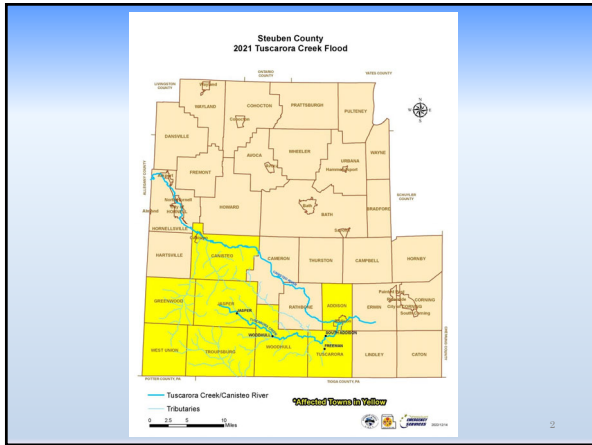


**Steuben County
Response and Recovery
To Tropical Storm Fred
August 18, 2021**
Timothy D. Marshall
Director of Public Safety/Emergency Manager
Steuben County Office of Emergency Services

Sponsored By: Finger Lakes Regional Training Center

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Overview

- On August 18, 2021 the remnants of Tropical Storm Fred struck Steuben County with a vengeance.
- The results were a Federal Disaster Declaration with Damage over \$30M not including the Jasper Troupsburg School.
- Distribution of more than \$600,000 in local recovery funds to assist local households.

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Tropical Storm Fred

- The sixth tropical storm of the 2021 Atlantic hurricane season.
- Made United States landfall on August 16th in the Florida Panhandle.
- Maximum winds of 65 mph and catastrophic flooding in North Carolina.



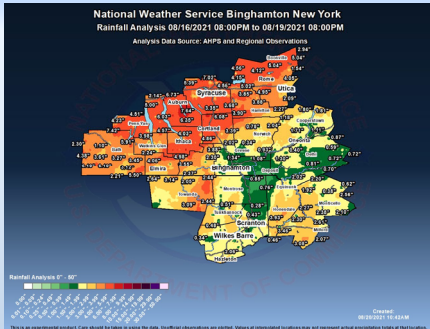
August 18, 2021

- August 18th was a Wednesday.
- The Steuben County Fair was taking place that week and Country Music Artist Craig Morgan was performing that evening.
- Rain began in Steuben County around daybreak.
- Heavy rain began to fall during the mid afternoon.
- Rainfall rates of more than 1" per hour fell during the late afternoon/early evening hours.

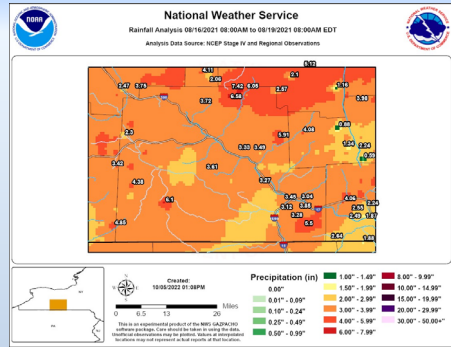
Steuben County Fair



Radar Rainfall Map



Radar Rainfall Maps



Real-time Gauge Data

Most of the rain fell during the hours of 14:00-21:00 hours basically a six hour timeframe.

- Hartsville Gauge=6.77"
- Prattsburgh Gauge=4.49"
- Cameron Gauge=3.49"

CoCoRaHS

Showing 8 Records.

Obs Date ▲	Obs Time	Station Number	Station Name	Gauge Catch in.
8/19/2021	7:00 AM	NY-ST-10	Savona 4.7 S	2.36
8/19/2021	7:00 AM	NY-ST-33	Bath 4.2 E	2.64
8/19/2021	7:00 AM	NY-ST-35	Bath 6.8 SW	3.06
8/19/2021	7:30 AM	NY-ST-30	Corning 0.7 NNW	2.26
8/19/2021	8:00 AM	NY-ST-41	Painted Post 0.7 SSE	2.80
8/19/2021	8:00 AM	NY-ST-44	Bath 1.3 E	2.87
8/19/2021	8:00 AM	NY-ST-46	Prattsburgh 3.3 NNE	4.30
8/19/2021	9:00 AM	NY-ST-3	South Corning 4.7 S	2.38

Showing 8 Records.

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Flood Response

- At approximately 18:30 County DPW reported standing water on roadways in the southern part of the County.
- At 18:49 Jasper Fire Department was dispatch to a water problem on State Route 417.
- Deputy Fire Coordinator responded and returned to begin evacuation of Woodhull.
- Steuben County EOC was Activated.

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State Route 417 Jasper



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Jasper Troupsburg School

- The following is a student video produced to show the damage to the Jasper Troupsburg School.
- https://youtu.be/Lt6oZ_XQbtE

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Flood Response

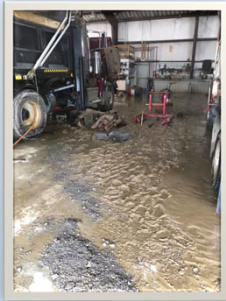
- At 19:42 the first call came in for flooding in Woodhull.
- Woodhull Fire Chief commandeered a County front end loader to begin making rescues.
- Swiftwater rescue teams could not launch boats due to the turbulence of the water.

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Main Street Woodhull



Woodhull Highway Shop



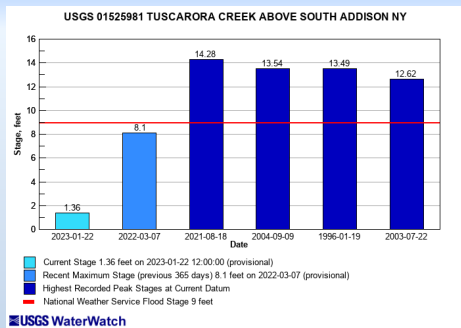
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Tuscarora Creek

- First Press Release was issued at 20:00
- State of Emergency was issued at 21:00
- At 22:30 Evacuation of the South Side of the Village of Addison was issued.
- NWS Prediction of crest over 14' with previous 13.54' in 2004.
- Red Cross Shelters were established at the Corning High School & Canisteo Fire Department.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1PNHEK9qzk>

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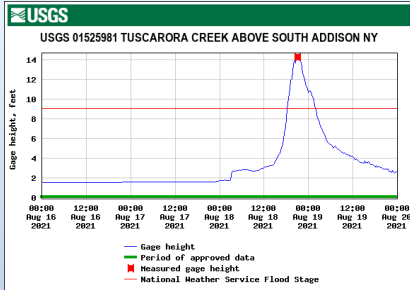
Tuscarora Creek



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Tuscarora Creek

Maximum discharge, 27,400 ft³/s, gage height, 14.28 ft



Response Summary

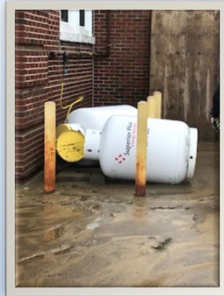
- At least ten people and two dogs were rescued by crews in Woodhull
- NYS OFPC swiftwater team made at least eight rescues in the Addison Area
- Unfortunately one person died in the flood when her car was swept from State Route 417 into Tuscarora creek.

Recovery

- Request for State CEDAR and DART Teams for damage assessment made at 03:15 8/19.
- Coordinated with local Code Enforcement, CEDAR and DART with the American Red Cross Damage Assessment Team.
- The next morning we established an Incident Command Post at the Woodhull Town Hall.

Recovery

- Approximately 200 homes needed inspection.
- Gas and Electric were secured to all homes that were affected.
- Residents could not return until their electric system was inspected.



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Recovery

- We established our first call with the Southern Tier/Finger Lakes COAD on Thursday afternoon.
- Began to formulate a plan on what agencies could assist and to what level.
- Identified volunteer groups to initiate short term recovery and begin clean up.

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Recovery

- Residents with damages were urged to call 2-1-1 to report damages.



- Information Collected included;
 - Name
 - Address
 - Phone Number
 - Type of Structure
 - Own/Rent
 - Type of Damage
 - Insurance Information
 - Fair Market Value
 - Water Level/Basement
- 2-1-1 Data Sheet had more than 350 structures listed.

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Woodhull Town Hall



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Command Center

- ICP consisted of OES Staff, Deputy Fire Coordinators, NYS Forest Rangers, State Fire and Volunteer Coordinator for UMCOR.
- Establish daily assignments and checked in volunteers.
- Worked with Local Code Enforcement
- Also housed Donations Center

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Woodhull Command Post



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Donations Management



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Donations Management

- Donations in the beginning were great and amazing
- You can quickly become overwhelmed
- Requests to stop public donations had to be made.
- Monetary Donations always work the best.
- Gift Card Distribution
- Local Business Donations
- <https://www.weny.com/story/44581738/woodhull-town-hall-offering-help-to-flood-victims>

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Volunteer Groups

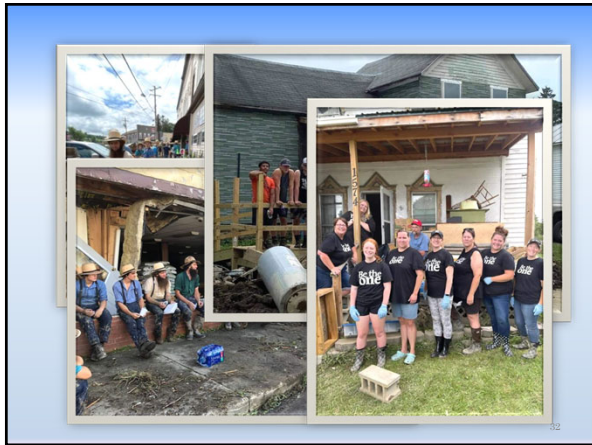
- 2-1-1 collected details of damage with call back numbers.
- The ICP coordinated daily activity based upon the 2-1-1 list
- Work would be assigned to volunteer groups at the beginning of each day
- All volunteers were provided with a waiver of liability.

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Volunteer Groups

- Volunteer Groups were organized and used to support clean up and muck out of local homes.
 - United Methodist Committee on Relief
 - The Mennonite Disaster Services
 - The Southern Baptists Disaster Relief
 - American Red Cross provided clean up kits, damage assessment and shelter operations.
 - Local Volunteers
- <https://www.weny.com/story/44573872/woodhull-community-gives-back-to-those-hit-by-flash-floods>

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Volunteer Groups

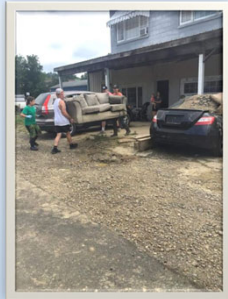
- Southern Baptists set up a shower trailer at the Woodhull Fire Station and supported food service for all volunteers and those needing a meal.



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Debris Removal

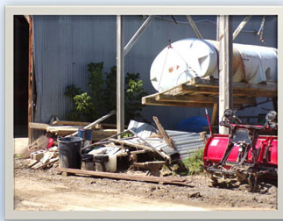
- Established a special account at the landfill for flood debris.
- Material was separated out on site then hauled away by County and Town DPW.
- This allowed for reimbursement from FEMA



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Debris Removal

1. Refuse-lumber, furniture, garbage
2. Electronics
3. White Goods-stoves, washers, dryers
4. Freon Containing-refrigerators, AC Units
5. Tires
6. Clean Wood/Tree debris



<https://www.mytwintiers.com/news-cat/local-news/flooding-clean-up-and-recovery-efforts-are-underway/>

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Short/Long Term Recovery

- The following Agencies stepped up help residents with their needs as part of the Steuben/Finger Lakes COAD.
 - Steuben County Department of Social Services
 - Catholic Charities of Livingston & Steuben
 - ProAction of Steuben and Yates Counties
 - Arbor Housing and Development
- All Funding was Coordinated through United Way of the Southern Tier.

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Short/Long Term Recovery

- Catholic Charities established case workers at the Woodhull Town Hall to meet with victims the week following the flood.
- Coordination Calls were held once a day for the first few weeks. Then eventually weekly until all needs were met.

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Short/Long Term Recovery

- United Way established a Recovery Fund.
- Funding from Corning Foundation kicked off initial recovery efforts.
- Initial funding of \$75,000 kick off the program within the first week.
- Other donations followed.
- In total, \$600,000 of local funds were dispensed in flood relief.
- <https://www.mytwintiers.com/news-cat/top-stories/woodhull-town-hall-hosted-a-flood-relief-event-for-residents-affected-by-flooding-this-past-summer/>

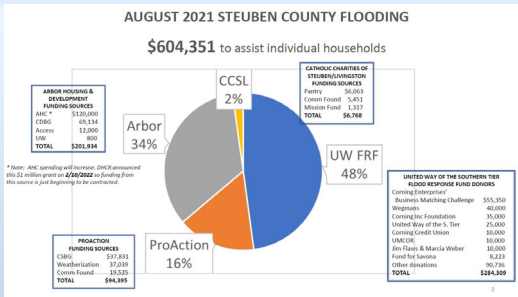
38

Program Funding

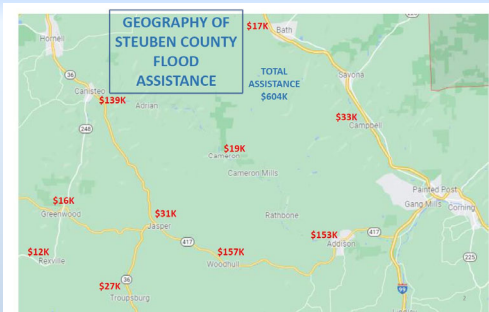
- Community Services Block Grant
- Weatherization Program
- Community Funding
- Community Development Block Grants
- Grant funding from State Affordable Housing Corporation
- Food Pantry of the Southern Tier
- Mission Funding
- United Way Flood Recovery Funds

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Program Funding



Program Funding



Short/Long Term Recovery

- The County worked with NYSDHSES Recovery Division and the Individual Assistance Program to try to acquire IA from FEMA for our residents.
- After rejection and appeal and a second rejection we received SBA Disaster Assistance.



Short/Long Term Recovery

- SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center (DLOC) was established January 25, 2022. (More than five months following the flood)
- SBA is a low interest loan program for eligible residents.
- Up to \$200,000 for residential property and \$40,000 for personal property.
- Interest rates of 1.5%-3% on disaster loans.

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In Closing...

- The Steuben County Dispatch Center answered more than 200 calls between 6:30 pm and midnight.
- This is in addition to calling in off duty staff, calling utility companies and dispatching needed resources.

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In Closing...

- The collaboration between case managers at Arbor, Catholic Charities of Steuben & Livingston, ProAction, United Way of the Southern Tier, 211, and Corning Incorporated's Community Engagement team led to extraordinary results.
- Delivered more than \$600,000 in individual family assistance when FEMA declined to help
- All committed to twice weekly calls for six months to coordinate relief
- United Way Flood Response Fund launched just six days after flooding with the first grants issued two days later
- Case managers proactively identified those with highest need for second round of UW Flood Response Funding.

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In Closing...

- Currently working to establish a pre-existing disaster relief fund through United Way in order to start immediate distribution of funds to victims without having to open a separate account.
- Capture the activities of August 18, 2021 for establishment of recovery efforts of future.

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Thank you!

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