



Chapter 7 Plan Implementation and Maintenance

44 CFR §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 2024 Colusa County LHMP Update is critical to the success of hazard mitigation in the Colusa County Planning Area. Plan implementation and maintenance is Planning Step 10 of the 10-step planning process. Accordingly, 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 in local hazard mitigation planning.

Chapter 3, Planning Process, includes information on the implementation and maintenance process since the adoption of the 2018 LHMP Update. This chapter includes information on the implementation and maintenance process for the development of this Plan, the 2024 Colusa County LHMP Update.

7.1 Implementation

Once adopted, this 2024 Colusa County LHMP Update faces the truest test of its worth: implementation. While the Plan contains many worthwhile actions, the County and all participating jurisdictions will need to decide which action(s) to undertake first. Two factors should be considered when making that decision: the priority assigned to the mitigation actions in the Plan 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 local general plans, stormwater plans, Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), evacuation plans, and other hazard and emergency management planning efforts by the participating jurisdictions. These jurisdictions already implement policies and programs to reduce losses to life and property from hazards. This 2024 LHMP Update builds upon the momentum developed through prior, related planning and mitigation programs and recommends implementing actions, where possible, through other programs.

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 through sustained collaborative efforts, highlighting the mutual benefits of proposed mitigation actions, and the Colusa County jurisdictions, its stakeholders, and the public. This is achieved through the routine actions of monitoring agendas, attending meetings, and promoting mitigation initiatives to enhance the safety and sustainability of the community. Additional mitigation strategies may include consistent and ongoing enforcement of existing policies and the vigilant review of programs for coordination and multi-objective opportunities to enhance mitigation.

Simultaneously, it is important to continuously monitor potential funding opportunities to finance mitigation actions. This may include identifying funding sources to meet local matching funds requirements under FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs, and other sources. When funding does become available, the participating jurisdictions will be better positioned to capitalize on the opportunity.

Responsibility for Implementation of Goals and Activities

The elected officials, executive leadership teams, responsible staff and departments, and emergency management offices of the participating jurisdictions are charged with implementation of various activities in the 2024 LHMP Update. During annual reviews as described later in this section, each participating jurisdiction should conduct an assessment of progress toward meeting the goals and activities of the LHMP Update. At that time, recommendations may be made to modify timeframes for the completion of identified mitigation actions, identify funding sources, and work with responsible entities to implement the actions. On an annual basis, the priority of various mitigation actions may be adjusted. Some activities that are found not to be feasible may be removed from the Plan entirely, while other mitigation actions unforeseen during the Plan development process may be added.

7.1.1. Role of the LHMP Update Planning Committee in Implementation and Maintenance

With adoption of this Plan, each participating jurisdiction will be responsible for LHMP implementation and maintenance. The HMPC identified in Chapter 3 (or a similar committee) will reconvene annually to ensure mitigation strategies are being implemented and the County and Cities continue to maintain compliance with the NFIP. The Colusa County, Office of Emergency Services (County OES), will continue in its role as project lead for LHMP implementation and maintenance. As such, County OES, as LHMP project lead, and all participating jurisdictions will continue their relationship, and will plan to convene the same or similar HMPC when preparing the subsequent LHMP Update. The County OES project lead, with support from participating jurisdictions and the LHMP Update HMPC will:

- 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 governing boards for all participating jurisdictions; and
- Inform and solicit input from the public.

The primary duty of the County and all participating jurisdictions and the HMPC is to see the LHMP Update successfully carried out and to report to their governing boards 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 about the LHMP on the websites of participating jurisdictions.

7.2 Maintenance

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

7.2.1. Maintenance Schedule

Colusa County OES, as project lead, in conjunction with the LHMP leads for all participating jurisdictions, is responsible for initiating Plan reviews. In order to monitor progress and update the mitigation strategies identified in the mitigation action plan, County OES, LHMP leads from other participating jurisdictions, and the HMPC will revisit this Plan annually each year and following a hazard event to review and document progress on Plan implementation. Colusa County OES 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 2024 LHMP Update anticipated to be fully approved and adopted in late-2024, the next required written update of the Plan must be completed by late 2029. Colusa County OES will initiate the Plan update – which may include applying for grant funding to hire professional services to assist in preparing the 2029 LHMP Update. The 2029 LHMP Update development process should be initiated in 2026 to ensure the 2029 LHMP Update can be funded and completed by this 2024 Colusa County LHMP’s expiration date.

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;
- Increased vulnerability as a result of new development (and/or annexation); and/or
- Increased vulnerability resulting from unforeseen or new circumstances.

Updates to this Plan 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 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 participating jurisdictions and HMPC deem 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 LHMP Update and its routine maintenance, and the final product will be again adopted by the governing boards of each participating jurisdiction.

Annual Plan Review Process

For the LHMP Update review process, the County OES lead and the LHMP leads for each of the participating jurisdictions, 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 2024 LHMP Update will normally occur on an annual basis each year and will be conducted by the HMPC as follows:

- County OES will place an advertisement in the local newspaper and will utilize other public outreach mechanisms, such as e-newsletters, social media blasts, and others, advising the public of the date, time, and place for each annual review of the LHMP 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/Tribal officials will be noticed by email and telephone or personal visit and urged to participate.
- Members of any participating jurisdiction's planning commissions 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 LHMP will be available for public comment at Colusa County OES as project lead.
- After the review meeting, minutes of the meeting and an annual report will be prepared by the participating jurisdictions and the HMPC and forwarded to the news media (public).
- A copy of the 2024 LHMP Update will be continually posted on the LHMP website for the participating jurisdictions.

Criteria for Annual Reviews

The criteria recommended in 44 CFR 201 and 206 will be utilized in reviewing and updating the 2024 LHMP Update. More specifically, the reviews should include the following information:

- Community growth or change in the past year.
- 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(s) (EOC) and whether or not the event resulted in a federal 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 and descriptions.
- Documented damages due to the events.
- 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 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.
- 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 next LHMP Update.

7.2.3. Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms

Another important implementation mechanism that is highly effective and low-cost is incorporation of the 2024 LHMP Update recommendations and their underlying principles into other jurisdictional 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 participating jurisdiction's already implement 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:

- General and master plans
- Emergency Operations Plans and other emergency management efforts
- Jurisdictional ordinances
- Flood/stormwater management/master plans
- Climate Plans
- Capital Improvement Plans and budgets
- Tribal Plans (for Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation)
- 5-year plans (for levee districts)
- Other plans and policies outlined in the capability assessment
- Other plans, regulations, and practices with a mitigation focus

Participating jurisdictions and HMPC members involved in these other planning and program 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 2024 LHMP Update into existing planning mechanisms include:

1. As recommended by Assembly Bill 2140, the County and Cities should adopt (by reference or incorporation) this LHMP into the Safety Element of their General Plans. 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 Flood Plans and Stormwater Master and Drainage Plans participated on the HMPC. Key projects were identified and integrated specifically into this LHMP, while others currently of lessor priority should be referenced in their source document. Actual implementation of these projects will likely occur through the flood and stormwater plans' processes through the efforts of each responsible jurisdiction and department.
3. Integration of wildfire actions identified in this mitigation strategy with the actions and implementation priorities established in existing and new Community Wildfire Protection Plans and other fire 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 Emergency Operations Plans and related emergency management efforts for all participating jurisdictions.

Each jurisdiction will consider incorporation of the LHMP into planning mechanisms listed on Table 7-1.

Table 7-1 LHMP Incorporation into other Planning Mechanisms

Jurisdiction	Safety Element / Master Plans/ Strategic Plans/ 5-Year Plans	EOP / Emergency Plans	CWPP / Fire Plans	CIP	Flood / Stormwater / Watershed Plans	Other Plans
Colusa County	X	X	X	X	X	SGMA Action Plan Streambank Erosion Plan Public Outreach

Jurisdiction	Safety Element / Master Plans/ Strategic Plans/ 5-Year Plans	EOP / Emergency Plans	CWPP / Fire Plans	CIP	Flood / Stormwater / Watershed Plans	Other Plans
City of Colusa	X	X	X	X	X	Public Outreach
City of Williams	X	X	X	X	X	Public Outreach
Colusa County RCD	X	X	X	X	X	SGMA Action Plan Streambank Erosion Plan
Cortina Community Services District	X					X
Klatsel Dehe Wintun Nation	X	X	X	X		Environmental Regulatory Plans and Programs Drought Plan Public Outreach
RD 108	X	X			X	X
RD 479	X				X	X
Sacramento River Westside Levee District	X	X			X	X

In addition, the mitigation actions included within each jurisdictions’ mitigation strategy contain a category identifying “Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action will be Implemented” that contains how each mitigation action is related to other planning mechanisms and jurisdictional programs. Those can be found in Chapter 5 of the Base Plan for the County and within each jurisdictions’ annex to this Base Plan.

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 LHMP.

7.2.4. Continued Public Involvement

Continued public involvement is a crucial element of successful Plan implementation. The update process provides an opportunity to solicit participation from new and existing stakeholders and to publicize success stories from the 2024 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 Annual Reviews

The public will be noticed by placing an advertisement in the newspaper and will utilize other public outreach mechanisms, such as e-newsletters, social media blasts, and others 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 participating jurisdictions and 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 will 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 LHMP update process. As part of this effort, public meetings will be held, and public comments will be solicited on the LHMP Update draft. In addition, continued public involvement and outreach efforts will place an emphasis on identifying and inviting representatives from underserved and vulnerable populations to be part of the next, 2029 Colusa County LHMP Update. As a starting point the underserved and vulnerable population groups identified for this 2024 LHMP Update will be contacted to invite them to the 2029 LHMP Update process with additional groups identified and added to meet the ongoing goal of mitigation planning for the whole community.