



Alabama EMA

2022 Disaster Preparedness Conference

Alabama Emergency
Management Agency

Common PA Grant Pitfalls



NOT reading all information provided

Meeting PA Grant deadlines

RPA, project timelines, and appeals

Debris Operations

Applicant is responsible for monitoring oversight

Poor documentation of leaners & hangers

Need pictures, coordinates, description and documenting immediate threat prior to removal

EHP Considerations



PA Resources

<https://grants.ema.alabama.gov>



Grants.EMA.Alabama.gov

Home Open Grants Program Overview Program Resources EMPG Resources

Alabama EMA Grant Manager

grants.ema.alabama.gov tracks Emergency Management grants in Alabama. The system manages the process from application through closeout.

Returning User Login:

Email:

Password:

☐ Remember Me

[Sign In](#) [Register](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)

Several Grants are now open for application. [APPLY NOW](#)

About

This site is for the online application and management of the Public Assistance (PA) grant, Hazard Mitigation (HMGP) grant and Emergency Management Performance (EMPG) grant.. Public Assistance (PA) is a federal grant program to aid State and local governments in returning a disaster area to pre-disaster conditions.The FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides a significant opportunity to reduce the Nation's disaster losses through mitigation planning. The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program is utilized to assist State and Local Jurisdictions in preparing for all hazards

News Releases

Jun 15, 2020 - [FEMA PA Webinars 6/15 - 6/19 2020](#)
FEMA PA Webinars 6/15 - 19

Apr 21, 2020 - [COVID-19 Procurements Guidance](#)
COVID-19 Procurements Guidance

Apr 15, 2020 - [4503 Applicant Briefing](#)
4503 Applicant Briefing

[View News Archive](#)

Contact

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Clanton, AL 35046-2160

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Email:
support@alabamapa.org

PA Resources

- ▶ [Open Grants](#)
- ▶ [Program Overview](#)
- ▶ [Program Resources](#)
- ▶ [EMPG Resources](#)
- ▶ [News Archive](#)

Public Assistance Resources

Training

[FEMA L0202 Debris Management Planning for State, Tribal, Territorial and Local Officials](#)

Handbook

[Subrecipient Handbook](#) - Refer to this handbook for questions on how to manage your sub-award.

General Program Information

- [Public Assistance Program and Policy Guidance June 2020](#)
- [Public Assistance Program and Policy Guidance March 2018](#)

4596

- [4596 Summary](#)
- [4596 Applicant Briefing](#)
- [4596 Applicant Handbook](#)

4573

- [4573 Summary](#)
- [4573 Applicant Briefing](#)
- [4573 Applicant Handbook](#)

Debris Guidance

- [Sample Contract](#) - Sample debris contract. Please be aware that this is not legal advice and should not be taken as such.
- [Sample Debris Management Plan](#) - An example of an DMP approved by FEMA in accordance with PA Pilot Program guidance.
- [Sample Debris MOU \(DOC\)](#)
- [Debris Separation \(PDF\)](#)
- [Debris Estimating Field Guide - FEMA 329 \(PDF\)](#)

Forms

- [Time Extension Request Form \(PDF\) \(DOC\)](#)
- [Project Formulation Checklist \(XLS\)](#)
- [FEMA Form 90-135 Preliminary Damage Assessment - Potential Subgrantee \(PDF\)](#)
- [Final Inspection Request Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [Project Worksheet Instructions \(DOC\)](#)
- [Request for Improved or Alternate Project \(DOC\)](#)

grants.ema.alabama.gov

Alabama EMA Grant Manager

Version 4.41.278

System Requirements

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GCR, MB3, and PCC are joining forces to enable public sector transformation. We are now **Civix**.

Program Deadlines



RPA deadline is **30 days** from date of declaration



Time limits for all projects begin the
date of the disaster declaration

Work Deadlines

Emergency work-----6 months
Permanent work-----18 months

Time Extensions

Emergency work-----Up to 6 months
Permanent work-----Up to 30 months

Appeals



The appeal must be submitted in writing to the State (Recipient) within 60 days of receipt of notice of the action being appealed

State has 60 days from receipt of appeal letter to forward it to FEMA
FEMA has 90 days to render a decision

✉ Applicant Notification ▾

✓ Determination Memo viewed by Applicant on 5/18/2021 8:45 AM CDT [REDACTED]

DATE DM SENT May 11, 2021

DM READ RECEIPT DEADLINE May 26, 2021

RESPONSE RECEIVED BY Brown, [REDACTED]

RESPONSE RECEIVED ON 05/18/2021 08:45 AM CDT

Debris Removal Operations Monitoring –



Public Assistance Debris Monitoring Guide

March 2021



- Applicant is responsible for all monitoring activities
- Applicant must provide debris types, quantities, reduction methods, and pickup and disposal locations
- FEMA requires all applicants to monitor all *contracted* debris operations
 - May use force account labor, contractor or a combination of these

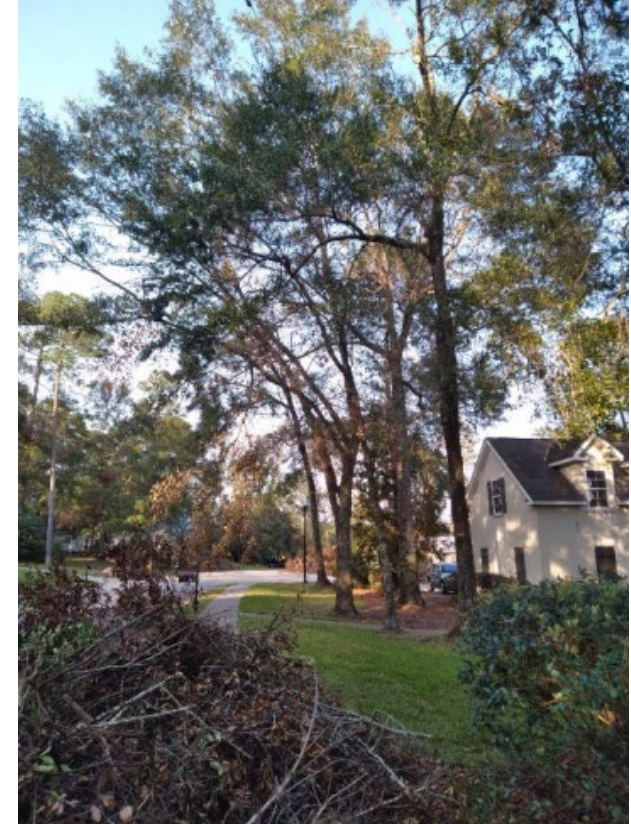
Leaners



Immediate threat

GPS coordinates

Photo or video to
establish the threat is on
public property



Hangers



2 inches or larger in diameter

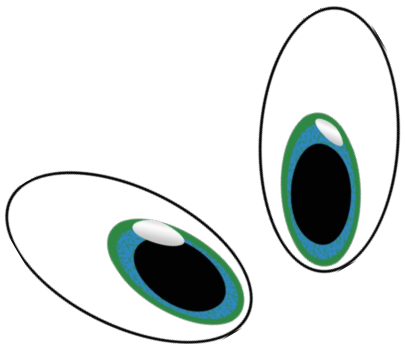
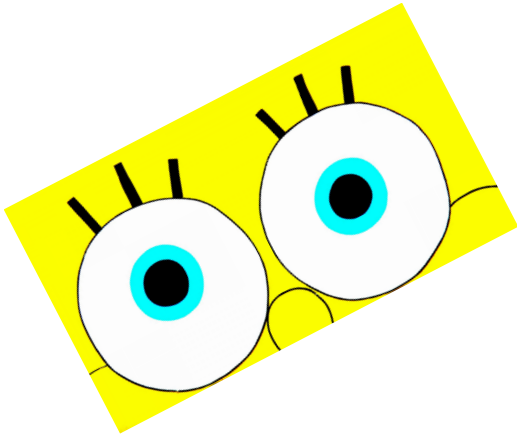
Immediate threat

Extend over public right-of-way

Insufficient Photos



Do you see an immediate threat to public property?



EHP Considerations



Federal Laws

- Endangered Species Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Clean Water Act
- Executive Order for Floodplains (11988)
- Executive Order for Wetlands (11990)
- Clean Air Act

Project types that may require consultation:

- Work In water
- Ground disturbance, even within the road rights-of-way
- Any hazard mitigation
- Improved or alternate projects
- Changes in scope of work

FEMA/AEMA Blue Sky Initiative

Public Assistance Update

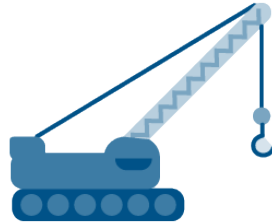
FEMA Region IV Recovery Division | Summer 2022



FEMA



FEMA



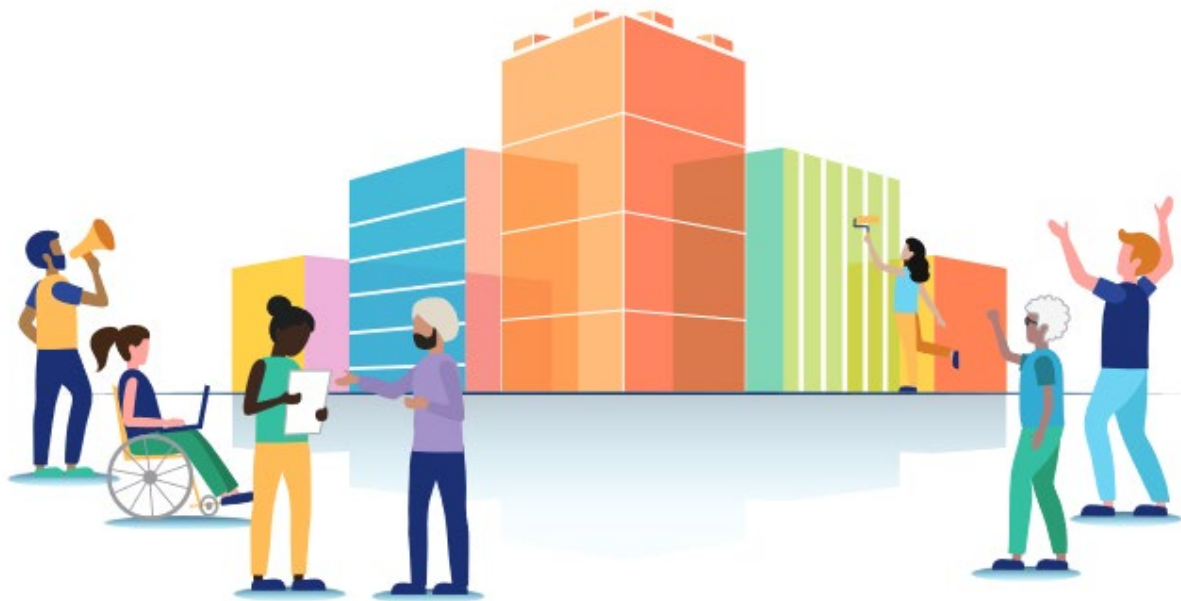
Simplifying the Public Assistance Program

FEMA Actions Taken: 4 Thematic Areas

- Listening to Communities and Assessing Performance
- Simplifying Processes
- Simplifying Policy
- Training

2022–2026 FEMA Strategic Plan

Building the FEMA our Nation Needs and Deserves



Listening to Communities and Assessing Performance

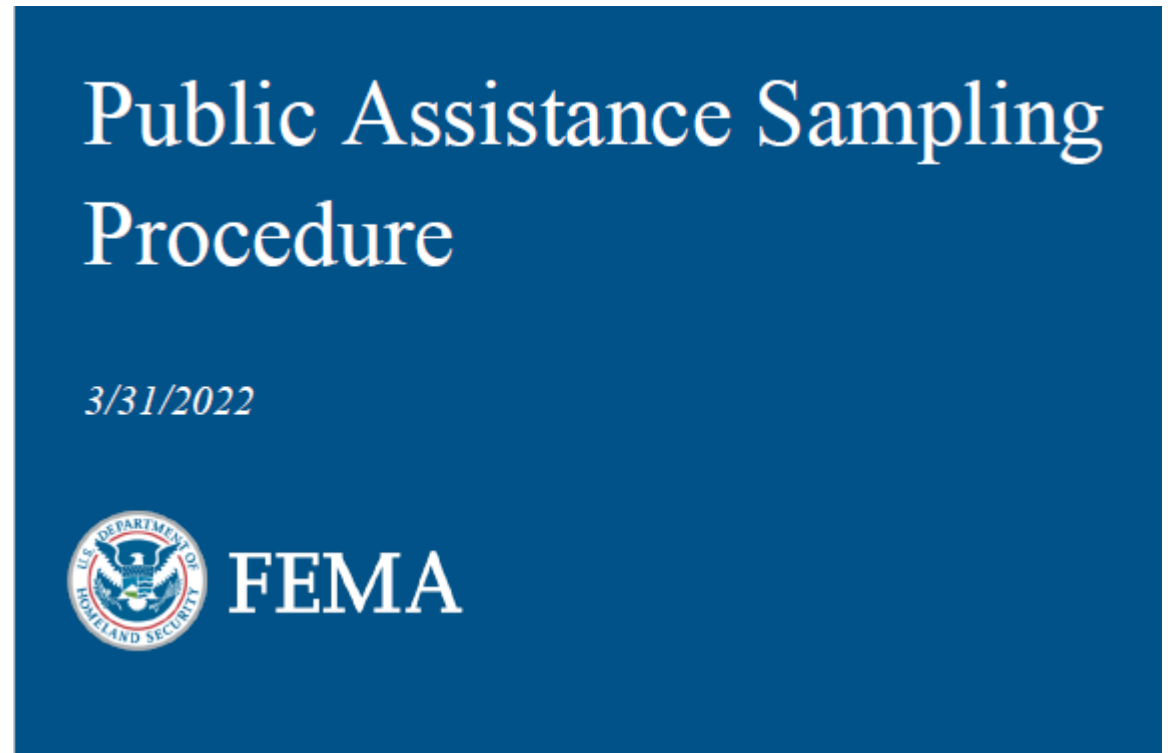
- FEMA 2022-2026 Strategic Plan requires the agency to talk to the communities we serve to gain a better understanding of how PA can best serve them.
- FEMA is re-establishing the Public Assistance Steering Committee.
- The committee will be comprised of leaders from FEMA, states, tribal nations, territories, and local governments, and is charged with providing feedback and direction on operational issues and strategic initiatives within the Program.

Simplifying Processes



Sampling to Minimize Burden

- NAC 2021 Report to the FEMA Administrator identified an opportunity to adopt the Government Accountability Office (GAO) approach to sampling and thereby decrease the documentation burden FEMA places on communities when they request Public Assistance.
- FEMA released *Public Assistance Sampling Procedure*. The procedure utilizes an attribute-based sampling approach, following the GAO Financial Audit Manual, for verifying supporting documentation for PA projects. This will reduce the level of documentation that FEMA requires applicants to submit with projects to validate PA claims.
- The next version of FEMA's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) will formally adopt this procedure. In the interim, FEMA staff should use it to develop all large projects.



Determination Reviews and Communications

- Maximizing the availability of federal assistance requires eligibility determinations be made by those with the best understanding of the challenges facing communities during their recoveries.
- Moving forward, all determination memos during field operations must be reviewed by the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO).
- It is vital that FEMA's most knowledgeable and seasoned field and regional staff are engaged in these reviews and are knowledgeable about when Public Assistance is and is not able to meet a community's intended outcomes. It is also vital that FEMA provide clear, prompt answers to keep long-term recovery moving.



Deploying Consolidated Resource Center (CRC) Staff for Complex Projects

- FEMA CRCs provide technical expertise to help FEMA field staff develop or validate project scopes of work and cost estimates.
- It is critical that individuals developing projects understand the unique circumstances facing communities as they recover, especially for complex recoveries.
- Technical Specialist participation with field staff in applicant coordination meetings, site inspections, and other critical milestones for complex projects.

Simplifying Policy



Deadline to Support and Estimate Completed Projects

- FEMA removed the requirement in the PAPPG v4 that for all projects completed prior to obligation, applicants, “must submit documentation for the project within 90 days of the Recovery Scoping Meeting or within 90 days of the work completion date, whichever is later.” Applies to all unobligated projects.
- FEMA has waived the requirement under PAPPG v3.1 that completed small projects must be prepared based on actual costs. This waiver is in place for all unobligated small projects on any open incident.
- The waivers discussed above do not apply to an applicant’s 90-day post-obligation deadlines described in Chapter 12 of the PAPPG v4 (Financial Reconciliation and Closeout).
- FEMA has adjusted the 90-day post obligation deadline for projects with work completed prior to obligation to begin on the date of obligation.



Actions taken at the Region 4 Level

“Blue Sky” or Pre-Event Initiative for Debris | R4 PA, EHP, and AEMA

- Purpose of this effort is to provide State and Local governments and all other eligible Public Assistance applicants the opportunity to pre-identify debris management sites (DMS), temporary staging and reduction sites (TDSR), and final disposal sites to FEMA to ensure compliance with Federal laws, regulations, and Executive Orders prior to site use.
- FEMA Region IV EHP and PA staff will work with State PA Partners to collect information pertaining to debris DMS, TDSRs, and Final Disposal Sites prior to disasters.



“Blue Sky” continued....

- This pre-event review process is not intended to replace State or Local government’s established permitting process.
- FEMA Region IV EHP and PA staff will work with State PA Partners to collect information pertaining to debris DMS, TDSRs, and Final Disposal Sites prior to disasters.
 - How? Digital Survey 123 Form developed by AEMA and FEMA
- FEMA Blue Sky reviews serve as pre-cursory compliance reviews of Federal laws, regulations, and EOs. It is recommended that all potential PA applicants adhere to all state land use and burning permitting and approval processes



Goals of a Digital Survey



FEMA

Public Assistance Pre-Event Debris Site Form

Applicant Information

Organization Name*

Organization Type*

☐

Local Government

☐

Private Non-Profit

☐

State Government

☐

Tribal Government

☐

Other (Please Specify)

Primary Point of Contact*

First, Last Name (This individual will be contacted by FEMA if additional information is requested during the review process)

[Details](#) [Add ▾](#) [Edit](#) [Basemap](#) [Analysis](#)

[Save ▾](#) [Share](#) [Print ▾](#) [Directions](#) [Measure](#) [Bookmarks](#)

[About](#) [Content](#) [Legend](#)

Legend

Imagery [AEMA](#) [Flooding](#) [Severe Weather](#)



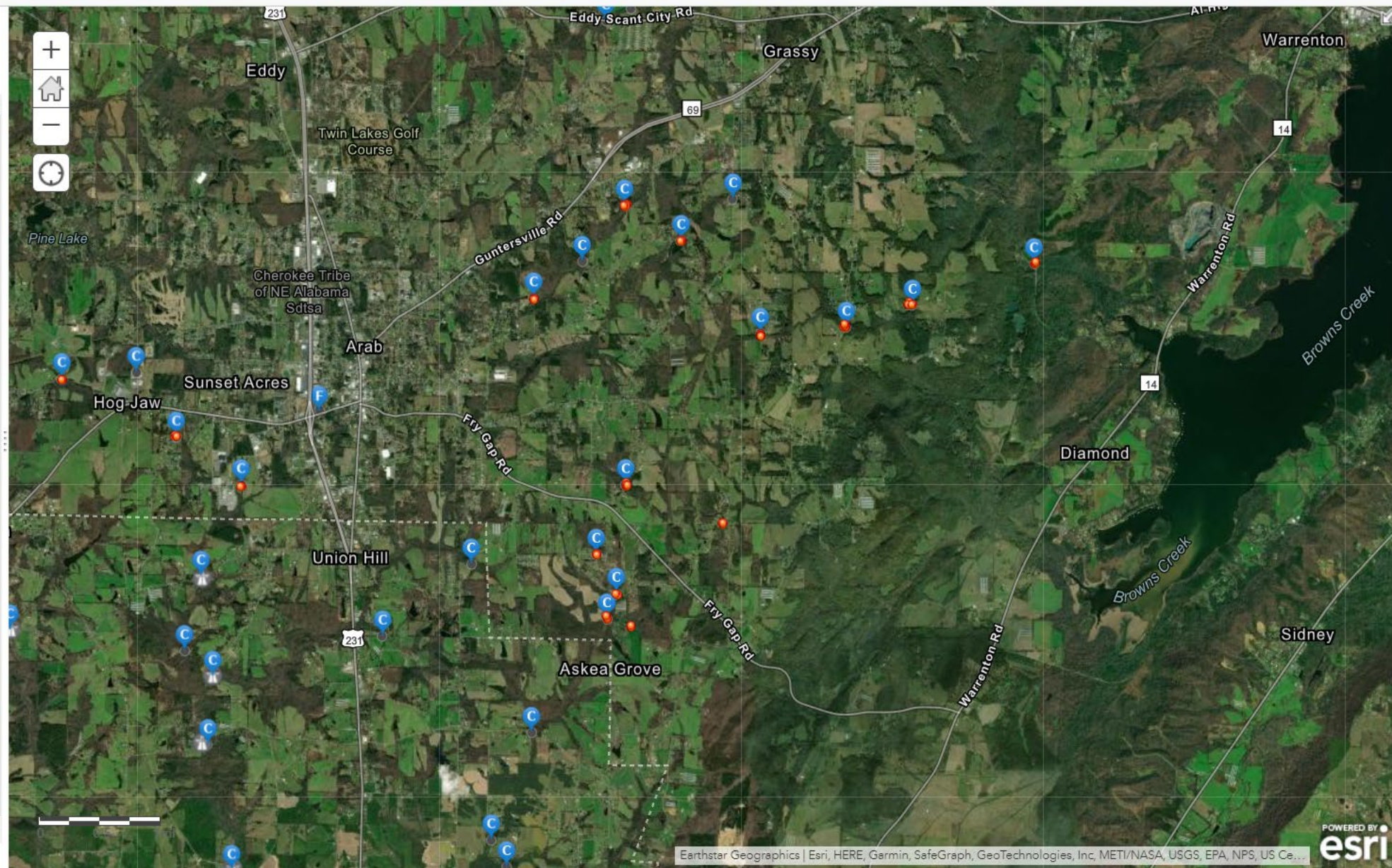
PJ_CATEGORY OF WORK_AEMA_
Flooding_Severe Weather_Flood Warning
_10_07_2021

- C
- E
- B
- F
- G
- A

PDA Damage Collection

- Category A
- Category B
- Category C
- Category D
- Category E
- Category F
- Category G
- Other

Raw Data Export_00_AEMA_Flooding_
Severe Weather_Flood Warning_
_10_07_2021



Region 4 Informal Training Catalog

- Public Assistance Program and Process Overview
- Public Assistance Joint PDAs
- Integrating Technology into PDAs
- Beach Basics: Implications for Closeout
- Closeout Check Sheets
- The Closeout Process
- FEMA Insurance Review Process
- Validate As You Go (VAYGO)
- Updates and Procedures for Public Assistance Appeals



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