



Cal OES

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Adoption and Approval Letters

Updated August 2023



CALIFORNIA STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Volume 1

Gavin Newsom

Governor

Nancy Ward

Director

California Governor's
Office of Emergency Services

2023



August 23, 2023

STATEMENT OF PLAN ADOPTION

As Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Governor's Authorized Representative, I am pleased to formally adopt the 2023 California State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) for the State of California.

In the five years since the 2018 SHMP was approved and adopted, California has experienced some of the largest and most destructive disasters in the State's recorded history. Disasters are becoming more frequent and resulting in greater impacts, and this trend is expected to increase even further than it has in recent years. With the State's continued population growth combined with prevailing climate projections, California must continue to enhance and invest in mitigation activities and take actions to reduce risks and support resilient communities.

The 2023 SHMP update continues California's commitment to reduce or eliminate the impacts of disasters caused by natural and human-caused hazards. This update also reflects the most comprehensive inclusion to date of the State's climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, and reflects the State of California's equity priorities.

The State is required to review and revise its SHMP for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approval to ensure the award eligibility associated with the following funding opportunities:

- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grants
- Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAG)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- HMGP Post Fire
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Congressionally Directed Spending (LPDM)
- Public Assistance (PA) Permanent Work Categories (Categories C-G)
- Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Grant Program
- Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund Program

Additionally, the State remains eligible for the increased federal cost share for grants awarded under the FMA program.



FEMA has once again designated California as an Enhanced State in recognition of the State's efforts surpassing the Standard requirements. California continues to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to long-term risk reduction and remains a proactive leader in implementing comprehensive, multi-disciplinary statewide mitigation. As an Enhanced State, California receives an additional five percent in HMGP funds after a disaster.

In adopting the 2023 SHMP, the State agrees to comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations as stipulated in the assurances enclosed in the 2023 SHMP and will update the SHMP at least once every five years. Through implementation, monitoring, and meaningful integration across government and private sectors, the SHMP continues to ensure a safer and more resilient California.

Sincerely,


NANCY WARD
Director





FEMA

August 30, 2023

Ms. Nancy Ward
Director
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655

Reference: Approval of the California Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dear Ms. Ward:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 9 approves the updated California State Hazard Mitigation Plan effective August 30, 2023, through August 29, 2028. This plan is approved in accordance with applicable mitigation planning regulations and policy requirements.¹

In addition, this plan meets the requirements to address wildfire risks and mitigation measures and the requirements to address all dam risks.

An approved state hazard mitigation plan is a condition of receiving certain FEMA non-emergency assistance and mitigation grants from the following programs:

- Public Assistance Categories C-G (PA C-G)
- Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAG)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post-Fire (HMGP-PF)
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams Program (HHPD)
- Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STORM RLF)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)

Approval of a state hazard mitigation plan does not guarantee funding under any FEMA program. Please refer to the individual FEMA non-emergency assistance and mitigation grant program policy and/or annual Notice of Funding Opportunities for specific application and eligibility requirements for the FEMA programs listed above.

¹ Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), as amended; the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended; Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 201; and the "Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act," or the "WIIN Act," on December 16, 2016, which amends the National Dam Safety Program Act (Pub. L. 92-367).

State hazard mitigation plans must be updated and resubmitted to FEMA Region 9 for approval every five years. If the plan is not updated and approved by August 29, 2028, the plan is considered lapsed, and FEMA will not obligate funds until the mitigation plan is approved.

If at any time over the plan approval period FEMA determines that the state is not complying with all applicable federal statutes and regulations in effect during the periods for which it receives funding or is unable to fulfill mitigation commitments, FEMA may take action to correct the noncompliance (44 CFR §201.3[b][5] and §201.4[c][7]).

FEMA recognizes the State of California for the additional effort and commitment to mitigation. Under Section 322 (42 U.S.C. 5165(e)), additional HMGP funds of up to 20% of the total estimated eligible disaster assistance may be provided to states with enhanced hazard mitigation plans. The “enhanced” designation is recognition for states that are leaders in implementing a comprehensive statewide hazard mitigation program that results in safer, more sustainable communities.

FEMA will provide a reminder at least 12 months before the plan expiration date of the consequences of not having an approved state hazard mitigation plan, which is required to apply for and receive funding for FEMA non-emergency assistance and mitigation grant programs. To continue to apply for and receive funding from the programs listed on page 1, the state must submit a draft of the next plan update before the end of the approval period and allow sufficient time for the review and approval process. This includes any revisions, if needed, and formal adoption by the state following the determination by FEMA that the plan has achieved a status of “approvable pending adoption.”

We look forward to working with you to discuss the status of the state hazard mitigation program each year over the approval period of this plan. If you have any questions please contact Kathryn Lipiecki, Mitigation Division Director, by phone at (510) 627-7100, or by email at kathryn.lipiecki@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

ROBERT J FENTON JR Digitally signed by ROBERT J FENTON JR
Date: 2023.09.05 20:06:45 -10'00'

Robert Fenton
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region 9

Enclosure (1)

State of California Plan Review Tool, dated August 30, 2023

cc: Christina Curry, Chief Deputy Director, CalOES
Ryan Buras, Deputy Director, CalOES
Ron Miller, Mitigation Quality Assurance Division Chief, CalOES
Robyn Fennig, Planning Division Chief, CalOES
Kathryn Lipiecki, Mitigation Division Director, FEMA Region 9
Alison Kearns, Planning and Implementation Branch Chief, FEMA Region 9