



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 # 06RC-A%-13-00-05-261**

**PROGRESS REPORT No. 1
For Quarter Ended December 31, 2005**

DUE BY January 20, 2006

PREPARED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE RESEARCH CENTER
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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

PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

SUMMARY

This report summarizes the activities of the International Hurricane Research Center (IHRC), 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 # 06RC-A%-13-00-05-261 executed on December 1, 2005.

This progress report covers activities of the IHRC research team from July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. This progress report is submitted in compliance with the reporting requirements of above referenced contract. There are no problems or circumstances currently affecting the completion date, milestones, scope of work, and cost of the project.

Stephen Leatherman, Director at the IHRC, is Principal Investigator (PI) and Project Director. Carolyn Robertson, Research Associate at the IHRC, is responsible for project management.

Major activities during this period include:

1. The Final Report for Year 5 was written and submitted to the Department of Community Affairs on October 6, 2005.
2. Stephen Leatherman participated in the HLMP/RCMP Advisory Council August 17, 2005 meeting in Tampa. Dr. Leatherman made a presentation summarizing the research activities completed during 2004-2005, and provided an overview of the research agenda to be undertaken by the IHRC Research Team during the 2005-2008 period. Carolyn Robertson and Forrest Masters were also in attendance.
3. The Scope of Work and budget for Year 2005-2008 were approved by the HLMP/RCMP Advisory Council during the August 17, 2005 meeting.
4. The IHRC contacted various researchers to carry out the proposed 2005-2006 research agenda to discuss specific research tracks, timelines, schedule of deliverables and budget estimates. The IHRC has initiated subcontracts with the University of Florida, Florida A&M University, Florida Institute of Technology and Clemson University.
5. The contract agreement between DCA and FIU was executed on December 1, 2005.
6. Wall of Wind research continued through the Fall including improvements on the water injection system. The Wall of Wind testing apparatus will travel to the University of Florida for the months of January and February for vegetation studies and soffitt failure research.
7. December 13 through December 16, 2004: Carolyn Robertson traveled to Tallahassee to compile information for the Annual Report to the Florida Legislature in regards to the Residential Construction Mitigation Program. The FIU contribution towards the RCMP Annual Report to the Legislature was submitted on December 22, 2005 via e-mail.

ORGANIZATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

During this quarter, the initial research team for 2005-2006 was assembled at both the IHRC and participating universities. The assembled research team is as follows:

Principal Investigator: Stephen Leatherman FIU/IHRC
Project Manager: Carolyn Robertson FIU/IHRC

Principal Researchers:

Forrest Masters	FIU	Wind Engineering
Dario Moreno	FIU	Sociology
David Prevatt	Clemson	Civil Engineering
Jean-Paul Pinelli	FIT	Civil Engineering
Edward Gilman	UF	Civil Engineering
Nur Yazdani	FAMU	Civil Engineering

Research Assistants:

Collette Blessing	FIU	Civil Engineering
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Undergraduate Students:

Randall Blanchette	FIU	Civil Engineering
Marcio Coelho De Souza	FIU	Computer Science
Alex Cuesta	FIU	Computer Engineering
James Erwin	FIU	Civil Engineering

*** Other research assistants will include a minimum of 5 graduate and under graduate students located at participating universities.**

Support Staff:

Natalie Defraene	FIU	IHRC
Donya Bernard	FIU	IHRC
Kathy-Ann Decle	FIU	IHRC