

Stanislaus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Newsletter



Wildfire

This newsletter has been prepared to inform interested agencies, stakeholders, and the public about the plan update and to solicit comments.

What is Hazard Mitigation?

Across the United States, natural disasters have increasingly caused injury, property damage, and interruption of business and government services. The toll on individuals, families, and businesses can be devastating. The time, money, and emotional effort required to respond to and recover from these disasters take public resources and attention away from other important programs and problems. The mission of Hazard Mitigation is to communicate with and reduce risk to the community.

Stanislaus County is eligible to receive grant money for mitigation programs by preparing a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan. FEMA requires that hazard mitigation plans be updated every five years.

There are very specific Federal requirements that must be met when preparing a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan must document the following: planning process, hazard identification, risk assessment, mitigation goals and strategies, plan maintenance, and adoption by local governing body.

Why do we need a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

The purpose of hazard mitigation planning is to implement projects that eliminate the risk or reduce the severity of hazards on people and property. Mitigation programs may include short and long term activities to reduce hazards, reduce exposure to hazards, or reduce the effects of hazards. Examples of mitigation activities could include developing or strengthening building codes and educating residents and building owners.

The MJHMP will identify hazards and the facilities potentially at risk and ways to mitigate hazards. The planning process will be documented as part of the project. The purpose of the project is to ensure that all cities, schools, and special districts in the County are eligible for mitigation project funding in the event of a declared disaster.

Information about the requirements may be found on the Internet at:

<http://www.fema.gov>

Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services

- Gary Hinshaw, Assistant Director of Emergency Services
- 3705 Oakdale Road, Modesto, California 95357
- Please direct your questions to the Project Manager at:
- Phone (209) 525-6532
- FAX (209) 544-6226
- Email your concerns to: Marnie.Ardis@stancounty.com
- Mail your completed questionnaire to: MJHMP Project Manager 1010 Tenth Street, Suite 6800 Modesto, CA 95354



Visit the County website:
<http://www.stanoes.com/mjhmp.shtm>

Hazard Identification Questionnaire

= Hazard considered significant enough for evaluation and concur that they should be addressed in the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update.

HAZARD TYPE	PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS SIGNIFICANT IN 2004	SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE MJHMP PLAN UPDATE	ADDITIONAL AREAS OF CONCERN
Avalanche	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dam Failure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earthquake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expansive Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extreme Heat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extreme Cold/Snow/Ice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hailstorm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landslide	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tsunami	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildfire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Windstorms & Tornadoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For the previously included hazards what new/additional information should be included?

Why should this/these new hazards be included?

How can we improve the plan format?

How can we improve the plan content?

What types of codes, zoning, and/or legislation could we implement to make our communities safer from natural hazards?

What actions could we take to reduce our risk from natural hazards?

We need your help!

The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by FEMA on January 12, 2006 considered a full range of hazards, and identified the following five as having the greatest potential to cause a negative impact on the community: Earthquake, Landslide, Dam Failure, Flood, and Wildfire. These hazards were identified through an extensive process that involved a thorough review of past disaster declarations in the County.

If you think those same hazards are still significant and should be addressed in the updated plan, please recheck them in the middle column. If you have any new areas of concern, please check the appropriate box in the right hand column and add comments.

We encourage you to take an active part in the update of the County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed and allow you every opportunity to voice your opinion regarding this important project.

