

Mono City Fire Protection District

Special District Annex

Date | Draft One



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Mono City Fire Protection District

The Mono City Fire Protection District (MCFPD) 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. However, there have been notable advances in MCFPD's standard operating procedures (SOPs) and understanding of risk, including new SOPs for avalanches closing both artery highways linking Mono City to outside resources, electrical outages of more than two days, and immediate propane regulator clearance at tank and house/garage/outbuilding after any snow event. 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 the MCFPD.

Mono City Fire Protection 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 Mono City FPD was represented during the plan update process by the individual listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Representatives of the Mono City Fire Protection District in the Planning Process

Name	Title	Organization/Department
John Warneke	Fire Commissioner; Defensible Space Inspector; Volunteer Firefighter	Mono City Fire Protection District

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 MCFPD. 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 Wildfire Mitigation	Acting as a liaison between residents, government agencies, and fire safety organizations, Mono County Wildfire Mitigation helps Mono County prepare for and respond to wildfire threats.	Local agency involved in hazard mitigation
Southern California Edison	The primary electric utility for Mono County.	Representatives of businesses, academia, and other private organizations
Bureau of Land Management	An agency in the United States Department of the Interior responsible for administering U.S. federal lands in western states.	Agencies that have the authority to regulate development.
U.S. Forest Service	An agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture which administers the nation's 154 national forests and 20 national grasslands.	Agencies that have the authority to regulate development.
Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribe	A Native American tribe living in the transition zone of two vast ecoregions: the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Great Basin. The Kootzaduka'a, the southernmost band of the Numu People, have resided in the Mono Lake–Yosemite region since time immemorial.	Neighboring community
Whitebark Institute	Nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing wildfire risk and improving the resilience of Eastern Sierra forests, landscapes, and communities. It leverages scientific expertise to identify needs, convene partners and experts, and take decisive action to address regional challenges.	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. On December 13, 2024, Mono County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and MCFPD handed out fliers and announced ways to provide input on the hazard mitigation plan at a community fire safety meeting. Announcements were also made at other county- and community-sponsored meetings. The Mono City Fire Commissioner attended the California Fire Safe Council workshop and regional meeting to

learn methods of presentation and other ways to engage community members. From 2023 to 2025, the Mono City Fire Commissioner and Defensible Space Inspector handed out fliers while conducting defensible space inspections and provided county-sponsored dump waivers for brush removal. The fliers were presented in both English and Spanish. Public feedback was incorporated into the risk assessment and mitigation strategy sections.

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.

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 3 and the equation below it.

Table 3: 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.	

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
	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 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	
	1	Brief	Up to 6 hours	10%

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
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.)	2	Intermediate	Up to one day	
	3	Extended	Up to one week	
	4	Prolonged	More than one week	

Risk Factor Equation

$$\text{RF Value} = [(\text{Probability} \times .30) + (\text{Spatial Extent} \times .20) + (\text{Severity of Life/Property Impact} \times .30) + (\text{Warning Time} \times .10) + (\text{Duration} \times .10)]$$

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 the MCFPD is presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Calculated Priority Risk Index for the Mono City Fire Protection District

Type of Hazard Event	Probability of Future Events	Spatial Event	Severity of Life/Property Impact	Warning Time	Duration	Risk Factor Value
Avalanche	4	3	4	4	2	3.60
Dam Failure	1	1	2	1	4	1.60
Disease and Pest Management	2	4	2	1	4	2.50
Drought	4	4	4	1	4	3.70
Earthquake and Seismic Hazards	4	4	4	4	1	3.70
Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency	3	4	4	4	4	3.70
Epidemic/Pandemic	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Extreme Heat	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Flood	1	2	2	2	2	1.70
Landslide	4	4	4	4	4	4.00

Type of Hazard Event	Probability of Future Events	Spatial Event	Severity of Life/Property Impact	Warning Time	Duration	Risk Factor Value
Hazardous Materials	4	4	1	0	4	2.70
Severe Wind	4	4	4	3	2	3.70
Severe Winter Weather and Snow	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Volcanoes	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Wildfire	4	4	4	4	4	4.00
Wildlife Collisions	4	4	2	4	2	3.20

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 5 lists these hazard events of local significance.

Table 5: Previous Disaster Impacts for the Mono City Fire Protection District¹

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Avalanche	None	February 26–28, 2023	Highways 395 and 167 closed (up to 30 feet of snow); Debris on road; Road surface required repair; Guardrails needed replacement; Over \$1 million in response and roadway repair; SCE electrical outage of 5+ days negatively impacted residents (especially the elderly) who heat homes with electric/propane furnaces and impacted their ability to reach emergency services via	Avalanches first closed Highway 395 along Mono Lake on February 26, covering the highway and running nearly to the lake's edge. On February 28 more avalanches occurred, taking out the power to Mono City and Bridgeport. Continuing blizzards, snowstorms, and atmospheric rivers caused the situation to deteriorate further.

¹ MRE = meal ready to eat, PSPS = Public Safety Power Shutoffs, SCE = Southern California Edison,

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
			phone or internet; Restricted the community's ability to use well and safely access water storage; School-aged children were organized and taught at residents' homes; National Guard helicopters delivered food, water, firewood, and generators; County Sheriff conducted overland snow evacuation of trapped residents; Fire department evacuated residents trapped in homes; Sheriff/Fire department delivered gasoline and diesel for generators and home heating; Residents faced economic hardships and extended routes (8+ hours through Nevada) to reach work in Mono County (so some lived in motels).	On March 3, the National Guard worked with the Mono County Sheriff's Office and the California Office of Emergency Services to land a helicopter on the closed highway to deliver generators, fuel, water, and MREs to the people of Mono City who had been stranded by road closures on all sides for five days and without power for four days.
Dam Failure	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disease and Pest Management	None	Ongoing	Hantavirus is prevalent.	Deer mice rule the land. They conspire to avoid traps and poison, and they leave their droppings to dry out and be inhaled.
Drought	None	Ongoing	Frequent droughts have occurred.	N/A
Earthquake and Seismic Hazards	None	Ongoing	Active fault lines have caused minor earthquakes.	N/A
Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency	None	Ongoing	PSPS and energy outages routinely occur, impacting operations and resident's ability to access electricity.	N/A

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Epidemic/ Pandemic	DR-4482	05/15/2020	Global pandemic occurred – precautions were put in place to reduce spread of virus. Flu was common.	Local Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic declared by the county health officer on March 15, 2020
Extreme Heat	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
Flood	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
Landslide	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hazardous Materials	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
Severe Wind	None	Multiple times per year	Damage to electrical and internet/land line infrastructure	The Mono Basin frequently has severe wind events that impact travel and emergency response. Faulty SCE equipment can cause electrical outages and wildland fires (e.g., the Marina Fire, 2016)
Severe Winter Weather and Snow	None	February 26 and February 28, 2023	SCE electrical outage of 5+ days negatively impacted residents (especially the elderly) who heat homes with electric/propane furnaces and impacted their ability to reach emergency services via phone or internet; Restricted the community's ability to use well and safely access water storage; School-aged children were organized and taught at residents' homes; National Guard helicopters delivered food, water, firewood, and generators; County Sheriff conducted overland snow evacuation of trapped residents; Fire	Between February 22nd and the 26th another 52 inches of snow fell, and the snow depth finally broke the 1952 record, peaking at 67 inches on the ground in Lee Vining on February 26th. These numbers are approximate because the snow overwhelmed weather instruments

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
			department evacuated residents trapped in homes; Sheriff/Fire department delivered gasoline and diesel for generators and home heating.	
Volcano	None	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wildfire		5/22/2025	Mandatory evacuation of Mono City and closure of US 395	A brushfire just south of Mono City along US 395 started on May 22 and grew to over 500 acres on May 23, prompting the closure of US 395 and evacuation of Mono City.
Wildlife Collisions	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 community. 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 the MCFPD. Where no unique considerations are noted, it can be assumed that the information included in the base plan also applies to Mono City FPD.

Avalanche

- **Location:** The western side of Mono City is susceptible to avalanches from the Eastern Sierras.
- **Extent:** The range of extent of avalanches that could be experienced includes D1: Relatively harmless to people; D3: Could bury and destroy a car, truck, or home.
- **Impacts:** Avalanches can block or damage critical access routes, isolate communities, and pose direct threats to homes and people in high-risk zones.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Closures of transportation routes—including interstate highway 395 and state highways 120E (connects to US 6) and 167 (connects to a highway in Nevada)—can limit evacuation ability and disrupt emergency response capabilities.
 - Key roads needed to access residents may be blocked.
 - Avalanches may impact MCFPD vehicles or personnel assisting with evacuations of residents.
 - Supply chains, including for critical resources, such as fuel, food, heat, and prescriptions, may be cut off due to transportation route disruptions.
 - SCE lines are on poles in avalanche-prone areas, and primary and secondary lines are strung in the same area.
 - Residents may face economic burdens due to inability to access jobs or long delays (travel required to Nevada and back into California if highway is closed) to access common employment locations, such as the National Park Service, California State Parks, U.S. Forest service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the Bureau of Land Management, Caltrans, Mono County Sheriff, Mono County EMS, Search and Rescue, Volunteer Fire Departments, Eastern Unified School District, U.S. Postal Service. Employees' inability to access their work may impact other community services around Mono County as well.
 - Community lifelines, such as water systems and communications (phone/internet), are vulnerable to disruptions due to avalanches.
 - Vulnerable populations in the district's service area, especially the elderly, who heat homes with electric/propane services are at high risk of impacts from power outages and transportation route closures due to avalanches.



Figure 1: U.S. 395 Closed After an Avalanche, 2023²

Dam Failure

- **Location:** MCFPD's entire district is vulnerable to dam failures.
- **Extent:** Several upstream dams are rated as having high downstream hazard potential.
- **Impacts:** A dam failure can cause catastrophic flooding, isolating communities and disrupting essential services. Structures and infrastructure could suffer significant damage or collapse. Critical facilities could be rendered inoperable due to access, power, and supply disruptions.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Flooding of major roadways, including US 395, could impact access to Mono City and impede the ability of MCFPD to function at full capacity.
 - Lundy Lake Dam is upstream of Mono City is a high hazard dam. If it were to fail, people in MCFPD's district would be severely impacted.

Disease and Pest Management

- **Location:** MCFPD's entire district is vulnerable to this hazard.

² News 4 & Fox 11. (2023, March 3). *Multiple avalanches close portion of U.S. 294 near Mono Lake.* News 4 & Fox 11. [Multiple avalanches close portion of U.S. 395 near Mono Lake.](#)

- **Extent:** The Disease Severity Score ranks severity on a scale from 0 to 9. Each disease receives its own Disease Score based on its specific geography.
- **Impacts:** Disease and pest management hazards arise from undesirable organisms, such as insects, bacteria, and viruses, that can cause serious harm to plants, animals, and humans. These organisms threaten human health by infecting individuals, flora, and fauna with various diseases, some of which can be fatal. Pathogenic organisms can also significantly damage forests, creating safety hazards while causing environmental harm and economic consequences.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - › MCFPD facilities are not vulnerable to diseases and pest but diseases like Hantavirus can impact MCFPD staff, reducing their ability to operate.
 - › Fir engraver beetles and Jeffrey Pine beetles can kill vast swaths of trees, exacerbating the fire risk for Mono City.

Drought

- **Location:** MCFPD's entire district is vulnerable to drought.
- **Extent:** MCFPD has experienced up to a D3 drought (extreme drought) on the US Drought Monitor Intensity Scale, equivalent to -4.0 to -4.99 on the Palmer Severity Index Classification.
- **Impacts:** Drought can lead to cascading impacts, including increased wildfire, flood, and landslide risk. It can also make it difficult to access the water resources needed to fight wildfires.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - › Drought increases the number or intensity of fires to which MCFPD must respond.
 - › Water resources and infrastructure may be affected, impacting the availability of water to MCFPD to fight fires.
 - › Vulnerability to cascading hazards, such as flooding and landslide, that require response from MCFPD reduces the capacity to respond to other disasters and jeopardizes the life and safety of residents.

Earthquake and Seismic Hazards

- **Location:** MCFPD's entire district is vulnerable to earthquakes and seismic hazards.
- **Extent:** A 2014 study by USGS and CGS found that a 6.7 magnitude earthquake was possible along the Mono Lake Fault.
- **Impacts:** Major earthquakes could damage buildings, disrupt essential utilities, and isolate communities by damaging key roadways, such as Highway 395.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - › Potential for direct damage to MCFPD facilities.

- › Service disruptions due to damaged roads.
- › Disruptions to water distribution lines could affect response and recovery efforts, including the district's ability to respond to other hazards like wildfire.
- › The district may be called upon to support residents during and after earthquake events, including vulnerable populations. Vulnerable residents, including the elderly, may be trapped in damaged structures or unable to evacuate due to road damage.

Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency

- **Location:** MCFPD'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:**
 - › The operability of MCFPD facilities and its response to emergencies are vulnerable to power outages. Without power MCFPD cannot respond to calls from the public, impacting people's life and safety.
 - › Lundy Mutual Water Company has not upgraded its electrical infrastructure to ensure well operation in case of extended electrical outage. This could impact the water supply for fighting wildfire.

Epidemic/Pandemic

- **Location:** MCFPD's entire district is susceptible to epidemics and pandemics.
- **Extent:** Community-wide pandemic (e.g., COVID-19).
- **Impacts:** Pandemics and epidemics can impact public health, overwhelm healthcare capacity, and disrupt public services.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - › Epidemic/pandemics can cause service interruptions due to illness on MCFPD staff. These service interruptions could impact people's life and safety.
 - › Rising number of emergency illnesses that MCFPD would need to respond to, straining capacity.
 - › MCFPD's facilities are not vulnerable to epidemics or pandemics.

Extreme Heat

- **Location:** MCFPD's entire district is susceptible to extreme heat.
- **Extent:** Summer highs are between 80–90° Fahrenheit in the summer.

- **Impacts:** Extended high temperatures can also dry out plants, potentially leading to more intense and frequent wildfires. Vulnerable populations and those working outside can experience heat stress or heat stroke in extreme heat conditions.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - For MCFPD staff and people in the district that work outside, there is an increased risk of heat exhaustion or stroke.
 - MCFPD facilities can withstand extreme heat, but such conditions add more strain on the electrical system, potentially causing power outages that incapacitate fire stations.

Flood

- **Location:** The entire service area may be vulnerable to flooding.
- **Extent:** Minor flooding and ponding after significant rain events.
- **Impacts:** Flooding can isolate entire communities by cutting off primary access roads, delay emergency response, damage public infrastructure, and displace residents. Public safety can be impacted by dangerous driving conditions and lack of access.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - US 395, the major road through Mono City, can flood, delaying emergency response and restricting access to parts of the district. These service interruptions could impact people's life and safety.
 - Data limitations exist, as the fire station is in FEMA Zone D where flood risk is undetermined. Therefore, there may be additional vulnerability to information that is currently unknown.

Landslide

- **Location:** Most of the MCFPD is susceptible to landslides with heightened susceptibility for the eastern parts of the community closer to the Sierras.
- **Extent:** All of the deep-seated landscape susceptibility classes (0-X) are found in or near the district's service area.
- **Impacts:** Landslides block critical roadways, disrupt emergency access, damage utilities and structures, and trigger cascading hazards.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Blocked roadways from landslides can limit MCFPD's access to parts of the district. These service interruptions could impact people's life and safety.
 - There is the potential for MCFPD facilities to be damaged by landslides.

Hazardous Materials

- **Location:** All of MCFPD is susceptible to hazardous materials with greater risk near major roadways (U.S. 395).
- **Extent:** For MCFPD, the most likely HazMat Incident Level is 1 – Minor.
- **Impacts:** A HazMat incident on a major roadway can block access, and HazMat spills can negatively impact human health.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Spills of HazMat at MCFPD facilities could affect public health.
 - HazMat spills on a major roadway through Mono City could limit access to MCFPD facilities and disrupt operations. These service interruptions could impact people’s life and safety.
 - Electrical vehicle/house battery fires can create HazMat cleanup issues for MCFPD. Response efforts produce environmental concerns, as water runoff can contaminate groundwater and lakes.

Severe Wind

- **Location:** All of the MCFPD is susceptible to severe wind.
- **Extent:** The extent of severe wind can be classified using the Beaufort Wind Scale. The district can expect to experience force 11 winds as a worst-case scenario.
- **Impacts:** Widespread power outages can occur, along with structural damage, fallen trees, and flying debris.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Debris can disrupt travel and emergency response throughout Mono City. These service interruptions could impact people’s life and safety.
 - Severe wind can disrupt the electrical systems causing outages that take MCFPD facilities offline.

Severe Winter Weather and Snow

- **Location:** The entire district is susceptible to the hazard of severe winter weather and snow.
- **Extent:** The National Weather Service Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI) and the Wind Chill Temperature Index are both used to indicate severity levels for winter weather and snow.
- **Impacts:** Winter storms can isolate communities, prevent emergency access, and disrupt utility services. These events stress emergency services and vulnerable populations.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Snow can block roads and facilities, impacting travel and emergency response in Mono City. These service interruptions could impact people’s life and safety.

- Lack of electricity, phone service, and internet access can impact MCFPD facilities, restricting their ability to respond to emergencies.

Volcano

- **Location:** All of MCFPD is susceptible to hazards stemming from volcanos.
- **Extent:** The Long Valley Volcanic Center is one of 18 “very high threat” volcanoes listed in a 2005 ranking developed as part of the National Volcano Early Warning System (NVEWS).
- **Impacts:** During a volcanic eruption in Mono County, several cascading hazards could significantly impact the region and its residents. These hazards include ashfall, which can contaminate air and water supplies and pose respiratory health risks; pyroclastic flows that can devastate infrastructure and threaten lives; and lahars, or volcanic mudflows, which can occur when volcanic debris mixes with water, posing a severe threat to communities located near rivers and streams. In addition, the potential for secondary hazards, such as landslides, wildfires ignited by lava, and disruptions to transportation and communications systems, must be considered. An eruption during winter could melt heavy snowpacks, generating mudflows and locally destructive flooding.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - MCFPD facilities could face direct damage from volcanic vents in the case of an eruption.
 - The widespread need for emergency response could quickly overwhelm MCFPD’s capacity.
 - MCFPD staff and volunteers could be personally impacted, affecting their ability to report for duty.
 - Major transportation corridors in Mono County could be blocked, restricting travel and emergency response. These service interruptions could impact people’s lives and safety.

Wildfire

- **Location:** All of MCFPD’s service area is susceptible to impacts from wildfires.
- **Extent:** Most of Mono City is in a high wildfire severity zone.
- **Impacts:** Wildfires can lead to widespread evacuations, structure losses, health impacts due to smoke and ash, utility outages, road closures, and economic disruptions.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - Wildfire can damage the critical power and communications infrastructure in Mono City, including internet connections on which the MCFPD relies.
 - Wildfire can damage roads, delaying emergency response and outside support during fire events.
 - The Mono City Fire Station, which is used as a community evacuation center with electricity backup systems, heat, water, and food, is an important community asset. It is also vulnerable to wildfires in a high wildfire severity zone.

- Vulnerable populations, including elderly residents who live alone, might not have sufficient preparations in place for wildfires.
- Despite countywide and local meetings, the public is still unprepared with regard to assessing risk and evacuating as needed. Emergency response to evacuate unprepared residents puts both residents and volunteer staff at risk.
- Additional partnership building with organizations such as the Mono Basin Fire Safe Council is needed to ensure consistency in communication to residents and tourists. Inconsistent language creates vulnerabilities, as messaging may be misunderstood.
- Several sacred sites to the Mono Lake Kootzaduka’a Tribe are vulnerable.
- Nearby natural resources, which also draw tourists to the area, are vulnerable, including the Mono Basin National Scenic Area, Bodie State Park, and the habitat of the Bi-State Sage Grouse.

Wildlife Collisions

- **Location:** Wildlife vehicle collisions are most common along US 395 near Mono City.
- **Extent:** Due to its remote location, Mono City is highly susceptible to wildlife collisions.
- **Impacts:** Impacts include injury or loss of human life, damage to vehicles and infrastructure, disruption of traffic flow on key routes, and harm to local wildlife populations.
- **District-Specific Vulnerabilities:**
 - MCFPD personnel are vulnerable to injury and loss of life from wildlife collisions.
 - MCFPD vehicles are vulnerable to damage from wildlife collisions.

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 6 lists the changes in development for the MCFPD.

Table 6: Changes in Development for the Mono City Fire Protection District

Type of Hazard Event	Changes in Land Use	Changes in Population	Changes in Conditions (e.g., Climate Change)	Overall Vulnerability
Avalanche	No	Yes (Increased)	Climate change	Stayed the same
Dam Failure	No	Yes (Increased)	No	Stayed the same
Disease and Pest Management	No	Yes (Increased)	Climate change	Increased
Drought	Water use – local water boards suggest less water use.	Yes (Increased)	Climate change; LADWP water exports	Stayed the same
Earthquake and Seismic Hazards	No	Yes (increased)	No	Stayed the same
Climate Change	Climate change	Climate change	Climate change	Climate change
Epidemic/ Pandemic	No	Yes (increased)	COVID-19 vaccines are available	Stayed the same; County healthcare services increased temporarily during/ after COVID-19 closures
Extreme Heat	No	Yes (increased)	Climate change	Increased
Flood	No	Yes (increased)	Climate change	Increased
Landslide	No	Yes (increased)	Climate change	Stayed the same
Hazardous Materials	No	Yes (increased)	Increased prevalence of battery systems in electric cars and on homes	Increased
Severe Wind	No	Yes (increased)	Climate change	Stayed the same; Implemented mitigation measures include attention to improvement of roof overhangs and removal of dead/ damaged trees
Severe Winter Weather and Snow	No	Yes (increased)	Climate change	Increased
Volcanoes	No	Yes (increased)	None	Stayed the same
Wildfire	No	Yes (increased)	Climate change	Increased; Implemented mitigation measures include attention to

Type of Hazard Event	Changes in Land Use	Changes in Population	Changes in Conditions (e.g., Climate Change)	Overall Vulnerability
				community preparedness; Fire department volunteer personnel recruitment, Purchase of needed equipment (e.g., water tenders, water storage, hoses), Applying for more funding (e.g., supplement cost of metal building to protect new equipment)
Wildlife Collisions	No	Yes (increased)	None	Stayed the same

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 MCFPD 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.

Table 7: Plans of the Mono City Fire Protection 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	Yes – County General Plan of 2019 addresses hazards except winter storms and wildfire planning.	County General Plan and Mammoth Lakes Report provide background on hazards and ideas for improved mitigation	2019; 2024

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?
Capital Improvement Plan	No – The reader must make assumptions regarding what projects are listed to understand hazards that may be addressed.	The plan “is intended to be a planning tool to assist in budget projections and decisions and to aid in the allocation of resources needed to meet Mono County’s strategic goals” (p. 10). Long term financial planning can help integrate mitigation actions into other projects.	2025 draft; 5-year plan; Draft states annual review and revision as necessary
Climate Change Adaptation Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	Yes	The 2019 plan relies on 2009 plan data and does not reflect post-2019 county or MCFPD improvements in local preparedness and firefighting capabilities (e.g., Mono City Fire has made huge improvements in firefighting capabilities with equipment acquisition and personnel training).	2019 update with use of 2009 US Forest Service fire behavior modeling evaluation (not consistent with changes since 2009 in snow/ rainfall, drought, summer heat index, wind, deforestation, drop in ground water, etc.); Update info unknown
Economic Development Plan	N/A	N/A	N/A
Land Use Plan	Yes	“The purpose of the Land Use Element is to correlate all land use issues into a set of coherent development policies for the private lands in the unincorporated area of the county” (p. 1).	2023; Update info unknown
Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	Plan “is designed as a reference and guidance document, and is the foundation for response and recovery operations” for Mono County.” It “establishes the emergency organization, assigns tasks, specifies policies and general procedures, and provides for coordination of the duties” of	2012; Update info unknown

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?
		the county a lead agency and other organizations involved with response and recovery procedures (p. iii).	
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes	Plan and its implementation framework are “intended to comprehensively and concurrently address challenges of water supply, water quality, flood management, and ecosystem protection” and “implement integrated solutions through a collaborative multi-partner process” (pp. 1–2).	2019; Plan states revisions and updates as needed every two years p. 21
Transportation Plan	Yes	Plan “is a policy document that outlines a 20-year planning horizon based on the unique needs and characteristics” of Mono County and coordinates with local jurisdictions’ land use planning (p. 1).	2024 draft; Plan states updates every four years p. 10
Substantial Damage Plan	No	N/A	N/A
Other? (Describe.)	Mammoth Lakes 2022–2023 Winter Storms After-Action Report Mono Basin Community plan	Recent After-Action Report most applicable for winter storms. “Purpose of the plan is to inform decision makers at the community and local government levels, as well as other agencies, businesses and entities operating in the Mono Basin, about the needs and aspirations of the community” (p. 1).	2024; N/A 2012; Unknown

Table 8: Regulations and Ordinances of the Mono City Fire Protection 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	Yes – Mono County effectively uses the 2022 California Building Code	Yes – by Mono County	2022; 2026
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	No – The district is not mapped.	N/A	N/A
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	Yes	The floodplain ordinance is contained in the Mono County General Plan, Land Use Element. The Land Use Element is updated annually as needed.
Subdivision Ordinance	N/A	N/A	N/A
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	Yes	Integrated into the Land Use Element in 2023 and updated as needed.
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (Stormwater, Steep Slope, Wildfire)	Yes	Yes	The Mono County General Plan, Land Use Element contains Chapters on Floodplain Management (Chapter 21) as well as Fire Safe Regulations (Chapter 22). The Safety Element contains regulations and policies regarding natural hazards. The Safety Element is updated in connection with MJHMP update, and the Land Use Element is updated annually as necessary.
Acquisition of Land for Open Space and Public Recreation Use	N/A	N/A	N/A
Prohibition of Building in At-Risk Areas	There is currently no ordinance addressing building in at-risk areas,	Yes	Mono County Safety Element was updated

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?
	but it is addressed within the Mono County Safety Element.		in 2021. It is updated as needed.

Administrative and Technical

Administrative and technical capabilities include staff and their skills. They include tools that can help you carry out mitigation actions. Table 9 provides a list of the district’s administrative capabilities, while Table 10 lists the district’s technical capabilities.

Table 9: Administrative Capabilities of the Mono City Fire Protection 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
Emergency Manager	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
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	Yes	No	Yes	No
CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)	No	N/A	N/A	N/A
Active VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters)	Yes	No	No	No

Table 10: Technical Capabilities of the Mono City Fire Protection 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	Yes	Been used to apply for state and local hazard mitigation grants.	Continue to track and apply for federal, state, and local grants.
Hazard Data and Information	Yes	Mono County has used this in this hazard mitigation plan, which helps mitigate risk for MCFPD	This hazard mitigation plan will support hazard mitigation planning in MCFPD for the next five years.
GIS	No	No	No
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes	Informed agencies regarding risk in particular areas of the county and how to prepare for and respond to incidents	Allows for more agencies to be informed regarding risk in particular areas of the county and able to prepare and respond to future incidents (e.g., Mono City Fire Dept. has mutual aid agreements with Lee Vining Fire Dept., Bridgeport Fire Dept., and Hawthorne, NV Fire Dept.)

Financial

Financial capabilities are the resources available to fund mitigation actions. Table 11 outlines the district's financial capabilities.

Table 11: Financial Capabilities of the Mono City Fire Protection District³

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	No	No	Yes	Yes
General Funds	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP/404)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

³ CAL FIRE = California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency, OES = Office of Emergency Services, USDA = United States Department of Agriculture.

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?
Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)	No	No	No	No
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	No	No	Yes	No
Public Assistance Mitigation (PA Mitigation/406)	No	No	Yes	No
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	No	No	Yes	No
Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Programs	No	No	Yes	No
U.S. Army Corps (USACE) Programs	No	No	Yes	No
Property, Sales, Income, or Special Purpose Taxes	Yes	In Mono City, property taxes fund the fire protection district	Yes	Yes
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	No	No	No
Fees for Water, Sewer, Gas, or Electric Services	No	No	No	No
Impact Fees from New Development and Redevelopment	No	No	No	No
General Obligation or Special Purpose Bonds	No	No	No	No
Federally Funded Programs (Please describe)	Yes	USDA/Forest Service; FEMA staffing, fire prevention/safety	Yes	Np
State-Funded Programs (Please describe)	Yes	CAL FIRE Rural Fire Capacity Grant; California Fire Safe Council State Fire Capacity	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?
		Grant; Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Grant Program		
Private Sector or Nonprofit Programs	Yes	Whitebark Institute offers small grants for wildland firefighting equipment and community-based programs; Firehouse Subs Life-Saving Equipment Grant; California Fire Foundation offers funding for fire departments engaged in wildfire and climate-related preparedness efforts; Brothers Helping Brothers provides small rural fire departments with donated tools and equipment grants	Yes	Unknown (have to look at each grant)

Education and Outreach

Education and outreach capabilities are programs and methods that could communicate about and encourage risk reduction. Table 12 summarizes the district's education and outreach capabilities.

Table 12: Education and Outreach Capabilities of the Mono City Fire Protection District

Education and Outreach Capability	In place? (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
Community Newsletter(s)	Yes	Yes	• Mono City Fire Protection District: Monthly meetings open to public; official meeting minutes; special meetings (e.g., community evacuation drills); safety information and announcements posted on official website, Facebook, Instagram • Fire District Annual Defensible Space Inspections: Property visits and discussion with owner/residents, provide educational literature on the subject and county-sponsored dump waivers for brush removal • Mono City Fire Department: Weekly trainings/meetings open to public; outreach to local schools; annual community barbecue; annual Santa escort with door-to-door visits and gifts for children • Lundy Mutual Water Company: Monthly shareholder meetings; summer newsletter announcing water restrictions
Hazard Awareness Campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, School Programs)	Yes	No	Lee Vining Fire Dept. and Mono City Fire Dept. bring pumper engines and medical/rescue trucks and show off equipment to children and teachers; putting a community face on firefighters/medics and explaining what we do in emergencies
Public Meetings/Events (Please describe.)	Yes (see comments above)	Yes	Fire District; Fire Department; Water company
Emergency Management Listserv	Yes	Yes	County Office of Emergency Services website
Local News	Yes	No	
Distributing Hard Copies of Notices (e.g., public	No	N/A	

Education and Outreach Capability	In place? (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
libraries, door-to-door outreach)			
Insurance Disclosures/ Outreach	No	N/A	
Organizations that Represent, Advocate for, or Interact with Underserved and Vulnerable Communities (Please describe.)	No	N/A	
Social Media (Please describe.)	Yes	Yes	Use of Facebook is most prevalent; some organizations also use X/Twitter and Instagram
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 13.

Table 13: Opportunities to Expand or Improve Capabilities of the Mono City Fire Protection District

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Planning and Regulations	The County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan needs to be updated and include off-grid residents who live outside fire protection districts. The Mono City FPD should be expanded to include nearby housing subdivisions and off-grid residents who benefit from fire department response to fire, rescue, and medical emergencies. An increase in revenue from property taxes would benefit the fire department's response capacity to immediate and mutual aid needs.
Administrative and Technical	The Mono City FPD, like most other fire districts in the county (Mammoth Fire is the exception), operates in a framework of limited funding and volunteer commissioners who work tirelessly while balancing commitments to employers and family. More full-time roles in the MCFPD, such as a grant writer or grant writing training for current staff, would help support new mitigation programs. Although it would be great to offer a paid position like a grant writer, it is not

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
	feasible at this time. The fire district and community members benefit from a commissioner with a background in academia and jurisprudence who recognizes the work that needs to be done.
Financial	A more pressing need is a new fire station that can house all the fire engines during the cold winter and spring months; heated bays where medical gear susceptible to freezing can be stored on trucks all the time; and a community meeting room that does not double as a fire department training room/storage/kitchen. The district is applying for funding and recently met with Congressman Kiley's office. Expanding grant funding capabilities, such as by pursuing grants like Community Development Block Grants will help mitigate future risk and enhance the district's ability to conduct education and outreach, including on mitigation.
Education and Outreach	The district would like to design and implement a Junior Firefighters program to educate youth of ages 10–18 about emergency preparedness and community outreach. Besides providing an experience that can be mentioned on college applications, the district intends that this program will inspire young people to consider careers in social work, emergency preparedness and response, and other avenues beneficial to helping those in need. Teaching Junior Fighters about wildfire mitigation measures, such as defensible space, will help expand mitigation public outreach capabilities.

National Flood Insurance Program Capability Assessment

The MCFPD 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 14 includes a high-level overview of what, if anything, the district does to support floodplain management for known risks.

Table 14: NFIP Capabilities of the Mono City Fire Protection District

Question	Response
What communities does your special district operate in? Are you aware of any flood concerns in these communities?	The Mono City Fire Protection District includes the unincorporated communities of Mono City and Lundy Canyon. Flood concerns exist from water flowing in Mill Creek and significant snowmelt across the landscape that ends up in Mill Creek or collects on Highway 167 and in poorly draining residential areas.
Which of your assets are at-risk from flooding?	Interstate 395 is at risk of being undermined should floodwaters overcome under-roadway drainage; Highway 167 routinely floods during snowmelt, and vehicles go off the road into waist-deep ponds requiring fire department response.

Question	Response
Is your organization involved in floodplain management? If so, how?	Management, no; Emergency response, yes

Mono City Fire Protection 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 MCFPD 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 15: Considered Mitigation Actions of the Mono City Fire Protection District

Mitigation Action	Type of Action	Selected? (Y/N)	If not selected, why not?
Update the Community Wildfire Protection Plan to include recent efforts and include all areas where residents live	Local Plan	Yes	N/A
Defensible space in Mono City	Regulations: compel property owners to follow County Code 22.150 "Defensible Space and Fire Hazard Reduction"	Yes	N/A
Public events; School outreach; Visitor education	Local Plan and Regulations: training on County codes and regulations	No	Not enough staff to complete
Transition Southern California Edison power poles to underground power supply	Infrastructure: reduce wildfire risk from wind events and downed lines	No	Outside of MCFPD legal control
Improve highway drainage in known flood areas	Infrastructure: improve safety	No	Outside of MCFPD legal control

2025 Mitigation Action Plan

The Mitigation Action Plan outlines the mitigation measures the MCFPD 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, the MCFPD 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

- Avalanche
- Dam Failure
- Disease/Pest Management
- Drought
- Earthquake/Seismic Hazards
- Energy Shortages and Energy Resiliency
- Epidemic/Pandemic
- Extreme Heat
- Flood
- Landslides
- Hazardous Materials
- Severe Wind
- Severe Winter Weather and Snow
- Volcanoes
- Wildfire
- Wildlife Collisions

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:⁴

- **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 district. After considering the following evaluation criteria and the definitions, the district assigned a prioritization category of low, medium, or high to each natural hazard action item.

⁴ FEMA. "Community Lifelines Implementation Toolkit." <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/lifelines-toolkit>.

The criteria to calculate the following priority categories (STAPLEE: Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental) are listed in Table 17:

- **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 16 shows the mitigation actions the MCFPD has selected for this planning cycle.

Table 16: Mono City Fire Protection District 2025–2030 Mitigation Actions⁵

#	Project Title	Hazard Addressed	Description	Responsible Agency	Potential Partners	Potential Funding	Cost Estimate	Timeframe	Community Lifelines	Priority
1	Update CWPP	Wildfire	Update current CWPP to reflect recent emergency response and community improvements, inclusion of all areas with County residents (including off-grid homes).	County OES; Local fire protection districts and fire departments	County emergency response and mutual aid agencies	Volunteer fire protection districts provide groundwork and data collection; Local nonprofits like Whitebark Institute create community-based grant program	\$1,000	Short-term, 1–2 years	Safety and Security	High
2	Create Defensible Space in Mono City	Wildfire	Through education and threat of fines, compel property owners to implement County Code 22.150 “Defensible Space and Fire Hazard Reduction.”	Board of Supervisors; Mono City FPD	Countywide fire departments	Whitebark Institute; California Fire Foundation; California Fire Safe Council State Fire Capacity Grant; CNRA Community Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation	\$1,000	Long-term, 5+ years (initial acquisition of funding will cover all years, but project needs to be implemented annually)	Safety and Security, Hazardous Materials	High

⁵ CNRA = California Natural Resources Agency, CWPP = Community Wildfire Protection Plan, FPD = Fire Protection District, OES = Office of Emergency Services.

#	Project Title	Hazard Addressed	Description	Responsible Agency	Potential Partners	Potential Funding	Cost Estimate	Timeframe	Community Lifelines	Priority
3	GIS Program	Avalanche, Dam Failure, Earthquake, Energy Shortage, Pandemic, Flood, HazMat, Severe Wind, Severe Winter, Volcanoes, Wildfire	MCFPD would build out an in-house GIS capacity. A dedicated GIS department offers significant value by providing a centralized platform for managing and analyzing spatial data, leading to improved efficiency, better decision-making, and enhanced collaboration across various organizational functions.	MCFPD Fire Chief or Designee	Whitebark Institute, Mono County	Staff Time	\$150,000 per year	Long-term	Safety and Security, Food Hydration Shelter, Energy	High

Mitigation Action Prioritization

The MCFPD considered the STAPLEE criteria when prioritizing their actions. Table 17 documents how each action was prioritized.

Table 17: STAPLEE Prioritization for the Mono City Fire Protection District

Action	Social	Technical	Administrative	Political	Legal	Economic	Environmental	Priority
1	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	High
2	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	High
3	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	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 community 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 MCFPD did not meaningfully integrate the prior plan anywhere, as the district was not a plan participant in the prior plan.

Future Integration Opportunities

MCFPD identified future plan integration opportunities, as described in Table 18.

Table 18: Future Plan Integration by the Mono City Fire Protection District

Plan	Description	Process for Integration
Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)	The CWPP provides a comprehensive, scientifically based analysis of wildfire related hazards and risks in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas of Mono County. The analysis helps to generate recommendations designed to prevent and/or reduce the damage associated with wildfire to WUI values in Mono County. It creates a document for Mono County which conforms to the standards for CWPPs established by the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) and the State of California and the local Fire Safe Council.	This MJLHMP's wildfire hazard data and mitigation actions will be integrated into the next CWPP developed by Mono County and MCFPD.

Conclusion

MCFPD has effectively met all requirements for this hazard mitigation plan update, including engaging stakeholders and the public, evaluating risk and specific vulnerabilities, and identifying applicable mitigation capabilities and actions. Although entirely volunteer supported, the MCFPD actively participated in this plan update and provided feedback was directly incorporated into the plan including through attending meetings and completing plan participant input forms. By participating in this plan, MCFPD is better positioned to apply for mitigation grants as this plan meets the requirements for FEMA's hazard mitigation assistance grant programs. Ultimately, the District intends to implement mitigation measures which reduce risk to the community including vulnerable properties to protect property, livelihoods, and the environment, and ultimately, save lives.