Hilton Creek Community Services District

Special District Annex

Date | Draft One

MONO COUNTY CALIFORNIA

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Hilton Creek Community Services District

The Hilton Creek Community Services District (CSD) has demonstrated its commitment to a comprehensive mitigation program by developing a district-specific annex for inclusion in this plan. This annex is intended to be read in conjunction with the base plan, where more general information, such as hazard descriptions, extent, and location, can be found. This is the first time the special district is participating in a hazard mitigation plan; therefore, there are no changes in priority since the prior plan update. The following is intended to clarify what, if any, unique considerations and differences exist between the plan participants' hazards and mitigation capabilities. Furthermore, this annex documents the selected mitigation actions for Hilton Creek CSD.

Hilton Creek Community Services District Participation

This plan was developed through a collaborative planning process that included Mono County, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the participating special districts, many stakeholders, and the public. An important part of the plan update was documenting the planning process itself, including who represented which plan participant. The Hilton Creek CSD was represented during the plan update process by the individuals listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Representatives of the Hilton Creek Community Services District in the Planning Process

Name	Title	Organization/Department
Lorinda Beatty	Board Secretary /Finance Officer	Hilton Creek Community Services District (CSD)
William Czeschin	Plant Operator II	Hilton Creek CSD
Keith Hafner	Chief Plant Operator	Hilton Creek CSD

Local Stakeholder Involvement

Stakeholders, including local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, agencies that have the authority to regulate development, neighboring communities, representatives of businesses, academia, other private organizations, nonprofit organizations, and community-based organizations, were invited to participate in the plan update. A full list of stakeholders is included in the base plan. Table 2 lists at least one stakeholder per required stakeholder type that works in or has knowledge of the Hilton Creek CSD. Stakeholders were invited to participate by attending two meetings on the Risk Assessment and

Mitigation Strategy, attending focused stakeholder meetings, completing the draft stakeholder survey, and reviewing the draft plan.

Table 2: Local Stakeholders

Name	Description	Stakeholder Type
Mono County Public Works	The Department of Public Works is involved in the planning, design, and construction of infrastructure projects within the unincorporated areas of Mono County.	Local and regional agency involved in hazard mitigation activities, agency that has the authority to regulate development
Long Valley Fire Protection District	The Long Valley Fire Department (LVFD) serves the Crowley Lake area, which is known for its rural and mountainous landscapes. This fire department is responsible for providing fire suppression, rescue, and emergency medical services in the surrounding communities of Crowley Lake and other parts of the Mono Basin.	Local and regional agency involved in hazard mitigation activities, neighboring community
Mono County Board of Supervisors	The Board of Supervisors provides overall direction to the county. The Board acts as a forum for identifying the needs and desires of citizens, determining community consensus, and actively matching those needs with available county resources. The Board sets policies, exercises administrative control over county activities, and acts as an Appeals Board with regard to decisions of the Planning Commission.	Neighboring community
Southern California Edison	This is the primary electric utility company for Southern California.	Representatives of businesses, academia, and other private organizations
Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center	The Center provides information and education on avalanche conditions for Eastern Sierra Region.	Representatives of nonprofit organizations, including community-based organizations

Public Engagement

The public was also encouraged to participate in the plan update process. Members of the public were provided the opportunity to participate in the planning process through a digital survey, flyers, and public meetings. The District posted flyers at the local community center and sent out emails to be shared with

other districts and populations on January 21, 2025, to encourage public engagement in the hazard mitigation planning process. Public feedback was incorporated into the risk assessment and mitigation strategy sections, including specific vulnerabilities and mitigation action recommendations.

District-Specific Hazards and Vulnerabilities

The risk assessment identifies and analyzes the hazards of concern in the planning area. The full risk assessment is included in the base plan. Where differences exist, they are noted in this annex. Table 3 provides an overview of hazards that have been omitted from the risk assessment due to their irrelevance or lack of impact on the planning area.

Table 3: Hazard Omissions

Hazard	Statement of Omission
Avalanche	Not applicable, district water infrastructure is not in an avalanche zone.
Dam Failure	Not applicable, no dam facilities uphill of water systems.
Disease and Pest Management	Not applicable, no risk to water system infrastructure.
Drought	Not applicable, no impact/risk to water systems, highly unlikely. No historical impacts on drought on district critical infrastructure.
Epidemic/Pandemic	Not applicable, no impact/risk to water systems. No historical impacts of epidemic/pandemic on district critical infrastructure.
Extreme Heat	Not applicable, no impact/risk to water systems. No history of extreme impacts on district-critical infrastructure. In addition, infrastructure is located above typical impacts of extreme heat.
Flood	Not applicable, district facilities are not in any FEMA mapped 1% or 0.2% annual chance flood zones. No historical impacts.
Landslide	Not applicable. No historical impacts of landslides on district-critical infrastructure, which is predominantly underground.
Hazardous Materials	Not applicable, water systems are in residential communities with no hazardous materials impact/risk.
Severe Wind	Not applicable, district-critical infrastructure is mostly located underground with little to no risk of impact from severe wind.
Volcanoes	Not applicable, highly unlikely volcanic issues will affect the district's water systems.
Wildfire	Not applicable, wildfires have had no impact on the district's water infrastructure.
Wildlife Collisions	Not applicable, incidents will have no impact/risk to water systems. No historical impacts on wildlife collisions on district-critical infrastructure.

District Risk Differences

Each plan participant was asked to consider how their risks and vulnerabilities compared to the overall planning area. To calculate these differences, participants ranked their unique vulnerabilities using the Calculated Priority Risk Index in Table 4 and the equation below it. The results are shown in Table 5.

Table 4: Calculated Priority Risk Index

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
Probability of Future Events	1	Unlikely	Less than 1% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of greater than every 100 years	30%
	2	Occasional	1%–10% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 11–100 years	
	3	Likely	11%–90% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 1–10 years	
	4	Highly Likely	91%–100% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of less than 1 year	
Spatial Extent (Geographic coverage) How large of an area could be affected by the specific hazard?	1	Limited	Less than 10% of the planning area could be impacted.	20%
	2	Small	10%–25% of the planning area could be impacted.	
	3	Significant	25%–50% of the planning area could be impacted.	
	4	Extensive	50%–100% of the planning area could be impacted.	
Severity of Life/Property Impact	1	Negligible	Less than 5% of the affected area's critical and non-critical facilities and structures are damaged or destroyed. Only minor property damage and minimal disruption of life. Temporary shutdown of critical facilities.	30%
	2	Limited	Greater than 5% and less than 25% percent of property in the affected area is damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities	

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
			for more than one day but less than one week.	
	3	Critical	Greater than 25%, but less than 50% of property in the affected area was damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for over a week but less than one month.	
	4	Catastrophic	Over 50% of critical and non-critical facilities and infrastructures in the affected area are damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than one month.	
Warning Time (Warning time refers to the duration between the moment a warning is issued for an impending threat or disaster and when the threat or disaster occurs. Having more warning time allows for better emergency preparations and public information dissemination.)	1	Self-defined	More than 24 hours	10%
	2	Self-defined	12–24 hours	
	3	Self-defined	6–12 hours	
	4	Self-defined	Less than 6 hours	
Duration (The span of time local, state, and/or federal assistance will be necessary to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a potential disaster event.)	1	Brief	Up to 6 hours	10%
	2	Intermediate	Up to one day	
	3	Extended	Up to one week	
	4	Prolonged	More than one week	

Risk Factor Equation

RF Value = [(Probability x .30) + (Spatial Extent x .20) + (Severity of Life/Property Impact x .30) + (Warning Time x .10) + (Duration x .10)]

Hazards with an RF value greater than or equal to 2.5 are considered high risk. Those with RF values of 2.0 to 2.4 are considered moderate risk hazards, and those with an RF value less than 2.0 are considered low

risk. The highest possible RF value is 4. The calculated priority risk index for Hilton Creek CSD is presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Calculated Priority Risk Index for the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Type of Hazard Event	Probability of Future Events	Spatial Event	Severity of Life/Property Impact	Warning Time	Duration	Risk Factor Value
Earthquake and Seismic Hazards	3	4	4	1	4	3.4
Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency	4	4	2	1	1	2.8
Severe Winter Weather and Snow	4	4	2	1	4	3.1

Past Hazard Events

The plan must present the history of hazard events. Although the past cannot predict the future, especially as climate change is causing more frequent and intense events, it can give an idea of what might happen and what is at risk. The base plan provides descriptions of general hazard occurrences identified by the state and/or the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The plan participants were asked to provide additional information on hazards that have impacted them, if any. Table 6 lists these hazard events of local significance.

Table 6: Previous Disaster Impacts for Hilton Creek Community Services District

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Earthquake and Seismic Hazards	None	May 1980	Sewer pipe damage & sewer spill	Two large earthquakes in the area damaged a sewer pipe and caused raw sewage to spill into meadow area.
Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency	None	Annually	Caused disruption at the sewer plant.	Long term power outages cause a disruption to the bio balance of the sewer plant.
Severe Winter Weather and Snow	None	N/A	N/A	N/A

District-Specific Vulnerabilities

The plan participants also evaluated their specific vulnerabilities to each hazard that affects the overall planning area. Assets were determined by the plan participants. Asset types may differ among plan participants, including the following:

- **People:** Residents, workers, visiting populations, and socially vulnerable populations like seniors, individuals with disabilities, and lower-income individuals
- **Structures:** Residential, commercial, industrial, government-owned, planned capital improvement, etc.
- **Economic Assets:** Major employers, primary economic sectors, key infrastructure like telecommunications networks
- **Natural, Historic, and Cultural Resources:** Areas of conservation, parks, critical habitats, community centers, historic places, etc.
- **Critical Facilities and Infrastructure:** Hospitals; law enforcement; water, power, transportation systems; etc.
- **Community Activities:** Major local events, such as festivals, or economic events, like farming or fishing

The following problem statements describe the district-specific vulnerabilities of Hilton Creek CSD. Where no unique considerations are noted, it can be assumed that the information included in the base plan also applies to Hilton Creek CSD.

Earthquake and Seismic Hazards

- **Location:** Hilton Creek CSD's entire district is susceptible to earthquakes and seismic hazards.
- **Extent:** If an earthquake occurs along the Hilton Creek Fault it could impact the Hilton Creek CSD at a level VIII on the Modified Mercalli Intensity scale which may result in slight damage in specially designed structures, considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse, and great damage in poorly built structures.
- **Impacts**: Major earthquakes could damage buildings, disrupt essential utilities, create public health concerns, and isolate communities by damaging key roadways such as Highway 395.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities**:
  - Damage to stormwater infrastructure, such as pipes and critical facilities.
  - Service disruptions due to impacts on the wastewater and water treatment facilities.
  - The population the district serves may experience transportation and water service disruptions, resulting in public health concerns depending on the extent and impact of the earthquake event.

Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency

- **Location:** Hilton Creek CSD's entire district is susceptible to energy shortages and energy resilience.
- **Extent:** All four district indices for planned and unplanned outages (dSAIDI, dSAIFI, dMAIFI, and dCAIDI) have been consistently rising since 2014.
- **Impacts**: Energy outages disrupt the operation of critical infrastructure reliant on power.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities**:
  - There is a concern that a power outage will impact the operation of sewer plant facilities, reducing their ability to process waste.
  - Long-term outages can disrupt the bio balance of the sewer plant.
  - The population the district serves may experience disruptions in services which over an extended period of time could cause public health concerns.

Severe Winter Weather and Snow

- **Location:** Hilton Creek CSD's entire district is vulnerable to severe winter weather and snow.
- **Extent:** Nearby communities have experienced winter storms rated as extreme on the Winter Storm Severity Index.
- **Impacts**: These storms, which can lead to road closures, power outages, and avalanche risks, may involve heavy snow, whiteout conditions, and ice storms. Developed areas may face hazards from snow and ice shedding. Snow sliding toward pedestrian areas, parking lots, or other structures poses significant risks. Excessive snowfall and significant snow accumulation can obstruct and stress propane lines and roof vents, potentially leading to dangerous carbon monoxide buildup.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities**:
  - Large amounts of snow could obstruct access to Hilton Creek CSD facilities, causing a disruption of service.
  - Hilton Creek CSD facilities could be damaged due to large amounts of snow and ice buildup.
  - Power outages may result in impacts to operations, including to the sewer plant.
  - Due to the impacts on Hilton Creek facilities, the population the district serves may experience disruptions in services which over an extended period of time could cause public health concerns.

District-Specific Changes in Development and Impacts

The plan must describe changes in development that have occurred in hazard-prone areas and how they have increased or decreased the vulnerability of each participant since the previous plan was approved.

Changes in development include recent development (e.g., construction completed since the last plan was approved), potential development (e.g., development planned or under consideration by the district),

conditions that may affect the risks and vulnerabilities of the districts (e.g., climate change, declining populations or projected increases in population, or foreclosures), shifts in the needs of underserved communities, or gaps in social equity. This can include changes in local policies, standards, codes, regulations, land use regulations, and other conditions. Table 7 lists the changes in development for Hilton Creek CSD.

Table 7: Changes in Development for Hilton Creek Community Services District[1]

Type of Hazard Event	Changes in Land Use	Changes in Population	Changes in Conditions (e.g., Climate Change)	Overall Vulnerability
Earthquake and Seismic Hazards	Yes (increased structures in service area; proposed increase to residential parcel density)	Yes (Increased – estimated ~1% per year, additional tourists)	No	Increased
Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency	Yes (increased structures in service area; proposed increase to residential parcel density)	Yes (Increased – estimated ~1% per year, additional tourists)	Long-term power outages, Public Safety Power Shutoffs & Maintenance	Increased
Severe Winter Weather and Snow	Yes (increased structures in service area; proposed increase to residential parcel density)	Yes (Increased – estimated ~1% per year, additional tourists)	Snow Removal and power outages impact district facilities	Increased

Mitigation Capabilities

Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, policies, programs, and resources that reduce hazard impacts or could help carry out hazard mitigation activities. Analyzing local mitigation capabilities and opportunities to expand or improve mitigation capabilities can help decision makers determine feasible mitigation actions. The Hilton Creek CSD assessed the following mitigation capabilities.

Planning and Regulatory

Planning and regulatory capabilities are the plans, policies, codes, and ordinances that prevent and reduce the impacts of hazards.

[1] Mono County Local Agency Formation Commission. (2024, October 10). *Hilton Creek Community Services District Municipal Service Review & Sphere of Influence Report.* Mono County Local Agency Formation Commission. Hilton Creek Community Services District.

Table 8: Plans of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Plans	Does the plan address hazards? (Y/N)	How can the plan be used to implement mitigation actions?	When was it last updated? When will it next be updated?
General Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes	Long term financial planning can help to integrate mitigation actions into other projects for the CSD	Last updated: 2024–2025 Next updated: 2025–2026
Climate Change Adaptation Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Economic Development Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Land Use Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Local Emergency Operations Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Stormwater Management Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Transportation Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Substantial Damage Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Other? (Describe.)	No	N/A	N/A

Table 9: Regulations and Ordinances of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Regulation/Ordinance	Does this regulation/ ordinance effectively reduce hazard impacts?	Is it adequately administered and enforced?	When was it last updated? When will it next be updated?
Building Code	The district has not adopted a building code, but all new facilities and repairs comply with the latest building code Mono County has adopted, the 2022 California Building Code.	N/A – the district does not administer and enforce the code, but Mono County effectively does so.	N/A – the district will not adopt the next building code, but Mono County will every four years as required by the State.
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	Yes – by Mono County	December 2012
Floodplain Ordinance	No	N/A	N/A
Subdivision Ordinance	No	N/A	N/A
Zoning Ordinance	No	N/A	N/A
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (Stormwater, Steep Slope, Wildfire)	No	N/A	N/A
Acquisition of Land for Open Space and Public Recreation Use	No	N/A	N/A
Prohibition of Building in At-Risk Areas	No	N/A	N/A
Other? (Describe.)	No	N/A	N/A

Administrative and Technical

Administrative and technical capabilities include staff and their skills. They include tools that can help you carry out mitigation actions. Table 10 provides a list of the district's administrative capabilities, while Table 11 lists the district's technical capabilities.

Table 10: Administrative Capabilities of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Administrative Capability	In place? (Y/N)	Is staffing adequate?	Is staff trained on hazards and mitigation?	Is coordination between agencies and staff effective?
Chief Building Official	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Civil Engineer	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community Planner	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

Administrative Capability	In place? (Y/N)	Is staffing adequate?	Is staff trained on hazards and mitigation?	Is coordination between agencies and staff effective?
Emergency Manager	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Floodplain Administrator	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Geographic Information System (GIS) Coordinator	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Planning Commission	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fire Safe Council	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Active VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other? (Please describe.)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 11: Technical Capabilities of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Technical Capability	In place? (Y/N)	How has the capability been used to assess/ mitigate risk in the past? (Answer or N/A)	How can the capability be used to assess/mitigate risk in the future?
Mitigation Grant Writing	No	N/A	N/A
Hazard Data and Information	No	N/A	N/A
GIS	Yes	No	Improve communication with the public through mapping
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes	Yes	Improve collaboration with neighboring communities
Other? (Please describe.)	No	N/A	N/A

Financial

Financial capabilities are the resources available to fund mitigation actions. Table 12 outlines the district's financial capabilities.

Table 12: Financial Capabilities of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Funding Resource	In place? (Y/N)	Has this funding resource been used in the past and for what types of activities?	Could this resource be used to fund future mitigation actions?	Can this be used as the local cost match for a federal grant?
Capital Improvement Project Funding	Yes	Yes Maintenance and infrastructure replacement	Yes	Yes
General Funds	Yes	Yes	Yes Maintenance and infrastructure replacement	Yes
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP/404)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Assistance Mitigation (PA Mitigation/406)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Programs	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
U.S. Army Corps (USACE) Programs	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Property, Sales, Income, or Special Purpose Taxes	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fees for Water, Sewer, Gas, or Electric Services	Yes	Sewer fees	Yes	Yes

Funding Resource	In place? (Y/N)	Has this funding resource been used in the past and for what types of activities?	Could this resource be used to fund future mitigation actions?	Can this be used as the local cost match for a federal grant?
Impact Fees from New Development and Redevelopment	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
General Obligation or Special Purpose Bonds	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Federally Funded Programs (Please describe)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
State-Funded Programs (Please describe)	Yes	Energy Efficiency zero-percent loan	No	No
Private Sector or Nonprofit Programs	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A

Education and Outreach

Education and outreach capabilities are programs and methods that could communicate about and encourage risk reduction. Table 13 summarizes the district's education and outreach capabilities.

Table 13: Education and Outreach Capabilities of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Education and Outreach Capability	In place? (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
Community Newsletter(s)	Yes	No	Occasional
Hazard Awareness Campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, School Programs)	No	N/A	N/A
Public Meetings/Events (Please describe.)	Yes	Monthly Public Meetings	N/A
Emergency Management Listserv	No	N/A	N/A
Local News	Yes	No	Public Notices
Distributing Hard Copies of Notices (e.g., public libraries, door-to-door outreach)	Yes	No	Meeting Notices Informational flyers

Education and Outreach Capability	In place? (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
Insurance Disclosures/Outreach	No	N/A	N/A
Organizations that Represent, Advocate for, or Interact with Underserved and Vulnerable Communities (Please describe.)	No	No	Previously involved with low-income payments for utilities but local agency heading it up discontinued participation
Social Media (Please describe.)	Yes	No	Website, occasional Facebook
Other? (Please describe.)	No	N/A	N/A

Ability to Expand and Improve Existing Capabilities

The capability assessment findings were reviewed to identify opportunities to expand, initiate, or integrate capabilities to further hazard mitigation goals and objectives. These opportunities are included in Table 14.

Table 14: Opportunities to Expand or Improve Capabilities of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Planning and Regulations	Hilton Creek Community Services District (CSD) is a struggling special district that includes sewer service for the area. The costs to maintain the aging infrastructure are very challenging to residents and the district, which has little resources. Improving the sewer services district would be beneficial to all in the area. Hilton Creek CSD could be assigned to take over other infrastructure that is also aging or failing administratively if new regulations were implemented, potentially reducing risks by pooling resources.
Administrative and Technical	This is a small sewer district. Administrative and operations staff are limited to one full-time operations staff and one part-time secretary to manage the district. More staffing could help manage the district more effectively. Partnering with Mono County or other planning partners or receiving direct technical assistance could help the district with mitigation project development, implementation, and management.
Financial	Financial assistance to improve capital projects and aging infrastructure would alleviate some concerns. However, the staff have little time to complete grant requirements and require additional support to complete this. Simplifying the process or having an advocate to assist could be helpful. Direct technical assistance could help the district with mitigation grant writing.

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Education and Outreach	The district does a good job of holding public meetings and informing the public about sewer concerns with flyers and posts to Facebook, which has a common group posting for this area. A staff member focused on education and outreach would help to improve capacity and expand mitigation educational activities.

National Flood Insurance Program Capability Assessment

The Hilton Creek CSD does not participate and is not eligible to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), a FEMA program that provides flood insurance to millions of policyholders across the country. This program is typically regulated at the local and county levels; however, FEMA mitigation planning guidelines still request information on how each plan participant supports or implements floodplain management regulations. Table 15 includes a high-level overview of what, if anything, the district does to support floodplain management for known risks.

Table 15: NFIP Capabilities of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Question	Response
What communities does your special district operate in? Are you aware of any flood concerns in these communities?	Hilton Creek CSD operates in Crowley Lake and Mono County. There have not been significant historical flood events in the district's service area.
Which of your assets are at-risk from flooding?	None known
Is your organization involved in floodplain management? If so, how?	No

Hilton Creek Community Services District 2025–2030 Mitigation Strategy

The mitigation strategy is often seen as the heart of the plan or the community's blueprint for disaster risk reduction. Updating the mitigation strategy to reflect current conditions, vulnerabilities, and action priorities is an ongoing process to identify, analyze, and address hazards of concern. The strategy comprises goals (included in the base plan), actions, and the mitigation action plan. The goals of this plan are as follows:

- **Goal 1:** Avoid the exposure of people and improvements to unreasonable risks of damage or injury from the hazards identified in this plan.
- **Goal 2:** Keep Mono County and the Town of Mammoth Lakes a safe place to live, work, and play by reducing the risks of natural hazards through planning for safe development, increasing public

awareness of the natural hazards in Mono County, and providing an integrated multiagency approach to emergency response.

- **Goal 3:** Prepare for changing climate conditions in Mono County.
- **Goal 4:** Maintain adequate emergency response capabilities.
- **Goal 5:** Build partnerships with local, state, federal, tribal, and other stakeholders to promote a whole-community approach to response, recovery, and mitigation.
- **Goal 6:** Identify, develop, and publicize evacuation routes to reduce risk from hazards like wildfire.
- **Goal 7:** Study and implement mitigation actions to address potential impacts of compounding hazards, such as floods following wildfires.
- **Goal 8:** Utilize the mitigation planning process as a call to action demonstrating the plan participants' commitment to work together toward implementing the mitigation actions identified in the plan.

Status of Previous Actions

The Hilton Creek CSD did not participate in the last hazard mitigation plan update and therefore has no status updates to report at this time.

Considered Mitigation Actions

The mitigation strategy must include analyzing a comprehensive range of actions or projects the participants considered to address vulnerabilities identified in the risk assessment. The actions considered must emphasize reducing risk to existing buildings, structures, and infrastructure and limiting risk to new development and redevelopment. They must connect specifically to the risk and vulnerabilities identified in the risk assessment, including the specific hazards profiled by each plan participant. Types of actions considered for this plan update included the following:

- Local Plans and Regulations
- Structure and Infrastructure Projects
- Natural Systems Protection
- Education and Awareness Programs

The Mitigation Action Plan may include additional response, preparedness, or prevention focused actions, but these are not considered mitigation actions during the FEMA plan review process. A full list of actions considered can be found in Appendix C: Sample Mitigation Action Ideas.

Table 16: Considered Mitigation Actions of the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Mitigation Action	Type of Action	Selected? (Y/N)	If not selected, why not?
Sewer Lines	Infrastructure – Replace or Rehabilitate Sewer Lines	No	Insufficient staff/funds
Meadowlands	Natural Systems Protection Infrastructure – Replace or Rehabilitate Sewer Lines	No	Insufficient staff/funds
Waterways	Natural Systems Protection Infrastructure – Replace or Rehabilitate Sewer Lines	No	Insufficient staff/funds
Sewer Systems (Pipe and Basin Liners)	Infrastructure	Yes	Selected – Mitigation Action #2
Power Outages	Infrastructure – Generators Alternative Power Sources	Yes	Selected – Mitigation Action #1

2025 Mitigation Action Plan

The Mitigation Action Plan outlines the mitigation measures Hilton Creek CSD has identified. Actions might not be completed in five years. Including long-term actions and priorities in the mitigation plan reflects a comprehensive approach to managing community resilience and reducing risk. Furthermore, it positions the plan participant to access post-disaster funding in the case of a disaster event. As funding and resources become available, Hilton Creek CSD will pursue the mitigation actions included in this plan. Implementing mitigation actions like these will help save lives, protect property and livelihoods, and break the cycle of disaster damage and reconstruction.

Key components of the Mitigation Action Plan are defined as follows:

Hazards Addressed

- Earthquake/Seismic Hazards
- Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency
- Severe Winter Weather and Snow

Responsible Agency

- The position, office, department, or agency responsible for implementing/administrating the identified mitigation action

Potential Funding

- Grants or local funding sources relevant to implementing the associated action

Cost Estimate

- A rough estimate of the project's cost, which may help determine which projects to pursue and when

Timeframes

- Short-term: 1–2 years
- Medium-term: 2–5 years
- Long-term: 5+ years

Community Lifelines

Community lifelines are essential for the continuous operation of critical government and business functions and are vital for human health, safety, and economic security. They represent the most fundamental services in the community, and when they are stabilized, they enable all other aspects of society to function. The FEMA community lifelines are as follows:[2]

- **Safety and Security**: Law Enforcement/Security, Fire Service, Search and Rescue, Government Service, and Community Safety
- **Food, Hydration, Shelter**: Food, Hydration, Shelter, Agriculture
- **Health and Medical**: Medical Care, Public Health, Patient Movement, Medical Supply Chain, Fatality Management
- **Energy**: Power Grid, Fuel
- **Communications**: Infrastructure, Responder Communications, Alerts, Warnings and Messages, Finance, 911, and Dispatch
- **Transportation**: Highway/Roadway/Motor Vehicle, Mass Transit, Railway, Aviation, Maritime
- **Hazardous Materials**: Facilities, HAZMAT, Pollutants, Contaminants
- **Water Systems**: Potable Water Infrastructure, Wastewater Management

Priorities

Priorities are defined by the plan participant. After considering the following evaluation criteria and the definitions, the district assigned a prioritization category of low, medium, or high to each natural hazard

[2] FEMA. "Community Lifelines Implementation Toolkit." https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/lifelines-toolkit.

action item. The criteria to calculate the following priority categories (STAPLEE: Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental) are listed in Table 18:

- **Low:** Based on one to two STAPLEE criteria, the action is feasible and important for the district but has multiple potential challenges. The action should be implemented as funding becomes available.
- **Medium:** Based on three to four STAPLEE criteria, the action is feasible and important for the district, with some potential challenges. Its implementation is less urgent than a high-priority action item and can be implemented over time.
- **High:** Based on five or more STAPLEE criteria, the action is feasible and important for the district with minimal to no concerns. It is essential for the district to implement and may be prioritized in the short term.

Table 17 shows the mitigation actions the Hilton Creek CSD has selected for this planning cycle.

Table 17: Hilton Creek Community Services District 2025–2030 Mitigation Actions

#	Project Title	Hazard Addressed	Description	Responsible Agency	Potential Partners	Potential Funding	Cost Estimate	Time-frame	Community Lifeline/s	Priority
1	Power Generator	Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency, Severe Winter Weather and Snow	Purchase/provide building/ foundation and install power generator for Sewer Plant	Hilton Creek Community Services District (CSD)	Southern California Edison (SCE), Southern California Regional Energy Network (SCREN), Mono County	SCE, SCREN, Mono County General Fund, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	$300,000	1 year	Energy	High
2	Pipe and Basin Liners	Earthquake/ Seismic Hazards	Retrofit existing pipes and basins with a liner to enhance seismic resilience and prevent earthquake damage	Hilton Creek CSD	Mono County Public Works	HMGP	$7-10 million	1–3 years	Health and Medical, Water Systems	High
3	Snow Removal Equipment	Severe Winter Weather and Snow	Purchase equipment to safely remove snow on Hilton Creek CSD facilities. Equipment includes backhoe, skid steer, and loader with a blower, blade, bucket, and snow chains.	Hilton Creek CSD	Mono County Public Works	HMGP	$700,000	1 year	Water Systems	High

Mitigation Action Prioritization

Hilton Creek CSD considered the STAPLEE criteria when prioritizing their actions. Table 18 documents how each action was prioritized.

Table 18: STAPLEE Prioritization for the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Action	Social	Technical	Administrative	Political	Legal	Economic	Environmental	Priority
1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	High
2	4	4	3	4	4	2	4	High
3	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	High

Plan Integration

One way to demonstrate progress in local mitigation efforts and increase the likelihood of mitigation action implementation is through plan integration. An updated mitigation plan describes how each plan participant integrated the previous plan or could integrate the prior plan into their respective planning mechanisms. Planning mechanisms refer to the governance structures used to manage local land use development and community decision-making, such as budgets, comprehensive plans, capital improvement plans, or other long-range plans, codes, and ordinances. Relevant components of hazard mitigation that could be integrated into other mitigation plans include the following:

- The integration of the hazards to which the plan participant is vulnerable
- The data and analysis presented in the risk assessment
- The goals of the mitigation plan
- Potential projects or actions to be carried out in the future

Past Integration Efforts

The Hilton Creek CSD did not meaningfully integrate the prior plan anywhere, as the district was not a plan participant in the prior plan.

Future Integration Opportunities

Hilton Creek CSD identified future plan integration opportunities, as described in Table 19.

Table 19: Future Plan Integration by the Hilton Creek Community Services District

Plan Name	Description	Process for Integration
Capital Improvement Plan	The district could incorporate mitigation action #1 from this plan into an action of the Capital Improvement Plan for the purchase, foundation and installation of a sewer plant generator.	The district updates the plan on an annual basis. To craft the project specifics, an engineer is needed to evaluate plant electrical requirements, provide generator considerations, file building code plans, and complete a foundation for the generator.

Conclusion

The Hilton Creek Community Service district was an active participant in the hazard mitigation planning process for this update. It participated in the planning team, attended a stakeholder meeting in November 2024, and had individual discussions with planning partners and the planning consultant, IEM. Hilton Creek CSD will be using the updated hazard mitigation plan to guide hazard mitigation work over the next five years, including applying for grants like those in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to pay for generators at the sewer plant. Hilton Creek CSD looks forward to continuing its work on hazard mitigation to support the health and safety of its community.

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