

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESILIENCY**  
**Senator Albritton, Chair**  
**Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Wednesday, January 4, 2023  
**TIME:** 4:30—5:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** *Pat Thomas Committee Room, 412 Knott Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Albritton, Chair; Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair; Senators Avila, Berman, Bradley, Calatayud, Collins, Davis, Grall, Gruters, Harrell, Ingoglia, Martin, Polsky, Powell, Stewart, Thompson, Trumbull, and Wright

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TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Presentation by Kevin Guthrie, Director of Florida Division of Emergency Management		Presented
2	Presentation by Wesley Brooks, Florida's Chief Resiliency Officer		Presented
Other Related Meeting Documents			

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# Florida Division of Emergency Management

*Update on 2022 Hurricane Recovery & Improving Florida's  
Resiliency for Future Disasters*

Kevin Guthrie, Director



# Current Recovery Operations

- The State Emergency Response Team has been **activated for 103 days in response to Hurricanes Ian and Nicole, completing over 7,000 mission requests with 598 active missions today.**
- **Seven days post-landfall**, the Pine Island Bridge was open to the public. **Two weeks later**, the Florida Department of Transportation completed repairs on the Sanibel Island Causeway (21-days post landfall).
- There are currently **31 open major disasters** within the Division, including the following from 2022:
  - Hurricane Nicole
  - Hurricane Ian
  - Chipola Fire Complex
- The Division has distributed more than **\$7.8 billion in critical disaster funding** during Governor DeSantis' first term in office – the most the Division has ever paid out within this time period.



# Hurricane Ian Recovery

- To assist with resuming normal government functions, the Division has established alternate **temporary sites** for damaged public buildings, including tents, trailers, and the accompanying wraparound services.
- The Division is also actively providing **generators** and additional support **services** for critical infrastructure such as fire stations, water and wastewater treatment plants, lift stations, police stations, and other government buildings to ensure the continuity of operations.
- The Division is supporting **debris removal** efforts in multiple impacted counties including vegetative debris; construction and demolition debris; derelict vessels; and private property debris removal.
- In November, Governor DeSantis announced the launch of the Unite Florida Recovery Portal to connect Floridians impacted by Hurricane Ian to important recovery resources, including **Florida's first-ever state-led sheltering and housing program**.



# Hurricane Ian Recovery

## FEMA REIMBURSEMENT

**\$511.9 M** OBLIGATED  
**\$1.56 B** IN DEVELOPMENT

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

**\$415 M** APPROVED FOR EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE COSTS

## DOLLARS DISBURSED

**\$833.1 M** IN INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

↳ **\$507 M** IN HOUSING ASSISTANCE

↳ **\$326.1 M** IN OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE

**\$115.4 M** IN RENTAL ASSISTANCE

## DEBRIS REMOVAL

**33,553,590 YD<sup>3</sup>** ESTIMATED VEGETATIVE &  
CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS

**28,909,549 YD<sup>3</sup>** PICKED UP VEGETATIVE &  
CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS

Since October 25<sup>th</sup>, haulers and  
monitors contracted through FDEM  
have removed debris from

**1,533** COMMERCIAL & PRIVATE PARCELS

**109,921 YD<sup>3</sup>** WET DEBRIS REMOVED

**4,126** VEHICLES &  
VESSELS REMOVED

## HOUSING/SHELTERING

FEMA's **Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) Program** is available to applicants who are unable to return to their pre-disaster primary residence because their home is either uninhabitable or inaccessible.

**4,333** HOUSEHOLDS USED TSA

**160,363** HOTEL NIGHT STAYS

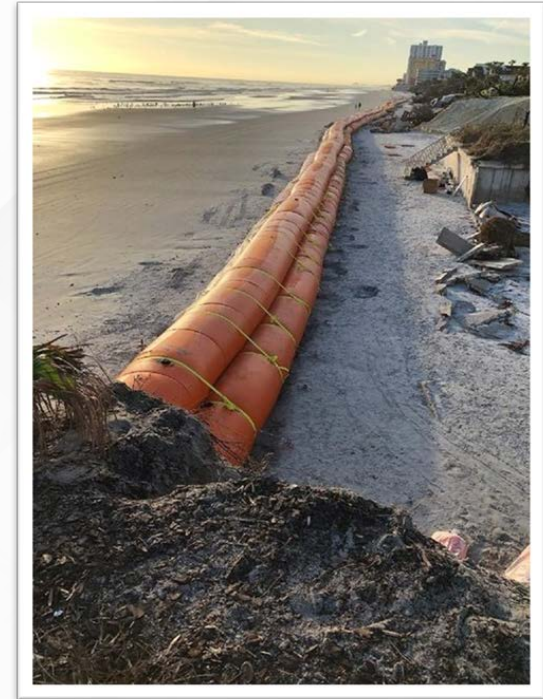
 **UNITE Florida**

**6,657** APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED



# Hurricane Nicole Recovery

- Hurricane Nicole made landfall on November 10<sup>th</sup> just south of Vero Beach as a Category 1 storm. Nicole was a very large system with a windfield that extended almost 450 miles wide (over 200 miles larger than Hurricane Ian).
- Strong swells in combination with astronomical high tide caused devastating storm surge and coastal flooding along the East-Central Florida Coast, and surge impacts were most notable along Volusia County where these communities were still extremely vulnerable from Ian.
- The Division continues to explore and support the installation of **Tiger Dams to support storm surge and riverine flooding** concerns.
  - **Over 3,000 feet** of tiger dams have been installed in and around Daytona Shores.
- Tiger Dams allow residents more time to complete permanent repairs without worrying about continued damage to their homes.





# Regulatory Barriers

- **Debris** – A uniform process to ensure appropriate entities are held accountable for debris removal under their jurisdictions.
- **Derelict Vessels** – *S. 327.4107, F.S.*
  - There is currently a 45-day grace period (*S. 823.11(2)(b)2.b., F.S.*) for owners to bring derelict vessels into compliance. Tightening time frames for this program following a disaster may result in a higher reimbursement for the state and more rapid removal of vessels causing immediate damage to state waters.
- **Housing** –
  - Local permitting and zoning slowed down the placement of travel trailers. A uniform, state-wide mechanism for waiving or expediting the permitting process for units would allow for faster placements.
  - State and local flood zone considerations – certain temporary trailer placements are prohibited by state law and/or local ordinance due to being in a federal flood zone.



# Regulatory Barriers

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund** – *S. 252.3711, F.S.*
  - Additional clarity and/or expansion of the use of the preparedness and response fund for individual assistance. The fund currently does not have language authorizing the use of funds for recovery-related IA programs. Current statute does not align with the real-time practice in expense and obligation of funds during emergencies. Other states have state-run Individual Assistance type funds that fill in gaps where FEMA IA does not.
- **Warrant Payment Late Fees** – *S. 215.422 (3)b., F.S.*
  - Removing late fees to protect the Division from incurring interest liabilities during a State of Emergency.
- **Protecting Disaster Survivors** – *Chapter 119, F.S.*
  - Creating an exemption from public record requirements for the personal information of a victim of an emergency or disaster.



# Thank You



## For Additional Questions:

**Kendall Kelley**

Phone: 850-591-4813

Email: [Kendall.Kelley@em.myflorida.com](mailto:Kendall.Kelley@em.myflorida.com)



# Florida Resilience Review 2022

Wesley R. Brooks, Ph.D.  
Chief Resilience Officer

Presentation for the Senate Select Committee on Resiliency  
January 4, 2023

# Building a Foundation for Resilience



- 2019: Governor DeSantis created the Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) position within EOG
- 2021: Resilient Florida framework established in law (*F.S. 380.093*)
- 2022: Statewide Office of Resilience and CRO codified (*F.S. 14.2031*)



# Building a Foundation for Resilience





# Supporting Local Communities

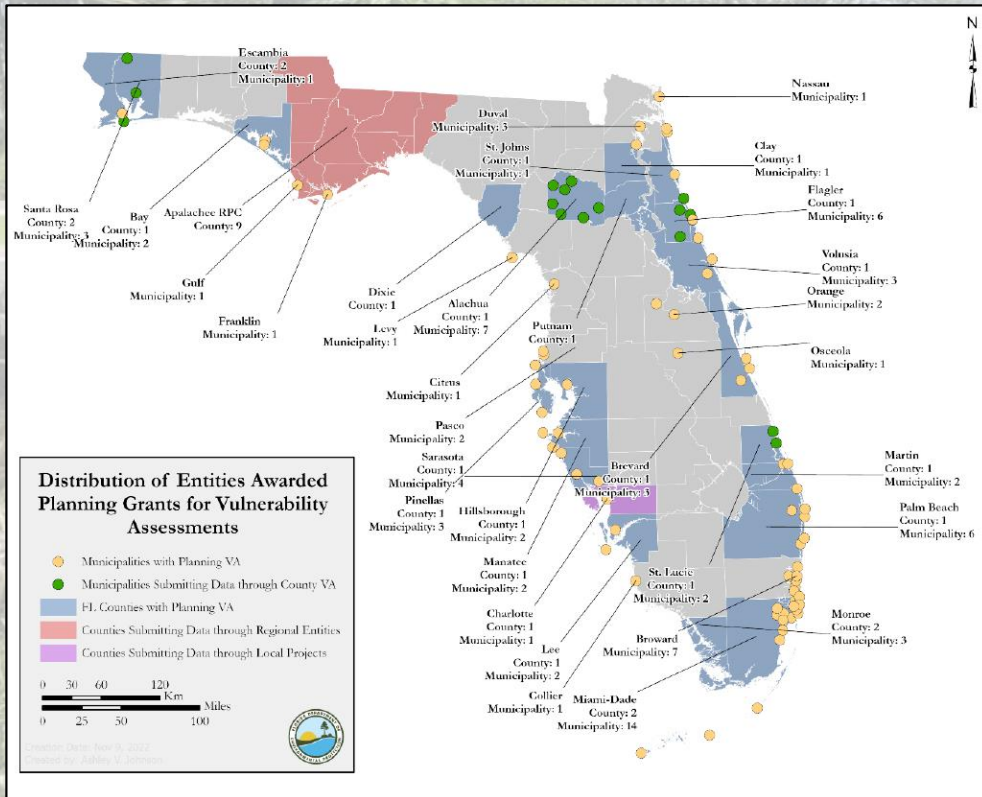
- CRO Regional Resilience Tours
- Resilient Florida framework:
  - Planning grants
  - Statewide Dataset and Assessment
  - Adaptation grants
  - Regional Resilience Entity grants
  - Florida Flood Hub



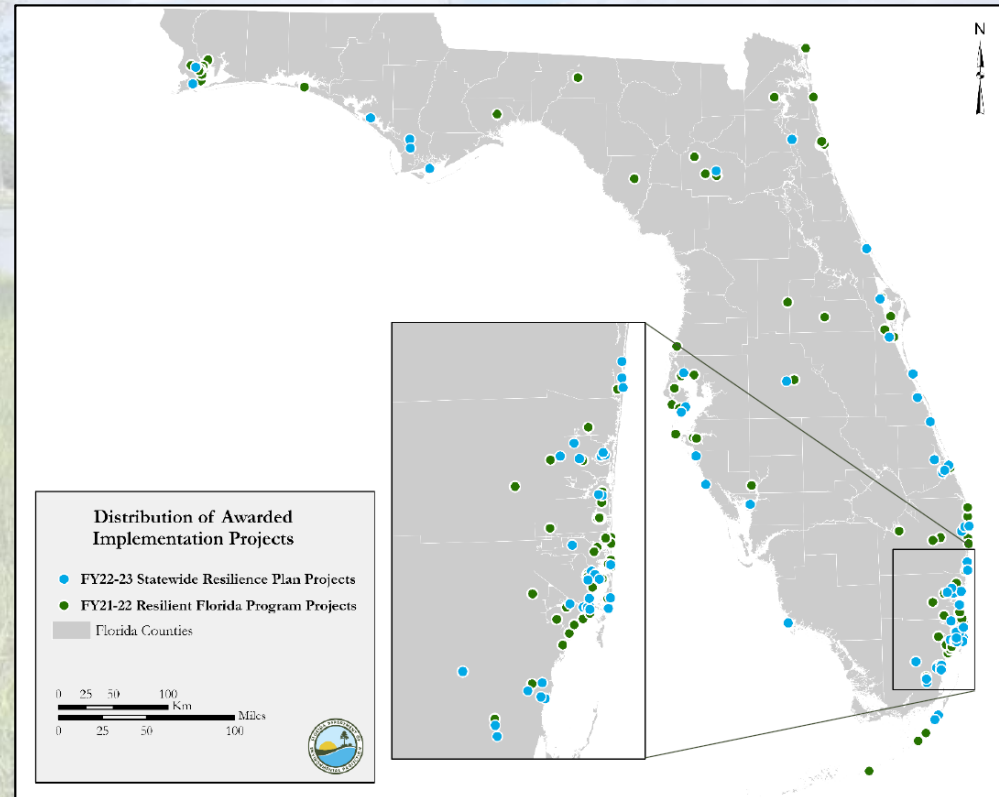
# Supporting Local Communities



## Planning Grants



## Adaptation Grants





# Supporting Local Communities

- Ecosystem restoration and natural infrastructure
- Capitalizing on collaboration to secure opportunities that yield long-term economic benefits





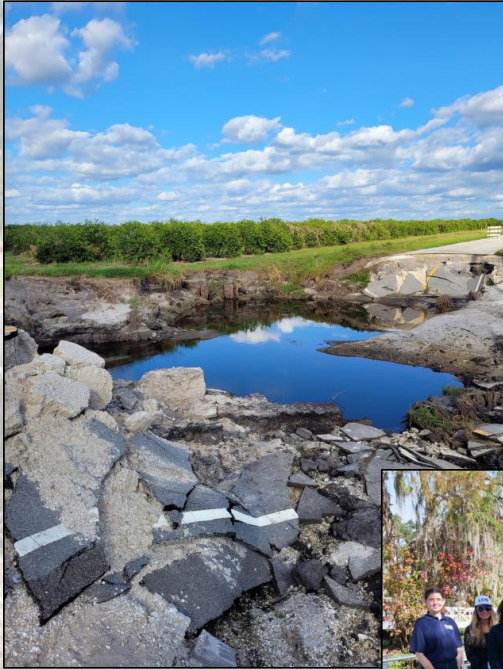
# Supporting Local Communities

- Ecosystem restoration and natural infrastructure
- Capitalizing on collaboration to secure opportunities that yield long-term economic benefits

*Flood mitigation and resilience activities are a means to improve quality of life for Floridians through expanded economic opportunity and enhanced environmental vitality!*



# Promoting a Resilient Recovery Hurricanes Ian & Nicole









# Promoting a Resilient Recovery Hurricanes Ian & Nicole – Initial Observations

- Flooding was largely restricted to recognized floodplain areas
- Natural infrastructure provided real flood mitigation benefits
- Public infrastructure failures were not always *engineering* failures
- Economic damages are largely explained by land use, development, and population growth patterns
- Structural impacts appear to correlate strongly with year built



# Promoting a Resilient Recovery Hurricanes Ian & Nicole – Considerations for Policymakers



- A policy goal of *eliminating* flood risk is neither practical nor economically feasible
- Significant opportunities remain to improve floodplain function and stormwater management across the state (*often provide water quality benefits too!*)
- Preserving natural and working landscapes is a critical insurance policy for future growth and potential climate impacts



# Promoting a Resilient Recovery Hurricanes Ian & Nicole – Considerations for Policymakers



- Adaptation efforts are expensive in raw dollar terms, but can more than pay for themselves if planned and executed correctly
- Florida's new, coordinated approach to supporting local communities in reducing flood vulnerability and enhancing resilience is critical to generating and preserving the economic activity and wealth necessary to weather and adapt to future risks
- Many areas of the state would benefit from watershed or basin-level flooding assessments and high-resolution modeling



Thank you for your ongoing support to enable all of Florida's inland and coastal communities to secure more resilient—and prosperous—futures.





## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**SENATOR JOE GRUTERS**

22nd District

**COMMITTEES:**

Regulated Industries, *Chair*  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Committee on Agriculture,  
Environment, and General Government  
Appropriations Committee on Health  
and Human Services  
Commerce and Tourism  
Community Affairs  
Transportation

**SELECT COMMITTEE:**

Select Committee on Resiliency

**JOINT COMMITTEE:**

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight,  
*Alternating Chair*

January 3, 2023

Chair Albritton,

Senator Gruters requests an excused absence for the Select Committee on Resiliency Meeting on 1/04/2023 beginning at 4:30PM.

Please let me know if there are any conflicts resulting in this request.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Gruters".

**REPLY TO:**

- 381 Interstate Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida 34240 (941) 378-6309
- 316 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5022

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO**  
President of the Senate

**DENNIS BAXLEY**  
President Pro Tempore



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

### COMMITTEES:

Governmental Oversight and Accountability, *Vice Chair*  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment,  
and General Government  
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism,  
and Economic Development  
Criminal Justice  
Environment and Natural Resources  
Ethics and Elections

### SELECT COMMITTEE:

Select Committee on Resiliency

**SENATOR TINA SCOTT POLSKY**  
30th District

January 3, 2023

Chairman Ben Albritton  
Select Committee on Resiliency  
2000 The Capitol  
404 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Chairman Albritton:

I am writing to you to be excused from the Select Committee on Resiliency meeting that will be held on Wednesday, January 4 at 4:30 p.m. I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me at (850) 487-5030 if you have any questions.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina S. Polsky".

Senator Tina S. Polsky  
Florida Senate, District 30

cc: Tom Yeatman, Staff Director  
Michele Grimes, Administrative Assistant

### REPLY TO:

- 5301 North Federal Highway, Suite 135, Boca Raton, Florida 33487 (561) 443-8170
- 220 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5030

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO**  
President of the Senate

**DENNIS BAXLEY**  
President Pro Tempore



# CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: KB 412

Case No.: -

Type:

Caption: Select Committee on Resiliency

Judge:

Started: 1/4/2023 4:30:35 PM

Ends: 1/4/2023 5:28:59 PM Length: 00:58:25

4:30:33 PM Chair Albritton calls meeting to order  
4:31:01 PM Roll call  
4:31:26 PM Quorum present  
4:31:36 PM Pledge  
4:32:39 PM Remarks by chair  
4:36:54 PM Chair Albritton recognizes Vice Chair Pizzo  
4:37:08 PM Vice Chair Pizzo makes remarks  
4:37:31 PM Chair Albritton makes remarks  
4:38:27 PM Chair recognizes Kevin Guthrie, Director Florida Division of Emergency Management  
4:38:45 PM Director Guthrie presents  
4:44:04 PM Director Guthrie comments on Hurricane Ian recovery  
4:46:06 PM Director Guthrie comments on Hurricane Nicole recovery  
4:47:05 PM Director Guthrie discusses regulatory barriers  
4:57:22 PM Chair Albritton makes remarks  
4:58:02 PM Chair Albritton opens for questions  
4:58:09 PM Sen Thompson questions  
4:58:32 PM Chair states to keep questions informal  
4:58:45 PM Director Guthrie responds to Sen Thompson  
4:59:51 PM Chair recognizes Sen Davis for question  
5:00:10 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:00:55 PM Sen Davis follow up question  
5:01:16 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:01:52 PM Sen Davis follow up  
5:02:14 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:03:36 PM Chair Albritton asks question  
5:03:56 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:04:07 PM Chair responds  
5:04:19 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:04:28 PM Sen Trumbull question  
5:04:47 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:06:40 PM Sen Harrell question  
5:07:10 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:09:49 PM Sen Harrell follow up  
5:09:59 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:11:01 PM Chair Albritton question  
5:11:19 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:12:46 PM Chair Albritton comments  
5:13:06 PM Sen Martin question  
5:14:22 PM Director Guthrie responds  
5:14:30 PM Chair Albritton makes remarks  
5:15:27 PM Chair recognizes Wesley Brooks, Florida's Chief Resiliency Officer  
5:15:40 PM Dr. Brooks begins presentation  
5:19:33 PM Dr. Brooks comments on CRO Regional Resilience Tours  
5:27:06 PM Chair address short meeting time remaining  
5:27:19 PM Chair requests Dr. Brooks come back at later date for Q&A  
5:27:45 PM Dr. Brooks agrees to come back  
5:28:30 PM Vice Chair Pizzo questions  
5:28:37 PM Dr. Brooks responds  
5:28:45 PM Chair adjourns meeting