



Photo Credit: Gordon Tatum

## Turning Data into Action: Leveraging Insights to Fund Resilience

Case Study:  
Land of Sky Regional Council  
Lower Mud Creek,  
Hendersonville, NC

Located in Western North Carolina, the Land of Sky Regional Council (LOS) is a regional planning and development organization serving a five-county area, offering technical assistance to local governments and overseeing projects and initiatives that enhance the well-being of the region's residents.

### Method:

In 2022, Mary Roderick, Director of Planning at LOS, used Fernleaf's flooding assessments - accessible through the AccelAdapt platform - to apply for flood mitigation funding. The data allowed her to quantify vulnerability and risk, offering grant reviewers a detailed understanding of the potential impacts of the proposed projects. This included identifying the benefits to properties that could be protected from flooding or have their flood risk reduced, as well as measuring potential benefits for vulnerable populations and essential community services within the project area.

Using the same data, the Stormwater Division Manager for the City of Hendersonville and a Senior Water Resources Engineer at Wildlands Engineering developed additional grant proposals to further support the initiative.

### Result:

All three grants, totaling \$3.5 million, were successfully funded in 2023 to support a variety of projects in the Lower Mud Creek area of Hendersonville, North Carolina. This included a range of initiatives in the area such as property acquisition, floodplain restoration, implementation of stormwater control measures, wetlands management, and ecological restoration.

