



Chapter 7 Plan Implementation and Maintenance

Requirement §201.6(c)(4): [The plan maintenance process shall include a] section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.

Implementation and maintenance of this 2021 LHMP Update is critical to the overall success of hazard mitigation planning. This is Planning Step 10 of the 10-step planning process. This chapter provides an overview of the overall strategy for plan implementation and maintenance and outlines the method and schedule for monitoring, updating, and evaluating the Plan. The chapter also discusses incorporating the Plan into existing planning mechanisms and how to address continued public involvement.

Chapter 3 Planning Process includes information on the implementation and maintenance process since the 2015 LHMP Update was adopted. This section includes information on the implementation and maintenance process for this 2021 LHMP Update.

7.1 Implementation

Once adopted, this Plan faces the truest test of its worth: implementation. While this Plan contains many worthwhile actions, the County will need to decide which action(s) to undertake first. Two factors will help with making that decision: the priority assigned the actions in the planning process and funding availability. Low or no-cost actions most easily demonstrate progress toward successful Plan implementation.

An important implementation mechanism that is highly effective and low-cost is incorporation of the hazard mitigation plan recommendations and their underlying principles into other plans and mechanisms, such as general plans, stormwater plans, Emergency Operations Plans (EOPS), evacuation plans, and other hazard and emergency management planning efforts for Yuba County. The County already implements policies and programs to reduce losses to life and property from hazards. This Plan builds upon the momentum developed through previous and related planning efforts and mitigation programs and recommends implementing actions, where possible, through these other program mechanisms.

Mitigation is most successful when it is incorporated into the day-to-day functions and priorities of government and development. Implementation can be accomplished by adhering to the schedules identified for each action and through constant, pervasive, and energetic efforts to network and highlight the multi-objective, win-win benefits to each program and the Yuba County community and its stakeholders. This effort is achieved through the routine actions of monitoring agendas, attending meetings, and promoting a safe, sustainable community. Additional mitigation strategies could include consistent and ongoing enforcement of existing policies and vigilant review of programs for coordination and multi-objective opportunities.

Simultaneous to these efforts, it is important to maintain a constant monitoring of funding opportunities that can be leveraged to implement some of the more costly recommended actions. This could include creating and maintaining a bank of ideas on how to meet local match or participation requirements. When funding does become available, the County will be in a better position to capitalize on the opportunity. Funding opportunities to be monitored include special pre- and post-disaster funds, state and federal programs and earmarked funds, benefit assessments, and other state and federal grant programs, including those that can serve or support multi-objective applications.

Responsibility for Implementation of Goals and Activities

The elected officials and staff appointed to head each department within the County are charged with implementation of various activities in the LHMP Update. During the quarterly reviews as described later in this section, an assessment of progress on each of the goals and activities in the LHMP Update should be determined and noted. At that time, recommendations were made to modify timeframes for completion of activities, funding resources, and responsible entities. On a quarterly basis, the priority standing of various activities may also be changed. Some activities that are found not to be doable may be deleted from the Plan Update entirely and activities addressing problems unforeseen during plan development may be added.

7.1.1. Role of Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) in Implementation and Maintenance

With adoption of this Plan, the participating jurisdictions will be responsible for the LHMP implementation and maintenance. The HMPC identified in Appendix A (or a similar committee) will reconvene quarterly each year to ensure mitigation strategies are being implemented and the County continues to maintain compliance with the NFIP. As such, Yuba County will continue its relationship with the HMPC, and:

- Act as a forum for hazard mitigation issues;
- Disseminate hazard mitigation ideas and activities to all participants;
- Pursue the implementation of high-priority, low/no-cost recommended actions;
- Ensure hazard mitigation remains a consideration for community decision makers;
- Maintain a vigilant monitoring of multi-objective cost-share opportunities to help the community implement the plan's recommended actions for which no current funding exists;
- Monitor and assist in the implementation and update of this Plan;
- Report on plan progress and recommended changes to the County Board of Supervisors; and
- Inform and solicit input from the public.

The primary duty of the County and HMPC is to see the LHMP Update successfully carried out and to report to their governing board and the public on the status of LHMP implementation and mitigation opportunities. Other duties include reviewing and promoting mitigation proposals, considering stakeholder concerns about hazard mitigation, passing concerns on to appropriate entities, and posting relevant information on the County website.

7.2 Maintenance

Plan maintenance implies an ongoing effort to monitor and evaluate LHMP implementation and to update this Plan as progress, roadblocks, or changing circumstances are recognized.

7.2.1. Maintenance Schedule

The Yuba County Office of Emergency Services (County OES) is responsible for initiating plan reviews. In order to monitor progress and update the mitigation strategies identified in the mitigation action plan, Yuba County OES and the HMPC will revisit this plan quarterly each year and following a hazard event. The HMPC will meet quarterly to review progress on Plan implementation and the County as the participating CRS community will provide annual evaluation reports for Activity 510. The HMPC will also submit a five-year written update to the State and FEMA Region IX, unless disaster or other circumstances (e.g., changing regulations) require a change to this schedule. With this LHMP Update anticipated to be fully approved and adopted in late-2021, the next formal LHMP Update for the Yuba County Planning Area will occur in 2026. With a formal FEMA Plan approval required in 2026 for the next LHMP, Yuba County OES will initiate efforts to obtain a planning grant for the 2026 LHMP Update in 2024, with a new LHMP development process initiated in early 2025.

7.2.2. Maintenance Evaluation Process

Evaluation of progress can be achieved by monitoring changes in vulnerabilities identified in the Plan. Changes in vulnerability can be identified by noting:

- Decreased vulnerability as a result of implementing recommended actions;
- Increased vulnerability as a result of failed or ineffective mitigation actions; and/or
- Increased vulnerability as a result of new development (and/or annexation).
- Increased vulnerability resulting from unforeseen or new circumstances.

Updates to this LHMP will:

- Consider changes in vulnerability due to action implementation;
- Document success stories where mitigation efforts have proven effective;
- Document areas where mitigation actions were not effective;
- Document any new hazards that may arise or were previously overlooked;
- Incorporate new data or studies on hazards and risks;
- Incorporate new capabilities or changes in capabilities;
- Incorporate growth and development-related changes to infrastructure inventories; and
- Incorporate new action recommendations or changes in action prioritization.

Changes will be made to this Plan to accommodate for actions that have failed or are not considered feasible after a review of their consistency with established criteria, time frame, community priorities, and/or funding resources. All mitigation actions will be reviewed as well during the monitoring and update of this Plan to determine feasibility of future implementation. Updating of this LHMP will be by written changes and submissions, as the HMPC deems appropriate and necessary, and as approved by the governing boards of each participating jurisdiction. In keeping with the five-year update process, the HMPC will convene

public meetings to solicit public input on this Plan and its routine maintenance and the final product will be again adopted by the governing boards of each participating jurisdiction.

Quarterly Plan Review Process

For the LHMP Update review process, Yuba County OEM, as lead along with the County CRS Coordinator, will be responsible for facilitating, coordinating, and scheduling reviews and maintenance of the LHMP. The LHMP is intended to be a living document. The review of the 2021 LHMP Update will normally occur on a quarterly basis each year and will be conducted by the HMPC as follows:

- The Yuba County OES will place an advertisement in the local newspaper advising the public of the date, time, and place for each quarterly review of the Plan Update and will be responsible for leading the meeting to review the Plan.
- Notices will be mailed to the members of the HMPC, federal, state, and local agencies, non-profit groups, local planning agencies, representatives of business interests, neighboring communities, and others advising them of the date, time, and place for the review.
- County/City/District officials will be noticed by email and telephone or personal visit and urged to participate.
- Members of the County's Planning Commission and other appointed commissions and groups will also be noticed by email and either by telephone or personal visit.
- Prior to the review, department heads and others tasked with implementation of the various activities will be queried concerning progress on each activity in their area of responsibility and asked to present a report at the review meeting.
- The local news media will be contacted, and a copy of the current Plan will be available for public comment at Yuba County.
- After the review meeting, minutes of the meeting and a quarterly report will be prepared by the HMPC and forwarded to the news media (public) and the ISO/CRS specialist for the CRS program. The report will also be presented to the County Board of Supervisors for review, and a request will be made that the Board take action to recognize and adopt any changes resulting from the review.
- A copy of the 2021 LHMP Update will be continually posted on the Internet as will the annual CRS Activity 510 report.

Criteria for Quarterly Reviews

The criteria recommended in 44 CFR 201 and 206 will be utilized in reviewing and updating the Plan. More specifically, the reviews should include the following information:

- Community growth or change in the past quarter.
- The number of substantially damaged or substantially improved structures by flood zone.
- The renovations to public infrastructure including water, sewer, drainage, roads, bridges, gas lines, and buildings.
- Natural hazard occurrences that required activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and whether or not the event resulted in a presidential disaster declaration.
- Natural hazard occurrences that were not of a magnitude to warrant activation of the EOC or a federal disaster declaration but were severe enough to cause damage in the community or closure of businesses, schools, or public services.
- The dates of hazard events descriptions.
- Documented damages due to the event.
- Closures of places of employment or schools and the number of days closed.
- Road or bridge closures due to the hazard and the length of time closed.

- Assessment of the number of private and public buildings damaged and whether the damage was minor, substantial, major, or if buildings were destroyed. The assessment will include residences, mobile homes, commercial structures, industrial structures, and public buildings, such as schools and public safety buildings.
- Review of any changes in federal, state, and local policies to determine the impact of these policies on the community and how and if the policy changes can or should be incorporated into the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Review of the status of implementation of projects (mitigation strategies) including projects completed will be noted. Projects behind schedule will include a reason for delay of implementation.

7.2.3. Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms

Another important implementation mechanism that is highly effective and low-cost is incorporation of the 2021 LHMP Update recommendations and their underlying principles into other County plans and mechanisms. Where possible, Plan participants will use existing plans and/or programs to implement hazard mitigation actions. As previously stated in Section 7.1 of this plan, mitigation is most successful when it is incorporated into the day-to-day functions and priorities of government and development. The point is re-emphasized here. As described in this LHMP’s capability assessment, the County already implements policies and programs to reduce losses to life and property from hazards. This Plan builds upon the momentum developed through previous and related planning efforts and mitigation programs and recommends implementing actions, where possible, through these other program mechanisms. These existing mechanisms include:

- County general and master plans
- County Emergency Operations Plans and other emergency management efforts
- County ordinances
- Flood/stormwater management/master plans
- Community Wildfire Protection plans
- Capital improvement plans and budgets
- Other plans and policies outlined in the capability assessment
- Other plans, regulations, and practices with a mitigation focus

HMPC members involved in these other planning mechanisms will be responsible for integrating the findings and recommendations of this LHMP with these other plans, programs, etc., as appropriate. As described in Section 7.1 Implementation, incorporation into existing planning mechanisms will be done through the routine actions of:

- monitoring other planning/program agendas;
- attending other planning/program meetings;
- participating in other planning processes; and
- monitoring community budget meetings for other community program opportunities.

The successful implementation of this mitigation strategy will require constant and vigilant review of existing plans and programs for coordination and multi-objective opportunities that promote a safe, sustainable community.

Examples of incorporation of the LHMP into existing planning mechanisms include:

1. As recommended by Assembly Bill 2140, the County should adopt (by reference or incorporation) this LHMP into the Safety Element of their General Plan. Evidence of such adoption (by formal, certified resolution and text within the body of the Safety Element) shall be provided to CAL OES and FEMA.
2. Integration of flood actions identified in this mitigation strategy with implementation priorities in existing Watershed, Flood, and Stormwater Drainage Plans. Key people responsible for development and implementation of the County’s Watershed Master Plans, Flood Plans, and Stormwater Master Plan participated on the HMPC. Key projects were identified and integrated specifically into this LHMP, while others currently of lesser priority should be referenced in their source document. Actual implementation of these projects will likely occur through the watershed, flood, and stormwater plans’ processes through the efforts of each responsible department.
3. Integration of wildfire actions identified in this mitigation strategy with the actions and implementation priorities established in existing Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
4. Integration of many of the infrastructure, roads, and facility improvement projects with the jurisdictional Capital Improvement Programs.
5. Use of risk assessment information to inform future updates of the hazard analysis in the Yuba County and City(ies) Emergency Operations Plans.

Efforts should continuously be made to monitor the progress of mitigation actions implemented through these other planning mechanisms and, where appropriate, their priority actions should be incorporated into updates of this hazard mitigation plan.

7.2.4. Continued Public Involvement

Continued public involvement is imperative to the overall success of the Plan’s implementation. The update process provides an opportunity to solicit participation from new and existing stakeholders and to publicize success stories from the LHMP implementation and seek additional public comment. The Plan maintenance and update process will include continued public and stakeholder involvement and input through attendance at designated committee meetings, web postings, press releases to local media, and through public hearings.

Public Involvement Process for Quarterly Reviews

The public will be noticed by placing an advertisement in the newspaper specifying the date and time for the review and inviting public participation. The HMPC, local, state, and regional agencies will be notified and invited to attend and participate.

Public Involvement for Five-year Update

When the HMPC reconvenes for the next LHMP Update, they will coordinate with all stakeholders participating in the planning process—including those that joined the committee since the planning process began—to update and revise the Plan. In reconvening, the HMPC plan to identify a public outreach subcommittee, which will be responsible for coordinating the activities necessary to involve the greater public. The subcommittee will develop a plan for public involvement and will be responsible for disseminating information through a variety of media channels detailing the plan update process. As part of this effort, public meetings will be held, and public comments will be solicited on the LHMP Update

draft. The subcommittee will also coordinate this public outreach process with any public information programs established pursuant to the 2017 guidelines from the Community Rating System (CRS).