FEMA Region 4 GIS Resource Center

State Government Users and Federal Interagency Committees Joint Meeting

February 2025

Keiyonna Lighten-Solomon, Emergency Management Specialist (Geospatial)

GIS Resource Centers Mission

Mission Statement:

To provide comprehensive geospatial support and expertise in emergency management, enhancing preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts across FEMA Region 4.

Services We Provide:

❏ GIS Coordination during Disaster Response Operations
❏ Data Modeling and Analysis
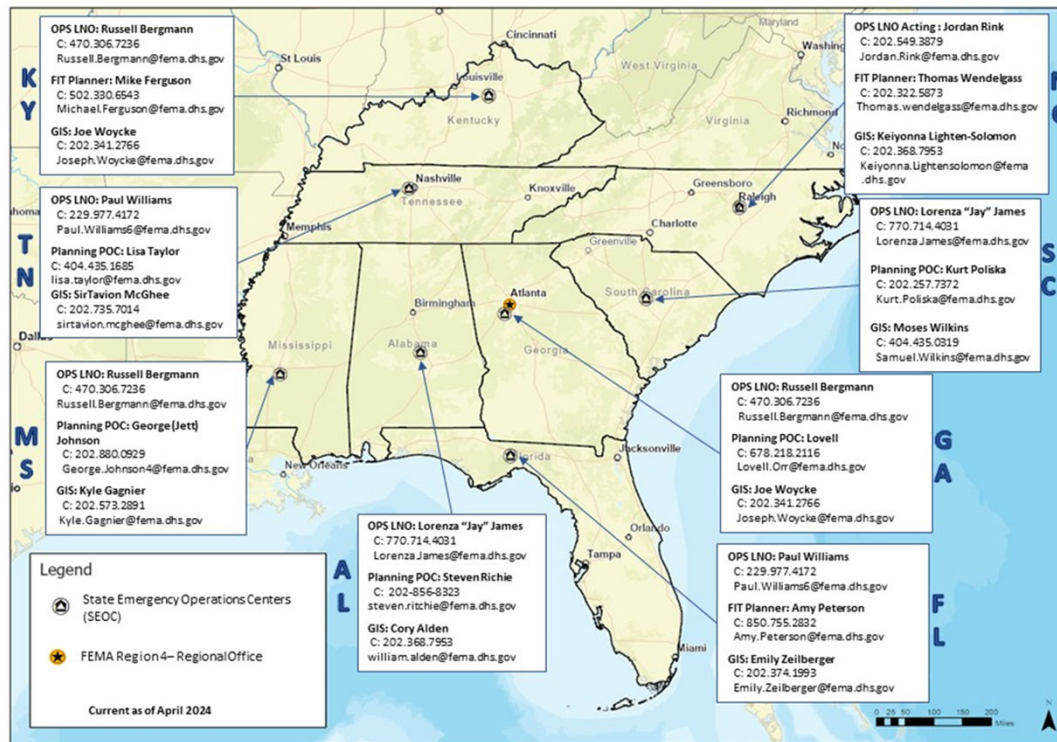❏ Remote Sensing and Imagery Collection

Key Stakeholders:

❏ Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC)
❏ Watch Unit & Threat Analysis Unit
❏ Response Operational Planning
❏ IMAT and FIT Teams
❏ Recovery Disaster Declaration Unit
❏ State, County, Local, and Tribal GIS Managers
❏ Federal Partner Agencies

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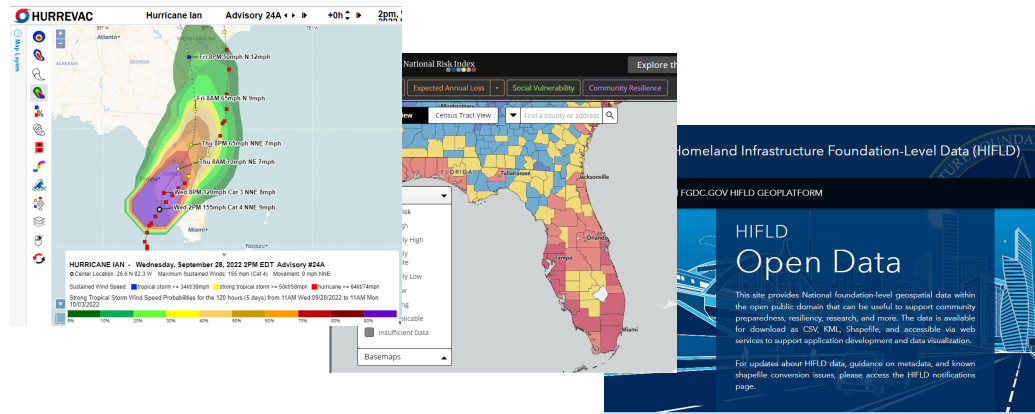# GIS State Assignments

OPS, Planning, and GIS State Assignments

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Legend

⌂ State Emergency Operations Centers (SEOC)

★ FEMA Region 4 – Regional Office

Current as of April 2024

Key Datasets We Utilize ?

Primary Data Sources:

☐ American Community Survey (ACS)

☐ [FEMA Community Resilience Challenges Index](#)

☐ Homeland Infrastructure Foundation Level Data (HIFLD)

☐ [National Risk Index](#) (NRI)

☐ USA Structures

Collaboration with Partner Agencies:

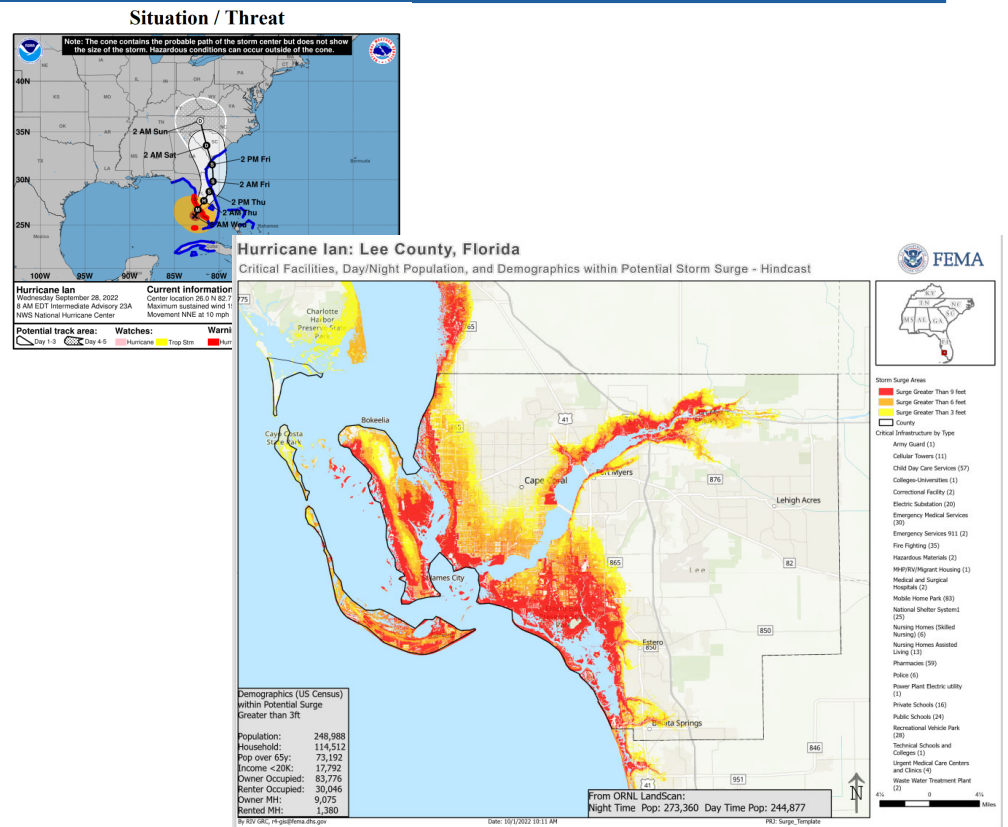☐ Sharing insights and datasets to enhance decision-making.

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Leveraging the Data

Key Benefits to Emergency Managers:

❑ Identify areas where vulnerable populations are most at risk.

❑ Assess potential impacts on community lifelines.

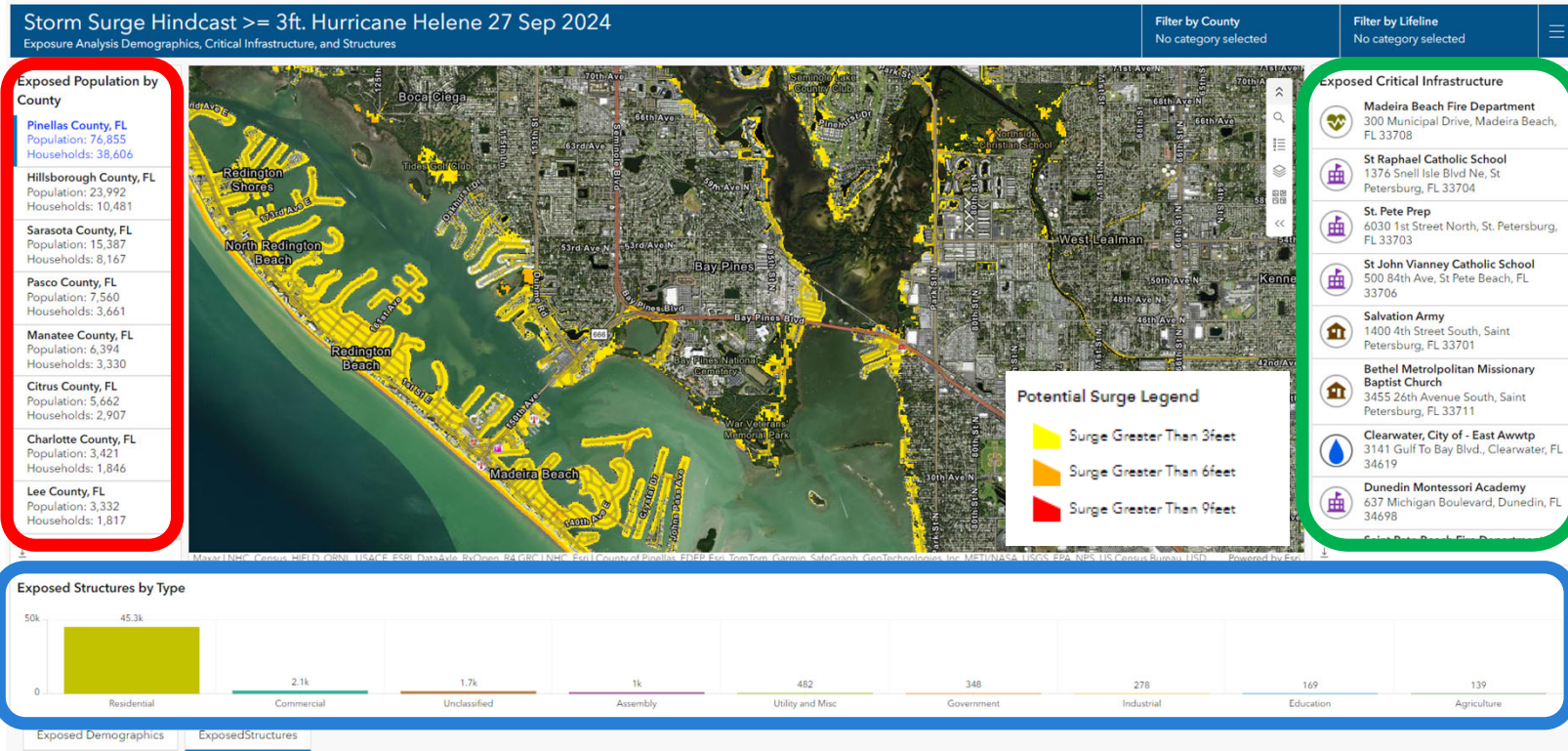❑ Prioritize disaster response and recovery operations effectively.

Outcome:

Emergency Managers are equipped to allocate resources promptly and strategically.

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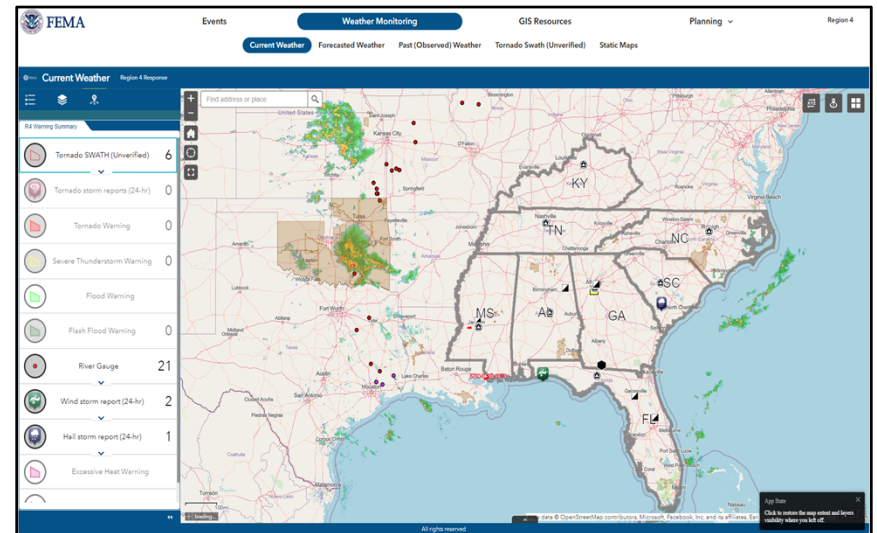# Analysis Example: Hurricane Storm Surge Model (NHC)

How We Share Information

Communication and Tools:

☐ WebEOC (Official Database of Record)

    ❑ Static GIS can be found in geospatial library

☐ GIS Coordination Calls – SLTT partners

    ❑ Hosted daily, during RRCC activation

☐ State GIS Liaisons and FIT Planners

☐ ArcGIS Online Web Application: Region 4 Situational Awareness Journal

Situational Awareness Journal

Incident Data

- Storm Surge, Inundation, Wind models based on major advisories
- US&R
- Damage assessment data (multi-agency)
- Remote Sensing
- Recovery (PDAs)
- Data from States
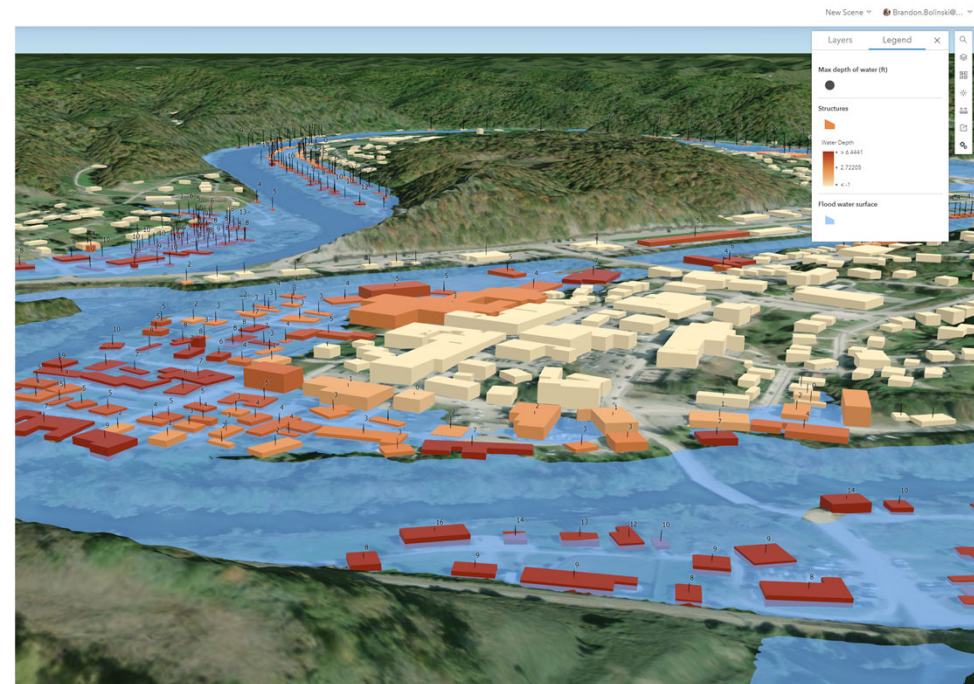- Static products (Force Laydown, Dec Map)

Steady State

- ❑ RAPT Tool
- ❑ Planning Tools
- ❑ NWS Watches/Warnings
- ❑ Radar

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Areas of Success

- Assisted in informing Field (IMAT), Regional and HQ Leadership on the potential **scope of impacts** in areas that little to no information was coming out of due to disrupted communications and physical damage.

- Provided modeled impact data (**damage, demographic and socioeconomic**) to the Declarations Unit to assist in proceeding State DR request.

- Ability to track the progress of US&R, DSA and Joint PDA efforts

- Provided Logistics with **population estimates** which allowed formulation of commodity requirements in anticipation of request(s) from States

- Informed both the Mass Care and Individual Assistance programs on areas that were projected to have receive the **greatest extent of damage and 'pockets of need'** that may be isolated due to flooding/damaged infrastructure.

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How to Reach Us

Contact Information:

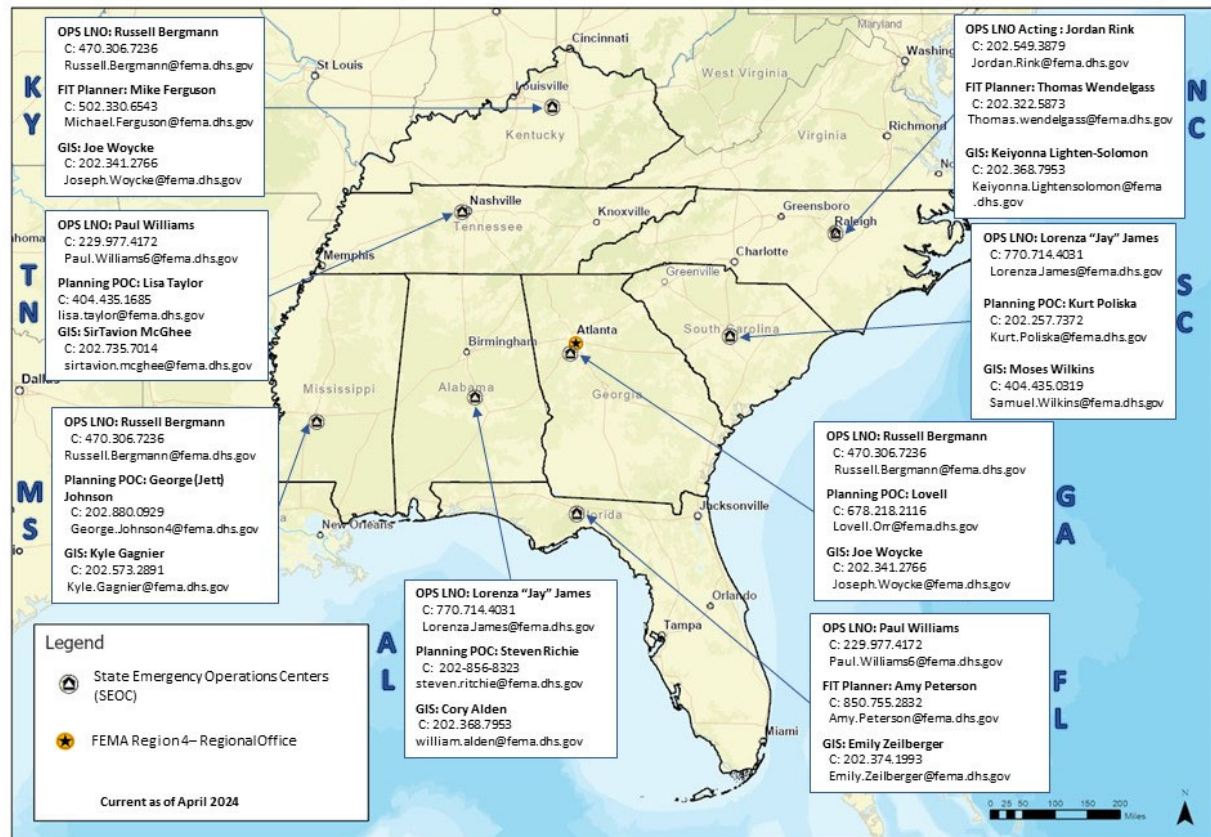- **Email:** r4-gis@fema.dhs.gov

Collaborating on ArcGIS Online:

- Join Our Partner Collaboration Group:
  FEMA R4 State Partners – Overview

1. Contact us using your official organization email.

2. Work through your State Emergency Management office for coordination.

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Legend

State Emergency Operations Centers (SEOC)

FEMA Region 4– RegionalOffice

Current as of April 2024

Additional FEMA Resources

- Community Resilience Challenges Index

  - Documentation: CRIA Methodology_2022

  - Data: FEMA Community Resilience Challenges Index (CRCI) Counties – Overview ; FEMA Community Resilience Challenges Index (CRCI) Census Tracts - Overview

- National Risk Index

  - Documentation: National Risk Index Technical Documentation

  - Data: National Risk Index | FEMA.gov

- Resilience Analysis Planning Tool

  - Documentation: RAPT

  - Data: Future Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool (RAPT) - PRODUCTION

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