

CENTRAL CITY FLOOD SCENARIO

Unit 2: ICS Fundamentals Review

Student Version

Objective:

To apply key Unified Command principles.

Instructions:

Ask the students to work in groups to complete the following activity:

1. Review the following:
 - Historical Background
 - Scenario
 - Maps
 - Current Resources
2. Complete the following steps:
 - a. Who has a stake in the incident?
 - b. Who are the assisting and cooperating agencies?
 - c. Is this a Single or Unified Command managed incident?
 - d. If Single Command, who is the Incident Commander and why?
 - e. If Unified Command, who are the members and why?
3. Draw an Organization Chart for your Incident Command or Unified Command.
4. Identify challenges and safety issues.
5. Record your results on chart paper that can be seen by the entire class.
6. Select a spokesperson and be prepared to present in 30 minutes.
7. Emphasize that the spokesperson should be able to explain the rationale for the group's decisions.

Historical Background:

The city has a history of being susceptible to flooding. The geology in the Liberty County consists of nearly level, somewhat poorly drained, expansive soils on flood plains. The topsoil rests on sandy and silty loam. Runoff is very slow, and the soil is subject to flooding. Permeability is moderate.

Frequency of moderate flooding is at least once a year; major flooding is generally limited to once in five years. A severe flood in 1997 killed 28 people, injured 656, and caused the evacuation of 75,000; it also heavily damaged 377 permanent homes, 65 businesses, and completely destroyed 203 mobile homes.

Controllability of flood damage is limited to land-use management and elevation criteria. Clearance of debris along stream ways can also affect flooding. Snow runoff and ice damming are not considered to be major contributors to flooding in Columbia.

Duration of actual onslaught is from several hours to several days.

Scope of damage ranges with the severity of the flood and damages from minimal to nearly total destruction of community facilities, business, or residences.

Intensity of impact ranges from a few houses to several hundred houses involved and may include road and utility washouts and bridge damage.

Dam Break Flooding from East Lake Dam and all of the other dams in Columbia could threaten areas that have not historically had flooding problems. Catastrophic failure of East Lake Dam could impact Liberty County and Central City. Floods from the East Lake River, Roaring River, Swatera Creek, and Turtle River could impact the communities along their banks following the failure of the East Lake Dam. If the failure occurs during a period of heavy rains, all four waterways could be impacted, and flooding could occur along their banks. The following three maps show the flood zones in Liberty County and in Central City.

Flood Inundation Maps of Liberty County show elevation contours and the 2, 10, 25, 50, 100, and 500 year flood zones for Central City and northern and southern Liberty County. Also shown on the South Liberty County Map are the areas of expected flooding during a hurricane.

Scenario:

For the past three days, it has been raining heavily in Central City and Liberty County, averaging 2.5 inches of rain each 24-hour period. Central City is divided by the banks of the Roaring River and Swatera Creek is a tributary through the northwest part of the city. In an effort to avoid some of the damage and loss of life caused by previous incidents, the newly elected mayor of Central City has taken an active interest in planning for and responding to flooding disasters. The mayor has asked you to prepare a staffing plan for the response to anticipated flooding, in the event that the rains do not abate.

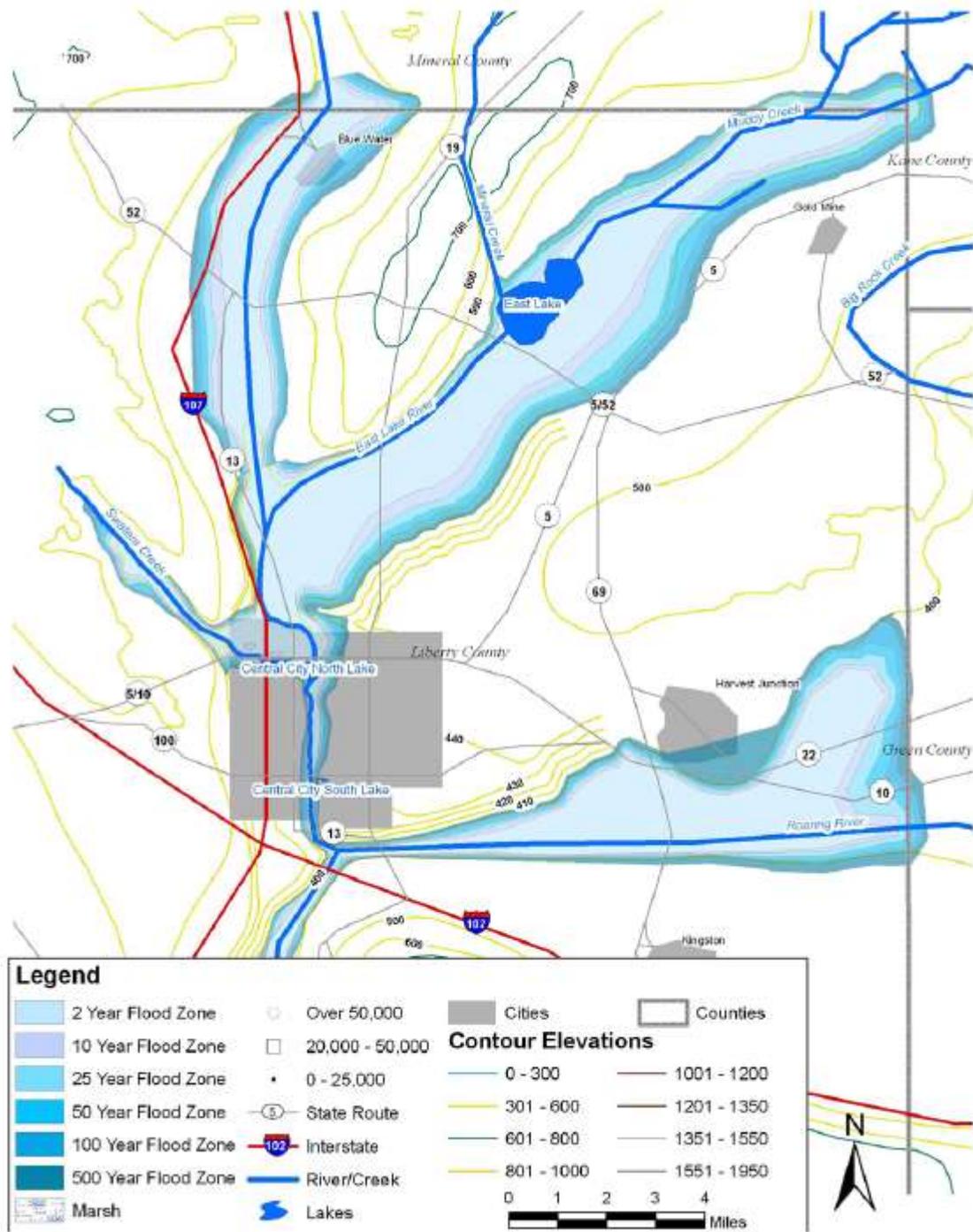


Figure 3.3. North Liberty County Flood Map

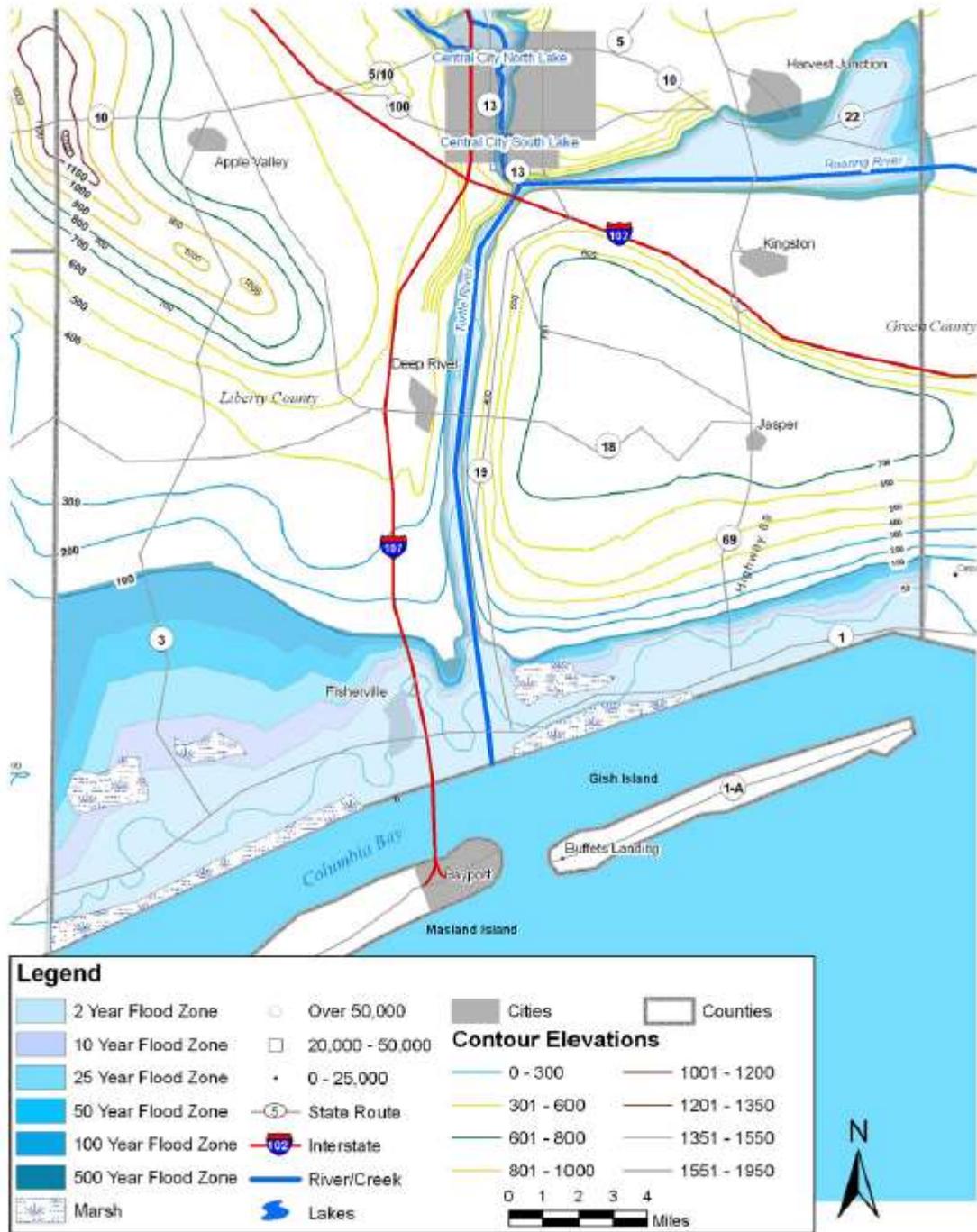


Figure 3.4. South Liberty County Flood Map

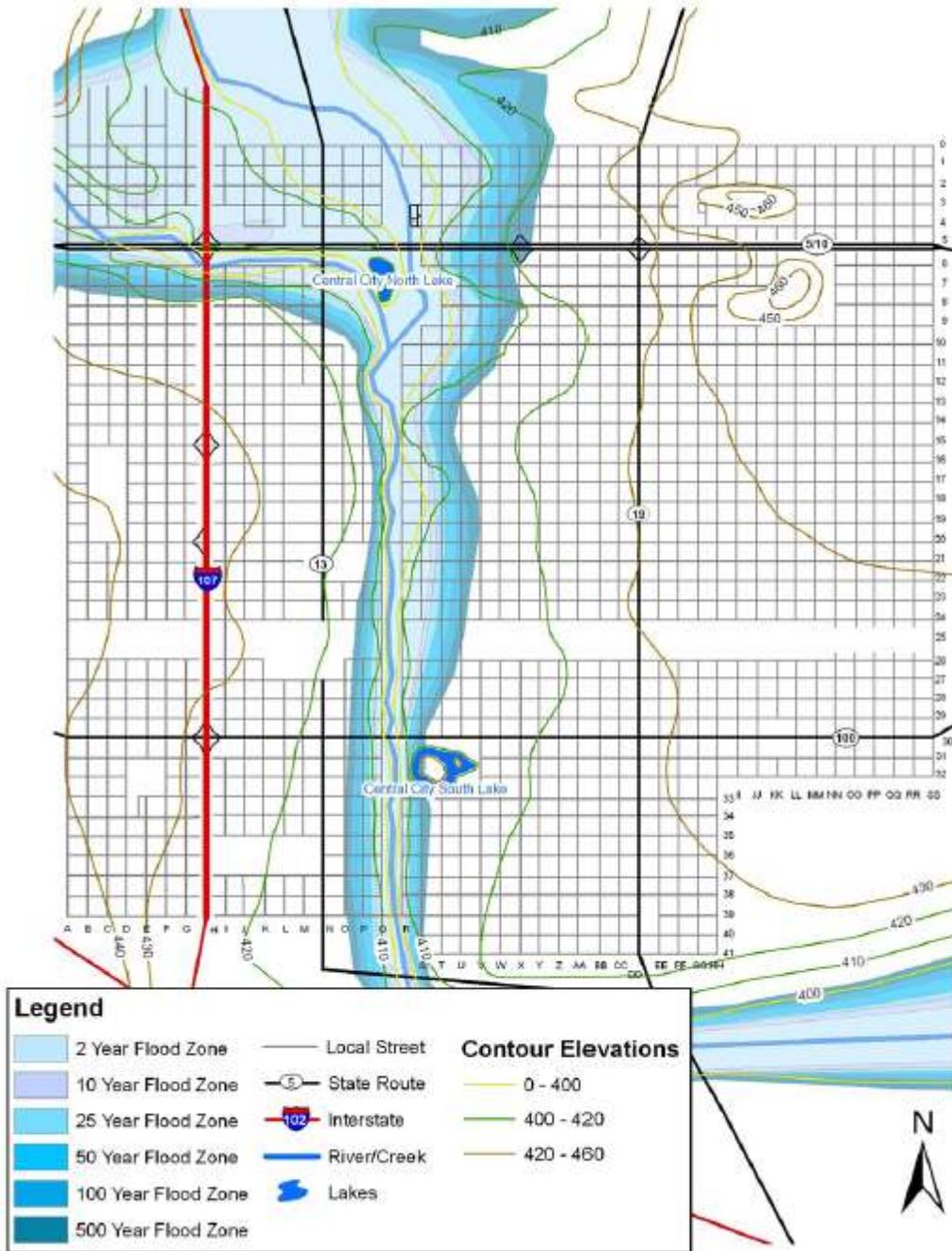


Figure 3.5. Central City Flood Map

Current Resources:

- Emergency Management:
 - Central City Fire Department Incident Management Team
 - Liberty County Department of Emergency Management
 - Liberty County/Central City Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 - Liberty County/Central City EOC Joint Information Center (JIC)
 - Liberty County/Central City EOC Support Team
 - State of Columbia Type II and III Incident Management Teams
- Law Enforcement:
 - Central City Police Department
 - Liberty County Sheriff Department
 - Columbia State Police
- Fire Department:
 - Central City Fire Department
 - Central City Emergency Medical Service
- Public Works:
 - Central City Department of Public Works
 - Liberty County Department of Public Works
- Liberty County:
 - (1) District Conservationist
 - (1) Soil Conservation Technician
 - (1) Area Engineer
- State of Columbia:
 - National Guard
 - Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
 - State of Columbia Department of Transportation
 - Department of Agriculture
 - Department of Public Safety

Your Notes: