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## **Navigating the Stafford Act and the New FEMA Requirements for Mitigation Assistance**

Recovery  
begins  
before  
“Recovery”  
begins



# PLANS

Mitigation Plans

Recovery Plans

Comprehensive Plans

- ❑ **Help you gauge your risks**
- ❑ **Create relationships**
- ❑ **Detail protocols**
- ❑ **Serve as playbook for exercises**
- ❑ **Prepare your mind**
- ❑ **Steady you in crisis**

# Relationships

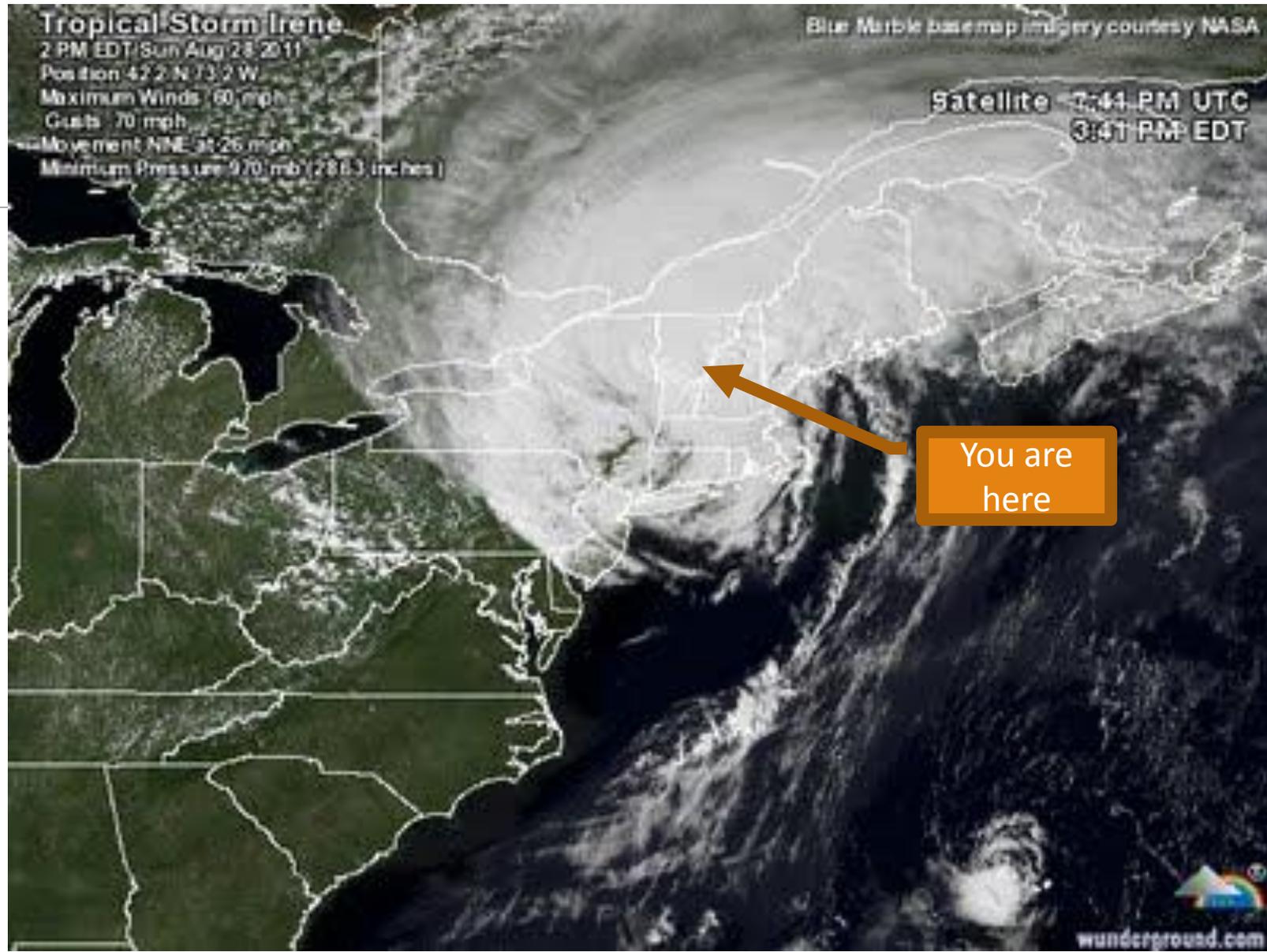
- ❑ **Speed recovery**
- ❑ **Create trust**
- ❑ **Help you get stuff**

# Prepare

- Your people**
- Your systems**
- Your equipment**
- Your mind**
- Your constituents**

# Practice

- **Take part in training and exercises**
- **Practice like you play**





# Buyouts – 3 years later



# FEMA PA Tips Learned the Hard Way at the Local Level

- ❑ **Practice proper procurement on a routine basis**
- ❑ **Document everything from the beginning of time (this creates habit and BCA material)**
- ❑ **Begin to do things the FEMA way from day one, not from the applicant's briefing**
- ❑ **Listen to the FEMA PA staff (other FEMA staff are nice, but not in charge)**
- ❑ **Seek 406 mitigation assistance on all projects**

# Make those temporary emergency repairs look like it

**Residents will be mad**

**FEMA will not be confused**

**The repair will clearly not look permanent**



# FEMA PA Tips Learned the Hard Way at the Local Level

- ❑ **Try to get projects completed while you have the same FEMA Staff**
- ❑ **Hire professional help to manage projects if that is not a usual local duty**
- ❑ **“Improved” and “alternate” projects are good to have pre-planned**
- ❑ **Try not to restupid.**

# When the water recedes, help your communities rebuild better through FEMA PA and beyond.

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Set the mental stage for more than re-stupiding through your mitigation plan and/or comprehensive plan

Update flood or other hazard regulations and sharpen your administrative skills

Write and Manage Grants: EDA, HUD-CDBG, HMGP, FMA, USACE, PDM-C, FMA, EPA, NRCS-EWP

*But you must start before the disaster. You can't just show up for the playoffs.*



# Why We Restupid ~~Resilience~~

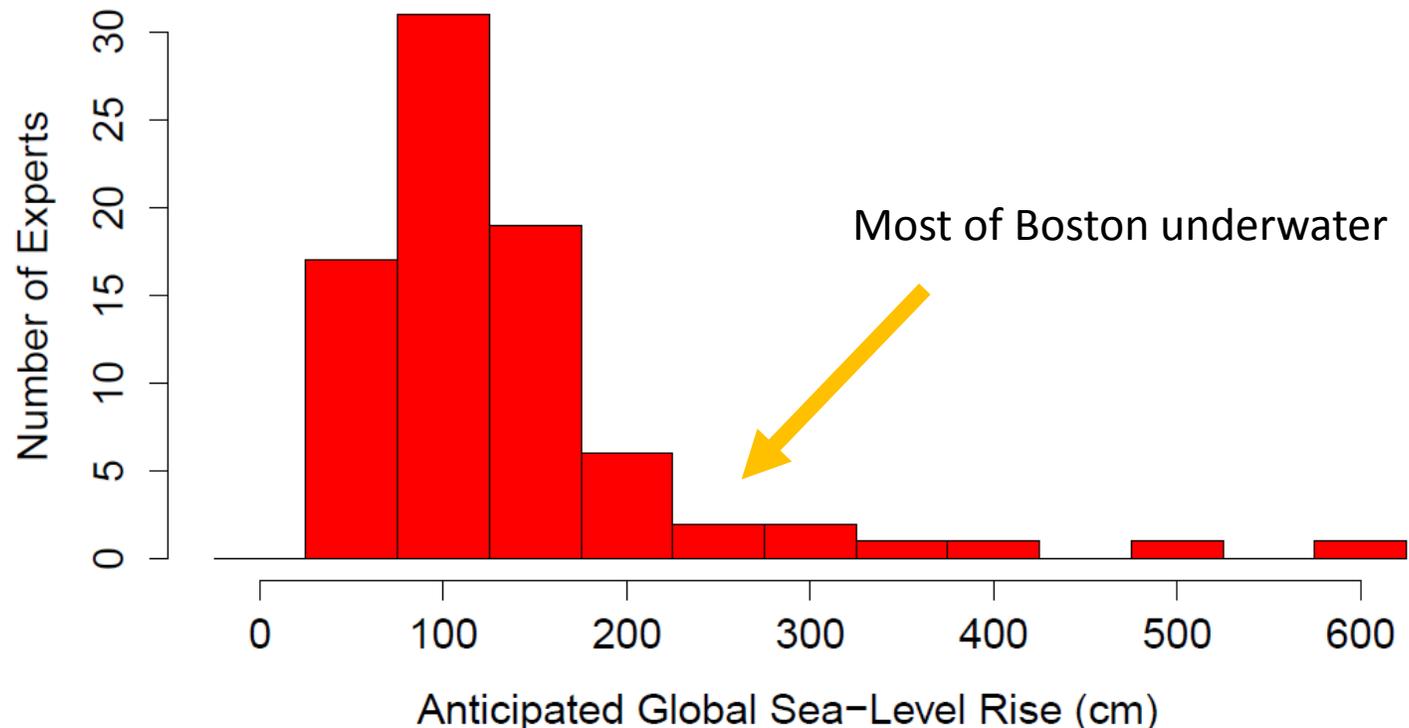
- ❑ **Desire to “return to normal” is extremely strong**
- ❑ **Loss of tax base if properties removed**
- ❑ **Paperwork is extensive**
- ❑ **Certainty of replacing the known is lost**
- ❑ **Delays are frowned upon by the public**
- ❑ **Money for smart projects may require multiple sources**
- ❑ **Designs are often not in place.**

## Some things that helped

- ❑ **Local banks**
- ❑ **Daily, then weekly, conference calls with state/towns**
- ❑ **State support to redirect existing funding**
- ❑ **CDBG-Disaster Recovery funding *eventually***
- ❑ **Significant FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding *eventually***
- ❑ **More post-disaster support for flood regulation**

# Sea level rise estimates for 2100 with “high” emissions

RCP8.5 2100AD



Expert assessment of sea-level rise by AD 2100 and AD 2300, *Quaternary Science Reviews*, Volume 84, 15 January 2014, Pages 1-6. Benjamin P. Horton, Stefan Rahmstorf, Simon E. Engelhart, Andrew C. Kemp