

This section provides a description of the State of Nevada's support in the development of local mitigation plans.

5.1 LOCAL FUNDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The requirements for local funding and technical assistance for the development of local mitigation plans, as stipulated in the DMA 2000 and its implementing regulations, are described below.

DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS: COORDINATION OF LOCAL MITIGATION PLANNING

Local Funding and Technical Assistance

Requirement §201.4(c)(4)(i): The section on the Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning **must** include a description of the State process to support, through funding and technical assistance, the development of local mitigation plans.

Element

Does the **new or updated** plan provide a description of the State process to support, through funding and technical assistance, the development of local mitigation plans?

Does the updated plan describe the funding and technical assistance the State has provided in the past three years to assist local jurisdictions in completing approvable mitigation plans?

Source: FEMA, Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Crosswalk 2008

5.1.1 Development of Local Mitigation Plans

The SHMO does outreach through visits to the targeted communities and personal meetings with emergency managers, planners, public works directors and county commissioners of all Nevada communities to build awareness about the hazard mitigation plan requirements and process. Once the local jurisdiction has established resources and committed to the planning process, the SHMO assists in obtaining funds for the development of the plan. Technical support from the state continues throughout the application process and plan development. With the unification of the guidance and process for the five hazard mitigation grant programs into the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA); the NDWR and NDEM are working together to ensure that Nevada's subgrantees follow the same process when applying for funding under the HMA regardless of which Division handles the program and both agencies provide outreach together.

Tables 5-1 and 5-2 show the current status of hazard plan development by the local jurisdictions, tribal communities, and the state, as well as the date FEMA approved their plan. Highlighted rows indicate the plans that have been developed or updated during this plan iteration, 2007 to 2010. One good example of local mitigation plan development is the regional approach taken by both Clark and Washoe Counties in the most recent updates of their plans; Washoe County's regional plan includes two tribal nations and two incorporated cities and is currently under FEMA review. The state provided technical assistance to the two Tribes participating in this regional plan to ensure compliance with the requirements in 201.7.

The state HMO provided technical assistance to all communities and tribes in both the update and in the development process. The technical assistance included site visits with presentations to city and tribal councils as well as to county commissions to provide awareness about the planning process and available funding opportunities. State provides risk assessment data and vulnerability information for wildfire, flood, and earthquake and provides project leads and points of contact for specific data. For example, GIS specific data for earthquakes can be acquired from the NBMG staff. SHMO and staff act as liaison with consultants and local entities to ensure information is provided promptly and accurately. When possible, mitigation staff attends planning meetings. To expedite the process, state staff, including the State Floodplain Manager, reviews the plan drafts when they become available providing input to both the local planners and the consultant. Additional assistance is provided for formulation, completion and submission of funding requests for update and development under all appropriate HMA programs.

Table 5-1. Current Status of Hazard Mitigation Plans in Nevada Counties and the State.

	COUNTY	Type of Plan	Date Approved	Update Due	Comments
1	Carson City	Multi	22-Nov-05	22-Nov-10	Update to FEMA for review
2	Churchill	Multi			Plan in Process
3	Clark County	Multi	5-Feb-07	5-Feb-12	Update in process
4	Douglas County	Single	24-Mar-08	24-Mar-13	Update applying for PDM 2011
5	Elko County	Multi	26-Oct-08	26-Oct-13	Update applying for PDM 2012
6	Esmeralda County	Multi			Submitted to FEMA for review
7	Eureka County	Multi			Regional Plan in Process
8	Humboldt County				Applying for PDM 2011
9	Lander County				Applying for PDM 2011
10	Lincoln County	Multi	20-Jan-06	20-Jan-11	Update in Process
11	Lyon County	Multi			Plan in Process
12	Mineral County				Applying for PDM 2011
13	Nye County	Multi	29-Apr-06	29-Apr-11	Update in Process
14	Pershing County				Applying for PDM 2011
15	Storey County	Multi	29-Dec-09	28-Dec-14	
16	Washoe County	Multi	19-Oct-05	19-Oct-10	Update to FEMA for review.
17	White Pine County	Multi			Regional Plan in Process
	State of Nevada		30-Oct-07	30-Oct-10	Update submitted to FEMA

Table 5-2. Current Status of Hazard Mitigation Plan Development by Tribal Communities in Nevada

	TRIBE	Type of Plan	Date Approved	Update Due	Comments
1	Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute	Single	11-Jul-06	11-Jul-11	Approved by FEMA
2	Duckwater Shoshone				
3	Ely Shoshone Council				
4	Fallon Paiute-Shoshone				Development in process
5	Fort Mojave Indian				
6	Goshute Business Council				
7	Las Vegas Paiute				
8	Lovelock Paiute				
9	Moapa Business Council				
10	Pyramid Lake Paiute				Regional with County at FEMA for review
11	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony				Regional with County at FEMA for review
12	Summit Lake Paiute				
13	TeMoak Tribal Council				
14	Battle Mountain Band Council				
15	Elko Band Council	Single			FEMA approved awaiting adoption
16	South Fork Bank Council				
17	Wells Band Council				
18	Timbisha Shoshone				
19	Yerington Paiute				
20	Yomba Shoshone				
21	Walker River Paiute				
22	Washoe Tribe of NV & CA	Multi	3-Jun-09	3-June-14	
23	Carson Colony Council				
24	Dresslerville Community Council				
25	Stewart Community Council				
26	Woodfords Community Council				

All 17 counties in the state are in some stage of development of a hazard mitigation plan.

Eight of Nevada's 17 counties have approved existing hazard mitigation plans in place that are being updated in a timely manner. The status of hazard mitigation planning in the remaining 9 counties is shown in Figure 5-1 and described as follows:

Esmeralda County has submitted its hazard mitigation plan to FEMA for review.

Lyon County is in the process of hiring a consultant to assist them in development of their plan.

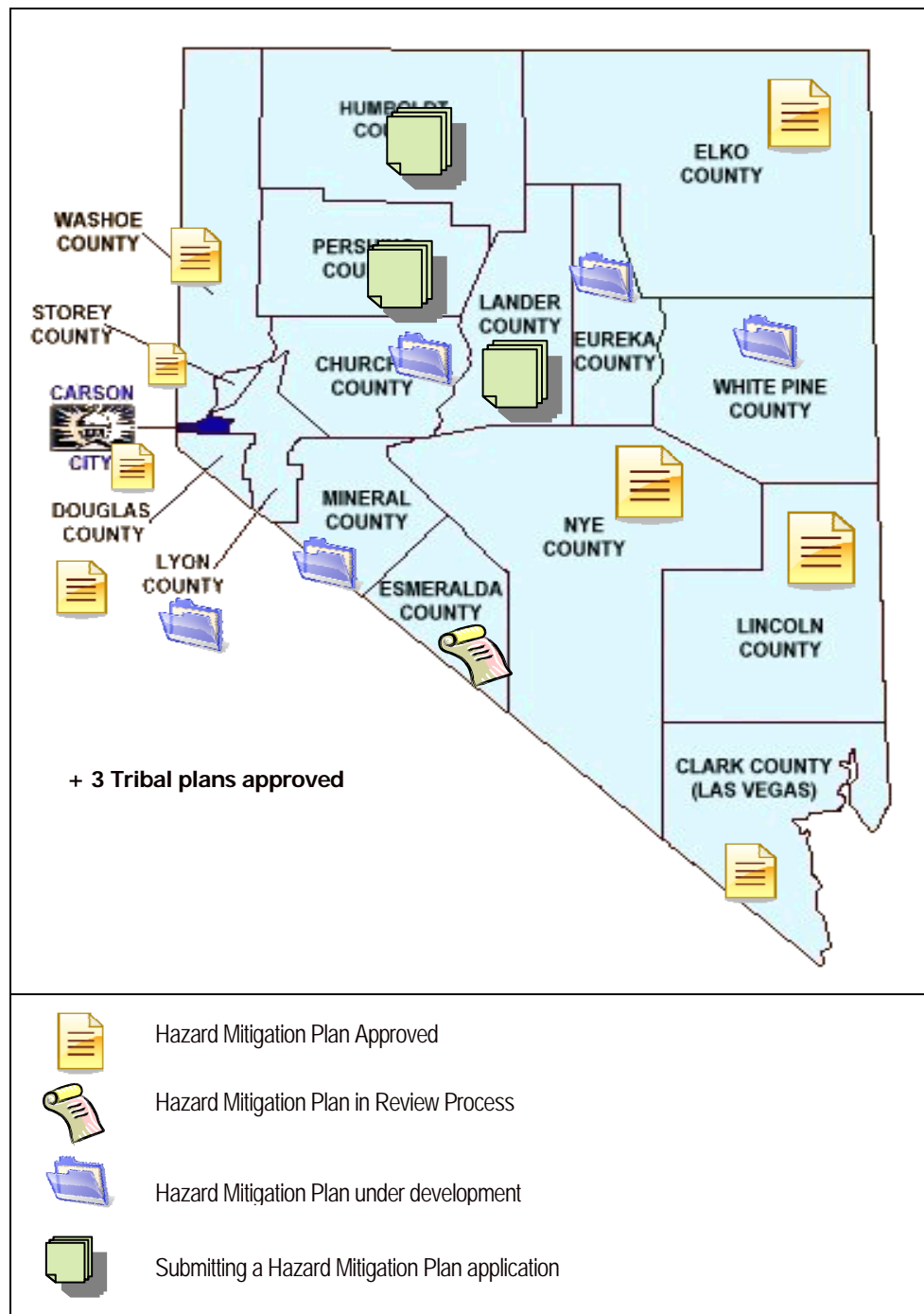
Churchill and Mineral County received a single PDM 2010 planning grant to each develop a separate hazard mitigation plans. They will be hiring a consultant to assist them in development of their plans.

White Pine County and Eureka County are jointly developing a regional plan. The plan is funded by a PDM 2010 grant to White Pine County and Eureka County is matching the grant with cash.

Pershing, Humboldt, and Lander Counties will be submitting a PDM 2011 planning grant application for the development of a regional plan to cover all three counties. These planning efforts were helped by NHMPC traveling to rural counties to conduct the quarterly meeting.

Nevada's SHMO and NHMPC are currently working to assist the tribal nations in developing hazard mitigation programs. With the assistance of the state Tribal Liaison, mitigation staff is meeting with tribal emergency managers to discuss development of mitigation plans. As with any community, awareness and the readiness of the community is the first step in beginning the planning process.

Figure 5-1: Map of Counties and LHMP Status



5.1.1.1 Identification and Notification of Potential Subgrantees (206.437(b)(4)(i))

Potential subgrantees for pre-disaster mitigation funding are identified and notified via both widely distributed e-mail notices and hard-copy paper flyers.

First, there is a well-established email communication tree network that connects the main “trunk” SHMO with all subsidiary branches of the emergency management network throughout Nevada that reaches all levels of emergency management personnel in state, county, local, and tribal governments. This e-mail network is used to communicate with, identify, and notify potential subgrantees of pre-disaster mitigation funding opportunities. Through this network the initial notification is sent to the following main branches of the emergency management system and all subsidiary networks throughout the state:

- State Floodplain Manager
- Emergency Managers
- NHMPC
- NESC
- Tribal Liaison
- Nevada Association of Counties
- Public Works Directors for local communities
- Homeland Security Distribution list
- Governor’s office email list of State agencies
- Current and past subgrantee list

In addition to the mass e-mail notification, a paper flyer is updated annually that describes the Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs, eligible activities, and a calendar with scheduled deadlines for the current grant cycle. This flyer is distributed to potential subgrantees through the DEM staff, the floodplain manager, and at the NHMPC meetings statewide. The flyer directs potential subgrantees to the NHMPC website for details on the application process.

In addition, the NHMPC website, the Floodplain Management Website, and the DEM website are updated with current application procedures and notices of intent and relevant forms.

Below is the State Administrative Plan’s section pertaining to identification and notification of potential subgrantees for the post-disaster funding, HMGP. It includes the application

process for PDM and HMGP as well as the application prioritization criteria used by NHMPC for all hazard mitigation requests under HMA. This process is also used to prioritize FMA and RFC proposals managed by NDWR.

1. IDENTIFICATION:

- a. Upon receipt of a presidential disaster declaration, the SHMO will consult with the Federal Hazard Mitigation Officer (FHMO) to identify potential projects. The FHMO, and the FEMA Public Assistance Officer will provide the SHMO with early indications of potential projects. The SHMO will coordinate with the State Public Assistance and Individual Assistance Officers to determine a preliminary list of Subgrantees. Using the most current disaster assessment information available, the SHMO will develop a list of potential Subgrantees. The SHMO will consider the use of pre-identified mitigation strategies and potential HMGP projects found in the State and/or Local Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan. Potential projects may also be identified during the preliminary damage assessment or post-disaster hazard mitigation team process. The SHMO will use these initial consultations to obtain a general estimate of available program funds.
- b. The SHMO will review the existing State Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan (Section 322 of the Stafford Act) for potential applications of Section 404 funding. The SHMO will forward all applications to NHMPC's Proposal Review Subcommittee for review of eligibility and prioritization recommendations. The SHMO will obtain additional information necessary to assist the NHMPC in making their determination and notifying Subgrantees of ineligible projects.
- c. The NHMPC will review all pre-disaster and post-disaster projects, and other projects/programs for potential Section 404 and 322 funding.
- d. The list of potential Subgrantees will continue to expand as recovery efforts get underway.

2. NOTIFICATION:

- a. The SHMO will:
 - (1) Work with the FHMO to coordinate an announcement of the availability of the Section 404 Program funding during the Public Assistance Applicant Briefing. The FHMO and SHMO will present a detailed overview of the program to potential Subgrantees for assistance under this program. See Annex B for a sample copy of a "Notification Letter" for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
 - (2) Notify potential applicants of information via public notices, news releases, direct contact and media coverage.
- b. The NHMPC's Proposal Review Subcommittee will recommend, to the NHMPC, a selection and prioritization of projects to be submitted to FEMA for approval. The NHMPC approves the final selection and prioritization of projects for submission to FEMA. The SHMO will notify each Subgrantee of the NHMPC's decision. The

SHMO submits projects approved by NHMPC to FEMA.

- c. The SHMO will notify Subgrantees of projects not selected for submission to FEMA and advise them of the following **State** appeal process (206.437 (b)4(ix)):
 - 1) The Subgrantee may appeal a decision made by the NHMPC.
 - 2) The written appeal must be submitted to the NHMPC within 60 days after the receipt of a notice of denial/rejection.
 - 3) The appeal must contain documented justification supporting the Subgrantee's position to warrant reconsideration by the NHMPC.
- d. The SHMO will establish a Point of Contact (POC) with all Subgrantees and coordinate technical assistance, project management and overview with the Subgrantee's POC for the duration of the project. The NHMPC, the SHMO, State staff, and the FHMO can generate expertise.

5.1.1.2 Application Procedures (206.437(b)(4)(ii))

- 1. The SHMO will coordinate with the State Public Assistance and Individual Assistance Officers as well as the FHMO to determine deadlines for the HMGP.
- 2. The SHMO will have responsibility to ensure the proper completion of all applications prior to submission to the FEMA Regional Director. The State requires submission of an electronic copy and a hard copy of all applications.
- 3. An interested potential subgrantee must submit a Notice of Interest (NOI) to the SHMO within 60 days of the disaster declaration. The SHMO and/or the PA officer will announce the 60-day deadline at the Public Assistance and/or Mitigation Applicants' Briefings.
- 4. The SHMO will forward all applications to the NHMPC for review of eligibility in accordance with Section H, Part 1. The SHMO will obtain additional information necessary to assist NHMPC in making their determination and notifying Subgrantees of ineligible projects.
- 5. In the event that several eligible projects are competing for limited funding, the NHMPC will prioritize the applications. Applications will be submitted to FEMA according to NHMPC's prioritization.
- 6. The SHMO will prepare the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application package for submission to FEMA. The Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR) for the HMGP or the Chief of DEM for PDM will forward state application to FEMA based on the NHMPC's recommendation.
- 7. The SHMO will notify Subgrantees of the NHMPC's decision regarding application approval or disapproval. Requests and project information will be coordinated with the Federal Hazard Mitigation Officer (FHMO).

5.1.2 Funding and Technical Assistance for the Past Three Years

Nevada's SHMO continues to work with local entities to provide funding and technical assistance for local hazard mitigation plans. Technical assistance for local mitigation planning projects has consisted of the following:

- a) Providing guidance for organization of resources
- b) Mitigation planning presentations for elected officials
- c) Putting local entities in contact with appropriate sources of expertise such as the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology for earthquake information, and the Division of Water Resources for flood issues
- d) Attending mitigation planning meetings.

The funding for mitigation plans and projects is provided under FEMA mitigation programs through Nevada's DEM and the Division of Water Resources. Both state agencies work closely through the same process to ensure the best, easiest and most expedient use of the subgrantee's time and efforts. All plans developed at the local and State levels are presented to the SHMO for a preliminary review. Jurisdictions are strongly encouraged to present partial sections to the SHMO allowing for "course corrections" before their final draft submissions. As mentioned before, the SHMO also participates as a State Liaison in key plan development meetings with the jurisdiction whose plan is under development. State funding for development and/or updating of hazard mitigation plans is not available. Local, tribal and state plans are developed only with funding received through the HMA process.

Table 5-3. HMA Funding for Plans 2007-2010

Year	County/City	Description	Source	Amount (\$)
2008	Clark County	Update with regional approach of HM plan	PDM	56,985.00
2009		No planning funds received		-
2010	Churchill County	Development of HM plan	PDM	39,375.00
	Lincoln County	Update of HM plan		23,099.00
	Nye County	Update of HM plan	PDM	39,001.00
	White Pine County	Development of HM plan	PDM	39,500.00
Total received during three-year state planning cycle				\$197,960.00

5.2 LOCAL PLAN INTEGRATION

The requirements for local plan integration, as stipulated in the DMA 2000 and its implementing regulations, are described below.

DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS: COORDINATION OF LOCAL MITIGATION PLANNING

Local Funding and Technical Assistance

Requirement §201.4(c)(4)(ii): The section on the Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning **must** include a description of the State process and timeframe by which the local plans will be reviewed, coordinated, and linked to the State Mitigation Plan.

Requirement §201.4(d): **Plan must be reviewed and revised to reflect changes in development, progress in statewide mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities . . .**

Element

Does the **new or updated** plan provide a description of the **process and timeframe** the State established to **review** local plans?

Does the **new or updated** plan provide a description of the **process and timeframe** the State established to **coordinate and link** local plans the State Mitigation Plan?

Source: FEMA, Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Crosswalk 2008

5.2.1 Process and Timeframe to Review Local Plans

The SHMO or his/her designee requests review of drafts from the communities as the planning process progresses in an effort to provide feedback and guide the plan to meet the federal requirements. Once a completed draft of the plan is received, mitigation staff reviews the crosswalk and content of the plan document and together with the lead planner make revisions. Mitigation staff is available to provide planning technical assistance upon request from the community besides attending planning meetings as possible. The past constraint for rapid review of local mitigation plans was due to the low-level staffing currently within the DEM mitigation section. A consultant was hired in 2009 to assist the SHMO with planning, grant, application and technical assistance tasks. However, the SHMO has been able to fully review local hazard mitigation plans within 45 days of receipt. With the state's budgetary constraints, no additional staffing is foreseen in the future.

5.2.2 Coordinate and Link Local Plans to the State Mitigation Plan

The NHMP Subcommittee is charged with coordinating and linking the local plans to the Nevada HMP. Once the local plan is completed and approved by FEMA Region IX, the plan must wait for review until the next Subcommittee meeting, which are held quarterly. The integration process is expected to take 6 months to a year. The following process is used for linking the local plan to the Nevada HMP.

1. NHMP Subcommittee Meeting (6 months to a year)

2. The local plan will be presented to the Subcommittee as new business by SHMO as follows:
 - a. Written detailed items found in new local plan, to include required analyses, for incorporation into the State Plan (examples of information presented for incorporation are listed below)
 - i. Recommended additions to State plan under each identified hazard, noting hazards not identified in the State plan.
 - ii. Add capability assessment information
 - iii. Add goals, objectives and action (GOAS) items, noting current mitigation activities, funding sources, and link to the State's GOAS.
 - iv. Record the completed plan in appropriate State plan locations.
3. The additions approved, disapproved, or modified by the Subcommittee
4. Incorporation of new plan data made to the Nevada HMP by the SHMO or designee

Local plans use the state plan to compile information about the communities' hazards, nature, location, and estimated losses. The information for earthquake and flood hazards currently found in the state plan has been used by communities such as Washoe County and Carson City to update their plans. The state in turn uses the local plans to update the data about the communities' capabilities, hazard ratings and the strategy.

Since 2007, the integration of local plans with the state plan has really been upside down, with the planning communities using the state plan's information to assist in their risk assessment. This is the primary reason for the NHMPC to work on enhancing the data found in the state plan and making it available in electronic format to Nevada's communities. Much work remains to be done and although priorities exist, these are not always the same for the state as for the communities. As the state is not a source for mitigation funding, support for communities who go above and beyond for mitigation planning and strategies consists basically of written letters, and the state tracks the activity when notified.

In an effort to better support the integration of local plans with the state plan, the NHMPC is involved in a special project funded by the Regional Office. The project follows the format created by the California's "MyPlan" project, which consists of a website directed to community planners to access hazard risks for each and all communities and populating it with Nevada-specific data. The use of the website to develop and/or update hazard mitigation plans with better, more accessible data will make the planning process much easier for locals and for state integration purposes.

5.3 PRIORITIZING LOCAL ASSISTANCE

The requirements for prioritizing local assistance, as stipulated in the DMA 2000 and its implementing regulations, are described below.

DMA 2000 REQUIREMENTS: COORDINATION OF LOCAL MITIGATION PLANNING

Local Funding and Technical Assistance

Requirement §201.4(c)(4)(ii): The section on the Coordination of Local Mitigation Planning **must** include criteria for prioritizing communities and local jurisdictions that would receive planning and project grants under available funding programs, which **should** include consideration for communities with the highest risks, repetitive loss properties, and most intense development pressures.

Further, that for non-planning grants, a principal criterion for prioritizing grants **shall** be the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of proposed projects and their associated costs.

Requirement §201.4(d): **Plan must be reviewed and revised to reflect changes in development, progress in statewide mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities . . .**

Element

Does the **new or updated** plan provide a description of the criteria for prioritizing those communities and local jurisdictions that would receive planning and project grants under available mitigation funding programs?

For the **new or updated plan**, do the prioritization criteria include, for non-planning grants, the consideration of the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of proposed projects and their associated cost?

For the **new or updated plan**, do the criteria include considerations for communities with the highest risk?

For the **new or updated plan**, do the criteria include considerations for repetitive loss properties?

For the **new or updated plan**, do the criteria include considerations for communities with the most intense development pressures?

Source: FEMA, Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Crosswalk 2008

5.3.1 Local Funding and Technical Assistance

The following guidelines are used by the NHMPC to plan, review, rank and select projects for PDM and HMGP.

5.3.1.1 Planning, Review, Ranking, and Selection of Projects

1. The NHMPC will be the review, ranking and selection panel for the HMGP, PDM, FMA, RFC and SRL grant program.
2. Each application will be reviewed for eligibility. It is the function of the NHMPC to review, prioritize and select projects for submission to FEMA for approval and funding.
3. Application Prioritization

Any application for mitigation funding must include all necessary data to allow the NDEM, NDWR and the NHMPC to evaluate the project in terms of the criteria listed below. Life safety issues shall be the primary consideration during evaluation of a

project in criteria “a” through “d” below.

- a. Population Affected. Refers to the existing and /or estimated future population affected by the project considered. Impact includes reducing danger to people from the hazards.
 - b. Assessed Land Value Impacted. Assessed land values for developed and undeveloped land affected by the project, including all structures (public, commercial, or residential) will be reviewed. Under this item, consideration will also be given to the impact on land values related to a reduction of the hazard.
 - c. Public Perception of Need. The project will be evaluated in terms of satisfying the public’s desire to see their money spent on “worthwhile” projects and the public’s perception of the need.
 - d. Emergency Access and Public Inconvenience. The project will be evaluated to determine its impact on the access of emergency vehicles including police, ambulance, and fire vehicles to their respective substation, hospital or station. The evaluation will include an assessment of the project’s contribution to the accessibility to isolated residences, businesses, and public facilities created by the hazard.
 - e. The benefit ratio of the BCA. The BCA includes Cost Avoidance and Annual Cost. Cost avoidance refers to projects which will reduce future costs, including potential damage. This item should also address other costs associated with lost opportunity and the risk associated by not implementing the project. Annual Cost Projects have a lower annual cost to maintain and/or continue the implementation of the project or will reduce future annual maintenance costs to property and structures benefiting from the project
 - f. Availability of Other Funding Sources. This includes an evaluation of the potential for funds from other grants, and other public and private interests. This will also include the funding commitment of the project’s sponsor for long term implementation, if applicable.
 - g. Timing and Implementation. All aspects of timing and implementation should be considered under this item including, but not limited to, the ability to administer, begin, and complete a project in a reasonable time frame.
 - h. Environmental Enhancement. Evaluation of this criterion includes benefits derived from improving or mitigating the threat to public health. It also includes, if applicable, information on the project’s enhancement of habitat, recreational opportunities, and water quality.
4. If necessary to select from a range of projects due to funding or other constraints, the NHMPC will evaluate and prioritize all eligible applications. This ranking will be in accordance with the criteria in 44 CFR Section 206.
 - a. Identification. For requests for funding of disaster declared after November 1, 2004, all funded projects must be consistent with the State Hazard Mitigation

- Plan. Flood Mitigation projects shall be identified and prioritized through the State, Indian tribal, and local planning process; additional selection criteria include
- b. Measures that best fit within an overall plan for development and/or hazard mitigation in the community, disaster area, or State.
 - c. Measures that, if not taken will have a detrimental impact on the Subgrantee, such as potential loss of life, loss of essential services, damage to critical facilities, or economic hardship on the community.
 - d. Measures that have the greatest potential impact on reducing future disaster losses (Repetitive Loss Properties).
 - e. Measures designed to accomplish multiple objectives including damage reduction, environmental enhancement, and economic recovery.
 - f. In addition to the selection criteria noted above, consideration should be given to measures that are designed to accomplish multiple objectives including damage reductions, environmental enhancement, and economic recovery, when appropriate.
 - g. NHMPC will consider optimizing the total amount of funding available, including overmatching of Federal funds with non-Federal funds when developing this ranking.
 - h. NHMPC will also consider the level of interest and demonstrated degree of commitment of each Subgrantee.
5. The final decisions on projects to be submitted by the State to FEMA will be made by the NHMPC.

5.3.1.2 Prioritization Evaluation

Application Prioritization criteria Section I-3 “a” through “h” (weighted 40 percent) and the Additional Selection Criteria in Section I-4 “a” through “h” (weighted 60 percent) will be rated by the NHMPC on a scale of zero (0) through ten (10). NHMPC will use the total point values in Section K as a guide to the overall evaluation.

5.3.1.3 Prioritization Form

Figure 5-2. Mitigation Grant Prioritization Form

Mitigation Grant Prioritization Form	
Subgrantee: _____	
Project: _____	
Planning, Review, Ranking and Selection of Projects:	
Application Prioritization (I-3)	Assigned Value (0 - 10)
a. Population Affected	_____
b. Assessed Land Value Impacted	_____
c. Public Perception of Need	_____
d. Emergency Access and Public Inconvenience	_____
e. Benefit Ratio of BCA (Cost avoidance/Annual Cost)	_____
f. Availability of Other Funding Sources	_____
g. Timing and Implementation	_____
h. Environmental Enhancement	_____
Subtotal, Prioritization Criteria (I-3 “a” through “h”) (divided by 2 for 40-point maximum)	_____
Additional Selection Criteria (I-4 “a” through “h”): (60-point maximum)	_____
Total Value (100-point maximum)	_____

5.3.2 Cost Benefit Review of Proposed Projects

Section 5.3.1.1 subsection 4, Application Prioritization, letter E states the consideration of the cost benefit review criteria.

5.3.3 Highest Risk Communities

Section 5.3.1.1 subsections 3 and 4, lists a series of considerations taken by the committee.

5.3.4 Repetitive Loss Properties

Section 5.3.1.1 subsection 4, Application Prioritization, letter D states the consideration of repetitive loss properties.

5.3.5 Intense Development Communities

Population affected is the first criteria used for prioritization of mitigation funding proposals. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Clark, Washoe, Lyon, and Nye Counties are considered communities with the most intense development pressures. Refer to Section 5.3.1.1 subsection 4 Application Prioritization, letter a., which covers “the existing or estimated future population affected by the project”.

This process was used for the last three years with proposals received for mostly flood and wildfire activities. Lyon County is in the process of developing a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan. Nye County is updating the currently approved plan. Neither county has applied for mitigation project funding.

The City of Reno, Washoe County, Douglas County and Storey County have taken advantage of available funding sources. All have been successful in receiving funds for embankment protection, fuels reduction, demolition of flood-prone buildings, culvert enhancement and infrastructure protection activities. The prioritization process is discussed every time applications are submitted to the state by the NHMPC with no changes mentioned as being needed by its members. To date, the primary challenge is to submit applications that are competitive nationally. The NHMPC members have a clear understanding of the criteria and the needs statewide.

As for successes in coordination of Local Mitigation Plans, a careful reading of Table 5-1 reveals that Nevada has gone from having only 5 counties with approved local county hazard mitigation plans in 2007 to having 8 counties with approved local county hazard mitigation plans in 2010 and all the other remaining 9 counties are in at least some stage of preparation of local county hazard mitigation plans – either pending approval by FEMA, in preparation, or funding allocation in process.

Challenges to coordination of Local Mitigation Plans are well-illustrated by Table 5-2 that shows in 2007, Nevada had only one tribal entity with an approved hazard mitigation plan and in 2010 we have 3 approved tribal hazard mitigation plans, and 3 others in various stages of development or review. During the next planning cycle, DEM will provide additional training about hazard mitigation planning and funding sources to tribal nations.