

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has received the subgrant application for the Washington County's Bridge 1 reconstruction due to damages in Hurricane Michael (DR-4399-FL PW 1146 PN 111303). Pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 44 CFR Part 9.12, final notice is hereby given of FEMA's intent to provide funding for this project under the Public Assistance (PA) Program.

An initial disaster-wide Public Notice was published October 30, 2018, for Hurricane Michael. Comments and other information received were fully evaluated by FEMA along with evaluation of social, economic, environmental, and safety considerations. This notice serves as a project-specific final notice for FEMA's funding action located within the floodplain.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

- Responsible Entity:** FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Program
- Applicant:** Washington County
- Project Title(s):** PA-04-FL-4399-PW-01146 PN 111303; Bridge 1
- Location of Proposed Work:** 1130 Bush Road, Chipley, Florida (GPS Coordinates: 30.69670, -85.53406)
- Floodplain:** Project is located an AE Zone, otherwise known as the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) with a 1% annual chance for flooding up to the base flood elevation, per Washington County FIRM Panel #12133C0185 D dated 07/04/2011. The project is also located in a wetland classification PFO6/4C (Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland) as mapped by the National Wetlands Inventory, dated 04/26/2022.
- Proposed Work and Purpose:** Washington County plans to remove a 16-foot by 80-foot timber bridge and replace it with a 36-foot by 100-foot concrete deck and steel girder simple span bridge. Rip rap will be placed on new abutments and wing walls for slope protection, and the concrete abutment will be set back approximately 10 feet from the original bridge location. Mitigation will be achieved through upgrades to current codes and standards.
- Project Alternatives:** The alternative that has considered is the No Action Alternative. This alternative is not feasible as the area would remain vulnerable to flood risk taking no action would likely adversely affect the community. With the no action alternative, the ingress and egress route for the community during flooding events would not be accessible and may negatively impact the community as the bridge is an essential component of the transportation system in the local area. Alternate locations were not considered as the bridge is functionally dependent in its location within the floodplain and wetland and provides safe access to the adjacent community.
- Comments:** This will serve as the final public notice regarding the above-described action funded by the FEMA PA program. Interested persons may submit comments, questions, or request a map of this specific project by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 4, 3005 Chamblee-Tucker Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30341 or by emailing FEMA-R4EHP-FLORIDA@fema.dhs.gov. Comments should be sent in writing with the subject line, "Public Comment for DR-4399-FL PW 01146, Washington County" at the above address within 15 days of the date of this notice.