



PLUMAS COUNTY PLANNING & BUILDING SERVICES
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR FERGUSON
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August 30, 2021

ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
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RE: State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Review Submittal
Plumas County 2035 General Plan Public Health & Safety Element Amendment
Pursuant to Assembly Bill 2140 Compliance

ASSEMBLY BILL 2140

The Governor of California on September 29, 2006 approved Assembly Bill (AB) 2140 that added Section 65302.6 and Section 8685.9 to the California Government Code (GC). GC Section 65302.6 authorizes a city, county, or a city and county to adopt with its safety element a local hazard mitigation plan in accordance with the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. GC Section 8685.9 prohibits the state share for any eligible project from exceeding 75% of total state eligible costs unless the local agency is located within a city, county, or city and county that has adopted a local hazard mitigation plan in accordance with the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 as part of the safety element of its general plan, in which case the Legislature may provide for a state share of local costs that exceeds 75% of total state eligible costs.

BACKGROUND

The Plumas County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) 2020 Update was initiated in January 2020 and is single jurisdiction plan that geographically covers the unincorporated area of Plumas County.

On January 6, 2021, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) determined the LHMP 2020 Update to be in compliance with the regulatory requirements, and as such, the County received the official “APA” letter or “Approved Pending Adoption.”

On June 15, 2021, the Plumas County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 21-8596 that adopted the Plumas County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update as an official plan and by reference into the County’s General Plan Public Health & Safety Element in accordance with the requirements of AB 2140.

Additionally, Resolution 21-8596 directed the submittal of the adoption resolution to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and FEMA to enable the Plan’s final approval in accordance with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2020 and to establish conformance with the requirements of AB 2140.

On June 16, 2021 Plumas County submitted the adoption resolution to Cal OES and FEMA.

On June 23, 2021 FEMA found the LHMP 2020 Update to be in conformance and provided final approval.

To complete the process for compliance with AB 2140, the County’s General Plan Public Health & Safety Element is required to be amended to include language stating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and follows FEMA’s Local Hazard Mitigation Plan guidance, in addition to including a hyperlink of the LHMP 2020 Update and where the document can be found on Plumas County’s website.

STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION REVIEW

On August 17, 2021 the Board of Supervisors, through Resolution 21-8619, directed the County Planning Department to prepare the Draft Amendment to the 2035 General Plan Public Health & Safety Element for compliance with AB 2140 and per GC Sections 65302.5(a) and 65302.5(b)(1) submit the Draft Amendment to the Geological Survey Division of the California Department of Conservation, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, and every local agency that provides fire protection to the unincorporated area of Plumas County.

Please see **Attachment A** for the Plumas County 2035 General Plan Public Health & Safety Element Draft Amendment pursuant to AB 2140 compliance for review by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

ATTACHMENT A

Plumas County 2035 General Plan
Public Health & Safety Element
Draft Amendment
Pursuant to AB 2140 Compliance

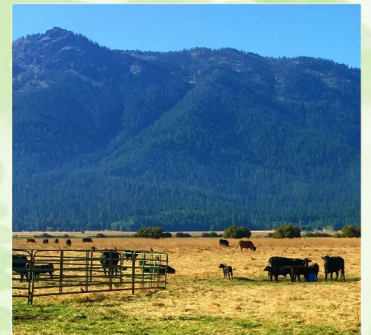
REDLINE AND CLEAN VERSIONS
SEE PAGE 137

PLUMAS COUNTY GENERAL PLAN



2035

A
FOUNDATION
for our
FUTURE



ADOPTED DECEMBER 17, 2013

RPC 2(c)(ii)

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY ELEMENT (6)

Introduction

The purpose of the Public Health and Safety Element is to provide the policy context for protecting and reducing the risk of both natural and man-made hazards to County residents, workers, visitors and properties. The element is comprised of the following key sections:

- Section 6.1: General Health and Safety Policies
- Section 6.2: Geologic and Seismic Hazards
- Section 6.3: Wildland Fire Hazards and Fire Protection
- Section 6.4: Flood and Dam Inundation
- Section 6.5: Hazardous Wastes
- Section 6.6: Airport Hazards
- Section 6.7: Emergency Operations
- Section 6.8: Healthy Communities



Figure 25. Johnsville Fire.
Photo Credit: Jay Newman.

Plumas County is committed to protecting its communities in a manner that also addresses climate change. As part of the “Goals” section of this element, policies and implementation measures related to climate change are denoted with the symbol:



Setting / Existing Condition

Geologic and Seismic Hazards

The risk of seismic hazards to residents of Plumas County is based on the approximate location of earthquake faults within and outside of the County. Several potentially active faults pass through Plumas County. The Almanor Fault, Butt Creek Fault Zone and the Mohawk Valley Fault are shown in Figure 26. The Indian Valley Fault is also considered an active fault located within the County. Additionally, the Honey Lake and Fort Sage Faults are two active faults located east of the County. Although several faults are within and near the County, seismic hazard mapping indicates that the County has low seismic hazard potential. Additionally, the County is not located within a delineated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. The risks associated with earthquakes, such as surface fault rupture, within the County are considered low.

Rates of erosion are contingent on a number of factors, including the type of soil material and structure, slope, water runoff and levels of human activity. Overall, the County is primarily characterized as having a moderate potential for soil erosion (see Table 7-1). Areas classified as having a low and high potential for erosion are also found in the County, with a fairly significant portion of the County unclassified or not mapped. Areas with a high potential for erosion are identified on Figure 26 and coincide with locations located at higher elevations in the County.

The County is located in an area with varying topography and slopes. Areas with steep slopes in the County could be prone to landslides, mud slides and avalanches. Landslides, or ground failure, are dependent on slope, geology, rainfall, excavation or seismic activity. Mud slides are often caused by heavy rainfall. Areas that have recently been subject to wildfire are susceptible to mud slides. Avalanches consist of a rapid flow of snow down a slope. They often reoccur in the same areas and can be triggered by varying weather patterns and human activity. As seen in Figure 26, the volcanic soils in the eastern portion of the Plumas National Forest are prone to landslides. The figure also shows that areas concentrated along the North and Middle Forks of the Feather River are also susceptible to landslides. Asbestos is a naturally occurring fibrous material found throughout California. Disturbance of rocks and soil containing asbestos could lead to several public health issues. Figure 26 identifies areas with the potential to contain naturally occurring asbestos. The highest concentration of these mapped areas are found in the western portion of the County.

Wildland Fire Hazards and Fire Protection

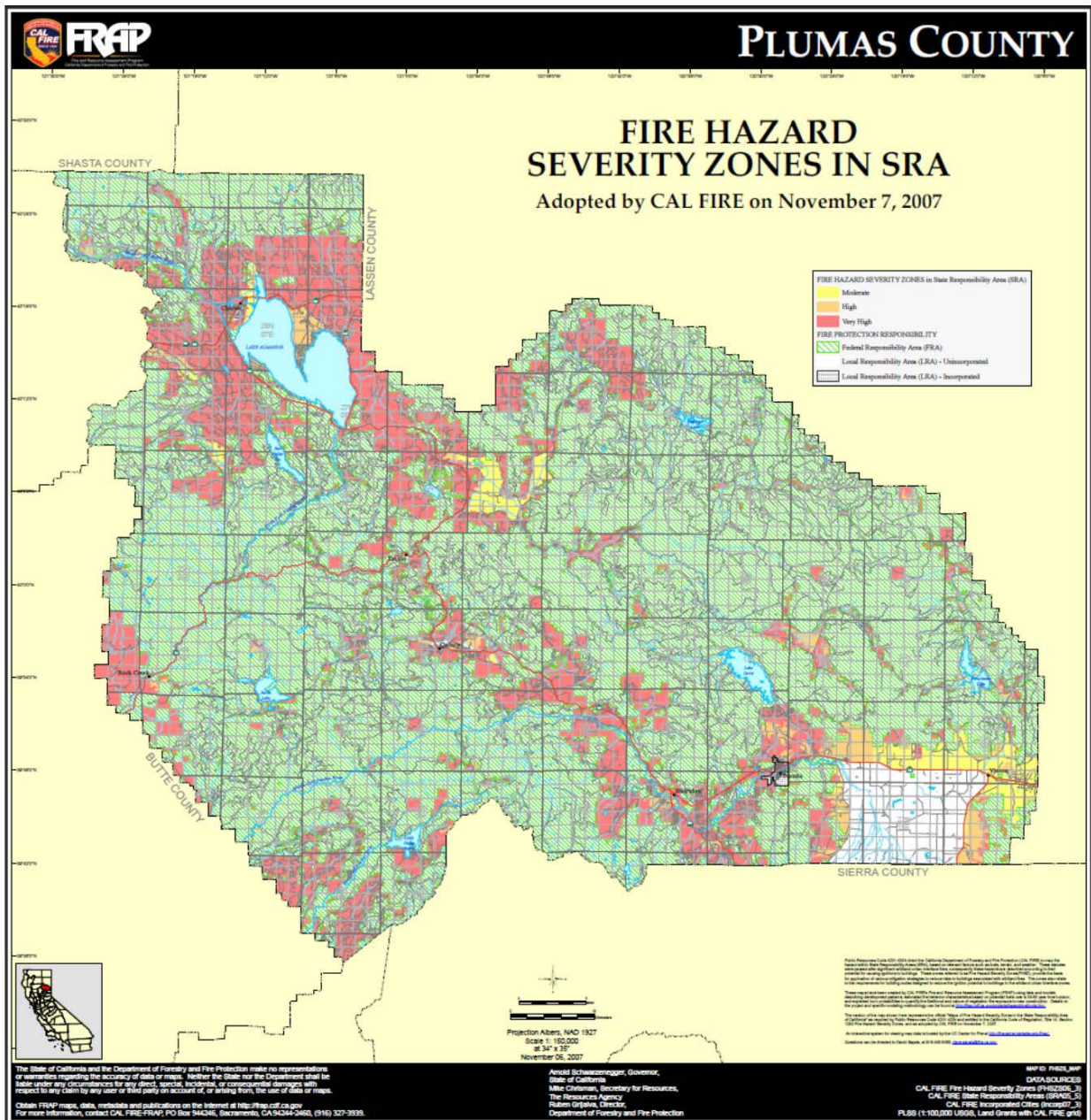
Suppression of natural fires has allowed the forest understory to become dense, creating the potential for larger and more intense wildland fires. Wind, steepness of terrain, and naturally volatile or hot-burning vegetation contributes to wildland fire hazard potential. In reviewing fire threat mapping data provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, it appears that a majority of the County is classified as having a “Moderate” to “High” threat of wildland fire. Policies in both the Land Use Element and the Public Health and Safety Element address reducing wildland fire risks on structures and reducing future risks through development patterns in the County.

Flood and Dam Inundation Hazards

The County contains an extensive network of rivers and other waterways that flow out of higher elevations to the valley areas. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has identified several areas of the County as being within Special Flood Hazard Areas. These areas are identified in Figure 27 and are primarily located in and/or near the communities of Chester, Greenville, Crescent Mills, Taylorsville, Quincy, Vinton and Portola. The City of Portola, Quincy, East Quincy and the American Valley and Greenville are mapped in more detail to show Base Flood Elevation (BFE) data which is determined to be the elevation of the Base Flood or “100-year” flood.

Flooding can also result from dam inundation or from the structural failure of a dam that results in a large release of water from a reservoir that flows downstream and overtops the banks of rivers and creeks. Figure 27 identifies those locations prone to flooding from dam inundation, and, as expected, many of the areas overlap with FEMA-identified flood zones. Dam inundation areas are generally found along the North and Middle Forks of the Feather River, Indian Creek between Taylorsville and Antelope Lake, Sierra Valley, and Indian Valley.

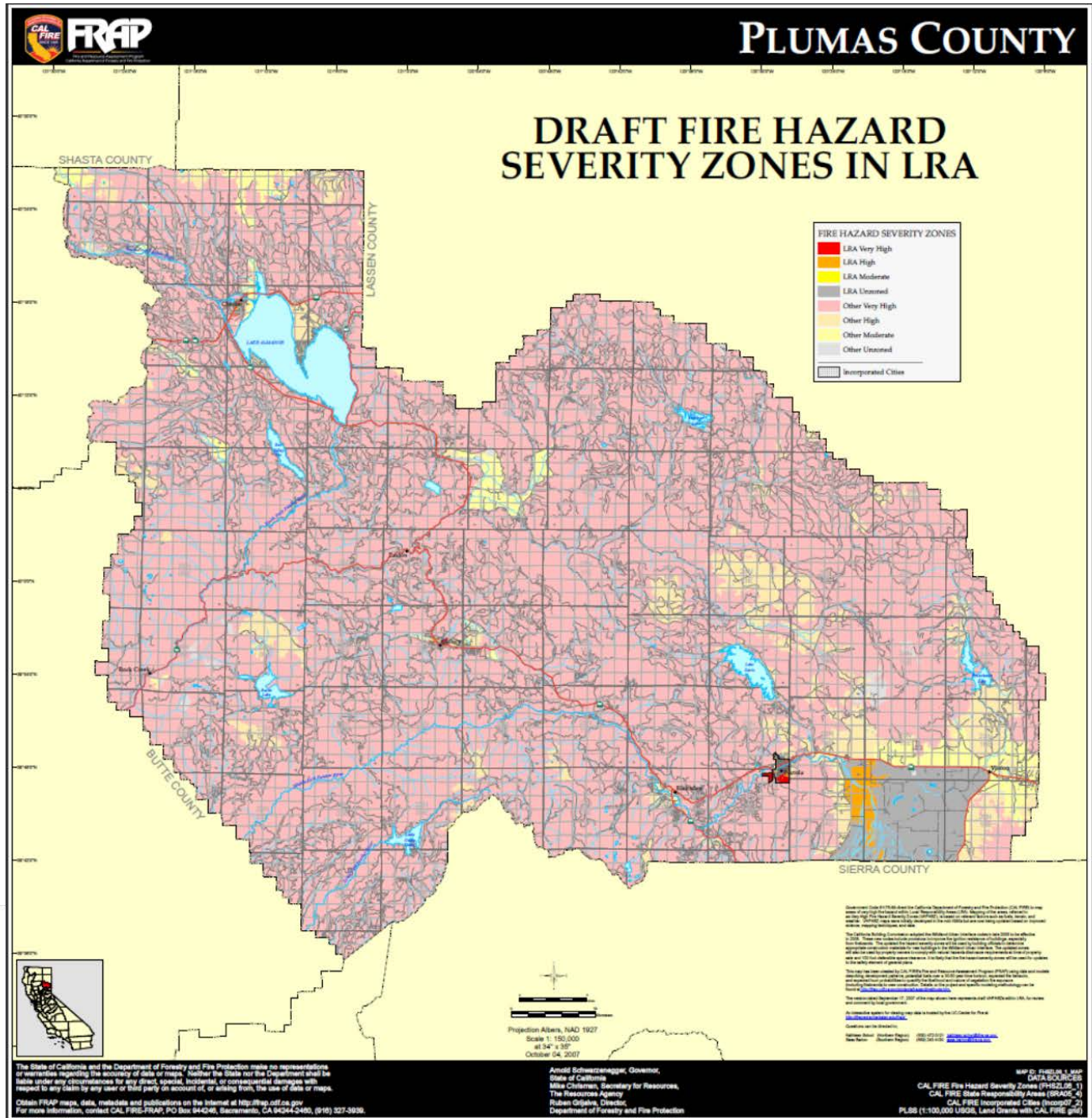
Figure 26. Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Plumas County, CA. Source: Department of Forestry.



SOURCE: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2007

Plumas County General Plan Update EIR . 208739

Figure 3-2a
Fire Hazard Severity Zones in SRA



SOURCE: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2009

Plumas County General Plan Update EIR . 208739

Figure 3-2b
Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA

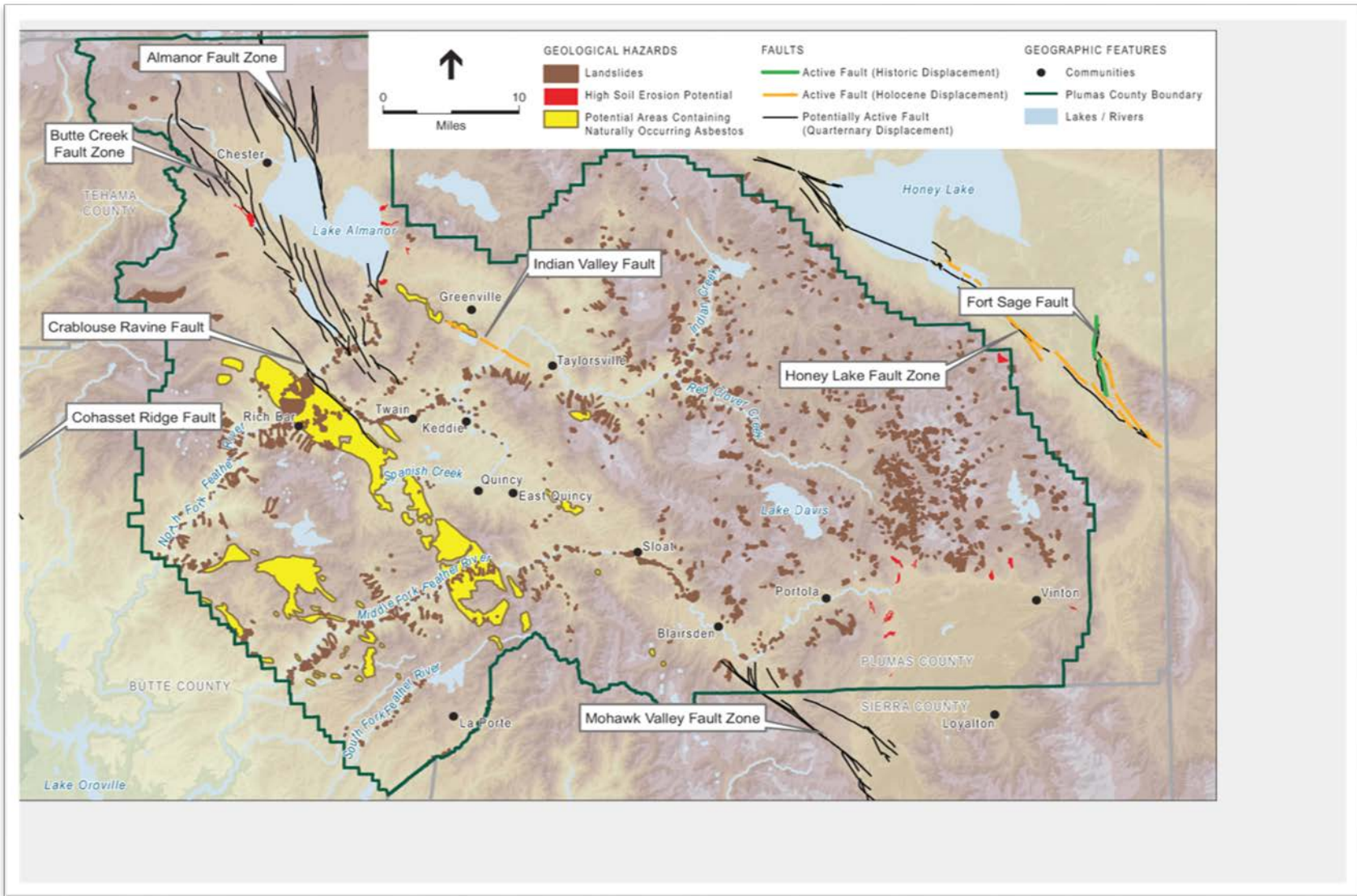


Figure 27. Geologic Hazards in Plumas County. Source: ESA 2011.

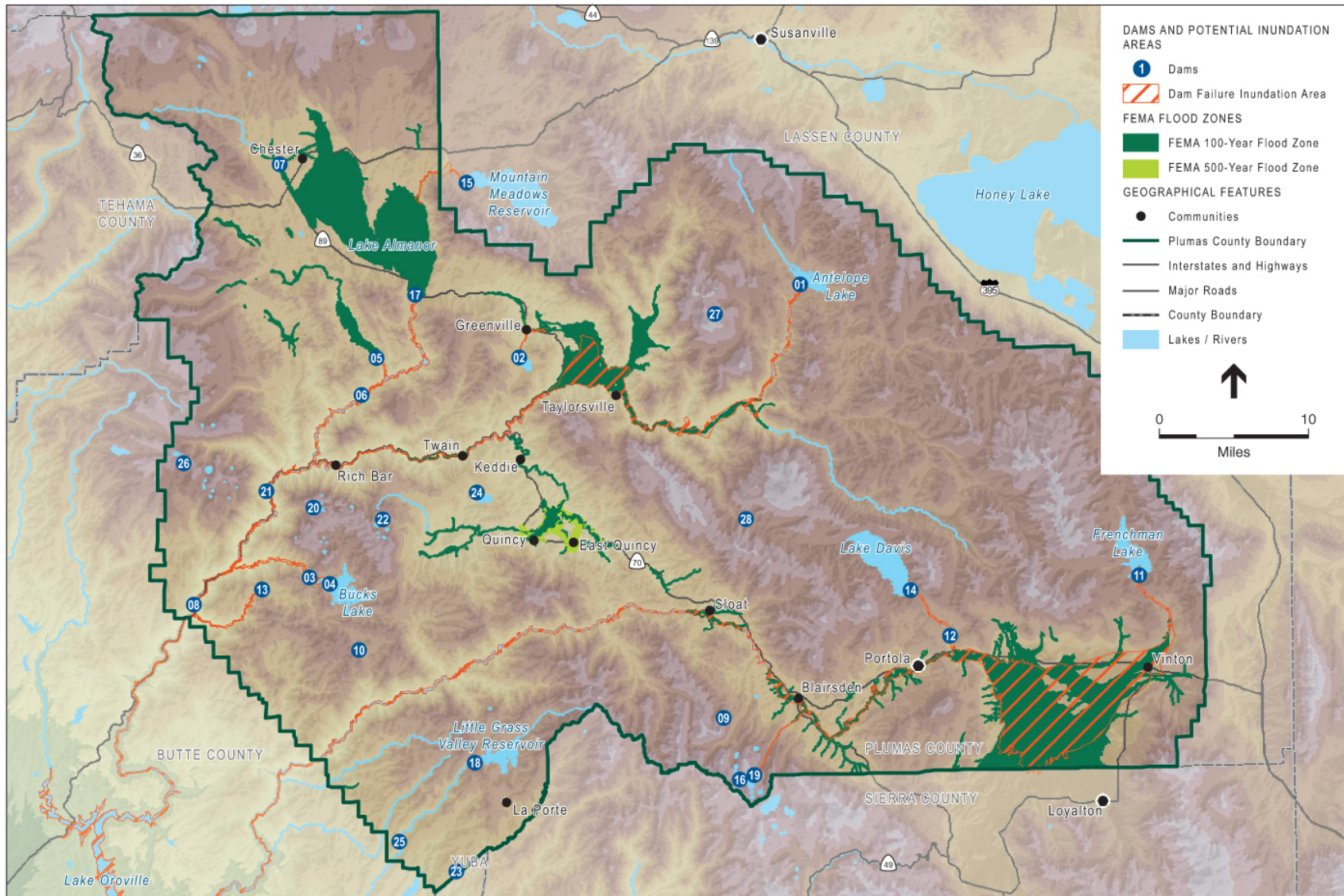


Figure 28. Dams and Potential Inundation Areas Within Plumas County. Source: ESA 2011.

Hazardous Wastes

Hazardous wastes or materials can take a variety of forms in Plumas County. Common products such as gasoline, paint solvents, household cleaning products and refrigerants are categorized as hazardous materials and are present throughout the County. Industrial operations, often employing hazardous substances, may leave behind contaminating underground storage tanks and/or residual pollutants that can infiltrate the County's natural resources. Within Plumas County, manufacturing or storage facilities (including lumber processing and bulk fuel storage facilities) within the more densely populated areas of Quincy, Portola and Chester account for the majority of hazardous materials use.

Transportation-related public health and safety issues also have the potential to occur along the major thoroughfares of the County. The highest potential for transportation-related incidents exists along the County's main east-west thoroughfare, State Route 70, and along State Routes 36 and 89. The majority of hazardous materials shipped through and within the County consists primarily of petroleum products, such as heating fuels, gasoline, diesel and propane. The County's railroad corridors, both the Union Pacific Railroad and Burlington Northern Santa Fe, are an additional public safety concern since freight trains also carry bulk containers of hazardous materials such as petroleum.

Locally, the Plumas County Environmental Health Division (EHD) manages the County's hazardous materials management program. The EHD maintains the Hazardous Materials Business Plan and Inventory Program. The program enforces the State "right-to-know" laws passed in 1984 and requires local businesses to provide public access to information about the types and amounts of chemicals being used on their property. Businesses must plan and prepare for a chemical emergency through the preparation of a Hazardous Materials Inventory that is certified annually, a Hazardous Materials Business Emergency Response Plan that is certified annually and an inventory of hazardous materials updated annually. EHD also regulates the use, storage and treatment of hazardous wastes and above-ground storage tanks.

Airport Hazards

Three public-use airports are located in the County: Nervino Airport in Beckwourth, Rogers Field Airport in Chester and Gansner Field Airport in Quincy. Potential safety issues associated with airports include aircraft accidents and noise impacts to surrounding land uses. Airport operation hazards include the development of incompatible land uses, power transmission lines, wildlife hazards, such as bird strikes, existing obstructions such as timbered hillsides, and tall structures in the vicinity of these airports. Airport safety zones are established to minimize the number of people subjected to noise and potential aircraft accidents through limitations on the type of development allowed around airports. Local Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan zoning regulations provide specific detail for the established airport safety zones. Emergency Operations Management and Planning

The Plumas County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for coordinating the County government's role in preparation and response to a disaster or large-scale emergency within Plumas County. The Office of Emergency Services works closely with other emergency management operations in the City of Portola and various special districts, authorities and joint-power authorities within County boundaries. In the event of an emergency, the Office of Emergency Services is charged with responding to the unincorporated areas of Plumas County, providing support to jurisdictions within Plumas County.

Emergency evacuation is an integral component of the County emergency management system. The Office of Emergency Services also conducts ongoing evaluation of potential evacuation routes, including capacity and condition of roadways and potential barriers to the use of roadways, such as flooding. There are no set evacuation routes; rather, they are established for particular events based on circumstances at the time. The main focus is on three operational concerns: 1) Local/community evacuation; 2) Area-wide evacuation; and 3) Large-scale traffic management during regional evacuations. Primary state and local arterial and secondary ground transportation routes have been identified and are included in general preparedness and response planning efforts.

Legal Basis and Relationship to Other General Plan Elements

The County's Public Health and Safety Element addresses the various natural and man-made hazards that are considered when applying the policies and land-use designations of the Land Use Element. For example, lands subject to recurring flooding or extreme wildfire potential are planned for open-space uses such as agriculture wherever practical. Health and safety issues related to noise generation are described in the Noise Element.

State law [Section 65302(g) of the Government Code] mandates that the safety element address several key topics. The primary purpose of the Public Health and Safety Element is to establish policies and programs to protect the County from risks associated with seismic, geologic, flood and wildfire hazards. It is the intent of this section to craft programs and policies that reduce the risk of death, injury, property damage, and the economic and social dislocation related to the above hazards. This element has also included policies that address the goal of sustaining healthy communities.

This element meets the requirements of State law with the following exceptions:

- Tsunamis – As defined in the General Plan Guidelines, this phenomenon is a large ocean wave generated by an earthquake in or near the ocean. Plumas County has no coastline nor is it proximate to the ocean, and, therefore, the General Plan does not address this particular type of event.
- Military Installations and Operations Area – Plumas County has no military installations or facilities, however Military Operations Areas and Military Training Routes cross through significant portions of the County and are addressed in this Plan.
- Minimum Road Widths – This topic is more appropriately addressed in the Circulation Element.

Although not specifically required by State planning law, this element also considers a variety of issues related to healthy and livable communities.

Values and Issues

The Sierra is the third fastest growing region in California, and that growth has occurred in the high to extreme fire hazard areas of the Sierra. The combination of population growth and climate change in these fire-prone areas is putting more people and homes at a greater risk from catastrophic wildfire. Land Use planning in Plumas County can mitigate some of the risks by directing new development to be located within existing fire districts or adjacent to areas where fire protection can efficiently be extended. During the Working Group sessions and the public workshops both professional fire protection experts and community members identified fire safe communities as a goal that should be included in the General Plan.

With approximately five percent of Plumas County residents living outside of a fire protection district, and approximately six percent of the parcels created since 1985 located outside of a fire protection district, there is a need to develop policies that both address fire safe patterns for new development and address solutions for improving fire safety for existing communities and rural places.

Plans and Planning

The following local and regional plans, programs and organizations are among those that affect or are involved in the implementation of public health and safety protection in Plumas County:

- Plumas County Hazardous Materials Response Plan
- Plumas County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
- Plumas County Emergency Operations Plan
- Plumas County ~~Multi-Local~~ Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Plumas County Integrated Waste Management Plan
- Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Plumas County Fire Safe Council)
- Almanor Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Almanor Basin Fire Safe Council)

The single-jurisdiction Local Hazard Mitigation Plan or LHMP 2020 Update for the Plumas County unincorporated area was developed in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and follows FEMA's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan guidance. The LHMP incorporates a process where hazards are identified and profiled, the people and facilities at risk are analyzed, and mitigation actions are developed to reduce or eliminate hazard risk. The implementation of the County's LHMP mitigation actions, which include both short and long-term strategies, involve planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities.

The LHMP 2020 Update was adopted on June 15, 2021 by the Plumas County Board of Supervisors (Resolution No. 21-8596) as an official plan and by reference into the General Plan Public Health & Safety Element in accordance with the requirements of Assembly Bill 2140.

Multi-hazard mitigation planning resources can be found on the Plumas County Office of Emergency Services webpage at:

<https://www.plumascounty.us/2214/Multi-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan>

The LHMP 2020 Update and other Plumas County mitigation planning documents and FEMA guidance can be found at:

<https://www.plumascounty.us/2218/Documents>

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The [LHMP 2020 Update](#) and other Plumas County mitigation planning documents and FEMA guidance can be found at:

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Goals

GOAL 6.1 General Policies

PHS 6.1

To protect local communities from injury and damage resulting from natural catastrophes and man-made hazardous conditions.

Policies

PHS

6.1.1 Development Constraints

The County shall limit the density and intensity of development in areas to the levels needed to reduce hazards to public health and safety.

PHS

6.1.2 Building and Code Updates

Except as otherwise noted by State law, the County shall ensure that all new structures intended for human habitation are designed in compliance with the latest adopted editions of the California Building Standards Code.

PHS

6.1.3 Hazard Awareness and Public Education

The County shall continue to promote awareness and education among residents regarding possible natural hazards, including soil conditions, landslides, earthquakes, flooding, wildfire hazards and emergency procedures.

PHS

6.1.4 Public Safety Programs

The County shall promote all applicable public safety programs, including neighborhood-watch programs, hazards materials disposal, public awareness and prevention of wildfire hazards, and other public-education efforts.

GOAL 6.2 Geological and Seismic Hazards

PHS 6.2

To identify and prevent development in “areas of unstable geologic conditions,” which include: active faults, landslides and areas of potential ground failure such as liquefaction, mudslides and subsidence.

Policies

PHS

6.2.1 Maintenance of Updated Geologic and Seismic Hazard Information

The County shall maintain updated geologic, seismic and avalanche hazard maps and other hazard inventory information in cooperation with the State Office of Emergency Services, California Department of Conservation—Division of Mines and Geology, United States Forest Service, California Department of Transportation and other agencies as this information is made available.

PHS

6.2.2 *Design Measures*

The County shall require earthquake resistant designs consistent with the requirements of the California Building Standards Code for all critical structures, such as fire stations, emergency communication centers, private schools, high occupancy buildings, and non-highway bridges.

PHS

6.2.3 *Seismic Retrofitting*

The County shall support and encourage seismic upgrades to older buildings that may be structurally deficient. Upgrades shall consider any applicable historic building preservation requirements.

PHS

6.2.4 *Development on Slopes*

The County shall not allow development on slopes 30 percent or greater, unless the applicant can sufficiently mitigate the inherent problems associated with developing on steep slopes.

PHS

6.2.5 *Avalanche, Landslide and Mudflow Hazards*

The County shall prohibit new subdivisions in high risk areas of known avalanche, landslide or mudflow hazards.

PHS

6.2.6 *Naturally Occurring Asbestos*

The County shall work with the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District to map locations of naturally occurring asbestos and to mitigate potential hazards from development.

PHS

6.2.7 *Development Requirements*

The County shall continue to address seismic standards of dam safety as required by the State Division of Safety and Dams.

GOAL 6.3 Wildland Fire Hazards and Fire Protection

PHS 6.3

To minimize the possibility of the loss of life, injury, damage to property, and loss of habitat and natural resources as a result of fire.

Policies

PHS

6.3.1 *Defensible Space*

The County shall review and update its Fire Safe ordinance to attain and maintain defensible space through conditioning of tentative maps and in new development at the final map and/or building-permit stage.

PHS

6.3.2 *Limitations in Fire Hazard Areas*

The County shall consult the current Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps during the review of all projects so that standards and mitigation measures appropriate to each hazard classification can be applied. Land use densities and intensities shall be determined by mitigation measures in areas designated with a high or very high fire hazard rating. Intensive development in areas with high or very high fire hazard rating shall be discouraged.

PHS

6.3.3 *Structural Fire Protection*

All developments within the service boundaries of an entity which provides structural fire protection may be required to make contribution to the maintenance of the existing level of structural service proportionate to the increase in demand for service structural fire protection and Emergency Medical Services resulting from the development.

PHS

6.3.4 *New Development Requirements*

As a requirement for approving new development, the County must find (based on information provided by the applicant and the responsible fire protection district), that concurrent with development, adequate emergency water flow, fire access and fire-fighting personnel and equipment, will be available in accordance with applicable State, County, and local fire district standards.

PHS

6.3.5 *Emergency Access*

As a requirement of new development, the applicant must demonstrate that adequate emergency access exists or can be provided to ensure that emergency vehicles can access the site and that private vehicles can evacuate the area.

PHS

6.3.6 Fire Protection and Roadside Maintenance

As a condition of development, the County shall require the long-term maintenance of private roads, including roadside vegetation management, to the standards of original improvements.

PHS

6.3.7 Rural Fire Protection Water System

The County shall research the feasibility of a countywide rural fire protection water system that provides a cost-effective, adequate water supply.

PHS

6.3.8 Fire Protection Facility Upgrades

The County shall encourage upgrading facilities within existing fire protection districts and encourage expansion of existing districts where warranted by population density allowed under the General Plan.

PHS

6.3.9 Fuel Modification

The County shall require new development within high and very high fire hazard areas to designate fuel break zones that comply with defensible space requirements to benefit the new and, where possible, existing development.

PHS

6.3.10 Prescribed Burning

The County shall encourage the use of prescribed burning as a management tool for hazardous fuels reduction, timber management purposes, livestock production and enhancement of wildlife habitat. The County shall support removal of fuels and chipping and onsite distribution of chipped materials as an alternative to burning.

PHS

6.3.11 Regional Cooperation

The County shall cooperate with Federal, State, community fire safety groups and other fire protection entities in fire prevention programs and in identifying opportunities for hazardous fuel reduction projects in zones of high and very high fire hazard either prior to or as a component of project review.

PHS

6.3.12 Fire Prevention Education

The County, in cooperation with Federal and State agencies, community fire safety groups, and the local fire protection districts, shall educate the public about the hazards of wildfires, methods to reduce the potential for fires to occur, and mitigation measures, including reducing fuel loads, to lessen the impacts of wildfires.

PHS

6.3.13 Landscape-Scale Fuel Modification

The County shall support fuel modification across public and private forestlands to reduce the potential for catastrophic wildfires, with the highest priority directed toward reducing hazardous fuel levels in the wildland-urban interface.

GOAL 6.4 Flood and Dam Inundation Hazards

PHS 6.4

To minimize the loss of life, injury or damage to property as a result of floods in Plumas County.

Policies

PHS

6.4.1 *Coordination with Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Water Resources Division of Flood Management*

The County shall continue participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program, utilizing the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and the County's floodplain ordinances that implement Federal and State flood management standards. The County shall continue to utilize floodplain management and flood control information provided by the Department of Water Resources Division of Flood Management and the United States Army Corps of Engineers and coordinate with these agencies when undertaking updates to the County's floodplain ordinances and policies.

PHS

6.4.2 *Development in Floodways and Dam Inundation Areas*

The County shall prohibit the development of new critical or high-occupancy structures within the floodway of any river, stream or other body of water. Similar structures should not be located within the inundation area resulting from failure of dams identified by the State Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams.

PHS

6.4.3 *New Parcels in Floodplain*

The County shall strongly discourage the creation of new residential parcels which lie entirely within Special Flood Hazard Areas as identified on the most current version of the Flood Insurance Rate Maps provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Proposals for new parcels that are partially located within designated Special Flood Hazard Areas must be evaluated to determine if sufficient land is available outside the Special Flood Hazard Area to support residential development and that potential flood impacts can be sufficiently mitigated.

PHS

6.4.4 Floodplain Development Restrictions

The County shall ensure that riparian areas and drainage areas within floodplains are free from development that may adversely affect floodway capacity or characteristics of natural/riparian areas or natural groundwater recharge areas.

PHS

6.4.5 Multi-Purpose Flood Control Measures

The County shall encourage multi-purpose flood control projects that incorporate recreation, resource conservation, preservation of natural riparian habitat and scenic values of the County's waterways.

PHS

6.4.6 Flood Control Design

The County shall avoid flood control projects involving further channeling, straightening or lining of waterways until alternative multi-purpose modes of treatment, such as wider berms and landscaped areas in combination with recreation amenities, are studied.

PHS

6.4.7 Limit Surface Runoff

The County shall review development projects to determine that such development can be permitted without alteration of off-site historical flood patterns or contribution to flooding hazards for downstream users. Each project with the potential to create off-site drainage shall be required to submit a plan showing how the impacts of such drainage will be addressed, both on-site and off-site.

PHS

6.4.8 Storm Water Retention/Detention and Groundwater Infiltration

As appropriate, the County shall require development to incorporate storm-water retention/detention ponds to encourage groundwater recharge and to make efficient use of storm water.

GOAL 6.5 Hazardous Wastes

**PHS
6.5**

To protect the community from hazardous materials through safe and efficient use, storage, transport and disposal.

Policies

PHS

6.5.1 Hazardous Materials

The County Environmental Health Division, as the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), shall strive to ensure hazardous materials are used, stored, transported and disposed of in a safe manner in compliance with local, State and Federal safety standards.

PHS

6.5.2 *Hazardous Materials Studies*

The County shall ensure that a site investigation, undertaken by a person with State-recognized credentials, shall be submitted to the County for any subdivision or parcel that is located on a known or suspected contaminated site included in a list as provided by applicable State and Federal agencies. The recommendations of these site investigations will be implemented prior to development of the specific site.

PHS

6.5.3 *Transportation of Hazardous Wastes*

The County shall continue to coordinate with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and railroad operators to establish procedures for the movement of hazardous wastes and explosives within the County.

PHS

6.5.4 *Contamination Prevention*

The County shall require new developments to protect soils, air quality, surface water and groundwater from hazardous material contamination associated with site development and construction activities.

PHS

6.5.5 *Incompatible Land Uses*

The County shall review project applications to prevent incompatible land uses near properties that produce or store hazardous waste.

PHS

6.5.6 *Hazardous Materials Databases*

The County shall continue to maintain maps or databases that identify known or suspected contaminated sites which include active, abandoned or closed mines; closed landfills; leaking underground tanks; or other areas where soils may have become saturated or otherwise contaminated with toxic or hazardous materials.

PHS

6.5.7 *Increase of Public Awareness*

The County shall work to educate the public about household hazardous waste and proper methods of disposal.

PHS

6.5.8 Hazardous Materials and Waste Management

The County shall ensure the safe and effective management of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes generated within the county. Primary management strategies include waste minimization, waste reduction and recycling. Should applications for the treatment, processing or disposal of hazardous wastes or materials be received, such facilities shall be located in a manner consistent with State law as well as criteria established in the State-approved Plumas County Hazardous Waste Management Plan approved by the County.

PHS

6.5.9 Hazardous Materials Remediation

The County shall work with project applicants to actively promote clean-up or remediation of properties contaminated by mine waste or other hazardous materials and shall not grant any discretionary or ministerial land-use approvals to develop or change boundaries or reconfigure parcels believed to be contaminated unless and until the nature, extent, type and location of contamination is determined and satisfactory arrangements are made for clean-up or remediation, in accordance with Plumas County standards and state regulations.

GOAL 6.6 Airport Safety

PHS 6.6

To protect the community from the risks associated with airport operations and to protect airports from the economic impacts of encroachment from incompatible land uses.

Policies

PHS

6.6.1 Consistency with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

The County shall review all development proposals near county airports to ensure consistency with the current ALUCP's height, noise and safety policies and land use criteria set forth in the Plumas County ALUC's statement of Policies, Rules and Regulations, and each ALUCP. When required, development proposals shall be referred to the ALUC for review and recommendations.

PHS

6.6.2 Compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations

The County shall ensure that development within the airport approach and departure zones is in compliance with Part 77 of the FAA Regulations.

PHS

6.6.3 Private Airfields and Land Use Compatibility

The County shall ensure that the development of future private airstrips and helipads address land use compatibility issues. As part of the approval process of these private facilities, the County shall consult and coordinate with the Plumas County Airport Land Use Commission to address any setback, height, or land use restrictions associated with operation of the private airfield/helipad.

GOAL 6.7 Emergency Operations Management and Planning

PHS 6.7

To provide effective emergency response to natural or human-made hazards and disasters.

Policies

PHS

6.7.1 Emergency Response Services Coordination with Government Agencies

The County shall coordinate emergency response with local, State and Federal governmental agencies, community organizations, volunteer agencies and other response partners during emergencies or disasters utilizing the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

PHS

6.7.2 Mutual Aid Agreement

The County shall participate in established local, State and Federal mutual aid systems. Where necessary and appropriate, the County shall enter into agreements to ensure the effective provision of emergency services, such as mass care, heavy rescue, hazardous materials or other specialized functions.

PHS

6.7.3 Maintenance of Emergency Evacuation Plans

The County shall continue to create, revise and maintain emergency plans for the broad range of natural and human-made disasters and response activities that could be foreseen to impact Plumas County. This shall include, but not be limited to, flooding, dam failure, extreme weather, evacuation/transportation, mass care and shelter, and animal evacuation and sheltering. Emergency Planning projects shall be in line with the County's Emergency Operations Plan and incorporate current guidance and initiatives from State and Federal Emergency Management Agencies.

PHS

6.7.4 Streets and Highways Upgrades

The County shall evaluate and strive to upgrade vital streets and highways to an acceptable level for emergency services and for public safety.

PHS

6.7.5 Search and Rescue

The County should continue to provide search and rescue operation capabilities through the Plumas County Sheriff's Department.

PHS

6.7.6 Joint Exercises

The County shall encourage fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, resource management, public health and other governmental and non-governmental response partners to periodically conduct joint training exercises with the goal of developing the best possible coordinated action and effective response times in the event of a natural or human-made disaster across all local jurisdictions.

GOAL 6.8 Healthy Communities

**PHS
6.8**

To support the community values for healthy lifestyles and access to health care facilities among residents of Plumas County through the built environment and land-use decisions that play an important role in shaping the pattern of community development and in promoting good health and food security for visitors and County residents.

Policies

PHS

6.8.1 Promotion of Healthy Communities

To the maximum extent feasible, the County shall strive through its land-use decisions to promote community health and safety for all neighborhoods in the County by encouraging patterns of development that are safe and influence crime prevention, promote a high-quality physical environment and encourage physical activity by means such as sidewalks and walking and biking paths that discourage automobile dependency in existing communities.

PHS

6.8.2 Walkable Communities

The County shall require where feasible the development of parks, open space, sidewalks, and walking and biking paths that promote physical activity and discourage automobile dependency in all towns and communities.

PHS

6.8.3 *Support for Local, Organic and Grass-Fed Agriculture*

The County shall encourage and protect a variety of local ecologically sound agricultural practices as a way to increase on-farm income, diversify Plumas County agricultural production, and provide a healthy, secure food source for local supply that complies with accepted public health and safety standards.

PHS

6.8.4 *Promotion of Small-Scale Agricultural Production*

The County shall encourage small-scale or community garden row crop production that contributes to local food security on appropriate sites throughout the County and complies with accepted public health and safety standards.

PHS

6.8.5 *Community Food Security*

Encourage countywide nutrition self-reliance and resiliency. Direct the development of policy that creates robust and just food systems in the County.

Public Health and Safety Element Implementation Measures

Work Plan/Implementation Measures

The following table documents the implementation measures included with the General Plan to implement the goals and policies included in this element.

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
1. The County shall update and maintain geologic, flooding and natural hazards mapping (including avalanche hazard zones) that are within areas of existing or potential development. The County shall use these maps during the development review process to evaluate a proposed project's potential exposure or impacts to hazardous areas and conditions.	6.1.1	Planning, Public Works				
	6.1.3					
	6.2.1					
	6.2.2					
	6.2.3					
	6.2.4					
	6.2.6					
	6.3.1					
	6.3.2					
	6.3.4					
	6.3.5					
	6.3.9					
	6.4.1					
	6.4.2					
	6.4.3					
	6.4.4					
	6.4.5					
	6.4.6					
	6.4.8					
	6.5.1					
6.5.2						
6.5.3						
6.5.4						
6.5.5						
6.5.6						
6.5.8						
6.5.9						
2. County shall maintain countywide hazard land-use planning data—such as fire district boundaries, hazard areas and associated educational materials on the County's website.	6.1.1	Planning, GIS				
	6.1.3					
	6.1.4					
	6.2.1					
	6.2.2					
	6.2.3					
	6.2.4					
	6.2.6					
	6.3.1					
	6.3.2					
	6.3.4					
	6.3.5					
	6.3.9					
	6.3.12					
	6.4.1					
	6.4.2					
	6.4.3					
	6.4.4					
	6.4.5					
	6.4.6					
6.4.8						
6.5.1						
6.5.2						

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
	6.5.3 6.5.4 6.5.5 6.5.6 6.5.8 6.5.9 6.7.1 6.7.2 6.7.3 6.8.1					
3. The County shall require a geotechnical analysis for construction in areas with potential geological hazards and/or for purposes of environmental analysis. Recommendations of the geotechnical analysis shall be implemented.	6.2.1 6.2.2 6.2.4	Planning, Public Works				
4. The County shall work with appropriate fire protection agencies to develop community fire plans to identify the desired level of service and methods for delivering such services.	6.3.3 6.3.4 6.3.5 6.3.7 6.3.8	Planning, Public Works				
5. The County shall research the feasibility of a county-wide rural fire protection water system that provides a cost-effective and adequate water supply for emergency protection.	6.3.2 6.3.3 6.3.7	Planning, Public Works				
6. During the review of development proposals, the County shall require appropriate building setbacks and fuel modification requirements within fire hazard zones, as appropriate to each specific hazard zone	6.3.1 6.3.2 6.3.4 6.3.9	Planning, Public Works				
7. County staff shall review wildfire safety policies, codes and ordinances and report the findings to the Board of Supervisors at regular intervals, every three years, and will consider new wildfire safety codes and ordinances to meet the County's Fire Safe needs.	6.3.1 6.3.2 6.3.3 6.3.4 6.3.5 6.3.7 6.3.8 6.3.9	Planning				

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
8. County public safety facilities shall be included in the County's development impact fee program to provide for new facilities or upgrading of existing facilities necessary to serve new development.	6.3.3 6.3.4	Planning				
9. The County shall adopt all appropriate California Building Standards Code revisions.	6.1.1 6.1.2 6.2.1 6.2.2 6.2.3 6.2.4 6.3.1 6.3.2 6.3.4 6.3.9 6.4.1 6.4.2 6.4.3 6.4.4 6.4.5 6.4.6 6.4.8 6.5.4 6.5.5 6.5.8	Building Services				
10. The County shall continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and utilize the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and the County's floodplain ordinances that implement Federal and State flood management standards.	6.4.1 6.4.2 6.4.3 6.4.4 6.4.5 6.4.6 6.4.8	Planning Department Public Works Department				
11. The County shall develop regulations for the placement of hazardous waste sites and develop standards for types of uses which would be compatible. Existing hazardous waste development requirements shall be enforced.	6.5.1 6.5.2 6.5.3 6.5.4 6.5.5 6.5.6 6.5.7 6.5.8 6.5.9	Plumas County Environmental Health Division				
12. The County shall maintain a Plumas County Emergency Operations Plan to meet current Federal and State emergency requirements.	6.7.1 6.7.2 6.7.3	Plumas County Office of Emergency Services				

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
13. The County shall develop a healthy community checklist for new residential, commercial, office and public developments that lists standards for land use, transportation, street design, parks, and open space.	6.8.1 6.8.3 6.8.4	Planning				
14. Encourage Countywide food security by allowing limited backyard small animal husbandry, including chickens, rabbits and miniature livestock, for home-scale food production based on appropriate zoning.	6.8.1 6.8.3 6.8.4	Planning				
15. Create a resiliency plan that address community needs county-wide in the event of a major natural disaster or long term disruption of food and fuel transportation into the county.	6.8.1 6.8.2 6.8.3 6.8.4	Planning				
16. The County shall promote the continued effectiveness and public awareness of the Plumas County Emergency Operations Plan.	6.1.3 6.1.4					
17. The County shall promote the public's awareness of the programs available through the Federal and State agencies, community fire safety groups, and local fire protection districts.	6.1.3 6.1.4					
18. Emergency access to new developments shall be in accordance with county wildfire safety policies, which are certified in lieu of Public Resources Code Section 4290, or as may be modified and recertified in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 4290.	6.3.5					

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2010-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
19. The County shall cooperate with Federal, State and Local agencies, community fire safety groups and other fire protection entities in developing fire prevention programs and facilities.	6.3.8					
20. Develop codes and standards to address drainage.	6.4.8					
21. The County shall require emergency backup systems in county emergency facilities to enable uninterrupted continuous operations as required by the California Essential Facilities Act.	6.7.3					
22. The County shall encourage sustainable timber and biomass production and harvesting along with more intensive forest management practices to protect watershed quality, productive forests, forested lands, and habitats, and to reduce the potential of catastrophic wildfires.	6.3.13					
Also Implementation Measure from the Water Element:	6.3.3 6.3.4 6.3.7					
6. The County shall work with and encourage water agencies and fire protection agencies to conduct a county-wide assessment of fire-flow requirements as they relate to compliance with fire protection standards.						