



# 1. CITY OF LOYALTON



Source: City of Loyalton Fire Department

## 1.1 LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

This annex was developed by the local hazard mitigation planning team for the City of Loyalton. Members are listed below in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1. Local Planning Team

	Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name and Title:	Sue McIlravy, City Council Member	Gary Price, Planning Director
Address:	P.O. Box 128 605 School Street Loyalton, CA 96118	Price Consulting Services 12144 Bitney Springs Road Nevada City, CA 95959
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<b>Contributors:</b>		
Name and Title:	Sue McIlravy, Councilwoman	
Method of Participation:	Attended Steering Committee/Planning Partner meetings, Contributed to Annex development	
Name and Title:	Gary Price, Consultant	
Method of Participation:	Assembly of Annex	
Name and Title:	Shawn Heywood, Fire Chief	
Method of Participation:	Reviewed the Annex for grant purposes	



## 1.2 JURISDICTIONAL PROFILE

### 1.2.1 Location and Features

The City of Loyalton is located in the eastern portion of Sierra County, in the northeast quadrant of the State of California. Loyalton is a General Law City, incorporated in 1901, and is the only incorporated city in Sierra County. The City covers approximately 225 acres, with an east-west width two-thirds of a mile, and a north-south width of one-half mile.

The City of Loyalton Fire Department serves the entire City and is staffed by volunteers. It participates in the Public Protection Class Rating System and currently has a rating of 6/6x.

### 1.2.2 History

This area was settled in the late 1850's mainly by Italian and Swiss immigrants traveling to California via covered wagons, drawn by oxen. What they found in this lush 100,000-acre valley was a land with plentiful water and teeming with wildlife, fish, and game. Many decided to stay rather than continue across the high mountains to the gold mines on the other side. The settlers who stayed formed successful dairy businesses to supply the gold miners in California with essentials such as milk, cheese, meat, eggs, and hay. The descendants of many of the original settling families still live in the valley today and own substantial ranches.

The homesteaders called their town Smithneck. And, during the American Civil War (1861 - 1865), the population raised huge amounts of money for the Union Army to help them defeat the Confederate Army. Community leaders change the name from Smithneck to Loyalton because the population was such a loyal town - as demonstrated by its generous support of the Union Army.

Due to the proximity of vast forests and the huge demand for wood in the California gold mines and Nevada silver mines, Loyalton boomed. And, when the Boca & Loyalton railroad arrived in 1901, Loyalton's city boundaries encompassed an area of 50 square miles, making it one of the largest towns in California by land area.

With the decline of gold mining, Loyalton's logging industry experienced a slump and, by 1915, nearly all the lumber mills closed.

After World War II, when pasteurization regulations came into effect, the local ranchers switched from dairy cows to raising beef cattle. Today, the Sierra Valley is summer pasture for beef cattle. The production of hay continues as it has since the mid-1800s when the valley was settled. Sierra Valley ranches are renowned for the quality of their hay, which is a function of warm summers with cool nights and a pristine environment.

### 1.2.3 Governance

Loyalton is governed by the five-member City Council, where one member serves as Mayor. The City Council assumes responsibility and will oversee implementation of this plan.



## 1.3 CURRENT TRENDS

### 1.3.1 Population

According to the California Department of Finance, the population of Loyalton as of January 1, 2024 was 724. Since April 1, 2020, the population has decreased by 1.9 percent. A negligible annual average decrease in residents has occurred since 2010 (0.04 percent).

### 1.3.2 Development

Table 1-2. Recent and Expected Future Development Trends

Criterion	Response
Has your jurisdiction annexed any land since the preparation of the previous hazard mitigation plan?	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If yes, give the estimated area annexed and estimated number of parcels or structures.</li> </ul>	
Is your jurisdiction expected to annex any areas during the performance period of this plan?	No; pending improvements to the City water system until additional substantive development can be conducted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If yes, describe land areas and dominant uses.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If yes, who currently has permitting authority over these areas?</li> </ul>	
Provide the number of new construction permits for each hazard area or provide a qualitative description of where development has occurred.	Very limited development, including some modular buildings for the school district offices on School Street near Railroad Avenue.
Are any areas targeted for development or major redevelopment in the next five years?	Yes, potentially
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If yes, briefly describe, including whether any of the areas are in known hazard risk areas</li> </ul>	<p>The City and Sierra County received a development application for the Forrest Edge Residential Community in July, 2022 for development of a mobile home park (construction of 52 manufactured homes on about 12 acres at 205 Hill Street) of which 7 units would be constructed within Loyalton’s City limits and the remaining 45 units constructed in the County.</p> <p>The City provided water and sewer service to this site which was previously used as a mobile home park, but since abandoned. The project development application is on hold pending improvements to the City’s water system. The water system, due to antiquated lines and equipment, currently does not have capacity to serve significant new development.</p>



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
How many permits for new construction were issued in your jurisdiction since the preparation of the previous hazard mitigation plan?	Single Family	0	0	0	0
	Multi-Family	0	0	0	0
	Other (mobile homes, accessory dwellings, mixed use, etc.)	0	0	0	0
	Commercial	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Describe the level of buildout in the jurisdiction, based on your jurisdiction’s buildable lands inventory. If no such inventory exists, provide a qualitative description.	<p>Based on an inventory conducted in 2024 for the General Plan Housing Element Update the City has 16 vacant residentially zoned lots of approximately 8.5 acres that could be developed at a range of between 19 and 67 units.</p> <p>There is no inventory of vacant non-residential land available but reviewing zoning and aerial maps there is some limited vacant commercial land available along Highway 49 (approximately 5 acres) and significant vacant industrial land at the northeast end of town of about 15 acres that could be built out. There are many vacant and/or abandoned commercial buildings in town that may affect potential investment of future new commercial development in Loyalton.</p>				

## 1.4 CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

This section describes an assessment of existing capabilities for implementing hazard mitigation strategies. The introduction at the beginning of this volume of the hazard mitigation plan describes the components included in the capability assessment and their significance for hazard mitigation planning.

Findings of the capability assessment were reviewed to identify opportunities to expand or improve upon capabilities to further hazard mitigation goals and objectives. Where such opportunities were identified and determined to be feasible, they are included in the action plan.

### 1.4.1 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities

Jurisdictions have the ability to develop plans and programs and to implement regulations to protect and serve community members. An assessment of planning and regulatory capabilities is presented in Table 1-3.



Table 1-3. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities

	Local Authority	Other Jurisdiction Authority	State Mandated	Integration Opportunity?
<b>Codes, Ordinances, &amp; Requirements</b>				
<b>Building Code</b>	Yes	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>	Chapter 10.04			
<b>Zoning Code</b>	Yes	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>	Chapter 12.08, Ordinance No. 424, Adopted October 19, 2021			
<b>Subdivisions</b>	Yes	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>	Chapter 12.04			
<b>Stormwater Management</b>	Yes	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>	Chapter 14.01			
<b>Post-Disaster Recovery</b>			No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Real Estate Disclosure</b>	No	Yes	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Growth Management</b>		No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Site Plan Review</b>		Yes	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Environmental Protection</b>		No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Flood Damage Prevention</b>	Yes	No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>	Chapter 14.01			
<b>Emergency Management</b>		No	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Climate Change</b>		No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Planning Documents</b>				
<b>General Plan</b>	Yes	No	Yes	
<b>Is the General Plan compliant with Assembly Bill 2140?</b>	No			
<i>Comment:</i>	City of Loyalton General Plan 2015. The 2024-29 Housing Element was adopted by the City on February 18, 2025. Several programs in the Housing Element require that the City further update the General Plan during this period to include an update to the Safety Element and create a new Environmental Justice Element.			
<b>Capital Improvement Plan</b>	Yes	No	No	
<b>How often is the plan updated?</b>				
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Disaster Debris Management Plan</b>		Yes	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Floodplain or Watershed Plan</b>		No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Stormwater Plan</b>		No	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Urban Water Management Plan</b>		No	Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				



	Local Authority	Other Jurisdiction Authority	State Mandated	Integration Opportunity?
<b>Habitat Conservation Plan</b>		No	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Economic Development Plan</b>		No	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Community Wildfire Protection Plan</b>		No	No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Forest Management Plan</b>			No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Climate Action Plan</b>			Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Threat &amp; Hazard Identification &amp; Risk Assessment (THIRA)</b>			No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Post-Disaster Recovery Plan</b>			No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Continuity of Operations Plan</b>			No	
<i>Comment:</i>				
<b>Public Health Plan</b>			Yes	
<i>Comment:</i>	Sierra County Public Health			
<b>Other</b>			No	
<i>Comment:</i>				

**Opportunities to Expand Planning and Regulatory Capabilities**

Related policies and programs in the General Plan are listed as follows:

- GP-1 Provide sufficient areas for each type of land use to permit full development needed to meet the demands of population growth and economic advancement. (Housing Element)
- GP-2 Promote a combination of employment and residential uses that provide both jobs and housing for Loyalton’s residents. (Housing Element)
- GP-3 Ensure an adequate supply and variety of commercial and industrial sites.
- GP-5 Consider the fiscal impacts of development in order to ensure that the City has adequate financial resources to fund community projects and programs.
- EP-1. The City shall delineate evacuation routes and alternate evacuation routes. (Circulation Element)
- EP-3. Provide adequate access for medical emergency equipment in new developments.
- EP-4. Design and construct all buildings to provide a safe environment and a plan for evacuation. (Housing Element) (Noise Element)
- EI-1. In cooperation with public protection agencies, delineate evacuation routes, emergency vehicle routes for emergency response and, where possible, alternative routes where congestion or road failure could occur.
- EI-2. Require major developments to provide access and funding for fire-fighting services adequate for the proposed development.



- El-3. Update the City of Loyalton Emergency Response Plan that identifies specific response procedures and responsibilities for responding to emergency situations and that includes regular testing of the Plan at appropriate intervals.
- SSP-1. Minimize risk to life and property from seismic activity.
- SSP-2. Include seismic safety considerations in public utility systems improvements and expansions.
- SSP-3. Continue implementation of Uniform Building Code in construction.
- SSP-4. Plan for appropriate densities and types of land use on sloped lands.
- FP-1. Maintain the present level of fire protection in developed areas and extend the same or greater level of service to new developments. (Land Use Element)
- FP-2. Ensure that fire safety is considered when capital improvements (such as water line extensions) and development proposals are planned.
- FI-1. Continued review of all new development projects by the Loyalton Fire Department.
- FI-2. Cooperation with the Loyalton Fire Protection Department in sizing new water lines and locating hydrants.
- FI-3. Improve water system capabilities as they affect fire protection.

As such, the City is committed to integrating the Hazard Mitigation Plan into the General Plan Safety Element by means of Mitigation Action 2 (see Table 1-13).

### 1.4.2 Development and Permitting Capabilities

Jurisdictions regulate land use through the adoption and enforcement of zoning, subdivision and land development ordinances, building codes, building permit ordinances, floodplain, and stormwater management ordinances. When effectively prepared and administered, these regulations can lead to hazard mitigation. Development and permitting capabilities are presented in Table 1-2.

Table 1-4. Development and Permitting Capabilities

Criterion	Response
Does your jurisdiction issue development permits?	Yes
If no, who does? If yes, which department?	City Hall, with site plan submittal to contract planner
Does your jurisdiction track permits by hazard area?	No
Does your jurisdiction have a buildable lands inventory?	Yes, in the General Plan

### 1.4.3 Fiscal Capabilities

Assessing a jurisdiction’s fiscal capability provides an understanding of the ability to fulfill the financial needs associated with hazard mitigation projects. This assessment identifies both outside resources, such as grant-funding eligibility, and local jurisdictional authority to generate internal financial capability, such as through impact fees. An assessment of fiscal capabilities is presented in Table 1-5.



Table 1-5. Fiscal Capabilities

Financial Resource	Accessible or Eligible to Use?
Community Development Block Grants	Yes
Capital Improvements Project Funding	Yes
Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes	
User Fees for Water, Sewer, Gas or Electric Service	Yes
<i>If yes, specify:</i>   Water and Sewer	
Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds	No
Incur Debt through Special Tax Bonds	No
Incur Debt through Private Activity Bonds	No
Withhold Public Expenditures in Hazard-Prone Areas	No
State-Sponsored Grant Programs	Yes
Development Impact Fees for Homebuyers or Developers	None

### **Opportunities to Expand Fiscal Capabilities**

The City's limited budget/resources limits its ability to improve capacity for needed public services to the extent that it is very challenging to address current and future fiscal capabilities. This continues to be a challenge as the City continues to lose population, thus reducing revenue, while at the same time trying to maintain ever-increasing costs for providing needed municipal services.

The primary objective for the City of Loyalton to participate in this planning process is to pursue FEMA HMA grant funding opportunities. HMA funding streams typically require a 25 percent match. The City has identified potential match funding sources in **Error! Reference source not found.** The overall plan maintenance strategy includes an annual agenda item to seek contract support for grant-writing when needed to pursue HMA grants. Additionally, the City sees needs to expand fiscal capabilities with funding for community and capacity building and has included Mitigation Action 7 (see Table 1-13) to address this need.

#### **1.4.4 Administrative and Technical Capabilities**

Planning, regulatory, and fiscal capabilities provide the backbone for successfully developing a mitigation strategy; however, without appropriate personnel, the strategy may not be implemented. Administrative and technical capabilities focus on the availability of personnel resources responsible for implementing all the facets of hazard mitigation. These resources include technical experts, such as engineers and scientists, as well as personnel with capabilities that may be found in multiple departments, such as grant writers. An assessment of administrative and technical capabilities is presented in Table 1-6.



Table 1-6. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Staff/Personnel Resource	Available?
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Yes
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i> Contract Planner	
Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices	Yes
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i> Contract Building Inspector from Plumas County	
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	Yes
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i> Contract Planning Director	
Staff with training in benefit-cost analysis	Yes
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i> Volunteer grant-writer from Plumas County	
Surveyors	No
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i>	
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS applications	No
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i>	
Scientist familiar with natural hazards in local area	No
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i>	
Emergency manager	No
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i>	
Grant writers	No
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i>	
Procurement Services and Management	No
<i>If Yes, Department /Position:</i>	

**Opportunities to Expand Administrative and Technical Capabilities**

The City is limited in administrative and technical capabilities and therefore will seek expansion by implementing Mitigation Action 7 (see Table 1-13).

**1.4.5 Education and Outreach Capabilities**

Regular engagement with the community on issues regarding hazard mitigation provides an opportunity to directly interface with community members. Assessing this outreach and education capability illustrates the connection between the government and community members, which opens a two-way dialogue that can result in a more resilient community based on education and public engagement. An assessment of education and outreach capabilities is presented in Table 1-7.

Table 1-7. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Criterion	Response
Do you have a public information officer or communications office?	No, but we rely on the Sierra County Sheriff’s Office for major notification. Notices are sent in water bills, on Post Office bulletin boards and at Leonard’s Market.
Do you have personnel skilled or trained in website development?	The City Mayor does minor updates to the website.
Do you have hazard mitigation information available on your website?	No
<i>If yes, briefly describe:</i>	
Do you use social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach?	No



<i>If yes, briefly describe:</i>	
Do you have any citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation?	Yes
<i>If yes, briefly describe:</i>	City Council, Volunteer Fire Fighters, Rotary Club helps with fuels reduction
Do you have any other programs in place that could be used to communicate hazard-related information?	Yes
<i>If yes, briefly describe:</i>	Planning Director makes amendments to Website
Do you have any established warning systems for hazard events?	No
<i>If yes, briefly describe:</i>	

**Opportunities to Expand Education and Outreach Capabilities**

The City’s limited budget/resources restricts its ability to pay for education and outreach capabilities. However, regular City Council meetings and maintaining a public website provide for potential education and public outreach opportunities. The City is committed to increasing education and outreach capabilities by identifying Mitigation Actions 4 and 6 (see Table 1-13).

**1.4.6 Community Classifications**

Other programs, such as Storm Ready, can enhance a jurisdiction’s ability to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to natural hazards. These programs indicate a jurisdiction’s capability to go beyond minimum regulatory requirements in order to create a more resilient community. These programs focus on communication, mitigation, and community preparedness to minimize the impact of natural hazards on a community. Classifications under various community mitigation programs are presented in Table 1-8.

Table 1-8. Community Classifications

	Participating?	Classification	Date Classified
FIPS Code	Yes		N/A
UEI#	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community Rating System	No	N/A	N/A
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule	No	N/A	N/A
Public Protection (ISO for Fire)	Yes	6/6x	N/A
Storm Ready	No	N/A	N/A
Firewise	Yes	N/A	N/A

**1.4.7 Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change**

An adaptive capacity assessment evaluates a jurisdiction’s ability to anticipate impacts from future conditions. By looking at public support, technical adaptive capacity, and other factors, jurisdictions identify their core capability for resilience against issues such as extreme heat. The adaptive capacity assessment provides jurisdictions with an opportunity to identify areas for improvement by ranking their capacity high, medium, or low. The community’s adaptive capacity for the impacts of climate change is presented in Table 1-9.



Table 1-9. Adaptive Capacity for Climate Change

Criterion		Jurisdiction Rating <sup>a</sup>
<b>Technical Capacity</b>		
Jurisdiction-level understanding of potential climate change impacts		Low
<i>Comment:</i>	Update of the Safety Element in 2026 will include climate adaptation and improve Council’s understanding of adaptive capacity for climate change.	
Jurisdiction-level monitoring of climate change impacts		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Technical resources to assess proposed strategies for feasibility and externalities		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Jurisdiction-level capacity for development of greenhouse gas emissions inventory		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Capital planning and land use decisions informed by potential climate impacts		Low
<i>Comment:</i>	Update of the Safety Element in 2026 will include climate adaptation and improve Council’s understanding so that decisions may soon be informed. The LHMP and Safety Element should contain policies and programs for City and County collaboration to address climate impacts. The City will need to rely on the County and other partner agencies to help reduce vulnerabilities to climate change.	
Participation in regional groups addressing climate risks		Low
<i>Comment:</i>	Through City Council	
<b>Implementation Capacity</b>		
Clear authority/mandate to consider climate change impacts during public decision-making processes		Low
<i>Comment:</i>	Currently as mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act through review of development projects.	
Identified strategies for greenhouse gas mitigation efforts		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Identified strategies for adaptation to impacts		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Champions for climate action in local government departments		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Political support for implementing climate change adaptation strategies		Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>		
Financial resources devoted to climate change adaptation		Low
<i>Comment:</i>		
Local authority over sectors likely to be negative impacted		Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>	Currently as mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act through review of development projects.	
<b>Public Capacity</b>		
Residents’ knowledge of and understanding of climate risk		Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>	Need public workshop and survey	
Residents’ support of adaptation efforts		Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>	Need public workshop and survey	
Residents’ capacity to adapt to climate impacts		Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>	Need public workshop and survey	



Criterion	Jurisdiction Rating <sup>a</sup>
Local economy current capacity to adapt to climate impacts	Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>	
Local ecosystems capacity to adapt to climate impacts	Unsure
<i>Comment:</i>	Need public workshop and survey

a. High = Capacity exists and is in use; Medium = Capacity may exist but is not used or could use some improvement; Low = Capacity does not exist or could use substantial improvement; Unsure= Not enough information is known to assign a rating.

## 1.5 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

Flooding is the costliest natural hazard in the United States. Community participation in the NFIP opens up opportunity for additional grant funding associated specifically with flooding issues. Assessment of the jurisdiction’s current NFIP status and compliance provides planners with a greater understanding of the local flood management program, opportunities for improvement, and available grant funding opportunities. Information on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance is presented in Table 1-10.

Table 1-10. National Flood Insurance Program Compliance

Criterion	Response
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Sierra County Building/Planning
Who is your floodplain administrator? (department/position)	Sierra County Director of Planning
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	No
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	2021
Does your floodplain management program meet or exceed minimum requirements?	Exceeds. 1-foot freeboard.
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit or Community Assistance Contact?	2006 done and included a final report. 2009 City of Loyalton had a CAV. Loyalton has been responsible for their own since. 2013. 2015, but no final resolution for the report



Does your jurisdiction have any outstanding NFIP compliance violations that need to be addressed?		None
Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction?		Yes, underway, but the maps do not accurately reflect risk. Currently in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> round of revisions.
Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction?		No. Sierra Valley mapping is not complete.
Does your floodplain management staff need any assistance or training to support its floodplain management program?		Yes.
<i>If so, what type of assistance/training is needed?</i>	Three or four County staff members need training for floodplain management, but no training has been identified. No CFMs on the County staff; needed for floodplain administrator.	
Does your jurisdiction have a Substantial Damage Response Plan?		No
How does your jurisdiction assess substantial damages?	Assessed by a contracted appraiser and the floodplain administrator. An assessment of all structures has not been done. No inventory of homeowners interested in elevations.	
Does your jurisdiction participate in the Community Rating System (CRS)?		No
<i>If yes, is your jurisdiction interested in improving its CRS Classification?</i>		N/A
How many flood insurance policies are in force in your jurisdiction? <sup>a</sup>		8
<i>What is the insurance in force?</i>		\$1,518,000
<i>What is the premium in force?</i>		\$14,718
How many total loss claims have been filed in your jurisdiction? <sup>a</sup>		10
<i>What were the total payments for losses?</i>		\$133,803

a. According to FEMA statistics as of 12/32/2024

Refer to General Plan Public Health Safety Element Policies and Programs as follows:

- FHP-1. Reduce damage from flooding. (Housing Element)
- FHP-3. Prevent drainage problems in future developments.
- FHP-4. Encourage basin-wide or regional drainage planning for our area. (Open Space and Conservation Element)
- FHP-5 Consider flood control mitigation for the flood control channel of Smithneck Creek. The City must coordinate with Fish & Game as this area is under their jurisdiction.
- FHP-6 The City will require drainage plans to delineate the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year flood plain for all subdivision and multi-family projects to avoid or mitigate the potential flood hazard.
- FHI-1. Implement a flood damage prevention ordinance and other regulations related to flood prevention.
- FHI-2. Review dam failure inundation maps for safety consideration.
- FHI-3. Cooperate with FEMA in keeping flood hazard maps up to date.
- FHI-4. Require measures, which mitigate to acceptable levels (one hour run-off) run-off from future projects.
- FHI-5 The City should seek appropriate methods for drainage along Smithneck Creek.



FHI-6. The City of Loyalton shall establish AB1600 Development Impact Fees for storm drains and all new development shall pay the required fee.

## 1.6 INTEGRATION

For hazard mitigation planning, “integration” means that hazard mitigation information is used in other relevant planning mechanisms, such as capital facilities planning, and that relevant information from those sources is used in hazard mitigation. This section identifies where such integration is already in place, and where there are opportunities for further integration in the future. Resources listed at the end of this annex were used to provide information on integration. The progress reporting process described in Volume 1 of the hazard mitigation plan will document the progress of hazard mitigation actions related to integration and identify new opportunities for integration.

### 1.6.1 Opportunities for Future Integration

The capability assessment in this annex indicates opportunities to integrate this mitigation plan with other jurisdictional planning/regulatory capabilities. Capabilities were identified as integration opportunities if they can support or enhance the actions identified in this plan or be supported or enhanced by components of this plan. The capability assessment identified the following plans and programs that do not currently integrate hazard mitigation information but provide opportunities to do so in the future:

- **General Plan Public Health and Safety Plan.** Update in accordance with Program 3-3-2, of the General Plan Safety Element to address SB 379 regarding climate adaptation and to incorporate provisions of the LHMP into the General Plan.

## 1.7 RISK ASSESSMENT

### 1.7.1 Jurisdiction-Specific Natural Hazard Event History

Table 1-11 lists past occurrences of natural hazards for which specific damage was recorded in this jurisdiction. Other hazard events that broadly affected the entire planning area, including this jurisdiction, are listed in the risk assessments in Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan.

Table 1-11. Past Natural Hazard Events

Type of Event	Declaration Title	State or Federal Disaster #	Declaration Date	Damage Assessment
Severe Storm	Severe Winter Storms, Straight-Line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR-4699-CA	4/3/2023	
Flood	Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	EM-3592-CA	3/10/2023	
Storm	December 2021 Storms	2022-03	12/30/2021	



Fire	Wildfires	DR-4558-CA 2020-06	8/22/2020	
Biological	Covid-19 Pandemic	DR-4482-CA	3/22/2020	
Flood	Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, and Mudslides	DR-4308-CA 2017-03	4/1/2017	
Severe Storm	Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, and Mudslides	DR-4301-CA	2/14/2017	
Flood	2008 January Storms	2008-01	1/5/2008	
Severe Storm	Severe Storms, Flooding, Mudslides, and Landslides	DR-1628-CA 2006-01	2/3/2006	
Flood	Extreme Rainfall	2005-07	11/7/2005	\$504,323
Severe Storm	Severe Storms, Flooding, Mud and Landslides	DR-1155-CA 97-01	1/4/1997	
Severe Storm	Severe Winter Storms, Flooding Landslides, Mud Flow	DR-1046-CA 95-03	3/12/1995	
Flood	Severe Winter Storm, Mud & Land Slides, & Flooding	DR-979-CA 93-01	2/3/1993	
Fire	1987 Wildland Fires	No number	9/10/87, 9/3/87	
Flood	Severe Storms & Flooding	DR-758-CA 86-01	2/21/1986	
Flood	Heavy Rains and Flooding	82-03	4/1/1982	
Flood	1980 April Storms	80-01 thru 80-25	4/1/1980	
Drought	Drought	EM-3023-CA	1/20/1977	
Flood	Severe Storms & Flooding	DR-253-CA	1/26/1969	
Flood	Heavy Rains & Flooding	DR-183-CA	12/24/1964	
Flood	1963 Floods and Rains	No number	2/7/63, 2/26/63, 2/29/63, 4/22/63	
Flood	1962 Floods and Rains	No number	10/17/62, 10/25/62, 10/30/62, & 11/4/62	
Fire	1960 Major Fires	No number	8/16/1960	

### 1.7.2 Hazard Ranking

The prioritization and categorization of identified hazards for Loyalton is based principally on the Priority Risk Index (PRI), a tool used to measure the degree of risk for identified hazards in a particular planning area. The PRI was used to assist the City in identifying hazards that pose the most significant threat. Table 1-12 presents a local ranking of all hazards of concern for which this hazard mitigation



plan provides complete risk assessments. As described in detail in Volume 1, the ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard, along with its potential impacts on people, property, and the economy.

Table 1-12. Hazard Risk Ranking Summary

Hazard	Weighted Risk Factors					PRI	Risk Ranking
	Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Climate Change		
Avalanche	0	0	0	0	0	0	None
Dam Failure	0	0	0	0	0	0	None
Drought	1.2	.30	.80	.10	.30	2.7	Medium
Earthquake	.30	.60	.80	.40	.20	2.3	Medium
Extreme Heat	1.2	.60	.80	.10	.30	3.0	High
Flood	.90	.30	.20	.10	.30	1.8	Low
Landslide/Mass Movement	0	0	0	0	0	0	None
Volcanic Activity	.30	.30	.80	.10	.20	1.7	Low
Wildfire	.90	.30	.80	.40	.30	2.7	Medium
Winter Storm	1.2	.60	.80	.10	.30	3.0	High

### 1.7.3 Jurisdiction-Specific Vulnerabilities

Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan provides complete risk assessments for each identified hazard of concern. This section provides information on a few key vulnerabilities for this jurisdiction. Available jurisdiction-specific risk maps of the hazards are provided at the end of this annex.

#### *Repetitive Loss Properties*

Repetitive loss records are as follows:

- Number of FEMA-identified Repetitive-Loss Properties: No records
- Number of FEMA-identified Severe-Repetitive-Loss Properties: No records
- Number of Repetitive-Loss Properties or Severe-Repetitive-Loss Properties that have been mitigated: No records

#### *Other Noted Vulnerabilities*

There are no other jurisdiction-specific issues that have been identified based on a review of the results of the risk assessment, public involvement strategy, and other available resources.



## 1.8 HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGY

This section includes the following components of the mitigation strategy for this jurisdiction:

- Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Matrix
- Mitigation Action Prioritization
- Mitigation Action Classification and Natural Hazards Addressed

Table 1-13. Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Matrix

Action Number	Action Description	Community Lifeline Addressed	Benefits New or Existing Assets	Goals and Objectives Met	Lead and Support Implementers	Benefits Equity Priority Community?	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Timeline
1	Where appropriate, support retrofitting, purchase or relocation of structures located in hazard areas, prioritizing those that have experienced repetitive losses and/or are in high- or medium-risk hazard areas.	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health & Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Haz Mat; Water Systems	Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes	Very High (\$1,000,000 and above)		Long-Term (5 years or more)
2	Integrate the hazard mitigation plan into other plans, ordinances and programs that dictate land use decisions in the community, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Plan</li> <li>• CWPP</li> </ul>	Food, Hydration, Shelter	New and Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes	Low (\$0-\$50,000)	Staff Time, General Fund	Short-Term (less than 5 years)
3	Continue to maintain good standing and compliance under the NFIP through implementation of floodplain management programs that, at a minimum, meet the NFIP requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforce the flood damage prevention ordinance.</li> </ul>	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health & Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Haz Mat; Water Systems	New and Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes	Low (\$0-\$50,000)	Staff Time, General Fund	Short-Term (less than 5 years)



Action Number	Action Description	Community Lifeline Addressed	Benefits New or Existing Assets	Goals and Objectives Met	Lead and Support Implementers	Benefits Equity Priority Community?	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Timeline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in floodplain identification and mapping updates.</li> <li>Provide public assistance / information on floodplain requirements and impacts.</li> </ul>								
4	Identify and pursue strategies to increase adaptive capacity to climate change including but not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the General Plan for compliance with SB 379</li> <li>Educating community members through public workshops and surveys</li> </ul>	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health & Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Haz Mat; Water Systems	New and Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes	Low (\$0-\$50,000)	Staff Time, General Fund	Short-Term (less than 5 years)
5	Purchase generators for City-owned critical facilities and infrastructure that lack adequate backup power.	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health & Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation	Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes	High (\$250,000-\$1,000,000)		Short-Term (less than 5 years)
6	Develop a fuels reduction program to include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate community members about defensible space</li> <li>Provide assistance to establish defensible space</li> <li>Haul removed fuels to the dump</li> </ul>	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health & Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Haz Mat; Water Systems	Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes			Short-Term (less than 5 years)
7	Seek funding for community and capacity building to	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health &	Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes			Short-Term (less



Action Number	Action Description	Community Lifeline Addressed	Benefits New or Existing Assets	Goals and Objectives Met	Lead and Support Implementers	Benefits Equity Priority Community?	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Timeline
	increase citywide staffing support.	Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Haz Mat; Water Systems							than 5 years)
8	Retrofit the existing fire station with larger bay doors that comply with current seismic codes and that can accommodate the new engines.	Safety & Security	Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes			Short-Term (less than 5 years)
9	Support the Countywide mitigation actions outlined in Volume 1 of this hazard mitigation plan.	Safety & Security; Food, Hydration, Shelter; Health & Medical; Energy; Communications; Transportation; Haz Mat; Water Systems	New and Existing	Goals:	Lead: City Council	Yes	Low (\$0-\$50,000)	Staff Time	Short-Term (less than 5 years)



## 1.9 PUBLIC OUTREACH

Broad public participation in the planning process helps ensure that diverse points of view about the jurisdiction’s needs are considered and addressed. Jurisdictional outreach efforts are listed in Table 1-14

Table 1-14. Public Outreach

Local Outreach Activity	Date	Number of People Involved
Meals on Wheels delivery drivers distribution of paper copies of the hazard awareness survey	Throughout the planning process	Approx. 30
Local Newspaper	Throughout the planning process	Consistent with number of subscribers
City Hall display of paper copies of the survey with postage-paid envelopes	Throughout the planning process	Approx. 75 people every week

Figure 1-1. Public Hazard Awareness Flyer and Survey Distribution at Loyalton City Hall (left) Spaghetti Feed Flyer for Community Engagement (right)



## 1.10 INFORMATION SOURCES USED FOR THIS ANNEX

The following technical reports, plans, and regulatory mechanisms were reviewed to provide information for this annex.



- **2024-29 Housing Element Update adopted February 18, 2025.** Population, housing, and cited policies and programs.
- **Loyalton General Plan adopted June 16, 2015.** Policies and programs cited related to hazard mitigation.

The following outside resources and references were reviewed:

- **Hazard Mitigation Plan Annex Development Toolkit.** The toolkit was used to support the identification of past hazard events and noted vulnerabilities, the risk ranking, and the development of the mitigation action plan.