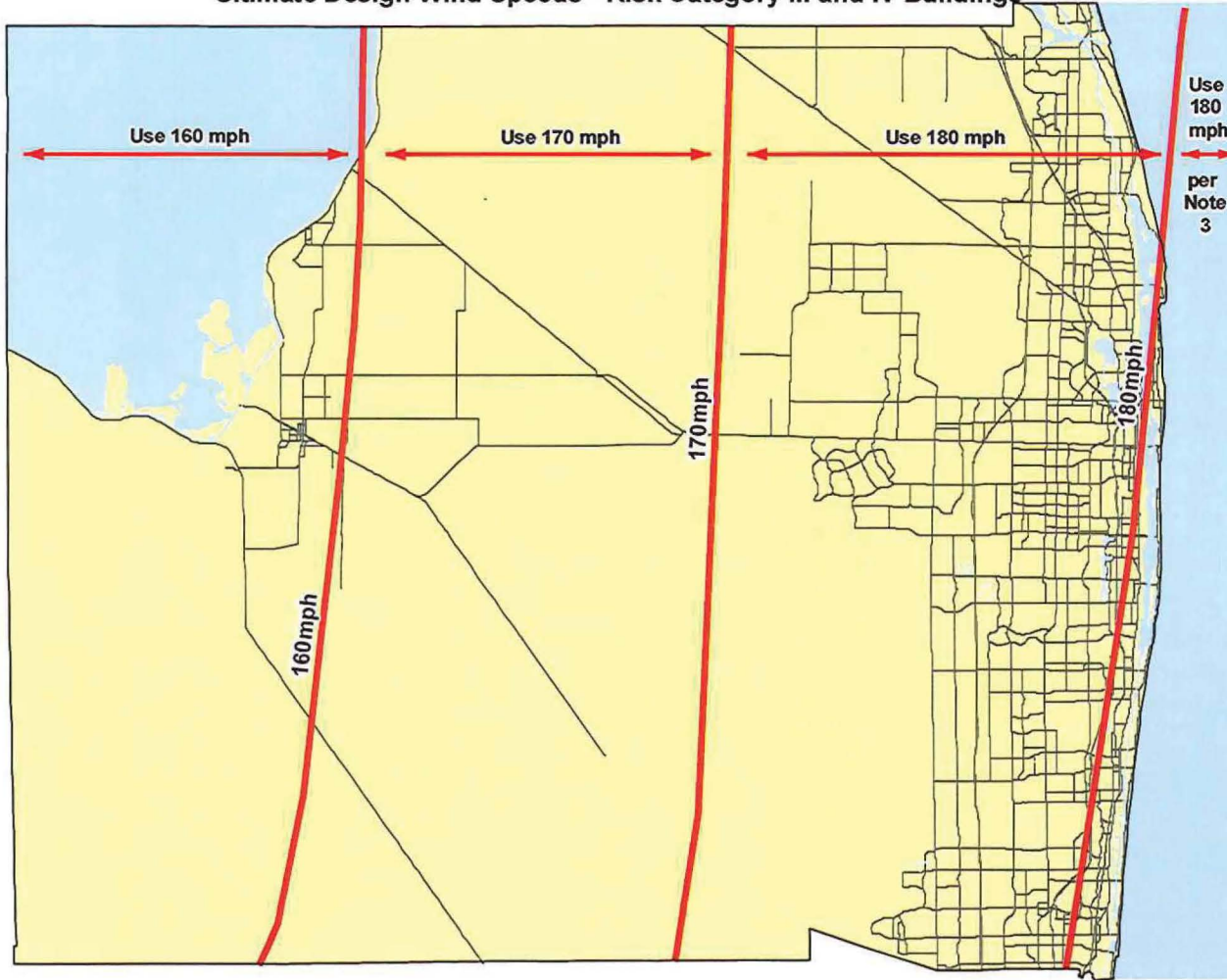


**Palm Beach County - Figure 1609.1B**  
**Ultimate Design Wind Speeds - Risk Category III and IV Buildings**



Sources: Florida Department of Community Affairs, Codes and Standards Division; Applied Research Associates, Inc; Florida Geographic Library

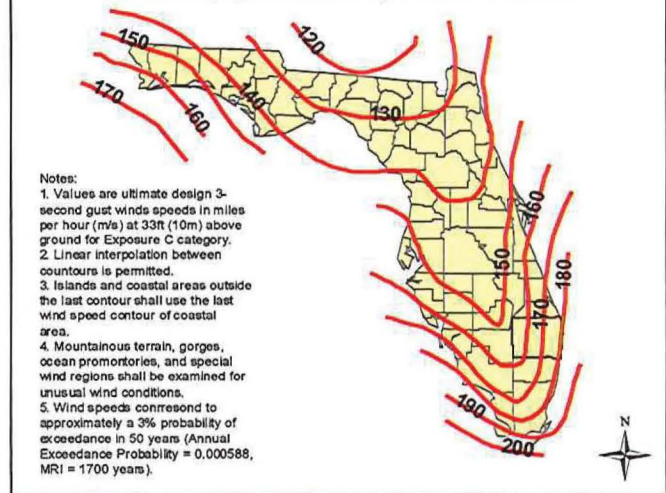
**BASIC WIND SPEED.** The basic wind speed, *V*, used in determination of design wind loads on buildings and other structures shall be determined from Figures 1609 A, B & C. The exact location of wind speed lines shall be established by local ordinance using recognized physical landmarks such as roads, canals, rivers and lake shores whenever possible. Because of the many wind speed lines of the multiple Risk Categories, there are not appropriate physical landmarks to provide an accurate and orderly reflection of these boundaries. To determine the applicable wind speed of a particular parcel, Palm Beach County has developed separate Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools for each of the Risk Categories, available on the Building Division website at <http://www.pbcgov.com/pzb/Building/Windspeed/index.htm>.

**WIND-BORNE DEBRIS REGION.** Areas within hurricane-prone regions located:

1. Within 1 mile (1.61 km) of the coastal mean high water line where the ultimate design wind speed *V*<sub>ult</sub> is 130 mph (48 m/s) or greater; or
2. In areas where the ultimate design wind speed *V*<sub>ult</sub> is 140 mph (53m/s) or greater. Linear interpolation between contours may not be utilized in the determination of the Wind Borne Debris Region. All of Unincorporated Palm Beach County is within the Wind Borne Debris Region.

For Risk Category II buildings and structures and occupancy category III buildings and structures, except health care facilities, the windborne debris region shall be based on Figure 1609.1A. For occupancy category IV buildings and structures and occupancy III health care facilities, the windborne debris region shall be based on Figure 1609.1B.

**Figure 1609B Ultimate Design Wind Speeds, for Risk Category III and IV Buildings and Other Structures**



- Notes:
1. Values are ultimate design 3-second gust winds speeds in miles per hour (m/s) at 33ft (10m) above ground for Exposure C category.
  2. Linear interpolation between contours is permitted.
  3. Islands and coastal areas outside the last contour shall use the last wind speed contour of coastal area.
  4. Mountainous terrain, gorges, ocean promontories, and special wind regions shall be examined for unusual wind conditions.
  5. Wind speeds correspond to approximately a 3% probability of exceedance in 50 years (Annual Exceedance Probability = 0.000588, MRI = 1700 years).

**PALM BEACH COUNTY AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE - BUILDING, 5th EDITION (2014)**

*Exposure categories to be utilized for design shall be in accordance with Section 1609.4 of the Florida Building Code, Building.*



Jul 01, 2015 UltimateDesignWindSpeedMaps\_1609B.mxd/mg.saa



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