

**Crook County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan**  
**LEPC Meeting Notes**  
**Sundance, WY.**  
**October 10, 2012**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Participants introduced themselves and contractor, Barb Beck, introduced herself and reviewed the meeting agenda. A one-page briefing paper about the planning process was handed out.

**Multi-hazard Mitigation Planning—What is it?**

A multi-hazard mitigation plan (MHMP) is prepared with the goal of reducing the potential for loss of life and/or property damage from natural disasters. In the planning process we ask the question, what can we do ahead of time to reduce the chances of this happening? Preparing a plan provides the benefit of being able to compete for project funds and also ensures Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance if and when the county experiences a major disaster that exceeds local and state resources. Having this plan completed and approved is like an insurance policy for the county and its residents. The plan will contain hazard histories, goals and projects, and documentation of the planning process.

The exact schedule is still being finalized, but the process will take about nine months. There are review periods by the state and FEMA once the plan is done. After that the county and the incorporated communities can adopt the plan. While adoption isn't required, communities find it's beneficial, they have participated in development of the plan, and they want to adopt it.

**Roles and Responsibilities**

The following entities are all involved in getting the plan done.

- Crook County government: obtained the grant, contracted for services and oversee the contractor, provide copies of existing plans for information, make staff available as resources, identify project ideas, review drafts, and ultimately adopt the plan,
- Local governments of Moorcroft, Pine Haven, and Sundance: provide copies of existing plans, make staff available as resources, identify project ideas, review drafts, and ultimately adopt the plan,
- Contractor: hold, facilitate, and document meetings, do research on hazards, write up the plan, ensure the plan receives FEMA approval,
- Public: attend meetings, provide comments,
- LEPC: be aware of planning process, provide ideas for projects, review draft documents,
- State of Wyoming: review and approve draft plan, serve as technical resource
- FEMA: provide funding to prepare plan, approve final plan, fund projects as available.

## Natural Hazards in Crook County

Contractor, Beck, presented a list of the hazards considered in the Wyoming state plan. The group discussed which of these hazards occurs in Crook County and rated the probability of a damaging event (\$10,000 or more in damages.) A rating of HIGH was given if the LEPC believed the hazard was likely to occur every one to two years. A rating of MEDIUM was given if the LEPC believed the hazard was likely to occur once in every ten years. A rating of LOW was given if the hazard was likely to occur less than every 10 years. The information is summarized in the table below. The hazards that should be profiled in the Crook County plan are highlighted.

Hazard	Probability	Discussion	Decision
<b>Dam Failure</b>	Medium	Crook County has one high hazard dam, Keyhole, operated by the US Bureau of Reclamation. The county has many other smaller dams which have experienced breaches or flooding in the past.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Drought</b>	Medium	Drought occurs in Crook County.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
Earthquakes	Low	Crook County does not have any faults. Participants were only aware of a magnitude 3+ quake that had occurred recently in Montana. The state of Wyoming recently did earthquake mitigation work. Crook County was not included nor identified by the state as earthquake prone.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Expansive soils</b>	Low	Everyone was aware of expansive soils in the county. They said however that they were unaware of damages as a result of these soils.	The LEPC members acknowledged these soils are present, but do not believe there have been problems. The contractor recommends this hazard should be profiled.
<b>Floods</b>	High	Floods are frequent in the county.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Hail</b>	High	This is a frequent occurrence in the county.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Haz Mat</b>	High	Crook County has an active energy industry with transportation of oil and gas and other products. In	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.

		addition the county has an interstate and railroad. Anticipated mineral development may mean there is additional exposure to this hazard in the future.	
<b>Landslides</b>	High	Crook County experiences frequent landslides. State highways are affected. The WY Department of Transportation is cleaning up a major slide near Devil's Tower now.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Lightning</b>	High	The county experienced over 300 wildland fires this season alone. Most of these were lightning-caused.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
Liquefaction	None/Low	Low earthquake exposure and no history of occurrences.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.
Meteor impacts	None/Low	The state did not analyze this hazard. Crook County LEPC did not think this was a danger.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Mine subsidence</b>	Low	Crook County has a history of mining. There has been some remediation of mines in the county by the state. No one was aware of any existing danger due to mine subsidence.	The LEPC does not recommend profiling this hazard in the plan. The contractor recommends that before a final decision is made to omit this hazard, the state abandoned mines division should be contacted.
Snow avalanche	Low	None of the LEPC members could recall an avalanche in the county that had caused damage or loss of life.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Tornadoes</b>	High	The county had 8 tornadoes this past summer. The Emergency Manager believes that tornadoes are underreported in data bases because of the poor Doppler coverage over the county.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
Toxic elements	None/Low	The state did not classify this as having the potential to cause a	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the

		natural disaster. LEPC concurred and felt that any toxics issues would be covered under hazmat.	plan.
Water quality	None/Low	The state concluded that a water quality incident was more correctly a public health issue. LPEC concurred.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Wildland fire</b>	High	This is of high concern in the county. The county has good collaboration within the county, with neighboring counties, and with the Forest Service.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
Windblown deposits	Low	The LEPC does not believe this is an issue in Crook County and could not recall any past incidents.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.
<b>Winter storms and blizzards</b>	High	This is a major issue for the county.	Yes, this hazard needs to be profiled in the plan.
Volcanic explosions from Yellowstone	Low	The LEPC does not believe this is an issue in Crook County due to the infrequency.	No, this hazard does not need to be profiled in the plan.

### Wrap-up

The contractors will be doing research on these hazards in the next two months. Barb will come back to present that information as a factual basis for identifying goals and projects. Participants were encouraged to begin thinking about possible project needs. The next meeting to discuss this plan will be scheduled for either December or January.

Information about the plan will be posted on the county's website so that it's available to anyone with an interest.

Crook County LEPC Meeting

10-Oct-12

Participant Sign In Sheet

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