



# Plumas County

## 2026 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

### *Public Kickoff Meeting*



# Four Phases of Emergency Management

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# Four Phases of Emergency Management

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## ■ Preparedness

- Increases a community's ability to respond when a disaster occurs
- NIMS: "a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response."

## ■ Response

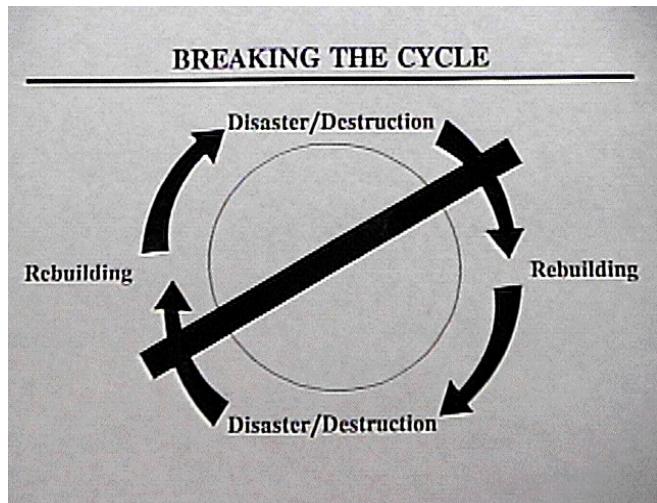
- Response actions carried out immediately before, during, and after a hazard are aimed at saving lives, reducing economic losses, alleviating suffering, and limiting unfavorable outcomes

## ■ Recovery

- Actions taken to return a community's systems and activities to normal
- Restoration of services/repair of physical, social and economic damages

# Hazard Mitigation

**Mitigation Defined: Any *SUSTAINED* action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to human life, property and the environment from hazards**



Effective mitigation efforts can break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage

# Hazard Mitigation

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- Measures that reduce the chance of a disaster happening, or reduce the damaging effects of unavoidable disasters
- Reduces loss of life, property damage, and economic hardship
- Makes a community more disaster resistant and sustainable
- Long-term fix



# Why Hazard Mitigation?

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- More hazards with more damages
- More people living in hazard-prone areas
- More disaster declarations
- Increasing costs of disaster response and recovery is unmanageable



# Why Hazard Mitigation?

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*On average, each dollar spent on mitigation saves society an average of \$6 in avoided future losses in addition to saving lives and preventing injuries* (National Institute of Building Science Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council 2019 Report)



# Local Hazard Mitigation Planning

*LHMPs are Natural Hazard focused and not human-caused*

## Federal and State LHMP Requirements

- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Robert T. Stafford Act)
- Regulations: 44 CFR 201.6
- New FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Policy Guide, effective April 19, 2023
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) – Activity 510 Floodplain Management Planning
- AB 2140 – General Plan Safety Element Integration
- SB 379 – Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Strategies
- SB 1000 – Environmental Justice
- HHPD Program – High Hazard Potential Dam Program



# Benefits of Hazard Mitigation Planning

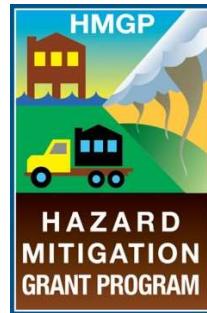
- Eligibility for FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding
- Opportunity for interagency collaboration – building mitigation partners
- Integration and linking of hazard mitigation policies, programs, and plans
- Engagement and education of public and private stakeholders
- Identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing potential risk reduction measures
- Reduce damages, minimize post-disaster disruptions, speed recovery when disasters occur
- Promote long-term resilience!



# Mitigation Funding Opportunities

## Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000

- Requires jurisdictions to have an approved LHMP to qualify for FEMA Mitigation Funding under Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
  - High Hazard Potential Dams Program (HHPD)
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)
  - Severe Repetitive Loss
  - Public Assistance – Section 406



# FEMA's 4-Phase-10 Step DMA/CRS Planning Process

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## Phase I: Organize Resources

- 1) Get organized
- 2) Plan for public involvement
- 3) Coordinate with other departments and agencies

## Phase II: Risk Assessment

- 4) Identify the hazard(s)
- 5) Assess the risks

Capability Assessment

## Phase III: Mitigation Strategy

- 6) Set planning goals
- 7) Review mitigation alternatives
- 8) Draft an action plan

## Phase IV: Adoption and Implementation

- 9) Adopt the plan
- 10) Implement the plan, evaluate its worth, and revise as needed

## Phase I: Organize Resources

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- 1) Get organized
- 2) Plan for public involvement
- 3) Coordinate with other departments and agencies



# 1) Get Organized – To Prepare the Plan

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- Obtain communities' commitment to mitigation
- Determine and assign staff
- Establish your mitigation planning committee
  - County/City Departments
  - Districts
  - Other stakeholders: local, state, and federal agencies
  - Neighboring jurisdictions, businesses, public, underserved populations, other?

## County & City Departments/Staff

- Building
- Community Development
- Code Enforcement
- Emergency Services
- Engineering
- Facilities and Roads
- Fire
- Floodplain Management
- GIS Mapping
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning
- Police
- Public Works
- Other?

## 2) Plan for Public Involvement – Options

- Include on planning committee
- Post data on websites
- Develop press releases
- Host public input meetings
- Hold “neighborhood” meetings
  - On their “turf”
  - Facilitates public involvement
  - Review ideas, get feedback
- Use surveys/questionnaires

### *Public Meeting*



Take our survey online now!

MITIGATION ACTIVITIES FREQUENTLY  
TAKEN BY THE PUBLIC



Raised furnace or  
water heater  
**48%**



Bought flood  
insurance  
**23%**



Sealed basement  
walls  
**26%**

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### 3) Coordinate with Other Departments & Agencies

- Cal OES
- FEMA Region IX
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Geological Survey/ CGS
- Caltrans
- Cal Fire
- Cal DWR
- State Flood Insurance Coordinator
- National Weather Service
- Red Cross
- Neighboring Jurisdictions/Agencies
- Underserved Populations



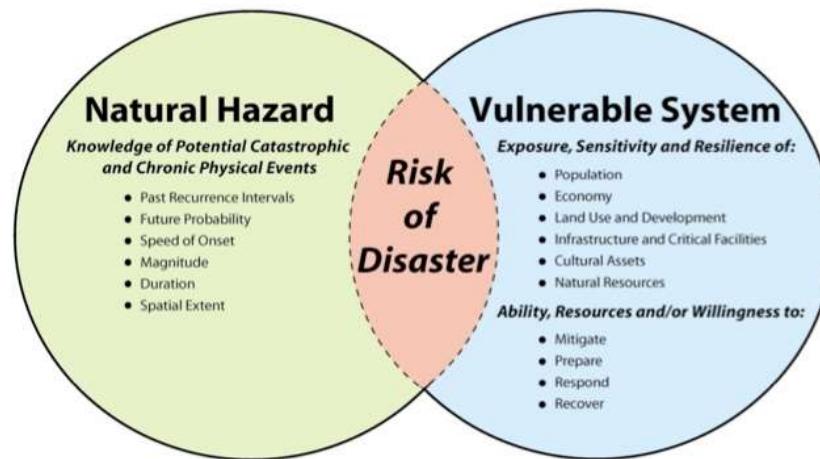
# Phase II: Risk Assessment

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## Three Components

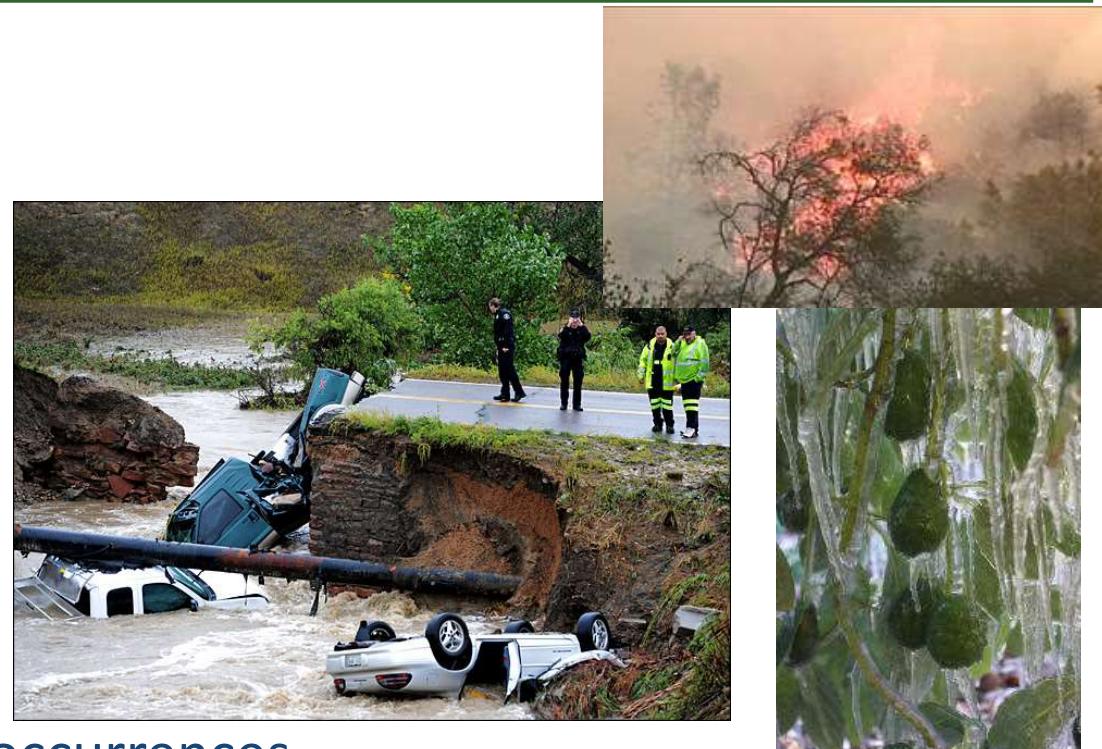
- 4) Hazard Identification (what can happen here?)
- 5) Vulnerability Assessment (what will be affected?)

Capability Assessment (how prepared are we?)



## 4) Hazard Identification & Profiles – What can happen here?

- Hazard / Problem description
- Hazard extent (maps)
- Past occurrences
- Seasonal patterns
- Speed of onset / duration
- Magnitude / secondary effects
- Significance
- Frequency /Probability of future occurrences



## 5) Vulnerability Assessment— What will be affected?

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- Inventory County/City/District assets, residential and commercial structures
- Determine the number of people in the area – all populations
- Inventory critical facilities/community lifelines
- Identify vulnerable infrastructure
- Identify historic, cultural, and natural resource areas
- Identify key economic assets
- Estimate losses
- Identify development trends / constraints

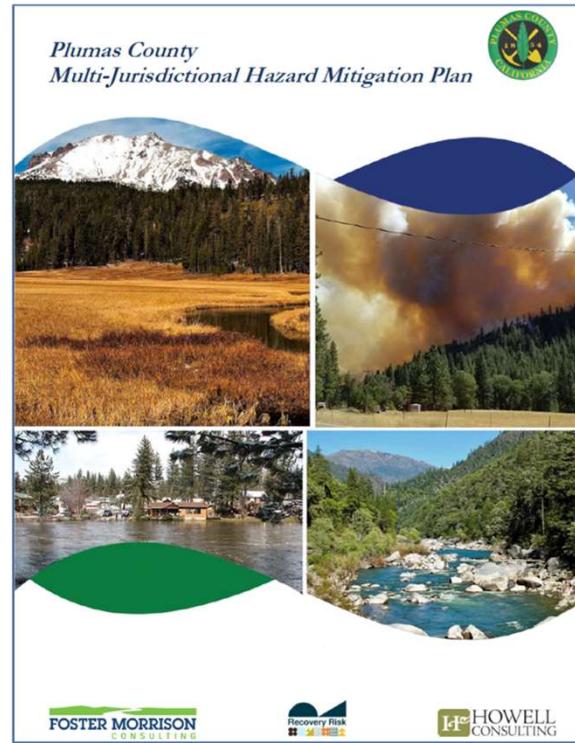
# Capability Assessment

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- Conduct an inventory of Communities' existing and proposed plans, policies, and programs that may affect its vulnerability to hazards.
- Determine the Communities' technical, administrative, and fiscal abilities to implement mitigation initiatives.
- Identify Educational and Outreach programs and activities.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of each for mitigation purposes. Note any gaps, shortfalls or conflicts associated with their design, enforcement of implementation.
- Identify opportunities to improve upon existing capabilities.

## Phase III: Develop a Mitigation Plan (Mitigation Strategy)

- 6) Set planning goals
- 7) Review mitigation alternatives
- 8) Draft an action plan



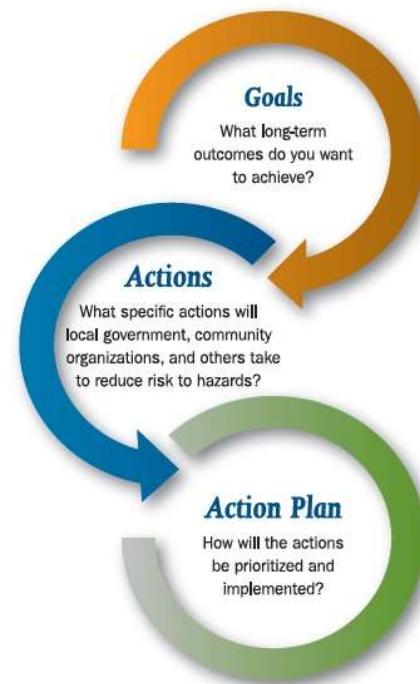
## 6) Set Planning Goals – Using the risk assessment

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- Goals are broad, long-term, policy type statements
- Goals provide guidelines for reducing or avoiding potential losses from identified priority hazards
- Based on the Risk Assessment identify areas of extreme vulnerability
  - Built Environment: at-risk populations, structures, critical facilities, infrastructure, and other assets
  - Future development/redevelopment areas
- Consider goals from other planning mechanisms
- Identify other mitigation opportunities
  - Repetitive losses
  - Public education
  - Improve existing capabilities

## 7) Review Mitigation Action Alternatives

- Mitigation actions are the specific projects, measures, and activities that help achieve plan goals and reduce the impacts of identified hazards
- Categories of Mitigation Measures:
  - Prevention
  - Property protection
  - Structural projects
  - Natural resource protection
  - Emergency services
  - Public Education
  - Multi-hazard measures and considerations
  - No action



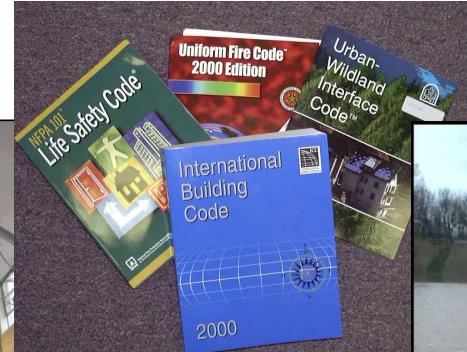
# Hazard Mitigation Strategies

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- Mitigation actions should focus on reducing risk to the existing built environment and to limit risk to new development/redevelopment
- Consider Mitigation Actions that:
  - Reduce the hazard –actions that affect the hazard itself
  - Reduce the impact –actions that mitigate loss of life, property damage, environmental harm, or economic loss
  - Change behavior/people



# Hazard Mitigation Strategies



## Review of Mitigation Alternatives – Criteria for Selecting Mitigation Measures

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- Will it work?
- Is it cost-beneficial?
- Is it affordable?
- Is it legal?
- Is it fair?
- Do people want it?

- Is funding available?
- Are there administrative burdens?
- Is it politically acceptable to community leaders?
- Is it environmentally sound?

## Phase IV: Adopt and Implement the Plan

## 9) Adopt the Plan

- Official Adoption by Council or Board
- Public input before adoption

## 10) Implement the Plan

- Assign an overall project manager
- Integrate actions into existing programs/staff work plans
- Monitor changes in vulnerability
- Report on progress, publicize successes
- Revise the plan as necessary (every 5 years for DMA)



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# The Plumas County 2026 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update



# 2026 Plumas County LHMP Update—Participating Jurisdictions

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- Plumas County\*
- City of Portola\*
- Chester Public Utility District
- Grizzley Lake Community Services District
- Feather River Resource Conservation District
- Indian Valley Community Services District
- Plumas Eureka Community Services District

\*2020 and 2019 Participating Jurisdictions

# 2026 Plumas County LHMP – The Hazards\*

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- Climate Change
- Dam Failure
- Drought & Water Shortage (with tree mortality)
- Earthquake
- Flood: 1%/0.2% (w/levee Failure)
- Flood: Localized Stormwater Flooding
- Landslide, Mudslide, and Debris Flow
- Severe Weather: Extreme Cold, Freeze, and Snow
- Severe Weather: Extreme Heat
- Severe Weather: Heavy Rains and Storms (Wind, Hail, Lightning)
- Severe Weather: High Winds and Tornadoes
- Volcano
- Wildfire (with smoke and air quality)

\*Power Outages/PSPS will be discussed as a vulnerability of all hazards

# Plumas County 2025/2026 LHMP Update Development Schedule

## **HMPC and Public Meetings 2025:**

- **January 14 (Tuesday): HMPC (Kickoff) Meeting #1 (1:00 – 4:00 pm)**
- **January 14 (Tuesday): Public Meeting #1 (5:30 – 7:00 pm)**
- **FLOATING HMPC #6 APRIL - AUGUST**
- **May: HMPC Meeting #2 (Risk Assessment)**
- **May: Public Meeting #2**
- **July: HMPC Meetings #3 & #4 (Mitigation Strategy)**
- **December: Final Public Meeting #3 (Draft Plan)**
- **December: Final HMPC Meeting #5**

## ***LHMP Drafts 2025-2026:***

- ***September: HMPC (First) Draft LHMP to Plumas***
- ***November: Public Review (Second) Draft to Plumas***
- ***January 2026: Public and final comments incorporated and LHMP submittal to Cal OES***

Thank you!



# Plumas County

## *Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Project*



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