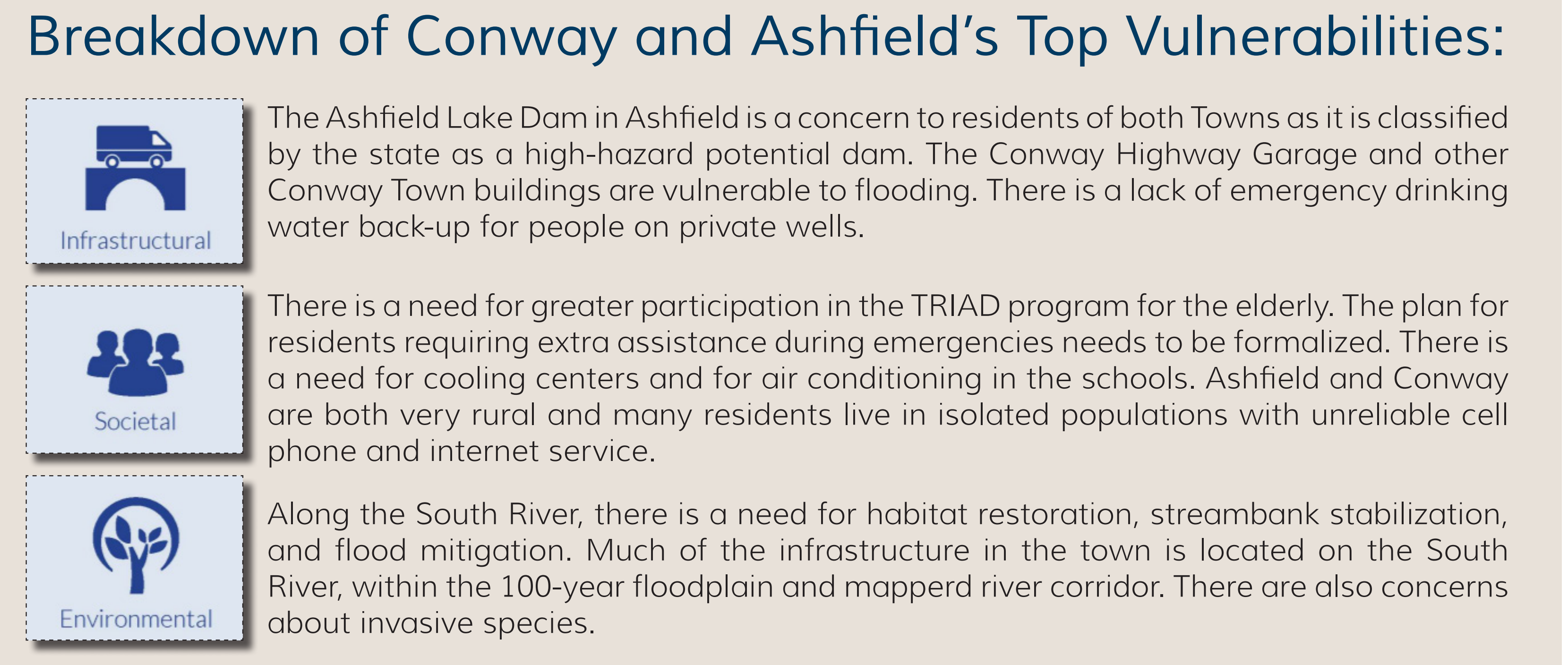
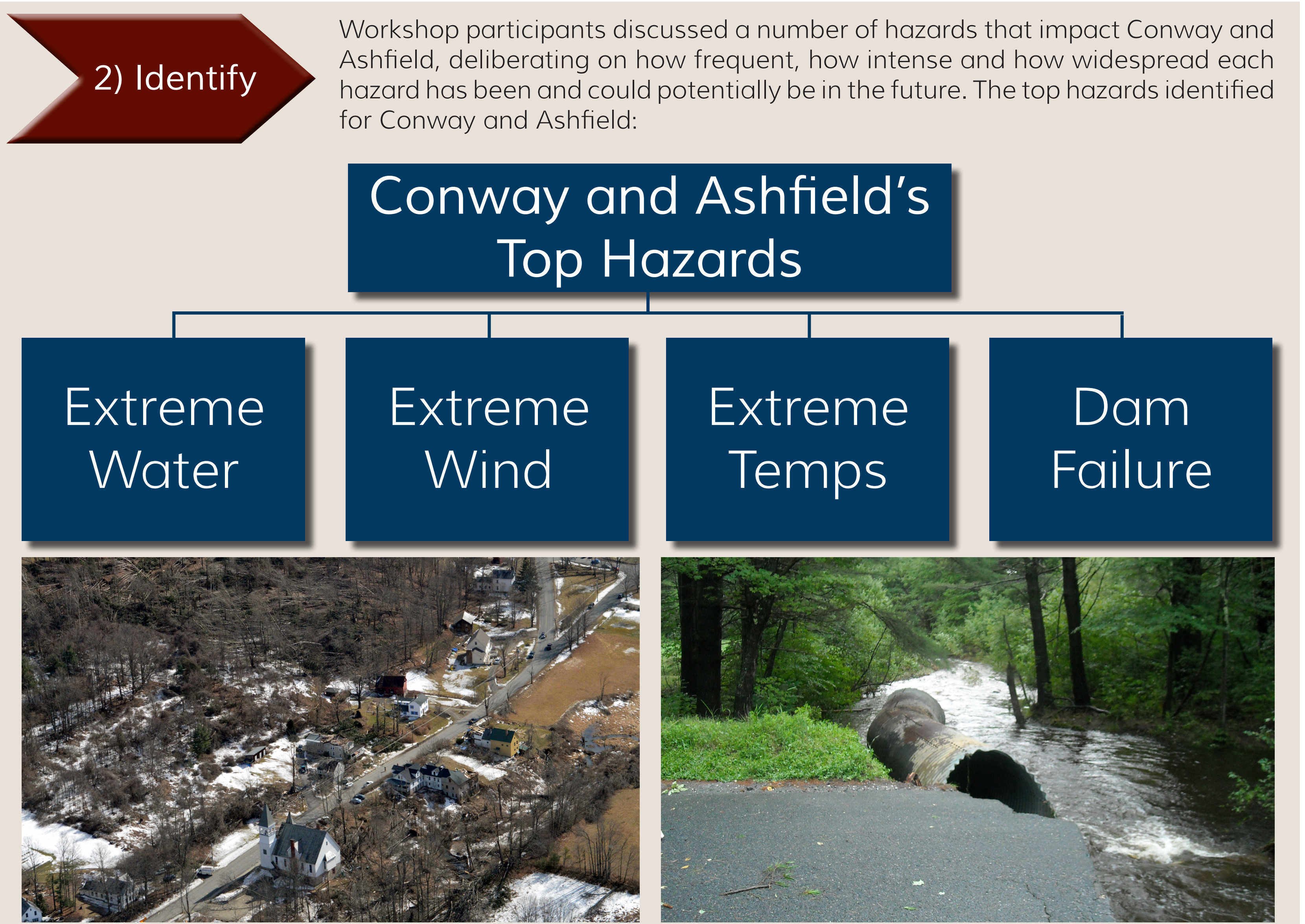
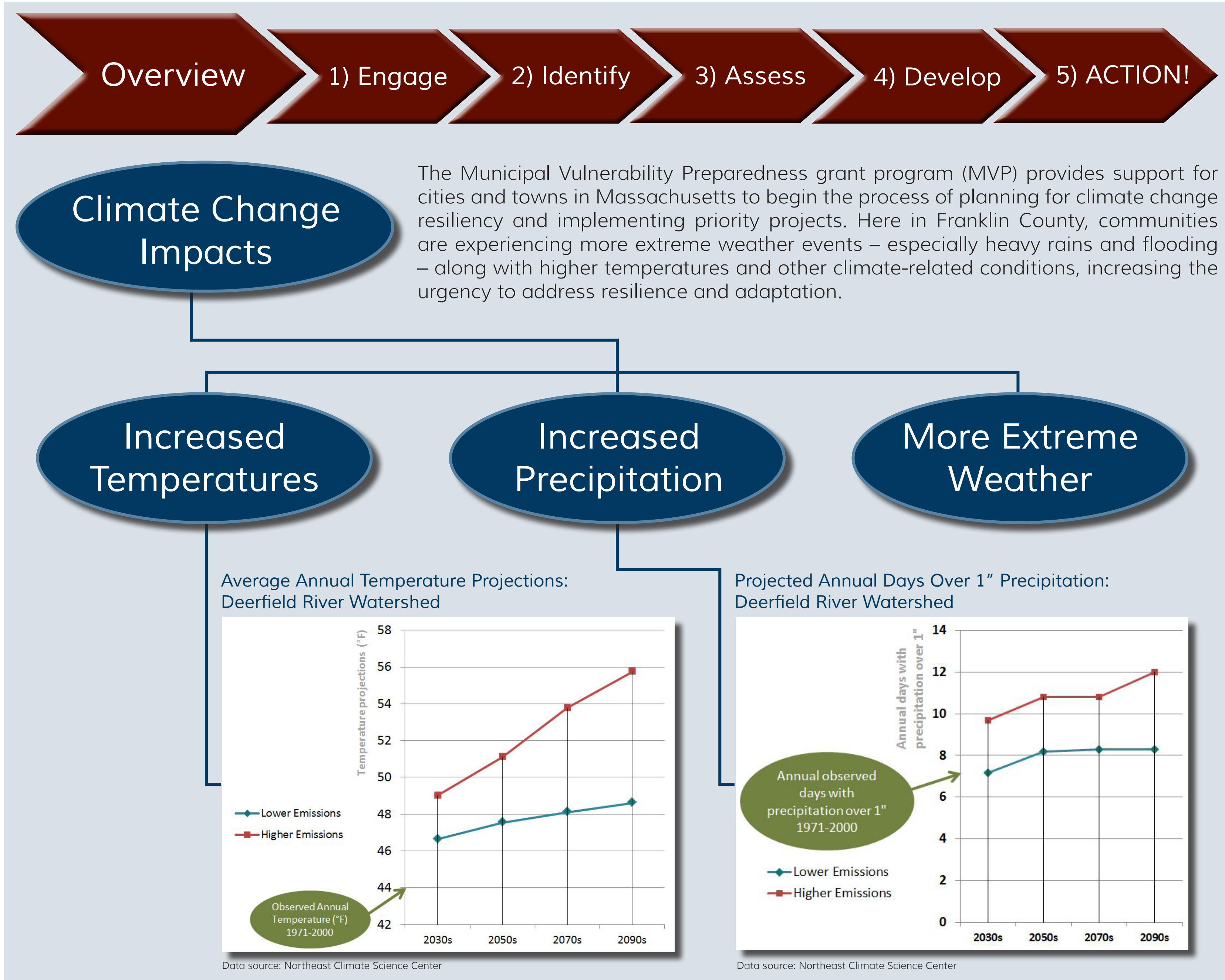


Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

2018 Towns of Conway and Ashfield Report Summary

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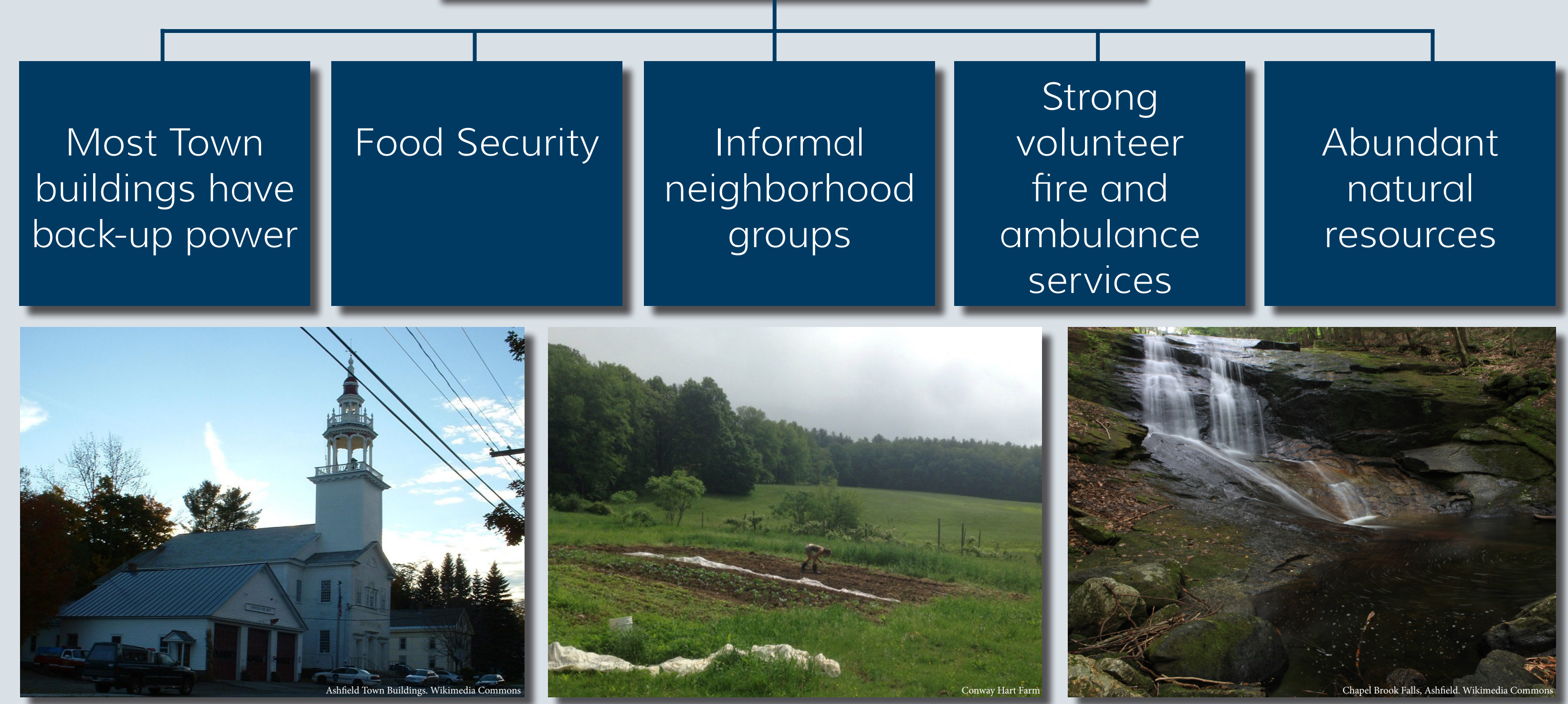
Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

2018 Towns of Conway and Ashfield Report Summary

3) Assess

Conway and Ashfield have a number of strengths and assets, as identified by workshop participants. These include strong social, physical, and environmental infrastructure that increases the resilience of the communities in the face of climate change.

Conway and Ashfield's Top Strengths



Breakdown of Conway and Ashfield's Top Strengths:



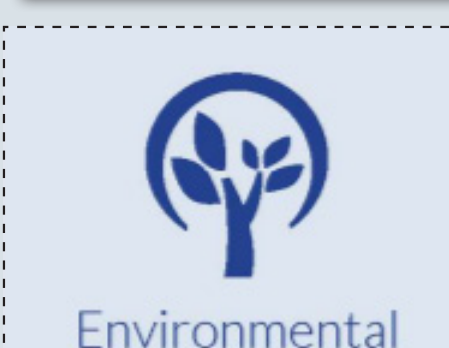
Infrastructure

Most essential municipal buildings and the shelter at Sanderson Academy have back-up power. The Town water system in Ashfield is gravity-fed with a large storage tank and generator for pumps. Sinclair Waterworks in Ashfield is an inactive drinking water supply that may be able to be brought back into operation.



Societal

Ashfield has an emergency siren to warn residents in emergency situation and both Towns have active fire and ambulance volunteers. Active, informal neighborhood groups in Ashfield and Conway increase connectivity and resilience. Some food is produced locally and many residents care about their local food system and pollinators.



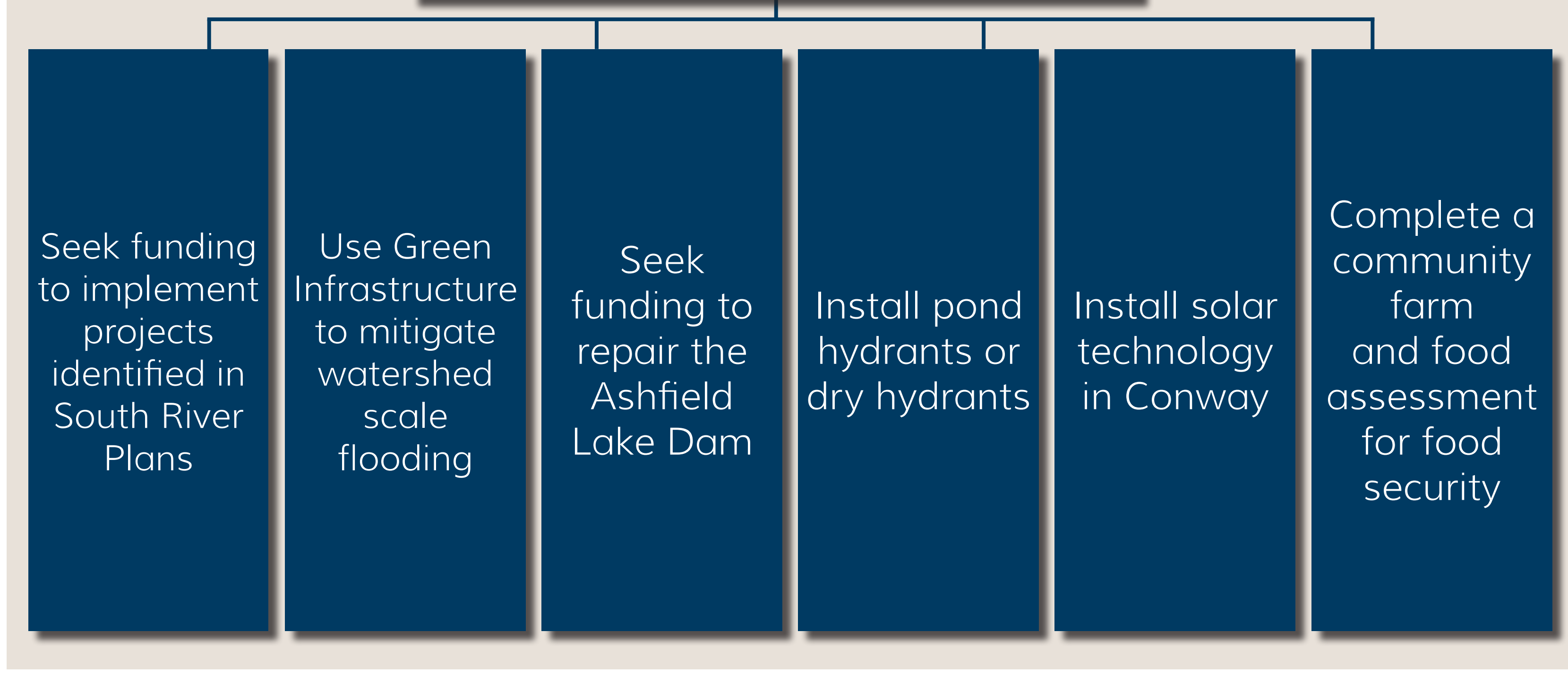
Environmental

Both towns are designated Green Communities and support energy efficiency and renewable energy production. Residents care about their rural assets including wildlife habitat, biodiversity, and the absence of light and noise pollution.

4) Develop

Hydrology, infrastructure and food were common themes in many of the recommendations to emerge from the workshop, all aimed at increasing resilience and reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. The top five highest priorities are shown below.

Conway and Ashfield's Highest Priority Recommendations



5) ACTION!

- ☐ Integrate MVP findings into Hazard Mitigation Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan updates.
- ☐ Endorse MVP Plans to become MVP Communities
- ☐ Apply for MVP Action Grants

Eligible Projects include:

- Vulnerability and Risk Assessment
- Education and Communication
- Local Bylaws and Ordinances
- Redesigns and Retrofits
- Nature-Based Solutions
- Ecological Restoration and Habitat Management

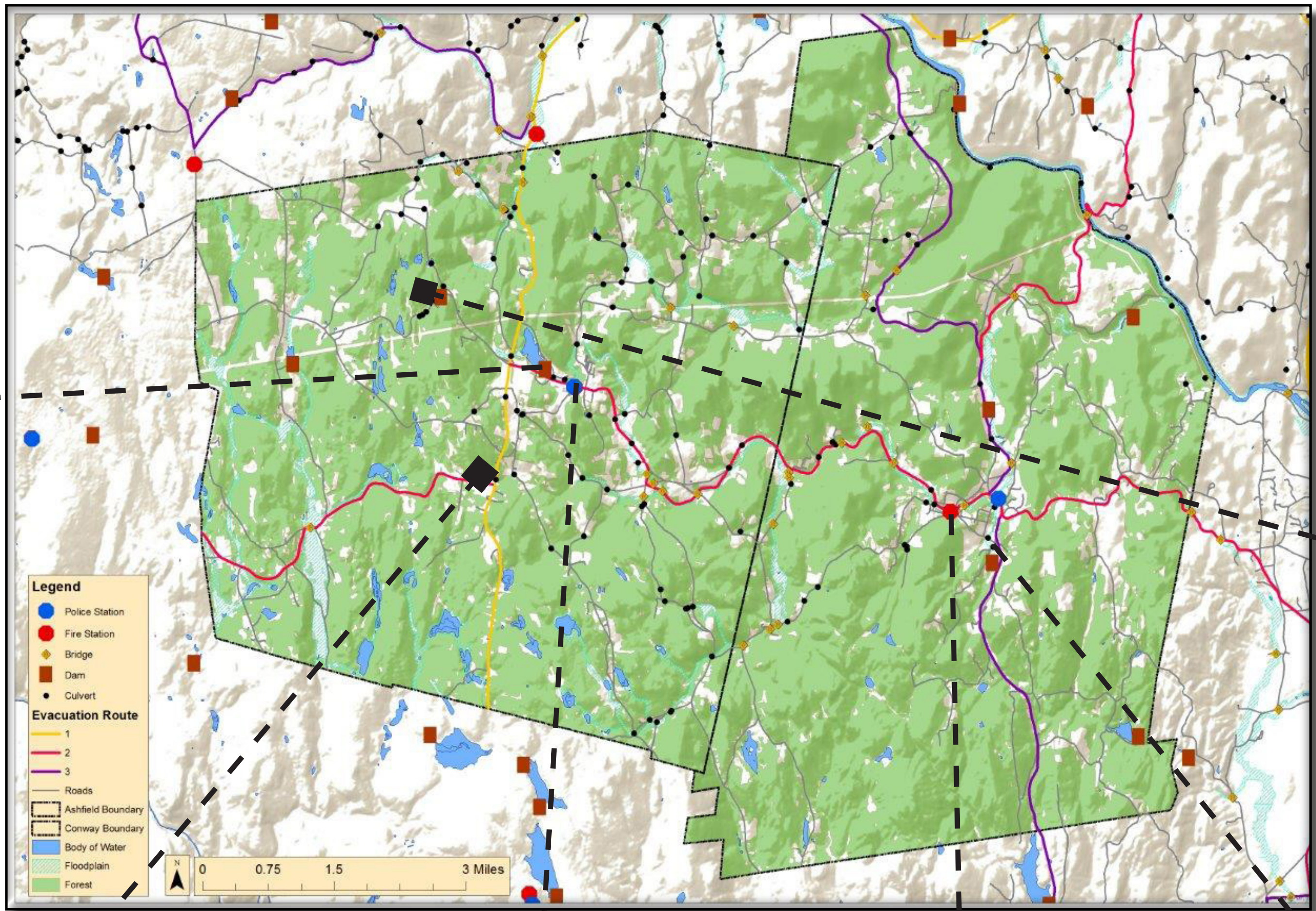
Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

2018 Towns of Conway and Ashfield Report Map

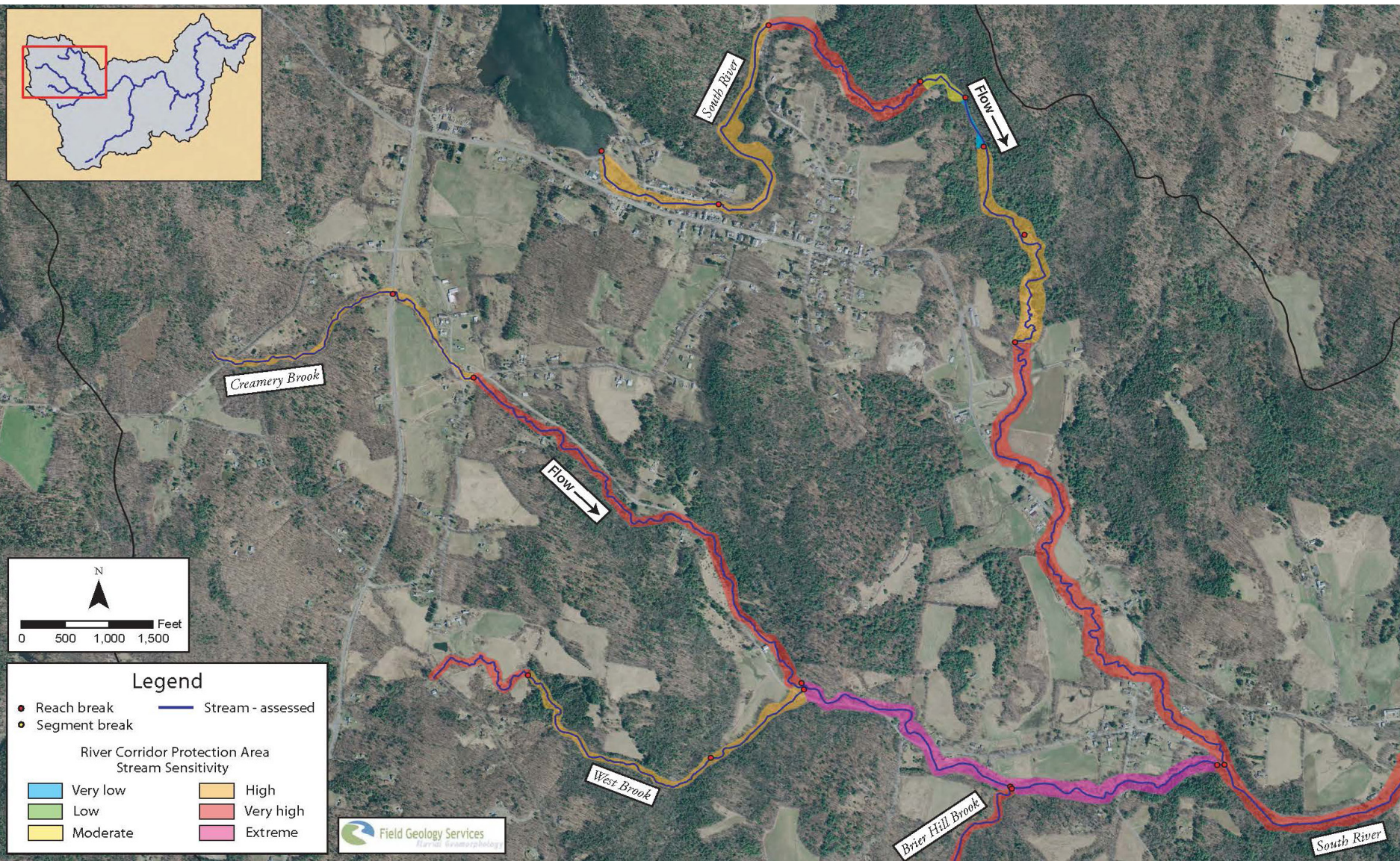
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The Ashfield Lake Dam is a major concern to residents of both towns. Dam failure would lead to catastrophic flooding and the dam is currently classified by the State as a high-hazard potential. Seeking funding to repair the Ashfield Lake Dam is a top priority recommendation of this plan.



The 2016 South River Corridor Management Plan includes mapping of the river corridor and makes recommendations for habitat restoration, bank stabilization, and flood mitigation projects in both towns, which taken together, can reduce vulnerability to flooding and erosion. A portion of the corridor mapping in Ashfield and a restoration project in Conway are shown below:



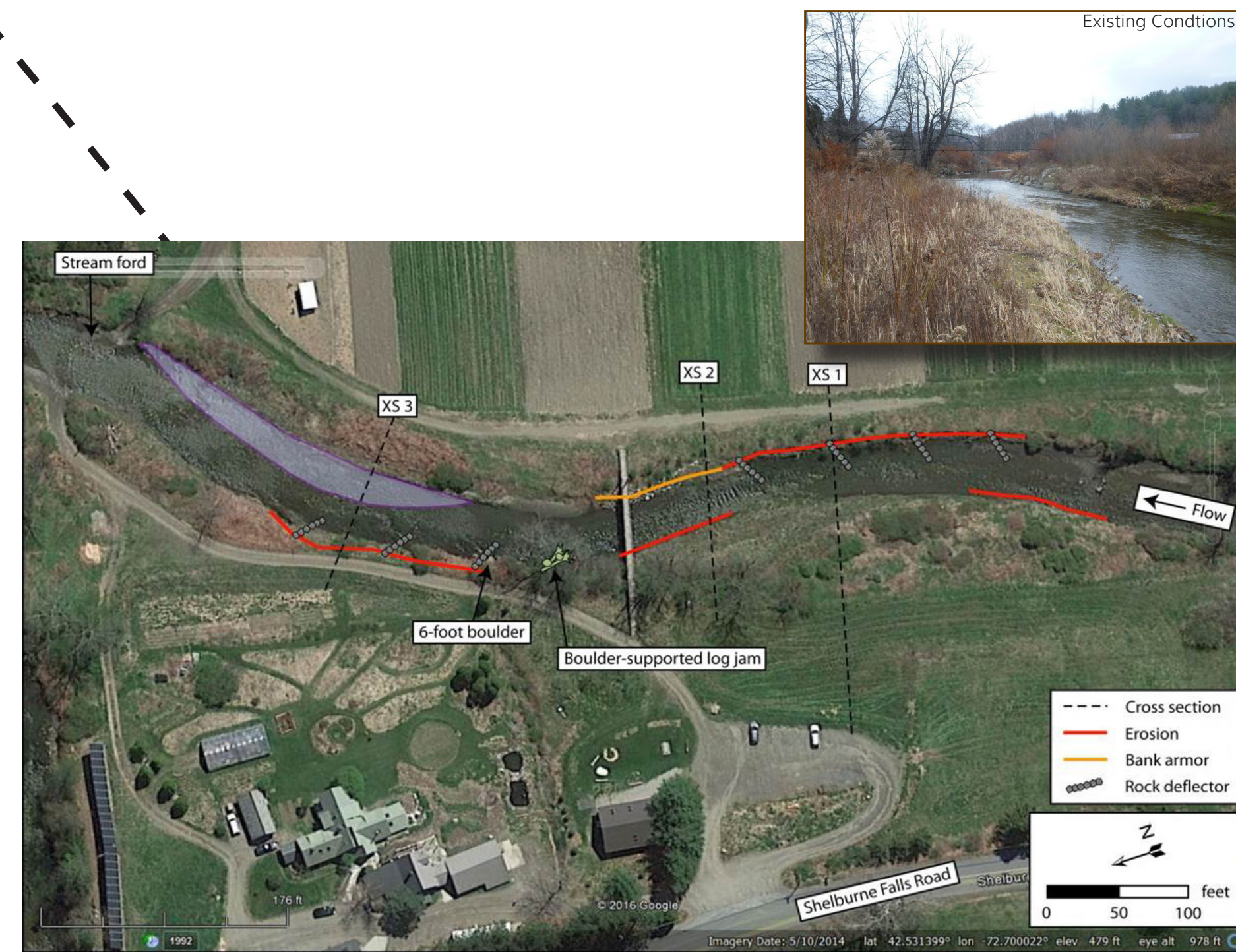
A portion of the corridor mapping in Ashfield highlights areas of the South River prone to meandering and erosion.



Sanderson Academy in Ashfield serves as an emergency shelter and is outfitted with a back up power generator. The site is located next to the newer Ashfield DPW facility.



A strength for both towns is their excellent fire and ambulance services made possible thanks to active volunteers and staff. Building on this strength, a recommendation of this plan is to install pond fire hydrants due to a rise in extreme heat events and the potential for more fires.



Bank stabilization using rock deflectors and a boulder supported log jam can reduce erosion of the South River where it meanders alongside Natural Roots Farm.