areas.
OBJECTIVE IX.6	The County shall maintain the residential land use densities provided within this element of the Comprehensive Plan to assist in the limitation of undue population concentration in known or predicted coastal high-hazard areas.
Policy IX.6.1	The County shall regulate building construction, reconstruction and alteration in conformance with Chapter 161, Florida Statutes, as amended.
Policy IX.6.2	The County shall participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and regulate development and installation of utilities in flood hazard areas in conformance with the program's requirements for minimizing damage caused by flooding and storm surge.
Policy IX.6.3	The County shall comply with appropriate provisions of the hazard mitigation annex of the County's peacetime emergency plan and applicable existing interagency hazard mitigation reports.
Policy IX.6.4	The County shall limit residential development and resident populations within coastal high hazard areas to locations and numbers which can be safely evacuated during hurricane hazard periods.

Policy IX.6.5	The County shall limit dwelling unit density to 4 units per acre in designated urban development areas which are served by community or public water systems and to 12 units per acre when served by community or public water and sanitary sewer systems within the Coastal High Hazard Area. However, the maximum density allowed by a future land use category for any lands designated on the Future Land Use Plan Map and located within the Coastal High Hazard Area shall not be exceeded by the density provided for in Policy IX.6.5. Furthermore, the designation of any lands as residential medium high density on the Future Land Use Plan Map and located within the Coastal High Hazard Area shall require a large scale Future Land Use Plan Map amendment approved by the Board of County Commissioners and found compliant by the Florida Department of Community Affairs.
Policy IX.6.6	The County shall require all development within the Coastal High Hazard Area to connect to a community or public potable water system when available.
OBJECTIVE IX.7	The County shall maintain hurricane evacuation times of 9 hours for a category 1 storm for the residents of Coastal High Hazard Area.
Policy IX.7.1	The County shall coordinate the procedures for notifying the public of potential dangers and appropriate preparatory measures for natural disasters, including the location of evacuation routes, with the applicable regional and local evacuation plans.
OBJECTIVE IX.8	The County shall continue to plan for post-disaster redevelopment which reduces or eliminates the exposure of human life and public and private property to natural hazards.
Policy IX.8.1	The County Peacetime Emergency Plan shall address immediate repair and cleanup actions needed to protect the public health and safety, including repairs to potable water, wastewater and electrical power facilities; removal of debris, stabilization or removal of structures about to collapse; and minimal repairs to make dwellings habitable before commencing with or permitting long-term repair and redevelopment activities.
Policy IX.8.2	The County shall remove, relocate or structurally modify damaged public facilities, as appropriate, in light of factors such as cost to construct, cost to maintain, recurring damage, impacts on land use, impacts on the environment and public safety.
Policy IX.8.3	The County shall require the removal, relocation or structural modification of unsafe structures, as appropriate, if rebuilt, require structures which have suffered damage to an extent of more than 70 percent of their replacement value at the time of such damage to be rebuilt in conformance with current building requirements.
Policy IX.8.4	The County shall limit redevelopment in areas of repeated damage by requiring structures which suffer repeated damage to rebuild landward of their current location or to modify the structure to delete the areas most prone to damage.
Policy IX.8.5	The County, as part of the monitoring and evaluation process of the Comprehensive Plan, shall identify areas needing redevelopment, including eliminating unsafe conditions and inappropriate uses as opportunities arise.

OBJECTIVE IX.9	The County shall continue to require the maintenance of public access to the shoreline which is consistent with estimated public, within the land development regulations.
Policy IX.9.1	The County shall maintain development standards to maintain continued physical public access to shorelines.
Policy IX.9.2	The County shall adopt only those standards for physical public access to shorelines, which are in conformance with the Coastal Zone Protection Act of 1985.
Policy IX.9.3	The County shall require new development or redevelopment to provide transportation or parking facilities for public access to the shoreline.
OBJECTIVE IX.10	The County shall continue implement provisions for the protection, preservation or sensitive reuse of historic resources within the Coastal High Hazard Area.
Policy IX.10.1	The County shall maintain an inventory of historic sites to facilitate the application of standards specified within the land development regulations for maintenance of their character in the development and sensitive reuse of these historic structures.
OBJECTIVE IX.11	The County shall continue to require the maintenance of applicable level of service standards for service areas and phasing of public facilities as established within the Traffic Circulation Element, Sanitary Sewer, Solid Waste, Drainage, Potable Water, and Natural Groundwater Aquifer Recharge Element, the Recreation and Open Space Element and the Capital Improvements Element of this Comprehensive Plan.
Policy IX.11.1	The County capital improvements budgeting process shall only schedule public facilities improvements which when constructed will be capable of serving development or redevelopment at the densities permitted by this element of the Comprehensive Plan, consistent with coastal resource protection and safe evacuation.

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PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ELEMENT

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PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The School Facilities Element designates evaluation standards and methodologies for determining proportionate share mitigation for school capacity and future land development in the County. The purpose of this School Facilities Element is to ensure that a public school concurrency system is based upon consistent goals, objectives and policies using appropriate and relevant best available data in compliance with the requirements of Section 163.3180(6), Florida Statutes. In accordance with this requirement, a uniform system of level of service standards, implementation requirements and proportionate share mitigation are established in this Public School Facilities Element. The data collected for this plan element and analysis of this data, contained in the County's Data and Analysis document, are not part of this plan element, but serve to provide a foundation and basis for the formulation of this Public School Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

The following goals and objectives provide for correction of existing deficiencies, ensure adequate school capacity for the five-year and long term planning periods, coordinate school location with residential development, ensure necessary supporting infrastructure, include options for proportionate-share mitigation and provide procedures for school site selection. An interlocal agreement between the County and the School Board allows for both the private and public sectors to feasibly plan for the logical provision of needed school facilities and services to the students of the County.

The following policies list the level of service standards for the County in conjunction with the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element of this Comprehensive Plan. A concurrency service area is established on a districtwide basis along with service requirements. School capacity is determined by using the Florida Inventory of School Houses Capacity and is incorporated into considerations of future site development and school design. A process to implement school concurrency by providing capacity determination, availability standards, applicability standards, and proportionate-share mitigation outlines the procedures for evaluating the mitigation process concerning the effect that proposed developments may have on school capacity.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL X.1 - IT IS THE GOAL OF THE COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH ADOPTED LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS. THIS GOAL SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SCHOOL FACILITY CAPACITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE LEVEL OF SERVICE, ON A COUNTY-WIDE BASIS. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL CONCURRENCY WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ADHERING TO AND RECOGNIZING THE COUNTY'S AUTHORITY IN LAND-USE DECISIONS, WHICH INCLUDE THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE OR DENY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS, REZONINGS, OR OTHER DEVELOPMENT ORDERS THAT GENERATE STUDENTS AND IMPACT THE SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND THE SCHOOL BOARD'S STATUTORY AND CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OBJECTIVE X.1 Establish level of service standards in order to ensure that there is sufficient school capacity to support student growth for each year of the five-year planning period and for the long term planning horizon.

Policy X.1.1	The level of service is defined as school enrollment as a percentage of school student capacity based upon the Florida Inventory of School Houses. The level of service standard is the maximum level of school utilization that will be permitted in the School District. The level of service is established for schools in the County, as follows: 1. Elementary: 100 percent of program Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes; 2. Middle: 100 percent of program Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes; 3. High: 100 percent of program Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity as adjusted annually by the School Board to account for measurable programmatic changes.
Policy X.1.2	The adopted level of service standards shall become applicable to the County commensurate with the adoption of this element of the Comprehensive Plan.
Policy X.1.3	Individual schools should generally not operate in excess of the established level of service. Moreover, the issuance of final development orders for subdivision plats or site plans shall be strictly conditioned upon the availability of school capacity and the maintenance of the adopted level of service on a districtwide basis.
Policy X.1.4	The level of service standards will be used to determine whether sufficient school capacity exists to accommodate future development projects, and evaluate the sufficiency of the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element. The Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element shall be reviewed, updated and adopted annually thus ensuring that projects necessary to address existing deficiencies, and to meet future needs based upon the adopted level of service standards, are scheduled accordingly.
Policy X.1.5	An annual Comprehensive Plan amendment shall include the addition of a new fifth year to the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element based upon the School District's public schools facilities capital program and five-year facilities work plan. The School District shall provide to the County an updated five-year district facilities work plan no later than October 1 of each year and the County shall adopt the level of service capacity projects listed in the updated five-year district facilities work plan into the Capital Improvements Element no later than December 1 of each year. The annual plan amendment shall ensure the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements of the Capital Improvements Element continues to achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standards.
Policy X.1.6	The County shall review the Public School Facilities Element annually for potential amendments. Any potential amendments to the adopted level of service standards shall be considered annually. The Initiating Party shall provide a memorandum to all involved parties—the School Board, County, and Municipalities—that includes a description of the proposed amendment, a statement concerning the impact of the proposed amendment on the Comprehensive Plan, and supporting data and analysis that demonstrates that the amendment can be achieved and maintained over the five years of the

School District's public school facilities capital program. If there is consensus among all parties to amend the Public School Facilities Element, it shall be accomplished through an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning and the adoption of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. The amendment shall not be effective until the amended Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning is fully executed by all parties and Comprehensive Plan amendments are adopted and found compliant.

- OBJECTIVE X.2 Establish the school concurrency service area as the entire school district within which a determination can be made as to whether there is adequate school capacity available based on the adopted level of service standards. The concurrency service area shall maximize capacity utilization, taking into account transportation costs, limiting maximum student travel times, the effect of court-approved desegregation plans, achieving social economic, racial and cultural diversity objectives, and other relevant factors as determined by the School Board's policy on maximization of capacity. Other considerations for amending concurrency service areas may include safe access (including factors such as the presence of sidewalks, bicycle paths, turn lanes and signalization, and general walkability), diversity and geographic or man-made constraints to travel. The types of adjustments to school operations that will be considered shall be determined by the School Board's policies on maximization of capacity.
- Policy X.2.1 The County shall demonstrate that adopted level of service standards will be achieved and maintained on a districtwide basis within the period covered by the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Facilities Improvements and that the utilization of school capacity is maximized to the greatest extent possible, taking into account transportation costs and other relevant factors.
- OBJECTIVE X.3 Ensure that Comprehensive Plan amendments and other land use decisions are concurrently evaluated with school capacity availability within the concurrency service area.
- Policy X.3.1 The County shall rely upon School Board findings and comments on the availability of school capacity when considering the decision to approve Comprehensive Plan amendments and other land use decisions as provided for in Section 163.3177 (6)(a), Florida Statutes.
- Policy X.3.2 The County shall identify methods to direct development to areas with adequate school capacity or where school sites adequate to serve potential growth have been donated to or set aside for purchase by the School Board in written agreements approved by the School Board.
- Policy X.3.3 In any instance where capacity will not be available to serve students to be generated by a development seeking approval and proportionate share mitigation is not an option, the school capacity deficiency will result in the denial of the proposal.
- Policy X.3.4 The School Board shall review potential new development student generation impacts and available school capacity. Where capacity will not be available to serve students generated by a proposed development and proportionate share mitigation is not an option, the School Board shall not issue a favorable concurrency determination. The County shall use lack of school capacity demonstrated by an unfavorable concurrency determination as a reason for denial.

OBJECTIVE X.4	Ensure that the planning and construction of educational facilities are coordinated so that the timing is appropriate and the selected location is compatible with the surrounding area, concurrent with necessary service and infrastructure, and consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
Policy X.4.1	The County and School Board will jointly determine the need for and timing of on-site and off-site improvements (including water, sanitary sewer, roads and drainage) necessary to support each new school or the proposed renovation, expansion or closure of an existing school as provided for in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facilities Planning and will enter into a written agreement as to the timing, location, and the party or parties responsible for constructing, operating and maintaining the required improvements. The County shall coordinate with the School Board so that proposed public school facility sites are consistent with the applicable land use designations and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, as well as the land development regulations of the applicable zoning districts. Pursuant to Section 1013.193, Florida Statutes, the County will consider each public school facility site plan as it relates to environmental concerns, health, safety and welfare, and effects on adjacent property. In addition, road capacity and traffic concerns will also be evaluated. The County will also continue to pursue the development of mutually acceptable guidelines for the selection of future school sites including, but not limited to: 1. Acquisition of school sites which allow for future expansions to accommodate future enrollment and other facility needs deemed beneficial for joint-uses, as identified by the School Board and the County; 2. Coordination of the location, phasing, and development of future school sites to ensure that site development occurs in conjunction with the provision of required infrastructure to serve the school facility; and 3. Preferences for residential, urban areas with allowances for rural sites as deemed necessary and appropriate under certain circumstances.
Policy X.4.2	The County shall coordinate with the School District to evaluate and locate potential sites where the co-location of public facilities, such as parks, libraries and community centers, with schools can be selected and developed by the County and the School Board.
OBJECTIVE X.5	Enhance community design through effective school facility design and siting standards. Encourage the siting of school facilities so that they are compatible with the surrounding land use.
Policy X.5.1	The County shall implement and maintain mechanisms designed to closely coordinate with the School Board long-range school facilities planning with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan and public school facilities programs, such as: 1. Greater efficiency for the School Board and the County by the placement of schools to take advantage of existing and planned roads, water, sewer, parks and drainage systems;

2. Improved student access and safety by coordinating the construction of new and expanded schools with road and sidewalk construction programs;
3. The location and design of schools with parks, ball fields, libraries, and other community facilities to take advantage of shared use opportunities; and
4. The expansion and rehabilitation of existing schools to support neighborhoods.

Policy X.5.2 The County and School Board shall permit and encourage the joint-use of school sites and County facilities with similar facility needs, such as libraries, parks and recreation facilities and health care facilities. Also, the School Board shall coordinate with the County in the location, phasing and design of future school sites to enhance the potential of schools as recreation areas.

Policy X.5.3 The County and the School Board shall coordinate the location of public schools with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan to ensure existing and proposed school facilities are located consistent with the existing and proposed residential areas that schools serve, are approximate to appropriate existing and future land uses, and that schools serve as focal points within the community.

Policy X.5.4 The County and the School Board shall coordinate emergency preparedness issues including, but not limited to, the use of school facilities as public shelters during emergencies.

Policy X.5.5 The School Board shall provide bicycle and pedestrian access consistent with Florida Statutes on public school property. Bicycle access and trails to public schools should be incorporated in trail projects and programs that are currently scheduled by the County. The School Board shall provide parking and sidewalks on public school property in accordance with applicable land development regulations.

GOAL X.2 - IT IS THE GOAL OF THE COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL CONCURRENCY BY PROVIDING FOR CAPACITY DETERMINATION STANDARDS, AVAILABILITY STANDARDS, APPLICABILITY STANDARDS AND PROPORTIONATE SHARE MITIGATION.

OBJECTIVE X.6 Establish school capacity determination standards.

Policy X.6.1 The School District shall determine whether adequate school capacity exists for a proposed development, based upon adopted level of service standards, concurrency service area and other standards stipulated in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning.

Policy X.6.2 The School District shall conduct a concurrency review that includes findings and recommendations of whether there is adequate school capacity to accommodate the proposed development for each type of school within the concurrency service area consistent with the adopted level of service standards. The School District shall issue a concurrency determination based on the findings and recommendations.

OBJECTIVE X.7 Establish school availability standards.

Policy X.7.1	The County shall not deny a subdivision plat or site plan (or functional equivalent) for the failure to achieve and maintain the adopted level of service for public school capacity where: 1. Adequate school facilities will be in place or under actual construction within three years after the issuance of the final plat or site plan (or functional equivalent); or 2. The developer executes a legally binding commitment to provide mitigation proportionate to the demand for public school facilities to be created by the actual development of the property subject to the final plat or site plan (or functional equivalent).
Policy X.7.2	If the School District determines that adequate capacity will not be in place or under actual construction within three years after the issuance of final plat or site plan approval and mitigation is not an acceptable alternative, the School District shall not issue a School Concurrency Determination. If the School District determines that adequate capacity does not exist, but mitigation, through proportionate share mitigation or some other means, the application will remain active pending the conclusion of the mitigation negotiation, as provided for within the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning.
OBJECTIVE X.8	Establish proportionate share mitigation alternatives that will achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standards consistent with the School Board's capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan.
Policy X.8.1	In the event that mitigation is an acceptable alternative to offset the impacts of a proposed development, where the adopted level of service standards would otherwise be exceeded, the following options listed below, for which the School Board assumes operational responsibility through incorporation in the School Board's adopted capital improvements program and five-year district facilities work plan and which will maintain the adopted level of service standards, shall include: 1. The contribution of land; or 2. The construction, expansion, or payment for land acquisition or construction of a public school facility; or 3. The creation of mitigation banking based on the construction of a public school facility in exchange for the right to sell capacity credits.
Policy X.8.2	Proposed mitigation shall be directed toward a permanent capacity improvement identified in the School Board's capital improvements program and five-year district facilities work plan. Consideration may be given by the School Board to place an additional improvement required for mitigation in its capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan. The proposed mitigation must satisfy the demand created by the proposed development consistent with the adopted level of service standards or identified as an amendment to the School Board's adopted capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan. Portable classrooms shall not be accepted as mitigation.

Policy X.8.3	Mitigation shall be directed to projects on the School Board’s adopted capital improvements program and five-year district facilities work plan that the School Board agrees will satisfy the demand created by that development approval, and shall be assured by a legally binding development agreement between the School Board, the County and the applicant executed prior to the issuance of the final plat approval, site plan approval, or functional equivalent. If the School Board agrees to the mitigation, the School Board must commit in the agreement to placing the improvement required for mitigation in its capital improvement program and five-year district facilities work plan.
Policy X.8.4	The process to determine proportionate share mitigation shall be in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning. The applicant’s proportionate share mitigation obligation will be credited toward any other impact fee or exaction imposed by local ordinance for the same need, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, at fair market value.
Policy X.8.5	The School District shall annually review and update student generation multipliers for single-family, multi-family and mobile home housing types for elementary, middle and high schools based upon the best available district-specific data; cost per student estimates for elementary, middle and high schools that include all cost of providing instructional and core capacity including land, design, buildings, equipment and furniture, and site improvements while the cost of ancillary facilities that generally support the school district and the capital costs associated with the transportation of students shall not be included in the cost per student estimate used for proportionate share mitigation; capacity of each school, and current and reserved enrollment of each school in accordance with professionally accepted methodologies.
Policy X.8.6	The School District shall review and update student enrollment projections in accordance with professionally accepted methodologies on an annual basis.
OBJECTIVE X.9	Ensure that existing and planned public school facilities are coordinated with the plans for supporting infrastructure and have safe access, including sidewalks, bicycle paths, turn lanes, and signalization.
Policy X.9.1	The County shall maximize efficient use of existing and planned infrastructure by coordinating with the School District future school sites that take advantage of existing and planned roads, potable water, sanitary sewer, parks and drainage systems.
Policy X.9.2	The County shall ensure safe student access to school sites by coordinating the construction of new residential developments, expansion of existing residential developments and redevelopment or revitalization of exiting residential developments with safe road and sidewalk connections to public schools.

- Policy X.9.3 The County shall coordinate bicycle access to public schools by requiring new residential developments adjacent to existing and proposed school sites, other than age restricted residential developments, to include pedestrian connections between any sidewalk network within the development and adjacent school site.
- Policy X.9.4 The County shall work with the School Board to determine responsibility for the costs and construction of any needed off-site improvements for new public school facilities, such as signalization, installation of deceleration lanes, roadway striping for crosswalks, safe directional/warning signage and installation of sidewalks.

APPENDIX A

ILLUSTRATION A -I

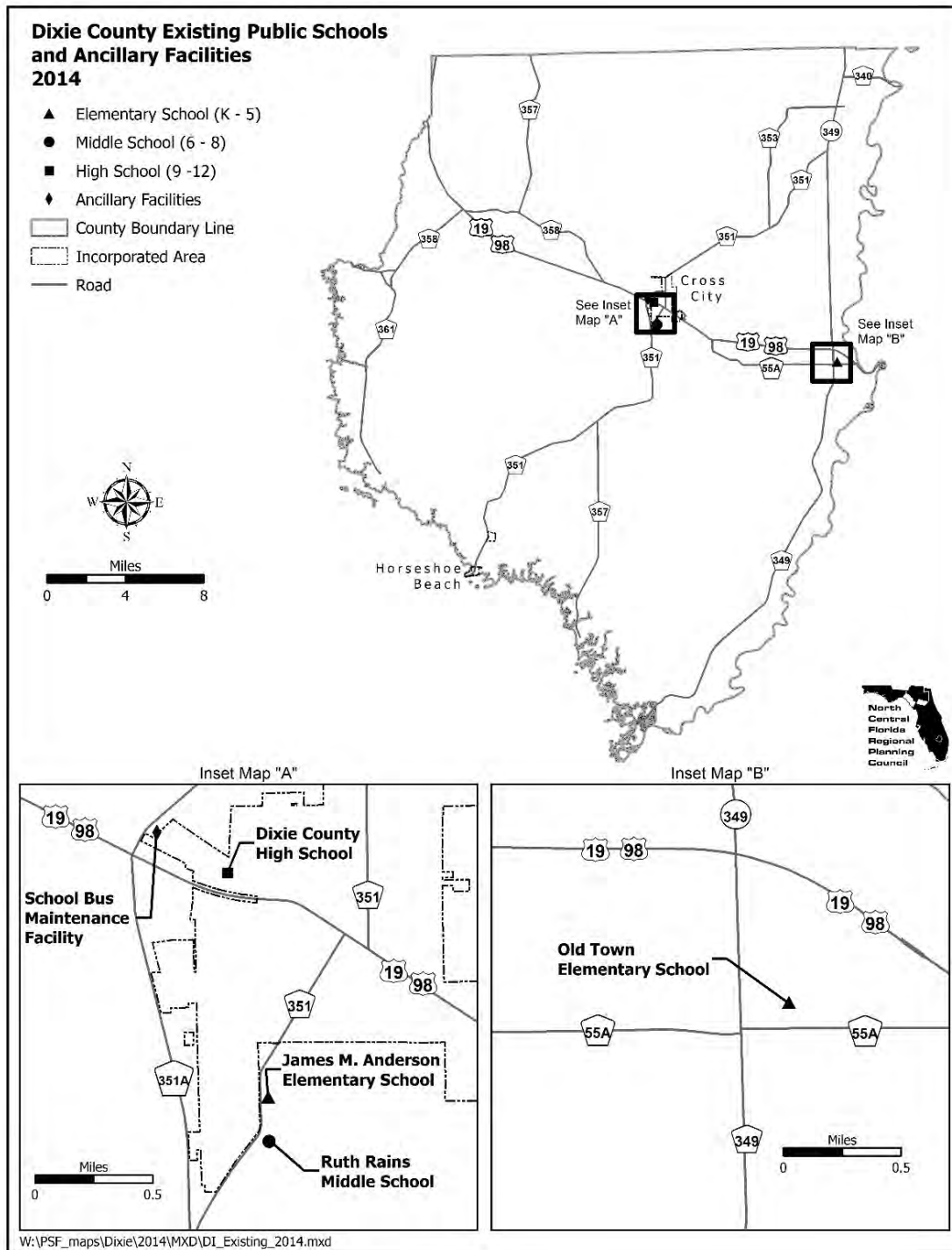


ILLUSTRATION A -II

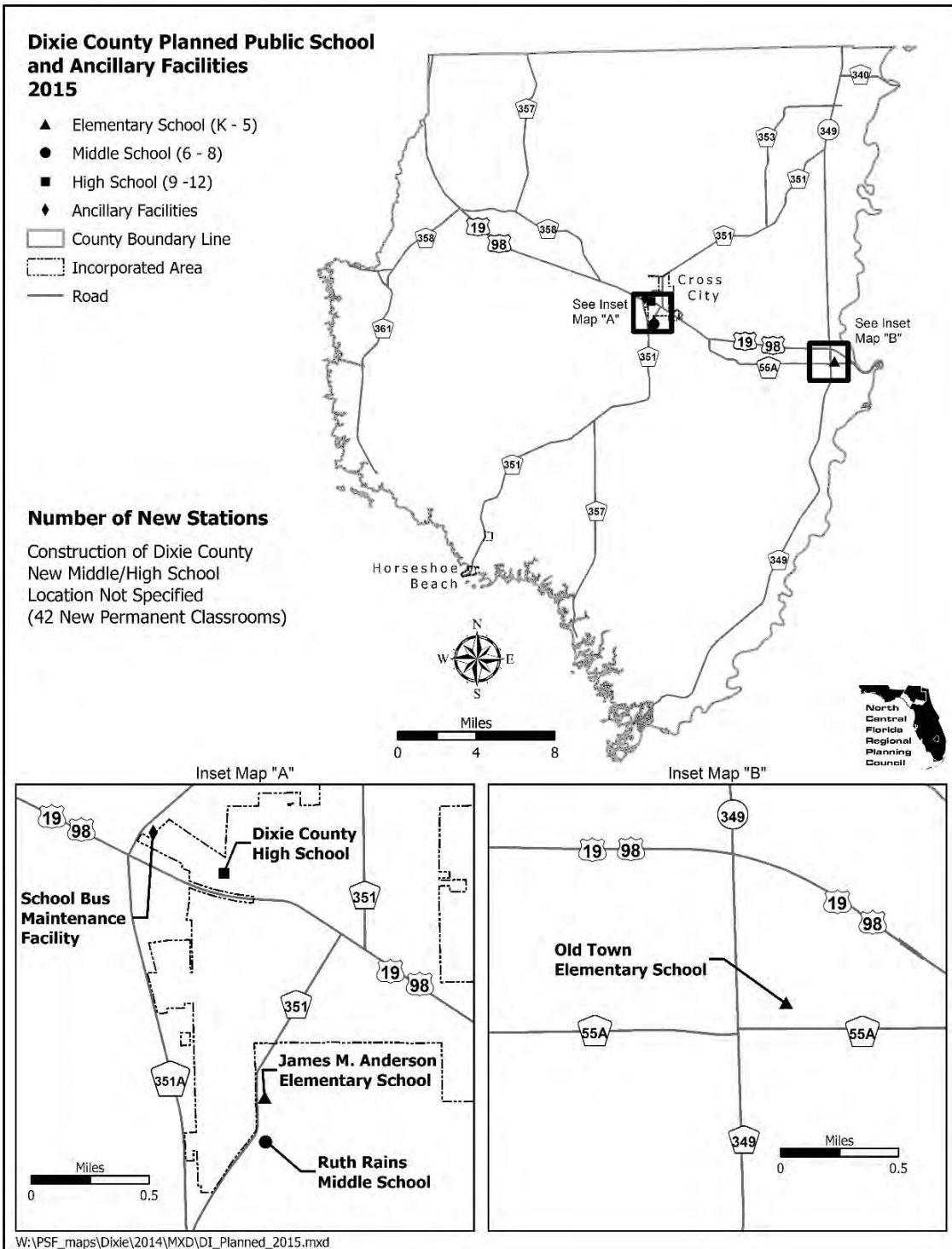


ILLUSTRATION A -III

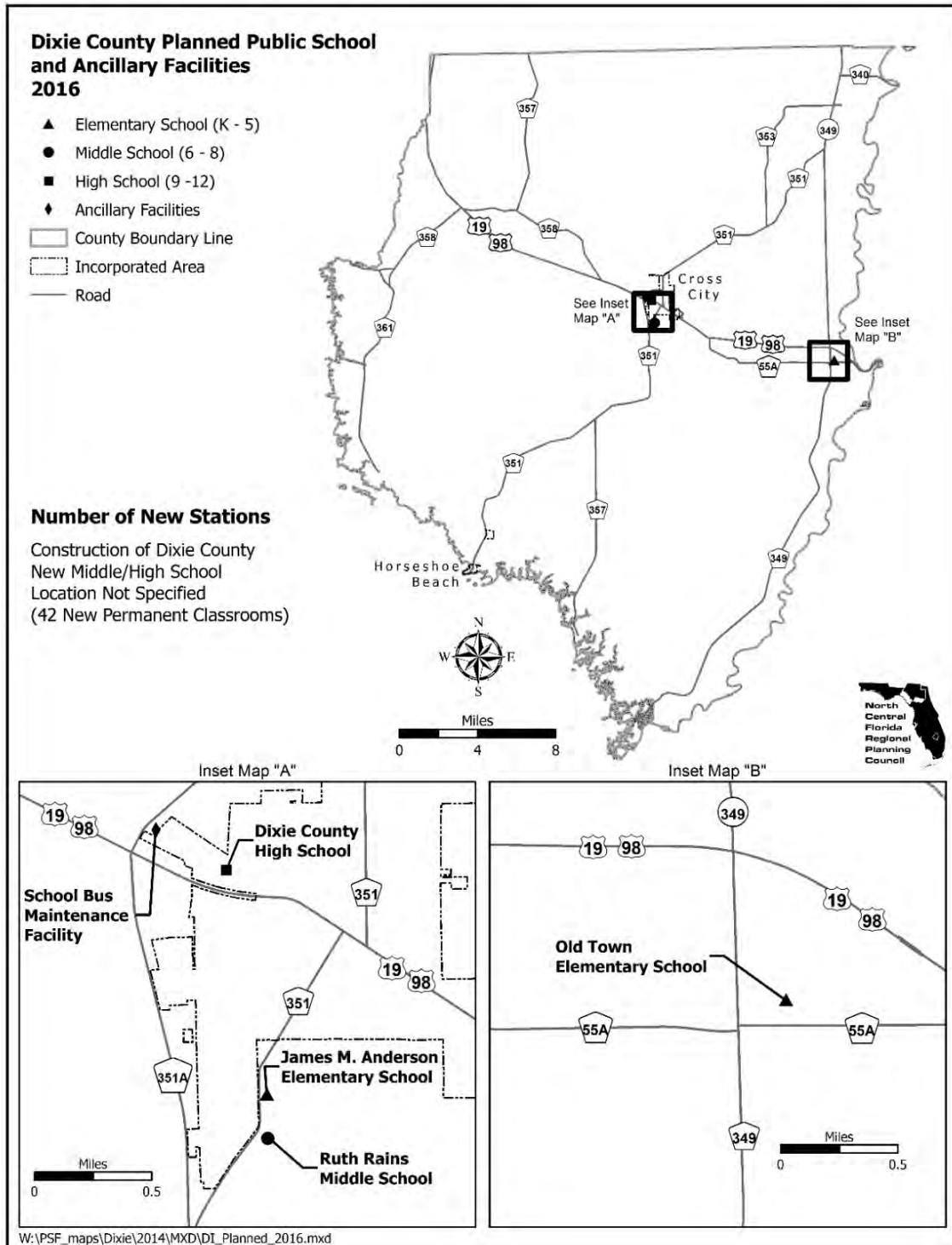


ILLUSTRATION A -IV

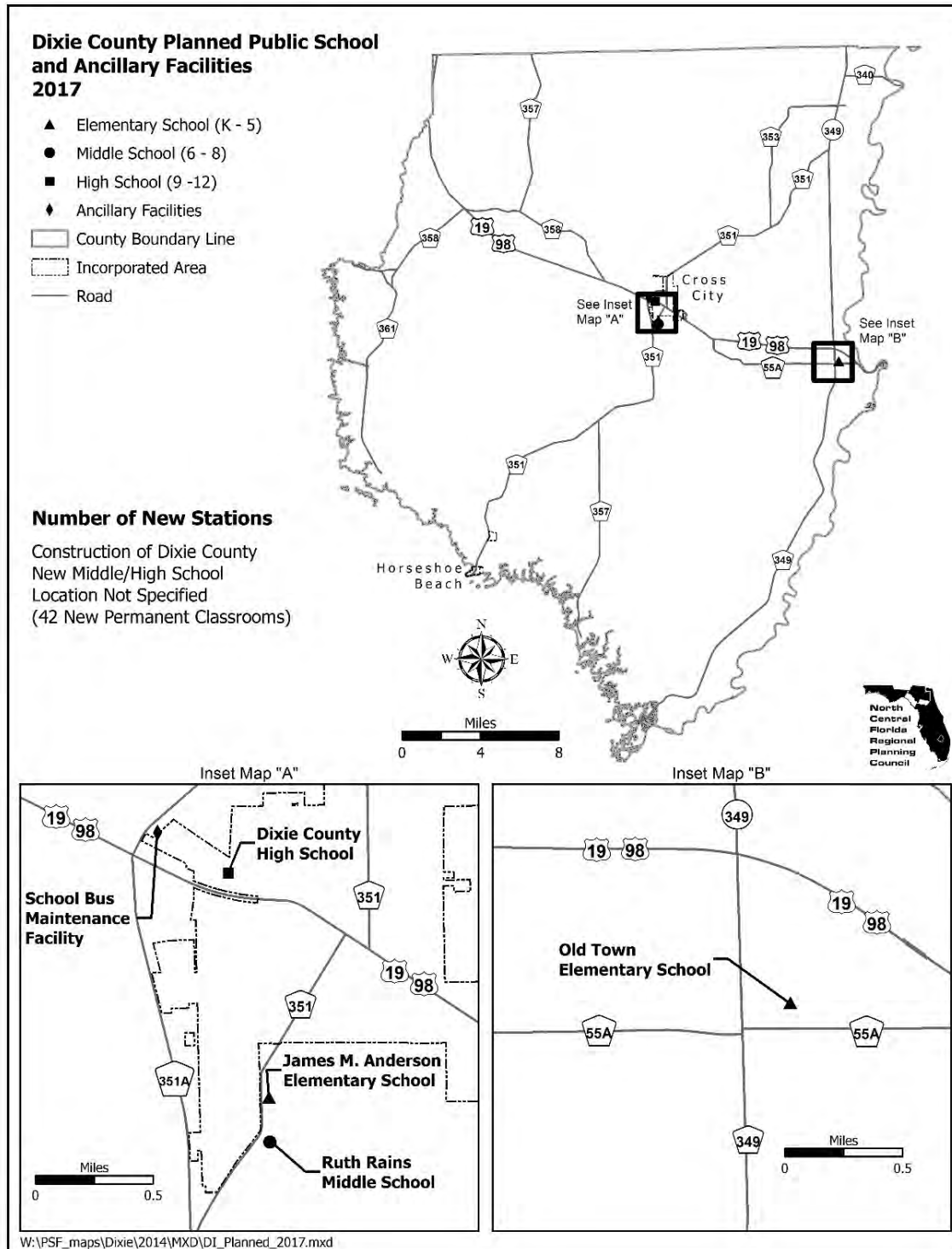


ILLUSTRATION A -V

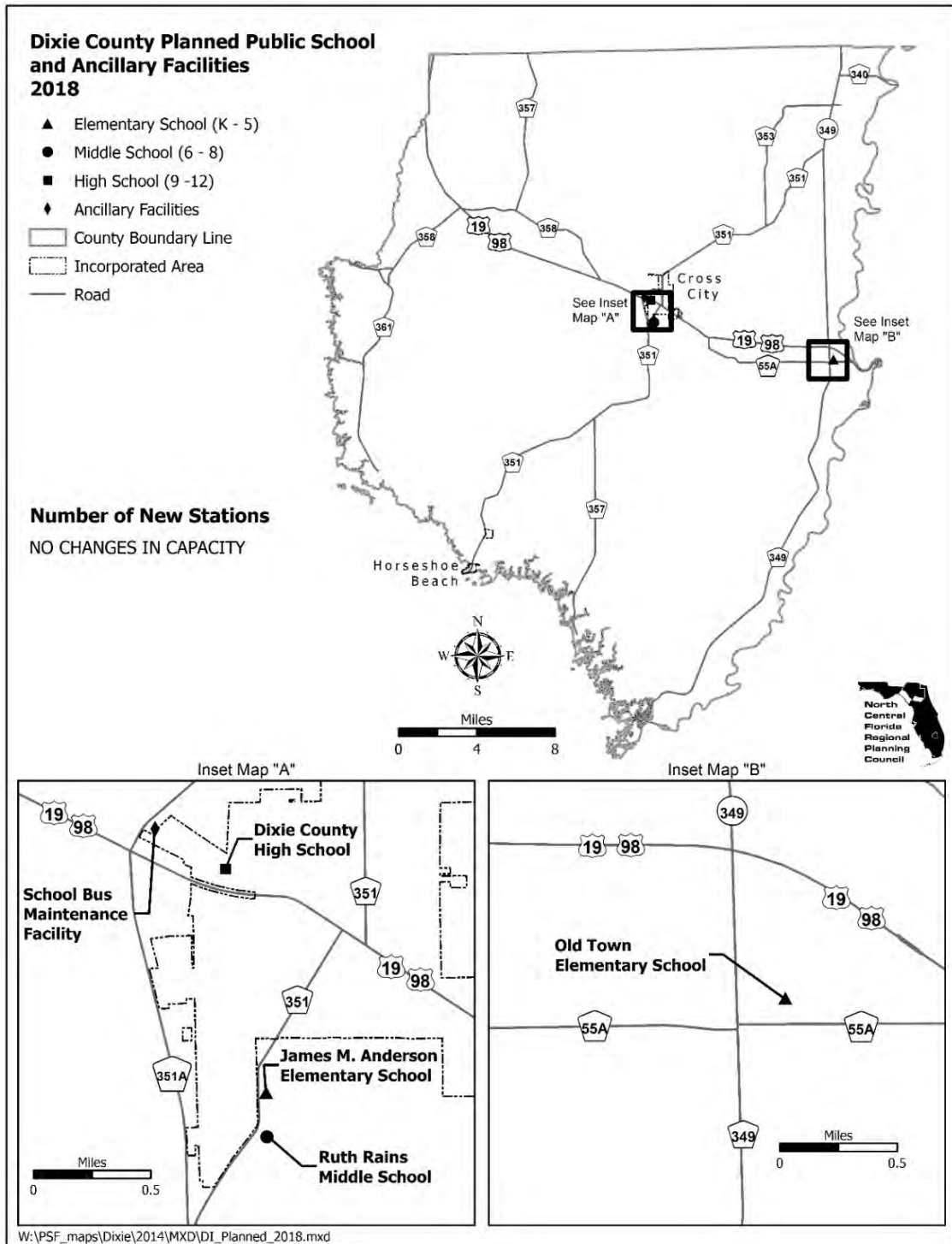


ILLUSTRATION A -VI

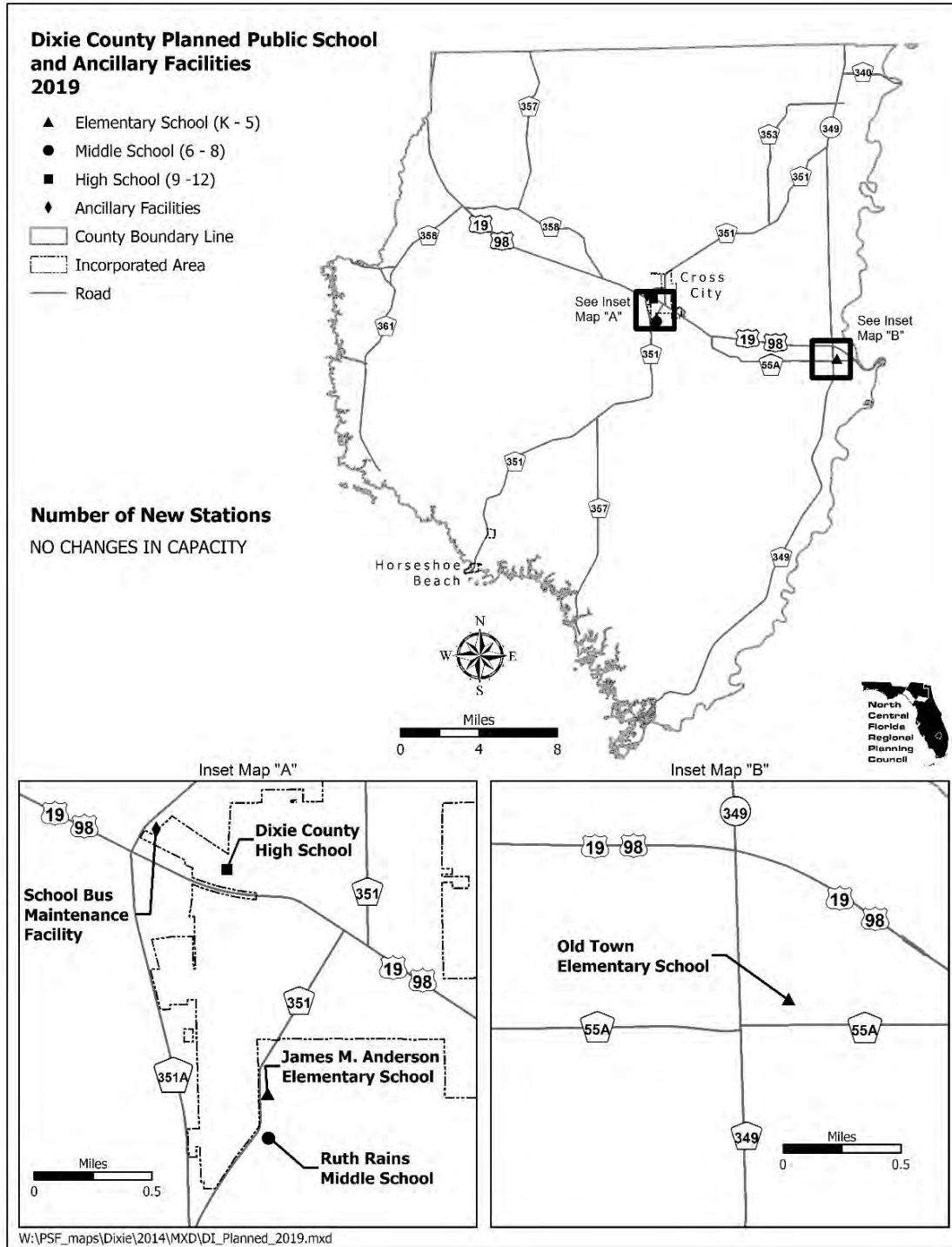
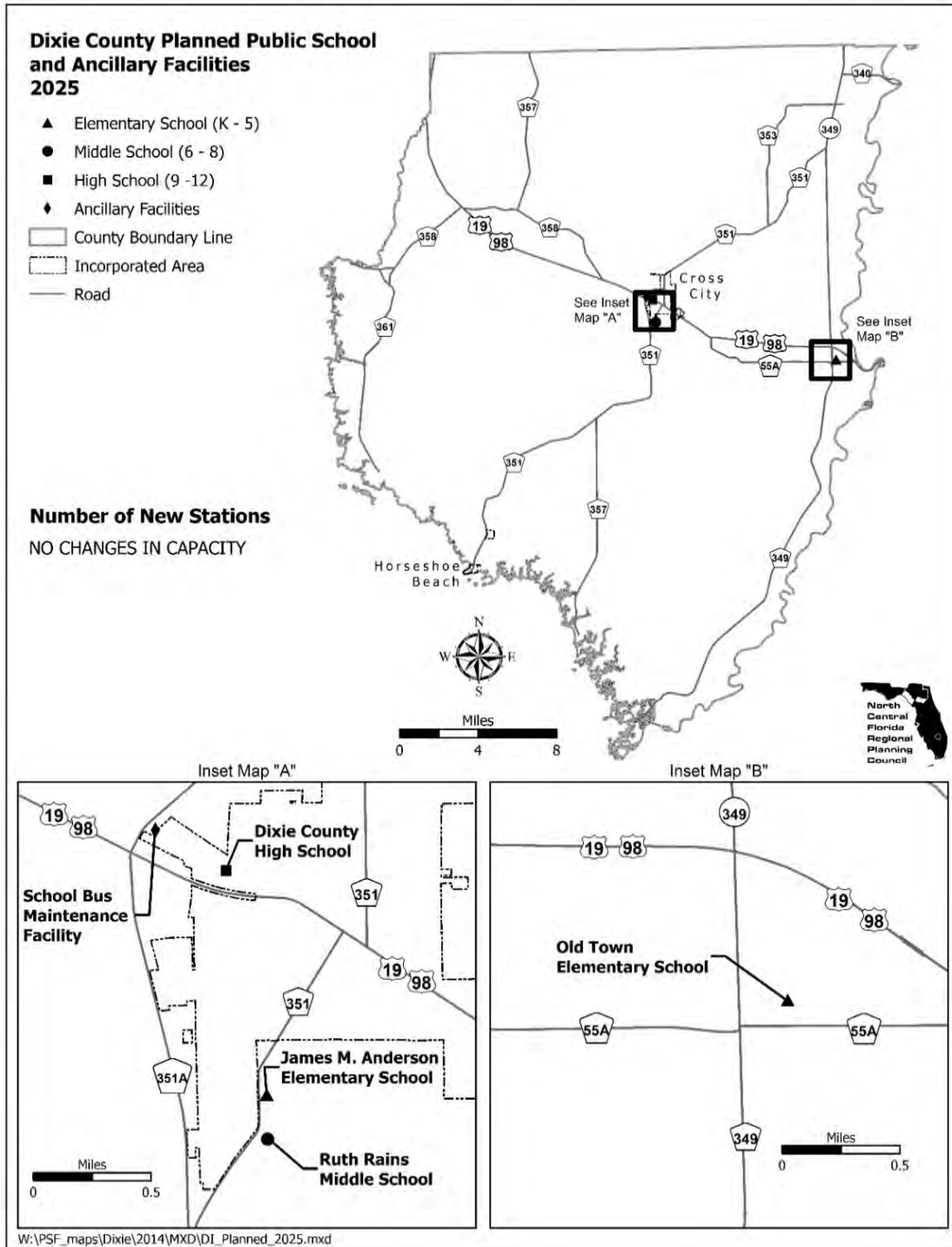


ILLUSTRATION A -VII



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APPENDIX B

DEFINITIONS

CAPACITY: “Capacity” as defined by the Florida Inventory of School Houses Manual.

CLASSROOM: An instructional space requiring no special design or equipment and used for housing general programs such as language arts, social studies and mathematics.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES: The buildings and equipment, structures, and special educational use areas that are built, installed or established to serve educational purposes only.

EDUCATIONAL PLANT: The educational facility, site and site improvements necessary to accommodate students, faculty, administrators, staff and the activities of the educational program assigned to the administrative control of one person and uniquely identified in an educational plant survey.

EDUCATIONAL PLANT SURVEY: A systematic study of educational and ancillary plants and the determination of future needs to provide appropriate educational programs and services for each student.

FIVE-YEAR DISTRICT FACILITIES WORK PLAN: A plan which demonstrates the ability to finance capital improvements from existing revenue sources and funding mechanisms to correct deficiencies and meet future needs based on achieving and maintaining the adopted level of service for each year of the five year planning period for all schools of each type in each concurrency service area, and for the long range planning period.

FLORIDA INVENTORY OF SCHOOL HOUSES: An official inventory, which is based on design codes, of all district owned facilities.

LEVEL OF SERVICE: The measure of the utilization, expressed as a percentage, which is the result of comparing the number of students with the satisfactory Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity at a given location.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING: A process of devising a systematic method based on educational information and needs, carefully analyzed, to provide the facilities to meet the goals and objectives of the educational agency.

MITIGATION OPTIONS: The provision by an applicant of any combination of land, construction, expansion and payment for land acquisition or construction of a public school facility; or the creation of mitigation banking based on the construction of a public school facility in exchange for the right to sell capacity credits. Fair market value of the proportionate fair-share mitigation shall not differ based on the form of mitigation. Such options must include execution by the applicant and the local government of a binding development agreement that constitutes a legally binding commitment to pay proportionate-share mitigation for the additional residential units approved by the local government in a development order and actually developed on the property, taking into account residential density allowed on the property prior to the development that increased overall residential density. The School Board shall be a party to such an agreement.

PERMANENT: A structure built with a fixed foundation that has permanently attached walls, roof and floor that cannot be moved or transported either as a unit or in sections.

PERMANENT STUDENT STATION: The floor area in a public school facility required to house a student in an instructional program.

PORTABLE CLASSROOM: A classroom within a building or portion of a building made up of prefabricated units that may be disassembled and reassembled frequently, or a single unit of construction consisting of walls, roof and floor that is moveable as a unit either on wheels or by truck.

PROPORTIONATE SHARE MITIGATION: The contribution by a developer or applicant, through any of various means (see definition of Mitigation Options), of resources sufficient to offset or compensate for the site-specific impacts generated by a development. The fair market value of mitigation is credited against any impact fees or other exactions levied against the development.

SITE: A space of ground occupied or to be occupied by an educational facility or program.

SITE DEVELOPMENT: Site development means work that must be performed on an unimproved site in order to make it usable for the desired purpose; or, work incidental to new construction or to make an addition usable.

SITE IMPROVEMENT: The work that must be performed on an existing site to improve its utilization, correct health and safety deficiencies, meet special program needs or provide additional service areas. Site improvement incident to construction is the work that must be performed on a site as an accompaniment to the construction of an addition to an educational facility for a modernization project.

APPENDIX A

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

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ILLUSTRATION A-1
FUTURE LAND USE PLAN MAP 2025
(Under Separate Cover)

ILLUSTRATION A-II SHORES AND ESTUARINE SYSTEMS

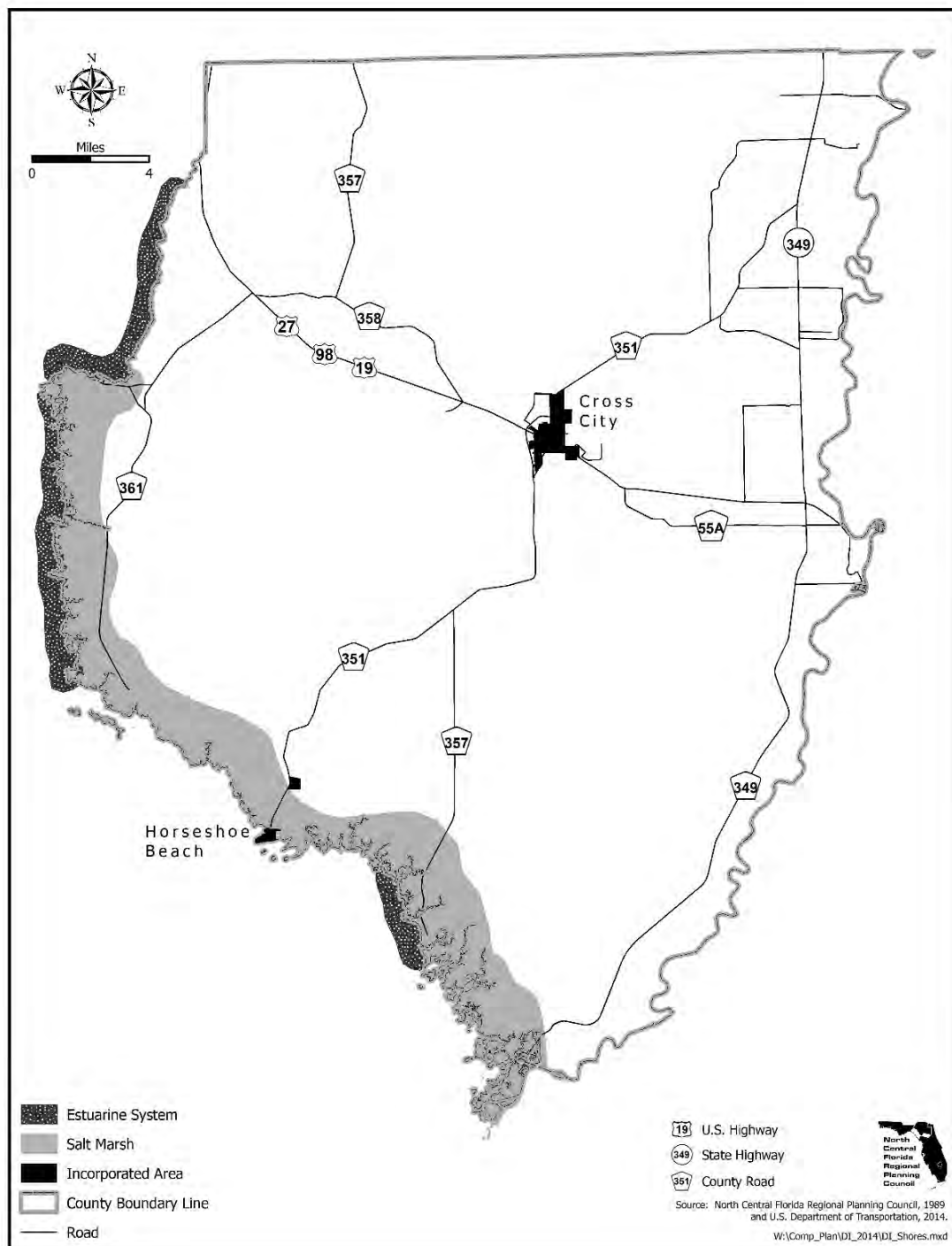
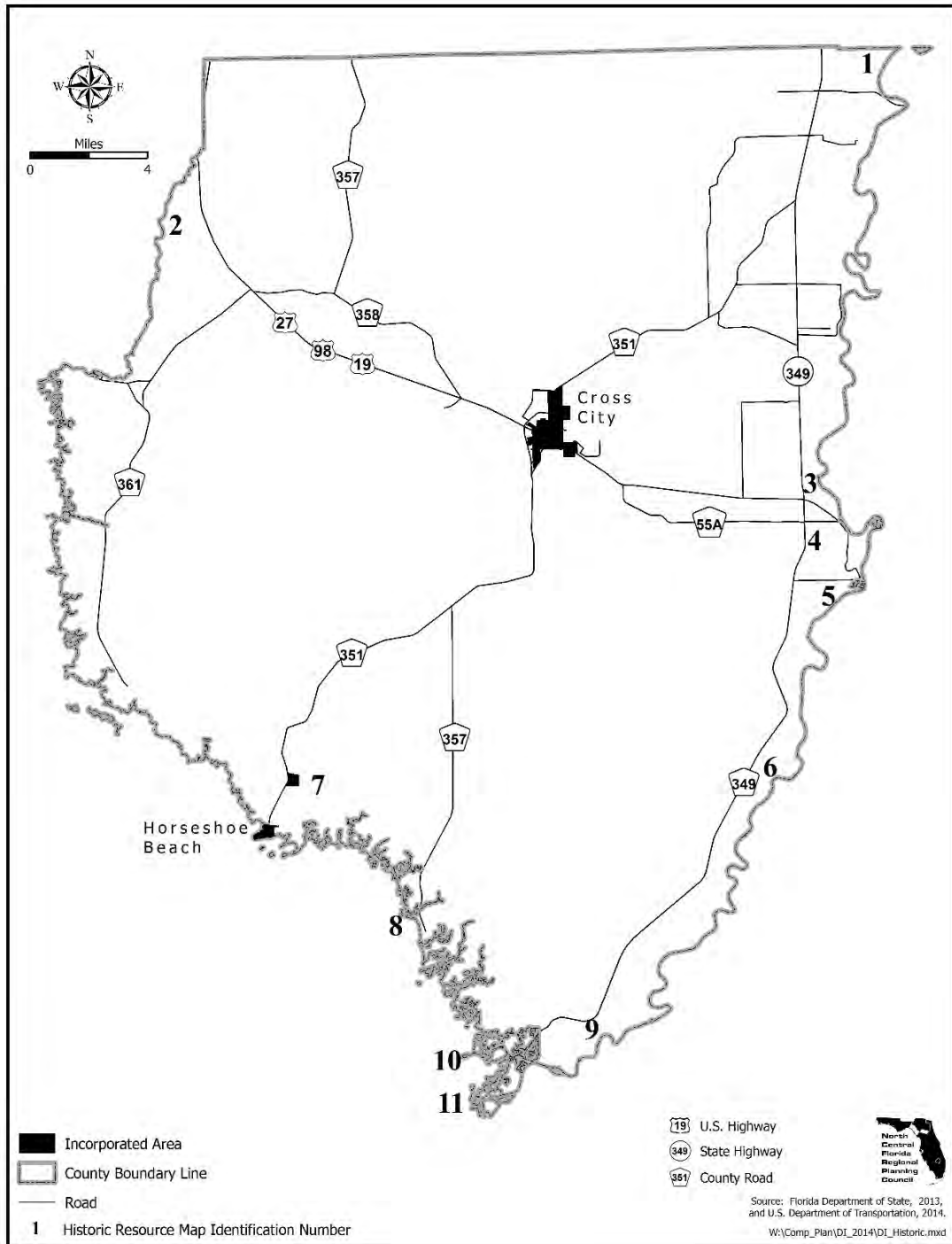


ILLUSTRATION A-III
HISTORIC RESOURCES



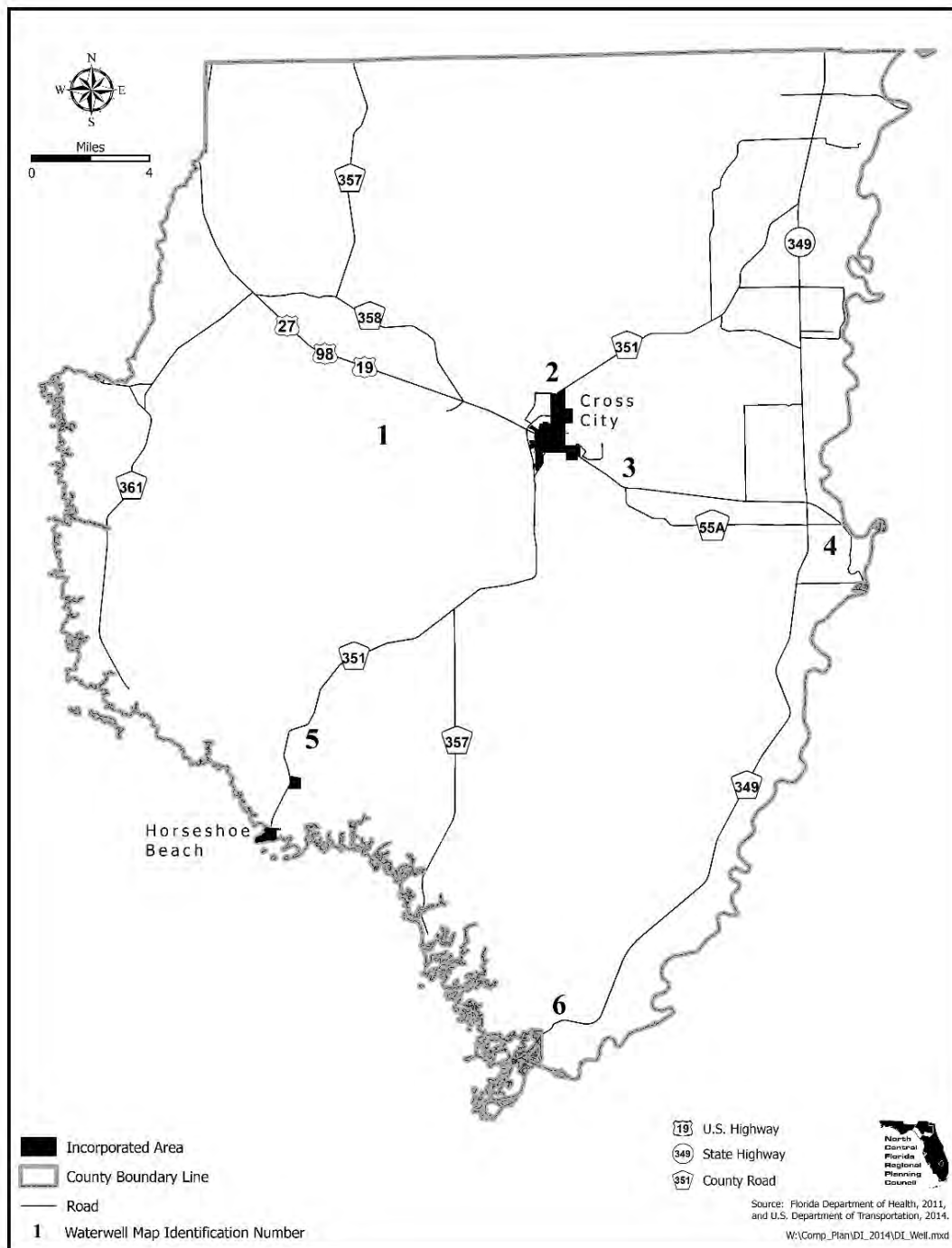
LEGEND FOR ILLUSTRATION A-III
HISTORIC RESOURCES

Location Number	Site Name	Type
1	Lewis/McQuinn	Early Archaic
2	Old Road To Fort Fanning City Of Hawkinsville	Nineteenth century American, 1821-1899
3	(Shipwreck)	Nineteenth century American, 1821-1899
4	Old Old Town School	circa 1909
5	Hidden Campground	Prehistoric
6	Yellow Jacket Cabin	circa 1933
7	Garden Patch	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.
	Wotki 2	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.
	EFA 1	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.
8	Shired Island	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.
9	Ridgewood Knoll	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.
	Mound	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.
	Log Cabin	circa 1863
10	Cat Island	Late Archaic
11	Little Bradford Island	Deptford, 700 B.C.-300 B.C.

Source: Florida Department of State Division of Historic Resources, Florida Master Site Files

ILLUSTRATION A-IV

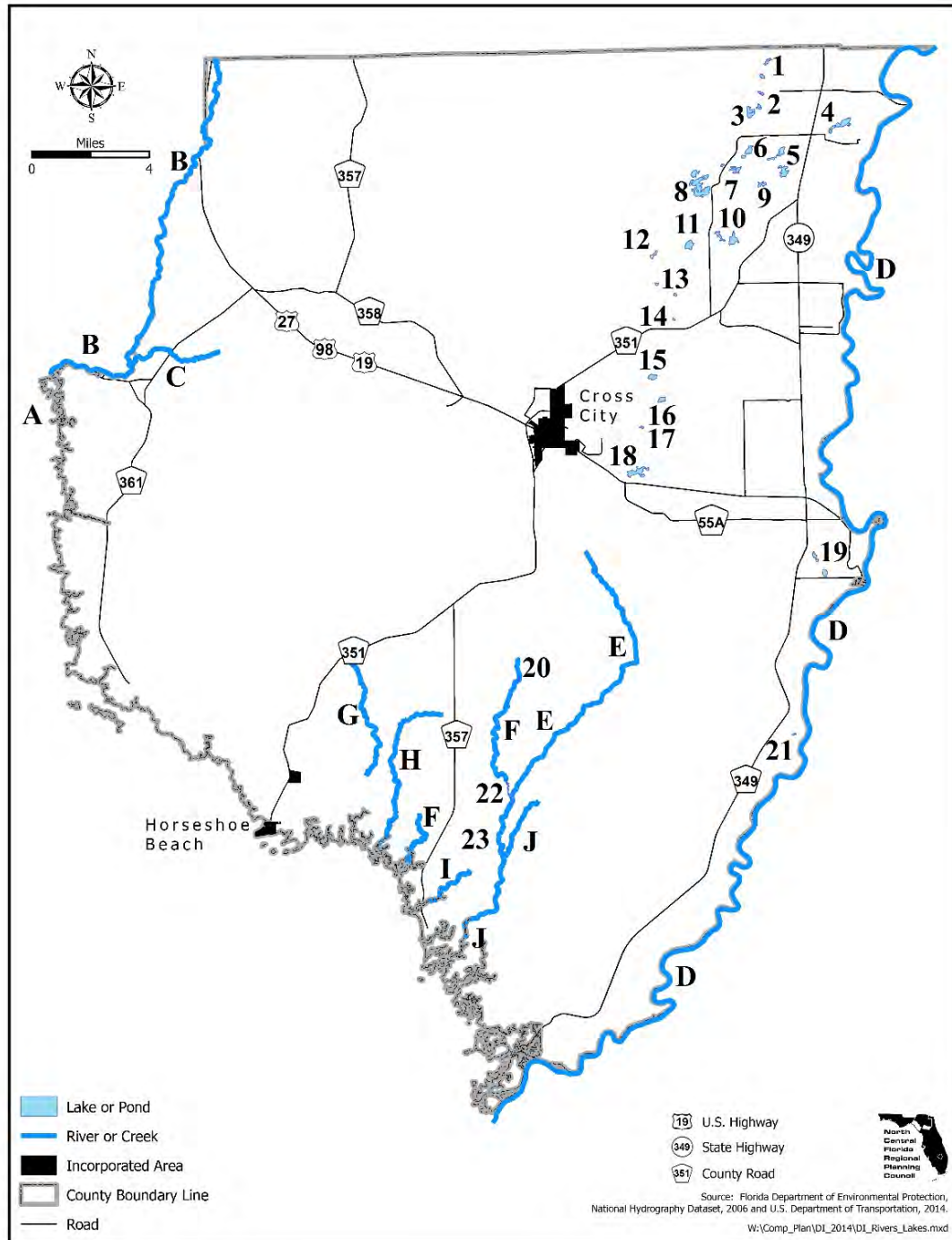
WATERWELLS



LEGEND FOR ILLUSTRATION A-IV
EXISTING AND PLANNED WATERWELLS

Location Number	Location Name
1	No Description Available
	No Description Available
2	Cross City Water Department Well 1
	Cross City Water Department Well 2
	Cross City Water Department Well 3
3	Shady Oaks RV and Mobile Home Park
4	Suwannee Gables Motel
	Dixie Reality
5	No Description Available
6	Suwannee Water and Sewer District Well 1
	Suwannee Water and Sewer District Well 1

ILLUSTRATION A-V
BAYS, RIVERS, AND LAKES



LEGEND FOR ILLUSTRATION A-V
RIVERS, BAYS AND LAKES

Map Identification	Name	Map Identification	Name
A	Deadman Bay	8	Bonnel Lake
B	Steinhatchee River		Governor Hill Lake
C	Sand Hill Creek	9	Fish Pond
D	Suwannee River	10	Delaney Prairie
E	California Creek		Clearwater Pond
F	Fishbone Creek	11	Buck Pond
G	Lilly Creek	12	Adams Lake
H	Amason Creek	13	Booth Lake
I	Shired Creek		Dixon Lake
J	Sanders Creek	14	Sand Pond
1	Cove Lake	15	Boat Lake
	Ward Lake	16	Ocean Pond
2	Union Lake	17	Bodiford Pond
	Cemetery Lake	18	Long Pond
3	Matthis Lake	19	Jennings Lake
4	Cow Pond		Long Pond
5	Williams Lake	20	Station Lake
	Careless Prairie	21	Alligator Lake
6	Barpost Lake	22	California Lake
	Lord Lake	23	Thompson Lake
7	Mill Pond		
	Hammock Lake		

ILLUSTRATION A-VI
FLOOD PRONE AREAS

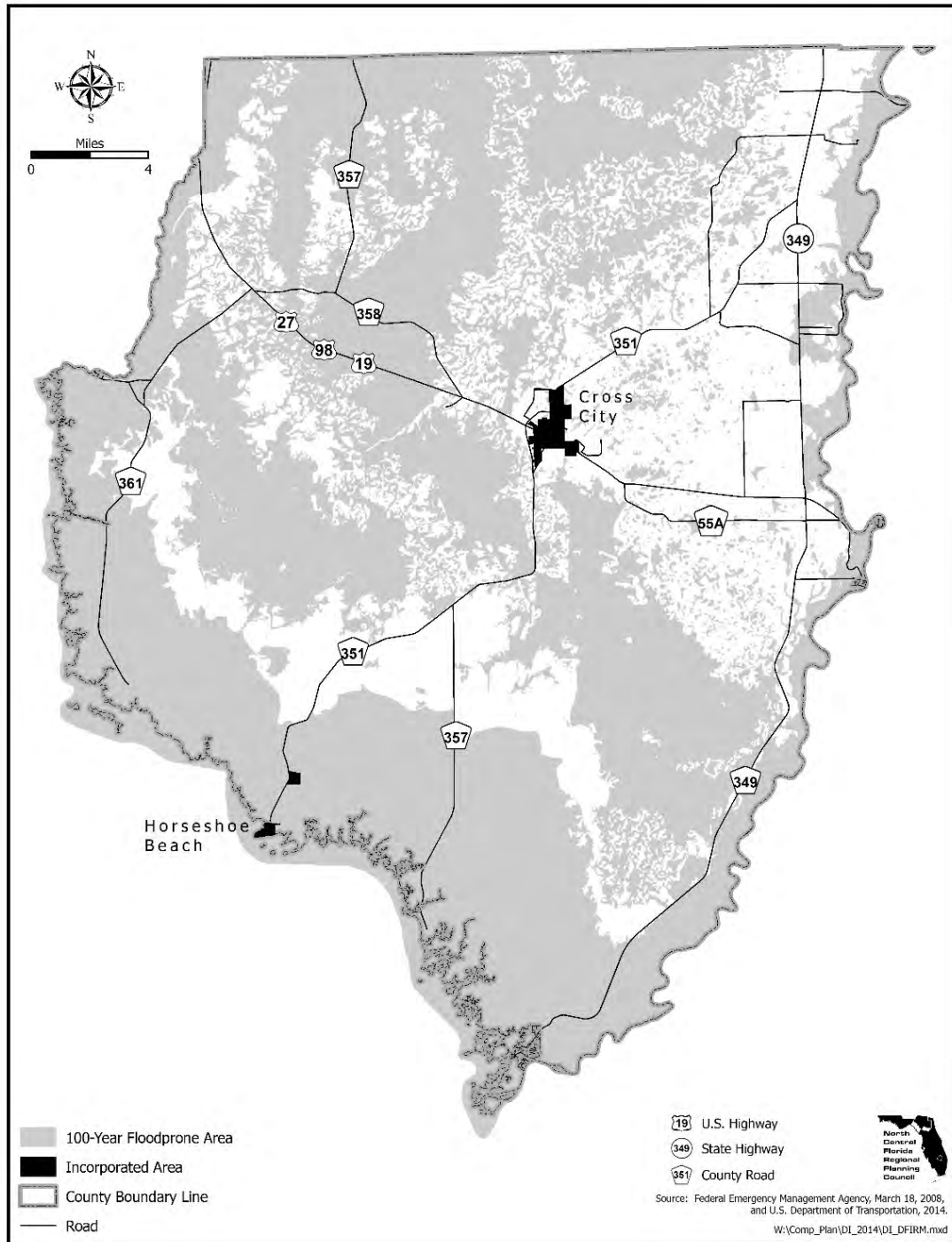


ILLUSTRATION A-VII

WETLANDS

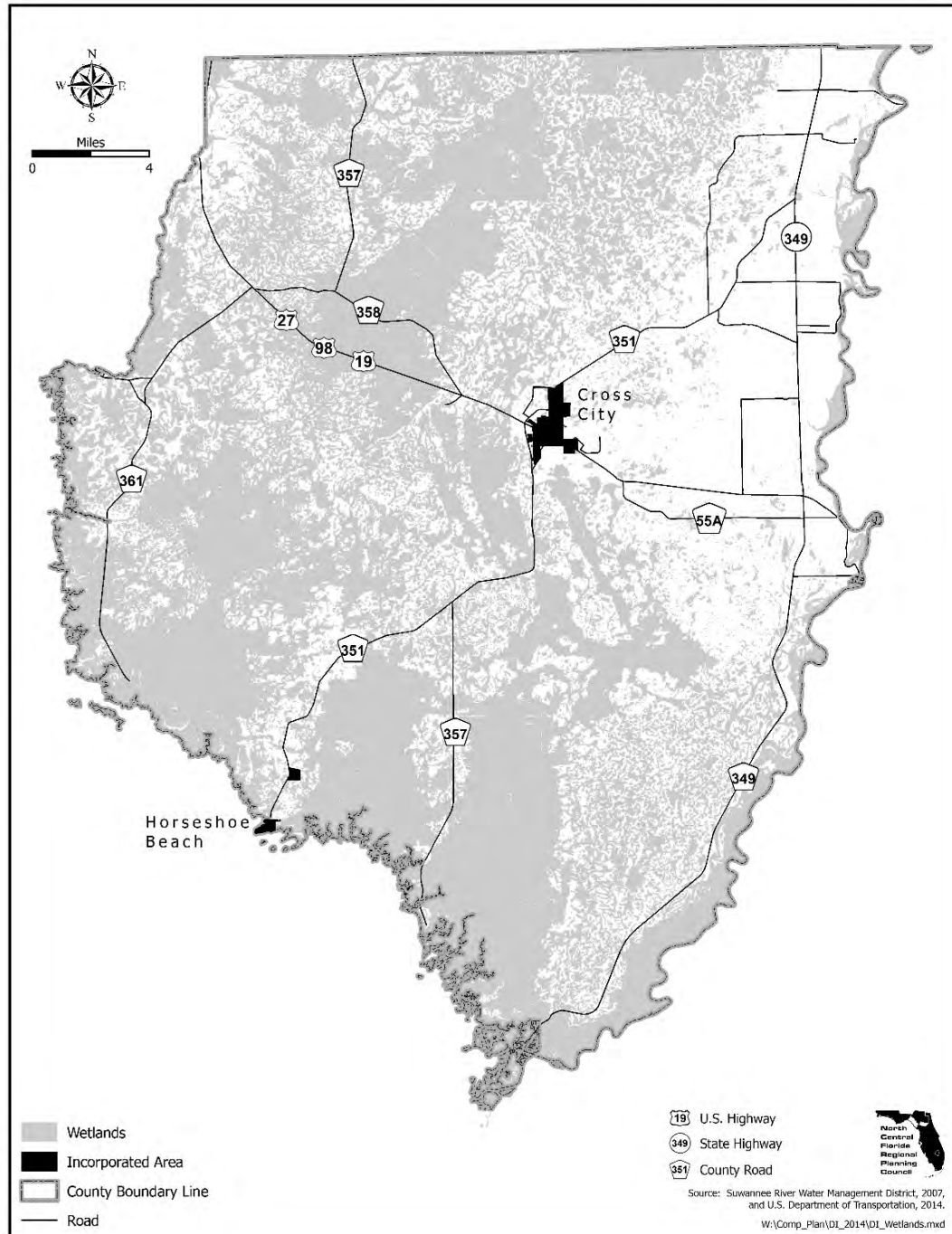
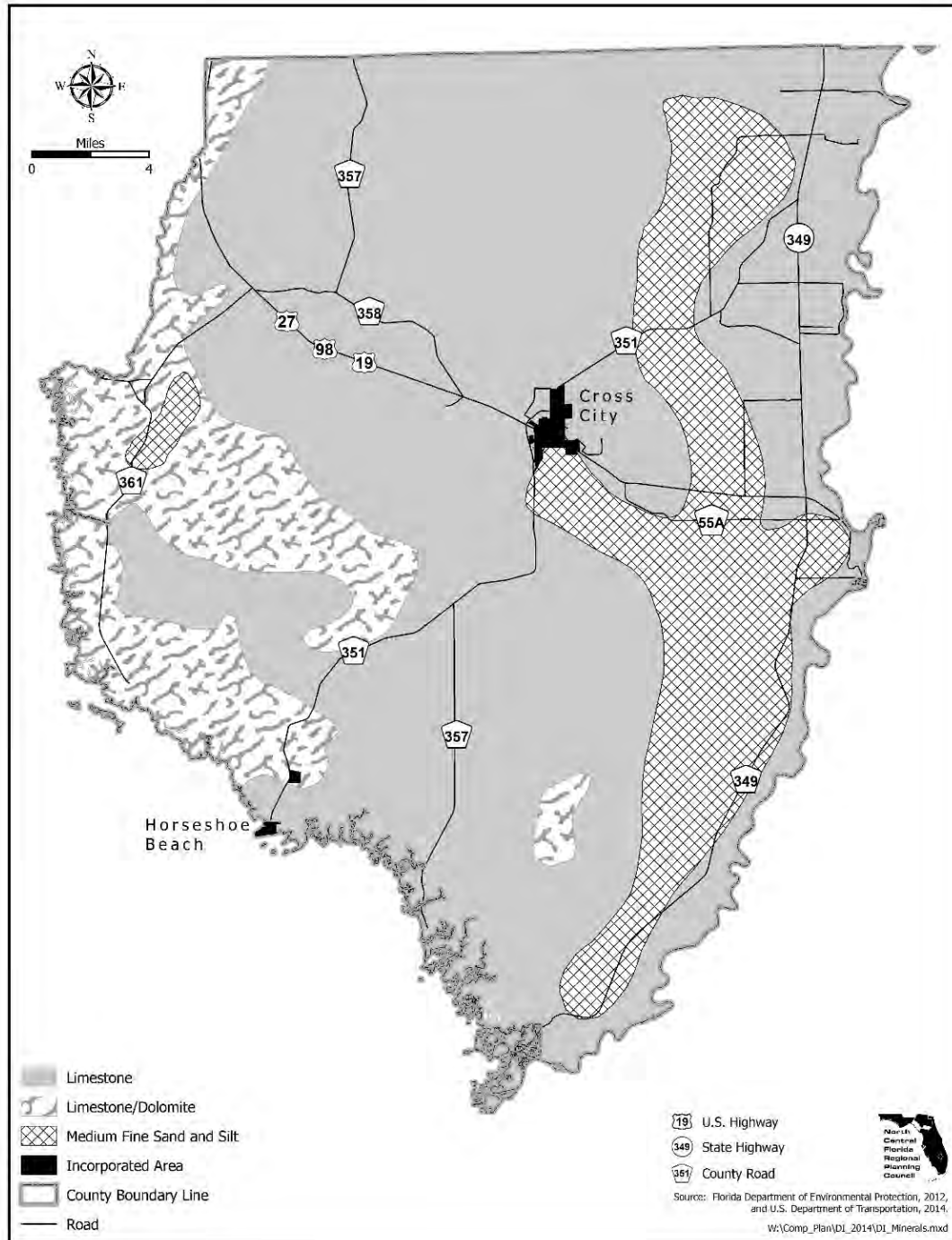


ILLUSTRATION A-VIII

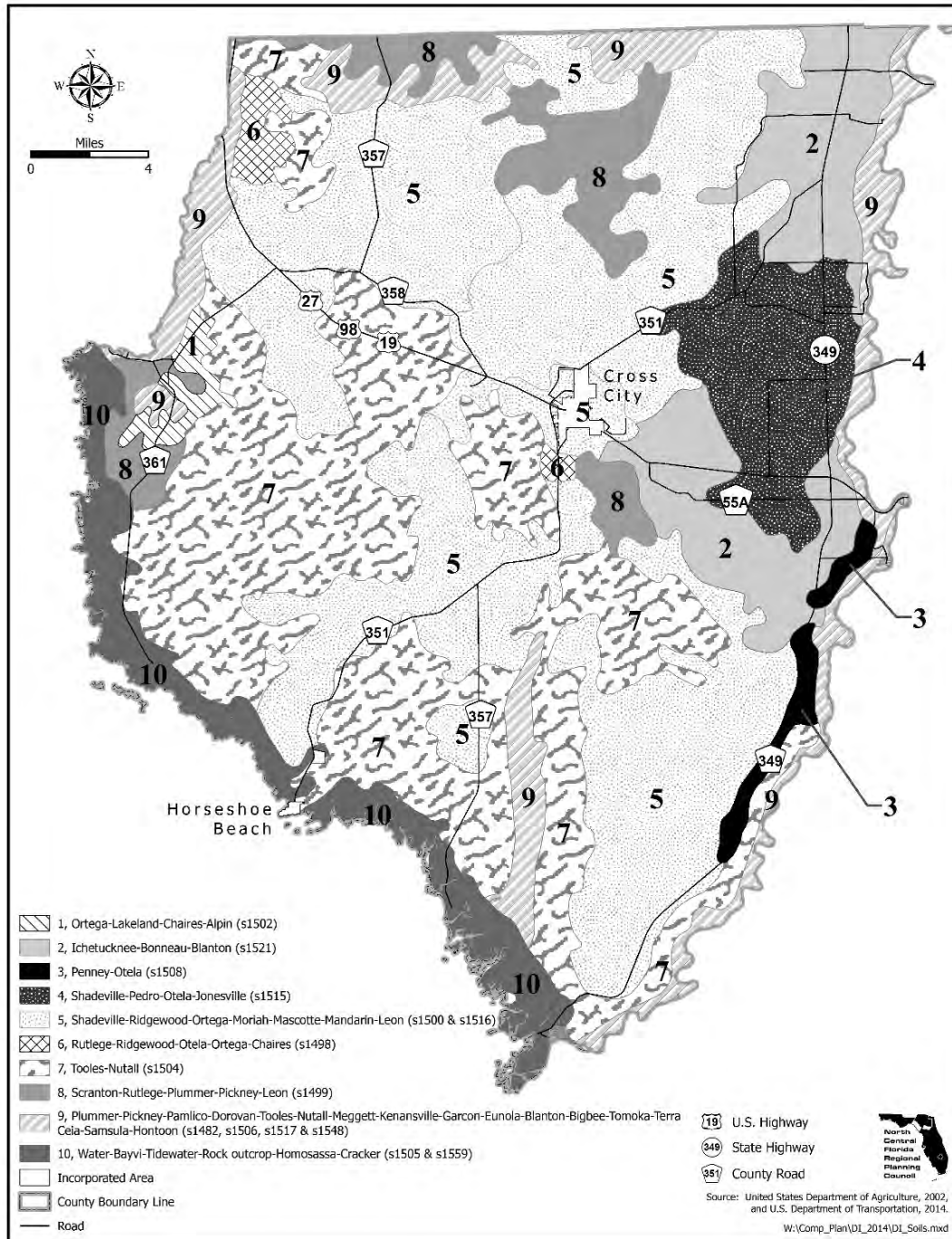
MINERALS



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ILLUSTRATION A-IX

SOIL ASSOCIATIONS



LEGEND FOR ILLUSTRATION A-IX
SOIL ASSOCIATIONS

KEY NUMBER	SOIL ASSOCIATION	CHARACTERISTICS
1	Ortega-Lakeland-Chaires-Alpin (s1502)	Nearly level to sloping excessively drained with very thick sandy layers over thin loamy sand or sandy loam lamella and moderately well drained soils with very thick sandy layers over loamy subsoil.
2	Ichetucknee-Bonneau-Blanton (s1521)	Nearly level to gently sloping moderately well drained soils, sandy throughout and poorly drained sandy soils with weakly cemented sandy subsoil and poorly drained soils with very thick sandy layers over loamy subsoil.
3	Penney-Otela (s1508)	Nearly level to gently sloping moderately well drained soils, sandy throughout and moderately well drained soils with very thick sandy layers over loamy subsoils and very poorly drained subsoils
4	Shadeville-Pedro-Otela-Jonesville (s1515)	Nearly level to gently sloping somewhat poorly drained soils, sandy throughout and well drained soils with thick sandy layers over loamy subsoils, underlain by limestone and moderately well drained soils with very thick sandy layers over loamy subsoils.
5	Shadeville-Ridgewood-Ortega-Moriah-Mascotte-Mandarin-Leon (s1500 & s1516)	Nearly level poorly drained sandy soils with weakly cemented sandy subsoil and poorly drained sandy soils with a weakly cemented sandy subsoil layer underlain by loamy subsoils and very poorly drained soils sandy throughout.
6	Rutlege-Ridgewood-Otela-Ortega-Chaires (s1498)	Nearly level somewhat poorly drained sandy soils, shallow to limestone and somewhat poorly drained sandy soils with clayey subsoils, shallow to limestone and poorly drained soils, sandy throughout.
7	Tooles-Nuttall (s1504)	Nearly level poorly and very poorly drained sandy soils with loamy subsoils and very poorly drained sandy soils with loam subsoils, shallow to limestone.
8	Scranton-Rutlege-Plummer-Pickney-Leon (s1499)	Nearly level poorly drained soils with very thick sandy layers over loamy subsoil and very poorly drained soils, sand throughout.
9	Plummer-Pickney-Pamlico-Dorovan-Tooles-Nuttall-Meggett-Kenansville-Garcon-Eunola-Blanton-Bigbee-Tomoka-Terra Ceia-Samsula-Hontoon (s1482, s1506, s1517 & s1548)	Nearly level poorly drained soils subject to prolonged flooding.
10	Water-Bayvi-Tidewater-Rock outcrop-Homosassa-Cracker (s1505 & s1559)	Nearly level very poorly drained soils subject to frequent flooding by tidal waters and somewhat excessively drained sandy soils.

ILLUSTRATION A-X
FUTURE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION 2025

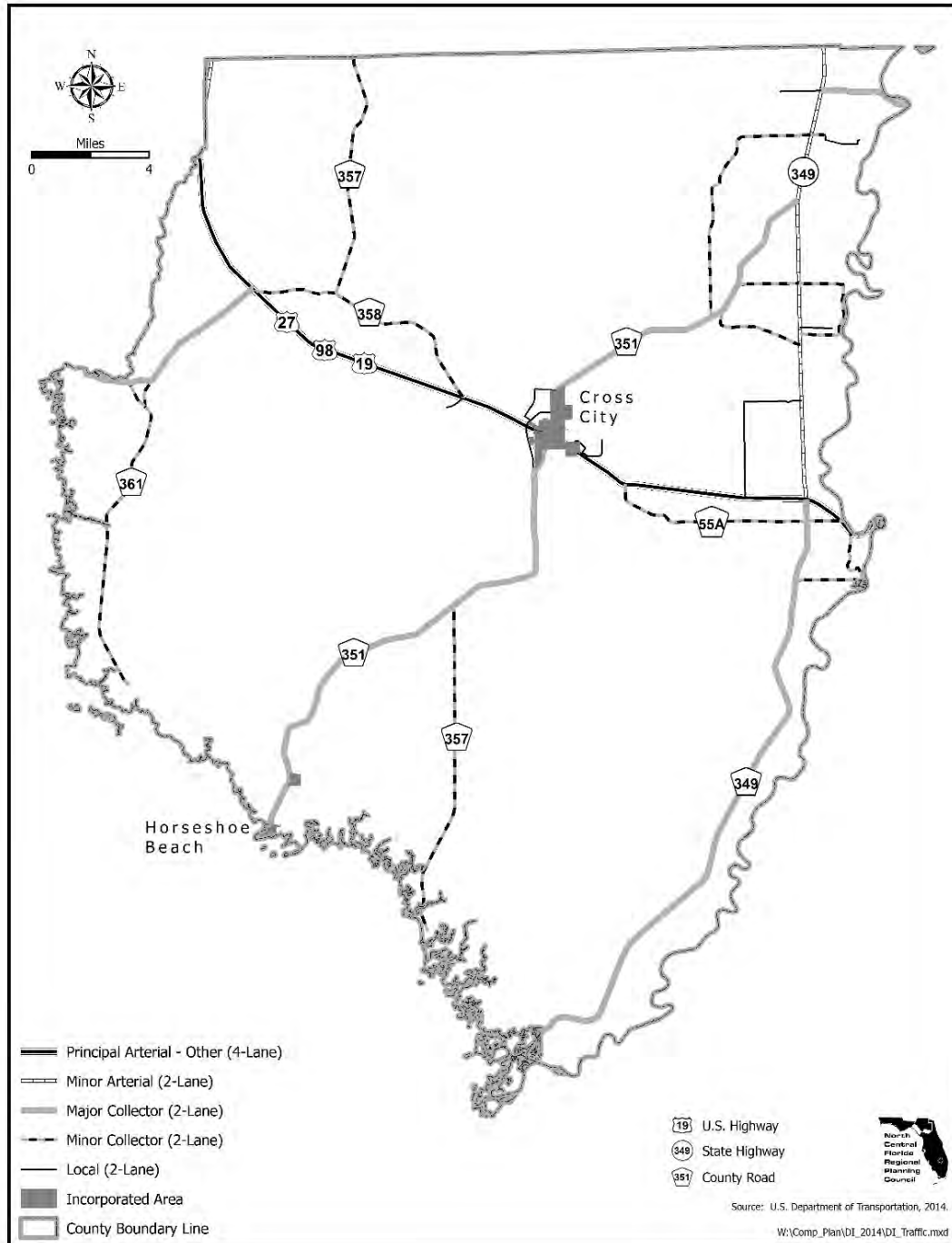


ILLUSTRATION A-Xa
EMERGENCY EVACUATION ROUTES MAP 2025

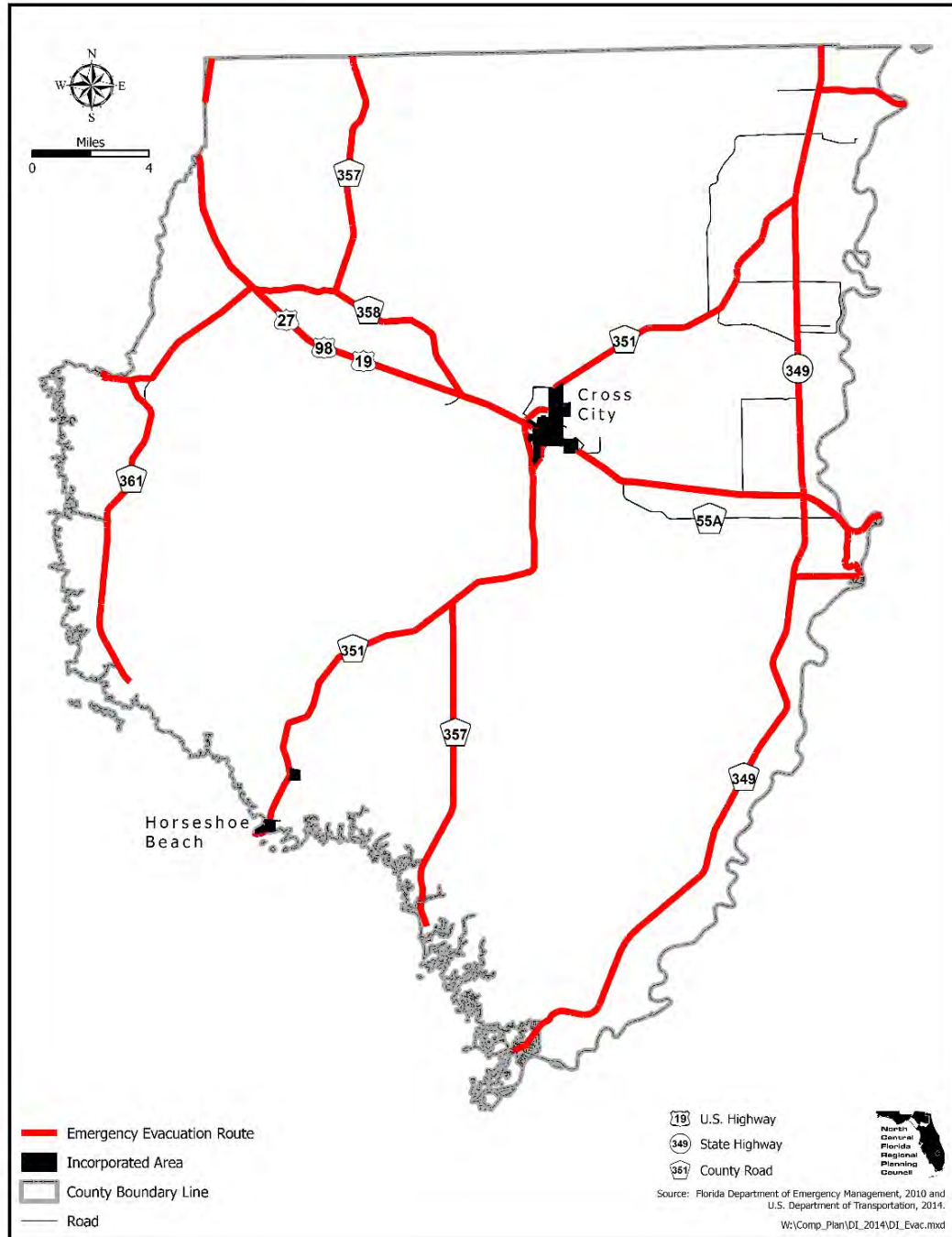


ILLUSTRATION A-Xb

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES MAP 2025

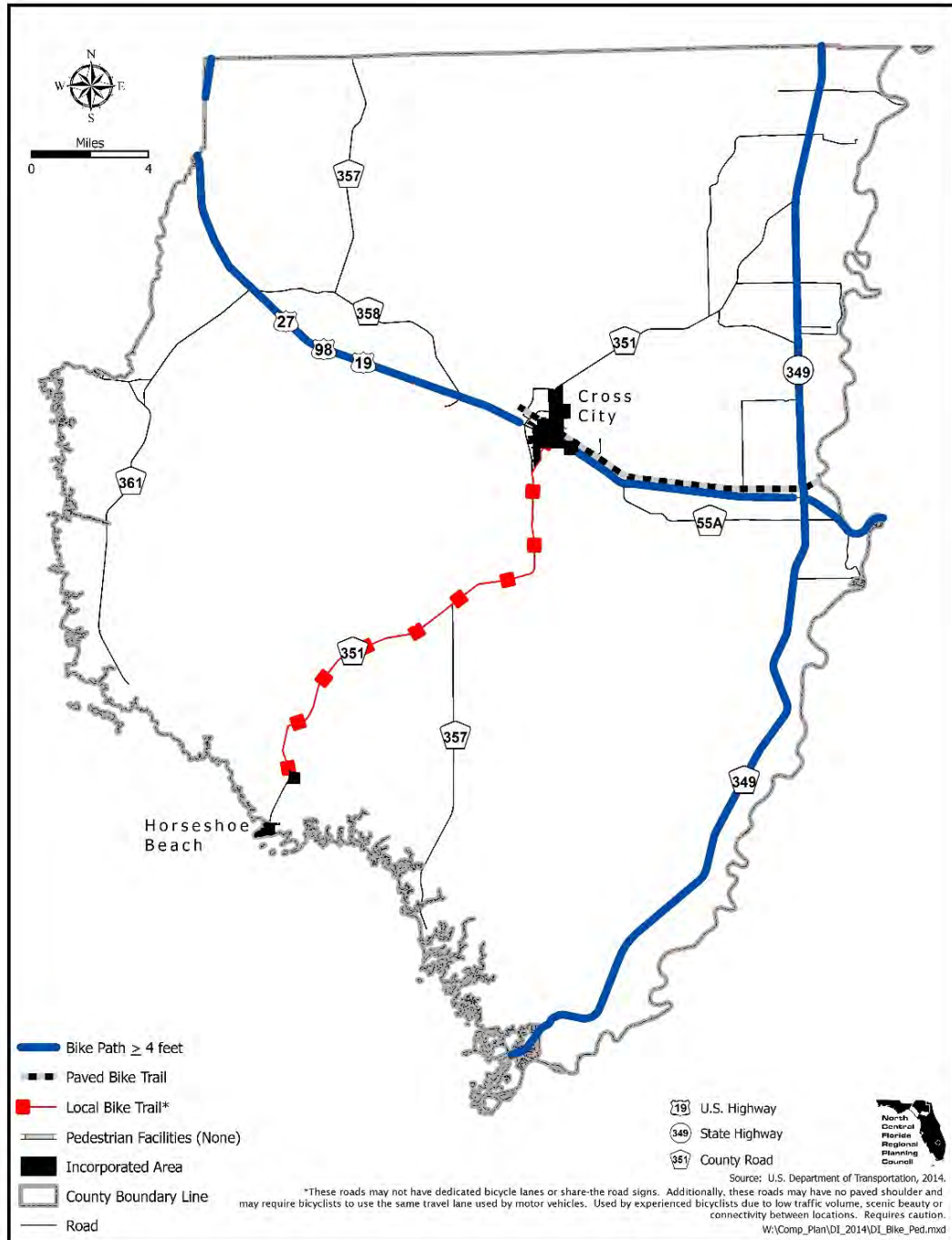
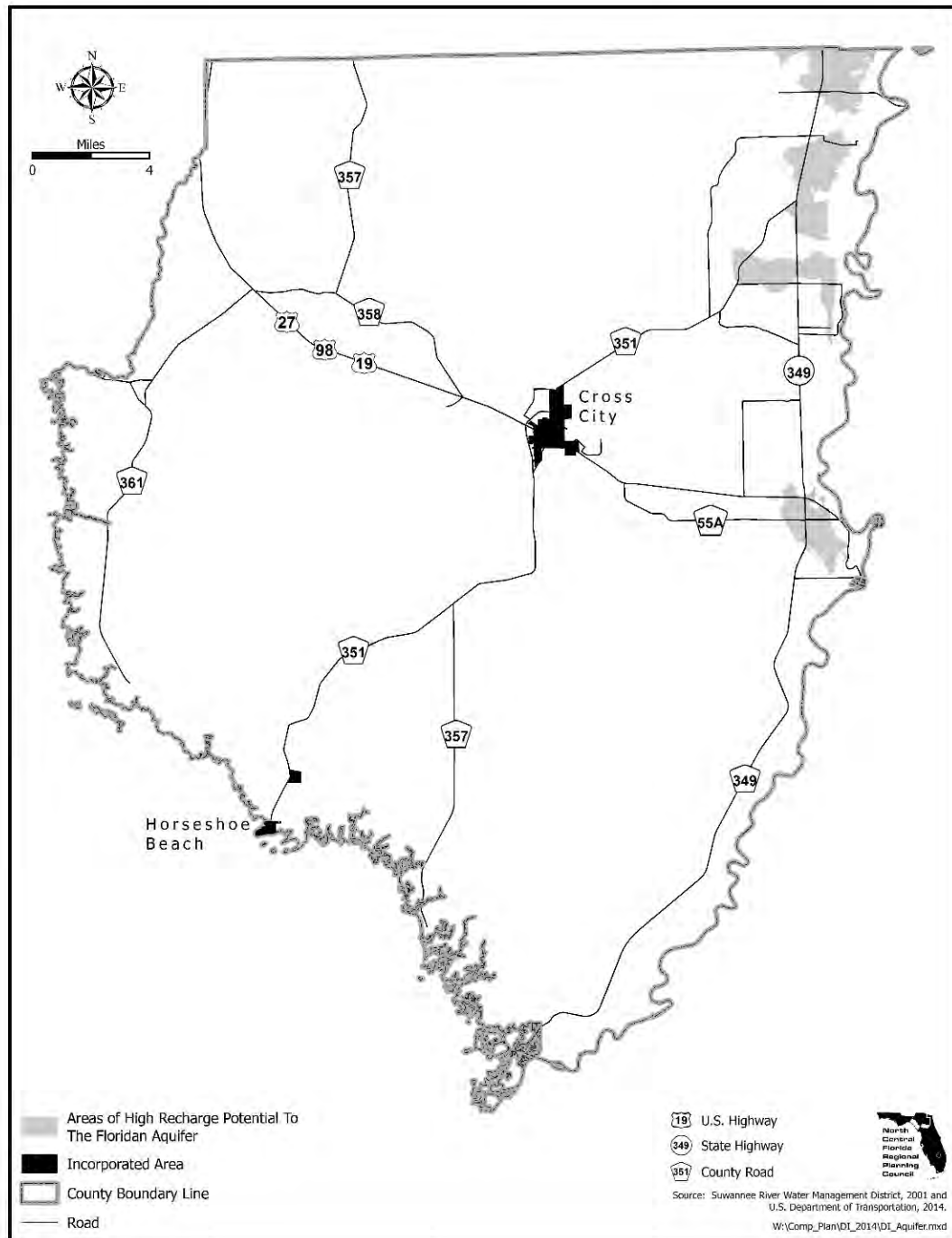


ILLUSTRATION A-XI

HIGH WATER AQUIFER RECHARGE AREAS



A - 20

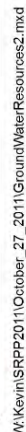


ILLUSTRATION A-XIIB

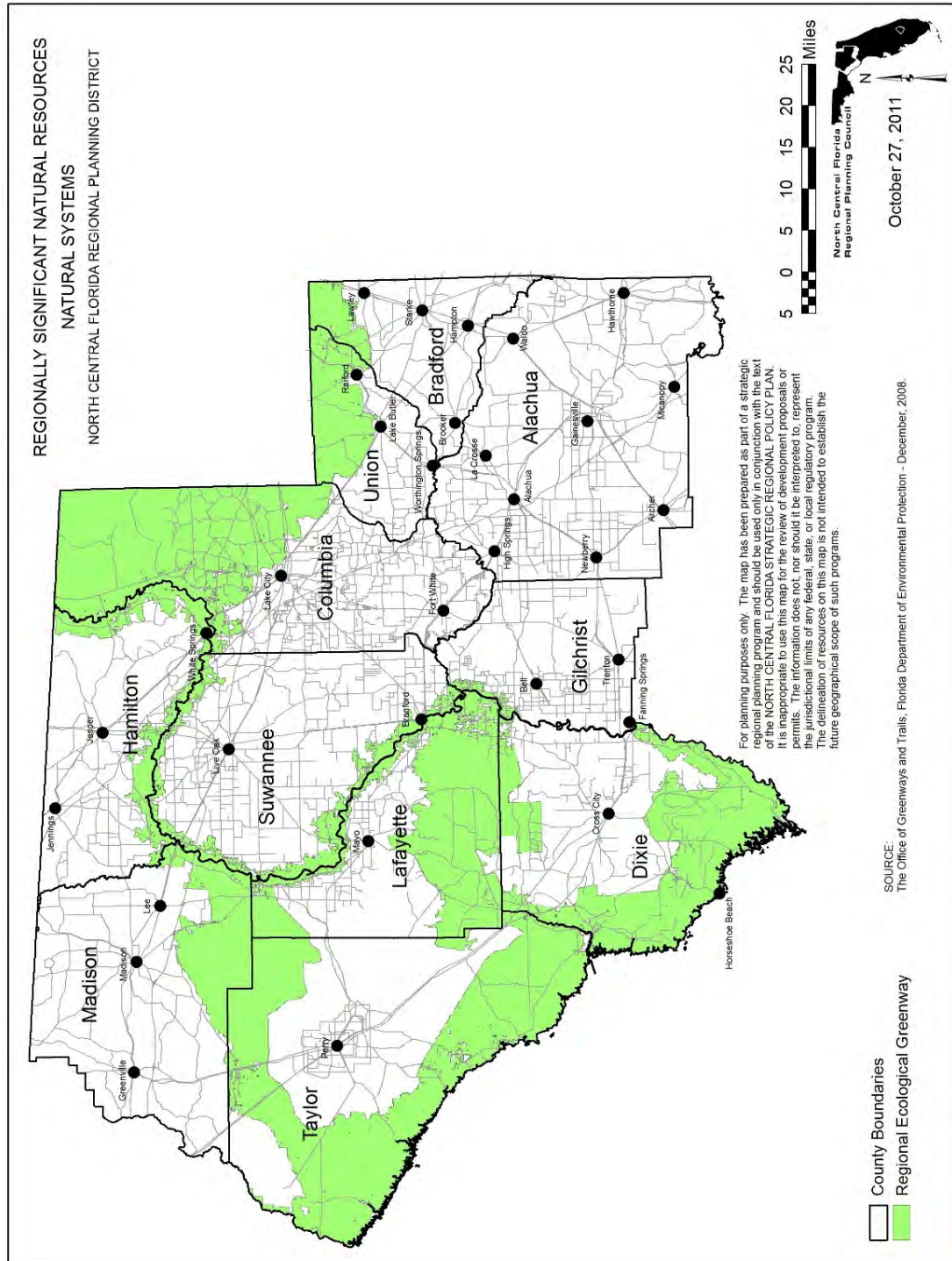
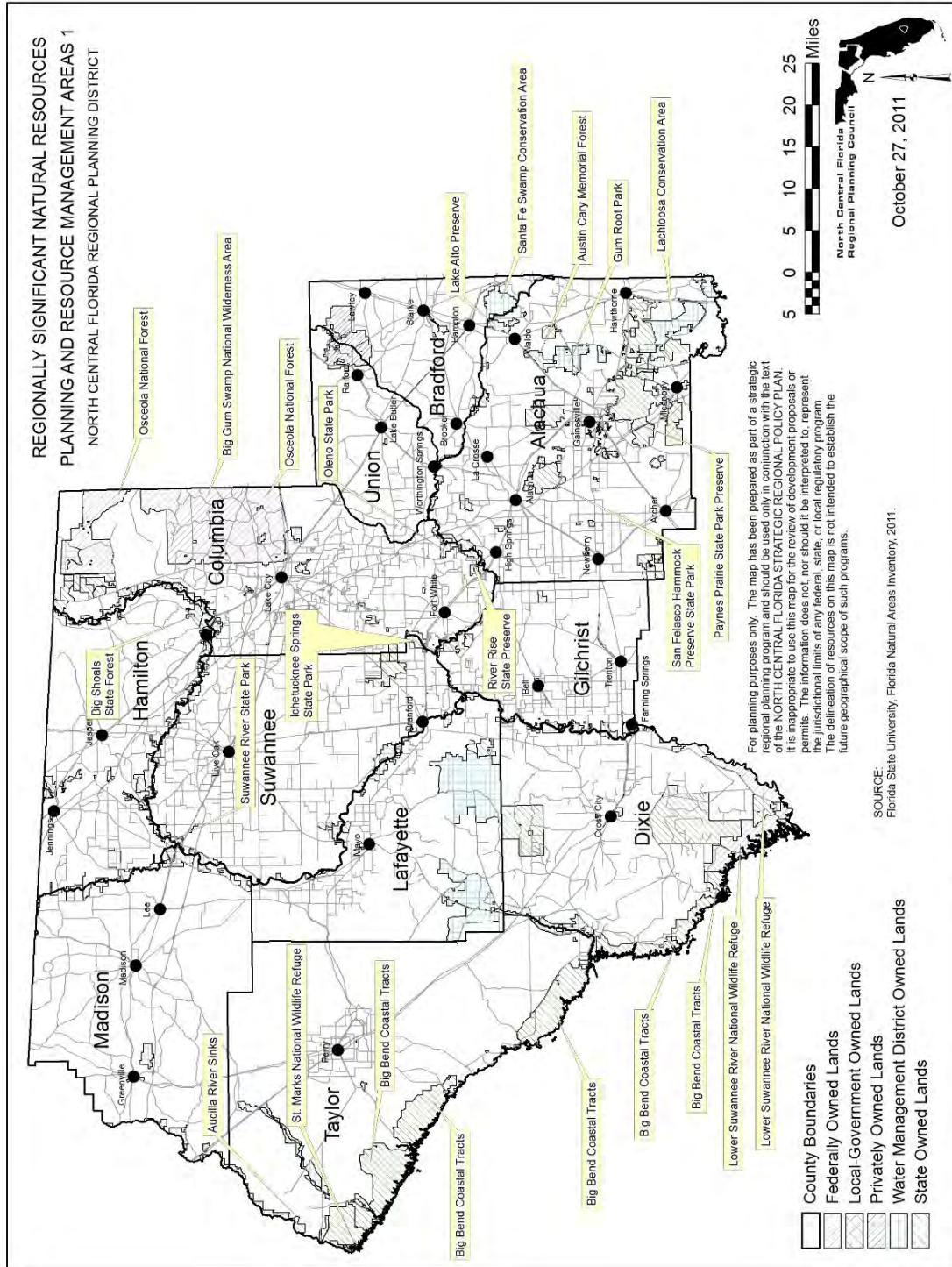
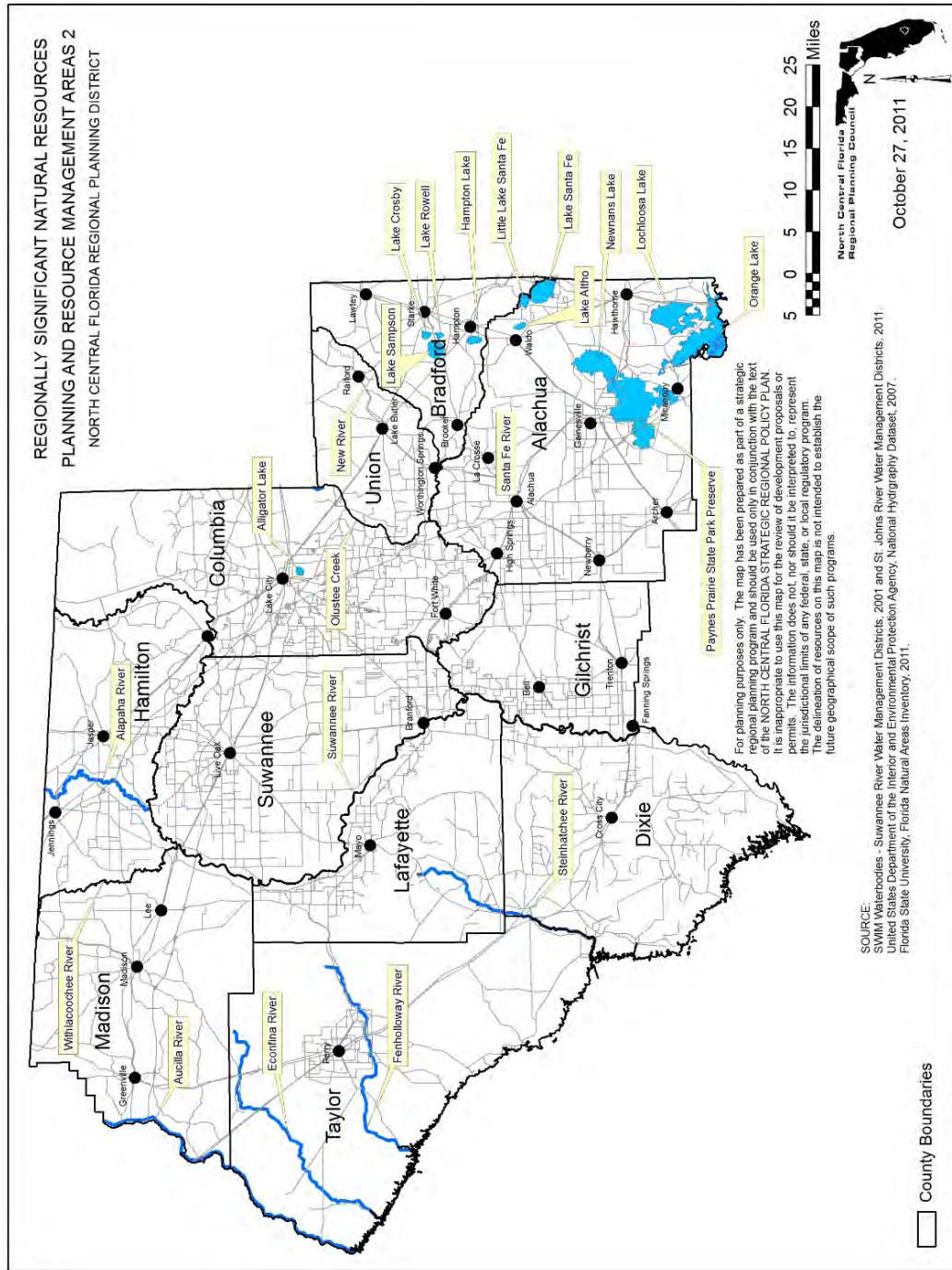


ILLUSTRATION A-IIc



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ILLUSTRATION A-XIId



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ILLUSTRATION A-XIIe

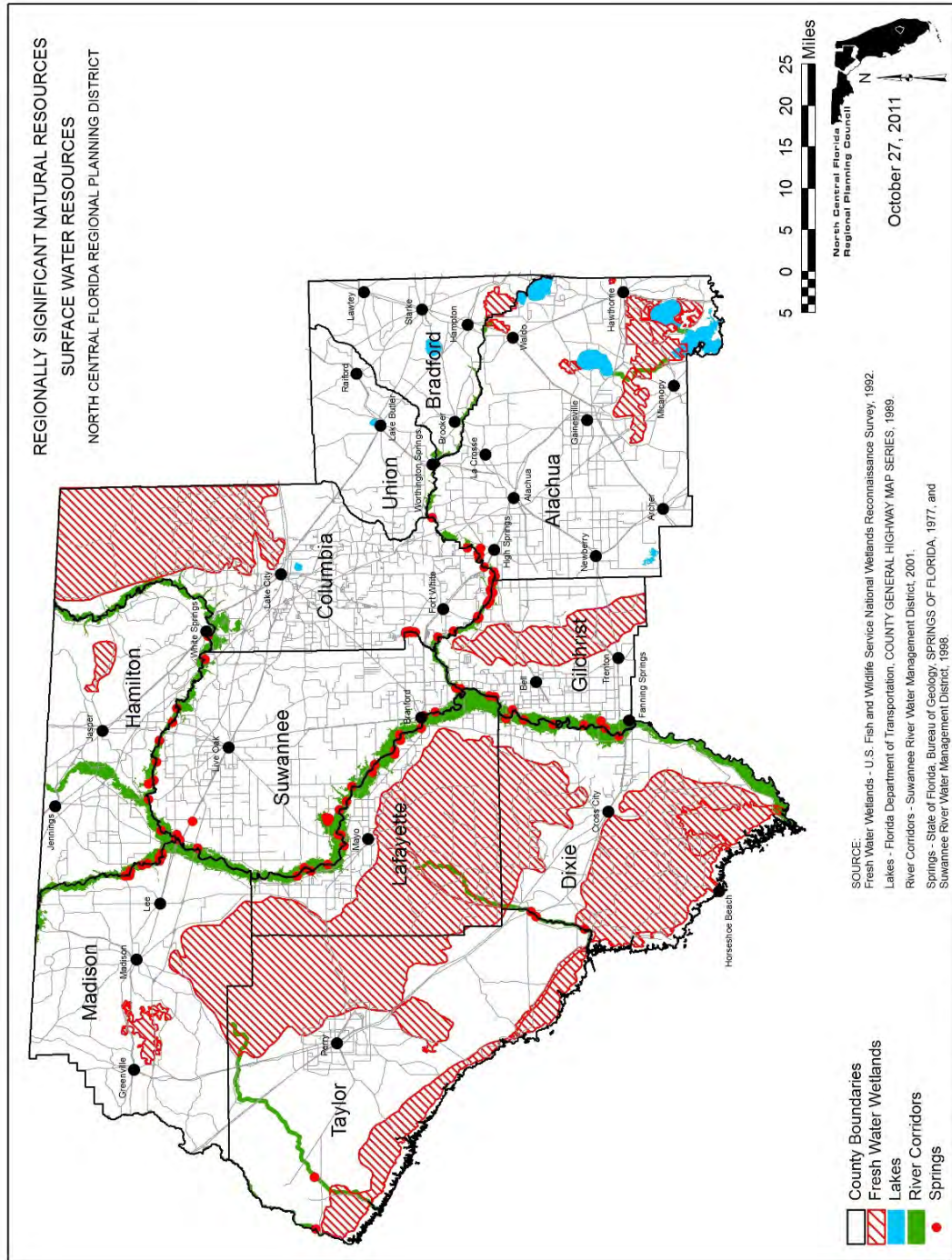
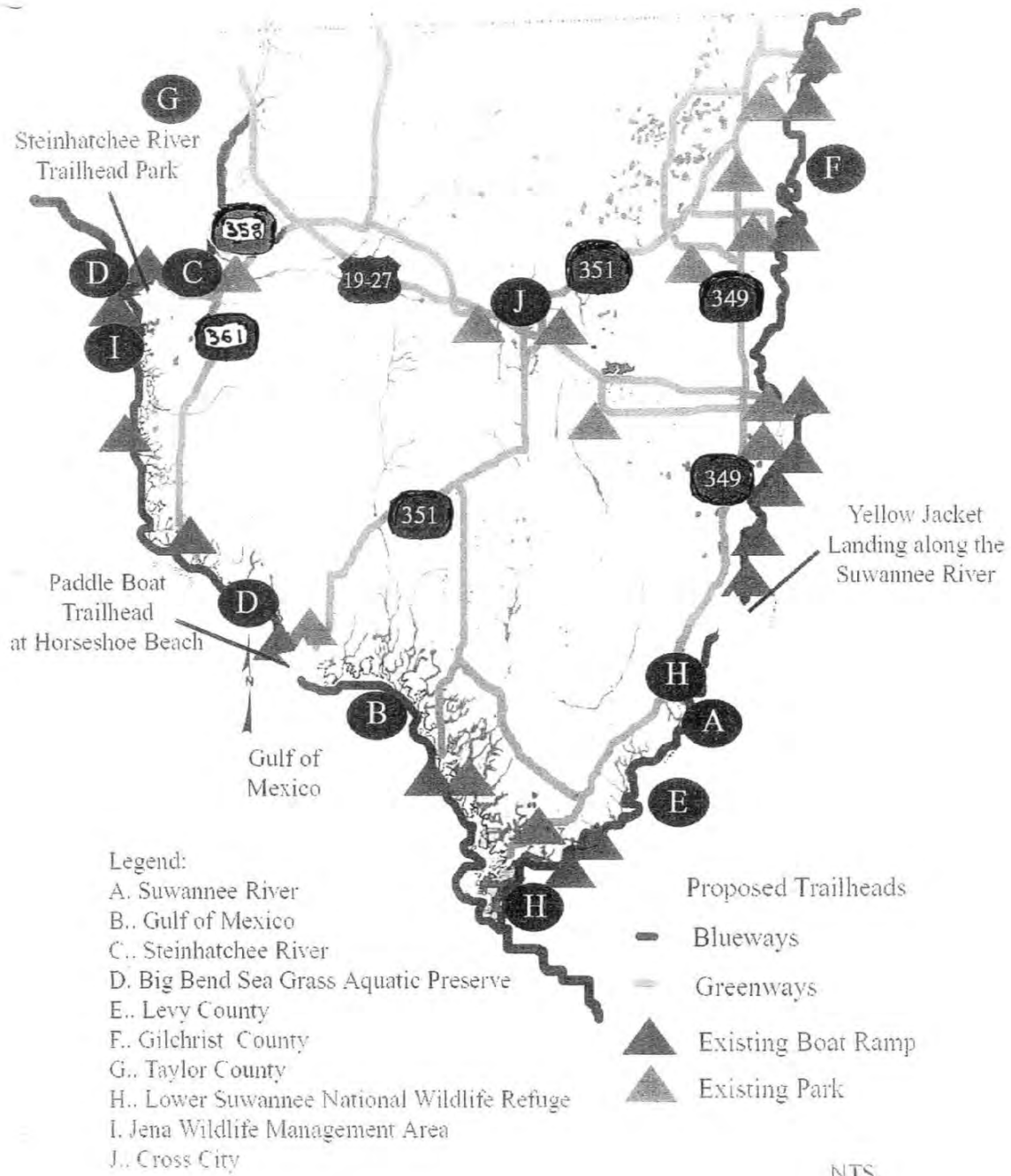


ILLUSTRATION A-XIII
MASTER GREENWAY TRAILS MAP



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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

STAFF

Scott R. Koons, AICP, Executive Director

Steven Dopp, Senior Planner

Sandra Joseph, Senior Planner

Carmelita Franco, Administrative Planning Assistant

ATTACHMENT 4

Committee Meeting Minutes & Sign-In Sheets



CMCPE Meeting #1

Owner/Client: Dixie County

Project Name: Coastal Management Comprehensive Plan Evaluation

Engineer: Locklear and Associates, Inc.

MEETING DATE: February 19, 2019

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

[illegible]

COMMUNITY MEETING NO. 1 Meeting Minutes February 19, 2019 @ 10:00 A.M.

OWNER/CLIENT:	Dixie County Board of County Commissioners
ENGINEER:	Locklear & Associates, Inc.
PROJECT NAME:	Florida Coastal Management Program Grant No. CM835

I. Meeting Minutes

Meeting Commenced at 10:03 AM

L&A began with an overview of the grant and current objectives to be achieved from these meetings.

Introductions of personnel present and background of the three coastal community representatives (Jena, Horseshoe Beach, Suwannee).

Peril of Flood Bill verbiage.

Reinforcement of our overall outcomes related to this project and a brief starting point for our planning meeting today.

Vulnerability Analysis Report was reviewed by L&A:

Questions pertaining to SLR maps and curves used for analysis.

Outstanding tasks presented for next meeting (March 19, 2019)

Jena: Highlight areas of flooding during daily storms, high tides, hurricanes.

Horseshoe Beach: Highlight areas of flooding during daily storms, high tides, hurricanes.

Suwannee: Highlight areas of flooding during daily storms, high tides, hurricanes.

Adjournment



CMCPE Meeting #2

Owner/Client: Dixie County

Project Name: Coastal Management Comprehensive Plan Evaluation

Engineer: Locklear and Associates, Inc.

MEETING DATE: March 19, 2019

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

[illegible]

COMMUNITY MEETING NO. 2 Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2019 @ 10:00 A.M.

OWNER/CLIENT:	Dixie County Board of County Commissioners
ENGINEER:	Locklear & Associates, Inc.
PROJECT NAME:	Florida Coastal Management Program Grant No. CM835

I. Meeting Minutes

Meeting Commenced at 10:01 AM

L&A began with an overview of the Peril of Flood Bill verbiage.

Reinforcement of our overall outcomes related to this project and a brief starting point for our planning meeting today.

Initial idea of adjusting roadways through the coastal communities and how increasing elevation would positively/negatively affect the community.

- Comments made about current ordinances in Horseshoe Beach that say people can't build up their lots as that would adversely affect the stormwater drainage of the surrounding parcels.
- Specification made on ordinance pertaining to the fill material of the lots and not the actual finish floor elevation of the structure.

Deliverables should include some type of governing entity that would control the measurement at which a high water level is referenced.

Initial idea pertaining to residential, there is no mechanism for people to "retreat with proximity". The residents have no room to pull back with the effects of sea level rise.

- Comments regarding possibly specifying inlaying verbiage about clarifying the "swapping" of parcels in the case of rising sea levels and the surrounding conservation lands around the communities.

Current Policy IX8.3

- Initial idea pointing out that the substantial improvements in the current Dixie County Comp Plan showed to be at 70% and it should be at 50% or lower.
- Dropping percentage would effectively require the homeowner to bring structure up to code, further reinforcing it against future impacts.

- Comment made regarding it would be hard to make that percentage higher in Dixie simply because of the income of people who live in these areas. Most can't afford to bring their whole house up to code.

Current Policy IX.6.2- Sea Level Rise could be added to this policy.

Initial idea that joining the CRS (Community Rating System) and keeping up with the active planning would be a great benefit to the insurance rates of coastal citizens and County infrastructure.

- Comments made about the tasks and requirements to become part of the CRS.
- Comment made that current building official has referenced looking into becoming a part of CRS already.
- FEMA controlled, worth further investigation
- Would require constant support and outreach to maintain
- CRS Coordinator's Manual version 2017 since Dixie County would be a new participant.

Topic change to the current status of potable water for the coastal communities.

- Comment made there has been little issues in regards to latest impacts at this point but as long as sea levels are rising, soon it will become an issue.
- Comment made that a future fix will be a central water source that pumps to the outlying coastal communities.

Topic change to the current status of sewer for the coastal communities.

With the low pressure sewer systems, it is going to be a bone of contention to get people to do the proper thing.

Sewer system as discussed:

- Horseshoe Beach community – Septic
- Suwannee – Online consisting of canisters with grinder pumps that all of the sewage is pumped to one location (lift station) and treated at facility NE of town.
 - o To update system and help prevent saltwater intrusion during events, a vent pipe would need to be installed on each canister. Vent pipe in shape of candy cane and riser pipe would be a selected length to extend above anticipated high water level.
- Jena – Majority septic, but those along river are now online through Big Bend Authority on the Taylor County side of the river.

Comment made regarding the current comprehensive plan mentioning removing septic systems from the communities.

L&A mentioned how salt tolerant landscaping wasn't mentioned in the comprehensive plan and how that was an option for regulation.

Suggestion to include a public outreach program to educate public on flooding hazards and impact to community. Site deliverable task discussion.

Adjournment