



A Resource of the State of Florida

**HURRICANE LOSS REDUCTION  
FOR  
HOUSING IN FLORIDA**

**A Research Project Funded by  
The State of Florida Department of Community Affairs  
Through Contract 03-RC-11-13-00-05-012**

**QUARTERLY REPORT No. 1  
For Quarter Ended September 30, 2002**

**Reporting Requirement # 2  
DUE BY October 15, 2002**

PREPARED BY  
THE INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER  
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**HURRICANE LOSS REDUCTION FOR HOUSING IN FLORIDA**  
**A RESEARCH PROJECT UNDERTAKEN BY**  
**THE INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER**  
**At Florida International University**

**QUARTERLY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2002**

**SUMMARY**

This report summarizes the activities of the International Hurricane Center (IHC), at Florida International University (FIU), and its research team related to the project designated as *Hurricane Loss Reduction for Housing in Florida* (hereinafter Project) being funded by the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) under contract # 03-RC-11-13-00-05-012 executed on August 6, 2001.

This quarterly report covers activities of the IHC research team from July 1, 2002 through September 30, 2002. This quarterly report is submitted in compliance with Reporting Requirement #2 of above referenced contract. There are no problems or circumstances currently affecting the completion date, milestones, scope of work, and cost of the project.

Ricardo A. Alvarez, Deputy Director at the IHC, is Principal Investigator (PI) and Project Director. Carolyn Anderson, Research Associate at the IHC, is responsible for project coordination.

**Major activities during the period covered by this report include:**

1. The International Hurricane Center Scope of Work and Timelines were delivered to the DCA. This met the requirement for Reporting Requirement #1.
2. All contractual and administrative steps to organize and secure the research team for this project were completed.
3. DCA Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program partnering grantees for state fiscal years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 were contacted and asked to supply information for the annual report to be delivered to the Florida Legislature.
4. Test spacing was identified and procurement of the lease was initiated.
5. Possible candidates for the HLMP program evaluation target survey were identified.
6. The first working meeting involving all key players has been scheduled for October 12, 2002.

## ORGANIZATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

During this quarter, the final research team was assembled at both the IHC and participating universities. The assembled research team is as follows:

**Principal Investigator:** Ricardo Alvarez                      FIU/IHC  
**Project Manager:** Carolyn Anderson                      FIU/IHC

### Principal Researchers:

Syed Ahmed	FIU	Construction Management
Ronald Baier	FIU	Construction Management
Amaury Caballero	FIU	Construction Management
Jaime Canaves	FIU	Architecture
Jason Chandler	FIU	Architecture
Nicole Dash	UNT	Sociology
Jack Dye	FIU	Construction Management
Eugene Farmer	FIU	Construction Management
T. Trent Green	USF	Architecture
Martha Gutierrez	FIU	High Performance Database Research Center
Alex Ratensky	USF	Architecture
Timothy Reinhold	Clemson	Civil Engineering
Walt Peacock	TAMU	Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning
Edgar Polo	FIU	HCET
Stephen Schreiber	USF	Architecture
Cindy Zhang-Torres	FIU	HCET
Kang Yen	FIU	Construction Management

### Research Assistants:

Christien Acosta	FIU	Construction Management
Mauricio Medina	FIU	Construction Management
Kevin Nickorick	USF	Architecture
Swapnali Salunkhe	USF	Architecture

**\* Other research assistants will include a minimum of 15 graduate and under graduate students located at four universities.**

### Support Staff:

Kyle Campbell	USF	FCCDR
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Maria Cano	FIU	IHC
Scott Caput	FIU	IHC
Regnier Jurado	FIU	IHC
Jennifer Sandford	USF	FCCDR

## **ACTIVITIES BY RESEARCH TOPIC**

### **Eliminating State and Local Barriers to Upgrading Existing Mobile Homes and Communities**

1. Contacted Lori Killinger of FMHA, Don Hazelton of FMO, and Bob Coin to discuss meeting in the Tampa area with key individuals regarding potential case studies. The meeting has been scheduled for Friday October 25 at USF School of Architecture.
2. Met with professors Jack Dye and Syed Ahmed and agreed on strategy to assess delivery of education/outreach offering targeting building officials.

### **Development of a Replacement Program for Existing Older Mobile Homes**

1. Initiated process to identify sources of abandoned mobile homes suitable for replacement case studies.
2. Met with researcher Nicole Dash and discussed and approved methodology and objectives of the Scope of Work.

### **Research and Development on Hurricane Loss Reduction Devices and Techniques for Site-built Housing**

1. Initial contacts for the purpose of determining an overall program evaluation target survey were established. Both the Building a Safer Florida and University of Florida's web-based Advanced Wind Core Course of the Florida Building have become potential candidates
2. Identified off-campus space to house various testing apparatus to perform various tests including roof fasteners, water penetration, and others. Preparations to secure a lease were initiated by the FIU Department of Sponsored Research.
3. Met with faculty researchers at FIU Department of Architecture and discussed specifications for models to be used in the boundary layer wind tunnel testing.
4. Faculty and students began training for the usage of LabVIEW data acquisition software.