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Lance Talmadge, GIS/GPS Specialist, assisted with producing maps, analyzing local data, and developing mitigation strategies.

Summary: 3.2 The Planning Process

Proper planning requires the implementation of measures that can reach out to the general public and foster widespread participation among all community and regional groups. Capturing a multitude of voices and encouraging the involvement of all stakeholders were essential factors in the successful creation of the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan and the plan update. Because natural hazards touch all levels of society and spark a range of community and personal hardships, every willing voice must be granted a role during the planning process. A diversity of experiences, data, and strategies can strengthen a region's approach to hazard event preparation and response. Although the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council and GRADD staff worked diligently to engage the public and increase levels of public participation, they also recognize the need for future improvements to the overall planning process pursued.