

Cole County/Jefferson City Missouri Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

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Cover Photos: Upper Left: US Army Corps of Engineers photo taken in 1993 of the HWY 63/54 intersection just north of the Missouri River Bridge outside of Jefferson City. Upper Right: Inspection of the Renn's Lake Dam failure in 2009(*Jefferson City News Tribune, photo by Julie Smith*). Lower Right: A Russellville home after a 2007 ice storm that caused damage across much of Western and Central Missouri (*Jefferson City News Tribune, photo by Julie Smith*). Lower Left: Missouri State Highway Patrol photo of damage to home after an F4 tornado touched down in Southwest Missouri in 2008.

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“Across the United States, natural, manmade, and other disasters have led to increasing numbers of deaths, injuries, property damages, and disruptions of business and government services. This can take an immense toll on people, businesses and government, especially in these challenging economic times. The time, money and effort to respond to and recover from disasters divert public resources and attention from other important programs.

Hazard mitigation is defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as any action taken to eliminate or reduce the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards and their effects. This is crucial to the residents, businesses, and governments of Missouri.

Hazard Mitigation is the only phase of emergency management specifically dedicated to breaking the cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.”

- Missouri State Hazard Mitigation Plan, July 2010