

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This multi-jurisdictional, Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan was prepared on behalf of Placer County and participating Districts and the incorporated communities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin.

The purpose of hazard mitigation and this plan is to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. This plan has been prepared to meet the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requirements in order to maintain Placer County's eligibility for FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs (HMGP). The Plan also serves to enhance the County's CRS Floodplain Management Program.

The process followed a methodology prescribed by FEMA. It began with the formation of a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) comprised of key County and Stakeholder representatives. The planning process examined the recorded history of losses resulting from natural hazards, and analyzed the future risks posed to the county by these hazards. The greatest risk and vulnerability to the County are associated with floods and wildfires. The HMPC puts forth several mitigation goals and objectives that are based on the results of the risk assessment. The plan also puts forth specific recommendations for actions that can mitigate future disaster losses.

The plan is based on a hazard identification and risk assessment of all the potential natural hazards that could impact Placer County. The plan also includes a review of the County's current capabilities with regards to reducing hazard impacts. The plan includes recommended additional action items for the County and its jurisdictions to reduce their vulnerability to potential disasters.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
Executive Summary	i
Table of Contents	ii
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Community Profile	5
3.0 The Planning Process	13
4.0 Risk Assessment	23
4.1 Hazard Identification	25
4.2 Vulnerability Assessment	95
4.3 Capability Assessment	175
5.0 Mitigation Strategy	201
6.0 Plan Adoption	275
7.0 Plan Implementation and Maintenance	277
Appendix A – Acronyms	
Appendix B – Mitigation Alternatives and Selection Criteria	
Appendix C – Community Adoption Resolutions	

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

1.0 Introduction

As part of the overall community planning effort for hazard mitigation, Placer County, California has prepared this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan pursuant to the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, PL 106-390 390 (hereafter referred to as DMA; see Appendix A for a list of acronyms used in this document). This section of the Plan describes the purpose and need for the Plan, the scope of this effort and the Plan organization.

Hazard Mitigation is defined as any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Planning is the process of setting goals, developing strategies, and outlining tasks and schedules to accomplish the goals.

Hazard Mitigation Planning is the process through which natural hazards that threaten communities are identified, likely impacts of those hazards are determined, mitigation goals are set, and appropriate strategies that would lessen the impacts are determined, prioritized, and implemented.

Hazard Mitigation Planning is required for state and local governments to maintain their eligibility for certain federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation funding programs. Communities at risk from natural disasters can ill afford to jeopardize this funding.

PURPOSE AND NEED

Each year, natural disasters in the United States kill hundreds of people and injure thousands more. Nationwide, taxpayers pay billions of dollars annually to help communities, organizations, businesses and individuals recover from disasters. These monies only partially reflect the true cost of disasters, because additional expenses to insurance companies and non-government organizations are not reimbursed by tax dollars.

Additionally, many natural disasters are predictable, and, often with the same results. Many of the damages caused by these events can be alleviated or even eliminated.

FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, now a part of the Department of Homeland Security, has targeted reducing losses from natural disasters as one of its primary goals. Hazard Mitigation planning and subsequent implementation of projects, measures, and policies developed through those plans are the primary mechanisms for achieving these goals. Success in reducing disaster damages has taken place as the result of mitigation projects implemented subsequent to mitigation planning.

This Plan was developed pursuant to the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, PL- 106-390 (hereafter referred to as DMA; see Appendix A for a list of acronyms used in this document), and the regulations published in the *Federal Register* Volume 67, Number 38, Tuesday, February 26, 2002. Section 104 of DMA revises the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act by adding Section 322, which provides new and revitalized emphasis on hazard mitigation, including adding a new requirement for local mitigation plans. These new local mitigation planning regulations are implemented through 44 CFR Part 201.6.

Proactive mitigation planning at the local level can help reduce the cost of disaster response and recovery to property owners and governments by protecting critical community facilities, reducing liability exposure, and minimizing overall community impacts and disruption.

SCOPE

Placer County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is a multi-jurisdictional plan that identifies goals, objectives, and measures for hazard mitigation and risk reduction to make communities less vulnerable and more disaster resistant and sustainable. This Plan covers the jurisdiction of Placer County, including the incorporated communities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, and Rocklin; and various special districts located throughout the County. Roseville chose not to participate in this otherwise countywide process. Information in the Plan can be used to help guide and coordinate mitigation activities and local policy decisions for future land use decisions within the County.

This Plan follows DMA 2000 planning requirements and associated guidance for developing Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. This guidance sets forth a generalized 4-task process: 1) Organize your Resources, 2) Assess Hazards and Risks, 3) Develop a Mitigation Plan, and 4) Evaluate your Work. This Plan also utilizes the criteria set forth in FEMA Region IX's Crosswalk Reference Document for Review and Submission of Local Mitigation Plans.

This Plan focuses on natural hazards only. Although Placer County recognizes that FEMA is both encouraging and promoting communities to integrate human-caused hazards into the mitigation planning process, the scope of this effort did not address these hazards for two reasons. First, DMA requires extensive public information and input, and this is in direct conflict with the security and secrecy necessary in planning for chemical, biological, and radiological hazards. Secondly, organizationally, many of the planning activities for human-caused hazards are either underway or complete, and have been developed by a different set of organizations. A discussion of existing County planning activities for these human-caused hazards is included in Section 3.0.

PLAN ORGANIZATION

Placer County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is organized as follows:

- Executive Summary
- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Community Profile
- 3.0 Planning Process
- 4.0 Risk Assessment
- 5.0 Mitigation Strategy
- 6.0 Plan Adoption
- 7.0 Plan Implementation & Maintenance

(This page has been left intentionally blank.)

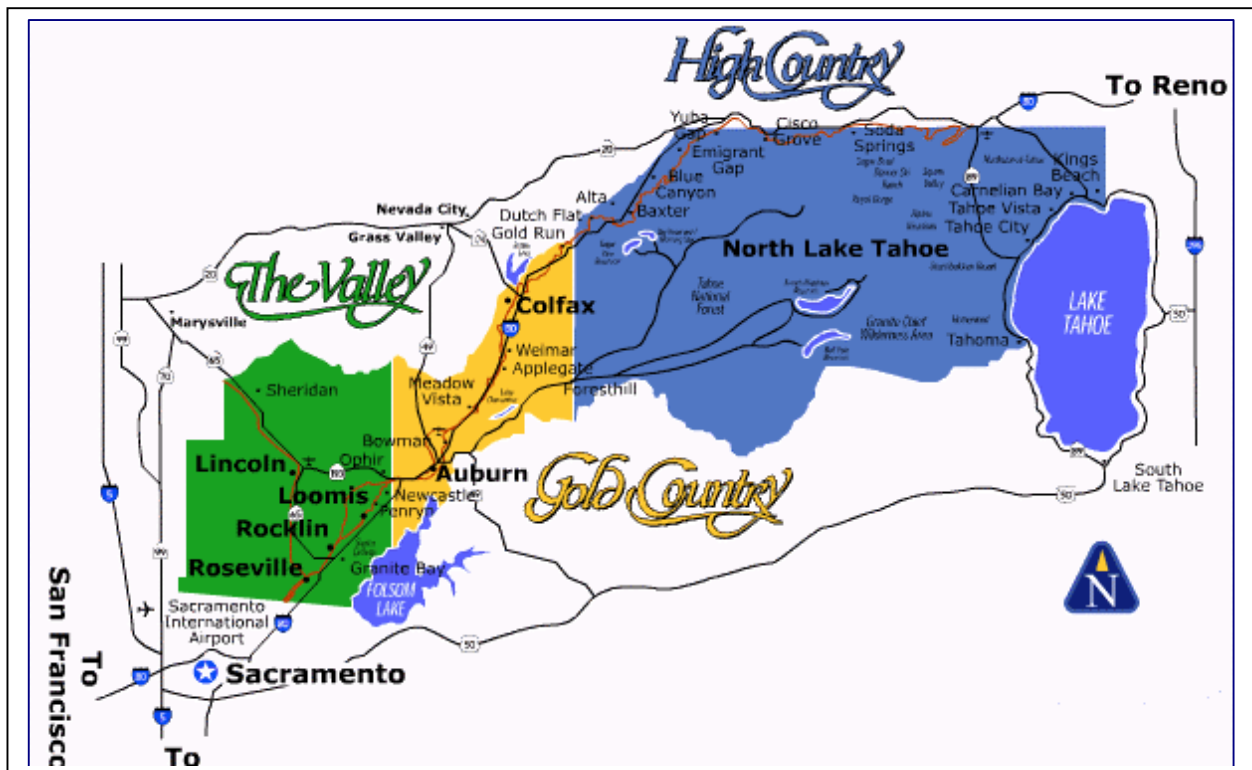
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

2.0 Community Profile

PLACER COUNTY

Location and Geography

Placer County is located in northern California and stretches from Sacramento County to Lake Tahoe and the Nevada border. The Counties of Sacramento, El Dorado, Sutter, Yuba, and Nevada border Placer County. Regional access to the County is provided via Interstate 80 (I-80), which runs east west through the entire County. Placer County includes the incorporated communities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville. The County has a total land area of 1,501 square miles, 98 square miles of which are comprised of water. The County decreases in elevation going east to west from the Sierra Nevada Range and Tahoe region to the more suburban areas in the western portion of the County. Below is a map of Placer County and its three distinct regions (The Valley, The Gold Country and The High Country).



(Source: Placer County)

Brief History

Placer County was home to the Nisenan Native Americans for hundreds of years before the discovery of gold in 1848 when multitudes of miners migrated to the area. Auburn was settled in 1848 upon the discovery of gold and later became a shipping and supply center for the surrounding gold camps. Three years after the discovery of gold in the region, the fast-growing county was formed from portions of Sutter and Yuba Counties on April 25, 1851 with Auburn as the County seat. The name Placer comes from the Spanish word meaning “sand and gravel deposits containing gold”. Gold mining remained a major industry through the 1880s, eventually overtaken by the industries of farming, timber, and the Southern Pacific Railroad. The commercial fruit industry also expanded rapidly in western Placer County in the late 1870s and early 1880s, with the Central Pacific Railroad providing a wide market in the east for California’s agricultural products. Among the produce raised were citrus, apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, olives, almonds, and walnuts.

Population and Growth Trends

According to the U.S. Census, the 2000 population for Placer County was 248,399, an equivalent of 177 persons per square mile on average. The County currently has the fastest growing population in California with an estimated increase of 17.6 percent between 2000 and 2003. Between 1990 and 2000, the unincorporated portion of the County increased its population by 20 percent, while the County as a whole increased 44 percent. Based on the most recent (2002) data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Placer County has a per capita income of \$37,083 with the greatest number of jobs in the services industry.

From 1990 to 2000 the Countywide housing stock increased by 38 percent. According to the California Department of Finance, Placer County is projected to have an increase in housing units of approximately 56 percent between 2000 and 2020.

AUBURN

Location and Geography

The City of Auburn is located on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Range at elevations between 1,000 and 1,400 feet above mean sea level (msl). Auburn is the county seat of Placer County and is also located at the crossroads of I-80 and Highway 49. The City is about 7.5 square miles in area and rests near the confluence of the North and Middle Forks of the American River.

Brief History

In 1849 a mining camp became officially known as Auburn and by 1850, Auburn’s population had reached 1,500 people. A Frenchman named Claude Chana first discovered gold in the Auburn Ravine in 1848. By 1849 the North Fork Dry Diggings had become a well-established mining camp. Later in the year the camp was officially named Auburn. Because Auburn was a

short distance from Sacramento, centrally located in the gold country, and located just below the snow line, it became known as the “jumping off” spot for the miners. By 1865, Auburn had developed into a permanent town with the Central Pacific Railroad connecting people to the area. Auburn was first incorporated in 1860 and again in 1888. By 1900 the population of Auburn was just over 2,000.

Population and Growth Trends

Today the City of Auburn has a population of approximately 12,500 residents within its city limits and an estimated population of 44,000 in the greater Auburn area. The per capita income within the City was approximately \$26,258 in 2000. Throughout the years, the City of Auburn has grown steadily and areas just north and east of Auburn are continuing to urbanize. The City continues to attract large retailers and new businesses and is an important retail trade center. Housing in Auburn increased by 14 percent over the ten-year period from 1990 to 2000. Auburn is projected to have a housing unit increase of 37.8 percent between 2000 and 2020. The population is projected to increase by 30.3% between 2000 and 2020.

COLFAX

Location and Geography

The City of Colfax is the northern-most incorporated city in Placer County, located in the Sierra Nevada Foothills at a general elevation of 2,400 feet above msl. The City covers an area of 1.3 square miles and straddles I-80 approximately 16 miles north of Auburn and east of Grass Valley.

Brief History

In 1849 during the frenetic days of the Gold Rush, southeast of present-day Colfax, Illinoistown rose as a major supply hub for the Sierra Foothill mining camps. In 1865, destiny doomed the thriving community when transcontinental railroad engineers bypassed it. Railroad construction Camp 20 became the town site of choice. Camp 20 was later renamed Colfax in honor of Schuyler Colfax, who visited the town in 1865 when he was Speaker of the House, assuring the construction crew that the government was committed to completing the transcontinental railroad. The town went on to become a major switching and maintenance station for the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific, and in 1876 a terminus for the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad, serving the fruit orchards of the area and Nevada County gold mines. Colfax was incorporated as a city in 1910.

Population and Growth Trends

The City of Colfax has a population of approximately 1,500 in 2000, only slightly more populated than it was in the mid 1800s. The 2004 population, according to the Department of Finance, was 1,756. The City had a 15 percent increase in population between 1990 and 2000.

Today Colfax businesses include the largest publisher of medical forms in Northern California, and Colfax continues to grow as a location for light industry. Housing stock in the City increased by only 2 percent between 1990 and 2000. The population is projected to increase by 38 percent between 2000 and 2020, growing to 2,900 according to the 2004 Wastewater Treatment Plan. Per capita income in Colfax in 2000 was \$37,391.

LINCOLN

Location and Geography

With the exception of the City of Roseville, Lincoln is the western-most incorporated city in Placer County, located just east of Highway 65 and south of Highway 193. The City comprises 18.3 square miles and is at a general elevation of 164 feet above msl.

Brief History

The City of Lincoln was named after Charles Lincoln Wilson, a real estate magnate who is largely credited with bringing the railroad to the area in 1861. The City was incorporated in 1890. Lincoln is the home of one of the County's oldest businesses, the Gladding McBean terra cotta clay manufacturing plant established in 1875. The City continues to support ranching and farming.

Population and Growth Trends

The City of Lincoln was named the fastest growing city in California in 2002. The population grew from approximately 11,205 residents to 24,000 residents from 2000 to 2004. Housing stock in the City increased by 59 percent between 1990 and 2000 and the number of housing units is expected to increase by another 404.9 percent between 2000 and 2020. In 2000, the City had a per capita income of \$19,447. Its largest employers include an electronics manufacturing company, Western Placer School District, a lumber company, a retirement community, and a charter school.

LOOMIS

Location and Geography

The Town of Loomis is located approximately 9 miles southwest of Auburn adjacent to I-80. The town ranges in elevation from approximately 399 to 625 feet above msl and covers an area of about 7.3 square miles.

Brief History

As early as 1825, trappers and hunters following the American River came into the Loomis basin. Like the beginnings of many cities in Placer County, Loomis began as a mining town, but soon became a booming center of the fruit-growing industry, supporting many packinghouses. During the 1850s miners worked along Secret Ravine and farmers and ranchers began to move into the Loomis area. The town was established in 1850, but not incorporated until 1984. The Central Pacific Railroad was constructed through Loomis in 1864. By 1872 the transcontinental link was completed and helped to expand the market for fruits, which were being produced on a commercial scale. For several years, fruit from the Loomis area was world renowned for its quality. Eventually disease destroyed many orchards established in the late 1800s and fruit production declined significantly. Today it is a very small part of the town's economy.

Population and Growth Trends

Today the population of the Town of Loomis is approximately 6,260 with a per capita income of \$30,384. Between 1990 and 2000 the population increased by 10 percent, while housing stock grew by 12 percent. Housing units are projected to increase by 61.9 percent in the City of Loomis between 2000 and 2020. The population is projected to increase by 57% between 2000 and 2020.

ROCKLIN

Location and Geography

The City of Rocklin is located in south Placer County in the Loomis Basin, 14 miles southwest of Auburn. Rocklin covers an area of approximately 21 square miles and ranges in elevation from 150 to 525 feet above msl in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada Range. The area consists of urban, agricultural, and riparian habitat areas, partially covered with native oaks and grasslands. The planning area of Rocklin, which includes 9 square miles that are outside the boundaries of the City but included in the "sphere of influence", is divided into 16 community areas.

Brief History

Rocklin began as a railroad town and later became home to several granite quarries. The Gold Rush affected the area, but no major gold discoveries occurred in the vicinity. Rocklin became the principal granite-producer in Sacramento Valley with the first quarry open in 1863. Granite is no longer commercially quarried in Rocklin. The Central Pacific Railroad arrived in Rocklin in May of 1864, making the area an important transportation center. A major locomotive terminal was established in Rocklin in 1866 and served as the railroad's roundhouse until 1908 when it moved to Roseville. The commercial fruit industry also expanded rapidly in the Rocklin

area in the late 1870s and early 1880s, supported mainly by Chinese laborers. In 1894, Japanese laborers began to move into the region, eventually providing almost all of the fruit orchard labor. Today, soils in the area are generally poor quality and do not support commercial agricultural activities, with the exception of livestock grazing. The City of Rocklin was incorporated in 1893, with a population of approximately 1,060.

Population and Growth Trends

The population decreased until 1950 when slight growth began. From 1980 to 1990 the population dramatically increased from 7,344 to 19,033; however, a large reason for this growth was due to the annexation of the Sunset-Whitney area. According to the State Department of Finance, the population of Rocklin has doubled over the past ten years and as of January of 2004 stands at 48,919. Housing stock in Rocklin increased by 93 percent between 1990 and 2000 and is projected to increase by 70.3 percent between 2000 and 2020. Per capita income in the area was \$26,910 in 2000. The population is projected to increase by 89.6% between 2000 and 2020.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

There are several types of districts located and functioning within Placer County. These include independent special districts, school districts, special assessment districts, rapid transit districts, flood control districts, and others.

An independent special district is a local agency of the state formed under state statute to perform specific functions within defined boundaries. Special districts are categorized in several ways. Generally, the most important is by the services that the district may provide. The principal act or state statute under which the district is formed lists the service option(s) available to that district. That district may choose to provide one or all of the services authorized. A listing of some of the types of districts includes:

Airport Districts	California Water Districts
Cemetery Districts	Community Service Districts
County Sanitation Districts	County Service Areas
County Water Districts	County Waterworks Districts
Fire Protection Districts	Garbage Disposal Districts
Garbage and Refuse Disposal Districts	Hospital Districts
Irrigation Districts	Library Districts
Mosquito Abatement Districts	Vector Control Districts
Municipal Utilities Districts	Municipal Water Districts
Police Protection Districts	Port Districts
Public Utility Districts	Recreation and Park Districts
Resort Improvement Districts	Resource Conservation Districts
Sanitary Districts	Small Craft Harbor Districts

There are over 55 special districts either partially or wholly within Placer County. All special districts in Placer County, except one, are independent special districts. The single dependent special district is a county service area (CSA28) that is governed by the Board of Supervisors. CSAs are a convenient way to fund and provide services to a single neighborhood. Typical services provided by CSAs include street lighting, road maintenance, and snow removal.

Section 3.0 of this Plan identifies those districts that participated in this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

(This page has been left intentionally blank.)

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

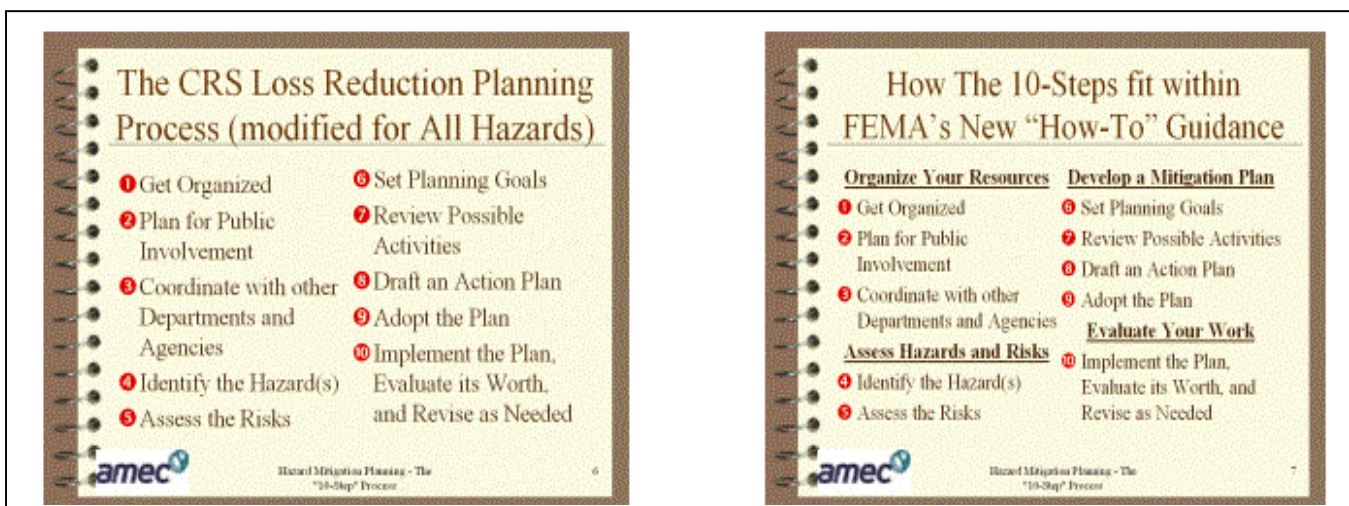
3.0 Planning Process

44 CFR 201.6(b): “An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan”.

The Placer County Office of Emergency Services (OES) contracted with Robert Olson Associates (ROA) who subcontracted with AMEC Earth & Environmental (AMEC) to facilitate and develop a DMA Hazard Mitigation Plan. AMEC’s role was to:

- Establish a planning organization for Placer County and all of the participants;
- Meet all of the DMA requirements as established by federal regulations, following FEMA’s planning guidance;
- Facilitate the entire planning process;
- Identify the data requirements that the participating communities, and other FEMA “eligible applicants” could provide, and conduct the research and documentation necessary to augment that data;
- Develop and facilitate the public input process; and
- Produce the draft and final plan documents.

AMEC established the planning process utilizing the DMA planning requirements and FEMA’s associated guidance. Based on Placer County’s participation in FEMA’s Community Rating System (CRS) with a current rating of six, AMEC also integrated an older, more detailed 10-step planning process that was required, at the time this effort was initiated, for other FEMA mitigation plans such as for FEMA’s CRS and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs. Thus, AMEC formulated a single planning process to meld these two sets of planning requirements together and meet the requirements of five major programs: CRS, FMA, HMGP, FEMA’s Pre-Disaster Mitigation program (PDM) and new flood control projects authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The graphics below show how the old 10-step process fits within the new 4-phase process.



The following table also serves as a means of cross-referencing the two sets of planning requirements.

Disaster Mitigation Act Planning Regulations (44 CFR 201.6)	FEMA’s “old” 10-Step Planning Process (used for CRS and FMA)
Planning process	
201.6(c)(1)	1. Organize
201.6(b)(1)	2. Involve the public
201.6(b)(2) & (3)	3. Coordinate
Risk assessment	
201.6(c)(2)(i)	4. Assess the hazard
201.6(c)(2)(ii) & (iii)	5. Assess the problem
Mitigation strategy	
201.6(c)(3)(i)	6. Set goals
201.6(c)(3)(ii)	7. Review possible activities
201.6(c)(3)(iii)	8. Draft an action plan
Plan maintenance	
201.6(c)(5)	9. Adopt the plan
201.6(c)(4)	10. Implement, evaluate, revise

LOCAL GOVERNMENT / COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The DMA planning regulations and guidance stress that each local government seeking the required FEMA approval of their mitigation plan must:

- Participate in the process;
- Detail areas within the planning area where the risk differs from that facing the entire area;
- Identify specific projects to be eligible for funding; and
- Have their governing board formally adopt the plan.

For Placer County, “participation” means the local government representatives will:

- Attend the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee meetings;
- Provide available data that is requested by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee;
- Review and provide/coordinate comments on the draft plans;
- Advertise, coordinate and participate in the public input; and
- Coordinate the formal adoption of the plan by the County Board of Supervisors.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

As described in the following sections, the planning process encompassed Planning Step 1: Organize Your Resources; Planning Step 2: Plan for Public Involvement; and Planning Step 3: Coordinate with other Departments and Agencies.

Step 1: Get Organized – Building the Planning Team

With Placer County's commitment to participate in the DMA/CRS planning process, the ROA/AMEC team next established a framework and organization for development of the Plan. This Plan was developed by a planning team led by the Placer County Emergency Services Program Manager and comprised of key County, City and District stakeholder representatives. The team meetings were facilitated by ROA/AMEC. This team is called the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee or HMPC. The HMPC met six times over an eight-month period. Typical representatives to each meeting included, the police, fire, engineering, GIS, public information, planning, public works, utilities, and finance departments as well representatives from the local school board, local college and various other interested state and federal agencies. The list of participating HMPC members is provided below. Attendees and agendas for each of the HMPC meetings are on file with the Placer County OES. The HMPC will stay in existence for the purpose of implementing and updating this plan.

Participating HMPC members include the following:

- Ackerman Elementary School District
- Alpine Springs County Water District
- Alta-Dutch Flat School District Elementary
- Auburn Area Recreation and Park District
- Auburn Union Elementary School District
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- California OES Inland Region
- Caltrans
- City of Auburn
- City of Colfax
- City of Lincoln
- City of Rocklin
- Colfax Elementary School District
- Donner Summit PUD
- Dry Creek Joint Elementary School District
- Eureka Union School District
- Foresthill Fire Protection District & Iowa Hill
- Foresthill Union School District
- Loomis Fire Protection District
- Loomis Union School District

- Mid-Placer Public School Transportation Agency
- National Weather Service, Sacramento
- Newcastle Elementary School District
- Newcastle Fire Protection District
- North Fork American River Watershed Group
- North Tahoe Fire Protection District
- Northstar Community Services District
- Ophir Elementary School District
- Penryn Elementary School District
- Penryn Fire Protection District
- Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District
- Placer County Agricultural Commission
- Placer County FDUD
- Placer County Fire Chief's Association
- Placer County Fire Safe Alliance
- Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Placer County OES
- Placer County Office of Education
- Placer County Resource Conservation District
- Placer County Water Agency
- Placer Hills Fire Protection District
- Placer Hills Union School District
- Placer Union High School District
- Ponderosa Fire Safe Council
- Roseville City School District
- Roseville Joint Union High School District
- San Juan Water District
- Sierra Joint Community College District
- Sierra Lakes County Water District
- South Placer Fire
- South Placer Municipal Utility District
- Squaw Valley Fire Department
- Squaw Valley Public Service District
- State Highway Patrol
- Suburban Pines Community Service
- Tahoe National Forest
- Tahoe Truckee Unified School District
- Town of Loomis
- Weimar-Applegate-Colfax Area Municipal Advisory Council

Step 2: Plan for Public Involvement – Engaging the Public

An open public planning process was utilized, providing opportunities for the public and stakeholders to comment on the plan at all stages of its formation. At HMPC Meeting #1 in June 2004, the plan for public involvement was discussed and agreed upon. Public involvement activities included: invitations to participate in the planning process; a Public Awareness Campaign, which included, press releases, website postings, and flyers; and collection of public comments to the Draft Plan(s).

Early on during the plan development stage, interested members of the general public were invited to participate on the HMPC, at their choosing. The invitations were extended from the County OES and Public Information Officer (PIO) through a Planning Public Awareness Campaign that consisted of an initial press release/news article and subsequent posting to the County website. HMPC meeting schedules and plan updates were also posted on the County's web page. All articles, press releases and Internet postings are on file with the County OES. The Plan is online and available for viewing at <http://www.placer.ca.gov/emergency/dma-plan/hazard-mitigation-plan.htm>.



The screenshot shows the Placer County, California website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for RESIDENTS' SERVICES, BUSINESS SERVICES, FUN IN PLACER COUNTY, FORMS, PERMITS & APPLICATIONS, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, EMERGENCY SERVICES, E-GOVERNMENT ONLINE SERVICES, and COUNTY GOVERNMENT. A search bar is located below the menu. The main content area features a large image of a woman wearing a headset, likely a customer service representative. Below the image, the headline reads "Multi-Hazards Mitigation Planning Project" with a sub-headline "Updated 11/23/04". The article text discusses the county's efforts to create a county-wide hazard mitigation plan to reduce long-term risks to human life and property. A sidebar on the left contains "Today's News" with links to "County Flu Shot Clinics Scheduled", "Public Input on Hazards Mitigation Plan Sought", and "County News". At the bottom of the sidebar, there are links for "County Executive Office", "Office of Emergency Services", and "Current Emergency Information".

A second press release and web posting were developed prior to the public review (and formal adoption) of this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. This public review took place through two formal public meetings conducted within the County, one in Auburn (west Placer) and one in the Tahoe area (east Placer). Stakeholder and public comments are reflected in the preparation of the Plan, including those sections addressing mitigation goals and action strategies.

In addition, members of the public provided input during the planning process. Input received by the public was discussed by the HMPC and addressed in the Plan as determined appropriate by the team.

Step 3: Coordinate with other Departments and Agencies

Early on in the planning process, the HMPC determined that data collection, mitigation and action strategy development, and plan approval, would be greatly enhanced by inviting other state and federal agencies to participate in the planning process. Based on their involvement in hazard mitigation planning, their landowner status in the county, and/or their interest as a neighboring jurisdiction, representatives from the following key agencies were invited to participate as members of the HMPC:

- Bureau of Land Management, Fire & Fuels Management, Folsom Field Office
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
- California Department of Water Resources
- California Highway Patrol
- California Office of Emergency Services
- City of Roseville
- FEMA Region IX
- High Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council
- Kinder Morgan Energy Partners
- National Weather Service
- Pacific Gas & Electric
- Placer County Fire Safe Alliance
- Placer County Resource Conservation District
- U. S. Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife, California-Nevada Operations and Sacramento Field Office
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Union Pacific Railroad Western Region
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service

In addition to the agencies listed above, the HMPC utilized the resources of the agencies listed below in the development of this Plan. Specifically, technical data, reports and studies were obtained from those agencies listed below as well as those identified above either through web-based resources or directly from agency resources.

- American River Watershed Group
- Bureau of Land Management
- California Department of Health
- California Fire Alliance

- California Geological Survey
- Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- National Interagency Fire Center
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Climatic Data Center
- State and Federal Historic Preservation Districts
- The Natural Resource Conservation Service and its predecessor, the Soil Conservation Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Geological Survey

Other Community Planning Efforts and Hazard Mitigation Activities

Coordination with other community planning efforts is also paramount to the success of this Plan. Hazard mitigation planning involves identifying existing community policies, tools and actions that will reduce a community's risk and vulnerability from natural hazards. Placer County utilizes a variety of comprehensive planning mechanisms such as the County General Plan and community plans, the Zoning Ordinance, emergency response and mitigation plans, and municipal ordinances and building codes to guide and control community development. Integrating existing planning efforts and mitigation policies and action strategies into this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan establishes a credible and comprehensive plan that ties into and supports other community programs. This Plan, therefore, links the specific natural hazards that present a risk in the community with the existing mitigation elements found in the various County plans. The development of this Plan utilized information included in the following community plans, studies, reports, and initiatives:

- Auburn Ravine, Coon, and Pleasant Grove Creeks Flood Mitigation Plan, 1993
- Auburn State Recreation Area Prefire Management Plan
- Auburn/Bowman Community Plan Hydrology Study 1992
- City of Auburn General Plan, 1993
- City of Colfax General Plan, 1998
- City of Lincoln General Plan, 2003
- City of Rocklin Floodplain Management Program
- City of Rocklin General Plan, 2004 (draft)
- Community Fire Safe Plan for Placer County, Phase I, updated January 2004
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans for the California Portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin –Draft, 2004
- Dry Creek Watershed Flood Control Plan, 1992
- Foresthill Emergency Plan
- Forests with a Future Campaign
- Greater Auburn Area Community Fire Safe Plan
- Iowa Hill Divide Public Lands Forest Management Plan
- Placer County Chipper Program
- Placer County Community Plans for various areas
- Placer County Defensible Space Inspection Project

- Placer County Emergency Response Plan
- Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Flood Response Handbook, 2002
- Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's Stormwater Management Manual, 1990
- Placer County General Plan 1994
- Placer County General Plan Background Report, 1994
- Placer County Local Emergency Operations Plan, 1997
- Placer County Stormwater Management Plan 2003-2008
- Placer/Sutter County Joint Flood Study, Auburn Ravine, Coon, and Pleasant Grove Creeks, 1994
- Squaw Valley Public Service District, Disaster Response Plan
- Town of Loomis General Plan, 2001

Placer County Human-Caused Hazards Summary

As indicated in Section 1.0, an analysis of human-caused hazards was not included in the scope of this effort. However, it is important to be aware of some of the other ongoing community efforts with respect to hazard mitigation planning and human-caused hazards. These efforts are described in the following paragraphs.

During 2003-4 Placer County and the incorporated Communities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Loomis, Rocklin, and Roseville participated in a Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) county-wide (Operational Area) project funded through the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) to assess terrorist threats and natural and human-caused hazards, to update existing or prepare new Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and other related activities. The work was completed in May 2004. The new EOPs now conform to the State's Standardized Emergency Management Systems (SEMS) requirements and the plans have been adopted or are on the agendas for adoption by the County Board of Supervisors and the various city and town councils.

The hazard information used was based largely on the County's and cities' General Plan Safety Elements; where they existed, applicable portions the County's and cities' Emergency Operations Plans; data collected from various technical studies and Internet sites; discussions with governmental officials at various levels and representatives of private organizations having significant facilities in the County; and the results of a Homeland Security Assessment completed for Placer County.

With the exception of discussing potential terrorist targets, the other summary hazards information has been incorporated into the appropriate sections of the County's and cities' emergency response plans. Especially for natural hazards, this provided baseline data that was expanded on and used for this Plan.

Terrorism: A Note

Terrorist threats fall into three main categories: concentrated populations (e.g., office buildings, churches, casinos, stadiums), system elements (e.g., railroad and highway bridges, pipelines, communications nodes); and facilities/structures (e.g., pumping plants, communications centers, medical facilities). A threat, vulnerability, capabilities, and needs assessment has been completed. Although the document is confidential, the work involved analyzing and rating potential threats, determining the vulnerability of the community, evaluating existing capabilities and determining additional community needs.

The County's *Terrorism Contingency Plan* (January 2004) notes that "At least three important considerations distinguish terrorism hazards from other types of hazards. First, in the case of chemical, biological, and radioactive agents, their presence may not be immediately obvious, making it difficult to determine when and where they have been released, who has been exposed, and what danger is present for first responders and medical technicians. Second, there is limited scientific understanding of how these agents affect the population at large. Third, terrorism evokes very strong emotional reactions, ranging from anxiety, to fear, to anger, to despair, to depression."

Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plans

With Federal financial support, the City of Roseville and Placer County (for the remainder of the County) are reviewing and updating their respective Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plans to:

- Increase local effectiveness when handling hazardous materials accidents and incidents;
- Enhance implementation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA);
- Incorporate the challenges added by responses to increases in population, businesses, and transportation networks; and to
- Convert the Placer Operational Area plan to a Contingency Plan Annex to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

This work is scheduled for completion by June 30, 2005.

(This page has been left intentionally blank.)