

How a community experiences a disaster and learns from those experiences is key to planning and emergency response. For the next plan update, please reach out to non-traditional partners to ask them to take part in the HMPC and future updates or actions. A diverse range of viewpoints can teach you more about the challenges faced during a disaster. This supports making informed decisions for developing, prioritizing, and implementing effective mitigation strategies. Please note that for the next plan update, the new local hazard mitigation planning policy will include requirements of specific groups that need to be invited to participate in the plan.

The background sections provides very detailed information on the surface geology of the region. While this information is important, the level of detail is perhaps unnecessary for a hazard mitigation plan. The planning process and mitigation strategies sections of the plan are critical to a well-developed hazard mitigation plan, so putting more attention into the background than necessary can take away resources from those sections.

Element B: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Strengths

NDDDES Comments

The plan contains an informative section on geography. Continue building on this good analysis to discuss how the region's geography relates to hazard vulnerability. As an example, the plan discusses the nexus between terrain and flooding: *The Drift Prairie region of the county has an undeveloped or interior drainage system with the main drainage going to lakes or potholes. Problems arise when a lake or pothole fills and overflows to other lakes or potholes. This results in overland flooding which can be damaging to roads and farmland. The charts and flood narratives told the story how flooding threatens the area, including Belcourt where kidney dialysis patients were transferred to Minot due to flooding of the dialysis center.*

The TMBCI-Rolette County MHMP discusses the likelihood for more violent and damaging weather systems inclusive of high winds, tornadoes, thunderstorms, floods, excessive heat, excessive cold, blizzards, drought, hail, sleet and freezing rain. We look forward to seeing the expanded discussion of climate change. The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services is developing climate change analyses for use by local, tribal and state mitigation planning teams.

The inundation maps tell the story of areas at risk to flooding for some of the jurisdictions. We recommend using the North Dakota Department of Water Resources' Risk Assessment Map Service to examine the other jurisdictions: <https://ndram.swc.nd.gov/>.

The plan includes a comprehensive look at diseases that could impact agriculture, an important industry for the county and tribal nation. For the next update, work with NDSU Extension to identify mitigation measures.

The Dam Profile serves as a best practice to follow for all hazard profiles in the plan. This well-done profile features a chart, Table. 4.2.1.A Rolette County Dams, Purpose and Hazard Category, which show potential areas of inundation should a breach occur and whether there is an emergency plan in place. The plan notes the City of Belcourt is the only jurisdiction at risk; a resulting breach would have dire consequences. The profile includes a good description of potential impacts if Belcourt Dam

and Gordon Lake Dam, both north of Belcourt, fail. Water would flow through the middle of the community. In the pathway would be the Indian Health Service hospital, Highway 281/5, BIA Road #7, the business district, Belcourt Fire Hall, BIA Law Enforcement and 200 homes. Approximately 450 people would be impacted. The inclusion of maps helps visualize the risk posed by these dams. Table 21 and 22, Population at Risk (PAR) estimates for the two dams, demonstrates distance from roads at risk, potential flood depth and velocity, number of structures, the hospital and dialysis unit, and populations at risk. Table 24: Critical Infrastructure, Type and Elevation also contains good risk assessment information.

The hazardous materials profile reflects a high-level of involvement by the firefighters in the plan who know what areas are at risk and locations of potential problems.

The Severe Summer Weather profile contains the most in-depth look at vulnerability by factoring vulnerable populations -- schools, childcare providers, nursing homes, mobile homes and senior citizens -- into the assessment. The section includes charts that show wind speed damages to metal, institutional, residential and school structures and electrical lines.

Firefighters participating in the planning meetings contributed their knowledge to the adequacy of wildland resources and areas of concern, identifying fire education programs, such as Firewise, as a good mitigation measure. The narrative also made the connection to lost revenue for the Peace Gardens, a major tourist attraction in North Dakota, if closures and restrictions occur. The plan also draws conclusions regarding fire department capacity noting Belcourt Rural Fire Department, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Fire Department, Rolette and Rolla have more robust numbers of firefighters compared to Mylo, Dunseith Fire Protection District and St. John Fire Protection District. The southwest corner of the county relies on Willow City and Rugby Fire Departments, which are located in Bottineau and Pierce Counties, respectively; delays in response are expected given the distance firefighters would need to travel.

FEMA Comments

It is great to see social vulnerability being assessed in the plan, particularly in the Severe Summer and Winter Storms hazard profiles. Understanding who is at most risk in your community will allow the planning team to develop equitable mitigation strategies.

The Severe Summer Storms hazard profile also provided detailed analysis of critical infrastructure and key facilities and their vulnerabilities.

The Wildfire hazard profile offered good analysis of the broader economic impacts of wildfires on the community. Considering cascading impacts of hazards demonstrates that the planning team is thinking about broader community resiliency.

We appreciated the "Data limitations and other factors" section of each hazard profile. We recognize that data and information can be hard to come by at times, or simply may be lacking. It would be good for the planning team to start thinking now about where their data gaps may be for the next plan update and to start working on identifying potential solutions.

Opportunities

NDDDES Comments

The plan discusses the influx of visitors for the International Peace Gardens and the numbers of those attending the International Music Camp. Consider organizing the data in a chart format. Also discuss the sheltering capacity during a severe summer weather event.

The TMBCI-Rolette County MHMP contains a cursory description of hazard, risk and vulnerability. Users of the plan would benefit from an expanded discussion by including definitions from the Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide: [Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide](#).

Expound on the methodology or data used to identify probability and consider modifying to align with guidance contained in The Local Mitigation Planning Handbook: [Local Mitigation Planning Handbook](#).

Impact descriptions are found in various locations of the profiles, such as historical occurrence and vulnerability sections. We recommend including an impact description specific to each participating jurisdiction.

Recent drought events are not included in the narrative of previous occurrences and instead are found in a chart on p. 155. For the next update, expand the description of impacts. The Farm Service Agency would be a good resource and good partner to have at the table. Research reports and assistance requests on the droughts, such as gubernatorial requests for assistance (see p. 8:: [Burgum Request Letter](#) and [USDA Declaration](#)). The plan takes a unique look at potential agricultural drought losses categorizing them by such types of losses as: costs and losses to agricultural producers, livestock producers, timber production, general economic effects, fish production, recreation and tourism, animal species, hydrological, water suppliers, decline in food production/disrupted food supply, damage to plant communities, and health and values. These descriptions show the pervasiveness of drought and planning considerations when assessing risk and vulnerability. We suggest the Planning Team take this analysis and tailor it to TMBCI and Rolette County. Also see if the Planning Team can obtain updated crop insurance data.

Maps illustrating the wildland-urban interface for each community would have enhanced the wild fire analysis that otherwise contained good data on the challenge of limited resources and challenging terrain.

Although not required by federal regulation, consider a discussion of the vulnerability of Dunseith, Mylo and Rolette to a Criminal, Terrorist or Nation-State Attack.

FEMA Comments

As noted on page 93, the SoVI tool provides data from the 2010 census, which as this point is outdated. We recommend using other tools with more recent data, including the CDC's [Social Vulnerability Index](#), FEMA's [National Risk Index](#), and the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#). Additionally, for the next update, please assess the potential impact of each hazard on socially vulnerable and underserved communities. These groups could include youth, the elderly, or those with access and functional needs. It's good, for example, that in the Human Disease profile the different schools and nursing homes are listed, but who else in the community aside from youth might be considered vulnerable? During disasters, populations with higher levels of social

vulnerability are more likely to be adversely impacted. It is important to know which groups are at risk to guide the creation of equitable mitigation strategies.

The hazard profiles would benefit from an analysis of how climate change will impact future risk in Rolette County. As climate change will impact severity, frequency, and duration of hazard events, we can't necessarily look to the past to understand future risk. Tools like the [Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation](#) and [U.S. Climate Explorer](#) can help provide data and analysis for future plan updates.

Consider adjusting the probability rating for hazards. Something that is likely to occur every once every 11 years is in the same category as something that is likely to occur once every 100 years. This may end up causing resources to be unallocated towards hazards that have a greater likelihood of occurring than the plan would lead one to believe.

The population tables that are provided in each hazard profile don't really provide the reader with any additional insight. What would be beneficial is an analysis of any vulnerable or underserved members of the communities that are at particular risk to the hazard. Additionally, there is inconsistency with the data provided, with some hazards using 2020 population data and others using 2016.

Maps are a great way to help tell the story and provide a visualization of risk, assets, etc. However, a number of the maps provided in this section are difficult to read (e.g., page 339) or understand what's being shown. For the next plan update, please provide more legible maps where available, and add any needed context to help the reader understand them.

Element C: Mitigation Strategy

Strengths

NDDDES Comments

The Planning Team has taken a major step forward with Goal #5, work as a group in developing the multi-hazard mitigation plan to better the county and the tribe. We hope the close collaboration continues throughout implementation and for the next update. As stated on p. ii, this plan demonstrates the commitment to reducing risks from hazards and serves as a tool to help decision makers direct and coordinate mitigation activities and resources, including local land use policies ... both goals and objectives are connected to the mitigation actions.

Joint mitigation projects are indicative of the collaboration that takes place between TMBCI and Rolette County. We hope this strong partnership provides the momentum for enacting these projects, such as the updating of building codes, zoning ordinances and road repairs in areas where landslides and slumping are prevalent. The plan includes a range of mitigation actions as well as some fire-centric preparedness measures. New federal regulations will require a viable mitigation project for each community for each natural hazard. The best way to reach this goal is to expand Whole Community partners participating in the project to identify their concerns and ideas to mitigate hazards.

The plan included the first of its kind for a mitigation action, beaver deceivers: <https://beaverdeceivers.com/>. We hope this project works for mitigating blockages at culverts.

The projects also encompass a major tourist attraction, the International Peace Gardens on the planning team and then when identifying projects. While this is more of a preparedness measure, we hope Rolette County and TMBCI receive a SAFER Grant to establish a Fire Department at the International Peace Gardens and equip the department with 2 Brush Units 1 2,000 gallon water tender, plus equipment, personal protective equipment, and a fire station.

Given the threat posed by flooding and possible dam failure, it was good to see the addition of a mitigation action to build a retention pond for Ox Creek overflow and evaluate size and location of culverts.

The plan identifies mitigation actions designed to reinforce the importance of the National Flood Insurance Program as follows: Education and outreach of the NFIP program to insurance agents, building permit office, and realtors in the county; and Promote the NFIP and increase the number of policy holders. The plan, p. 179, also states, "Tribal council and the Tribe's attorney are reviewing the flood plain ordinance. "

The Public Assistance table on p. 176 needs to be revised. The NDDDES PA staff provided the following:

Rolette County:

DR-1829 -- \$746,854.58 – Recommend changing location to jurisdictions: Rolette County and Rolla
DR-1981 -- \$618,489.29 – Rolette County, St. John and Rolla
DR-4118 (2013) -- \$53,250.57 – Rolette County
DR-4323 -- \$326,036.34 – Rolette County and Rolla

Turtle Mountain:

DR-1829 -- \$476,644.30
DR-1981 -- \$436,168.63
DR-4128 (2013) -- \$186,461.30
DR-4323 -- \$13,557.11

FEMA Comments

Linking the goals to each action in the mitigation strategy is a good way to show plan alignment. This shows that the plan content has a cohesive flow from the risk assessment to the setting of goals to mitigation action development.

It is encouraging to see joint mitigation actions between Rolette County and TMBCI. We hope that the County and the Tribe continue this collaboration throughout the lifecycle of this plan.

We are pleased to see discussion of land use planning mechanisms, like zoning ordinances and building codes, as effective mitigation strategies to pursue as part of this HMP.

We are additionally pleased to see mitigation actions that encourage engagement with FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program.

Opportunities

NDES Comments

For the next update, revamp goals through the lens of equity, climate change and resilience. At the time of this review, the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services was developing guidance for local and tribal communities to use when examining the impacts of climate change. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has a wealth of resources on its website that will help provide direction for framing equity and resilience during plan development.

Consider prioritizing goals and objectives. Build an understanding of the importance of NFIP by reviewing floodplain ordinances by participating jurisdictions. Also establish a mitigation action to encourage non-participating jurisdictions to join the NFIP.

The ND Department of Commerce listing for code enforcing jurisdictions does not include Rolette County and its jurisdictions: [North Dakota Code Enforcing Jurisdictions](#). Consider a mitigation action to strengthen codes and to evaluate the feasibility of developing an ordinance and building code program. We hope to see code enforcing jurisdictions from Rolette County.

The mitigation actions, while comprehensive, were not tailored to specific jurisdictions. For the next update, take a look at specific community needs and tailor actions to address the concerns. For example, are there specific roadways that are inundated in a community?

The plan contains an ambitious set of mitigation actions applicable to all jurisdictions; it may be best to set priority by jurisdiction – for example, which communities need Firewise first. The Planning Team applied the STAPLEE – Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic and Environmental – to evaluate and prioritize projects. However, there was little variation in the ranking, with all projects ranked as high with a score of either five or seven. For the next update, re-assess the ranking criteria of high, medium and low in comparison to the projects. What are the true priorities the Planning Team wants to address first?

FEMA Comments

Including more details on funding sources would help make the projects more viable. Please specify FEMA grants and local funding sources in the potential funding sources column of the mitigation action plan. Information on FEMA HMA grants can be found [here](#). Please note that the next plan update will need to provide more detail on funding sources as required by the new local mitigation planning policy.

Please provide more context on mitigation strategies from the previous plan that were deleted (e.g., Strategy #24) to help provide context as to why they were removed. For strategies that are listed as “In Progress,” what other details can you provide that show what progress has been made?

Strategies would benefit from providing more detail into the action being done. For example, Strategy #1 in table 5.2.2A *Harden Culverts into Place* – are these culverts identified? Are there priority ones to address?

For the next plan update, please be sure to break out mitigation strategies by each jurisdiction. This will help ensure that each jurisdiction is developing mitigation strategies that are tailored to their community needs and addressing high-priority hazards they face. Please note that for the next plan

update, each jurisdiction will need to have a minimum of one mitigation strategy per hazard profiled in the plan as part of the new local mitigation strategy.

For the next plan update, consider adjusting how mitigation actions are prioritized. Every strategy in Table 5.3B is ranked as High, which doesn't help the planning team identify which strategies to pursue funding for, implement, etc. Additionally, consider adding the priority ranking as a column in tables 5.2.2A, B, and C to make it easier to assess the mitigation strategy as a whole.

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

NDDDES Comments

Strengths

While TMBCI and tribal lands continue to grow at a swift pace, the plan notes two major concerns for housing development: high-water tables and soil types. The mitigation plan has corresponding mitigation actions to address this problem -- strengthening building codes and zoning ordinances.

FEMA Comments

Table 6.3A provides an easy-to-read summary of when each portion of the mitigation plan will be updated.

Opportunities

NDDDES Comments

The plan identifies how hazards identified in the 2018 Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) changed from the 2022 hazards selected for analysis in 2022 as part of mitigation plan development. Provide more detail on the Planning Team's findings. The goals and purpose are very similar to the 2019 Rolette County MHMP. Did the Planning Team decide to stay the course with the goals and purpose?

FEMA Comments

Element D1a requires that the plan state how development trends have affected each participating jurisdiction's vulnerability. The plan does discuss development trends, mostly in the form of population changes. That said, it does not explain how this development has changed or may change the risks and vulnerabilities in each jurisdiction. For the next plan update, the plan will need to explore how development will affect each jurisdiction's vulnerability.

Continued public involvement relies heavily on the public to actively seek out the plan and give feedback. What are some other ways that the Planning Team could encourage public engagement, such as other public meetings, townhalls, community fairs, or public spaces like libraries?

B. Resources for Implementing Your Approved Plan

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

The N.D. Department of Emergency Services (NDES) is developing a Hazard Mitigation Toolbox on its webpage: <https://www.des.nd.gov/recovery-mitigation>. The goal is to provide guidance to emergency managers and their contractors regarding available resources.

Additionally, NDES periodically hosts G318 Mitigation Workshop for Local Governments. Class announcements are listed at: <https://www.des.nd.gov/events>.

FEMA FUNDING SOURCES

COMMUNITY BUILDING GRANTS

Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities: 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.

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program: The BRIC supports states, local communities, tribes and territories as they undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. BRIC replaced the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. The BRIC program guiding principles are supporting communities through capability- and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation; promoting partnerships; enabling large projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency. BRIC funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. For more information <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG): The U.S. Department of Commerce administers the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program which are intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, as suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation, development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration. Public improvements may include flood and drainage improvements. In limited instances, and during the times of “urgent need” (e.g. post disaster) as defined by the CDBG National Objectives, CDBG funding may be used to acquire a property located in a floodplain that was severely damaged by a recent flood, demolish a structure severely damaged by an earthquake, or repair a public facility severely damaged by a hazard event. CDBG funds can be used to match FEMA grants. More Information: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cdbg

General Services Administration, Sale of Federal Surplus Personal Property: This program sells property no longer needed by the federal government. The program provides individuals, businesses and organizations the opportunity to enter competitive bids for purchase of a wide variety of personal property and equipment. Normally, there are no restrictions on the property purchased. More information: <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21045>

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grants: Grant funds are passed through to local emergency management offices and HazMat teams having functional and active LEPC groups. More information: <http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/grants>

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation program. It is made available to states by FEMA after each Federal disaster declaration. The HMGP can provide up to 75 percent funding for hazard mitigation measures. The HMGP can be used to fund cost-effective projects that will protect public or private property in an area covered by a federal disaster declaration or that will reduce the likely damage from future disasters. Examples of projects include acquisition and demolition of structures in hazard prone areas, flood-proofing or elevation to reduce future damage, minor structural improvements, and development of state or local standards. Projects must fit into an overall mitigation strategy for the area identified as part of a local planning effort. All applicants must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (this plan). Applicants who are eligible for the HMGP are state and local governments, certain nonprofit organizations, authorized tribal nations or organizations, or institutions that perform essential government services. Individuals or homeowners cannot apply directly for the HMGP; a local government must apply on their behalf. For more information <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/hazard-mitigation>.

NOAA Office of Education Grants: The Office of Education supports formal, informal and non-formal education projects and programs through competitively awarded grants and cooperative agreements to a variety of educational institutions and organizations in the United States. More information: <http://www.noaa.gov/office-education/grants>

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP): The Environmental Quality Incentives Program, administered through the NRCS, is a cost-share program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. Owners of land in agricultural or forest production or persons who are engaged in livestock, agricultural or forest production on eligible land and that have a natural resource concern on that land may apply to participate in EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands. EQUIP is another funding mechanism for landowner fuel reduction projects. More

information: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/equip/>

Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program: A cooperative program of the U.S. Forest Service that focuses on the stewardship of urban natural resources. With 80 percent of the nation's population in urban areas, there are strong environmental, social, and economic cases to be made for the conservation of green spaces to guide growth and revitalize city centers and older suburbs. UCF responds to the needs of urban areas by maintaining, restoring, and improving urban forest ecosystems on more than 70 million acres. Through these efforts the program encourages and promotes the creation of healthier, more livable urban environments across the nation. These grant programs are focused on issues and landscapes of national importance and prioritized through state and regional assessments. Information: <http://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Community Facilities Loans and Grants: Provides grants (and loans) to cities, counties, states and other public entities to improve community facilities for essential services to rural residents. Projects can include fire and rescue services; funds have been provided to purchase fire-fighting equipment for rural areas. No match is required. More information: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=GRANTS_LOANS

U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Enhances the ability of states, local and tribal jurisdictions, and other regional authorities in the preparation, prevention, and response to terrorist attacks and other disasters, by distributing grant funds. Localities can use grants for planning, equipment, training and exercise needs. These grants include, but are not limited to areas of Critical Infrastructure Protection Equipment and Training for First Responders, and Homeland Security Grants. More information: <http://www.dhs.gov/>

FIRE RELATED GRANT PROGRAMS:

Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire: Established in 2015 by Headwaters Economics and Wildfire Planning International, Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW) works with communities to reduce wildfire risks through improved land use planning. CPAW is a grant-funded program providing communities with professional assistance from foresters, planners, economists and wildfire risk modelers to integrate wildfire mitigation into the development planning process. All services and recommendations are site-specific and come at no cost to the community. More information: <http://planningforwildfire.org/what-we-do/>

FEMA, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, Fire Management Assistance Grant Program: This program provides grants to states, tribal governments and local governments for the mitigation, management and control of any fire burning on publicly (non-federal) or privately owned forest or grassland that threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. The grants are made in the form of cost sharing with the federal share being

75 percent of total eligible costs. Grant approvals are made within 1 to 72 hours from time of request. Periodic announcements of grant availability. More information: <https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

Secure Rural Schools Program: The Self-Determination Act has recently been reauthorized and now includes specific language regarding the Firewise Communities program. Counties seeking funding under Title III must use the funds to perform work under the Firewise Communities program. Counties applying for Title III funds to implement Firewise activities can assist in all aspects of a community's recognition process, including conducting or assisting with community assessments, helping the community create an action plan, assisting with an annual Firewise Day, assisting with local wildfire mitigation projects, and communicating with the state liaison and the national program to ensure a smooth application process. Counties that previously used Title III funds for other wildfire preparation activities such as the Fire Safe Councils or similar would be able to carry out many of the same activities as they had before. However, with the new language, counties would be required to show that funds used for these activities were carried out under the Firewise Communities program. More information: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/secure-rural-schools>

Fire Management Assistance Program: This program is authorized under Section 420 of the Stafford Act. It allows for the mitigation, management, and control of fires burning on publicly or privately owned forest or grasslands that threaten destruction that would constitute a major disaster. More information: <http://www.fema.gov/fire-management-assistance-grant-program>

Fire Prevention and Safety Grants: The [Fire Prevention and Safety Grants \(FP&S\)](#) are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants, and are administered by the FEMA. FP&S Grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to target high-risk populations and reduce injury and prevent death. Eligibility includes fire departments, national, regional, state, and local organizations, Native American tribal organizations, and/or community organizations recognized for their experience and expertise in fire prevention and safety programs and activities. Private non-profit and public organizations are also eligible. Interested applicants are advised to check the website at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards>.

Wildland Urban Interface Community and Rural Fire Assistance: The program is designed to implement the National Fire Plan and assist communities at risk from catastrophic wildland fires. The program provides grants, technical assistance, and training for community programs that develop local capability, including: Assessment and planning, mitigation activities, and community and homeowner education and action; hazardous fuels reduction activities, including the training, monitoring or maintenance associated with such hazardous fuels reduction activities, on federal land, or on adjacent nonfederal land for

activities that mitigate the threat of catastrophic fire to communities and natural resources in high risk areas; and, enhancement of knowledge and fire protection capability of rural fire districts through assistance in education and training, protective clothing and equipment purchase, and mitigation methods on a cost share basis. More information at: https://www.fedprogramsearch.com/cfda/national_fire_plan-wildland_urban_interface_community_fire_assistance.htm

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Rural Fire Assistance Grants: Each year, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) provides Rural Fire Assistance (RFA) grants to neighboring community fire departments to enhance local wildfire protection, purchase equipment, and train volunteer firefighters. Service fire staff also assist directly with community projects. These efforts reduce the risk to human life and better permit FWS firefighters to interact and work with community fire organizations when fighting wildfires. The Department of the Interior (DOI) receives an appropriated budget each year for an RFA grant program. The maximum award per grant is \$20,000. The DOI assistance program targets rural and volunteer fire departments that routinely help fight fire on or near DOI lands. More information: http://www.fws.gov/fire/living_with_fire/rural_fire_assistance.shtml

Western Wildland Urban Interface Grants: The National Fire Plan (NFP) is a long-term strategy for reducing the effects of catastrophic wildfires throughout the nation. The Division of Forestry's NFP Program is implemented within the Division's Fire and Aviation Program through the existing USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, State Fire Assistance Program.

Congress has provided increased funding assistance to states through the U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry programs since 2001. The focus of much of this additional funding was mitigating risk in WUI areas. In the West, the State Fire Assistance funding is available and awarded through a competitive process with emphasis on hazard fuel reduction, information and education, and community and homeowner action. This portion of the National Fire Plan was developed to assist interface communities manage the unique hazards they find around them. Long-term solutions to interface challenges require informing and educating people who live in these areas about what they and their local organizations can do to mitigate these hazards.

The 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy focuses on assisting people and communities in the WUI to moderate the threat of catastrophic fire through the four broad goals of improving prevention and suppression, reducing hazardous fuels, restoring fire-adapted ecosystems, and promoting community assistance. 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, restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems and promotion of community assistance. Information: <https://www.westernforesters.org/wui-grants>

WATER RELATED GRANT FUNDING PROGRAMS:

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program: The FMA combines the previous Repetitive Flood Claims and Severe Repetitive Loss Grants into one grant program. FMA provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. The FMA is funded annually; no federal disaster declaration is required. Only NFIP insured homes and businesses are eligible for mitigation in this program. Funding for FMA is very limited and, as with the HMGP, individuals cannot apply directly for the program. Applications must come from local governments or other eligible organizations. The federal cost share for an FMA project is 75 percent. At least 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source. Of this 25 percent, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. At minimum, a FEMA-approved local flood mitigation plan is required before a project can be approved. FMA funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. For more information: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>

Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam Grant Program: FEMA's Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams (HHPD) grant program provides technical, planning, design, and construction assistance for eligible rehabilitation activities that reduce dam risk and increase community preparedness. More information: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/dam-safety/grants/resources>

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES:

Beyond the Basics: Best Practices in Local Mitigation Planning: The product of a 5-year research study where the Coastal Hazards Center and the Center for Sustainable Community Design analyzed local mitigation plans to assess their content and quality. The website features numerous examples and best practices that were drawn from the analyzed plans. Visit: <http://mitigationguide.org/>

EPA, Smart Growth in Small Towns and Rural Communities: EPA has consolidated resources just for small towns and rural communities to help them achieve their goals for growth and development while maintaining their distinctive rural character. To learn more, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-small-towns-and-rural-communities>

EPA, Hazard Mitigation for Natural Disasters: A Starter Guide for Water and Wastewater Utilities. The EPA released guidance on how to mitigate natural disasters specifically for water and wastewater utilities. For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/hazard-mitigation-natural-disasters>

FEMA, Grant Application Training: Each year, FEMA partners with the State on training courses designed to help communities be more successful in their applications for grants.

Contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer for course offering schedules. Example Courses:

- Unified Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Application Development Course
- [Benefit Cost Analysis \(BCA\) Toolkit Course](#)

FEMA, Community Assistance Visit: It may be appropriate to set up a Community Assistance Visit with FEMA to provide technical assistance to communities in the review and/or updating of their floodplain ordinances to meet the new model ordinance. Consider contacting your State NFIP Coordinator for more information. More information at: <https://www.fema.gov/glossary/community-assistance-visit-cav>

FEMA: Building Science: The Building Science branch develops and produces multi-hazard mitigation publications, guidance materials, tools, technical bulletins, and recovery advisories that incorporate the most up-to-date building codes, floodproofing requirements, seismic design standards, and wind design requirements for new construction and the repair of existing buildings. To learn more, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/building-science>

Headwaters Economics: Headwaters Economics is an independent, nonprofit research group that works to improve community development and land management decisions in the West. To learn more, visit: <https://headwaterseconomics.org/>

National Integrated Drought Information System: The National Drought Resilience Partnership may provide some additional resources and ideas to mitigate drought hazards and increase awareness of droughts. Visit: <https://www.drought.gov/drought/what-nidis/national-drought-resilience-partnership>.

STAR Community Rating System: Consider measuring your mitigation success by participating in the STAR Community Rating System. Local leaders can use the STAR Community Rating System to assess how sustainable they are, set goals for moving ahead and measure progress along the way. To get started, go to <http://www.starcommunities.org/get-started>

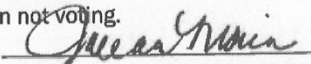
Appendix E: Adoption Documentation

RESOLUTION NUMBER TMBC239-03-23 OF THE DULY ELECTED AND CERTIFIED GOVERNING BODY OF THE
TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

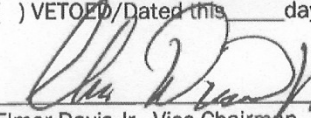
- WHEREAS, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, hereinafter referred to as the Tribe, is an unincorporated Band of Indians acting under a revised Constitution and Bylaws approved by the Secretary of the Interior on June 16, 1959, and amendments thereto approved; and
- WHEREAS, Article IX (a) Section 1 of the Turtle Mountain Constitution and Bylaws empowers the Tribal Council with the authority to represent the Band and to negotiate with the Federal, State and local governments and with private persons; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe exercises powers of self-government, which have never been extinguished and include the authority to protect the health, safety and welfare of tribal members and all other persons who come within the tribe's jurisdiction; and
- WHEREAS, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians recognizes the threat that natural, man-made or technological hazards pose to people and property within the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce and/or eliminate the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and
- WHEREAS, an adopted Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and
- WHEREAS, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians participated in the preparation of this plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and
- WHEREAS, adoption of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and Rolette County Joint Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan demonstrates the commitment to hazard mitigation; now
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribe adopts the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and Rolette County Joint Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan pending final approval by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.


CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned Tribal Secretary of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of *nine (9) members* of whom *eight (8)* constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly called, convened and held on the *30th day of March, 2023* that the foregoing resolution was adopted by an affirmative vote of *seven (7) In favor* – Representatives Blaine “Slugger” Davis, Jon Jon Keplin, Kenneth Malaterre, Craig Lunday, Ron Trottier Sr., Lynn Gourneau and Chad Counts; none (0) opposed; one (1) absent- Chairman Jamie Azure; with the Vice-Chairman not voting.


Jolean A. Morin, Tribal Secretary *3/31/23*

() SIGNED INTO LAW/Dated this *1st* day of *April*, 2023
() VETOED/Dated this _____ day of _____, 2023


Elmer Davis Jr., Vice-Chairman


Jamie Azure, Tribal Chairman