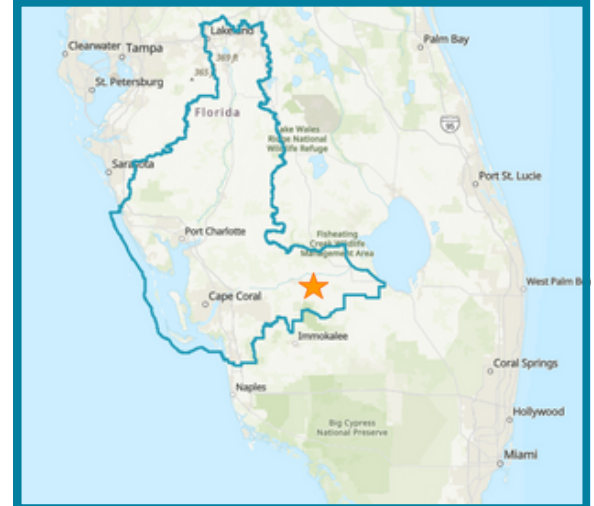


Hendry County Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment

HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION



Pileated Woodpecker - Sheri Nadelman



Summary

The Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership (CHNEP) is providing funding toward the *Hendry County Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment* (CVA) to enhance community resiliency in Hendry County.

The CVA report will identify key local governmental facilities and infrastructure and assesses how vulnerable those County “assets” are to flooding (i.e. increased severe storms including high winds and extreme rainfall) and other stressors such as extreme heat. This information is then used to identify specific vulnerable areas (called Adaptation Action Areas, AAAs) in the County. Then plans are drawn up with projects and actions needed in those AAAs to reduce those risks and adapt those assets to be better able to withstand stressors, such as potentially raising roads or bridges in certain locations.

CHNEP also plays a vital role in enhancing community resiliency by bringing federal, state, and local governments together to share resiliency knowledge and technologies, as well as implement resiliency projects across jurisdictional boundaries. This information sharing, funding, and technical assistance is allowing CHNEP to further local efforts in Hendry and the other 9 counties it serves.

Location: Hendry County

Partners: Hendry County

Implemented: 2025

Status: Ongoing

CHNEP Cost: \$200,000

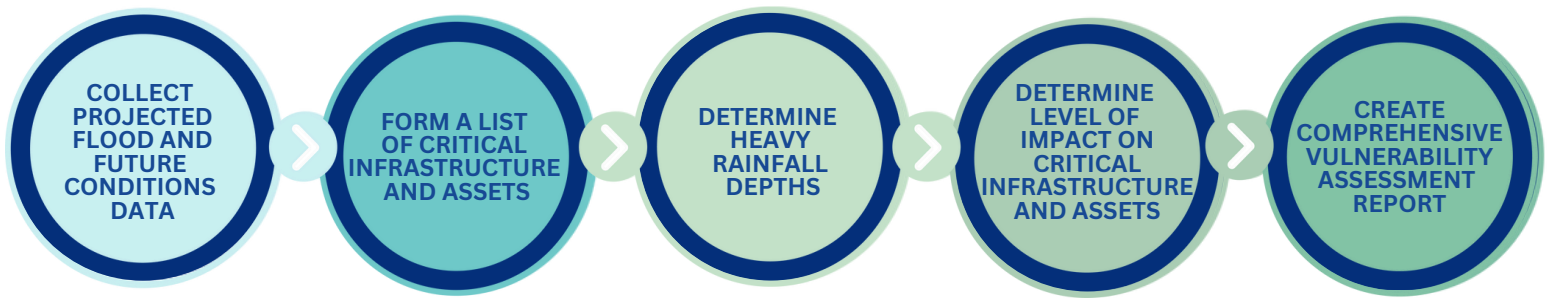
Funding Source: EPA BIL

CHNEP Plan Activity:



Hydrologic Restoration 3.3: Develop and support implementation of vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan recommendations to protect water quality and hydrology. Participate in regional collaborations to address vulnerabilities identified in vulnerability assessments and increase resiliency.

COASTAL & HEARTLAND NATIONAL ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP



Project Elements

Developing the Vulnerability Assessment

An inventory will be taken of critical County and community assets including things like health care facilities, government buildings and libraries/community centers, schools, water/wastewater facilities, public safety facilities (police, fire, etc.), energy facilities, parks and natural areas, as well as roads and evacuation routes. The most up to date information on current and future rainfall will be used to project potential impacts to those critical assets from future flooding, storms, and other events. The projected level of impact to these critical community assets will help the County prioritize critical action areas and plan projects to protect them. The vulnerability assessment report will include maps of critical assets, providing the necessary foundation for the County and its partners to identify funding needs and to implement projects that reduce risks to critical county infrastructure and facilities.

Adaptation Action Area (AAA) Plans

Afterward, Adaptation Action Area (AAA) Plans will be developed for areas deemed most vulnerable to potential impacts. AAAs can be identified and prioritized based on identified critical assets, exposure and sensitivity analysis, flood modeling, results of public meetings, input from the County, and guidelines from the Florida AAAs Planning Guidebook. Specific adaptation strategies and projects can be proposed for the top priority AAAs to address the threats identified in the County's Vulnerability Assessment. The proposed priority strategies and projects will consider 1) Recommended Infrastructure Improvements (physical grey and green infrastructure with a focus on nature-based solutions), (2) Recommended Building Codes and Standards, (3) Resiliency Hub Needs (shelter in place, food, water, energy, communications, etc.), and (4) Funding and Financing needs (i.e. estimated costs for implementation of each recommended strategy, project) in order to enhance resiliency.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Uniting Central and Southwest Florida to protect water and wildlife