



## APPENDIX E. RISK ASSESSMENT SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

This appendix contains information and details to support information provided in Section 5 (Risk Assessment).

### MAJOR HISTORIC HAZARD EVENTS WITHIN THE COUNTY

To supplement the information provided in this plan, major events that occurred prior to 2014 and are described in the 2014 Cattaraugus County Hazard Mitigation Plan are listed below.

#### Flood

In June 1998, Cattaraugus County was declared a State and Federal Disaster Area. During this event, Cattaraugus Creek rose faster than any time in memory and crested two feet over flood stage. Damages in the Village of Gowanda totaled \$1,400,000. In July 2000, the Mayor of Salamanca declared a State of Emergency which included no unnecessary travel in the city due to mudslides and flooding. In August 2003, strong thunderstorms developed dropping 3 to 5 inches of rain in a short amount of time, causing flash flooding. Sections of Route 16 in the Town of Ischua were washed out. Cattaraugus County was declared a State and Federal Disaster Area.

In August 2009, Cattaraugus County was once again declared a State and Federal Disaster Area when a massive convective complex moved from lower Michigan across southern Ontario near Toronto then dove southeast across the Niagara Frontier and Western Southern Tier. This followed an earlier round of strong thunderstorms and heavy rains earlier in the day. Damage from the thunderstorm winds was widespread across the Niagara Frontier and Western Southern Tier. Trees as large as two to three feet in diameter were downed. Power outages were scattered throughout the region as the winds downed power lines. The unprecedented heavy rains that fell, four to six inches in less than two hours, resulted in some of the worst flash flooding the area has seen. In the Village of Gowanda (part of which is in Erie County and part in Cattaraugus county), extensive flash flooding occurred. Tri-County hospital in Gowanda was inundated by flood waters and subsequently demolished due to damage. Patients were transferred to Lakeshore Hospital in Irving. Several hundred homes sustained damage and 40 homes were condemned there. One fatality occurred in Gowanda as an 80-year-old man ventured out to check a bridge on his property and was swept away by the flood waters. The gage on Cattaraugus Creek at Gowanda showed a rise from six feet to near 13 feet in less than an hour (flood stage is 10 feet). Throughout Cattaraugus county over one-quarter of the roads were damaged or lost.

#### Landslide

The Route 16 corridor, between Franklinville and Hinsdale, has had large landslides. The Town of New Albion has several trouble spots where severe erosion and landslides occur. When these slides impact a structure, it renders the structure unsafe. The Town of Yorkshire noted landslides occurring on Creek and Bolton Roads with several “sink holes”. The Town has acquired an endangered structure along Cattaraugus Creek. Of note are the Town of East Otto – Connoisarauley Road and Town of Persia – Point Peter and Dewey Roads. Also of note is the Skinner Hollow area and the Village of Cattaraugus.

According to information taken from the Landslide Inventory Map of New York pub. 1989, produced by NYSGS, Cattaraugus County has had 17 incidences.

The Village of Cattaraugus noted that three roads in or near the Village have dropped and slid. The main business district of the Village is situated on a steep slope. Threats of a landslide from the nearby hill are always a concern, with Leavenworth and Waverly streets being especially vulnerable and requiring high maintenance. There are about a dozen homes that are at risk in the Village of Cattaraugus due to land subsidence.



The City of Salamanca noted riverbank scour and settlement along the banks of the Allegany River.

### **Severe Winter Storm**

---

The Town of Humphrey reported a town wide ice storm in March of 1994 that knocked the electric out for four days. The Town of Randolph noted that they experience an ice storm at least once a year. There have been no recorded injuries or fatalities during these events; however, it must be noted that icy road conditions still exist during most winter weather conditions making sometimes treacherous conditions for the travelling public.

### **ADDITIONAL HAZARD EVENTS LISTED IN THE 2014 HMP**

Additional hazard events that were listed in the 2014 HMP are shown in the pages that follow.