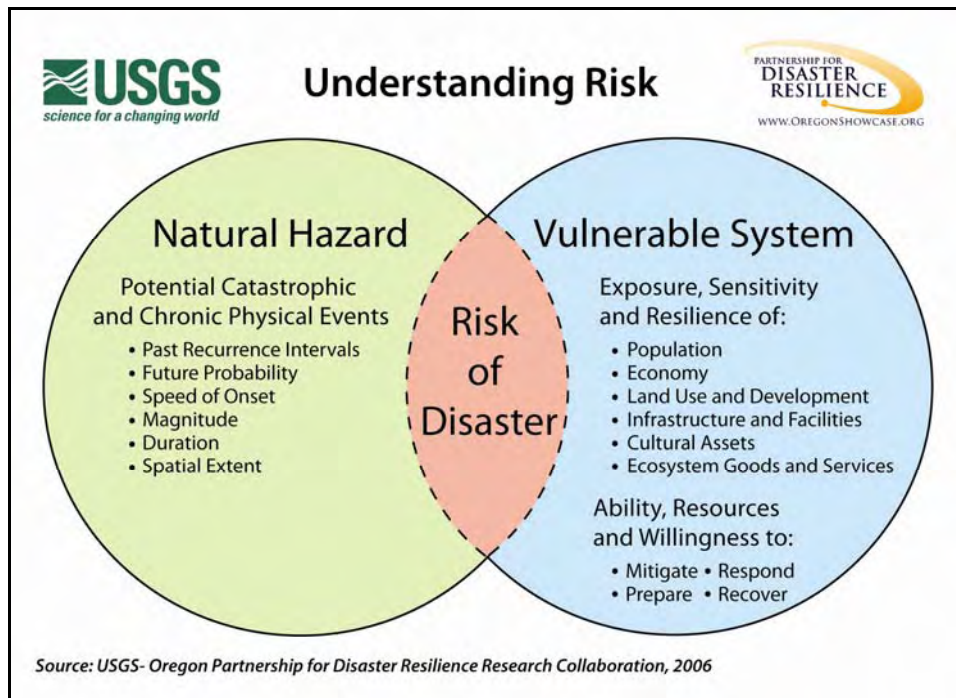


## Section 2: Community Overview

The following section describes Marion County from a number of perspectives to help define and understand the county's sensitivity and resilience to natural hazards. Sensitivity factors can be defined as community assets and characteristics that may be impacted by natural hazards, (e.g., special populations, economic factors, and historic and cultural resources). Community resilience can be defined by the community's ability to manage risk and adapt to hazard events (e.g., governmental structure, agency missions and directives, and plans, policies, and programs). The information in this section represents a snapshot in time of the current sensitivity and resilience factors in Marion County when the plan was developed. The information documented below, along with the hazard assessments located in the Hazard Annex, should be used as the local level rationale for the risk reduction actions identified in Section 3 – Mission, Goals, and Action Items. The identification of actions that reduce the county's sensitivity and increase its resilience assist in reducing overall risk, or the area of overlap in Figure 2.1 below.

**Figure 2.1 Understanding Risk**



## Geography and Climate

Marion County is located in northwest Oregon and encompasses 1,194 square miles. The county has a diverse geography. The western half of the county is located in the Willamette Valley and is relatively flat, while the Cascade Mountain Range runs through the eastern half of the county and has a mountainous topography. The average elevation for Marion County is 154 feet. Elevations range from 100 feet near the Willamette River to 2400 feet in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains.<sup>2</sup> Forestlands cover the eastern 43 percent of the total county area and a majority of the water resources originate in this area.<sup>3</sup>

Marion County spans a wide range of physiographic regions; thus, there is considerable variation in precipitation, with elevations as the largest factor in precipitation totals. Marion County has a modified marine climate where winters are cool and wet, while summers are moderately warm and dry.<sup>4</sup> From 1971 to 2000, the average annual precipitation in Marion County was approximately 40 inches, with the least amount of precipitation on the valley floor, and greater amounts near the foothills of the Cascade Range.<sup>5</sup> Figure 2.2 shows the average annual precipitation in Marion County.

Several rivers are located in Marion County. They include the Willamette River, North Santiam River, Pudding River, Little Pudding River, and Mill Creek. The largest reservoir in Marion County is Detroit Reservoir about 50 miles east of Salem on the North Santiam River, covering 5.6 square miles.<sup>6</sup> These rivers and their sub-basins are depicted in Figure 2.3 and 2.4 below.

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<sup>2</sup>Pringle, Glenn-Gibson, Claggett, and Mill Creeks Watershed Assessment. January 2002.

<sup>3</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Plan, 2002

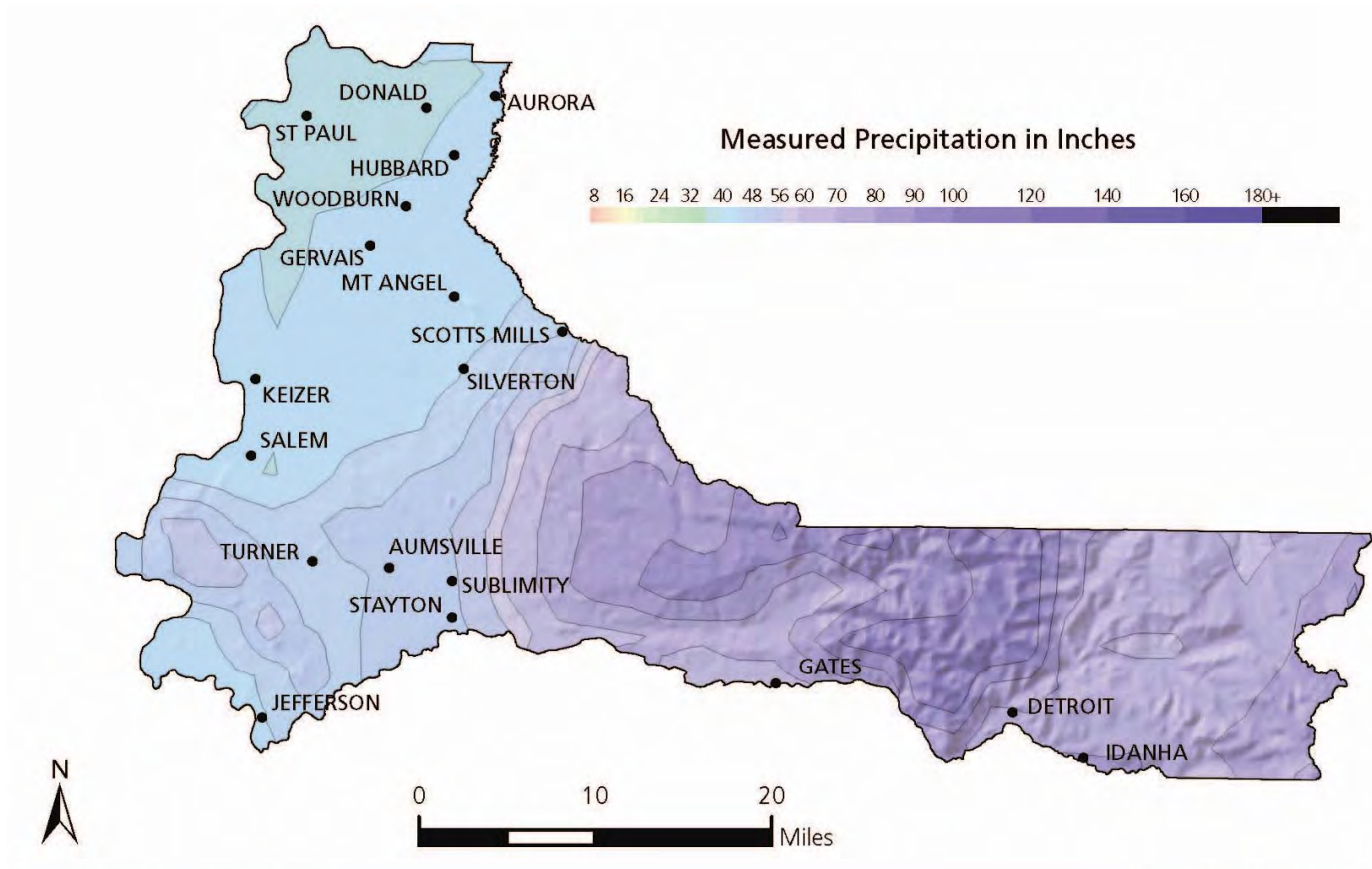
<http://publicworks.co.marion.or.us/Planning/compplan.asp>

<sup>4</sup>Northwest River Forecast Center <http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/river/river.cgi>

<sup>5</sup>Atlas of Oregon. 2002. University of Oregon Press

<sup>6</sup>Northwest River Forecast Center. <http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/river/river.cgi>.

Figure 2.2 Marion County Average Annual Precipitation



*Marion County, Oregon*

InfoGraphics Lab, 2010

Source: University of Oregon, Geography Department, Atlas of Oregon  
<http://geography.uoregon.edu/infographics/projects/atlasPrint.htm>



Figure 2.3 Marion County Physiography

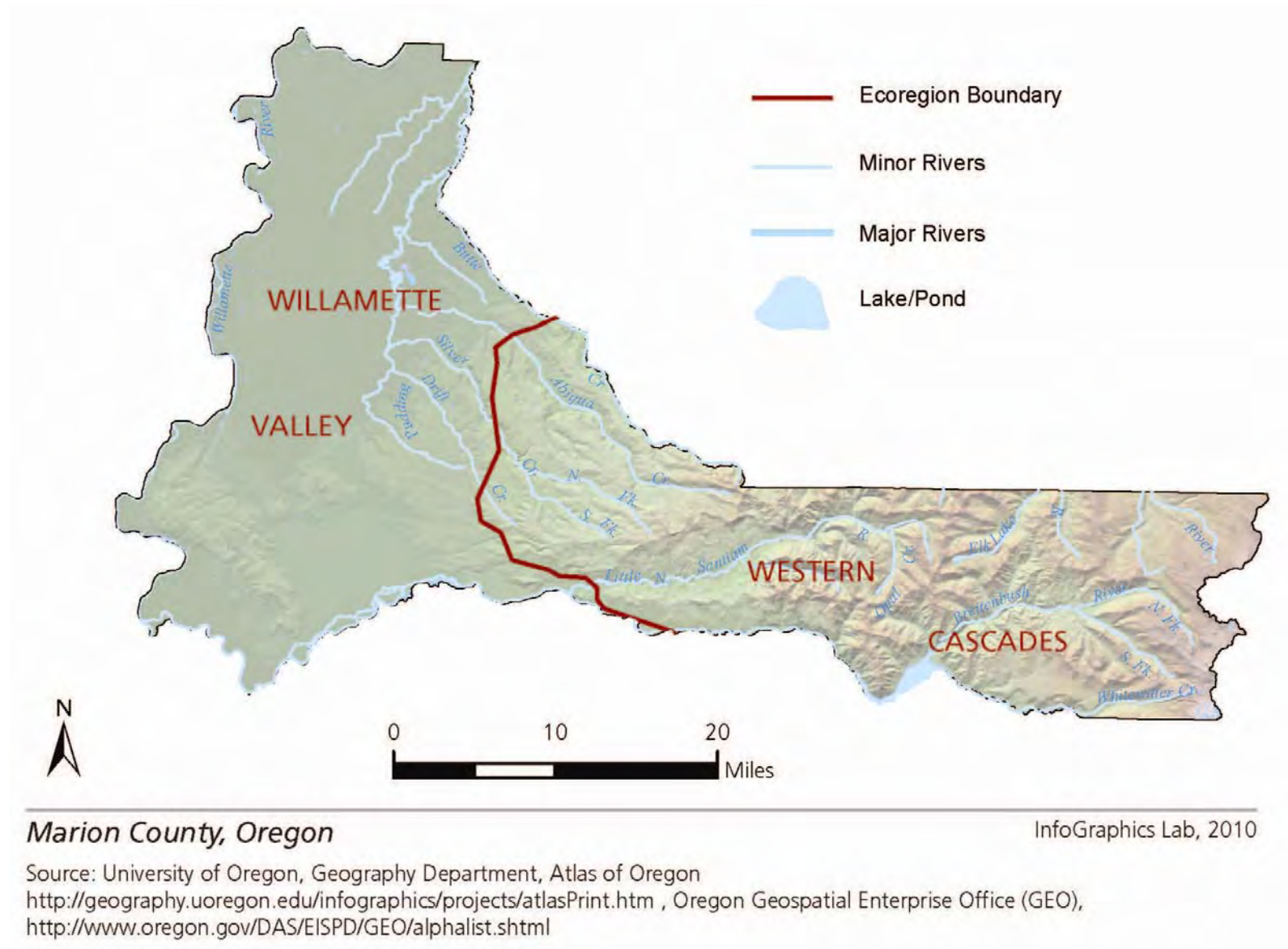
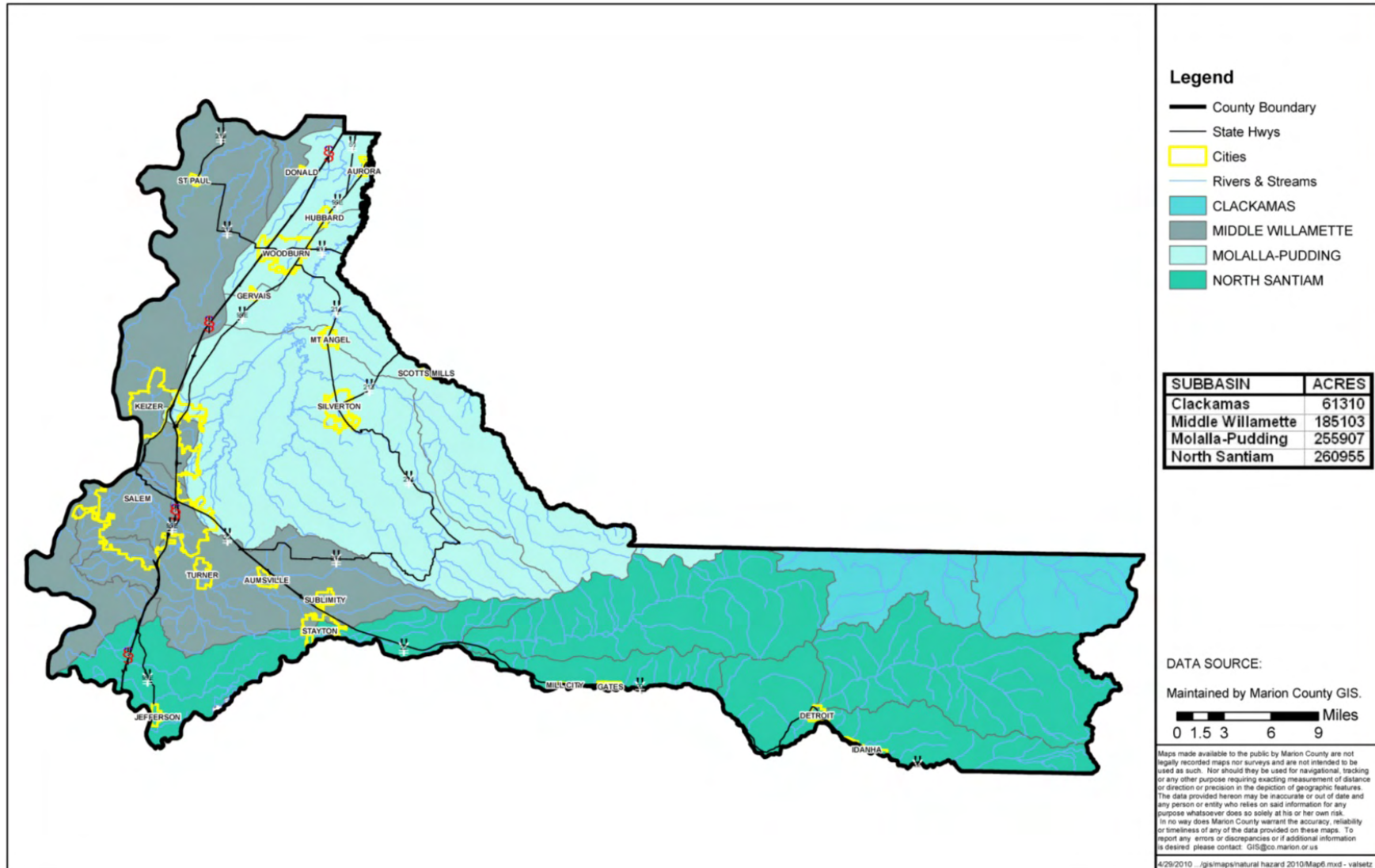






Figure 2.4 River Sub-Basins in Marion County







## Population and Demographics

Marion County is undergoing significant population change. In 2009, the county's population was 318,170, an 11.7 percent increase from the 2000 Census population of 284,834.<sup>7</sup> Marion County is also projected to grow to a population of 410, 500 by the year 2030.<sup>8</sup> If not properly managed, rapid population growth can potentially occur in hazardous areas.

Marion County is also experiencing demographic changes in terms of age. From 2000 to 2008, the age group under 5 increased by 14 percent, the 55 – 59 age group increased by 51 percent, the 60– 64 age group increased by 54 percent, and the 85 and over age group increased 46 percent. Table 2.1 below shows Marion County's population by age.

**Table 2.1 Marion County Population by Age, 2000, 2008**

| <b>Age Range</b> | <b>2000</b>    | <b>2008</b>    | <b>Percent Change</b> |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Under 5          | 21,874         | 25,008         | 14.3%                 |
| 5 to 9           | 21,674         | 21,776         | 0.5%                  |
| 10 to 14         | 21,184         | 23,214         | 9.6%                  |
| 15 to 19         | 22,050         | 21,862         | -0.9%                 |
| 20 to 24         | 20,525         | 20,016         | -2.5%                 |
| 25 to 34         | 40,217         | 45,996         | 14.4%                 |
| 35 to 44         | 41,597         | 41,498         | -0.2%                 |
| 45 to 54         | 37,564         | 42,639         | 13.5%                 |
| 55 to 59         | 12,920         | 19,460         | 50.6%                 |
| 60 to 64         | 10,023         | 15,438         | 54.0%                 |
| 65 to 74         | 17,148         | 19,041         | 11.0%                 |
| 75 to 84         | 13,190         | 11,537         | -12.5%                |
| 85 and over      | 4,868          | 7,121          | 46.3%                 |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>284,834</b> | <b>314,606</b> | <b>10.5%</b>          |

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Table P12 and American Community Survey 2008 Table B01001

Disaster impacts (in terms of loss and the ability to recover) vary among population groups following a disaster. Historically, 80 percent of the disaster burden falls on the public.<sup>9</sup> Of this number, a disproportionate burden is placed upon special needs groups, particularly children, the elderly, the disabled, minorities, and low-income persons. As shown in Table 2.2, 22 percent of Marion County's population is between the ages of

<sup>7</sup>Population Research Center, Portland State University, 2009 Certified Oregon Population Estimates, <http://www.pdx.edu/prc/>

<sup>8</sup>Population Research Center College of Urban and Public Affairs Portland State University. 2008. Population Forecasts for Marion County, its Cities and Unincorporated Area 2010-2030. <http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/4A4325AB-F86C-4910-A891-D1FC6CF33FEF/23512/PSU2030PopulationForecastforMarionCounty1.pdf>, accessed June 7, 2010.

<sup>9</sup>Hazards Workshop Session Summary #16, Disasters, Diversity, and Equity. (July 2000). University of Colorado, Boulder.

0 and 14. In general, children are more vulnerable to heat and cold, have fewer transportation options, and require assistance to access medical facilities. In addition, 12 percent of the population is considered elderly (over 65 years of age). Elderly individuals may require special consideration due to sensitivities to heat and cold, accessibility to medications, mobility impairment, and comparative difficulty in making home modifications that reduce risk to hazards. Addressing the needs of vulnerable groups through natural hazards mitigation is important to improve the community's overall resilience to natural hazards.

**Table 2.2 Marion County Youth and Senior Populations, 2008**

| <b>Age Range</b> | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 0 to 14          | 69,998        | 22.2%          |
| 65 to 74         | 19,041        | 6.1%           |
| 75+              | 18,658        | 5.9%           |

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey 2008 Table B01001

## Housing

Housing type and age are important factors in hazard mitigation planning. Certain housing types tend to be less disaster resistant and warrant special attention. Mobile homes, for example, are generally more prone to wind and water damage than standard wood-frame construction. Homes built before 1993 may also be more vulnerable to earthquakes because they were built prior to the incorporation of strict earthquake standards in Oregon's building codes. Structures built in Oregon after 1993 use earthquake resistant designs and construction techniques.<sup>10</sup> Additionally in the 1970s, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) began assisting communities with floodplain mapping and communities passed floodplain ordinances to regulate floodplain development.

Marion County has a variety of different housing types. In 2008, 66.4 percent of Marion County's homes were single-family residences; 24.9 percent were multi-family homes; 8.5 percent were mobile homes; and 0.2 percent were boats, RVs, vans, etc.<sup>11</sup> Marion County's mobile homes are particularly vulnerable to natural hazards such as floods and windstorms because they may not be secured by a foundation. Given the high number of mobile homes, outreach efforts should be targeted to these groups.

Generally the older the home is, the greater the risk of damage from natural disasters. As shown in Table 2.3 below, close to 70% of Marion County's housing structures were built before 1990.

<sup>10</sup> Wang Yumei and Bill Burns. "Case History on the Oregon Go Bond Task Force: Promoting Earthquake Safety in Public Schools and Emergency Facilities." National Earthquake Conference. January 2006.

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey, Table B25024

**Table 2.3 Marion County Housing Age**

| <b>Year Built</b> | <b>Number</b>  | <b>Percent</b> |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2005 or later     | 2,409          | 2%             |
| 2000 to 2004      | 9,162          | 8%             |
| 1990 to 1999      | 23,390         | 20%            |
| 1980 to 1989      | 14,524         | 12%            |
| 1970 to 1979      | 28,087         | 24%            |
| 1960 to 1969      | 14,149         | 12%            |
| 1950 to 1959      | 10,212         | 9%             |
| 1940 to 1949      | 6,596          | 6%             |
| 1939 or earlier   | 10,290         | 9%             |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>118,819</b> | <b>100%</b>    |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

In 2008, Marion County had 118,819 housing units. Of those, 94.1% were occupied (111,860) and 5.9% were vacant.<sup>12</sup> Of the occupied housing units, 62.1% (69,419) were owner-occupied, and 37.9% (42,441) were renter occupied.<sup>13</sup> Studies have shown that renters are less likely than homeowners to prepare for catastrophic events.<sup>14</sup> Renters tend to have higher turnover rates that may limit their exposure to hazard information. Likewise, preparedness campaigns tend to pay less attention to renters. Renters typically have lower incomes and fewer resources to prepare for natural disasters, and renters may lack the motivation to invest in mitigation measures for rented property.<sup>15</sup>

## Employment and Economics

Marion County's economy is highly diversified. According to the Oregon Employment Department, Marion County's 2006 economic diversity rating was ten (with one being the most diverse, and 36 being the least).<sup>16</sup> An economy that is heavily dependent upon a few key industries may have a more difficult time recovering after a natural disaster than one with a more diverse economic base. Economic resilience to natural disasters is particularly important for the major employment sectors in the region. If, these sectors are negatively impacted by a natural hazard, such that employment is affected, the impact will be felt throughout the regional economy.

As shown in Table 2.4 below, government is the county's largest employment sector, and it provides 25 percent of the county's jobs. In the

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<sup>12</sup> US Census Bureau, "Profile of Selected Housing Characteristics: 2006-2008," American Community Survey, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Morrow, 1999; Burby and others, 2003.

<sup>15</sup> Burby and others, 2003.

<sup>16</sup> Moore, Eric, "Measuring Economic Diversification," Oregon Employment Department, (2001), <http://www.qualityinfo.org/olmisj/ArticleReader?itemid=00002037&print=1>, accessed January 20, 2010.

event of a natural disaster, the government sector may not be as vulnerable in the short term as other sectors, because funding streams are established annually and government entities are eligible to receive outside funding sources (examples of funding that wouldn't be available to others? This sounds a little off to me, but I'm unfamiliar...).

Marion County's second largest employment sector includes trade, transportation, and utilities. This sector includes wholesale, retail, transportation, warehousing, and utilities. Retail makes up the largest portion of this sector at 11 percent. This sector is vulnerable to natural disaster events if buildings are damaged, supply chains are severed, or if stores are inaccessible. As a result, many small businesses may struggle to remain open following a major event.

Marion County also has one of Oregon's highest income-producing agriculture sectors.<sup>17</sup> The agriculture industry is heavily reliant on natural resources, namely land and water. In the event of a natural hazard, these resources can be severely affected leading to loss of production and physical damage to lands that may take time to recover.

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<sup>17</sup> Census of Agriculture. 2007. County Profile: Marion County, Oregon. [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Online\\_Highlights/County\\_Profiles/Oregon/cp41047.pdf](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Online_Highlights/County_Profiles/Oregon/cp41047.pdf), accessed March 4, 2010.

**Table 2.4 Marion County Employment by Major Industry, 2008**

| <b>Industry Sector</b>                         | <b>Jobs per Industry</b> | <b>Percent of Total Employment</b> |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total All Government                           | <b>35,096</b>            | <b>25%</b>                         |
| Trade, Transportation, & Utilities             | <b>23,175</b>            | <b>16%</b>                         |
| Wholesale                                      | 3,667                    | 3%                                 |
| Retail   | 16,132                   | 11%                                |
| Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities        | 3,376                    | 2%                                 |
| Education & Health Services                    | <b>17,185</b>            | <b>12%</b>                         |
| Education                                      | 1,977                    | 1%                                 |
| Health & Social assistance                     | 15,208                   | 11%                                |
| Manufacturing                                  | <b>11,267</b>            | <b>8%</b>                          |
| Professional & Business Services               | <b>11,894</b>            | <b>8%</b>                          |
| Professional, Scientific & Technical Svcs      | 3,920                    | 3%                                 |
| Management of Companies                        | 1,315                    | 1%                                 |
| Admin & Support, Waste Mgmt & Remediation Svcs | 6,660                    | 5%                                 |
| Leisure & Hospitality                          | <b>11,341</b>            | <b>8%</b>                          |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation               | 1,344                    | 1%                                 |
| Accommodations & Food Services                 | 9,997                    | 7%                                 |
| Natural Resources & Mining                     | <b>10,477</b>            | <b>7%</b>                          |
| Construction                                   | <b>8,068</b>             | <b>6%</b>                          |
| Financial Activities                           | <b>5,783</b>             | <b>4%</b>                          |
| Finance & Insurance                            | 3,818                    | 3%                                 |
| Real Estate Rental & Leasing                   | 1,966                    | 1%                                 |
| Other Services                                 | <b>5,197</b>             | <b>4%</b>                          |
| Information                                    | <b>1,381</b>             | <b>1%</b>                          |
| <b>Total Employment</b>                        | <b>140,899</b>           |                                    |

Source: Oregon Employment Department: Covered Employment and Wages: Marion County, 2008

Median income can be used as an indicator of the strength of the region's economic stability. In 2008, the median household income in Marion County was \$47,204. This is about ten percent below the 2008 national median household income of \$52,029. Although median household income can be used to compare areas as a whole, this number does not reflect how income is divided among area residents.

**Table 2.5 Marion County Median Household Income 2005 and 2008**

| <b>Area</b>   | <b>2005</b> | <b>2008</b> | <b>% Change</b> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| United States | \$46,242    | \$52,029    | 13%             |
| Oregon        | \$42,944    | \$50,169    | 17%             |
| Marion County | \$43,137    | \$47,204    | 9%              |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey and U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

While Marion County's population and income are increasing, Table 2.6 shows the poverty rate is also growing among all ages. Low income populations may require additional assistance following a disaster because they may not have the savings to withstand economic setbacks, and if work is interrupted, housing, food, and necessities become a greater burden.

Additionally, low-income households are more reliant upon public transportation, public food assistance, public housing, and other public programs, all of which can be impacted in the event of a natural disaster.

**Table 2.6 Marion County Poverty, 2005 and 2008**

| Ages                | 2005          |                       | 2008          |                       |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
|                     | Total Persons | Percent of Population | Total Persons | Percent of Population |
| All Ages in Poverty | 44,241        | 15.1%                 | 50,022        | 15.9%                 |
| Under 18 in Poverty | 16,845        | 21.0%                 | 19,512        | 23.3%                 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey and U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey

## Historic and Cultural Resources

Historic and cultural resources such as historic structures and landmarks can help to define a community and may also be sources of tourism dollars. Because of their role in defining and supporting the community, protecting these resources from the impact of disasters is important. Marion County has nearly 103 structures on the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>18</sup> A complete list of these structures can be found on the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office website at:

[http://www.oregonheritage.org/OPRD/HCD/NATREG/docs/oregon\\_nr\\_list.pdf](http://www.oregonheritage.org/OPRD/HCD/NATREG/docs/oregon_nr_list.pdf).

The multitude of historic and cultural resources in Marion County led to the formation of the Marion County Cultural Coalition Planning Committee in 2003.<sup>19</sup> The Marion County Cultural Coalition Planning Committee has a plan for preserving, enhancing and supporting the arts, history, architecture, libraries, museums, festivals and other cultural assets. It created a website, and initiated a database inventory of cultural assets available online.<sup>20</sup> After the committee dissolved in 2004, its successor, Marion Cultural Development Corporation (a private, nonprofit entity), was launched. The nonprofit continues to build on the committee's initial work by accepting donations and grants, as well as distributing grants to local projects that are intended to increase cultural assets and opportunities for the public in Marion County.

<sup>18</sup>National Register of Historic Places, "2006 State Listings: Oregon-Marion County,"

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/or/Marion/state2.html>, accessed January 19, 2010.

<sup>19</sup>Marion County Cultural Coalition Planning Committee, "Building Support for Community Arts and Culture: A Plan for Cultural Development in Marion County 2003-2004," [http://marionculturaltrust.org/CRI/PDF/Cultural\\_Plan.pdf](http://marionculturaltrust.org/CRI/PDF/Cultural_Plan.pdf), accessed January 20, 2010.

<sup>20</sup><http://www.marionculturaltrust.org/> or see Building Support for Community Arts and Culture: A Plan for Cultural Development in Marion County 2003-2004.



## Infrastructure and Critical Facilities

Transportation networks, systems for power transmission, and critical facilities such as hospitals and police stations are all vital to the functioning of the region. Due to the fundamental role that infrastructure plays both pre-and post-disaster, it deserves special attention in the context of creating more resilient communities. The information provided in this section of the profile can serve as the basis for informed decisions about how to reduce the vulnerability of Marion County's infrastructure to natural hazards.

The principal arterial system in Marion County includes approximately 42 miles of Interstate 5 traversing the county from north to south and two non-interstate principal arterials: Highway 22 and 99E.<sup>21</sup> Average annual daily traffic volumes on I-5 within Marion County range from 57,000 to 83,000.<sup>22</sup> Highway 99E runs north to south, providing connections to Interstate 205 at Oregon City. Highway 22, running east to west, provides the main access for the rural areas of Marion County.

In addition to Marion County's principal arterials, Marion County has other roads under the jurisdiction of the state, county, each of the 20 incorporated cities, as well as the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Oregon State Forestry Department. Of these roads, approximately 1,130 miles are maintained by Marion County, and approximately 140 miles lie within various urban growth boundaries. In addition, Marion County also has about 79 miles of local access roads that are public roadways, but under Oregon Revised Statutes, are not maintained by the county. In general, maintenance of these roads is the responsibility of adjacent property owners<sup>23</sup>. Marion County's primary transportation routes are shown in Figure 2.5 below.

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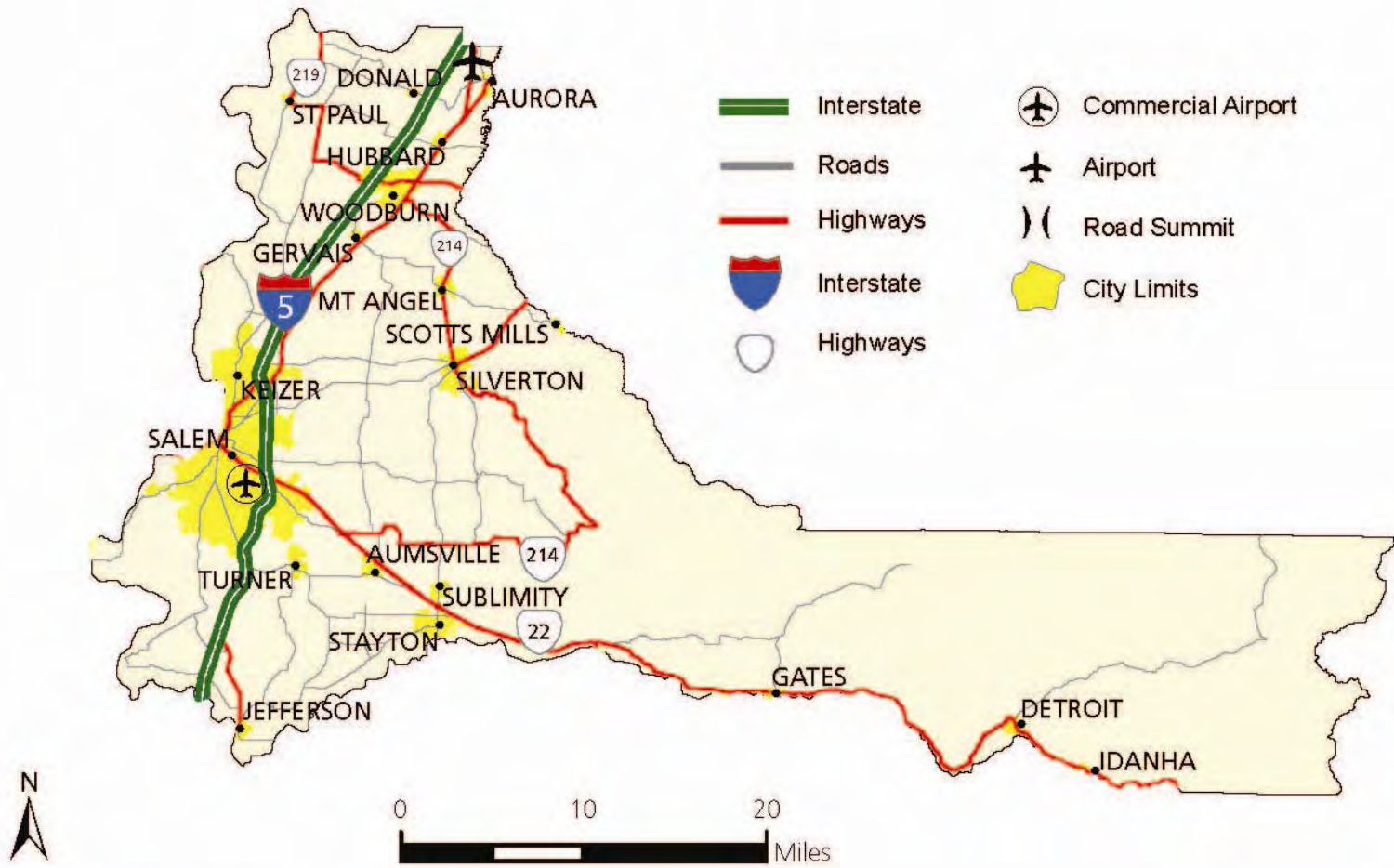
<sup>21</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Plan, 2008.

<sup>22</sup>Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan, 2005.

<sup>23</sup> Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan, 2005.



**Figure 2.5 Primary Transportation Routes in Marion County**



**Marion County, Oregon**

InfoGraphics Lab, 2010

Source: Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)  
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/>



Other important modes of transportation include airports, public transportation, and railways. The county has approximately 122 miles of railroad.<sup>24</sup> Union Pacific operates the main line, which runs north to south, connecting to both Washington and California. Portland & Western and Willamette Valley Railway operate Oregon short lines within the county. Facilities that support air travel include two public airports (Salem and Aurora), 14 private airstrips, and nine heliports.<sup>25</sup> Marion County’s mass transit services include Salem-Keizer Transit (Cherriots), serving the Salem-Keizer urban area, and the Chemeketa Area Regional Transportation System (CARTS). CARTS is a partnership between Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties that provides weekday public transit for elderly and disabled persons as well as the general public.<sup>26</sup>

The condition of bridges in the county is also a factor that affects risk from natural hazards. Bridges damaged by hazards such as earthquakes can disrupt traffic and exacerbate economic losses because of the inability of industries to transport services and products to clients. Marion County maintains 141 bridges, of which 135 are in rural areas and six are in urban areas.<sup>27</sup> Bridges are assessed by a sufficiency rating, a number on a scale from zero to 100 that represents the overall condition of the structure. The higher the rating, the better the condition of the bridge. The bridges in Marion County span ratings from a low of 43.2 to a high of 100. These ratings are summarized in Table 2.7.

**Table 2.7 Marion County Bridges: Sufficiency Ratings, 2005**

| <b>Sufficiency Rating</b> | <b>Number of Bridges</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 90.1 to 100               | 41                       | 29.1%          |
| 80.1 to 90                | 34                       | 24.1%          |
| 70.1 to 80                | 34                       | 24.1%          |
| 60.1 to 70                | 18                       | 12.8%          |
| 50.1 to 60                | 9                        | 6.4%           |
| 40.1 to 50                | 5                        | 3.6%           |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>141</b>               | <b>100%</b>    |

Source: Marion County Rural Transportation Plan, 2005

The Marion County Public Works Department has assigned county bridges with an operating rate, which determines whether overweight trucks can receive a permit to cross the bridge and if any requirements will be placed on their use of the bridge. Six bridges are presently restricted to certain maximum vehicle weights or dimensions. Table 2.8 lists the weight and

<sup>24</sup>Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan, 2005.

<sup>25</sup>Federal Aviation Administration, “Airport Facilities Data,” Airport Data (5010) and Contact Information, [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/), accessed January 18, 2010.

<sup>26</sup>Mid Willamette Valley Council of Governments, “SKATS 2031 Regional Transportation System Plan (RTSP),” 2007.

<sup>27</sup>Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan, 2005.

height restrictions of these bridges and shows the functional class of the roadway crossing that bridge. By limiting maximum vehicular weight on county bridges, bridge maintenance will be reduced, the lifespan of the bridge will be extended, and the overall county transportation system will remain functional. Bridges provide fundamental links in Marion County's transportation corridors, if they are not maintained, then in the event of a natural disaster the bridge may become unusable, effectively isolating a region if no other alternative transportation networks exist.

**Table 2.8 Marion County Bridges: Height & Weight Restrictions**

| Facility              | Over                 | Restriction  | Functional Class |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--|------------------|
| Gallon House Rd.      | Abiqua Creek         | Weight 20 Tons, Height 14' 2",<br>One Lane Bridge    | Local            |
| Mt. Angel-Gervais Rd. | Pudding River        | Weight 20 to 39 Tons<br>(Depending on Configuration) | Minor Collector  |
| Jefferson-Marion Rd.  | SP Railroad          | Weight 40 Tons                                       | Arterial         |
| Labish Center Rd.     | Little Pudding River | Weight 40 Tons                                       | Minor Collector  |
| Rambler Dr.           | Little Pudding River | Weight 40 Tons                                       | Local            |
| River Rd. S           | Willamette River     | Weight 40 Tons                                       | Arterial         |

Source: Marion County Rural Transportation Plan, 2005

Critical facilities are those facilities that are essential to government response and recovery activities. These facilities include police and fire stations, public works facilities, sewer and water facilities, hospitals, bridges, roads, and shelters. Table 2.9 provides a list of Marion County's critical facilities and structures.

**Table 2.9 Critical Facilities in Marion County, 2010**

| Facility           | Number |
|--------------------|--------|
| Hospitals          | 3      |
| Sheriff Stations   | 4      |
| Police Stations    | 20     |
| Fire Departments   | 18     |
| School Districts   | 10     |
| Community Colleges | 1      |
| Universities       | 2      |
| Dams               | 56     |
| Bridges            | 141    |

Source: Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health, Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal, Oregon Department of Education

Marion County's critical facilities and infrastructure are depicted in Figures 2.5 and 2.6 below. This map includes additionally recognized critical facilities identified by the steering committee. Other critical and necessary facilities vital to the efficient delivery of key governmental services include



correctional institutions, public services buildings, law enforcement centers, courthouses, and juvenile service buildings.

Figure 2.5 Marion County Critical Facilities

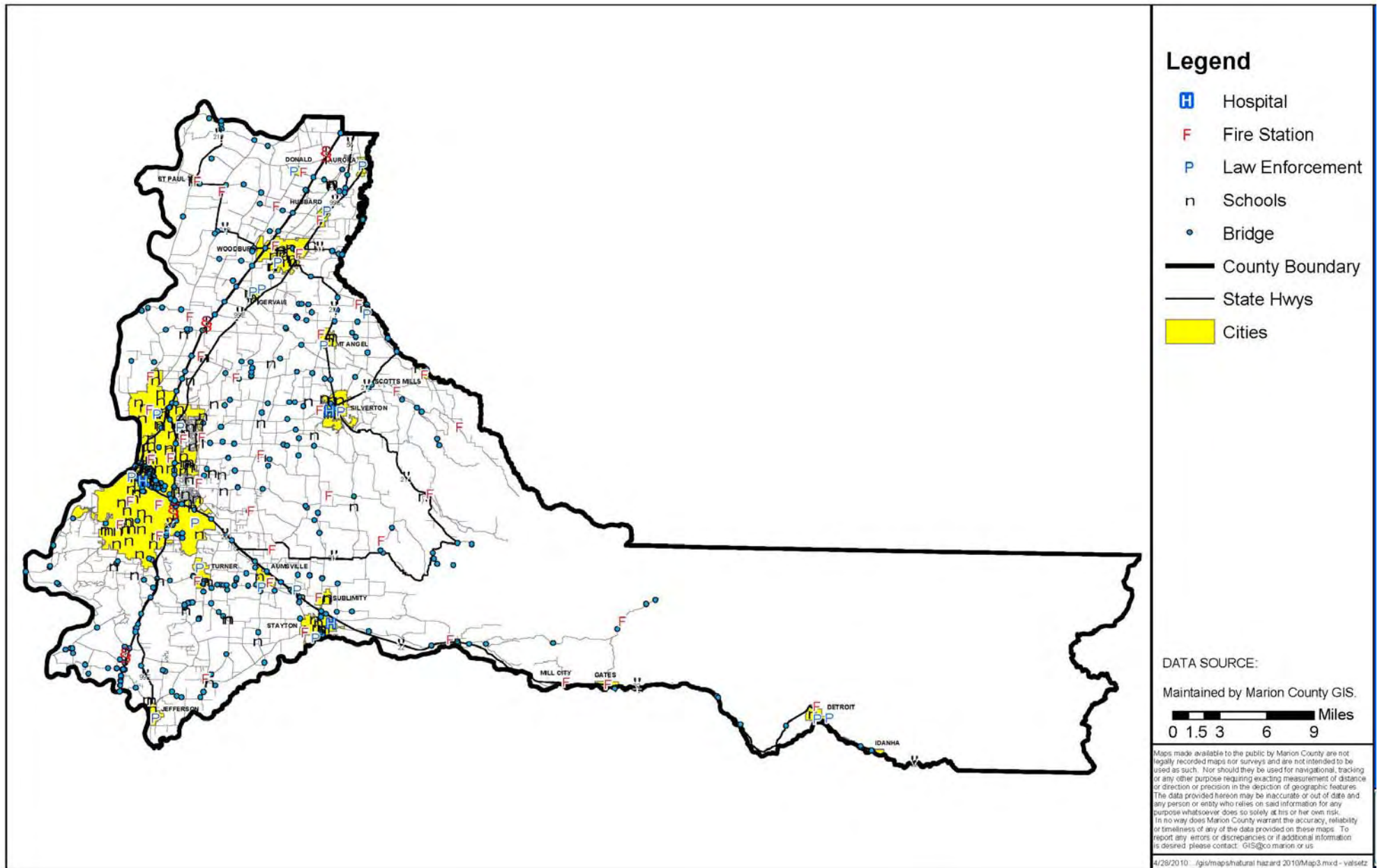
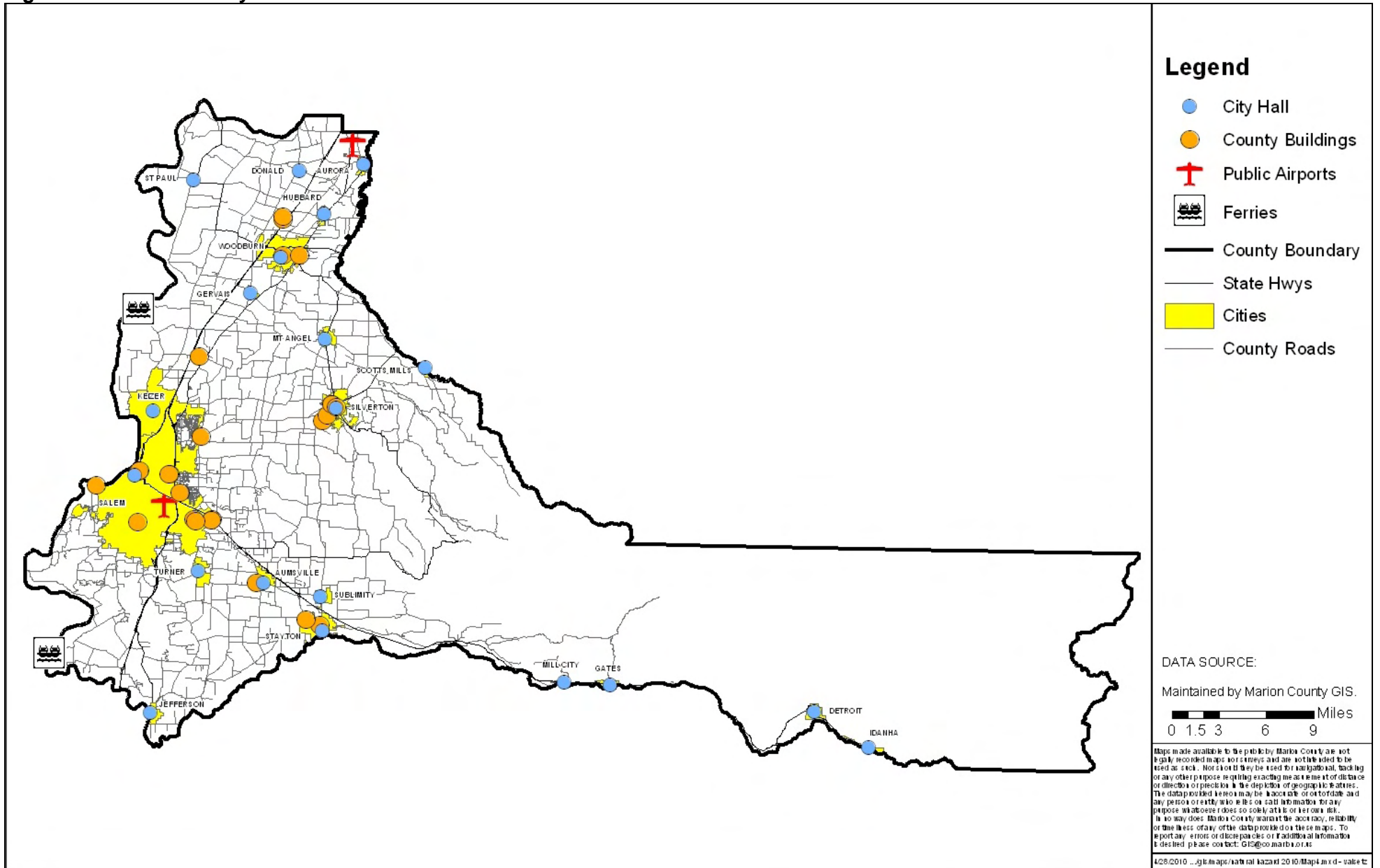




Figure 2.6 Marion County Public Facilities.



Dam failures can occur at any time and are quite common. While most result in minor damage and pose little threat, some have the potential for severe damage where facilities exist. The Oregon Water Resource Department has a database that identifies all the dams within the state and assesses the respective hazard level. The “hazard level” estimates the amount of damage that could occur in the event of dam failure.<sup>28</sup>

Marion County has over 56 dams, and two are ranked at a high hazard level: Detroit Dam and Big Cliff Dam.<sup>29</sup> Detroit and Big Cliff are hydroelectric dams that control the flow of water on the Santiam River, providing a major boating and recreational area. However, both dams are considered a major hazard for the large population downstream that would be at risk in the event of a dam failure. Besides the Detroit and Big Cliff dams, other major dams in Marion County include Waconda and Silverton.<sup>30</sup>

## Land Use and Development

Marion County has a mix of residential, commercial, and agricultural land uses. Agriculture is the leading industry in the county.<sup>31</sup> In terms of gross sales, Marion County is the top agricultural producer in the state.<sup>32</sup> Forested lands, located in the eastern portion of the county, comprise 43 percent of the total county area. As such, agriculture has a major impact on the economic, recreational, and environmental character of Marion County.<sup>33</sup> Table 2.10 provides a breakdown of the acreage of land use by plan designation.

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<sup>28</sup>State of Oregon: Water Resources Department. 2007. Dam Safety in Oregon, A General Guide. [http://www1.wrd.state.or.us/pdfs/dam\\_safety\\_guide.pdf](http://www1.wrd.state.or.us/pdfs/dam_safety_guide.pdf), accessed February 3, 2010.

<sup>29</sup>Oregon Water Resources Department, “Dam Inventory Query,” [http://apps2.wrd.state.or.us/apps/misc/dam\\_inventory/](http://apps2.wrd.state.or.us/apps/misc/dam_inventory/), accessed January 19, 2010.

<sup>30</sup>Marion County, Oregon Emergency Operations: Basic Plan, 2005.

<sup>31</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2008.

<sup>32</sup>Marion County Board of Commissioners. “Strategic Priorities for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.” 2008.

<sup>33</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2008.

**Table 2.10 Acreage by Land Use Plan Designations Marion County**

| <b>Designation</b>                         | <b>Acreage</b> |
|--|----------------|
| Forest                                     | 320,494        |
| Primary Agriculture                        | 296,961        |
| Urban Areas - Within Urban Growth Boundary | 56,211         |
| Special Agriculture                        | 24,198         |
| Rural Residential                          | 18,730         |
| Public and Semi-Public                     | 16,750         |
| Farm and Timber                            | 15,610         |
| Industrial                                 | 733            |
| Commercial                                 | 313            |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>750,000</b> |

Source: Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, revised 2008

A majority of the county's water resources originate in the watersheds of the forested areas.<sup>34</sup> The Pudding and Santiam River basins represent the prominent sources of water for all the municipalities in Marion County.<sup>35</sup> The topography of the eastern portion of the county varies between level ridge tops and low-lying stream canyons. Typically, the level areas are allocated as farm and woodlot uses, while the stream canyons and steeper ridges are devoted to forest uses.<sup>36</sup> Forest production in Marion County occurs in National Forest lands, in addition to large public and private timber company holdings. Approximately 206,000 acres of National Forest land are owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service<sup>37</sup>. Another major timber area, comprised of public lands and private timber company properties, lies between the National Forest and the north-south township line extending through Silver Creek Falls State Park. Figure 2.7 shows the land ownership in Marion County.

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<sup>34</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2008.

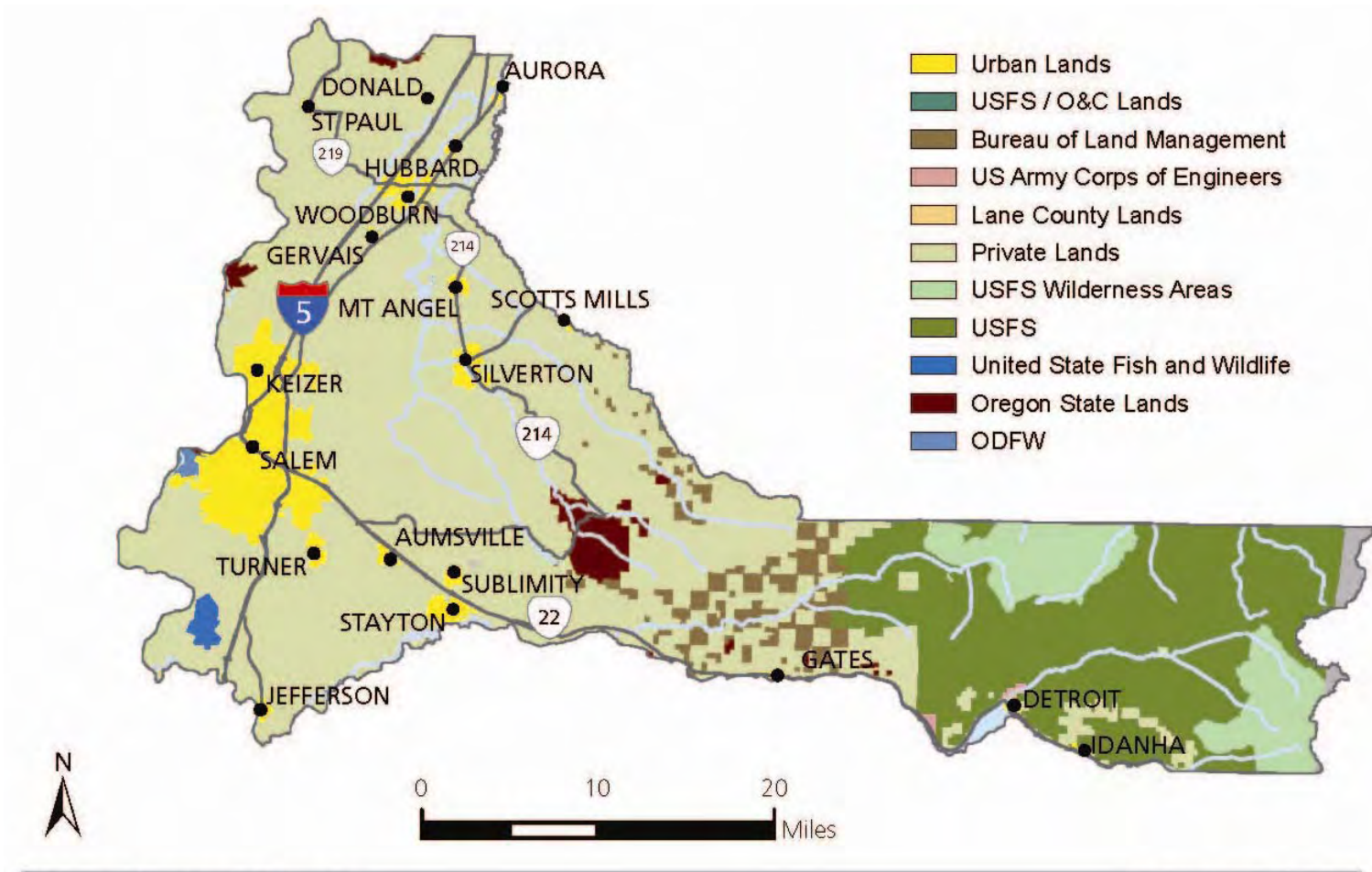
<sup>35</sup>Marion County. "Comprehensive Land Use Plan Background and Inventory Report." 2004.

<sup>36</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2008.

<sup>37</sup>Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2008.



**Figure 2.7 Marion County Land Ownership**



**Marion County, Oregon**

InfoGraphics Lab, 2010

Source: Oregon Geospatial Enterprise Office (GEO), <http://www.oregon.gov/DAS/EISPD/GEO/alphalist.shtml>  
 Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) <http://www.lcog.org/>



Marion County has 20 incorporated cities and 37 unincorporated communities. Most of the cities are located in the western portion of the county. Development has occurred mostly in the level valley lands. The urbanization patterns of Salem and Silverton have encroached on the foothills of the county.<sup>38</sup> Urban development is proceeding outward from urban areas in a scattered manner leaving much undeveloped land in its wake. Expanding development patterns can be detrimental in Marion County due to the economic reliance on natural resources. However, because of the economic decline in recent years, growth within the county has rapidly declined. From 2005 to 2008 the amount of building permits issued in Marion County decreased by 65 percent.<sup>39</sup> Table 2.11 gives a detailed breakdown of the types and quantities of issued residential building permits.

**Table 2.11 Issued Building Permits in Marion County, 2005 and 2008**

|                       | 2005         |              | 2008       |            |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|
|                       | Buildings    | Units        | Buildings  | Units      |
| Single Family         | 1,659        | 1,659        | 563        | 563        |
| Two Family            | 35           | 70           | 12         | 24         |
| Three and Four Family | 10           | 36           | 2          | 6          |
| Five or More Family   | 18           | 219          | 33         | 354        |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1,722</b> | <b>1,984</b> | <b>610</b> | <b>947</b> |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Building Permits: Annual 2005 & 2008."

## Government Structure

Local governments and their departments can encourage natural hazard mitigation at the county level by integrating mitigation strategies into existing plans, policies, and programs. If mitigation strategies are successfully integrated, mitigation becomes part of a government's daily business.

Marion County's governing jurisdiction includes all areas not governed by the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, the State of Oregon, or the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Marion County elects three county commissioners, an assessor, county clerk, district attorney, sheriff, and treasurer. The county consists of the following departments and divisions:<sup>40</sup>

**Board of Commissioners:** The Board of Commissioners is the legislative body for the county and consists of three elected commissioners. The Board can encourage implementation of mitigation through local legislation and through programs that encourage hazard mitigation.

<sup>38</sup>Marion County. "Comprehensive Land Use Plan Background and Inventory Report." 2004.

<sup>39</sup>US Census Bureau, "Building Permits: Annual 2005 & 2008," <http://censtats.census.gov/bldg/bldgprmt.shtml>, accessed January 23, 2010.

<sup>40</sup>County, M. (2010, January 5). *Marion County Oregon*. <http://www.co.marion.or.us/>, accessed January 21, 2010.

**Building Inspection:** The Building Inspection Division of the Public Works Department reviews new construction and remodeling plans for buildings in unincorporated areas of the county and, by contract in incorporated cities of Marion County which do not have their own building inspection programs.

**Business Services:** The Business Services Department provides the following internal services to county departments: coordination of county administrative policies, facilities maintenance and operations, human resources and benefits administration, employee relations and development, liability and workers compensation insurance management, and employee safety and wellness. Business services may be able to assist in implementing mitigation actions through the maintenance and operations of county facilities.

**Children and Families Commission:** The Children and Families Commission is a 39-member commission that is appointed by the Marion County Board of Commissioners. The Commission facilitates coordinated comprehensive planning for children in Marion County, mobilizes communities to support children and families, and creates and sustains a family support system. The Children and Families Commission can assist with education and outreach-related mitigation actions.

**Code Enforcement:** The Code Enforcement Division of the Public Works Department is responsible for administering various county enforcement ordinances for unincorporated areas of the county.

**Emergency Management:** The Emergency Management Division of the Public Works Department ensures that the county is prepared to respond to, and recover from, man-made and natural disasters. Mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts are planned in coordination with county and local stakeholders. Major responsibilities of the Marion County Office of Emergency Management include: developing emergency/disaster plans that build upon existing policies and procedures; conducting training sessions to develop and maintain emergency management skills; identifying and managing resources in the event of an emergency or disaster; developing and distributing information related to emergency preparation, response, and recovery to the public, schools, and local government agencies; serving as liaison between local, state, and federal governments in the event of an emergency or disaster; and complying with Federal Emergency Management Agency and Oregon Emergency Management requirements for receipt of program funds.

**Engineering:** The Engineering Division of the Public Works Department performs engineering services for capital projects, land development engineering and permits, the surveyor's office, and transportation engineering.

**Environmental Services:** The Environmental Services Division of the Public Works Department provides residents and visitors with innovative solid waste, parks, and water quality programs.

**Finance:** The Finance Department is responsible for accounts payable, accounts receivable, budget, contract management, general accounting, payroll, purchasing, surplus property, and tax foreclosed property management.

**Health:** The Health Department provides and purchases high quality services which promote individual and community health to all citizens of Marion County. The department provides vital services that maintain community health especially after a disaster.

**Housing Authority:** The Housing Authority Agency works with builders, local banks, and a variety of other community partners to build and maintain affordable housing for eligible families and individuals. The agency also provides housing assistance to low income families, elderly people and people with disabilities who reside in the Marion County area (excluding the cities of Salem and Keizer as well as County administered lands within the Urban Growth Boundary). The agency can assist in mitigation through the dissemination information about steps to take for making homes more disaster resilient.

**Information Technology:** The Information Technology Department provides technology, telecom, and information systems leadership and strategic planning while ensuring efficient, cost effective implementation and management of all the technology components of county operations and services. The department provides necessary information that keeps the county running. The department can assist in mitigation efforts through information dissemination.

**Legal Counsel:** The Office of Legal Counsel is responsible for providing legal services to the Board of Commissioners, county departments, boards, commissions and to individual county employees when required by the Oregon Tort Claims Act.

**Marion County Fair:** The Marion County Fair promotes the diverse agricultural and cultural heritage of Marion County through active participation of Marion County citizens. The fair can be used to disseminate information about natural hazards and mitigation activities residents can implement.

**OSU Extension Service:** The extension service engages Oregonians with research-based knowledge and education that focuses on strengthening communities and economies, sustaining natural resources, and promoting healthy families and individuals. The service has an extensive network in place and could integrate natural hazards mitigation education into existing education efforts.

**Parks:** The Parks Department is responsible for providing an interconnected, safe, accessible and well maintained parks system that provides diverse recreation opportunities to residents and visitors, and preserves Marion County's bountiful natural and historical resources.

**Planning:** The Planning Division of the Public Works Department is responsible for administering the county's Comprehensive Plan and implements land use regulations for all unincorporated areas of the county. Natural hazards related conditions that affect development include floodplains, impact on water resources, and geologic conditions.

**Public Works:** The Public Works Department Consists of 11 divisions; Administration, Building Inspection, Code Enforcement, Dog Control, Emergency Management, Engineering, Environmental Services, Operations, Parks, Planning, and Surveyor's Office. The department's divisions can play important roles in implementing natural hazards mitigation activities through integration of mitigation actions into existing plans and policies and disseminating information.

**Sheriff's Office:** The Sheriff's Office is responsible for providing a high level of public safety services in coordination with the communities of Marion County. The office can provide education about natural hazards mitigation and is a first responder in the event of a natural disaster.

**Treasurer's Office:** The Treasurer's Office controls the flow of money to and from the county and maintains records for the receipt, investment and payment of county funds. The Treasurer maintains bank accounts at various banks as well as the State Treasury Investment Pool. The Treasurer is the investment manager at Marion County. Funds are invested in accordance with the county's investment policy, assuring that adequate cash is available to meet the obligations of the county. This is vital to know what monetary resources the county has available for natural hazards mitigation.

**Tax Office:** The Tax Office is responsible for collecting property taxes from each property owner in Marion County. The office could be a resource for disseminating educational material about natural hazards to property owners.

## **Existing Plan and Policies**

Communities often have existing plans and policies that guide and influence land use, land development, and population growth. Such existing plans and policies can include comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, and technical reports or studies. Plans and policies already in existence have support from local residents, businesses, and policy makers.

Many land-use, comprehensive, and strategic plans get updated regularly, and can easily adapt to changing conditions and needs.<sup>41</sup>

The Marion County multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan includes a range of recommended action items that, when implemented, will reduce the county's vulnerability to natural hazards. Many of these recommendations are consistent with the goals and objectives of the county's existing plans and policies. Linking existing plans and policies to the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan helps identify what resources already exist that can be used to implement the action items identified in the plan. Implementing the natural hazards mitigation plan's action items through existing plans and policies increases their likelihood of being supported, getting updated, and maximizing the county's resources.

The following table documents the plans and policies already in place in Marion County and associated jurisdictions located in the county.

### **Marion County Comprehensive Plan<sup>42</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2008

**Author/Owner:** Marion County Planning Division

**Description:** The Marion County Comprehensive Plan was developed for the purpose of providing a guide to development and conservation of Marion County's land resources. It is a generalized long-range policy guide and land use map that provides the basis for decisions on the physical, social, and economic development of Marion County

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** The Comprehensive Plan guides growth and development and can be linked to action items that shape growth and development so that the county does not increase its risk to natural hazards. The Comprehensive Plan can be linked to action items that protect natural and historic areas and areas subject to natural hazards. It can also be linked to action items for how the county will implement Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 7 requirements.

### **Marion County Community Wildfire Protection Plan<sup>43</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2008

**Author/Owner:** Marion County, Oregon Department of Forestry, Marion County Fire Districts, Bureau of Land Management, Willamette National Forest.

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<sup>41</sup>Burby, Raymond J., ed. 1998. Cooperating with Nature: Confronting Natural Hazards with Land-Use Planning for Sustainable Communities.

<sup>42</sup>Marion County Planning Division. (2008). *Marion County Comprehensive Land Use Plan*.

<sup>43</sup>Marion County Emergency Management. (2008). *Marion County Community Wildfire Protection Plan*.

**Description:** The Marion County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is the result of a countywide effort initiated to reduce wildland fire risk to communities and their citizens, the environment and quality of life within Marion County.

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** The CWPP was intended to supplement the wildfire chapter of the NHMP. Action items contained within this wildfire protection plan are efforts intended to mitigate losses due to a wildfire event.

## **Regional Debris Management Plan (RDMP)<sup>44</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2008

**Author/Owner:** Ecology and Environment Inc. / Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties.

**Description:** Natural and human-made hazards which can generate large amounts of debris may pose threats to public health and safety due to disease, fire, and obstructions to emergency response activities.

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** This RDMP identifies actions intended to assist in planning for, and responding to a natural or human made debris generating event. When properly implemented, the result will be a coordinated and comprehensive effort to reduce the debris-related impacts and cost of a disaster within a region.

## **Marion County Emergency Operations Plan<sup>45</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2008

**Author/Owner:** Ecology and Environment Inc. / Marion County

**Description:** The Emergency Operations Plan is an all-hazards plan that describes how Marion County will respond to specific events.

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** Mitigation actions that reduce the county's vulnerability to natural hazards can improve the county's ability to respond to events. This increases safety and minimizes losses.

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<sup>44</sup>Ecology and Environment Inc. (2008). *Regional Debris Management Plan*. Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

<sup>45</sup>Ecology and Environment Inc. (2008). *Marion County Emergency Operations Plan*.



## Salem Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan<sup>46</sup>

**Date of Last Revision:** 2008

**Author/Owner:** Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience/City of Salem

**Description:** A hazard mitigation plan for the City of Salem that focuses on mitigation efforts for floods, landslides, earthquakes, severe wind and ice storms, urban-wildland interface, fires, volcanic eruptions, and hazardous materials incidents.

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** Describes the natural hazards that affect the city of Salem, the city's specific vulnerabilities to those hazards, and the long and short-term mitigation strategies that the city can implement to reduce its overall risk to natural hazards.

## Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan<sup>47</sup>

**Date of Last Revision:** 2005

**Author/Owner:** Marion County Public Works Department

**Description:** The Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan (RTSP) provides the framework for developing an efficient, well-balanced, and cost-effective transportation system for the next 20 years.

**Relation to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** Transportation systems assist in evacuation and response in the event of a natural hazard. Action items that address transportation issues should be coordinated with the transportation systems plan.

## Marion County Zoning Ordinance<sup>48</sup>

**Date of Last Revision:** 2009

**Author/Owner:** Marion County

**Description:** Zoning Code Title 16 - Urban Zoning, and Zoning Code Title 17 - Rural Zoning Guides growth and development by establishing the County's authority to govern land use zoning and by providing conditions for sustainable land use practices. This also includes provisions for floodplain ordinances, stormwater management provisions and best management practices, dumping and solid waste ordinance, nuisance ordinance, vegetation management and weed control, and erosion control.

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<sup>46</sup>University of Oregon Community Service Center. (2008). *City of Salem Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan*. (Marion County, 2005)

<sup>47</sup>Marion County. (2005). *Marion County Rural Transportation System Plan*. <http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/Engineering/rtsp/>, accessed January 20, 2010.

<sup>48</sup>Code Publishing Company. (2009). *Marion County Code*. Retrieved January 2010, from <http://www.codepublishing.com/OR/marioncounty/> (Marion County, 2007)

**Relation to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** The zoning ordinance guides growth and development in Marion County. It can be linked to action items that shape growth and development so that they do not increase the county's risk to natural hazards and action items that protect natural and historic areas and areas subject to natural hazards. Finally, the zoning ordinance can be linked to action items for how the county will implement Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 7 requirements.

## **Geologically Hazardous Areas Overlay Zone-Rural Zoning Ordinance (Ch. 182)<sup>49</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2002

**Author/Owner:** Marion County Public Works

**Description:** This chapter implements the strategy for reviewing development applications for properties within identified slide hazard and excessive slope areas. The ordinance prohibits proposed land use activities in these areas which may adversely affect the stability and landslide susceptibility of the total area of alteration.

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** The provisions of this chapter are intended to manage the risk of a landslide within identified slide hazard and excessive slope areas by requiring geological and/or geotechnical reports, but not act as a guarantee that the landslide hazard risk will be eliminated.

## **Geologically Hazardous Areas Overlay Zone-Urban Zoning Ordinance (Ch. 24)<sup>50</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2002

**Author/Owner:** Marion County Public Works

**Description:** This chapter implements the strategy for reviewing development applications for properties within identified slide hazard and excessive slope areas to address the risk that a proposed land use activity may adversely affect the stability and landslide susceptibility of the total area of alteration of the naturally occurring ground surface resulting from construction activities whether permanent or temporary .

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** The provisions of this chapter are intended to manage the risk of a landslide within identified

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<sup>49</sup>Marion County. (2007). *Marion County Oregon: Geologically Hazardous Areas Overlay Zone - Rural Zoning*: <http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/Planning/zoning/geohazard/chapter182.htm>, accessed January 20, 2010.

<sup>50</sup>Marion County. (2007). *Marion County Oregon: Geologically Hazardous Areas Overlay Zone - Urban Zoning*: <http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/Planning/zoning/geohazard/chapter24.htm>, accessed January 20, 2010.

slide hazard and excessive slope areas by requiring geological and/or geotechnical reports, but not act as a guarantee that the landslide hazard risk will be eliminated.

## **Marion County Parks Master Plan<sup>51</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2009 Draft

**Author/Owner:** MIG, Inc./Marion County

**Description:** This plan takes a comprehensive look at parks in Marion County. It addresses the importance of parks in our community, as well as the future of the parks system. The plan further looks at how to improve existing parks and areas of land that could be incorporated into the system.

**Relationship to Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning:** Parks planning can be used to address mitigation strategies, such as restoring riparian habitat and wetlands to reduce risk of flooding in Marion County.

## **Marion County Solid Waste Management Plan<sup>52</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2009

**Author/Owner:** J.R. Miller & Associates, Inc. in association with Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc./Marion County-Department of Public Works-Environmental Services Division

**Description:** “Provides a complete review of the Marion County Solid Waste Management System. It considers the current infrastructure and determines what improvements and investments are required to continue to provide comprehensive waste reduction, recycling, collection, and disposal services. It makes recommendations to help guide the development of future programs and services.”<sup>53</sup>

**Relationship to Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning:** Having a solid waste management plan lays out how to deal with solid waste, which after a natural hazard event plays an important role in cleaning up communities.

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<sup>51</sup> MIG, Inc. 2009. Marion County Parks Master Plan.  
[http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/FF177BB0-854C-4D10-A560-1150E8DAE32A/24770/DraftPlan\\_WithAppendices1211091.pdf](http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/FF177BB0-854C-4D10-A560-1150E8DAE32A/24770/DraftPlan_WithAppendices1211091.pdf), accessed June 7, 2010.

<sup>52</sup> J.R. Miller & Associates, Inc. in association with Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc. 2009. Marion County Solid Waste Management Plan.  
[http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/FF177BB0-854C-4D10-A560-1150E8DAE32A/25059/2010\\_0115FinalSWMPUpdate1.pdf](http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/FF177BB0-854C-4D10-A560-1150E8DAE32A/25059/2010_0115FinalSWMPUpdate1.pdf), accessed June 7, 2010.

<sup>53</sup> J.R. Miller & Associates, Inc. in association with Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc. 2009. Marion County Solid Waste Management Plan.  
[http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/FF177BB0-854C-4D10-A560-1150E8DAE32A/25059/2010\\_0115FinalSWMPUpdate1.pdf](http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/FF177BB0-854C-4D10-A560-1150E8DAE32A/25059/2010_0115FinalSWMPUpdate1.pdf), accessed June 7, 2010.

## **Marion County Stormwater Management Plan for the Urbanized Area around Salem and Keizer<sup>54</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2004

**Author/Owner:** Marion County Department of Public Works:  
Environmental Services Division

**Description:** Details how to deal with polluted stormwater according to federal regulations. This plan involves six components that include: public education and outreach, public participation and involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post construction runoff control, and pollution prevention and good housekeeping.

**Relationship to Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning:** The Stormwater Management Plan contains actions that are designed to maintain stormwater flows to reduce the probability of contaminated water, flooding, and landslides occurring.

## **Marion County IT Strategic Plan<sup>55</sup>**

**Date of Last Revision:** 2010

**Author/Owner:** John Lattimer and Grishna Alpernas/ Marion County

**Description:** Defines the strategic directions of the IT department and essentially how to deal with changes within the department.

**Relationship to Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning:** Having a defined strategic plan for IT in place is important, since most county information is held in or reliant on computer technology. Having an alternative or backup plan to address IT issues is necessary to be able to maintain government functions.

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<sup>54</sup> Marion County Department of Public Works Environmental Services Division. 2004. Marion County Stormwater Management Plan for the Urbanized Area around Salem and Keizer. <http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/ES/waterquality/strmwtr.htm>, accessed June 7, 2010.

<sup>55</sup> Lattimer, J. and Alpernas, G. 2010. Marion County IT Strategic Plan. <http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/9DA04FED-96D3-412A-A6E0-25ADA0D9EDE4/25820/MCITStrategicPlan2010.pdf>, accessed June 7, 2010.

## Community Organizations and Programs

Social systems can be defined as community organizations and programs that provide social and community-based services, such as health care or housing assistance, to the public. In implementing mitigation, it is important to know what social systems exist within the community because of their existing connections to the public. Often, actions identified by the plan involve communicating with the public or specific subgroups within the population (e.g. elderly, children, low income). The county can use existing social systems as resources for implementing such communication-related activities because these service providers already work directly with the public on a number of issues, one of which could be natural hazard preparedness and mitigation.

The following table highlights organizations that are active within the community and may be potential partners for implementing mitigation actions. The table includes information on each organization or program's service area, types of services offered, populations served, and how the organization or program could be involved in natural hazard mitigation. The three involvement methods are defined below.

- **Education and outreach:** organization could partner with the community to educate the public or provide outreach assistance on natural hazard preparedness and mitigation.
- **Information dissemination:** organization could partner with the community to provide hazard-related information to target audiences.
- **Plan/project implementation:** organization may have plans and/or policies that may be used to implement activities or the organization could serve as the coordinating or partner organization to implement mitigation actions.

| Name and Contact Information  | Description  | Service Area             | Populations Served |          |          |        |          | Involvement with Natural Hazard Mitigation |  |
|---|--|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|--|--|
|   |  |                          | Businesses         | Children | Disabled | Elders | Families |  | Low Income   |
| <b>American Legion</b><br>4774 Lilac Lane, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 393-5560   | Condensed Mission Statement: to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. | Marion County            |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>American Red Cross (Willamette Valley Chapter)</b><br>675 Orchard Heights Road NW, Suite 200<br>Salem, OR 97304<br>Phone: (503) 585-5414 | The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disaster and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.   | Willamette Valley        |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |
| <b>Boy Scouts of America</b><br>4395 Liberty Road South, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 581-6601   | To provide numerous volunteer services to community members in addition to preparing boys and young men for active participation in community life.  | Marion County            |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Boys and Girls Club of Salem, Marion and Polk Counties</b><br>1395 Summer Street NE, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 581-7383                      | To inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.  | Marion County            |                    | x        |          |        |          | x  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Chemeketa Area Regional Transportation System</b>  | The objective is the coordination of resources dedicated to providing its senior citizens, disabled and economically disadvantaged residents access to medical services, employment, educational, shopping and recreational opportunities.   | Marion and Polk Counties |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x  |  |

| Name and Contact Information  | Description   | Service Area  | Populations Served |          |          |        |          |            | Involvement with Natural Hazard Mitigation   |
|---|---|---------------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|------------|--|
|   |   |               | Businesses         | Children | Disabled | Elders | Families | Low Income |  |
| <b>Chemeketa Community College</b><br>4000 Lancaster Drive<br>NE P.O. Box 14007<br>Salem, Oregon 97309<br>Phone: (503) 399-5000 | Chemeketa Community College values access and diversity which is affirmed by how we care, collaborate, and innovate with each other and the community. We promise to actively support student learning from precollege to transfer or to the workplace and lifelong learning through focusing on student success, quality, and sustainability in all of our practices and by being responsible stewards of our resources. |               |                    |          |          |        |          |            |  |
| <b>Citizen Corps Council</b>  | To establish a coordinated volunteer network, to recruit and maximize the potential of every Marion County citizen through education and training in order to strengthen our ability to prevent, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.  | Marion County | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |
| <b>City of Salem Center 50+</b><br>2615 Portland Road<br>NE, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 588-6303                                     | Organization poised to meet the needs of the 50+ population of Salem  | Salem         |                    |          | x        | x      |          |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Early Learning Center</b><br>765 14th St. NE, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 391-4964   | Provide early learning opportunities to toddlers and preschoolers.  | Salem/Keizer  |                    | x        |          |        | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Girl Scouts</b><br>1922 McGilchrist St.<br>SE, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 581-2451  | To provide numerous volunteer services to community members in addition to preparing girls and young women for active participation in community life.  | Marion County | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Keizer Chamber of Commerce</b><br>980 Chemewa Road<br>NE, Keizer<br>Phone: (503) 393-9111                                    | Provide economic development assistance to local businesses.  | Keizer        | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |

| Name and Contact Information  | Description  | Service Area             | Populations Served |          |          |        |          |            | Involvement with Natural Hazard Mitigation   |
|---|--|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|------------|--|
|   |  |                          | Businesses         | Children | Disabled | Elders | Families | Low Income |  |
| <b>Keizer ELKS Lodge #2472</b><br>4250 Cherry Ave. NE<br>Phone: (503) 390-0858  | Mission Statement: the benevolent and protective order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share.                     | Keizer                   |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>LaidLaw Transit, Inc.</b><br>365 Conser Street<br>Jefferson, OR 97352<br>Phone: (541) 327-7805   | First Transit is the nation's leading bus transportation provider.   |                          |                    |          | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul>                                   |
| <b>Marion County Amateur Radio</b><br>Marion County ARES<br>C/O Marion County Emergency Management<br>5155 Silverton Rd NE<br>Salem, OR 97305 | Providing voluntary communications in time of need.  | Marion County            | x                  |          |          |        | x        |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |
| <b>Marion County Assisted Living Facilities</b>   | Complete listing of all facilities is available at:<br><a href="http://www.caring.com/local/assisted-living-facilities-in-marion-county-oregon">http://www.caring.com/local/assisted-living-facilities-in-marion-county-oregon</a> | Marion County            |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Marion County Floodplain Program</b>   | Promote public health, safety and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions.   | Marion County            | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Marion County Search and Rescue</b><br>PO Box 527, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 373-4160  | Helping search for individuals who appear to be lost or away from civilization for any number of reasons, and helping rescue such individuals if they are discovered to be in need of assistance.                                  | Marion County            | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |
| <b>Marion-Polk Food Share</b><br>1660 Industrial Dr. NE,<br>Salem<br>Phone: (503) 581-3855  | Food bank  | Marion and Polk Counties | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |



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|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|------------|---|
|  |  |                          | Businesses         | Children | Disabled | Elders | Families | Low Income |   |
| <b>Marion Soil and Water Conservation District</b><br>650 Hawthorne Ave.<br>SE Ste # 130, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 391-9927 | The mission of the Marion Soil and Water Conservation District is to protect, conserve and improve the quality of soil and water in Marion County through planning, technical assistance and education.          | Marion County            | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |
| <b>Mid Willamette Valley Community Action Agency</b><br>2475 Center St. NE,<br>Salem<br>Phone: (503) 585-6232            | Mission Statement: strengthen our communities through partnerships and programs which encourage, assist, and inspire individuals toward optimum self-management and well-being.                                  | Marion and Polk Counties |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |
| <b>N.W. Natural Gas Company</b><br>3123 Broadway Street<br>Northeast, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 585-6611                     | Provides natural gas to homes and businesses in the region.  |                          | x                  |          |          |        | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |
| <b>OSU Extension Service</b><br>3180 Center St. NE<br>Room 1361, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 588 5301                          | Engages the people of Oregon with research-based knowledge and education that focus on strengthening communities and economies, sustaining natural resources, and promoting healthy families and individuals.    | Marion County            | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |
| <b>Oregon Center for Public Policy</b><br>204 N First St. Suite C,<br>Silverton<br>Phone: (503) 873-1201                 | Use research and analysis to advance policies and practices that improve the economic and social opportunities of all Oregonians.  | Marion County            | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |
| <b>Portland General Electric</b><br>121 SW Salmon Street<br>Portland, OR 97204<br>Phone: (503) 228-6322                  | Provides electrical service to businesses and residents in Marion County   | Marion County            | x                  |          |          |        | x        |            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |
| <b>Rotary Club of Salem</b><br>200 Commercial St.<br>SE, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 931-4120                                  | Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. | Salem                    | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul> |

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|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|------------|--|
|   |   |                          | Businesses         | Children | Disabled | Elders | Families | Low Income |  |
| <b>Salem Job and Career Center</b><br>605 Cottage Street NE,<br>Salem<br>Phone: (503) 378-4846                                | Employment Service  | Salem                    |                    |          |          |        |          | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Salem ELKS Lodge #336</b><br>2336 Turner Rd SE,<br>Salem<br>Phone: (503) 364-6839  | Mission Statement: the benevolent and protective order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share.      | Salem                    |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Salem Area Chamber of Commerce</b><br>1110 Commercial Street NE, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 581-1466                            | Provide economic development assistance to local businesses.  | Salem                    | x                  | x        |          | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |
| <b>Salem- Keizer Transit</b><br>220 High Street<br>Northeast, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 588-2424                                  | Provides public transportation services within the urban growth boundary of Salem and Keizer. Mission is to enhance community livability by providing safe, efficient, and reliable public transportation services. | Salem and Keizer         |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul>                                   |
| <b>Salvation Army - Salem Community Center</b><br>1230 Winter St. E,<br>Salem<br>Phone: (503) 399-1230                        | Provides emergency assistance to people in need   | Marion County            |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR)</b><br>626 High Street NE<br>Suite 200, Salem<br>Phone: (503) 588-6225 | SEDCOR is a private, non-profit membership organization comprised of over 500 businesses and community leaders dedicated to enhancing and diversifying the mid-Willamette economy.                                  | Marion and Polk Counties | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Silverton ELKS Lodge #2210</b><br>PO Box 261, Silverton<br>Phone: (503) 873-4567   | Mission Statement: the benevolent and protective order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share.      | Silverton                |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |

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|---|--|------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|--|--|
|   |  |                  | Businesses         | Children | Disabled | Elders | Families |  | Low Income   |
| <b>Wheels Community Transportation</b>  | Provides transportation for elderly and disabled clientele.  | Salem and Keizer |                    |          | x        | x      |          |  |  |
| <b>Woodburn ELKS Lodge #2637</b><br>PO Box 302, Woodburn<br>Phone: (503) 982-2637       | Mission Statement: the benevolent and protective order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share. | Woodburn         |                    | x        | x        | x      | x        | x  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Woodburn Chamber of Commerce</b><br>124 West Lincoln Street<br>Phone: (503) 982-8221 | Provide economic development assistance to local businesses.   | Woodburn         | x                  | x        | x        | x      | x        |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and outreach</li> <li>• Information dissemination</li> <li>• Plan/project implementation</li> </ul> |

