



SUTTER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Memorandum

To: Sutter County Board of Supervisors
From: Daniel W. Peterson, P.E., CFM
Sutter County – Deputy Director of Public Works
Subject: Status of “*Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*” Implementation
Date: August 23, 2011

Sutter County’s *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* (MHMP) is a joint plan prepared in conjunction with the incorporated cities, levee districts and Reclamation Districts within Sutter County. There are several different documents that combined make up the MHMP or are referenced by the MHMP. Three of the primary documents that deal with flooding within Sutter County are:

- Sutter County - Dam Threat Evacuation Plan;
- Sutter County Slow Rise Flood Plan; and
- Sutter County (Draft) Emergency Operations Plan - ANNEX 5 [Floods & Dam Failure]

The Sutter County – Floodplain Management Team meets periodically to evaluate and update Sutter County’s Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan as it relates to floodplain management. The strategy team for 2011-2012 includes the following individuals:

- Mr. Stanley Cleveland Jr., Sutter County Board of Supervisors;
- Ms. Stephanie Larsen, County Administrative Officer, Sutter County;
- Mr. Douglas Gault, Director of Public Works, Sutter County
- Mr. John DeBeaux, Emergency Operations Manager, Sutter County;
- Mr. Chuck Smith, Public Information Officer, Sutter County;
- Mr. Daniel Peterson, Deputy Director of Public Works, Sutter County.

The Floodplain Management Team is required to evaluate progress toward implementing the plan and is required to submit an evaluation report with its annual Community Rating System (CRS) recertification as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under Activity 510. This document represents the County’s annual evaluation report.

For credit under the Community Rating System, this memo must be distributed to the media and be made available to the public. This memo is therefore being sent to the Appeal Democrat. Copies of this report and of the County’s current *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* are available for

review at 1130 Civic Center Boulevard, Yuba City, CA. A notice of its availability is being posted on the County's website.

1. Background

Sutter County's Emergency Action Plan: Sutter County has an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) that specifies how the community will be notified in the event of an impending or actual failure of a dam upstream from the community (reference Sutter County - Dam Threat Evacuation Plan: sheets A-3, B-3, C-3, D-3, E-3, F-3, G-3, H-3, I-3, J-3, last paragraphs on each of these pages under "Alerting the Public".) Also reference Sutter County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan ANNEX 4 – Communication Operations Plan, page 5, Paragraph 2 under "Emergency Notification" and ANNEX 5 [Floods & Dam Failure] – page 13 under "Public Information").

The *EAP* reviews a variety of measures that can reduce the problems and/or protect people and property when flooding occurs. Measures reviewed include:

- Use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) during an emergency/disaster;
- Maintenance of mobile/portable equipment located in the Mobile Command Post by the Sutter County – Sheriff's Department;
- The use of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and the Cable Override System (COS) to provide emergency notification to the citizens of Sutter County;
- Training will be coordinated as necessary to ensure safe, secure, and effective operations of equipment and procedures;
- Distribution of information to the public in the form of FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for Sutter County, flood inundation maps, and information concerning the elevating, floodproofing, or relocation of structures;
- Maintaining records of peak water surface elevations at several key monitoring stations throughout the County;
- Maintaining and sharing information regarding Flood Hazard Analysis and Assessment;
- Identification of responsibilities among County agencies; and
- Development and maintenance of pre-disaster response plans for various scenarios.

An *Update* to the Emergency Operation Plan was prepared in 2009. The *Update* was needed to address the new FIRMs issued for Sutter County, to update monitoring information, and to update response plans for various emergency scenarios.

2. A review of the *Plan's* action items:

The six action items found in Emergency Action Plan are reviewed here. They are organized according to the office responsible for implementing them.

- i. Maintenance of mobile/portable equipment located in the Mobile Command Post by the Sutter County – Sheriff's Department;

- Status – Ongoing. The Sheriff's Department routinely checks and maintains mobile/portable equipment. Quarterly Communications Drills are performed and a quarterly meeting is held immediately after to discuss the results of the drill and any improvements/concerns needed. The latest drill was held on May 17, 2011. A follow-up review meeting was held on June 15th due to declaration status.
- ii. Training will be coordinated as necessary to ensure safe, secure, and effective operations of equipment and procedures;
 - Status – Ongoing. Sutter County conducted an Emergency Operations Center exercise simulating a levee break on December 16, 2010. Sutter County also hosted its annual DWR/NWS Pre-Season Flood Coordination meeting on May 17, 2011.
- iii. Distribution of information to the public in the form of FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for Sutter County, flood inundation maps, and information concerning the elevating, floodproofing, or relocation of structures;
 - Status – Ongoing. Sutter County has three Certified Floodplain Managers on staff to answer public inquiries regarding floodplain management issues. Sutter County also has information concerning floodplain management on its website at: <http://www.suttercounty.org/doc/government/depts/pw/wr/fp/fphome>
- iv. Maintaining records of peak water surface elevations at several key monitoring stations throughout the County;
 - Status – Ongoing. Sutter County routinely updates this information as new information develops.
- v. Maintaining and sharing information regarding Flood Hazard Analysis and Assessment;
 - Status – Ongoing. Sutter County receives updates from the California Department of Water Resources whenever dam failure inundation maps are updated, or when new floodplain studies are completed. This information is then incorporated into the EAP. Butte County, Yuba County, and Sutter County OEM meet at least once a month to share information (usually on a much more frequent basis) and discuss any changes or new information provided by state or federal agencies.
- vi. Development and maintenance of pre-disaster response plans for various scenarios.
 - Status – Ongoing. Sutter County routinely updates the pre-disaster response plans as new information is received from the California Department of Water Resources or from new floodplain studies. The latest face to face EAP meeting with DWR for Oroville Dam was held on September 28, 2010.

Floodplain Management Team

1. The purpose of the Floodplain Management Team is to review existing flood programs, recommend changes as necessary, and provide information and recommendations to the County's Board of Supervisors, staff and residents.
 - *Status:* Ongoing. The County's Floodplain Administrator and staff have been keeping the Floodplain Management Team updated on programs such as the Community Rating System (CRS) and methodologies to protect floodprone structures. Two County staff members attended training on retrofitting floodprone residential structures (E279) at the Emergency Management Institute in June 2011.
2. Monitor the implementation of this plan and prepare an annual progress report to the County's Board of Supervisors at least once each year.
 - *Status:* This memo is the status report for 2011.
3. Coordinate with the County's Public Outreach Strategy Team.
 - *Status:* Ongoing. The Sutter County - Public Information Outreach Strategy Team meets periodically to identify flood problems, list what public information activities are currently being implemented, set goals, and recommend new projects or strategies that may be needed to reach those flood-related goals. A Public Outreach Annual Report was prepared for Sutter County on August 3, 2011.

Floodplain Administrator

4. Oversees the County's Community Rating System (CRS) program.
 - *Status:* Ongoing. Sutter County is currently a class 6.
5. Provide site specific information and assistance to inquirers, including map information, flood protection advice, and information on selecting and dealing with contractors.
 - *Status:* This is an ongoing activity. In 2010/2011, responded to over 500 phone inquiries, mostly regarding the flood zone, BFE, mandatory flood insurance requirements and construction requirements for local properties.

3. Why items have not been completed:

All action items have completed or are being implemented.

4. Recommendations

1. County staff should continue implementing the *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan's* ongoing action items.
2. The County should continue its participation in the Northern Sacramento – Integrated Regional Water Management Group, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, and in the Sutter-Butte Flood Control Agency.
3. County staff should continue their efforts relating to public outreach.
4. County staff should continue keeping the County's website updated, and should post this progress report.



SUTTER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

August 29, 2011

For Immediate Release:

The Sutter County – Floodplain Management Team has completed its annual review of progress toward implementing the County’s *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* as it relates to floodplain management and flood protection. Attached is a copy of the team’s annual report to the Sutter County Board of Supervisors.

The report reviews six action items proposed by the Sutter County - Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan Annex 4 and Annex 5. The annual report notes that all six action items are ongoing. The report also references the separate, but related Public Information Outreach Strategy Team and their annual report documenting public outreach activities.

Residents interested in information about flood protection should contact Daniel Peterson at (530) 822-7450 or should access the Sutter County website at:

<http://www.suttercounty.org/doc/government/depts/pw/wr/fp/fphome>

Attachment



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