

Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)-Update
3rd Steering Committee (SC) Meeting

April 3, 2013

Welcome and Introductions

SC chairperson, Jay Parrish, called meeting to order at 1:34pm.

Group Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves and their affiliation to the group at large.

SC members and alternates in attendance were:

Alison Talbott (SC) , PG&E	Jay Parrish (SC) , City of Ferndale
Bill Gillespie (SC) , City of Eureka	John Friedenbach (SC) , Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
Chris Jones Koczera (SC) , Red Cross	Judith A. Warren (SC) , HSU Regional Training Institute
Cliff Poulton (Alternate) , City of Arcata	Lon Winburn (Alternate) , Fortuna Fire Protection District
Daniel Larkin (SC) , County of Humboldt Office of Emergency Services	Lou Iglesias (SC) , Weott Community Services District
Desmond Cowan (SC) , Arcata Fire Protection District	Tom Nix (SC) , CAL FIRE
Dieter Schmitt (Alternate) , CAL FIRE	

SC members absent without an alternate present were:

Jody Brundin, Blue Lake Rancheria

Hank Seemann, County of Humboldt Public Works

Planning Partner, Public, and Agency Representatives in attendance were:

Cybelle Immitt, County of Humboldt Public Works

Danielle Allred, County of Humboldt Public Works

Gary Wellborn (Planning Partner), Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District

Pat Kaspari, GHD

Ray Stonebarger, Blue Lake Fire Chief

Rob Flaner, Tetra Tech (present via phone-in)

Tim Petrusha (Planning Partner), Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District

Review Agenda

SC chairperson, Jay Parrish, went over the agenda items and meeting objectives.

Review/approve minutes

Cybelle reminded the group that minutes and agendas from previous meetings are always available on the HMP-Update website. <http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/natural-resources/hazardmitigation/>

Cybelle asked if all members had received the crosswalk from the previous plan. Members may email Cybelle if they can't find it. Primary feedback for the update from the crosswalk included: (1) Include a fault map for earthquake; (2) make historical disaster event information more relevant to local communities and use alternate sources of information; (3) show a clear correlation between mitigation projects and risk assessment (mitigation projects that address the "issues"); (4) distinguish between preparedness projects and mitigation projects; and (5) where "future needs" are identified, include options for addressing them or add an action item to address them.

The SC chair opened the floor to motions to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

Action: Alison Talbott moved to approve the previous meeting's minutes; **John Friedenbach** seconded the motion. **The SC committee passed the motion unanimously.**

Public Comment/Announcements

Cybelle reminded the group that Friday, April 5th is the deadline for PP jurisdictions to submit their progress reports. The Planning Team will begin contacting people who have not submitted reports next week.

Risk Assessment Update

Rob Flaner updated the group on the progress that has been made on the Risk Assessment. He explained that work has been done to compile data for the Risk Assessment and creating a HAZUS inventory. He summarized what data and information has been successfully gathered for assessing each of the various hazards.

He explained that preliminary data for creating a "flood map" has been acquired. Tsunami run-up lines from the State have been obtained, which will be an enhancement over the previous plan. County's data on slope-stability zones have been acquired for the earthquake assessment. He also explained that the data acquired from the County has no information on square footage for structures, so they will have to use the default data in the HAZUS model for square footage. This should not produce any overstatement of risk though.

Rob is working on cross-referencing the County's data on dams. There was some discussion about Cal EMA only recognizing four dams in Humboldt County, but that the inundation threat comes from dams outside the county. Rob reported that they have inundation shape files for those dams outside of the county but not the smaller ones located inside the county.

Rob explained that four hazard assessments will be done within the HAZUS model (Earthquake, Tsunami, Flood, and Dam Failure), and the rest will be done using GIS exercises. He summarized that they have most of the data; now they are simulating it and getting it ready to run the assessments, but they won't do so until they get confirmation from the SC on whether or not they have the appropriate risk maps to utilize.

Rob predicts that it will be late May or early June before all of the Risk Assessments are done. Some risk assessment maps will be ready to view at the may SC meeting.

Hazards of Concern

Recommended for hazards of concern

Pat reviewed the hazards of concern. The primary chapters are: Earthquake; Flood (including coastal flooding, levee failures, sea-level rise, sediment buildup, and urban flooding); Wildfire; Landslides and Other Mass Movements; Severe Weather; Tsunami; Dam Failure; Drought; and “Other Hazards of Concern.” This last chapter is a “catch all” chapter. It will include things such as: fish loss, marine invasive species, oil spills, and other human-caused hazards. These hazards will be described more generally.

What to include in the “other hazards” Chapter

An example of an Other Hazards Chapter was available for the group to peruse.

A question was asked about the Wildfire chapter, and whether it solely addressed the impact of fire itself, or if it also included smoke impacts. In the past, smoke from wildfires has often had more of an impact than fires; however, accessing funds to address this can be difficult. You need to have data on it, and you need to have a way to monitor smoke in order to get that data.

It was pointed out that there is sections in the Wildfire risk assessment chapter in the previous plan about air resources as a value and air quality degradation as a secondary hazard. Rob explained that the focus of analysis for HMPs is centered more on damage to property and infrastructure. The primary hazard from smoke is to human health, and you are not likely going to get a mitigation grant that will fund a human health issue. It’s going to be hard to get a FEMA grant that funds smoke monitoring equipment. We don’t have any means or protocol for doing an economic analysis on smoke. However, every primary discussion of these hazards of concern has a discussion on secondary impacts. We can address the issue of smoke in the secondary impact discussion. By putting it in there, it creates linkage to other plans, and that creates the opportunity to spin an angle (maybe just for a different funding source).

The topic of fall-out particulate in addition to smoke was brought up, which can cause damage to farm equipment, etc. It was suggested that volcanoes be added to the “other hazards,” discussion, since the proximity of Lassen poses a hazard for particulate fall-out.

Confirmation of hazards of concern

It was agreed that smoke impacts should be addressed in the secondary impact discussion within the Wildfire Chapter; and it was agreed that Volcanoes be added to the “Other Hazards” Chapter.

Action: Lou Iglesias motioned to pass the Proposed List of Hazards as amended in the discussion. Dan Larkin seconded, and the SC passed the motion unanimously.

Critical Facilities

Data inventory/CDMS export update

Cybelles had sent out a spreadsheet earlier in the week containing all the critical facilities that have been identified that are going to be analyzed within the hazard assessment. Cybelles pointed out that some things need to be updated regarding fire stations. Pat would also like to go through the list and tidy some things up. He asked if there were other SC members who wanted to review it. Rob said that they need to complete the inventory sooner rather than later. He explained that they need to be able to point-locate all facilities.

John initiated some discussion about Humboldt County’s biggest water treatment facility existing in Trinity County (Matthews Dam). Rob explained it can’t be included among the critical facilities if it’s not in Humboldt County. He went on to explain that, technically, if you’re

a participant in an approved plan you are eligible to apply for funding. The problem is that you need an assessment of a facility. We would need to get all that data and analysis on one facility in Trinity County. In your jurisdictional analysis, base your project idea on a subjective analysis, not an analytical analysis. Most likely you'd be looking at CORPS funding, BLM funding, something like that. We could clearly address it in your jurisdictional annex.

SC roles in inventory completion

Pat asked if the group wanted to go through the critical facilities list and assign tabs, or if people wanted to volunteer for them?

After some discussion, it was decided that:

Cybelle will review the fire stations with help from the fire department representatives.

Hank will review the levees.

All other SC members will look at the list and make sure that any facilities they know they might want to do a project on or are critical in any way are on the list. Each item on the list needs a name, a physical address (if at all possible) and the latitude and longitude.

Pat asked if the critical facilities will be on the maps that are produced. Rob explained that there will be icons, but they don't publish the address or locations in the Plan.

Timeline

Rob needs updates by April 17th. If we get to the final review of the plan, and we notice there are facilities missing, we can include the icons at that point, but it won't be included in the analysis.

Task: All SC members will review the critical facilities list and make sure that facilities they might want to do project on are included and send updates to Cybelle by April 17th.

Public Outreach-Phase 1

Website

Cybelle reported that the HMP-Update website is up and running. Most of the materials handed out at meetings are available there; unless it's sensitive in any way, then it can be e-mailed to SC members. Right now, it has an overview of what we want to accomplish and a list of the SC members. The website address will be included anytime we send out a press release. She encouraged Planning Partners to put links to the website on their own websites, if they have them.

Press Release

The press release that was reviewed at the last meeting was sent out. All major papers ran something on it. Most media sources used the one we provided, some of them put their own little twist on it. Cybelle and Jay did an interview on KMUD radio, but it hasn't been run yet.

Questionnaire

Cybelle had emailed SC members a copy of Rob's first shot at an updated questionnaire and a spreadsheet with the data that resulted from the questionnaire in 2007. She asked if anyone had any input.

There was some discussion about how it was decided which unincorporated communities were listed (e.g. Shelter Cove was listed but not Garberville or McKinleyville). It was pointed out that if people who take this survey don't see their community listed, they might be upset. One

suggestion was to use zip codes to use community listings. Desmond pointed out that that could be a problem, because, for example, Manila has Arcata's zip code, but the two communities have a very different perception of tsunami risk. Rob asked that Cybelle send him a list of what (community) denominations should be added to the questionnaire.

Rob explained the things we want to get out of the questionnaire: 1) What is the perception of risk? Last time, most people were most concerned about earthquake. If we do analysis that says that tsunami is going to have a huge economic impact, but the community is not concerned about it, then you have an action item (get people concerned about it.)

Pat pointed out that, since this is a questionnaire that will be distributed again in five years, if there are questions that OES or Red Cross want to have answered, this is a good opportunity to get them on there.

Judy brought up a survey that she has been distributing to people in the Living on Shaky Ground courses she does. Some questions from this survey may be incorporated into the questionnaire

Rob asked the group about Question #15 (Q15), although it has no relevance to HMP, a lot of communities are adding it. It was suggested that Q15 would be good information to gather, but that Q16 could be removed. Chris recommended adding a question about whether persons with disabilities are currently associated with any support agencies. These agencies are typically how Red Cross reaches out to these populations and it turns out there is a huge percentage that doesn't use any support agency; it would be good to know.

A question was asked about whether Questions 22 & 23 are relevant for inclusion. Rob explained that the driver behind this question is SB 2140 passed that says, communities who have mitigation plans must integrate them into their land use or general plan. Some SC members didn't think it was relevant for this questionnaire. There was some discussion about the wording of the question. It was decided to re-word the question so that the word "restrictions" is eliminated, and the question reads more like, "How supportive are you of..." with an answer scale.

It was suggested that the confidentiality statement on the last page be added to Section 4 to reassure survey participants before answering questions regarding their income. Someone asked how important questions in this section are and Rob explained that it can be useful to know this sort of demographic information when analyzing responses to questions such as, "How much money would you be willing to spend on X, Y, or Z hazard mitigation activity..."

Someone suggested that "not sure" be added as an answer option to some questions.

Rob reminded the group that the advantage of using Survey Monkey is that all of the SC members and PPs can distribute it around, through websites, social media, etc. Dan expressed the opinion that a special effort should be made to get more participants this time around. Everyone should contribute to this effort using the resources available to them. Rob explained that you typically look for 2-5% of the population; so, for Humboldt County (population: 140,000); a goal of 2% would be 2,800 survey participants.

It was decided that a small committee would work together to complete the questionnaire and get it ready for dispersal. This committee includes: Cybelle, Dan, Judy, Rob, and Pat.

Task: This committee will collaborate and do some work on the questionnaire reflecting input gathered today. The SC gave the committee their blessing to move forward with it and get it to Rob within two weeks.

Public Meetings/Workshops:

Rob said that the number of meetings and their locations need to be determined. It was pointed out that our Scope of Work ties us into a specific number of meetings, but Rob said it doesn't cost him anything more to do an additional workshop if he's already out here.

Cybelle pointed out that, last time, two meetings with HAZUS workstations were held, and one with the review of the final plan. She said that it can be difficult to get people interested in attending the meetings.

There was a long discussion about the possibility of correlating these public meetings with already-planned County venues and events, such as fairs and festivals. Various ideas were thrown out about ways to draw more public attention, such as having an event at the Adorni Center with firefighting apparatuses parked in front as a draw. Chris commented that Red Cross has had a lot of success setting up at Arts Alive! Cybelle asked Rob if the meetings need to follow a certain workshop agenda, or if a manned booth at a festival could work. Rob explained that the message would have to be downsized for that sort of presentation because it doesn't present an opportunity to educate people on what they're looking at. Also, in order to have the HAZUS workstation available, it must be staffed by one of Tetra Tech's people. He suggested that the survey could be distributed at these events, and the website could be advertised there.

Judy mentioned that she and Lon have applied for a FEMA grant for resilient communities. She explained that, within that proposal, they requested a series of all-day Preparedness Fair events, and they were planning to have four of them in Humboldt County. If they get the grant, then there could be potential for the HMP workshops to piggy-back with these.

Chris mentioned that Red Cross has an event on April 13th that the HMP-Update could be promoted at. It might also be a good place to distribute the survey. She and Cybelle will coordinate on this.

Cybelle remarked that it isn't really clear what kind of set up we want to have. Rob asked to know: how many workshops will there be that support is needed for, and when and where they will be.

It was decided that there will be two Tetra Tech supported workshops to present the risk assessment: one in the North Bay and one in the South Bay. It was suggested that one be in McKinleyville and one be in Fortuna, sometime during the last two weeks of June. SC Members will send Cybelle meeting format ideas and ideas for how to get lots of public involvement .

Next Steps

Rob went over what the next steps in the HMP-Update process will include. They are:

1. The jurisdictional annex workshops. These are mandatory meetings for all PPs. Everyone will be walked through how to do complete their update Annex, etc. Rob anticipates these being in July. The turn-around is typically 45 days.
2. The draft plan, which Rob suspects will be done in early September.

3. The final round of public meetings, which Rob predicts will happen in October and November.
4. The EAP (Energy Assurance Plan). Rob explained that there will be a regional energy discussion in Vol. 1 of the HMP-Update, and we will funnel that down into a jurisdictional component. Each annex will have some key information about energy capabilities on a local level. This will include a series of questions concerning: basic supply and demand; emergency back-ups for power; and critical facilities and functions. These questions will need to be catered to individual annexes.

Action Items for Next Meeting:

- Cybelle will make a practice of attaching the meeting minutes from the last SC meeting when she sends out the next meeting's agenda for members' review.
- Cybelle will send out an e-mail to all Jurisdictions reminding them to submit Progress Reports.
- Carol Bauman from Tetra Tech will send out monthly updates on where things stand with the HMP-Risk Assessment Update.
- Smoke and particulate impacts will be discussed as a Secondary Impact in the Wildfires Chapter.
- Volcanoes will be added to Other Hazards Chapter.
- Pat and Cybelle and SC members will review Critical Facilities list and send any updates they have to Cybelle with the facilities' names, latitudes and longitudes, by **April 17th**.
- Cybelle and Dan will go through the zip code listings and decide on unincorporated communities to incorporate into the questionnaire.
- Judy, Cybelle, Dan Rob, and Pat will fine tune questionnaire, look at HSU Regional Training Institute's survey and tweak and borrow questions they want to incorporate into our questionnaire, and get it to Rob within two weeks (**April 17th**).
- Question 15 will have "Are you linked to an existing Support Agency?" added to the question.
- Question 16 will be deleted from the questionnaire.
- Question 23 will be re-crafted to read, "How Supportive are you..." with an answer scale.
- The Confidentiality Statement will be added to the top of Section 4 of the questionnaire.
- All SC members will identify personal resources with which to distribute the questionnaire.
- The first Public Meetings will be planned for sometime in the last two weeks of June. Two or three events will be planned, for the North and South Bay areas. Cybelle will begin locating venues and setting up advertisements for the events. She will work with SC members to design a strategy that will catch the public's attention. Dates, locations and proposed strategy will be presented at the May SC meeting.
- Red Cross will send Cybelle their list of upcoming events to see if there are any potential events that we can table at, etc.

Adjourn

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1st from 1:30pm to 3:30pm in the GHD Conference Room.

The SC chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3:35pm.