

CRS Activity 510

Annual Progress Report on Implementation of Credited Plan

Which Plan is this for (use separate templates for each credited Plan):

- ☒ Floodplain Management Plan (Hazard Mitigation Plan)
- ☐ Repetitive Loss Area Analysis
- ☐ Floodplain Species Plan
- ☐ Substantial Damage Plan

Date this Annual Progress Report was prepared: July 10, 2025

Name of Community: County of San Diego CID 060284

Name of Plan: [2023 Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan \(MJHMP\)](#)

Date of Adoption of Plan: February 7, 2023

5 Year CRS Expiration Date: February 7, 2028

1. How can a copy of the credited Hazard Mitigation Plan (Floodplain Management Plan) or Repetitive Loss Area Analysis be obtained?

The County of San Diego Floodplain Management Plan is incorporated in the County's MJHMP which may be downloaded from the County website at https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/oes/emergency_management/oes_il_mitplan.html. The County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) has updated the County's MJHMP in collaboration with other County departments and local jurisdictions.

2. Describe how **this annual progress report** (not the credited Hazard Mitigation Plan or Repetitive Loss Area Analysis) was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

This report was prepared by County of San Diego Department of Public Works (DPW) Flood Control (FC) section and was uploaded to the County's webpage for the governing body, media and public at <https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/flood.html>. Staff will also present it at a future San Diego County Flood Control District Advisory Commission ([FCDAC](#)) meeting who advise the County's governing body (County Board of Supervisors).

3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:

Goal 1 and 2 of the MJHMP list 2 objectives and 8 actions to foster safe, sustainable, thriving environments and reduce the possibility of damage and losses to existing assets, including people, critical facilities/infrastructure, and public facilities due to floods. Please refer to Appendix A Floodplain Management Plan Objectives and Actions (Goal 1 and 2 of the MJHMP) to see Goal 1 and 2. Please refer to Appendix B of this annual progress report for descriptions of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan.

4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule:

The pace of achieving the objectives has been slightly impacted by the January 22, 2024 emergency and related urgent projects; however, implementation of the objectives and actions is still progressing. Please refer to Appendix B for additional details.

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

The recommendations are located in the revised MJHMP dated 2023 (please see below).

Appendix A – Floodplain Management Plan Objectives and Actions (Goal 1 and 2 of the MJHMP)

The County of San Diego's Floodplain Management Plan is integrated in the MJHMP. Goal 1 and 2 of the MJHMP list 2 objectives and 8 actions to foster safe, sustainable, thriving environments and reduce the possibility of damage and losses to existing assets, including people, critical facilities/infrastructure, and public facilities due to floods.

TABLE 71: HAZARD MITIGATION GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIONS

Goal 1: Foster safe, sustainable, and thriving environments.	
Objective 1	Promote hazard-resistant future developments and enhance operational resources.
Action 1. A.	<p>Facilitate the review, development, adoption, updating, and consistent enforcement of general plans, zoning ordinances and building codes by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening existing development regulations to discourage land uses and activities that create or worsen hazards • planning and zoning for open space, recreational agricultural or other low intensity uses within floodway fringes • reviewing and revising, as necessary, sediment and erosion control regulations • ensuring newly constructed and existing critical facilities are designed to function after a major earthquake • updating building codes to reflect current earthquake standards • updating the County Consolidated Fire Code as necessary • updating the General Plan and zoning regulations to reflect hazardous areas using development patterns that should respect environmental characteristics and are harmonious with existing topography • developing model Weed Abatement and Fuel Modification ordinances • continuing to protect and restore wetlands by revising development ordinances, incorporating, and maintaining valuable wetlands in open space preservation programs to mitigate effects of development on wetland areas • staffing enforcement personnel to ensure compliance • supporting coordinated permitting activities processes through developing and coordinating permits for all agencies, developing notification procedures for all permits that support affected agencies, continuing to streamline policies to eliminate conflicts and duplication of efforts and continuing to exchange resources and work with local/regional partners • continuing to utilize multi-agency permitting and enforcement team • continuing to enforce trespassing regulations in high-risk areas • continuing forest and open space management efforts
Action 1. B.	<p>Protect existing assets and limit future development in hazardous areas by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuing to identify high hazard areas, identify hazard-prone structures/assets, inventory wildlife vegetative communities by type and vegetation age class, and develop/update data sets necessary to test hazard scenarios and mitigation tools using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) • managing wildland vegetative communities to promote less hazardous conditions through defining target class ranges, developing partnerships within communities to fix age class ranges, and promoting cooperative vegetation management programs that incorporate hazard mitigation • continuing to construct barriers around hazard-prone structures • continuing to assess countywide utility infrastructures with regard to earthquake risk • continuing to review and compare existing flood control standards, zoning and building requirements • acquiring properties, when feasible, on floodway to prevent development • encouraging and conducting structural retrofitting to strengthen resistance to damage • encouraging clustering • continuing to gain public acceptance for avoidance policies in high-hazard areas • adopting policies that discourage growth in flood-prone areas • assuring adequate funding to restore damaged facilities to 100-year flood design

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updating storm water system plans and improving storm water facilities in high- risk areas • limiting development in areas of known geologic hazards • creating demand for hazard-resistant construction and site planning • increasing public understanding, support, and demand for new developments' hazard mitigation • supporting transfer of development rights in hazard-prone areas. <p>To protect lives and property, development in floodplains shall be appropriate and limited, and high fire hazard areas shall have adequate access for emergency vehicles.</p>
Responsible Department(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire • Land Use & Environment Group • Department of Public Works • Planning & Development Services • Parks & Recreation • Office of Emergency Services • Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures
Prioritized Actions	<p>A. Limit Development in Floodplains and Other Hazardous Areas: County Department of Public Works will continue to limit development of park structures and facilities in floodplains and other hazardous areas.</p> <p>B. Forest Management: County Parks & Recreation will continue to conduct brush and vegetation management in preserves to reduce fire and flooding risks.</p> <p>C. Invasive and Noxious Weed Control (Vegetation Management): The County Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures will continue to promote cooperative vegetation management programs that promote hazard mitigation will be critical in continue to mitigate wildfire risks from vegetation.</p> <p>D. Climate Change Planning: The County Department of Public Works' Flood Control District will lead efforts related to downscale modeling, stress testing Flood Control facilities during higher flows, updating County Special Drainage Area (SDA) Master Plans, update of County Hydrology Manual and Hydraulic Design Manual to account for climate change impacts.</p> <p>E. Expansion of Automatic Local Evaluation in Real-Time (ALERT) to Vulnerable and Underserved Communities: The County Department of Public Works' Flood Control District will lead these efforts.</p> <p>F. Community Rating System (CRS) Implementation and Improvement: The County Department of Public Works' Flood Control District will lead these efforts.</p> <p>G. Building Codes: County Planning & Development Services (PDS: Building Division) will review building codes to reflect current earthquake, fire, and wind standards annually and adopt as necessary to ensure structures are built to withstand hazard events. County staff will attend conferences and industry meetings to better understand changes to codes and after-event support efforts.</p> <p>H. Hazard Mitigation Action Adoption: County Planning & Development Services (PDS), County Fire, County Technology Office (CTO), County Communications Office (CCO) and County Office of Emergency Services (OES) will publicize and encourage the adoption of appropriate hazard mitigation actions throughout the region.</p> <p>I. MSCP Open Space Acquisitions Efforts: County Department of Parks & Recreation will continue open space acquisition efforts, such as purchasing land that could be preserved/protect natural resources and undeveloped land in high hazard areas.</p> <p>J. Wetland Protection and Restoration Efforts: The County Department of Parks & Recreation will continue wetland protection and restoration efforts.</p> <p>K. Agricultural/Livestock Pass Program: The County Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures will help the County of San Diego establish a county-based program that grants agriculturalists special access to their farms or ranches during disaster.</p>

Potential Funding Source(s)	General Fund, federal and/or state grants
Timeline	January 2023 – January 2028

Goal 2: Reduce the possibility of damages and losses to existing assets (such as people, critical facilities/infrastructures and County-owned facilities).

Objective 2	Develop and/or enhance comprehensive all hazard mitigation policies, plans, technologies, and services.
Action 2.A.	<p>Protect existing assets with the highest relative vulnerability to hazard effects by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protecting vulnerable populations from the effects of hazards • identifying projects related to all hazards for pre-disaster mitigation funding • including safety considerations in the planning and decision-making process by establishing policies related to future development that will minimize the risk of personal injury, loss of life, property damage, and environmental damage associated with natural and human-caused hazards.
Action 2.B.	<p>Create, update and/or improve existing hazard/hazard mitigation policies, Concept of Operations (ConOps), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), plans, projects, technologies, and services with partners related, but not limited, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avalanche • Dam Failure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ by updating dam inundation plans every ten years, at minimum ○ by coordinating with partners and supporting existing efforts to mitigate dam failures (e.g., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and California Department of Water Resources) • Drought <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ by encouraging the public to adopt drought tolerant landscaping or xeriscape practices ○ by promoting use of reclaimed water for all landscaping efforts, where available and feasible. ○ support groundwater recycling efforts • Earthquake <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ by continuing to study ground motion, landslide and liquefaction ○ by continuing to implement an ongoing seismic risk assessment program ○ by developing and implementing an incentive program for seismic retrofits ○ by studying ground motion, landslide and liquefaction • Erosion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ by continuing to coordinate with coastal cities to develop comprehensive plans • Expansive Soils • Extreme Cold • Extreme Heat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ by supporting regional efforts to prepare for excessive heat events, participating in “Excessive Heat Emergency Awareness” events and exercising heat emergency plans as established by the County Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA), Aging & Independence Services (AIS), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Public Health Services (PHS) ○ by continuing to provide “Cool Zones” during excessive heat events • Flood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ by developing a flood control strategy that ensures coordination with local, state, and federal agencies/partners ○ by minimize repetitive losses caused by flooding ○ by increasing participation and improving compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hail • Hurricane • Landslide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ by studying and improving storm drains for landslide-prone areas • Lightning • Sea Level Rise • Severe Wind • Severe Winter Weather • Subsidence • Tornado • Tsunami <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ coordinate with coastal cities to develop comprehensive plans • Wildfire/Structure Fire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ by coordinating and supporting existing and new efforts to mitigate structural and vegetation fires ◦ by continuing to develop partnerships for a countywide vegetation management program ◦ by enforcing Defensible Space Clearance distances ◦ by working with community-based groups to pilot chipping programs ◦ by continuing to research options to provide low-cost insurance to cover landowners who allow prescribed burning on their lands ◦ by establishing and continuing wildland fire technical working group ◦ by continuing to develop partnerships for a countywide vegetation management program ◦ by reporting annually to the Board of Supervisors on the progress of fire mitigation strategies • Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ by raising awareness of the climate change links to public health ◦ by reducing the public health impacts of climate change ◦ by mitigating potential hazards caused by climate related events • Terrorism / Cyber Terrorism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Attachment A contains Terrorism/Cyber Terrorism Goals, Objectives, and Actions, is categorized as For Official Use Only, and is only available to official partners. • Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosion (CBRNE) Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Attachment A contains Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosion (CBRNE) threats' goals, objectives, and actions, is categorized as For Official Use Only, and is only available to official partners. • Pandemic Disease
Responsible Department(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheriff's Department • Fire • Public Safety Group • Office of Emergency Services • Department of Public Works • Planning & Development Services • Land Use and Environmental Group/GIS • Health & Human Services Agency • Emergency Medical Services • Public Health Preparedness & Response • Public Health Services • Department of Environmental Health & Quality/ Hazardous Incident Response Team
Prioritized Actions	L. Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (OA EOP)/Associated Annexes, Regional Emergency Plans, Concept of Operations (ConOps), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Planning/Training, Work Plans and Charters, and Safety Element (of the County

	<p>General Plan): The County Office of Emergency Services (OES) will work with the eighteen incorporated cities and participating county departments, special districts and partners to revise, update and complete these plans, projects, technologies and services annually and/or as needed.</p> <p>M. Excessive Heat Awareness Promotion, Resilience, Adaptation and Mitigation: The County of San Diego, Public Health Services and the Health & Human Services Agency are undertaking initiatives over the next several years to raise awareness around excessive heat and climate change.</p>
Potential Funding Source(s)	General Fund, federal and/or state grants
Timeline	January 2023 - January 2028

Goal 3: Enhance local capacity and commitment to become less vulnerable to all hazards.	
Objective 3	Strengthen all hazard mitigation coordination and communication with local, state, tribal and federal governments/partners.
Action 3.A.	<p>Increase awareness and knowledge of hazard mitigation principles and practice among partners by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continuously demonstrating the importance of pre-disaster mitigation planning to the Board of Supervisors and other public officials conducting meetings with key elected officials to determine local issues and concerns leveraging the County Communications Office/County News Center and the Partner Relay to promote mitigation actions
Action 3.B.	<p>Encourage other partners/organizations to incorporate hazard mitigation activities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continuing to streamline policies to eliminate conflicts and duplication of efforts continuing to encourage tribal governments to become part of the Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA).
Action 3.C.	<p>Establish, maintain, and improve close and lasting working relationships with partners by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> supporting the County Fire Safe Council continuing and maintaining multi-jurisdictional/multi-functional training and exercises to enhance hazard mitigation leveraging resources and expertise that will further hazard mitigation efforts inviting/encouraging participation of tribal governments and special districts in Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan updates.
Action 3.D.	<p>Improve the County's capability and efficiency at administering pre- and post-disaster mitigation by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> collaborating with partners to identify, prioritize and implement mitigation actions continuing to establish a requirement that all hazard mitigation projects submitted to the State must be reviewed by the County continuing to improve coordination with the State Hazard Mitigation Department about local issues maintaining consistency with the State in administering recovery programs

Appendix B – Implementation Description of Objectives and Actions

This appendix provides a description of the implementation of the objectives and actions that were set under Goal 1 and 2 of the [County of San Diego's 2023 Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan](#).

Objective 1. Promote hazard-resistant future developments and enhance operational resources.

Flood Control District will lead efforts related to seek grants to support downscale modeling, stress testing Flood Control facilities during higher flows, updating County Special Drainage Area (SDA) Master Plans, update of County Hydrology Manual and Hydraulic Design Manual to account for climate change impacts.

Action 1.A. Facilitate the review, development, adoption, updating, and consistent enforcement of general plans, zoning ordinances and building codes by planning and zoning for open space, recreational agricultural or other low intensity uses within floodway fringes.

FC works closely with other County departments including Department of Environmental Health and Quality, Planning and Development Services, and Department of Parks and Recreation to identify and review the use within the floodway fringes. FC ensures that any development within the floodplain is designed to withstand flooding and does not increase flood risk to existing infrastructure.

Action 1. B. Protect existing assets and limit future development in hazardous areas by the following actions. To protect lives and property, development in floodplains shall be appropriate and limited.

Action 1.B.1. Continue to review and compare existing flood control standards, zoning and building requirements.

County of San Diego continues to review and compare the County's existing flood control standards in the zoning and building requirements with State and International Building Codes. FC continues to review and compare the County's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO), which was most recently revised on 11/08/2024, with the Code of Federal Regulations. FC has been in contact with FEMA, County stakeholders, and [FCDAC](#) to evaluate and gauge potential improvements to the FDPO.

Action 1.B.2. Acquire properties, when feasible, on floodway to prevent development.

The County continues to purchase vacant lands near streams where possible and zones them as open space to prevent development.

Action 1.B.3. Adopt policies that discourage growth in flood-prone areas.

The County Board of Supervisor adopted revisions to the FDPO in 2019 and 2024 to implement higher constructions standards and elevate the safety of structures in flood-prone areas in the following specific ways:

- Section 811.403.d.4 – new section added to clarify that a floodway revision in residential and non-residential lots can be allowed only if no practicable alternative exists and only if there are no adverse impacts to adjacent properties or public roads discouraging changes that would place new areas within the SFHA.
- Section 811.501.c.4 – new section added to require residential and non-residential structures in the SFHA be elevated on piers, columns, or stem walls and the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member elevated above the base flood elevation or base flood depth. The cost of elevating structures on piers vs. slab on grade (outside the SFHA) discourages growth in the SFHA.
- Section 811.503.c – new section added to include County floodplain and floodway mapping to address County floodplain and floodway that either differs from, or was not previously included on, the FEMA FIRM. Incorporating County flood mapping into FEMA mapping greatly assists in floodplain management to ensure any growth in the SFHA is done according to FEMA and County standards.
- Section 811.501.c.3 – section was revised to required nonresidential structure to be flood proofed at or above 1 foot above the base flood elevation. Structures (including attendant utility and sanitary facilities) below 1 foot above the base flood elevation must be watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water.

The County Board of Supervisor adopted revisions to the County Building Code in 2023 to implement higher design standards to the service facilities.

- Section 91.1.105.10 d -new section added to include additional requirements for the design and/or location of electrical heating, ventilation, plumbing, air conditioning equipment, and other service facilities to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding.

Action 1.B.4. Assure adequate funding to restore damaged facilities to 100-year flood design.

FC has signed three separate on-call consultants for up to one million dollars of engineering services annually. Each of the three contracts has the option of being extended up to four extra years. This means FC has the option to have access to up to \$15M of funds for engineering and design services.

FC allocates at least \$400k from fund balance annually for major maintenance of existing facilities.

On January 22, 2024, the County experienced catastrophic flooding in the Spring Valley area from an extremely rare storm event. Based on a statistical analysis of historical rainfall records at this location, staff determined that the amount of rain that fell on the 22nd was considered an unprecedented storm event, with an 0.1% chance of occurring in that location in any given year. Other areas of the County experienced heavy rain and flooding. Existing drainage infrastructure is not designed to convey stormwater flows from an event of this magnitude. Flood Control District-maintained facilities at nine locations were impacted and required immediate emergency response. The total estimated construction cost is \$6.25 million. Eight emergency projects were completed before August 1, 2024. The last project - 4362 & 4368 Edgewood Court, Casa de Oro project was completed in October 2024.

FC also completed a dual culvert replacement at 290 Vernon Way, El Cajon in September 2024. The two 15" x 21" culverts were removed and replaced. The total cost was approximately \$20,000.

Objective 2. Develop and/or enhance comprehensive all hazard mitigation policies, plans, technologies, and service.

The County has been adapting to the changes in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s [Community Rating System \(CRS\)](#) program following the 2017 revision of the [CRS Coordinator's Manual](#) and its [2021 Addendum](#), to continue developing our comprehensive approach to reducing the possibility of damage and losses due to floods.

Action 2.B.1. Develop a flood control strategy that ensures coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies.

FC continues to participate in the California Flood Preparedness Week Partner Calls during which local, state, and federal agencies across the state work together to inform the public about the dangers of flooding, how to prepare their homes and families for a flood, and plan for recovery. FC regularly coordinates with federal, state and local agencies on local implementation of flood control policies in the Special Flood Hazard Areas of the County. FC also continues to participate in California Silver Jackets Program with California Department of Water Resources. The program is designed to improve coordination, collaboration, and communication among disaster response agencies at all levels of government before a disaster strikes in an effort to accelerate recovery afterwards.

Action 2.B.2. Minimize repetitive losses caused by flooding.

The County continues proactive outreach efforts to minimize flood losses in areas surrounding repetitive loss properties. FC mails out informative letters and two flyers (titles ‘Protect Your Property Against Flooding’ and ‘Flood Insurance: Protect Your Future’) to properties that have experienced repetitive loss in the recent year and their surrounding properties. These flyers and more resources are also available on the FC website. The County’s efforts are aimed at informing people about their risk so they can take steps to minimize flood losses. The outreach materials advise residents and business owners located in repetitive loss areas of the following tips:

- Notification that the property is in or near an area subject to flooding;
- Property protection measures appropriate for the flood situation;
- Sources of financial assistance available for property protection measures;
- Basic facts about flood insurance.

The County has obtained information from FEMA that identifies the areas that have experienced recurring losses in previous years.

Action 2.B.3 Increase participation and improve compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

After the update of the National Flood Insurance Programs (NFIP) CRS Manual in 2017 and its 2021 Addendum, FC has been evaluating and is working to improve the County’s CRS activities. FC is in regular communication with FEMA to ensure the County is aware of the latest regulations and guidance. FC regularly shares updates with FCDAC and other stakeholders. Updating the County FDPO in 2024 was appropriate and in the best interest of the County flood resilience. County Office of Emergency Services (OES) has public outreach goals as part of the annual operational plan, which includes information on flooding and the NFIP. FC engineers are Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs) and take continuing education to stay up to date with the latest scientific advances in their field. FC staff attend the Floodplain Management Association (FMA) annual conferences and the California Extreme Precipitation Symposia, when budget allows, to learn from experts and stay informed of changes in science and regulations.

Additionally, the [flood portion of the County's website](#) includes multiple outlets for flood preparedness. The OES Public Outreach Specialist position has annual goals for how many people go to this website, sign up for [AlertSanDiego](#), request materials and public seminars, etc. [AlertSanDiego](#) is the County's regional notification system that is able to send telephone notifications to residents and businesses within San Diego County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or disaster. This system is used by emergency response personnel to notify those homes and businesses at risk with information on the event and/or recommended actions for public safety, such as evacuation, shelter in place, gas leak, missing person, etc.. The system utilizes the region's 9-1-1 database, provided by the local telephone companies, and thus can contact landline telephones whether listed or unlisted. It is TTY¹/TDD² capable.

¹ TeleTYpe

² Telecommunications Device for the Deaf