

Attachment A

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MONTEREY COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

This report is a requirement for continued participation in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). An annual evaluation report on progress toward Monterey County Floodplain Management Plan (FMP) implementation must be prepared at least once each year and submitted with the community's annual CRS recertification. The community's CRS recertification was not required in 2019 because due to a cycle audit in progress. However, annual evaluation of FMP implementation is an ongoing requirement and is presented herein.

On November 17, 2015, the FMP 2014 Update was considered and adopted by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. This was the fourth annual evaluation of the implementation of the FMP.

In late 2019, the planning process began to organize the 5-Year Update to the FMP. In conjunction with the Monterey County Office Emergency Services, the Department of Public Works, Facilities & Parks will update the FMP with the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP). The product of this effort will result in a FMP specific to flooding that is mirrored by the MJHMP. Once completed, the County may choose to assign points in the CRS system through either the FMP or MJHMP as points can only be attained from one of the documents.

The requirement to provide an annual evaluation report is a result of NFIP CRS classifying Monterey County as a *Category C* community. Repetitive loss communities fall into three tiers based on the number of Repetitive Loss (RL) Properties in the community¹. A Category A classification has no RL properties; a Category B classification has at least one, but fewer than 10 RL properties; and a Category C classification has ten (10) or more RL properties. Category C is the most severe, with the most stringent NFIP CRS requirements.

FMP 2014 Update Flood Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Summary

Administrative Action Items

- **Action # 1** – Plan Adoption: Adopt an updated FMP every five years.
- **Action # 2** – Monitoring and Reporting: Present an FMP Annual Report every year.
- **Action #3** – CRS: Facilitate a successful CRS recertification visit by organizing and documenting activities in the FMP a minimum of one year before ISO/CRS visit.

Program Action Items

- **Action # 4** – Review existing free board regulations to ensure the most current and beneficial CRS program guidelines are implemented. (Chapter 6 - Prevention).

¹ A Repetitive Loss (RL) property is any insurable building for which two (2) or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by NFIP within any rolling ten-year period.

- **Action # 5** – Review existing fill regulations as they relate to the floodplain to ensure the current and beneficial CRS program guidelines are implemented. (Chapter 6 - Prevention).
- **Action # 6** – Review existing drainage and flood-control regulations to ensure the current and beneficial CRS program guidelines are being implemented. (Chapter 6 - Prevention).
- **Action # 7** – Property protection funding: Develop a flood-control strategy that ensures coordination and funding between federal, state, and/or local agencies to provide assistance to flood-prone properties and RL Areas. (Chapters 7, 12 – Property Protection and RL Areas).
- **Action # 8** – Flood-control projects: Develop project proposals to reduce flooding and improve flood control in flood-prone areas. (Chapter 10 – Structural Projects).
- **Action # 9** – Drainage system maintenance: Develop a GIS map of all County-maintained drainage facilities and document maintenance in the field using a collector software program. (Chapter 10 – Structural Projects).

Public Information Action Items

- **Action # 10** – Improve public information by providing more flood protection information via the MCRMA (or the appropriate successor department) website. (Chapter 11 – Public Information).

TABLE 1: STATUS OF ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AS OF 10/1/2020.

Action Item	Description	Implementation Progress
Action #1, 2, 3 (CRS 500)	Continue adoption of an updated FMP every five years; adopt an FMP Annual Report every year; and facilitate a successful CRS recertification visit by organizing and documenting activities in the FMP a minimum of one year before ISO/CRS visit. (Required for continued participation in NFIP/CRS Program)	The 5 Year Annual Update is being launched this year in conjunction with the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and Monterey County Office of Emergency Services. The FMP Update is scheduled for completion in 2021.
Action #4 (CRS 400)	The County should adopt a 2-foot “freeboard protection” requiring buildings to be elevated to a level higher than the 100-year flood elevation by amending Chapter 16.16 of the Monterey County Code. This action would further reduce flood hazard and improve the County CRS rating. (CRS 430: Higher Regulatory Standards)	This action was not implemented during the period for this annual report. The County may choose to adopt this in the next 5 Year FMP Update.
Action #5 (CRS 400)	The County should prohibit fill within the FEMA floodplain or the flood fringe including construction of buildings on fill and/or County should require that new developments provide compensatory storage at hydraulically equivalent sites by amending Chapter 16.16. This action would further reduce flood hazard and improve County CRS rating. (CRS 430: Higher Regulatory Standards)	This action was not implemented in the period for this annual report. The County may choose to adopt this in the next 5 Year FMP Update.
Action #6 (CRS 400)	The County is preparing a Drainage Manual that will include runoff performance standards addressing several Monterey County General Plan policies. The County should consider incorporating elements of CRS Activity 450 stormwater management into the drainage manual for additional CRS benefits. This action would further reduce flood hazard and improve County CRS rating. (CRS 450 Stormwater Management)	The drainage manual draft is advancing toward completion. This action was not implemented during the period for this annual report. The County may consider including this in the 5 Year FMP Annual Update.

<p>Action #7 (CRS 300)</p>	<p>The County should continue to provide resources to administer the FEMA grant program on behalf of flood-prone residences/businesses. This action will facilitate federal funds being available for flood-mitigation activities, such as structural elevation, and reduce overall risks to ongoing flood hazard. This action would further reduce flood hazard and improve County CRS rating. (CRS Activity 360 Flood Protection Assistance)</p>	<p>This action was implemented in 2019. The public outreach mailings were sent to 8,026 residents living in/or near the 100-year floodplain and in Repetitive Loss Areas. The mailer included information on grant assistance to elevate flood-prone structures. However, the RMA received no inquiries or requests to pursue flood mitigation assistance funding in 2018/19. Future mailings will also include information regarding how to attain or improve flood insurance coverage.</p>
<p>Action #8 (CRS 500)</p>	<p>The County should continue developing flood control project proposals to reduce flooding and improve flood control in flood prone areas. Specific areas include improvements on the Lower Carmel River, the Pajaro River near the community of Pajaro, the MCWRA Zone 9 Reclamation Ditch, Bryant Canyon Channel, and adding storage capacity to Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs through the Interlake Tunnel Project. This action would further reduce flood hazards and improve the County's CRS rating. (CRS Activity 530 Flood Protection)</p>	<p>In 2019, the County of Monterey completed the Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Project Final Environmental Impact Report, which would improve floodplain connectivity in the Lower Carmel region, particularly County Service Area 50. The County continues to advance a long-term solution for flood control of the Carmel Lagoon. The County continues to be involved in USACE efforts to improve the flood protection level of the Pajaro Levee; MCWRA has received grant funding from the State of California to prepare engineering/technical information in support of the Lake Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio Tunnel Project.</p>
<p>Action #9 (CRS 500)</p>	<p>The County should develop a GIS map showing the number of conveyance system components inspected and maintained by the RMA Environmental Services Stormwater Program team and RMA-Public Works Department and the total number of conveyance system components in the developed portion of the community's drainage system. This action would further reduce flood hazard and improve County CRS rating. (CRS Activity 540 Drainage System Maintenance)</p>	<p>A GIS Drainage Map has been created through the Stormwater Program. Appropriate ongoing GIS map updates are completed by the Environmental Services Stormwater Program team.</p>
<p>Action #10 (CRS 300)</p>	<p>Improve public information by providing more flood protection information via the MCRMA (or appropriate successor department) website. This action would further reduce flood hazard and improve County CRS rating. (CRS Activity 350 Flood Protection Information)</p>	<p>All information published on the MCWRA website has been successfully transferred to the MCRMA (or appropriate successor department) website. Continued improvement will also include preparedness information, such as instructions for enrollment in the alert system, sandbag and sand stockpile locations with maps, printable flyers, and links to MC Office of Emergency Services and other resources.</p>