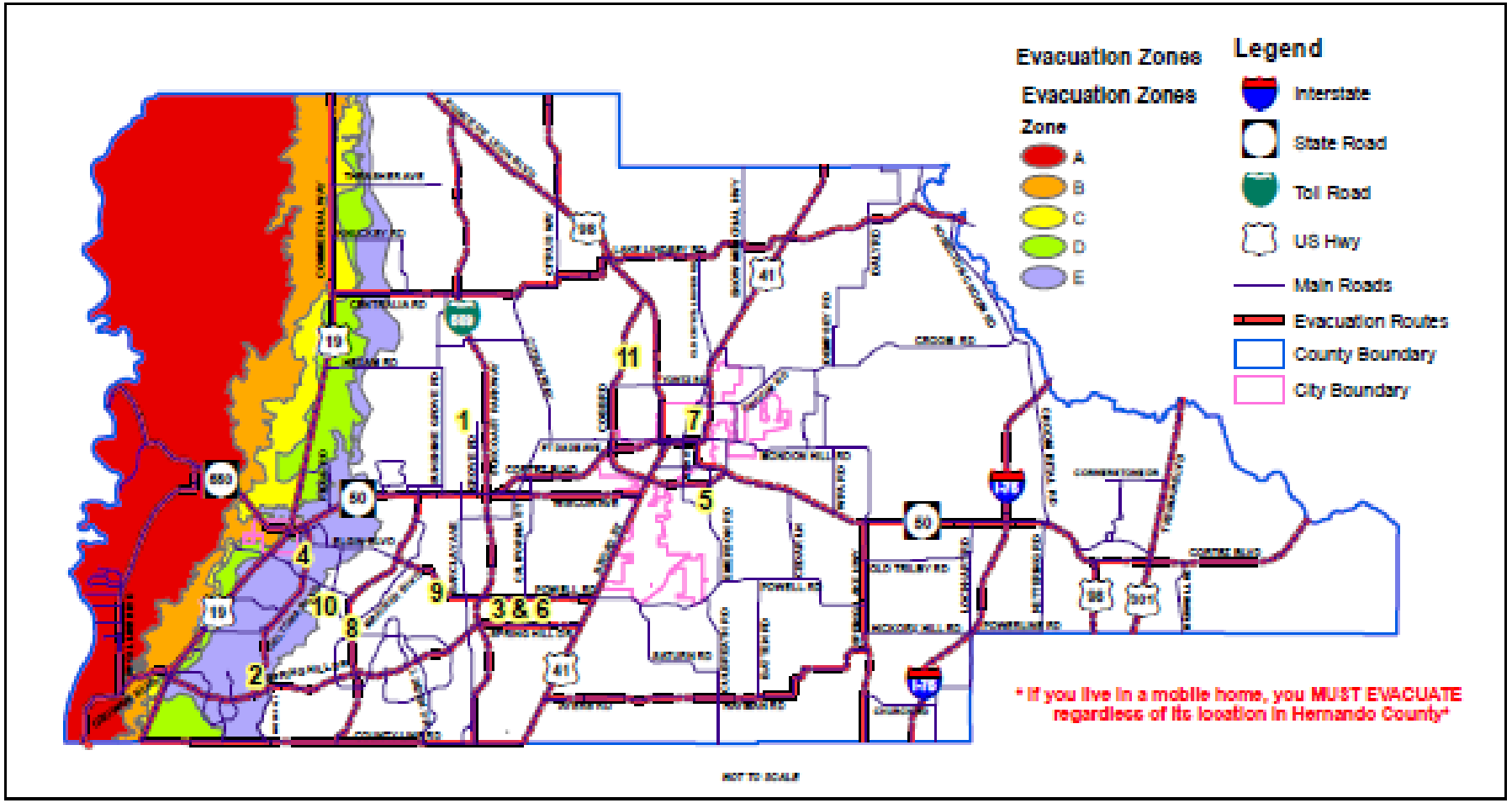
Understanding Hurricane Evacuation Zones

- The purpose of the evacuation map is to delineate the areas that will potentially be inundated with storm surge so that those residents can have the opportunity evacuate to safety ahead of a hurricane. The storm surge data is derived from the *Sea Lake Overland Surges from Hurricanes* map provided to Hernando County by the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council. The range of surge depth is shown below. Each zone is evacuated based on the projected surge.

Evacuation Zone	Storm Surge Category	Storm Surge in Feet
A	1	7-12
B	2	12-15
C	3	15-20
D	4	20-25
E	5	25+

2010 Evacuation Routes & Shelters

Hernando County, Florida



What Do The Colors Mean?

The map colors represent how far inland seawater will be pushed onshore from a hurricane. This is what is known as the "Storm Surge".

Evacuation Zone A

If we are expecting a Tropical Storm or Category 1 Hurricane we can expect that this Storm Surge will be in the RED area on the map.

Evacuation Zone B

If we are expecting a Category 2 Hurricane we can expect that this Storm Surge will be in the ORANGE area on the map.

Evacuation Zone C

If we are expecting a Category 3 Hurricane we can expect that this Storm Surge will be in the YELLOW area on the map.

Evacuation Zone D

If we are expecting a Category 4 Hurricane we can expect that this Storm Surge will be in the GREEN area on the map.

Evacuation Zone E

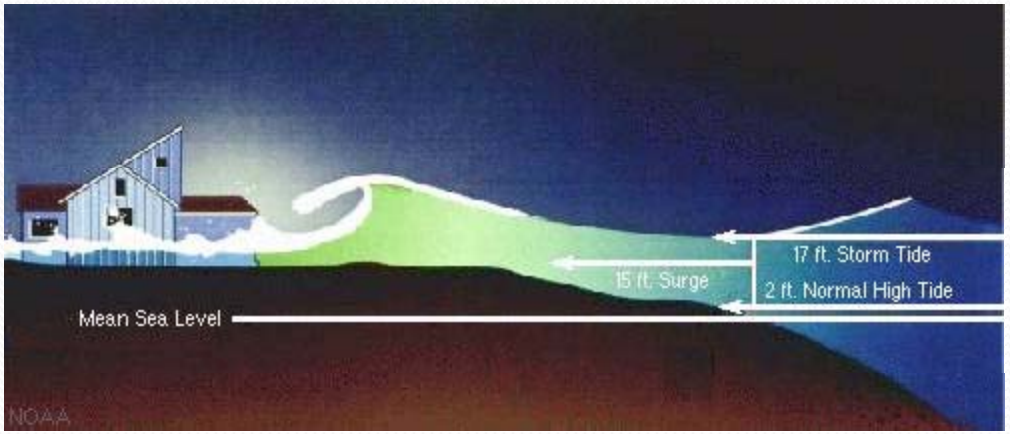
If we are expecting a Category 5 Hurricane we can expect that this Storm Surge will be in the PURPLE area on the map.

The Saffir-Simpson Scale

- **The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale** is a 1 to 5 categorization based on the hurricane's intensity at the indicated time. The scale provides examples of the type of damage and impacts associated with winds. The scale does not address the potential for other hurricane-related impacts, such as **storm surge**, rainfall-induced floods, and tornadoes.

Storm Surge SLOSH Model

- One tool Emergency Management uses to evaluate the threat from storm surge is the SLOSH MODEL.
- Advancing surge combines with the normal tides to create the hurricane storm tide, which can increase the mean water level 15 feet or more.



Storm Surge

- The level of surge in a particular area is also determined by the slope of the continental shelf. A shallow slope off the coast, such as Hernando County has, will allow a greater surge to inundate the coast. Communities with a steeper continental shelf, such as the Atlantic coast, will not see as much surge inundation.

Storm Surge & Flood Zones Are Not The Same Thing

- Storm surge is simply water that is pushed toward the shore by the force of the winds swirling around the storm.

- Flood zones are geographic areas that the FEMA has defined according to varying levels of flood risk. These zones are depicted on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) or Flood Hazard Boundary Map. Each zone reflects the severity or type of flooding in the area.