



FEMA

R8-Mitigation

April 7, 2017

Melinda Gibson
State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Wyoming Office of Homeland Security
5500 Bishop Boulevard - East Door
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Ms. Gibson:

We are pleased to announce the approval of the Wyoming Region Six Hazard Mitigation Plan as meeting the requirements of the Stafford Act and Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations §201.6 for a local hazard mitigation plan. The plan approval extends to the following participating jurisdictions that have adopted the plan: Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie Counties; the Cities of Cody, Powell, Thermopolis, and Worland; and the Towns of Basin, Burlington, Byron, Cowley, Deaver, East Thermopolis, Frannie, Greybull, Kirby, Lovell, Manderson, Meeteetse, and Ten Sleep.

The approved jurisdictions are eligible for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs. All requests for funding will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility and other requirements of the particular programs under which the application is submitted.

This plan is approved through April 6, 2022. We have provided comments and recommendations for the next plan update on the enclosed Plan Review Tool. We wish to thank all the jurisdictions that participated in the planning process and commend your continued commitment to mitigation planning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanine D. Petterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jeanine D. Petterson
Mitigation Division Director

Enclosure

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW TOOL

The *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool* demonstrates how the Local Mitigation Plan meets the regulation in 44 CFR §201.6 and offers States and FEMA Mitigation Planners an opportunity to provide feedback to the community.

- The Regulation Checklist provides a summary of FEMA’s evaluation of whether the Plan has addressed all requirements.
- The Plan Assessment identifies the plan’s strengths as well as documents areas for future improvement.
- The Multi-jurisdiction Summary Sheet is an optional worksheet that can be used to document how each jurisdiction met the requirements of the each Element of the Plan (Planning Process; Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment; Mitigation Strategy; Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation; and Plan Adoption).

The FEMA Mitigation Planner must reference this *Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide* when completing the *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool*.

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|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Jurisdiction: Hot Springs County, Wyoming | Title of Plan: Wyoming Region 6 Hazard Mitigation Plan | Date of Plan: December 2016 |
| Local Point of Contact: Bill Gordon | Address: 415 Arapahoe Street Thermopolis, WY 82443 | |
| Title: Emergency Management Coordinator | | |
| Phone Numbers: (307) 864 4649 | E-Mail: bgordon@hscounty.com | |
| Jurisdiction: Park County, Wyoming | Title of Plan: Wyoming Region 6 Hazard Mitigation Plan | Date of Plan: December 2016 |
| Local Point of Contact: Martin Knapp | Address: 1131 11th Street Cody, WY 82414 | |
| Title: Park County Homeland Security Coordinator | | |
| Phone Numbers: (307) 527 1861 | E-Mail: mknapp@parkcounty.us | |
| Jurisdiction: Washakie County, Wyoming | Title of Plan: Wyoming Region 6 Hazard Mitigation Plan | Date of Plan: December 2016 |
| Local Point of Contact: Mike Orona | Address: Office 501 1001 Big Horn Ave. Worland, WY 82401 | |
| Title: Washakie County Emergency Management Coordinator | | |

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|---|--|---|--|
| Phone Numbers: (307) 347 3331 | | E-Mail: Ema.ohs@washakiecounty.net | |
| Jurisdiction: Big Horn County, Wyoming | Title of Plan: Wyoming Region 6 Hazard Mitigation Plan | Date of Plan: December 2016 | |
| Local Point of Contact: LaRae Dobbs | | Address: 355 E 5th Street Lovell, WY 82431 | |
| Title: Big Horn County Emergency Management Coordinator | | | |
| Phone Numbers: 307-548-2516 | | E-Mail: bhcemc@gmail.com | |

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| State Reviewer: Melinda Gibson | Title: State Hazard Mitigation Officer | Date: 9/30/2016 |
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| FEMA Reviewer: Lindsey Robinson Margaret Doherty | Title: Mitigation Planner Community Planner | Date: 11/25/2016 12/01/16 |
| Date Received in FEMA Region VIII | October 4, 2016 | |
| Plan Not Approved | | |
| Plan Approvable Pending Adoption | December 6, 2016 | |
| Plan Approved | April 7, 2017 | |

**SECTION 1:
MULTI-JURISDICTION SUMMARY SHEET**

| MULTI-JURISDICTION SUMMARY SHEET | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| # | Jurisdiction Name | Type | Jurisdiction Contact | Email | Requirements Met (Y/N) | | | | |
| | | | | | A. Planning Process | B. HIRA | C. Mitigation Strategy | D. Update Reqmts | E. Adoption |
| 1 | Hot Springs | County | Bill Gordon | bgordon@hscounty.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 2 | Thermopolis | City | Fred Crosby | fred@totmayor.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 3 | East Thermopolis | Town | David A. Peake | eastthermop@rtconnect.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 4 | Kirby | Town | Ross Rhodes | kirbywy@rtconnect.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 5 | Park | County | Martin Knapp | mknapp@parkcounty.us | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 6 | Cody | City | Barry Cook | bcook@cityofcody.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 7 | Powell | City | Dave Blevins | Dhblevins@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 8 | Meeteetse | Town | Angie Johnson | meeteetse@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 9 | Washakie | County | Mike Orona | Ema.ohs@washakiecounty.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 10 | Worland | City | Dave Duffy | mayor@rtconnect.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 11 | Ten Sleep | Town | Jack Haggerty | tensleptown@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 12 | Big Horn | County | La Rae Dobbs | bhcmcg@gmail.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |

| MULTI-JURISDICTION SUMMARY SHEET | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| # | Jurisdiction Name | Type | Jurisdiction Contact | Email | Requirements Met (Y/N) | | | | |
| | | | | | A. Planning Process | B. HIRA | C. Mitigation Strategy | D. Update Reqmts | E. Adoption |
| 13 | Basin | Town | Dennis Peters | Dwpdepbhc.coroner@hotmail.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 14 | Burlington | Town | Wink Bennet | burlington@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 15 | Byron | Town | Heidi Brightly | Heidibrightly@yahoo.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 16 | Cowley | Town | Joel Petersen | jlp@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 17 | Deaver | Town | Allison Weber | Deavertown@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 18 | Frannie | Town | Deidre Clendenen | frannietown@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 19 | Greybull | Town | Paul Thur | Greytown@tctwest.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 20 | Lovell | Town | Valerie Beal | vbeal@townoflovell.com | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 21 | Manderson | Town | Jaequelyn Ernest | manderson@tct.net | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |

**SECTION 2:
REGULATION CHECKLIST**

| REGULATION CHECKLIST | Location in Plan (section and/or page number) | Met | Not Met |
|---|--|------------|--------------------|
| Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans) | | | |
| ELEMENT A. PLANNING PROCESS | | | |
| A1. Does the Plan document the planning process, including how it was prepared and who was involved in the process for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(1)) | Chapter 3, Sections 3.1, 3.23.3 Pages 3.1 through 3.16 | X | |
| A2. Does the Plan document an opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, agencies that have the authority to regulate development as well as other interests to be involved in the planning process? (Requirement §201.6(b)(2)) | Chapter 3, Sections 3.3.1, Planning Steps 1, 2 and 3, pages 3.5 through 3.14 | X | |
| A3. Does the Plan document how the public was involved in the planning process during the drafting stage? (Requirement §201.6(b)(1)) | Chapter 3, Planning Step 2, Pages 3.11 and 3.13, Appendix | X | |
| A4. Does the Plan describe the review and incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information? (Requirement §201.6(b)(3)) | Chapter 3, Planning Step 3, Page 3.14 | X | |
| A5. Is there discussion of how the community (ies) will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii)) | Chapter 6, Section 6.3.4, Page 6.5 | X | |
| A6. Is there a description of the method and schedule for keeping the plan current (monitoring, evaluating and updating the mitigation plan within a 5-year cycle)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i)) | Chapter 6, Pages 6.1 through 6.5 | X | |
| <u>ELEMENT A: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u> | | | |
| ELEMENT B. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT | | | |
| B1. Does the Plan include a description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect each jurisdiction(s)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i)) | Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 and 4.2, Pages 4.3 through 4.158 | X | |
| B2. Does the Plan include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i)) | Chapter 4, Section 4.2, Pages 4.9 through 4.158 | X | |
| B3. Is there a description of each identified hazard’s impact on the community as well as an overall summary of the community’s vulnerability for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii)) | Pages 4.9 through 4.158, and County Annexes | X | |
| B4. Does the Plan address NFIP insured structures within the jurisdiction that have been repetitively damaged by floods? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii)) | Chapter 4, Section 4.2, Page 4.87 | X | |
| <u>ELEMENT B: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u> | | | |

| REGULATION CHECKLIST | Location in Plan (section and/or page number) | Met | Not Met |
|--|--|-----|------------|
| Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans) | | | |
| ELEMENT C. MITIGATION STRATEGY | | | |
| C1. Does the plan document each jurisdiction’s existing authorities, policies, programs and resources and its ability to expand on and improve these existing policies and programs? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)) | Sections 5.4.1 and 5.4.2, Section 6.3.3, and County Annexes | X | |
| C2. Does the Plan address each jurisdiction’s participation in the NFIP and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii)) | Chapter 5, Section 5.4.2, Page 5.8, and County Annexes | X | |
| C3. Does the Plan include goals to reduce/avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(i)) | Chapter 5, Section 5.2, Pages 5.1-5.4 County Annexes | X | |
| C4. Does the Plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each jurisdiction being considered to reduce the effects of hazards, with emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii)) | Chapter 5, Section 5.2 and County Annexes Section 8 Appendix C | X | |
| C5. Does the Plan contain an action plan that describes how the actions identified will be prioritized (including cost benefit review), implemented, and administered by each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iv)); (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iii)) | Chapter 5, Section 5.2 and 5.4 and County Annexes Section 8 | X | |
| C6. Does the Plan describe a process by which local governments will integrate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii)) | Chapter 5, Section 5.3.2, Chapter 6 Section 6.3.3 and County Annexes | X | |
| <u>ELEMENT C: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u> | | | |
| C1. Capabilities are not included for the Towns of East Thermopolis and Kirby. | | | |
| ELEMENT D. PLAN REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION (applicable to plan updates only) | | | |
| D1. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in development? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3)) | County Annexes | X | |
| D2. Was the plan revised to reflect progress in local mitigation efforts? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3)) | Chapter 5 Section 5.4.1, and Annexes | X | |
| D3. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in priorities? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3)) | Chapter 5, Sections 5.2 and 5.3, and Annexes | X | |
| <u>ELEMENT D: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u> | | | |
| ELEMENT E. PLAN ADOPTION | | | |
| E1. Does the Plan include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5)) | | | NA |

| REGULATION CHECKLIST | | Location in Plan (section and/or page number) | Met | Not Met |
|---|--|---|-----|------------|
| Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans) | | | | |
| E2. For multi-jurisdictional plans, has each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan documented formal plan adoption? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5)) | | Appendix E - TBD | X | |
| <u>ELEMENT E: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u> <u>Waiting for Hot Springs County</u> | | | | |
| ELEMENT F. ADDITIONAL STATE REQUIREMENTS (OPTIONAL FOR STATE REVIEWERS ONLY; NOT TO BE COMPLETED BY FEMA) | | | | |
| F1. | | | | |
| F2. | | | | |
| <u>ELEMENT F: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u> | | | | |

SECTION 3: PLAN ASSESSMENT

A. Plan Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

Element A: Planning Process

Strengths

- The letters of commitment from each County illustrate a clear understanding of the level of effort required by each participating jurisdiction and an understanding of the project's scope.
- Table 3-1 is a great illustration of the four-phase DMA process, the detailed CRS planning steps and work plan used to develop the plan, the nine handbook planning tasks from the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook, and where the results are captured in the Plan.
- An extensive list of agencies and individuals were invited to participate in the planning process.
- The public survey was a good way to gather public input.

Opportunities for Improvement

- Planning Workshops 1 and 2 were County specific. While it makes sense to have County focused workshops, it would still be helpful to have representatives from Counties attend each other's Workshops to better understand the priorities and direction of the Region as a whole.
- The Towns of East Thermopolis and Kirby did not attend any of the planning meetings. As part of the next plan update, each jurisdiction should participate in each phase of the planning process.
- A more defined process for monitoring progress of mitigation actions could be helpful – such as standardized forms to track and report on the mitigation actions.

Element B: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Strengths

- The Profile Methodology at the beginning of Hazard Profile section nicely lays out the format and approach to the hazard profiles.
- Future development is addressed for each individual hazard.

Opportunities for Improvement

- Suggest using the same exact header names throughout the hazards Chapter (the following sub-headers are all currently used: "Frequency/Likelihood of Occurrence;"

“Likelihood of Future Occurrence;” and “Frequency” with a separate section “Likelihood of Occurrence.”

- Suggest renaming the “Potential Magnitude” sub-section. This sub-section addresses the impact rather than the magnitude/extent of the hazard.
- Extent is not described for the following hazards: Avalanche, Drought, Hail, High Winds and Downbursts, Lightning, Wildfire, and Winter Weather. Extent means the strength or magnitude of the hazard; it is not the same as impacts, which are covered by sub-element B3. Extent can be described using a scientific scale like the Palmer-Drought Severity Index, or may be described as other measures of magnitude like water depth, wind speed, speed of onset, or duration of hazard events. For more information, please see p. 5-3 in the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook.

Element C: Mitigation Strategy

Strengths

- Mitigation action priority level is included in the Mitigation Action Plan tables.
- A status update and or notes are provided for each mitigation action.
- The prioritization process is clearly described. The voting technique illustrates active participation by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee members.

Opportunities for Improvement

- Recommend including financial resources in the capability assessment.
- In regard to mitigation actions having an emphasis on new and existing building infrastructure, it is suggested that Park County identify this for each specific action with an asterisk like Washakie and Hot Springs.
- For jurisdictions with limited mitigation capabilities, such as the Towns of East Thermopolis and Kirby, the plan should be more explicit as to the gaps. Also, for all jurisdictions, the plan should include a discussion of each jurisdiction’s ability to expand on and improve their mitigation capabilities. This information can be added to the Mitigation Capability tables or added in paragraph form.
- The plan should identify potential funding sources for each mitigation action. Mitigation Action tables for Washakie and Hot Springs County have a column for “estimated cost and source of funding” but many of the actions do not identify a funding source, this needs to be added. The Mitigation Action tables for Park County do not identify a potential funding source at all – it is suggested this is added as a separate column to the table. When identifying potential funding sources for mitigation actions, it is recommended to include FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance grant programs. (<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance>).

Element D: Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation (Plan Updates Only)***Strengths***

- The changes in development are clearly described in a “Development Trends” section.
- The Plan utilizes tables to concisely portray the status of mitigation action identified in the previous plan; mitigation actions are identified as new, continuing, completed or deleted if no longer applicable.

Opportunities for Improvement

- The prioritization process involved voting by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee members; it would be interesting to see the exact results of the voting exercise.

B. Resources for Implementing Your Approved Plan**Local Plans and Regulations**

- The EPA recently released guidance on how to mitigate natural disasters specifically for water and wastewater utilities. These resources may be helpful in Perkins County. For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/hazard-mitigation-natural-disasters>
- The EPA Office of Sustainable Communities sometimes offers grants to support activities that improve the quality of development and protect human health and the environment. When these grants are offered, they will always be announced on www.grants.gov.

Structure and Infrastructure Projects

- The mitigation strategy includes projects that may be eligible for FEMA’s grant programs. Contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer for application information.
- Each year, FEMA partners with the State on training courses designed to help communities be more successful in their applications for grants, including the Unified Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Application Development Course and the Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) course. Contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer for course offering schedules.

Natural Systems Protection

- The Western States Wildland Urban Interface Grant may be used to apply for financial assistance towards hazardous fuels and educational projects within the four goals of: improved prevention, reduction of hazardous fuels, and restoration of

fire- adapted ecosystems and promotion of community assistance. Visit <http://forestry.alaska.gov/fire/cwpp/wuigrants.htm> for more information.

Education and Awareness Programs

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of Education supports education projects and programs through competitively awarded grants and cooperative agreements to a variety of organizations within the United States. For more information, visit: <http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/grants/>.