



Annual Progress Report  
Of the  
Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional  
Hazard Mitigation Plan

(Updated Plan adopted August 22, 2017)

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This Annual Progress Report is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirement.

FEMA requires local governments to provide and maintain a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Local governments without an approved Plan will not be eligible to receive post disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) project grants. Future mitigation project funding awarded through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant programs, and the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) low-interest, small business loans are also at risk without an approved and adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Further, Santa Barbara County participates in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), which is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS:

- Reduce flood damage to insurable property;
- Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and
- Encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

Per FEMA, the County has approximately 1,496 flood insurance policies currently in force. The County is a Class 6 in the CRS program, which provides up to a 20% discount on flood insurance. This resulted in a savings of over \$332,000 this past reporting year to the citizens in the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County who purchased flood insurance.

Participation in the CRS program requires that an annual evaluation report be prepared at least once each year. The report fulfills three purposes:

1. **Mitigation Action items review:** The report provides an evaluation on the progress towards Hazard Mitigation Plan/Mitigation Action implementation.
2. **Outreach:** The report must be submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public.
3. **County's Annual CRS Recertification:** The report must be submitted with the community's annual recertification.

### **Mitigation Action Items Review**

This section discusses the status of each mitigation action recommended in the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted August 22, 2017 by the County Board of Supervisors.

The County planning team reviewed the mitigation actions identified in the 2004 and 2011 HMPs to determine the status of each mitigation action. Table 7.2 in the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted August 22, 2017 provides the overview and the status of each mitigation action. That information will not be repeated in this report.

The August 2017 Hazard Plan lists new mitigation actions in Table 7.4.

One set of criteria that is used for screening planning decisions is identified by the acronym STAPLE(E).

- Social – Is the hazard mitigation strategy socially acceptable?
- Technical – Is the proposed action technically feasible, cost effective, and does it provide the appropriate level of protection?
- Administrative – Does the community have the capability to implement the action, and is the lead agency capable of carrying out oversight of the project?
- Political – Is the hazard mitigation action politically acceptable?
- Legal – Does the community have the authority to implement the proposed action?
- Economic – Do the economic base, projected growth, and opportunity costs justify the hazard mitigation project?  
Benefit cost-analysis is a mathematical method for comparing costs to the benefits to the community of a hazard mitigation action. If the benefits are greater than the costs, the project is cost effective.  
Comparing the ratios of benefits to costs for several hazard mitigation projects helps to identify those that offer the “greatest bang for the community’s buck.”  
Benefit-cost analysis gives decision makers an understandable way to explain and defend their decisions. For many grant programs, FEMA and the State will use benefit-cost analysis to determine whether a project is eligible. The community can save time and energy by limiting planning activities to projects that will be more likely to receive funding.
- Environmental – Does the proposed action meet statutory considerations and public desire for sustainable and environmentally healthy communities?

The following scale was used to evaluate each STAPLE(E) Criteria:

- 0= Poor (negative impacts)
- 1= Fair (neutral or no impacts)
- 2= Good (positive impacts)

Table 7.4, Mitigation Action, from the Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, adopted August 22, 2017, presents the prioritized list of mitigation actions which will be considered and implemented during the life of the Plan. Items listed below are those related to Flood Control:

Project Number/Project Title/STAPLE(E) Rating/Status

2016-12/ Montecito Creek Channel Improvements, Montecito/19

This project is currently in the study report phase. The study report is anticipated to be complete within the 2017 calendar year. Construction is in the future as funding allows.

2016-13/ North Ave Storm Drain Improvements, East Side , Lompoc/18

This project is anticipated to be constructed in 2018.

2016-28/ Airport Ditch Lining, Orcutt/17

The construction contract of this project has been awarded and expected to be completed in 2017.

2016-21/ Maria Ygnacio East Debris Basin Modification, Goleta/16

This project is anticipated to be constructed in 2018.

2016-22/ Maria Ygnacio Main Debris Basin Modification, Goleta/16

This project is anticipated to be constructed in 2018.

2016-23/ San Ysidro Debris Basin Modification, Montecito area/ 16

This project is anticipated to be constructed in 2019.

2016-24/ Cold Springs Debris Basin Modification, Montecito area/16

This Basin has tentatively been scheduled for removal in 2025.

2016-25/ Rattlesnake Debris Basin Modification, Upper Santa Barbara/16

This project is anticipated to be constructed in 2019.

2016-27/ Unit II Channel Improvements, Santa Maria/16

The construction contract of this project has been awarded and expected to be completed in 2017.

2016-26/ Faraday Storm Drain, Santa Ynez/14

The construction contract of this project has been put out to bid and is anticipated to be awarded and construction completed by early 2018.

2016-9/ Romero Creek Capacity Improvements, Montecito/13

This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-10/ Oak Creek Capacity Improvements, Montecito/13

This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-11/ San Ysidro Creek Capacity Improvements, Montecito/13

This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-14/ Cebada Canyon Channel Improvements, Lompoc Valley/12  
This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-15/ Sycamore Canyon Master Drainage Plan, Santa Barbara/12  
This project is currently in the study report phase. The study report is anticipated to be complete within the 2017 calendar year. Construction is in the future as funding allows.

2016-16/ Mission Canyon Master Drainage Plan, Santa Barbara/12  
This project is currently in the study report phase. The study report is anticipated to be complete within the 2017 calendar year.

2016-17/ San Pedro Creek Fish Passage, Goleta/12  
This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-19/ Bradley Channel Relining, Santa Maria/10  
This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-20/ Bradley Channel Improvements, Santa Maria/10  
This project is for future consideration as funding becomes available.

2016-29/ Stockpile Area-South Coast/7  
Timing is uncertain and contingent upon factors outside agency control.

### **Outreach**

This report is provided to the County Board of Supervisors on August 22, 2017 as a “Receive and File” recommended action. This report will be made available to the local media and to the public by posting it on the County Public Works Department Water Resources’ website. The Department of Water Resources’ NFIP Coordinating Office will be emailed a copy of the report.

### **County’s Annual CRS Recertification**

The CRS Technical Coordinator informed Santa Barbara County on July 5, 2017 that the new recertification due date for Santa Barbara County will be August 1 starting in 2018. The County will not need to submit this Annual Progress Report to the CRS Technical Coordinator at this time since that report is asked for in the recertification, however, we must still submit the Report to our governing body and make it available to the media.