

Manatee County

Re-Entry Plan

February, 2007

SCANNED

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Purpose.....	3
II.	Scope.....	3
III.	Authorities.....	3
IV.	Assumptions.....	4
V.	Concept of Operations	
	General.....	5
	Roadblocks.....	7
	Checkpoints.....	7
	Identification.....	7
	Curfews.....	8
VI.	Responsibilities	
	Emergency Operation Center (EOC).....	9
	ESF 1, Transportation.....	9
	ESF 4, Fire Services.....	9
	ESF 14, Public Information.....	9
	ESF 16, Law Enforcement.....	9
VII.	Appendix	
	Appendix A - Zip code map.....	10
	Appendix B - Island re-entry program.....	11
	Appendix C - Media release.....	14
	Appendix D - Re-entry notice.....	15

I. PURPOSE

The Re-entry Plan is designed to provide uniform guidance following a disaster for access into the impacted area(s). Roles and responsibilities have been developed to support safe and orderly re-entry in a coordinated manner between County and municipalities. The County will provide assistance when requested based upon availability of resources.

Each municipality is responsible for its jurisdiction with total control over its support resources, such as law enforcement and fire-rescue departments. The decision to allow re-entry resides with the municipality.

II. SCOPE

The provisions of this plan are countywide and apply to all hazards. The plan clarifies the roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in re-entry process. The plan also addresses some of the legal implications of re-entry and public notices to be used in the process.

III. AUTHORITIES

- Florida Constitution, Article VII, Section 1(d)
- Chapter 23, Florida Statute, Part 1, The Florida Mutual Aid Act
- Chapter 30, Florida Statute
- Chapter 252, Florida Statute, Emergency Management
- Manatee County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)

IV. ASSUMPTIONS

1. Official information (warnings) related to the re-entry will be sent out to local media through the EOC, Public Information Officer.
2. Provisions may need to be made to assist some residents with access to areas affected.
3. When available, military support (as approved by the Governor) will support re-entry efforts.
4. For seasonal hazards, such as hurricanes, designated routes and check points will be used.
5. First – In Teams and Damage Assessment Teams will provide field intelligence immediately following the disaster to identify and prioritize damage levels.
6. This plan relates only to the route(s) associated with the evacuated area(s) and those routes leading to heavily damaged areas.
7. All assigned agencies, such as the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, local police departments, and the Florida Highway Patrol, will be guided by their individual emergency response plans in addition to the provisions of this plan.
8. Local police departments will have primary control over re-entry for their respective jurisdiction.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

The County EOC will activate the Re-entry Plan when it is safe for law enforcement officers and governmental agencies to begin the preparations for the re-entry. These preparations include restoring essential services and infrastructure.

The three levels of re-entry include:

Closed

This level allows for the re-entry of agencies and groups that play key roles in restoring normal operations after a disaster. They include the following:

- Search and Rescue Agents.
- Infrastructure and Utilities Repair Personnel: County and municipal agencies must be permitted immediate access to evaluate essential services such as water, lighting, and communications are restored and infrastructure is intact.
- Official Damage Assessment Teams: may include FEMA, state, and local officials.
- Other personnel at the discretion of the County EOC or municipality.

Limited

This level allows for the re-entry of other critical groups, residents and businesses. Entry is based on the determination of the County EOC or municipality and public safety personnel. These groups include the following:

- Relief Workers: will be needed to provide food and other supplies for people in impacted areas who did not evacuate.
- Healthcare Agencies: hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and dialysis centers.
- Insurance Agents.
- Residents and business operators. County and municipal officials will make the decision and permit residents and business operators to return to impacted areas based on an overall evaluation of the situation. Residents and business operators will be allowed to re-enter their communities when the governing jurisdictions, in

consultation with the County EOC, agree that the following factors are resolved:

- Access: major routes are intact and passable.
- Public Health: threats have been minimized.
- Rescue: all search and rescue operations have been completed.
- Public Safety: threats have been minimized.

Open

This level allows for re-entry of those wishing to gain access with limited restriction. Within the area affected, certain streets or locations may still be "Closed". There may be additional law enforcement patrols or other activities to protect life and property.

- Contractors and other repair service providers will be allowed access at this time.
- Friends, extended family, etc.

Roadblocks

The strategic location of roadblocks is an important part of the re-entry process. Roadblocks are commonly used to seal entry points into devastated areas for two main reasons. First, roadblocks are used to prevent mass entry of the civilian population, which can clog rescue routes. Second, roadblocks are an efficient way of deterring looting and other acts of lawlessness. Law enforcement officers will set up roadblocks where they deem necessary.

Road blocks may be established as far out as the County line. Municipal line or other established perimeter may be established based on the emergency. A zip code map has been placed in Appendix A as a possible option. Depending on the need, roving patrols may be implemented to support road block activities.

Checkpoints

Jurisdictional law enforcement officers will be primarily responsible for establishing and staffing checkpoints for re-entry into their respective municipality. The EOCs ESF 16 (law enforcement) is responsible for establishing check points, credentialing centers (if necessary), mutual aid requests and the coordination of resources and requests.

In order to expedite the re-entry process, check points will be set up for identification verification. Every effort will be made to assist residents returning to their homes. In addition, law enforcement may reduce traffic lanes to better manage checkpoints.

Identification

Identification procedures are intended to provide uniform guidance to law enforcement personnel who are directing access to disaster-impacted communities. Municipalities may enforce their own identification procedures.

Residents

- Driver's license or Florida identification card and / or one of the following with a photo identification:
 - Utility bill
 - Mortgage deed
 - Property tax document
 - Vehicle registration
 - Voter registration

Business owners

- Drivers license or Florida identification card and
 - Document(s) showing ownership or rental of business

Employees of businesses

- Drivers license or Florida identification card and one of the following:
 - Business photo identification
 - Recent business pay stub
 - Recent letter from business owner on business letter head
 - Other forms of identification may be accepted at the discretion of law enforcement

Vendor of business

- Bill of lading
- Packing order
- Manifest
- Other documents identifying what and to whom

Curfews

Curfews may be accomplished by an Executive Order or State of Local Emergency. Depending on the intensity of the disaster and the level of damage, the County and municipalities may institute curfews and other crime prevention or anti-looting measures. The decision to implement curfews and the duration will rest with the Governors Office, the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners and/or municipal elected governing officials.

Anti-looting patrols may be established and assigned to residential communities. Law enforcement may establish security for establishments that possess items harmful to the public (e.g., weapons and ammunitions) or items essential to the public welfare (e.g., medical supplies).

The Manatee County Sheriff's Office will abide by the procedures laid out in its *Emergency Response Plan* for dealing with violators of curfews as well as looters. (See 242.613; 242.623; and 242.624.) Likewise, municipal police officers will follow procedures laid out in their emergency plans. Municipal police departments without an emergency plan may follow the procedures of the Sheriff's Office.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Manatee County Emergency Operation's Center

- Activate the Re-entry Plan.
- Communicate with County, municipal and the State EOC on issues relating to re-entry.
- Organize Damage Assessment Teams and First – In Teams within the County.
- Coordinate all other agencies.
- Deactivate the Re-entry Plan.

ESF 1 - Transportation

- Provide signage and barricades for re-entry, if required.
- Verifies the structural safety of re-entry routes (roads, bridges, railways, waterways, airstrips, etc.).

ESF 4 - Fire

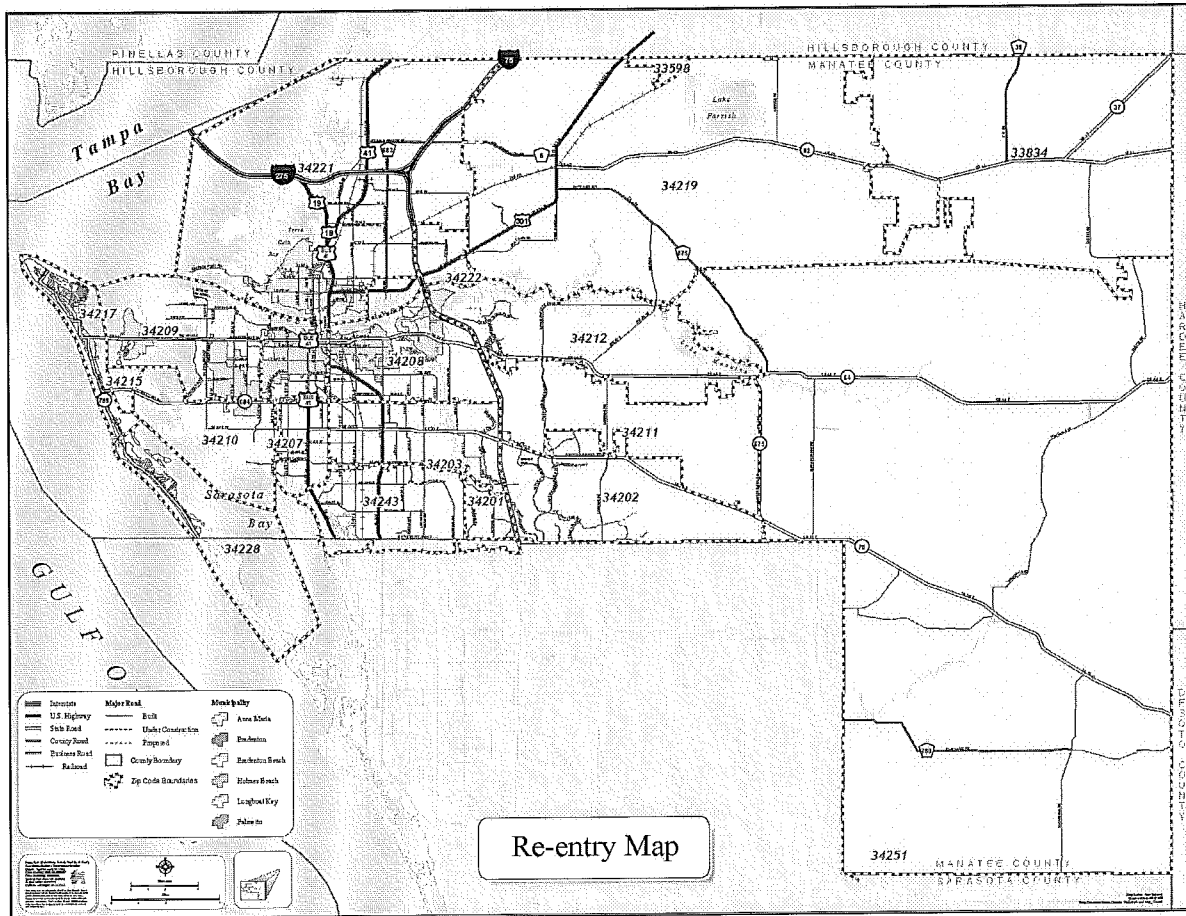
- Conduct search and rescue in impacted areas of Manatee County following a disaster.

ESF 14 - Public Information

- Establish public information regarding re-entry forms of identification, checkpoints, curfews, roadblocks, etc.
- Ensure that the public is notified once re-entry begins.

ESF 16 - Law Enforcement

- Establish and monitor checkpoints and set up roadblocks in areas of the County as specified by the Division of Emergency Management.
- Provide security against looting and theft.
- Enforce curfews within specified areas, if required.
- Monitor road conditions and report traffic flow.
- Provide mutual aid assistance to municipal law enforcement through the County EOC as directed by the Sheriff's Office.
- Provide aerial surveillance and surveys of the impacted areas.



Purpose

To establish guidance for re-entry onto the Islands after an emergency for residence, business owners, employees, renters, etc.

Scope

The provisions of this appendix are specific to the jurisdictions of the Islands within Manatee County, are applied in an all hazard approach.

Authorities

- Are the same as the overall plan

Assumptions

- Are the same as the overall plan

Concept of Operations

Island jurisdictions follow the basic re-entry plan of the County. Unique to the above outlined Manatee County Re-entry Plan are the following:

Roadblocks

Road blocks may be established on the mainland just East of access bridges to the Islands.

Checkpoints

The following locations have been pre-designated, but may be subject to change based on the event.

The Cortez Road re-entry will be established at Cortez Road and 115th Street West (or other suitable location to be determined and communicated through the EOCs PIO).

The Manatee Avenue re-entry will be established at Manatee Avenue and 75th Street West (or other suitable location to be determined and communicated through the EOCs PIO).

Credential Verification Area (CVA)

CVA will be set up at Manatee Community College Building 18 to assist with identification and distribution of vehicle hang tags for their island residents and business owners who did not obtain one prior to an evacuation.

Hang Tag System

A vehicle hang tag system has been established and is being administered by the Island jurisdictions for residents and businesses. Samples and distribution information are below.

Island Re-entry Tags (For law enforcement purposes)



inches by 9 1/2 inches;
tags are 2 3/4 inches by 4 3/4 inches

Full tags are 3 1/2
1/2

Blue (full size) = Anna Maria

Green (full size) = Homes Beach

Red (full size) = Bradenton Beach

Yellow (1/2 size) = Service Provider



wrist bands (color may vary) = Longboat Key

Media Release

The pre-scripted media release below will be submitted to Public Information Officers (PIOs). The information enclosed in the media release will be broadcast upon activation of the Re-entry Plan.

Media Release for Permission to Re-enter Evacuated Zones

“Severe weather _____ has badly damaged the areas of _____, _____, and _____ in Manatee County. Special arrangements are now being made to allow residents and property/business owners to temporarily reenter these areas as soon as possible. Until federal, state and local officials determine that residents and property/business owners can safely return to these areas, all individuals are to stay away until the area is cleared for the re-entry. Law enforcement and security officers are on duty to prohibit entry to affected areas. Any change in this situation will be announced as soon as possible.”

“Federal, State and local officials have determined that it is now safe for residents and business property owners to re-enter the areas of _____, _____, and _____ in Manatee County. All others are to remain clear of these areas. Residents must provide proof of residence and property/business owners must provide proof of property/business ownership. Acceptable identification includes driver’s licenses and utility bills, mortgage deeds, property tax documents, car registrations, or vehicle hang tags if you are an island resident. Police officers will be present at established checkpoints to verify re-entry documents. Residents and property/business owners should travel on _____ to access _____. Other members of the public are encouraged to avoid use of _____ until _____ to allow evacuees to return to their homes.”

Re-entry Notice

The following notice is intended only as a guide. The County recommends that municipalities prepare a similar notice and have their law enforcement officers distribute them at established checkpoints to their residents who are re-entering disaster-impacted areas.

Notice To People Re-entering Disaster-Impacted Areas

This area has been severely impacted. Returning residents are warned that there are damaged infrastructure and buildings as well as debris-strewn roadways and sidewalks. Please exercise caution since other hazards and risks may not be open and obvious.

AVOID STANDING WATER which may contain downed power lines, snakes alligators or other hazards.

BOIL DRINKING WATER which may be contaminated.

Roadblocks and curfews are in place for your safety and protection.

Please heed all warnings!