



FEMA

R8-MT

May 30, 2018

San Miguel County Board of County Commissioners
San Miguel County Courthouse
333 W Colorado Avenue, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1170
Telluride, CO 81435

Dear Commissioners:

We are pleased to announce the approval of the San Miguel County All Hazard Mitigation Plan as meeting the requirements of the Stafford Act and Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations §201.6 for a local hazard mitigation plan. The plan approval extends to San Miguel County; the Towns of Telluride, Norwood, and Ophir; and the Telluride Fire Protection District.

The jurisdictions are hereby eligible for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs. All requests for funding will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility and other requirements of the particular programs under which the application is submitted. Approved mitigation plans may be eligible for points under the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System.

The plan is approved through May 29, 2023. A local jurisdiction must revise its plan and resubmit it for approval within five years to continue to be eligible for mitigation project grant funding. We have provided recommendations for the next plan update on the enclosed Plan Review Tool.

We wish to thank the jurisdictions for participating in the process and commend your continued commitment to mitigation planning. Please contact Steve Boand, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Colorado Department of Emergency Services, at steven.boand@state.co.us or (303) 915-6063 with any questions on the plan approval or mitigation grant programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanine D. Petterson".

Jeanine D. Petterson
Mitigation Division Director

Enclosure

cc: Steve Boand, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Colorado Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW TOOL

The *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool* demonstrates how the Local Mitigation Plan meets the regulation in 44 CFR §201.6 and offers States and FEMA Mitigation Planners an opportunity to provide feedback to the community.

- The Regulation Checklist provides a summary of FEMA’s evaluation of whether the Plan has addressed all requirements.
- The Plan Assessment identifies the plan’s strengths as well as documents areas for future improvement.
- The Multi-jurisdiction Summary Sheet is an optional worksheet that can be used to document how each jurisdiction met the requirements of the each Element of the Plan (Planning Process; Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment; Mitigation Strategy; Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation; and Plan Adoption).

The FEMA Mitigation Planner must reference this *Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide* when completing the *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool*.

Jurisdiction: San Miguel County (Multi-Jurisdiction)	Title of Plan: San Miguel County All Hazard Mitigation Plan	Date of Plan: 10/16/2017
Local Point of Contact: Jennifer Dinsmore	Address: 684 CR 63L Telluride, CO 81435	E-Mail: jenniferd@sanmiguelsheriff.org
Title: Emergency Management Coordinator		
Agency: San Miguel County Sheriff’s Office		
Phone Number: (970) 728-9546		

State Reviewer: Patricia L. Gavelda	Title: DHSEM Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Program Manager;	Date: 06/14/2017, 01/18/2018, 1/31/2018
Mark W. Thompson	Mitigation Planning Specialist	

FEMA Reviewer: Nicole Aimone	Title: Lead Community Planner	Date: 3/6/2018
Date Received in FEMA Region VIII	1/31/2018	
Plan Not Approved		
Plan Approvable Pending Adoption	3/6/2018	
Plan Approved	5/30/2018	

**SECTION 1:
MULTI-JURISDICTION SUMMARY SHEET**

MULTI-JURISDICTION SUMMARY SHEET									
#	Jurisdiction Name	Jurisdiction Type	Jurisdiction Contact	Email	Requirements Met (Y/N)				
					A. Planning Process	B. HIRA	C. Mitigation Strategy	D. Update Rqmts.	E. Adoption Resolution
1	San Miguel County	County	Jennifer Dinsmore	jenniferd@sanmiguelsheriff.org	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Town of Telluride	Home Rule Municipality	Karen Guglielmone	KGuglielmone@telluride-co.gov	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	Town of Mountain Village	Home Rule Municipality	Chris Broady	cbroady@mtnvillage.org	Y	Y	Y	Y	
4	Town of Norwood	Statutory Town	Patti Grafmeyer	grafmyer@norwoodtown.com	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5	Town of Ophir	Home Rule Municipality	Randy Barnes	admin@town-ophir.co.gov	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
6	Town of Sawpit	Statutory Town	Mike Kimball	michaelnjoyce@msn.com	Y	Y	Y	Y	
7	Egnar/Slickrock Fire Protection District	Special District	Connie Sprague	egnar.slickrock.fire@gmail.com	Y	Y	Y	Y	
8	Norwood/Redvale Fire Protection District	Special District	Joe Conway	joe@norwoodfiredistrict.org	Y	Y	Y	Y	
9	Telluride Fire Protection District	Special District	John Bennett	jbennett@telluridefire.com	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
10									

**SECTION 2:
REGULATION CHECKLIST**

REGULATION CHECKLIST	Location in Plan	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)	(section and/or		
ELEMENT A. PLANNING PROCESS			
A1. Does the Plan document the planning process, including how it was prepared and who was involved in the process for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(1))	Pgs 28-38	X	
A2. Does the Plan document an opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, agencies that have the authority to regulate development as well as other interests to be involved in the planning process? (Requirement §201.6(b)(2))	Pg 35	X	
A3. Does the Plan document how the public was involved in the planning process during the drafting stage? (Requirement §201.6(b)(1))	Pg 34	X	
A4. Does the Plan describe the review and incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information? (Requirement §201.6(b)(3))	Pgs 106-135	X	
A5. Is there discussion of how the community(ies) will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii))	Pg 182	X	
A6. Is there a description of the method and schedule for keeping the plan current (monitoring, evaluating and updating the mitigation plan within a 5-year cycle)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i))	Pgs 180-182	X	
<u>ELEMENT A: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>			
ELEMENT B. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT			
B1. Does the Plan include a description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect each jurisdiction(s)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i))	Pg 39-105	X	
B2. Does the Plan include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i))	Pg 39-105	X	
B3. Is there a description of each identified hazard’s impact on the community as well as an overall summary of the community’s vulnerability for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii))	Pg 39-105, 140-169	X	
B4. Does the Plan address NFIP insured structures within the jurisdiction that have been repetitively damaged by floods? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii))	Pg 150- no RL properties in the county	X	
<u>ELEMENT B: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>			

REGULATION CHECKLIST	Location in Plan (section and/or	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)			
ELEMENT C. MITIGATION STRATEGY			
C1. Does the plan document each jurisdiction’s existing authorities, policies, programs and resources and its ability to expand on and improve these existing policies and programs? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3))	Pgs 106-135	X	
C2. Does the Plan address each jurisdiction’s participation in the NFIP and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii))	Pgs 108-109	X	
C3. Does the Plan include goals to reduce/avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(i))	Pgs 170-171	X	
C4. Does the Plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each jurisdiction being considered to reduce the effects of hazards, with emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii))	Pgs 172-179	X	
C5. Does the Plan contain an action plan that describes how the actions identified will be prioritized (including cost benefit review), implemented, and administered by each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iv)); (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iii))	Pgs 170-173, Appendix 1	X	
C6. Does the Plan describe a process by which local governments will integrate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii))	Pgs 180-181	X	
<u>ELEMENT C: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>			
ELEMENT D. PLAN REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION (applicable to plan updates only)			
D1. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in development? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	Pgs 18-27	X	
D2. Was the plan revised to reflect progress in local mitigation efforts? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	Pgs 15-16, 172-179	X	
D3. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in priorities? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	Pgs 170-171	X	
<u>ELEMENT D: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>			
ELEMENT E. PLAN ADOPTION			
E1. Does the Plan include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5))	NA		

REGULATION CHECKLIST	Location in Plan (section and/or	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans) E2. For multi-jurisdictional plans, has each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan documented formal plan adoption? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5))		X	
<u>ELEMENT E: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>			
ELEMENT F. ADDITIONAL STATE REQUIREMENTS (OPTIONAL FOR STATE REVIEWERS ONLY; NOT TO BE COMPLETED BY FEMA)			
F1.			
F2.			
<u>ELEMENT F: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>			

**SECTION 3:
PLAN ASSESSMENT**

A. Plan Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

This section provides a discussion of the strengths of the plan document and identifies areas where these could be improved beyond minimum requirements.

Element A: Planning Process

Strength: Great discussion of the process overall and how each jurisdiction participated in the HIRA development and Mitigation Strategy.

Element B: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Strength: The Planning Team did a great job in creating a focused and concise vulnerability assessment that will help the community prioritize mitigation efforts.

Element C: Mitigation Strategy

Opportunity for Improvement: Communities are welcome to include actions related to emergency response or operational preparedness, but they do not count toward the requirements for a hazard mitigation plan. Many of the actions listed are of this nature. For the next Update, consider consulting FEMA's Mitigation Ideas resource (<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/30627>) and including more actions from other mitigation categories, such as planning and regulations that limit development in hazard areas, structure and infrastructure projects, natural systems protection.

Element D: Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation (Plan Updates Only)

B. Resources for Implementing Your Approved Plan

FEMA FUNDING SOURCES

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation program. It is made available to states by FEMA after each Federal disaster declaration. The HMGP can provide up to 75 percent funding for hazard mitigation measures. The HMGP can be used to fund cost-effective projects that will protect public or private property in an area covered by a federal disaster declaration or that will reduce the likely damage from future disasters. Examples of projects include acquisition and demolition of structures in hazard prone areas, flood-proofing or elevation to reduce future damage, minor structural improvements and development of state or local standards. Projects must fit into an overall mitigation strategy for the area identified as part of a local planning effort. All applicants must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (this plan).

Applicants who are eligible for the HMGP are state and local governments, certain nonprofit organizations or institutions that perform essential government services, and Indian tribes and

authorized tribal organizations. Individuals or homeowners cannot apply directly for the HMGP; a local government must apply on their behalf. Applications are submitted to Montana DES and placed in rank order for available funding and submitted to FEMA for final approval. Eligible projects not selected for funding are placed in an inactive status and may be considered as additional HMGP funding becomes available.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program. The FMA combines the previous Repetitive Flood Claims and Severe Repetitive Loss Grants into one grant program. FMA provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. The FMA is funded annually; no federal disaster declaration is required. Only NFIP insured homes and businesses are eligible for mitigation in this program. Funding for FMA is very limited and, as with the HMGP, individuals cannot apply directly for the program. Applications must come from local governments or other eligible organizations. The federal cost share for an FMA project is 75 percent. At least 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source. Of this 25 percent, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. At minimum, a FEMA-approved local flood mitigation plan is required before a project can be approved. FMA funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. Montana DES serves as the grantee and program administrator for FMA.

FEMA, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Competitive (PDMC) Grant Program. The PDM program is an annually funded, nationwide, competitive grant program. No disaster declaration is required. Federal funds will cover 75 percent of a project's cost up to \$3 million. As with the HMGP and FMA, a FEMA-approved local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required to be approved for funding under the PDM program.

FEMA, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, Fire Management Assistance Grant Program. This program provides grants to states, tribal governments and local governments for the mitigation, management and control of any fire burning on publicly (non-federal) or privately owned forest or grassland that threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. The grants are made in the form of cost sharing with the federal share being 75 percent of total eligible costs. Grant approvals are made within 1 to 72 hours from time of request.

Fire Prevention and Safety Grants. The Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (FP&S) are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants, and are administered by the FEMA. FP&S Grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to target high-risk populations and reduce injury and prevent death. Eligibility includes fire departments, national, regional, state, and local organizations, Native American tribal organizations, and/or community organizations recognized for their experience and expertise in fire prevention and safety programs and activities. Private non-profit and public organizations are also eligible. Interested applicants are advised to check the website periodically for announcements of grant availability. More information: <https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

OTHER MITIGATION FUNDING SOURCES

Grant funding is available from a variety of federal and state agencies for training, equipment, and hazard mitigation activities. Several of these programs are described below.

Program 15.228: Wildland Urban Interface Community and Rural Fire Assistance. This program is designed to implement the National Fire Plan and assist communities at risk from catastrophic wildland fires. The program provides grants, technical assistance, and training for community programs that develop local capability, including: Assessment and planning, mitigation activities, and community and homeowner education and action; hazardous fuels reduction activities, including the training, monitoring or maintenance associated with such hazardous fuels reduction activities, on federal land, or on adjacent nonfederal land for activities that mitigate the threat of catastrophic fire to communities and natural resources in high risk areas; and, enhancement of knowledge and fire protection capability of rural fire districts through assistance in education and training, protective clothing and equipment purchase, and mitigation methods on a cost share basis. More information: <http://www.federalgrantswire.com/wildland-urban-interface-community-and-rural-fire-assistance.html#.WCx8ekYzWUk>

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act - Title III- County Funds. The Self-Determination Act has recently been reauthorized and now includes specific language regarding the Firewise Communities program. Counties seeking funding under Title III must use the funds to perform work under the Firewise Communities program. Counties applying for Title III funds to implement Firewise activities can assist in all aspects of a community's recognition process, including conducting or assisting with community assessments, helping the community create an action plan, assisting with an annual Firewise Day, assisting with local wildfire mitigation projects, and communicating with the state liaison and the national program to ensure a smooth application process. Counties that previously used Title III funds for other wildfire preparation activities such as the Fire Safe Councils or similar would be able to carry out many of the same activities as they had before. However, with the new language, counties would be required to show that funds used for these activities were carried out under the Firewise Communities program. More information: http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c4/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gjAwhwtDDw9_Al8zPwhQoY6BdkOyoCAPkATIA!/?ss=119985&navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=FSE_003853&navid=091000000000000&pnavid=null&position=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&ttype=main&pname=Secure%20Rural%20Schools-%20Home

Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire. Established in 2015 by Headwaters Economics and Wildfire Planning International, Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW) works with communities to reduce wildfire risks through improved land use planning. CPAW is a grant-funded program providing communities with professional assistance from foresters, planners, economists and wildfire risk modelers to integrate wildfire mitigation into the development planning process. All services and recommendations are site-specific and come at no cost to the community. More information: <http://planningforwildfire.org/what-we-do/>

Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program. A cooperative program of the U.S. Forest Service that focuses on the stewardship of urban natural resources. With 80 percent of the nation's population in urban areas, there are strong environmental, social, and economic cases to be made for the conservation of green spaces to guide growth and revitalize city centers and older suburbs. UCF responds to the needs of urban areas by maintaining, restoring, and improving urban forest

ecosystems on more than 70 million acres. Through these efforts the program encourages and promotes the creation of healthier, more livable urban environments across the nation. These grant programs are focused on issues and landscapes of national importance and prioritized through state and regional assessments. Information: <http://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf>

Western Wildland Urban Interface Grants. The National Fire Plan (NFP) is a long-term strategy for reducing the effects of catastrophic wildfires throughout the nation. The Division of Forestry's NFP Program is implemented within the Division's Fire and Aviation Program through the existing USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, State Fire Assistance Program.

Congress has provided increased funding assistance to states through the U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry programs since 2001. The focus of much of this additional funding was mitigating risk in WUI areas. In the West, the State Fire Assistance funding is available and awarded through a competitive process with emphasis on hazard fuel reduction, information and education, and community and homeowner action. This portion of the National Fire Plan was developed to assist interface communities manage the unique hazards they find around them. Long-term solutions to interface challenges require informing and educating people who live in these areas about what they and their local organizations can do to mitigate these hazards.

The 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy focuses on assisting people and communities in the WUI to moderate the threat of catastrophic fire through the four broad goals of improving prevention and suppression, reducing hazardous fuels, restoring fire-adapted ecosystems, and promoting community assistance. The Western States Wildland Urban Interface Grant may be used to apply for financial assistance towards hazardous fuels and educational projects within the four goals of: improved prevention, reduction of hazardous fuels, restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems and promotion of community assistance. Information: <https://www.westernforesters.org/sites/default/files/2017-WUI-Applications-Instructions-and-Criteria-CLEAN-COPY-002b.pdf>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Rural Fire Assistance Grants. Each year, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) provides Rural Fire Assistance (RFA) grants to neighboring community fire departments to enhance local wildfire protection, purchase equipment, and train volunteer firefighters. Service fire staff also assist directly with community projects. These efforts reduce the risk to human life and better permit FWS firefighters to interact and work with community fire organizations when fighting wildfires. The Department of the Interior (DOI) receives an appropriated budget each year for an RFA grant program. The maximum award per grant is \$20,000. The [DOI assistance program](#) targets rural and volunteer fire departments that routinely help fight fire on or near DOI lands. More information: http://www.fws.gov/fire/living_with_fire/rural_fire_assistance.shtml

U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Community Assistance Program. BLM provides funds to communities through assistance agreements to complete mitigation projects, education and planning within the WUI. More information: http://www.blm.gov/nifc/st/en/prog/fire/community_assistance.html

Fire Management Assistance Program. This program is authorized under Section 420 of the Stafford Act. It allows for the mitigation, management, and control of fires burning on publicly or privately

owned forest or grasslands that threaten destruction that would constitute a major disaster. More information: <http://www.fema.gov/fire-management-assistance-grant-program>

NOAA Office of Education Grants. The Office of Education supports formal, informal and non-formal education projects and programs through competitively awarded grants and cooperative agreements to a variety of educational institutions and organizations in the United States. More information: <http://www.noaa.gov/office-education/grants>

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The Environmental Quality Incentives Program, administered through the NRCS, is a cost-share program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. Owners of land in agricultural or forest production or persons who are engaged in livestock, agricultural or forest production on eligible land and that have a natural resource concern on that land may apply to participate in EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands. EQUIP is another funding mechanism for landowner fuel reduction projects. More information: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Community Facilities Loans and Grants. Provides grants (and loans) to cities, counties, states and other public entities to improve community facilities for essential services to rural residents. Projects can include fire and rescue services; funds have been provided to purchase fire-fighting equipment for rural areas. No match is required. More information: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=GRANTS_LOANS

General Services Administration, Sale of Federal Surplus Personal Property. This program sells property no longer needed by the federal government. The program provides individuals, businesses and organizations the opportunity to enter competitive bids for purchase of a wide variety of personal property and equipment. Normally, there are no restrictions on the property purchased. More information: <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/21045>

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grants. Grant funds are passed through to local emergency management offices and HazMat teams having functional and active LEPC groups. More information: <http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/grants>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Enhances the ability of states, local and tribal jurisdictions, and other regional authorities in the preparation, prevention, and response to terrorist attacks and other disasters, by distributing grant funds. Localities can use grants for planning, equipment, training and exercise needs. These grants include, but are not limited to areas of Critical Infrastructure Protection Equipment and Training for First Responders, and [Homeland Security Grants](#). More information: <http://www.dhs.gov/>

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). The U.S. Department of Commerce administers the CDBG program which are intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, as suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and

infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation, development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration. Public improvements may include flood and drainage improvements. In limited instances, and during the times of “urgent need” (e.g. post disaster) as defined by the CDBG National Objectives, CDBG funding may be used to acquire a property located in a floodplain that was severely damaged by a recent flood, demolish a structure severely damaged by an earthquake, or repair a public facility severely damaged by a hazard event. CDBG funds can be used to match FEMA grants. More Information:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/>

Volunteer Fire Assistance Program Grants. The purpose of these grants is to organize, train and equip local firefighters to prevent and suppress wildfires. Communities under 10,000 in population are eligible for the funding. Smaller communities may join together in a group and or county effort to submit an application, even if their combined population is over 10,000. There is no pre-set award amount. Financial assistance on any project, during any fiscal year, requires a non-federal match for project expenditures. More information: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans>

Conservation District Grants. This program provide funds to increase conservation district employee's hours to assist in planning, securing funding, and implementing programs that improve public outreach, improve conservation district administrative capabilities, and implement conservation plans. There is a \$10,000 award amount. More information:

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans>

Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grants. These grants are for hazardous fuel reduction on private lands to protect communities adjacent to National Forest System Lands where prescribed fire activities are planned. Prescribed fire activities must be imminent (to take place within 3 years of the award). Non-profit organizations, conservation districts, county and municipal governments, fire departments are eligible for this funding. Award amounts typically range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 depending upon availability of funding. More information: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans>

Renewable Resource Grant Program. Administered by the Montana DNRC, this program provides both grant and loan funding for public facility and other renewable resource projects. Projects that conserve, manage, develop or protect Montana's renewable resources are eligible for funding. Numerous public facility projects including drinking water, wastewater and solid waste development and improvement projects have received funding through this program. Other projects that have been funded include irrigation rehabilitation, dam repair, soil and water conservation and forest enhancement. More information: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans>

Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities. The EPA Office of Sustainable Communities sometimes offers grants to support activities that improve the quality of development and protect human health and the environment. When these grants are offered, they will always be announced on www.grants.gov. More information: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/building-blocks-sustainable-communities#2016>

OTHER RESOURCES

FEMA: Grant Application Training. Each year, FEMA partners with the State on training courses designed to help communities be more successful in their applications for grants. Contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer for course offering schedules. Example Courses:

- Unified Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Application Development Course
- [Benefit Cost Analysis \(BCA\)](#) Course

FEMA: Community Assistance Visit. It may be appropriate to set up a Community Assistance Visit with FEMA to provide technical assistance to communities in the review and/or updating of their floodplain ordinances to meet the new model ordinance. Consider contacting your State NFIP Coordinator for more information.

FEMA: Building Science. The Building Science branch develops and produces multi-hazard mitigation publications, guidance materials, tools, technical bulletins, and recovery advisories that incorporate the most up-to-date building codes, floodproofing requirements, seismic design standards, and wind design requirements for new construction and the repair of existing buildings. To learn more, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/building-science>

EPA: Smart Growth in Small Towns and Rural Communities. EPA has consolidated resources just for small towns and rural communities to help them achieve their goals for growth and development while maintaining their distinctive rural character. To learn more, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-small-towns-and-rural-communities>

EPA: Hazard Mitigation for Natural Disasters: A Starter Guide for Water and Wastewater Utilities. The EPA released guidance on how to mitigate natural disasters specifically for water and wastewater utilities. For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/hazard-mitigation-natural-disasters>

National Integrated Drought Information System. The National Drought Resilience Partnership may provide some additional resources and ideas to mitigate drought hazards and increase awareness of droughts. Visit: <https://www.drought.gov/drought/what-nidis/national-drought-resilience-partnership>.

STAR Community Rating System. Consider measuring your mitigation success by participating in the STAR Community Rating System. Local leaders can use the STAR Community Rating System to assess how sustainable they are, set goals for moving ahead and measure progress along the way. To get started, go to <http://www.starcommunities.org/get-started>

Beyond the Basics: Best Practices in Local Mitigation Planning. The product of a 5-year research study where the Coastal Hazards Center and the Center for Sustainable Community Design analyzed local mitigation plans to assess their content and quality. The website features numerous examples and best practices that were drawn from the analyzed plans. Visit: <http://mitigationguide.org/>

Flood Economics. The Economist Intelligence Unit analyzed case studies and state-level mitigation data in order to gain a better understanding of the economic imperatives for investment in flood mitigation. To learn more, visit: <http://floodeconomics.com/>

Headwaters Economics. Headwaters Economics is an independent, nonprofit research group that works to improve community development and land management decisions in the West. To learn more, visit: <https://headwaterseconomics.org/>