

SECTION 4 COUNTY CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

During the 2011 update, the Mitigation Advisory Committee reviewed this section in its entirety and updated the information to reflect current capabilities. In the introduction of this section, the population information was updated using the Census data from 2010. The agricultural production value information was added to section 4.1.1 since the MAC determined this to be a significant vulnerability. Within the Administrative and Technical Capacity (Section 4.2) an updated organization chart has been included. Each of the discussions for the featured county departments has been reviewed by members of that department and updated to reflect the current capabilities and programs/policies in place that may help implement mitigation strategies. A notation in italics within each featured department discussion identifies that department's role in implementing mitigation.

Several updates may be noted within Section 4.2.1.7 regarding the department of public works. The Office of Disaster Recovery Manager's responsibilities have changed since 2004. The County has improved coordination among departments regarding management of disaster/mitigation grants.

4.1 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - INTRODUCTION

Santa Barbara County, one of 58 counties in the State of California, was established on February 18, 1850. The County is located approximately 300 miles south of San Francisco and 100 miles north of Los Angeles, and covers 3,789 square miles, nearly 28% of which is water, with 2,735 square miles of land area. Elevation ranges from sea level to 6,820 feet at Big Pine Mountain. A corner of Kern and San Luis Obispo Counties border it to the north, Ventura County to the east, and the Pacific Ocean to the west and south. The County has 110 miles of coastline, and one third of the land area is located in the Los Padres National Forest.

Santa Barbara County is comprised of eight incorporated cities and 14 unincorporated communities including Vandenberg Air Force Base. The County's total population in was estimated to be 423,895 with a median age of 33.6 years (Census 2010). Santa Barbara is the 19th most populous County in the state.

The following subsections provide an overview of the *Economy, Physical Features, Infrastructure, and Jurisdictional Summaries* for the County of Santa Barbara.

4.1.1 Economy

Santa Barbara can be subdivided into three regions, North County, South County, and the Santa Ynez Valley. Each region has unique features which influence the economics of the area.

North County is part of the central California coastal region. It is defined by the Santa Maria Valley and Lompoc Valley, and includes several different communities, including Vandenberg Air Force



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Base. The presence of the base in the area has generated a variety of business opportunities, causing the region to evolve away from a strictly agriculture-based economy into one that is more diverse. The South County's economy is based largely on tourism, education, and services. Several educational institutions are located in the South County including Westmont College and the University of California-Santa Barbara. Many festivals in the South County attract visitors throughout the year. In addition to education and tourism, a variety of technological and agricultural enterprises reside in Goleta and Carpinteria. The City of Santa Barbara is the retail center of the region. The result is a healthy and diverse economy in the South County.

The Santa Ynez Valley is known primarily for its vineyards, horse ranches, and Bed-and-Breakfasts. Visitors come to the Los Padres National Forest for a variety of outdoor activities, including boating, fishing, hiking, and rock climbing. The Danish village of Solvang also attracts a number of tourists to the region throughout the year.

Agriculture is a major industry in the County and is a significant source of employment opportunities. A large percentage of the County's undeveloped area is devoted to agriculture. In spite of pressures from urbanization and foreign imports, agriculture continues to thrive. In 2009, the gross value of all agricultural production in the County was over 1.2 billion dollars. The top five crops by value are:

Strawberries: \$344.6 million

Broccoli: \$149.9 million

Wine grapes: \$137.4 million

Cauliflower: \$63.2 million

Head lettuce: \$62.0 million

Due to agriculture's significance to the economy and landscape of Santa Barbara County, impacts on agriculture from most of the hazards specified in this plan are identified.

4.1.2 Employment

Santa Barbara's percent unemployed in the civilian labor force, according to the 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, was 6.4%. The top three occupation fields, along with their percent employed are Management, professional, and related occupations employing 34.5%, Sales and office occupations at 23.6%, and finally Service occupations employing 20.2% of the civilian labor force.

4.1.3 Physical Features

Santa Barbara County has a mountainous interior, made up of three primary mountain ranges; the Santa Ynez Mountains, the San Rafael Mountains, and the Sierra Madre Mountains. Most of the mountainous region is within the Los Padres National Forest. The forest contains the San Rafael Wilderness and the Dick Smith Wilderness. The valleys, especially those along the coast, contain most of the population. The cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria are all along the south coast, in the coastal plain south of the Santa Ynez Mountains. The Cuyama Valley in the north part of the County is less populated and more arid; oil production, ranching, and agriculture are the dominant land uses there. The County also includes four Channel Islands in the Pacific Ocean. These include San Miguel Island, Santa Barbara Island, Santa Cruz Island, and Santa Rosa Island.

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Santa Cruz Island is the only one of the four that is privately owned. The Nature Conservancy has owned it since 1987. The other islands are part of the Channel Islands National Park.

The climate in the Santa Ynez Valley is considered one of the finest in California; temperatures in the winter range from an average of 33-degree lows at night to 55-degree highs during the day. In the summertime the daytime highs range in the 70s and 80s with lows ranging in the 50s and 60s. The Cuyama Valley has consistently warm days and cold nights, with gentle breezes keeping temperatures mild in the afternoon, and down-valley breezes cooling things off at night. In the mountains the climate is still considered Mediterranean, with mild rainy winters and warm dry summers.

Due to the Mediterranean climate of Santa Barbara County and the variability of rainfall, stream flow throughout the County is highly variable and directly impacted from rainfall with little snowmelt or base flow from headwaters. Most streams in the County are dry during the summer months. Many streams in the County have flows that rise and fall in response to precipitation. Watercourses can experience a high amount of sedimentation during wet years and high amounts of vegetative growth during dry and moderate years.

The drainages in the southern part of the County are characterized by high intensity, short duration runoff events, due to the relatively short distance from the top of the Santa Ynez Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. The drainages in the northern part of the County are contained in the upper mountain areas, but broaden out into level coastal plains. The drainages in the northern part of the County are generally characterized by longer duration and less intense storms than the southern coastal areas. The majority of streams in Santa Barbara County only flow during winter months.

There are four major reservoirs located in the County; Lake Cachuma, Twitchell, Gibraltar, and Jameson Lake. Lake Cachuma, Gibraltar Reservoir, and Jameson Lake are located along the Santa Ynez River, in the North County. Lake Cachuma is the largest reservoir along the Santa Ynez River, with a drainage area of 421 square miles upstream of the Bradbury Dam. Gibraltar Reservoir has a drainage area of 214 square miles upstream of Gibraltar Dam and Jameson Lake has a drainage area of 14 square miles upstream of Juncal Dam.

In the North County, the Twitchell Reservoir is located along the Cuyama River. The Cuyama River Basin has a drainage area of approximately 1,140 square miles and it is the confluence of the Cuyama and Sisquoc Rivers that form the Santa Maria River. The Twitchell Reservoir has a drainage area of 1,135 square miles above Twitchell Dam.

The County is divided into five major watersheds; Santa Maria, Cuyama, San Antonio, Santa Ynez River and South Coast. The Santa Maria Watershed includes the Cuyama and Sisquoc watersheds. The drainage areas for these watersheds are:

Watershed	Drainage Area
Santa Maria	1,845 square miles
Cuyama	1,140 square miles
San Antonio	165 square miles
Santa Ynez River	900 square miles
South Coast	416 square miles

4.1.4 Infrastructure

The infrastructure of Santa Barbara County supports the industries and the residents of the County. The Public Works Department maintains over 1,800 lane miles of major roads and local streets in the unincorporated portions of the County, including over 112 bridges. There are five airports in the County of Santa Barbara; Lompoc Airport, Santa Barbara Airport, Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, Santa Maria Public Airport, and Santa Ynez Airport. The County has been producing oil and gas since the late 1800's. It was in 1896 that oil producers constructed piers to access the underwater portion of the Summerland Oil Field, marking the beginning of offshore oil production. Several operational oil platforms are located along the Coast of Santa Barbara County, including one in the tidewaters. Groundwater is the primary source of potable water for many County residents. However, river water and rain water is collected into reservoirs and treated, serving the majority of the South County population. The Cachuma and Twitchell Reservoirs are owned by the federal government, administered by the Water Resources Division, and operated by local water purveyors. The Gibraltar Reservoir is owned and operated by the City of Santa Barbara, and serves its residents. Jameson Reservoir is operated by the Montecito Water District. Its water is delivered to the south coast via three tunnels through the Santa Ynez Mountains.

4.2 ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY

The County identified current capabilities and mechanisms available for implementing hazard mitigation activities. The administrative and technical capacity section includes a summary of departments and their responsibilities associated with hazard mitigation planning as well as codes, ordinances, and plans already in place associated with hazard mitigation planning.

4.2.1 The Roles of County Departments in Hazard Mitigation

The following is a summary of existing departments in the County and their responsibilities related to hazard mitigation planning and implementation, as well as existing planning documents and regulations related to mitigation efforts within the community. The administrative and technical capabilities of the County, as shown in Table 4.3 provides an identification of the staff, personnel, and department resources available to implement the actions identified in the mitigation section of the Plan. Specific resources reviewed include those involving technical personnel such as planners/engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices, engineers trained in construction practices related to building and infrastructure, planners and engineers with an understanding of natural or manmade hazards, floodplain managers, surveyors, personnel with GIS skills and scientists familiar with hazards in the community. Figure 4.1 shows the agencies within the County that will have a significant role in implementing the Plan.

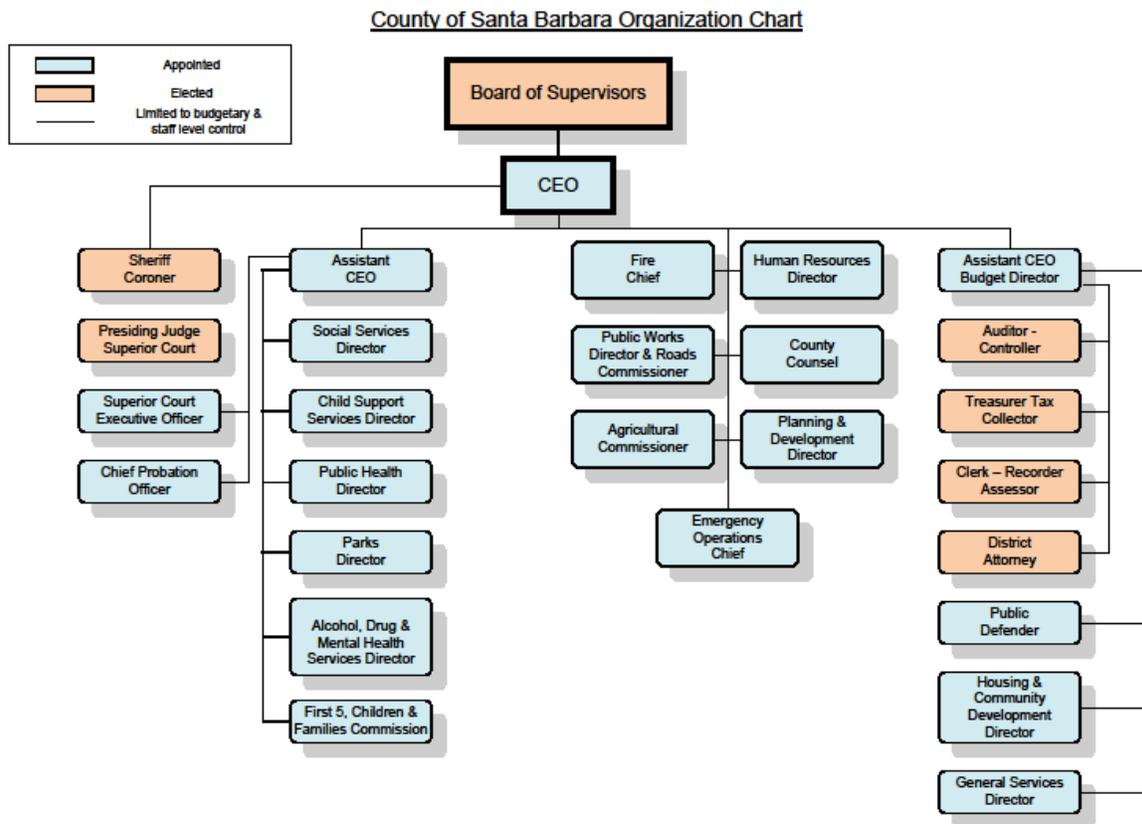


Figure 4.1 County Organizational Chart

Many of the programs and plans of these departments, with applicability and links to loss reduction efforts, are detailed below.

4.2.1.1 Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management

The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (SBC OEM), a division of the Santa Barbara County Chief Executive Office is responsible for emergency planning and coordination for the Santa Barbara Operational Area. On a day to day basis, OEM is responsible for emergency planning and coordination among the Santa Barbara Operational Area entities which include:

- Cities:** Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Guadalupe, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Solvang
- Special Districts:** Air Pollution Control District, Fire Districts, Sanitary Districts, School Districts, Vector Control Districts, Water Districts
- Volunteer Organizations:** American Red Cross, Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), Equine Evacuation, and Montecito Emergency Response & Recovery Action Group (MERRAG)
- Industry Groups:** CAER-Community Awareness and Emergency Response, Petroleum industry mutual aid group, SBIA-Santa Barbara Industrial Association.

Tri-County Coordination: Santa Barbara County OEM also coordinates with adjoining offices of emergency services in Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties.

SBC OEM responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Maintain the Santa Barbara County Operational Area Multihazard Functional Plan.
- Maintain the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in a state of operational readiness.
- Maintain a trained cadre of EOC team members.
- Provide ongoing leadership and coordinate disaster plans and exercises with the eight cities throughout the County.
- Assist County departments in developing department emergency plans which address how they will perform during disasters.
- Provide ongoing training for County department emergency coordinators.
- Participate in an ever-expanding public education campaign for all hazards through partnerships with the Aware and Prepare Campaign, public venues and various media presentations.

SEMS Emergency Management Plan

The Santa Barbara County OEM developed the SEMS Emergency Management Plan (SEMS EMP) in June 2003 to ensure the most effective and economical allocation of resources for the maximum benefit and protection of the civilian population in time of emergency. The EMP was developed for the Santa Barbara Operational Area as part of the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). The EMP addresses emergency responses associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and national-security. The objective of the plan is to establish an effective organization capable of responding to potential large-scale emergency situations using all appropriate facilities and personnel in the County. The SEMS EMP assigns tasks and specifies policies and procedures for coordination of emergency staff and service elements. The SEMS EMP identifies emergency response actions associated with the large-scale emergencies through standard operating procedures (SOP).

The Plan states that hazard mitigation is a year round effort and encourages all communities to prepare hazard mitigation plans. The following activities were identified by the Plan as potential mitigation activities: improving structures and facilities at risk, identifying hazard-prone areas and developing standards for prohibited or restricted use, recovery and relief from loss (i.e., insurance), and providing hazard warning and protecting the population.

The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management, within its duties noted above, will use this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan in conjunction with the SEMS EMP to implement strategies, projects, and policies which lead to a more resilient and safe County.

4.2.1.2 Santa Barbara County Fire Department

Mission Statement

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department serves and safeguards the community from the impacts of fires, medical emergencies, environmental emergencies, and natural disasters through leadership, planning, education, prevention, code enforcement, and all-hazard emergency response.

Vision Statement

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The Santa Barbara County Fire Department will be a model public safety agency, widely recognized for our effectiveness, regional strength, and community attentiveness.

Core Values

Commitment – Courage - Integrity - Innovation - Teamwork - Service

The Fire Department is responsible for managing the following activities related to wildfire hazard reduction:

- Fire Suppression
- Defensible Space Program
 - Enforcing Public Resource Code 4291 defensible space
- Enforcing Development Standards
- Writing and implementing the Santa Barbara County Fire Unit Fire Plan (meeting the California Strategic Fire Plan and National Fire Plan Standards)
- Assisting Planning and Development (and other Departments) with Development Standards for High Fire Hazard Areas
- Conducting Community Outreach and Public Education Programs
- Conducting prescribed burns and vegetation management projects
- Monitoring “fire weather” and maintaining and utilizing “Red Flag Alert” signs as part of the “Red Flag Warning Plan” to alert citizens of dangerous fire weather conditions
- Burn Permit Program (agriculture and hazard reduction burning to reduce hazardous accumulations of fuels)

Fire Hazard Severity Zoning

Hazard severity zone maps are available through Cal Fire FRAP website, Santa Barbara County Fire, and County Planning and Development:

<http://frap.fire.ca.gov/projects/hazard/fhz.html>

Defensible Space Program

Establishing defensible space around structures is one of the most powerful tools for preventing fire hazards and is therefore required by both County regulations and State law. The California Fire Code Chapter 49 as amended by the County of Santa Barbara through Chapter 15 of the County Code defines defensible space as:

“the area surrounding a structure or building where basic wildfire protection practices are implemented, providing the key point of defense from an approaching wildfire or escaping structure fire. The area is characterized by the establishment and maintenance of fuel modification measures.”

In 2005, the State Board of Forestry adopted provisions now identified in Public Resource Code 4291 that requires all structures on State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands to maintain 100 feet of defensible space clearance from all structures. Within the County of Santa Barbara, 100 feet defensible space is also enforced on unincorporated Local Responsibility Area (LRA) in the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District. The 100-foot defensible space clearance is a minimum, and in some instances this distance may need to be increased due to the location of a structure on a slope or because of the vegetative fuel loading surrounding a structure.

Table 4.1 Santa Barbara County Fire Development Standards 1-7

Santa Barbara County Fire Department Development Standards¹	
Development Standard #1 Private Roadway and Driveway Standards	Establishes minimum standards for driveways and private roads. These standards outline minimum road widths and vegetation clearance designed to provide fire vehicles access to residences and associated structures.
Development Standard #2 Fire Hydrant Spacing and Water Flow Rates	Establishes fire hydrant spacing, discharge outlet configuration and flow rate requirements. Flow rate standards are used when calculating peakload water supply requirements for one-and-two family dwelling units.
Development Standard #3 Stored Water Fire Protection Systems Serving One and Two-Family Dwellings	Establishes standards for stored water fire protection systems serving one and two-family dwellings.
Development Standard #4 Automatic Fire Sprinkler System Standards	Establishes standards for automatic fire sprinkler systems.
Development Standard #5 Automatic Alarm System Standards	Establishes standards for automatic alarm systems.
Development Standard #6 Vegetation Management Plan	Establishes standards for vegetation management plans.
Development Standard #7 Access Gates	Establishes standards for gates on private roads and private driveway access points.

Many of these policies and development standards are designed to reduce the risk to wildfire damage. They provide a foundation for implementing the identified wildfire mitigation strategies within this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Through participation in the Mitigation Advisory Committee, the County Fire Department will use this foundation to help implement the identified wildfire mitigation strategies as resources are available.

4.2.1.3 Santa Barbara County General Services Department

The General Services Department provides customer-oriented, internal support services for all County Departments and other public agencies in the following three areas:

Administrative & Financial Support: Financial Services, Risk Management, Purchasing, Back to Work Program

Support Services: Real Property, Facilities Management, Capital Projects, Vehicle Operations

¹ <http://www.sbcfire.com/fp/dr/index.html>

Information Technology Services: Computer Services, Communications, Imaging and Copying Services and Government Access TV

The following Divisions/Programs will support future mitigation activities:

- The **Division of Real Property** provides professional real estate services to meet County space needs and requirements. It prepares and negotiates real property transactions including leases, sales and purchases.
- The **Division of Facilities Management** promotes a safe, healthy environment for County employees and visitors. It provides a full range of maintenance and custodial services for County owned buildings. Staff takes care of over 900,000 square feet of space in 60 County-owned buildings. Services are provided through scheduled maintenance programs and reimbursable projects.
- **Communications and Telephone Services** provide a wide range of telephone, radio, microwave, audio and video services to County departments and various other governmental agencies.
- **Government Access Television (GATV)** is a cable television station operated by the County. GATV provides live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of local government meetings, public meetings, public information programs, and a scroll with information about various County Government meetings, announcements and public events. GATV was used to advertise public meetings associated with this plan and to broadcast associated hearings.
- **Risk Management** acts as the "insurance company" for the County. Each program within this office is designed to promote the prudent financial management of funds entrusted to the County for the provision of services to the public.
- **Procurement Services** for all Santa Barbara County Departments are centralized in the Purchasing Division under the direction of the Purchasing Manager.

The General Services Department is a crucial component to managing the financial aspect of implementing mitigation actions.

4.2.1.4 Santa Barbara County Planning and Development

Planning & Development plans for and promotes reasonable, productive and safe long-term uses of the land which foster economic and environmental prosperity in the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County. It provides planning, permitting and inspection services through a public process under the policy direction of the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission.

It is responsible for the creation, update and implementation of the County Comprehensive Plan, including the Seismic Safety and Safety Element. The divisions of the Planning and Development Department that have a role in natural disaster mitigation include:

- Development Review
- Zoning and Permits
- Comprehensive Planning
- Building and Safety

Development Review - reviews projects for permit decisions by staff, the Zoning Administrator, the Planning Commission, or the Board of Supervisors based on policies in the Comprehensive Plan, state law and local ordinances. It also ensures compliance with environmental impact mitigation measures and conditions of approval.

Zoning and Permits – Enforces the County Zoning Ordinances and provides information and services related to:

- Site specific zoning, meaning of zone districts, site specific land uses (e.g., required setbacks and allowable uses), general land uses
- Historical Permit Information: information in microfiche (or original) address or permit files on issued permits.
- Issuance of Land Use of Coastal Development Permits: plan review, exemptions, re-stamping for minor revisions.
- Discretionary Permits: status of applications in process, copies of materials (staff reports) related to pending case, procedures for filing new applications, assistance with filing, procedures for filing appeals.
- Board of Architectural Review (BAR): applicability, procedure, Hillside/Ridgeline Ordinance.
- Agricultural Preserves: applicability, procedure, allowable uses.
- Comprehensive Plan: site specific designations, meaning of designations, policies.
- Mission Canyon: specific plan procedure
- Growth Management Ordinances: exemptions, points, allocations, effective dates, hardships.
- Maps: assistance with map selection, reading, interpretation.
- Assessor's Parcel System (APS); Assessor Parcel Numbers, copies of pages; landscape bonding procedures; sign ordinance; address assignment; zoning or permit compliance status, fees, etc.

Comprehensive Planning - The Mission of the Comprehensive Planning Division is to develop, promote and implement plans, policies and public improvements which enhance the quality of life for Santa Barbara County residents, protect natural resources and promote sound long term economic development, while recognizing the differing needs and values of each of the County's unique communities and diverse rural areas.

Building and Safety – The primary function of this division is to provide reasonable controls and regulations that protect the citizenry and establish effective safeguards for the life, health and property equally throughout the unincorporated areas of the County. This is achieved through the application of uniform codes and standards that involve design, materials, construction, use, and occupancy of all buildings constructed within the jurisdiction. This division enforces the County building code, including the Geologic Hazards and High Fire Hazards Articles. It also enforces the grading code (landslide mitigation) and other sections of the zoning ordinances, dealing with public safety and hazard loss reduction techniques. The City of Buellton contracts with the County Building & Safety Division for these functions within the City Limits.

The Planning and Development department plays an instrumental role in the Mitigation Advisory Committee ensuring this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is consistent with other long term and comprehensive planning efforts throughout the County. The Planning and Development department identifies development policies already in place which help reduce future damage to structures from natural hazards and would play a crucial role in creating new development policies as necessary to implement the identified mitigation strategies.

4.2.1.5 Santa Barbara County Park Department

The Parks Department maintains more than 900 acres of parks and open spaces, 84 miles of trails and coastal access easements, and the grounds surrounding county buildings. Park rangers or hosts reside in every major park to provide public assistance and supervise the grounds, enjoyed by over 6 million people annually. As pertains to natural hazard mitigation, the Park Department's role includes facility and infrastructure protection and public safety on Park lands.

Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office – Regulates pesticide use by commercial agriculture and regulates the movement of plant material to ensure compliance with local, state, federal, and foreign regulations. During disasters, this office gathers and compiles crop loss data to determine eligibility for Disaster Declarations and associated aid.

Since agricultural pests and diseases was identified as a hazard of concern during the 2011 update of this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office within the County Park Department will continue to play a critical role with the Mitigation Advisory Committee to reduce risk to agricultural production from future pests and diseases.

4.2.1.6 Santa Barbara County Housing & Community Development Department

The mission of the Housing and Community Development Department (HCD), working in cooperation with county citizens, cities, governmental entities, commercial interest and other valuable county stakeholders, is to:

- Coordinate the development and implementation of regional strategic housing and community development processes that respect local needs, priorities and our natural environment, that lead to the development of healthy and viable neighborhoods and an improved quality of life for all in our region.
- Lead this community building effort by developing partnerships to create a full spectrum of housing; building creative strategies for economic vitality; promoting advocacy & educational activities on healthy growth and well designed development initiatives.

These two mission areas for the Housing & Community Development Department are closely linked to mitigation in that the department wants to ensure the development it promotes is safely constructed and well sited with regard to risk of the identified natural hazards.

4.2.1.7 Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works

The County of Santa Barbara, Public Works Department is comprised of five divisions:

- Administration
- County Surveyor's Office
- Resource Recovery and Waste Management
- Transportation
- Water Resources (including the Flood Control District)

Each division performs functions that are directly related to natural hazard mitigation.

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Administration – Within the administration division is housed the Office of the Disaster Recovery Manager (DRM). This position has been upgraded since 2004 and is responsible for coordinating among department and agencies in a post-disaster environment to ensure that federal and state disaster relief programs are handled efficiently and to the maximum benefit of the residents of Santa Barbara County. This office is also at the forefront of Disaster Mitigation and grant procurement of the county in both pre and post-disaster environments. The Disaster Recovery Manager is a project manager for the departments (DRM is responsible for all County Departments grants including General Services, Sheriff, Fire, Parks, P&D). The DRM coordinates this effort with County OEM and the Auditor. The DRM leads the Pre Disaster Assessment (PDA), organization of the List of Projects (LOP) to State and Federal Government for all projects to be submitted for grants, relating to state and federal disaster assistance and loss reduction activities. This office is also responsible for maintaining the County's Disaster Mitigation Web Site:

<http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/DMA2000.html>

Additionally, Public Works has an on-going Mutual Aid Plan that has been adopted by the Board of Supervisors which is managed by the DRM in which all the cities in the operational area may request disaster assistance in the form of labor, equipment and/or materials for their Public Work Departments. This has been accomplished by the Cities joining the County Mutual Aid Plan by City Council Adoption which is linked into the State Wide Public Works Mutual Aid Plan which assures reimbursement eligibility from CalEMA and FEMA. Anyone interested may get more information by contacting: <http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/Administration/PWMAP.htm>

Finally, Public Works has written the “ Procurement Policy for Disasters” adopted by the Board of Supervisors in January of 2006 to be used by Public Works Divisions during a local emergency. This policy may also be viewed by accessing: <http://www.countyofsb.org/pwd/DMA2000.html>

The Public Works (PW) DRM, in addition to the responsibility of managing all disasters under the Federal and State PA Program manages, alongside with chosen representatives from each PW division, the Public Works 5-Year *Capital Improvement Program*. For Public Works, this is a \$584,968,000 funded and non-funded list of capital projects (<\$100,000>) report that is in creation (design) to completion (construction) from all the divisions in Public Works on behalf of the Director. As these are all new or upgraded projects, the opportunity to include hazard mitigation safety measures for each project is reviewed and discussed. In some cases, a CIP project may identify HMP funding from FEMA as the main source of revenue for that project, such as seismic upgrades for facilities, or steel pile retaining wall to replace the out-dated wooden soldier pile walls, tire revetment retaining wall and or drainage increases at major locations that elevates flooding and/or water retention.

To view the County CIP measures for this FY 2011-2016 please go to:

http://www.countyofsb.org/ceo/budget.aspx?id=358&ekmense1=e2f22c9a_396_402_btnlink#

County Surveyor's Office – The mission of the office is to provide quality surveying services through the creation, maintenance and protection of land based records for public and private resources. The Surveyor Division is responsible for maintaining accurate land records within the County. The Division has been allocated 19 full-time positions and has five general areas of responsibility. They are: 1) Checking and recording subdivision maps and documents; 2) Providing survey related data to the general public; 3) Conducting field surveys for County projects; 4) Administration of various State and local programs, and; 5) Providing real property services for the Department of Public Works.

The GIS Services Unit of the County Surveyor's office is active in mapping past disaster locations, future mitigation project locations and in developing a disaster history and mitigation tracking system. Additionally, The GIS arm of the Surveyor's office is examining other emergency management and mitigation related uses of GIS applications.

Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division – The Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division is responsible for the cost-effective management of solid waste and utilities in the County. The Division's comprehensive program for the management of solid waste includes the collection, recycling, and disposal of solid waste, and also the abatement of illegal dumping of waste. The County maintains only one active landfill (Tajiguas).

There are four sections within the Division, each responsible for performing a unique series of functions.

The Collection and Materials Management section manages the County's resource recovery and waste diversion programs (community programs), reviews and manages long-range solid waste management plans, and oversees the County's solid waste collection franchises for regularly generated solid waste. The Operations section manages waste processing and disposal operations at the County's transfer stations and active landfills. The Engineering section prepares all engineering and geologic plans and documents for the County's solid waste facilities, and monitors all active and closed landfills currently or previously owned by the County to ensure ongoing compliance with the many State and Federal regulations governing the environmental safety of each facility. Utilities section manages and operates the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Facility serving the unincorporated area of Orcutt in the North County, and provides engineering and administrative support (i.e., billing) to the County's underground utilities program and the County-administered wastewater, water and street lighting districts located throughout the unincorporated areas of the County.

The principal natural disaster mitigation related function of this division is debris management planning in a pre-disaster environment and debris disposal post disaster.

Transportation Division – The Transportation Division mission statement is as follows: *“Provide the traveling public a smooth ride, a clear path and a safe trip within the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County.”*

The Transportation Division supports this mission through inspecting, maintaining, repairing, replacing and improving all infrastructure within the County's Road Right-of-Way. This includes roadways, bridges, culverts and drainage structures. The Transportation Division is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 900 center lane miles of roads throughout the County, or approximately 1,800 lane miles, approximately 110 bridge structures, 4200 drainage structures (including culverts and drop inlets), 65 traffic signals (including flashing beacons), thousands of signs, and striping along the majority of the County's 900 roads.

The Transportation Division ensures that these facilities are maintained through our preventative maintenance programs, capital improvement projects to replace structurally deficient structures, and constructing vital links in the County's roadway infrastructure. In addition, the Transportation Division continually inspects all infrastructure and identifies hazards likely to impact County-owned facilities. Developing proper mitigation strategies and designs to these hazards is part of the mission of this division. To accomplish our mission statement all four of the Transportation Division's

sections work together. The four sections are Engineering, Construction/ Permits, Traffic, and Road Maintenance. Their roles are described in further detail below.

Transportation Emergency Response

During a hazardous or disaster event, the Transportation Division maintenance staff immediately transforms into an emergency response organization that includes the design, traffic and construction sections. A local base of operations (called a Disaster Field Office (DFO) located in North and South County) is established in order to effectively coordinate personnel and resources in order to immediately respond to hot spots as they are identified by Public Works staff, local agencies and the public. The DFO becomes a base of operations and collection center for information, inspection/damage reports, and response strategies as they are developed. In addition, monitoring with County Flood Control is coordinated with Roads for public information, dispatch to the CHP and Sheriff, dispatch to their construction and maintenance staff for road warnings and closures as needed. Staff are deployed to mitigate hazards and inspect critical structures, as well as oversee any contracted clean-up or construction crews. Transportation staff is well-rehearsed in disaster response training, having experienced declared disasters in 1993 (FEMA-979) 1995 (1044-1045), 1998 (FEMA-1203), 2001 (State Proclamation 2001-01), 2005 (FEMA-1577), 2007 (Zaca), 2008 (Gap), 2009 (Tea-Jesusita), 2010 (FEMA-1952) and 2011 (State Proclamation). During past declared disasters and other lesser events, staff performed exceptionally in quickly and thoroughly reacting to the changing conditions and requirements of emergency response. The Public Works Department and the Transportation Division in particular have a pre-planned routine for emergency response, to assure FEMA reimbursement by using the correct reporting techniques with pre-assigned teams responsible for inspecting critical facilities and to perform as flexible response units, all the disaster locations identified and numbered and called into the DFO and the EOC (if activated).

Engineering Section - Provides engineering needs related to new construction and rehabilitation of roads in the unincorporated area of the county, as well as develops design engineering for all major and routine road maintenance projects and capital improvement projects within the road right of way, oversees preparation of construction grant applications for federal and state funding, manages bidding for major road maintenance and construction projects, coordinates permit and environmental review, and plays a major role in administering and overseeing construction work performed by private contractors, including bridge management system and storm repair and restoration.

In response to a natural disaster, the Engineering Section:

- Acts as First Responders during hazard events. During a natural hazard, the Engineering Staff performs inspections of critical facilities in order to determine response strategies. This includes inspections of bridge structures, rockfall protection measures, drainage facilities, and roadways. Working together with the Construction and Maintenance Sections, this allows for properly trained staff to survey the entirety of the County in an expeditious and thorough manner.
- Develops and implements mitigation strategies to avoid further damage to critical facilities, or to reduce/avoid damage during future hazard events.
- Develops permanent designs to mitigate hazards, through construction/rehabilitation/retrofit strategies.
- Develops short and long-term inspection programs to monitor degradation of facilities due to natural hazards, and to develop mitigation strategies to avoid severe slides or other dangerous situations before disasters occur.

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- Periodically works with County Fire to keep key roadways and facilities critical for fire suppression and/or resident evacuation open and accessible to emergency vehicles and resident traffic

Traffic Section - Provides transportation planning and traffic engineering for the County's unincorporated areas; prepares and reviews transportation improvement plans (TIPs), community plans, traffic impact studies, general plans and specific plans for proposed development projects; and performs operation and design functions including traffic signal repair and maintenance, striping and signage of roads, design and construction of bikeways and pedestrian facilities, traffic and turning movement counts, design of minor safety and operational improvements, computerized traffic modeling, and evaluation of requests for stop signs, parking restrictions, speed limit changes and traffic signals.

In response to a natural disaster, the Traffic Section:

- Acts as First Responders during hazard events. During a natural hazard, the Traffic Staff performs inspections of critical traffic control facilities in order to determine response strategies. This includes inspections of traffic control signals, and electrical hazards.
- During major natural or man-made disasters, the Traffic Section would determine alternate routes and detours in order to avoid hazardous disaster areas, emergency repair sites, and staging areas.
- Works to quickly restore transportation access/infrastructure to avoid economic disruption and ensure public safety.

Construction Section - Inspects the construction for all projects that are constructed within the road right of way. These projects include: road rehabilitation, preventative road maintenance, and capital improvement projects. In addition, they verify all County road rights-of-way prior to the start of any road encroachment operations or activity by individuals, corporations, utilities, cities and other governmental agencies; issues permits for construction activity within, under or over the County right-of-way; and performs final review and inspections to ensure that construction activity meets federal, state and county standards.

In response to a natural disaster, the Construction Section:

- Acts as First Responders during hazard events. During a natural hazard, the Construction Staff performs inspections of infrastructure and facilities in order to determine response strategies. This includes inspections of bridge structures, rockfall protection measures, drainage facilities, and roadways. Working together with the Engineering and Maintenance Sections, this allows for properly trained staff to survey the entirety of the County in an expeditious and thorough manner.
- Develops and implements mitigation strategies to avoid further damage to critical facilities, or to reduce/avoid damage during future hazard events.
- Perform inspections of emergency repairs, direct construction crews during emergency construction and clean up operations.

Maintenance Section - Provides major and routine maintenance of the County's road system and management of 13 different County road maintenance programs, including surface treatment, roadway and bike path surface maintenance, street tree maintenance and sidewalk surface grinding, roadway slope repair, weed and brush removal, traffic control maintenance/safety assessment, and culvert maintenance; cooperates with other public agencies and with private parties to promote the

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safe use of the county's roadways; and oversees private contractors which may be involved in major road maintenance projects.

In response to a natural disaster, the Maintenance Section:

- Acts as First Responders during hazard events. During a natural hazard, the Maintenance Staff performs inspections of infrastructure and facilities in order to determine response strategies. This includes inspections of bridge structures, rockfall protection measures, drainage facilities, and roadways. Working together with the Engineering and Construction Sections, this allows for properly trained staff to survey the entirety of the County in an expeditious and thorough manner.
- Maintenance crews perform emergency repairs to critical facilities, and clear roadways of debris and water, in order to restore access to the public and County staff.
- Oversee contractors performing emergency repairs and clean-up operations.

On an annual basis, the Maintenance Section:

- Performs annual culvert inspection program
 - This has been instrumental in the creation of the Culvert Inventory Project, which has worked to determine the condition of all culverts within the maintenance system and prioritize which culverts are in need of repairs or replacement.
- Performs annual roadway inspection program to monitor slipping, cracking, etc. to formulate maintenance projects to prevent slides, and washouts of roadway and accompanying infrastructure.
- Periodically works with County Fire to keep key roadways and facilities critical for fire suppression open and accessible to emergency vehicles and resident traffic.
- Implements fire abatement program along roadways, involving vegetation control to avoid fires and to provide a wider break in the event of a wildfire.

Water Resources Division – The Water Resources Division is comprised of office and technical staff as well as three field maintenance shops in Santa Barbara, Lompoc and Santa Maria. It maintains hundreds of miles of creeks, channels and rivers, including 26 miles of levees in Santa Maria Valley. Office staff includes engineering, environmental, hydrology and administrative services.

The Flood Control and Water Conservation District, within the Water Resources Division implements programs and projects designed to provide protection for the public and to private property against flood risks and hazards. Capital improvement and ongoing maintenance projects are designed to reduce flood risks and enhance the environment by providing protection for property and minimizing flood hazards.

Construction of flood control and drainage system facilities has been taking place throughout the county for over fifty years. The District maintains an extensive amount of storm drains, channels, dams and debris basins.

Urban Drainage

Every community in the County is equipped with an urban drainage system that consists of several hundred drainage inlets throughout the District. The inlets discharge into many miles of underground storm drain pipes which carry the water safely into a major channel. If these inlets become blocked,

floodwaters will accumulate in buildings, streets, schools, and homes. Keeping the system in operation and repairing or replacing worn or damaged facilities is a major ongoing obligation.

Major Channels

Over two hundred miles of major channels carry peak flood runoff from the hills and upland areas safely through the developed communities in the valley and coastal plain. They also provide an outlet for the extensive urban drainage system extending throughout urbanized areas. Wherever possible, the District encourages the preservation of natural creek channels as open space green belts. These generally require more maintenance than modified channels. Maintenance and repair of the channels is a major ongoing obligation.

Flood Control

The District's dams and retarding basins are used for flood control, debris control, and water conservation. These dams require continual maintenance to assure the structural stability of the dams and the operational readiness of its mechanical equipment.

The Public Works Department and its various divisions within are responsible for the construction/physical aspects of implementing structural mitigation projects throughout the County. Mitigation measures minimize the damage to the infrastructure in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Some examples of where mitigation measures could be implemented is retrofitting bridge structures, placing cable mesh netting on slopes that are prone to rock falls, constructing retaining walls on slopes that are prone to slides, lengthening and raising bridges to reduce the flooding impacts, and installing scour mitigation at bridges that have been identified as scour critical by Caltrans.

4.2.2 Flood Related Policies, Programs, and Plans

This section summarizes the pertinent policies, programs, and local planning documents that are in place throughout the County which support risk reduction and implementation of mitigation measures regarding floods, tsunamis, and storms. They will continue to provide the foundation for implementing the identified mitigation strategies within this Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Floodplain Management Program

The objective of the Floodplain Management Program is to prevent future flood hazards, created in developing areas subject to flooding, and to reduce the necessity of constructing expensive flood control facilities in the future. Benefits derived from this program include the prevention of losses in flood-prone areas and reduced need for public emergency response during storm activity. Activities associated with the Floodplain Management Program include reviewing new development permit applications for elevation above the 100-year flood level, proper setback from watercourses, and adequate drainage plans. The County's Floodplain Management Ordinance exceeds the minimum requirements for participation in the NFIP.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

FEMA's Flood Insurance Rates Maps (FIRMs) identify areas in the County which are vulnerable to flooding. The flood zones identified on the FIRMs are areas susceptible to 100-year and 500-year flood events. One hundred and 500-year storm events are those storms that have a 1% or 0.2% annual chance of occurrence. Another measure of the probability of occurrence of a 100-year storm is there is at least a 26% chance of a 100-year storm during the life of a 30-year mortgage. An estimated 2,462 structures are located within these floodplain areas.

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The information in the Flood Insurance Study and resultant FIRMs is based on historic, meteorological, hydrologic, hydraulic and topographic data, as well as open-space conditions, flood control works, and development within the study area. Other information included on the maps includes Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA), Base Flood Elevations, and insurance risk zones. FIRMs are used to determine the BFE at specific sites or if a specific property is located in a floodplain or SFHA in order to administer floodplain management regulations, determine potential locations for new development, and make flood insurance determinations.

The FIRMs were developed through the NFIP and were last updated in September 2005 and made available in GIS format as Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps. These are shown in Section 5.3.3 which discusses the location and extent of the flooding hazard throughout Santa Barbara County. Also on file with the Santa Barbara Operational Area Office of Emergency Services, County Flood Control, and the Santa Barbara City Public Library are maps that identify floodplains, along with evacuation routes and locations of public shelters.

Repetitive Loss (RL) Properties

Repetitive loss properties are defined as property that is insured under the NFIP that has filed two or more claims in excess of \$1,000 each within any consecutive 10-year period since 1978. Currently, there are 27 repetitive loss structures in Santa Barbara County's unincorporated areas. Twenty six (26) of the 27 are located in the South Coast Flood Zone. The other repetitive loss property is a mobile home in the Lompoc Valley Flood Zone.

The RL properties in the in the South Coastal Flood Zone are built on a narrow coastal strip which fronts on the Pacific Ocean. The seven mile long strip extends from Olive Mill Road in Montecito, east to Sandyland Cove Road near Carpinteria.

Most of the land within this narrow coastal strip is designated Zone C on the FIRMs. There is also V-Zone fronting the entire strip. Between these zones there is a small land area designated as A-Zones at the locations where six coastal creeks and the Carpinteria Slough empty into the ocean. There is also a relatively small Zone B area between V-Zone and C-Zone areas. This portion of the coast is periodically subject to high velocity wave action as was experienced in January and March of 1983. The Base Flood Elevation (BFE) ranges from 6 to 10 feet along the coastal strip.

On the portion of the coastal strip RL area in the vicinity of the Carpinteria Slough, the V-Zone BFE is 8 feet. During past flooding events, County personnel have observed flood elevations of approximately 10 to 11 feet (USGS MSL Datum) in the vicinity of the Carpinteria Slough. **Since 1988 the County has been requiring lowest floors to be elevated to 13 feet above MSL.**

The 26 RL structures are among over 300 homes built in the area. With the exception of homes that have been substantially improved or razed and rebuilt, most of these homes were built prior to the County's participation in the CRS. Due to the very high value of homes in this area, it is infrequent that the substantial improvement threshold is met, requiring pre-FIRM structures to be brought into compliance with NFIP standards. There is little new development on the strip since the area is essentially built out. Because the parcels are small and the land amongst the most valuable in California there is a trend to maximize space in accordance with zoning regulations by addition additions, remodeling and occasionally tearing structures down and rebuilding.

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Elevation Certificates

The District reviews development permit applications for structure elevation above the base flood elevation (BFE). The District must certify that the lowest floor of any building in a special flood hazard area (SFHA) is elevated above the BFE before final approval for floodplain construction can be obtained. FEMA Elevation Certificates are required.

Routine Maintenance Program

As part of the District's Floodplain Management Program, it conducts routine creek maintenance. It has been doing so since 1992. The Routine Maintenance Program occurs annually and each year the District has to prepare an Annual Routine Maintenance Plan, as well as conduct public workshops and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reviews of planned maintenance projects. The Annual Routine Maintenance Plan includes a description of the need for maintenance work, the work to be performed, the presence of sensitive biological resources, impacts of the activities on biological resources, standard maintenance practices to reduce impacts, and restoration measures. The Routine Maintenance Program focuses on urbanized areas or developed agricultural areas. The main objective of the program is to reduce flood hazard and damage to life, public property, and infrastructure by maintaining the capacity of key channels in the County. All routine maintenance activities are conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts. Maintenance activities are completed prior to the winter. The Routine Maintenance Program includes selective brushing, de-silting, channel shaping, bank stabilization, bank protection, herbicide spraying, and channel clearing activities in most creeks and streams throughout the County. These activities can be applied individually or in combination to address the specific requirements of the affected drainage. The Routine Maintenance Program also addresses the maintenance and repair of concrete lined channels. The individual flood zones fund the Routine Maintenance Program and the extent and frequency of channel maintenance is dependent upon the availability of funds.

Operation and Maintenance Program

The Operation and Maintenance Program is one of the District's highest priority programs, and includes normal operation of the District's dams, channels and other flood protection facilities, and the routine and emergency maintenance and repair of these facilities. The District maintains channels, debris basins, dams, and storm drain facilities to prevent flooding.

Dam Safety

The Dam Safety Program is a State program the District is responsible for enforcing. The District is exposed to a substantial potential liability because of the catastrophic losses that could occur in the event of a dam failure. The objective of the program is to assure the continuing safety of dams in their flood control and water conservation functions.

Dam Plan

The Dam Plan for Santa Barbara County contains general information, maps of potential inundation area, and proposed evacuation routes for dams.

Debris Control Program

The District operates and maintains 39 debris basins, which constitute the primary debris control system within the District. Flood runoff from the hillsides, particularly from those hillsides recently denuded by fires, slides or developments, is heavily laden with rock, sand, silt, mud, and debris. The dams and debris basins restrain the rock, sand, silt, mud and debris that would otherwise clog and damage channels, which could result in flooding of adjacent property and downstream floodplains.

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The objectives of the Debris Control Program include the prevention of debris flow; the planning and construction of adequate debris control facilities; the routine, scheduled clearance and disposal of debris from basins and dams; and the overall management of debris flow through channels.

There are 16 debris basins on the South Coast and the operation and maintenance procedures for these are described in the Debris Maintenance Plan, which is considered an element of the overall Maintenance Program.

Basin maintenance is conducted on an as-needed basis to ensure the proper functioning of the basin prior to each winter. Basins are inspected during the winter after significant rain events. Routine maintenance includes keeping the outlet works clear of vegetation, and maintenance of a 15-foot wide pilot channel through the center of the basin. Long-term maintenance of the basins involves the removal of sediment once the design capacity has been reduced by 25 percent (or when there is a significant wildfire).

Emergency Storm Response

During flood events, the District staff immediately transforms into an emergency response organization. District staff work around-the-clock and are deployed to flood-fighting and support activities. Staff from the District office performs a variety of emergency tasks such as answering phone calls, storm monitoring, radio dispatching, field patrolling, and computer modeling for flood flow forecasting. Emergency operations also include pre-planned routines such as the monitoring of all flood facilities and equipment; the operation of dams and channel gates; and the provision of logistics support, field operations headquarters and responses to emergency situations.

Storm Rehabilitation program

The Storm Rehabilitation Program provides for post-storm rehabilitation of flood control facilities damaged in any storm disaster. The objective of the program is to prevent future hazard to life and property by returning the flood control system back to the state of readiness that existed prior to the storms. Activities included in the Storm Rehabilitation Program include removing debris from access roads, reservoirs, debris basins, and reconstruction and repair as necessary.

The objectives of the District through the Storm Rehabilitation Program are to:

1. Assess storm damage quickly and completely;
2. Allocate District resources on a priority basis to rehabilitation and repair facilities;
3. Maximize efforts to receive State and Federal funding, when possible;
4. Complete rehabilitation work quickly to prevent further damage and provide protection from future storms events; and
5. Contact and request assistance from other agencies, when necessary.

Tsunami Plan

Santa Barbara County OEM is currently preparing a countywide Tsunami Plan that covers emergency response actions associated with tsunami events. Santa Barbara County receives advisory messages and warnings through an emergency services microwave/computer communications network from Coast and Geodetic Survey Stations. If a seismic wave or tidal disturbance has been observed, the main system at the Honolulu Observatory will transmit warnings to satellite stations including the time of occurrence of the disturbance, the location, verification of tsunami generation, and expected arrival times at various points along the Pacific coast.

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ALERT Flood warning system

The District maintains a comprehensive Flood Warning System (or Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time [ALERT] system) that assesses flood risk and provides advance warning of impending flooding. The Flood Warning System consists of “real time” rainfall and stream flow gages located throughout Santa Barbara County and a base station located at the District office that collects and processes the incoming data. There are 49 gage stations and over 90 sensors that collect hydrologic parameters such as rainfall intensity, stream flow, reservoir levels, wind speed and direction, temperature, barometric pressure, relative humidity, and soil moisture.

Once a predefined significant change in any of the parameters has occurred a transmission is sent from the sensor to the base station. The data is used in conjunction with computer models to determine the location and timing of potential flooding. District staff coordinates with the National Weather Service (NWS) and other emergency services to advise the public and reduce the damages to life and property from flooding. In addition, the ALERT network has been instrumental in guiding reservoir operations to maximize both flood control and water supply benefits.

Current Santa Ynez River Programs

The following subsections describe current activities performed by the District along the Santa Ynez River.

Santa Ynez Maintenance Program

As part of the Lower Santa Ynez River Maintenance Project, the District has periodically cleared portions of the lower Santa Ynez River that is prone to flooding. The District cleared portions of the project reach in 1992, 1993, and 1997/1998. The affected portion of the Santa Ynez River is a 4.5-mile reach extending from the Lompoc Wastewater Treatment Plant to the 13th Street Bridge on Vandenberg Air Force Base.

The objective of the Lower Santa Ynez River Maintenance Project is to maintain a 100-foot wide swath along the project reach with non-obstructive vegetation in order to allow sufficient channel capacity for certain flood flows. Maintenance is performed on the Lower Santa Ynez River as needed. The Santa Ynez Maintenance Program evaluated annually.

Santa Ynez River Flood Warning System

Due to the lack of economic feasibility of flood control works on the Santa Ynez River, the District operates an elaborate flood warning system to give residents along the river time to evacuate equipment and livestock if flooding is imminent. The Santa Ynez River Flood Warning System is part of the ALERT network and compiled data from remote sensors can be input into the District’s Santa Ynez Flood Warning computer model FC River. Using the compiled data, the District’s model can forecast river flows up to two days in advance.

Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan, discussed above under the Planning and Development Department, has several components specific to flood control and mitigation. The Plan is a “comprehensive, long-term general plan” for the development of Santa Barbara County. The Comprehensive Plan focuses on the elements, land use, circulation, and environmental resource management. The Comprehensive Plan identifies procedures for protecting watersheds such as installing debris basins and silt traps at development sites to remove sediment from runoff, planting temporary vegetation to thwart erosion, and providing adequate storm water conveyance. The Comprehensive Plan establishes flood hazard area policies that regulate development with the 100-year floodplain. The plan also establishes

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location specific measures for flood control facilities, such as for the Lompoc area in which flood control measures include provisions to recharge water basins with water runoff. According to the Environmental Resource Management Element of the Comprehensive Plan, policies on development of lands subject to environmental constraints are identified by four categories; Categories A, B, C, and D. The categories and their application to floodplain management are described in Table 4.2 Flood Policies in Comprehensive Plan. It should also be noted that the Seismic Safety and Safety Element in the Comprehensive Plan also minimizes impacts from Geologic and Fire Hazards.

Table 4.2 Flood Policies in Comprehensive Plan	
Category	Floodplain Development Policy
A	Urbanization should be prohibited in these areas; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stream channels with flood hazard or recharging groundwater. • Floodway areas.
B	Urbanization should be prohibited in these areas, except in a relatively few special instances; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100-year floodplains (except west of the City of Lompoc).
C	Urbanization could be permitted in these areas only in appropriate instances, subject to plan review and imposition of specific conditions to protect against hazards and to preserve the integrity of the land and environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas subject to inundation by tsunamis. • Areas of unknown flood hazard.
D	Urbanization should be permitted these areas. There are no concerns regarding floodplains with lands in this category.

The Comprehensive Plan also includes a Hazardous Waste Element (http://longrange.sbcountyplanning.org/programs/hazwasteelement/hw_element.php) and a Hazardous Facilities/Materials Supplement (<http://longrange.sbcountyplanning.org/programs/genplanreformat/PDFdocs/SafetySupplement.pdf>).

4.2.3 Summary of Capabilities

The Departments, programs and policies addressed above provide an overview of the County’s activities related to natural disaster mitigation. Table 4.3 provides a general analysis of administrative and technical capabilities within the County’s departments.

Table 4.3 County of Santa Barbara: Administrative and Technical Capacity

Staff/Personnel Resources	Y/N	Department/Agency and Position
A. Planner(s) or engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Y	Multiple
B. Engineer(s) or professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Multiple
C. Planners or Engineer(s) with an understanding of natural and/or manmade hazards	Y	Multiple
D. Floodplain Manager	Y	Public Works, Flood Control District
E. Surveyors	Y	Public Works, County Surveyor’s Office (GIS also)

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Staff/Personnel Resources	Y/N	Department/Agency and Position
F. Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	Y	Public Works, County Fire/OES
G. Personnel skilled in GIS and/or HAZUS	Y	Assessors Office, Public Works - County Surveyor's Office, Planning & Development
H. Scientists familiar with the hazards of the County	Y	OES, DPW, P&D
I. Emergency Manager	Y	OEM
J. Grant writers	Y	Departments determine their own level of service. (Disaster Recovery Manager with Public Works is lead for most disaster related grants.

The legal and regulatory capabilities of the County are shown in

Table 4.4 which presents the existing ordinances and codes that affect the physical or built environment of the County. Examples of legal and/or regulatory capabilities can include: the County's building codes, zoning ordinances, subdivision ordinances, special purpose ordinances, growth management ordinances, site plan review, general plans, capital improvement plans, economic development plans, emergency response plans, and real estate disclosure plans.

Table 4.4 County of Santa Barbara: Legal and Regulatory Capability

Regulatory Tools (ordinances, codes, plans)	Local Authority (Y/N)	Does State Prohibit (Y/N)
A. Building code	Y	N
B. Zoning ordinance	Y	N
C. Subdivision ordinance or regulations	Y	N
D. Special purpose ordinances (floodplain management, storm water management, hillside or steep slope ordinances, wildfire ordinances, hazard setback requirements)	Y	N
E. Growth management ordinances (also called "smart growth" or anti-sprawl programs)	Y	N
F. Site plan review requirements	Y	N
G. General or comprehensive plan	Y	N
H. A capital improvements plan	Y	N
I. An economic development plan	Y	N
J. Emergency response plan (s)	Y	N
K. A post-disaster recovery plan	Y	N
L. Real estate disclosure requirements	Y	N

4.3 FISCAL RESOURCES

This section presents a review of the County's fiscal capabilities that may be applicable to providing financial resources to implement identified mitigation action items.

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Table 4.5 County of Santa Barbara: Fiscal Capability shows specific financial and budgetary tools available to the County such as community development block grants; capital improvements project funding; authority to levy taxes for specific purposes; fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services; impact fees for homebuyers or developers for new development; ability to incur debt through general obligations bonds; and withholding spending in hazard-prone areas.

Table 4.5 County of Santa Barbara: Fiscal Capability

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use (Yes/No)
A. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	Yes
B. Capital improvements project funding	Yes
C. Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes (flood control districts)	Yes
D. Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes
E. Impact fees for homebuyers or developers for new developments/homes	Yes
F. Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
G. Incur debt through special tax and revenue bonds	Yes
H. Incur debt through private activity bonds	No
I. Withhold spending in hazard-prone areas	No