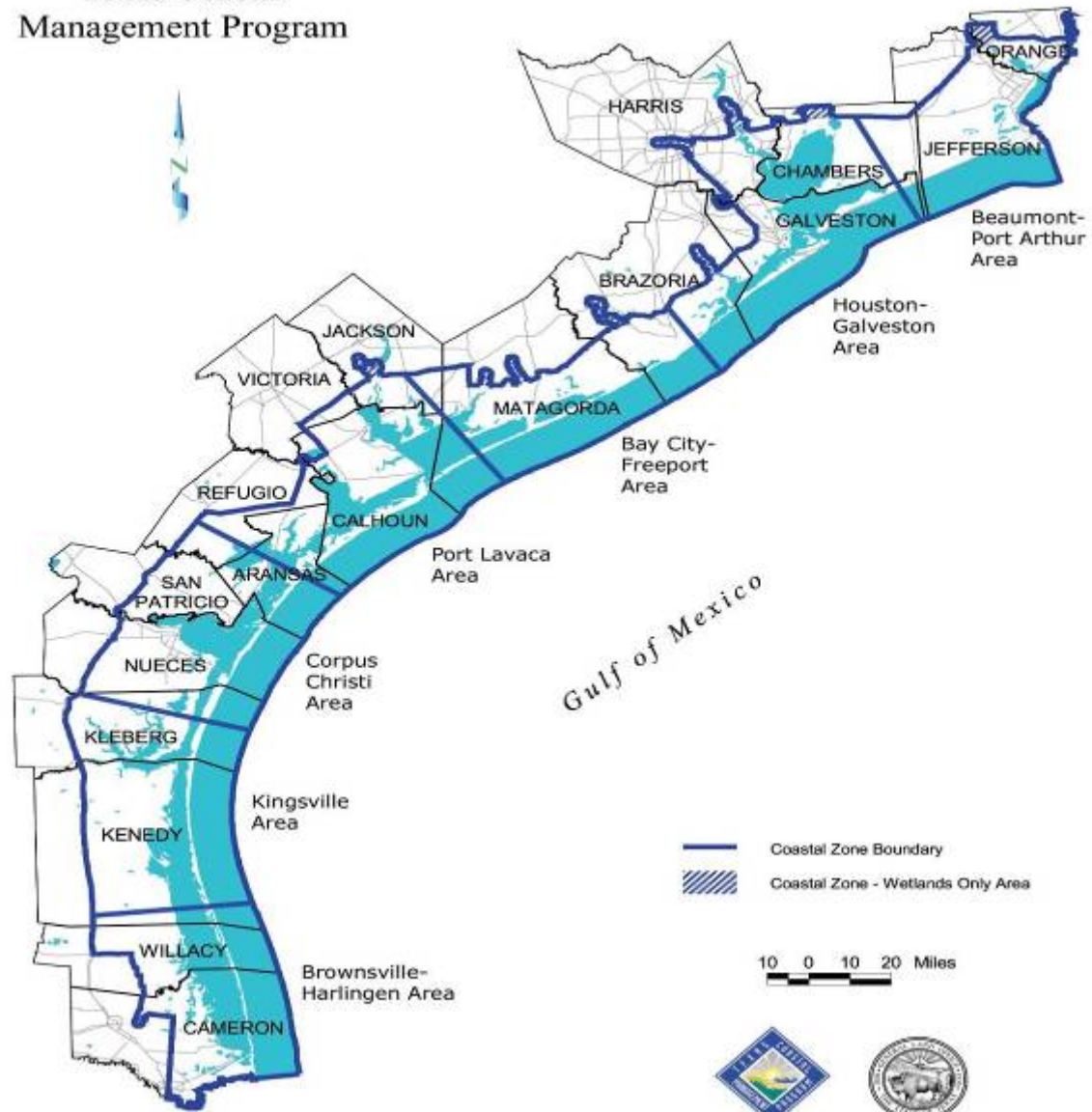


Hazard Mitigation Program

Jim Weatherford, P.G., CFM
Texas General Land Office
Coastal Resources



Texas Coastal Management Program



Program Initiatives and Achievements

- Improve coordination and communication between coastal communities and DEM, NFIP, Texas Coastal Management Program, Regional Council of Governments.**
- Improved the Texas General Land Office's section of the standard State Mitigation Plan.**
- Coordinating with DEM with the development of a State Enhanced Mitigation Plan.**



Local Coordination

Assist in establishing hazard mitigation work groups.

- **Matagorda County Coastal Advisory Committee.**
- **Brazoria County Beach/Dune Task Force.**
- **Regional Committee with Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.**



Benefits of a Team Approach

- Brings more resources to bear on the problem.
- Brings more information to the table, resulting in better decisions.
- Team members are more committed to a product they had a hand in producing.
- Facilitates mutual support for implementation.
- Citizens have input and visibility, can see the efforts of their elected officials.



Mitigation Action Plans (MAP)

- **Required by DMA2K to be eligible for PDM and HMGP.**
 - **FEMA guidance released February 26, 2002**
 - **Must have an approved plan by November 1, 2003.**
- **Council of Governments (COG) secured HMGP funding from Tropical Storm Allison Disaster.**
- **Contractor hired to develop MAP with limited local participation.**
- **All MAPs in Texas managed through the Governor's Division of Emergency Management under the Texas Department of Public Safety.**



Local Mitigation Action Plans

Identified Issues:

- **Plans are large (1000+ pages) and difficult to read.**
- **Mitigation strategies reflect participants.**
- **Mitigation actions do not fully reflect identified risks and vulnerabilities.**
- **Mitigation actions focus more on response, and less on preparedness.**

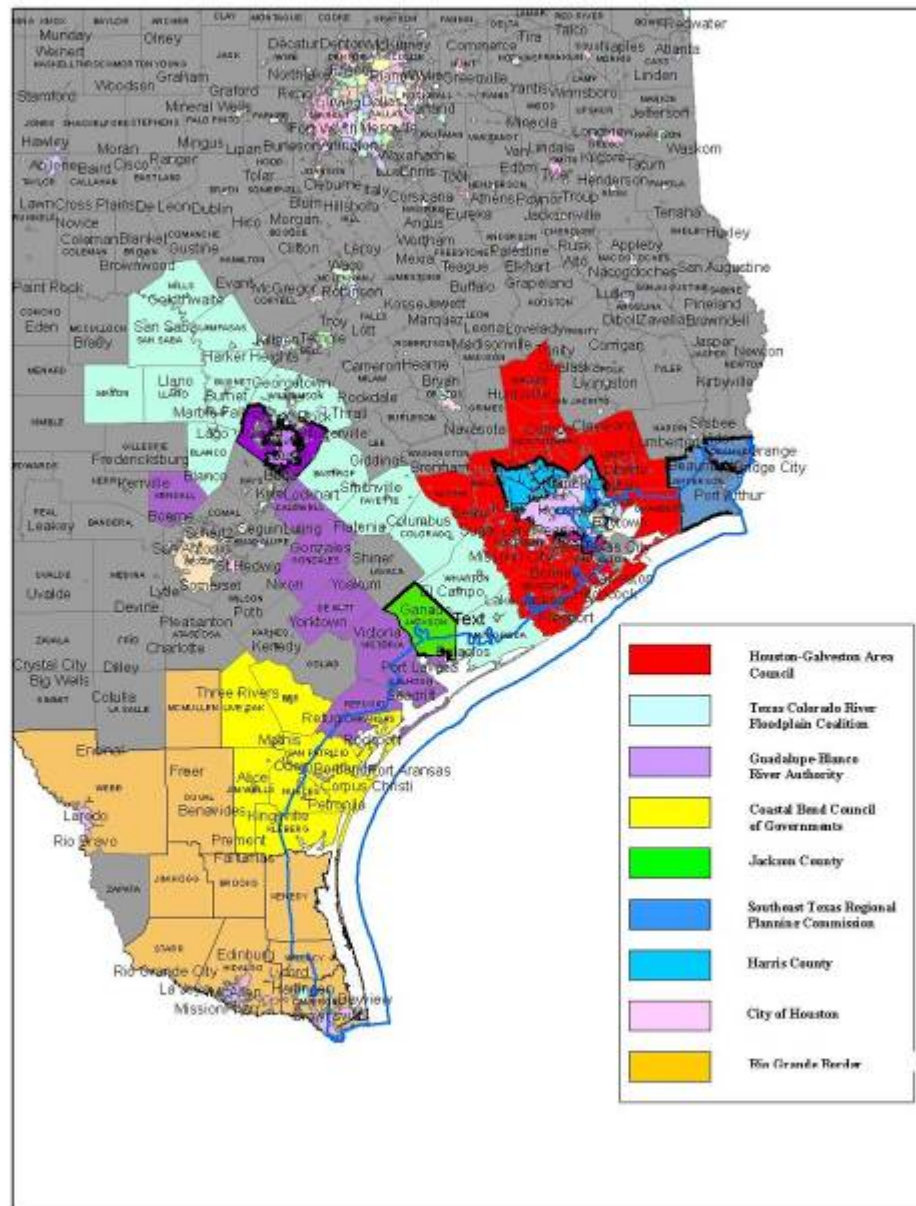


Mitigation Action Plans (MAP)

Some local concerns:

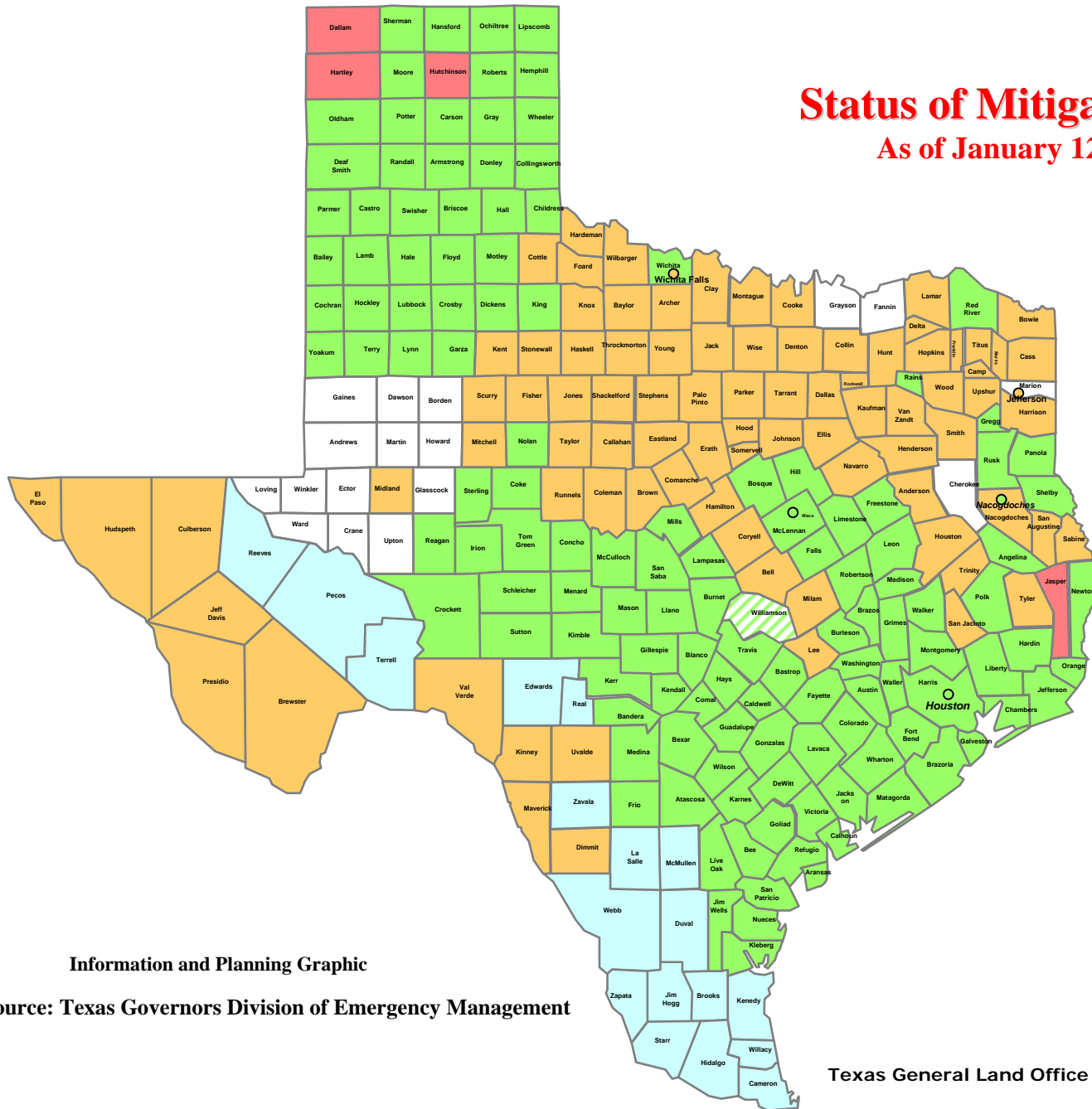
- **Weak guidance, at the time, on how to develop the MAPs.**
- **Short time period for plan development.**
- **Lack of local participation or involvement in plan development.**
- **Plans being tailored to disasters.**
- **Most coastal communities are part of large COG.**










Status of Mitigation Plans

As of January 12, 2007



-  FEMA approved plans by County (may also include local jurisdictions).
-  FEMA approved plan for unincorporated areas only.
-  Plan adopted by most local jurisdictions. Awaiting FEMA approval.
-  Draft plan submitted to GDEM or FEMA.
-  Draft plan not yet submitted to GDEM.

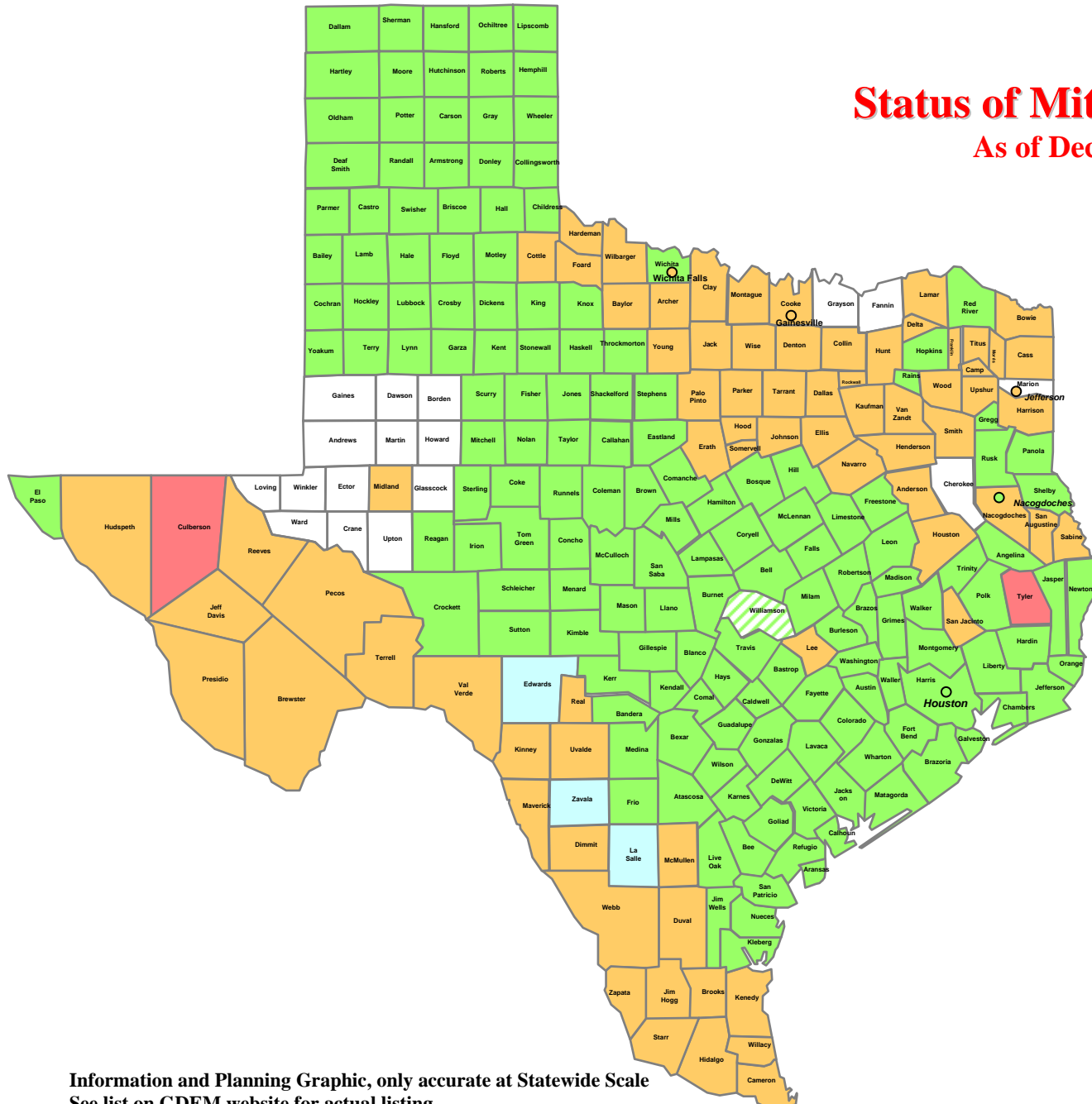
Information and Planning Graphic







Source: Texas Governors Division of Emergency Management



Status of Mitigation Plans

As of December 10, 2007



-  FEMA approved plans by County (may also include local jurisdictions).
-  FEMA approved plan for unincorporated areas only.
-  Content approved by FEMA. In the adoption process.
-  Draft plan submitted to GDEM or FEMA.
-  Draft plan not yet submitted to GDEM.
-  No Mitigation Action Plan.

Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM)
 Jack Colley – Division Chief
 Administration
 Russ Lecklider – State Coordinator
 Mitigation Section
 Greg Pekar – Administrator
 David Lerner – Planning Officer
 Shannon Smalls – Planning Officer
 Thomas A. Le Blanc – Mitigation Program Specialist/GIS Support

Information and Planning Graphic, only accurate at Statewide Scale
 See list on GDEM website for actual listing.

MAP Renewal Dates:

- **City of Friendswood: 9-24-2008**
- **Jackson County: 7-13-2009**
- **Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition: 7-14-2009**
- **Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority: 1-20-2010**
- **League City: 1-28-2010**
- **Harris County: 4-27-2010**
- **Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission: 3-24-2011**
- **Houston-Galveston Area Council: 4-10-2011**
- **Coastal Bend Council of Governments: 10-2-2011**
- **City of Houston: 12-13-2011**



Local Mitigation Plan Evaluation

**Conducted by the Texas A&M University
Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center**

- **Three Components:**
 - **Factual Bases**
 - **Goals and Objectives**
 - **Policies, tools and strategies**



Mitigation Action Plan Protocols

- **Plan Contents**
 - **Vision Statement**
 - **Fact Basis**
 - **Goals and Objectives**
 - **Inter-organization, coordination, and capabilities**
 - **Mitigation policies and actions**
 - **Implementation**
- **Plan Appearance**
 - **Usability**
 - **Clarity**
 - **Accessibility**





Questions?

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