

News from Region 10

**MITIGATION
JUNE**



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Mitigation June Campaign

FEMA Region 10

Mitigation June is a campaign to encourage everyone to understand their risk to natural hazards and take actions to mitigate those risks. Throughout June, FEMA Region 10 will highlight through social channels and advisories projects demonstrating mitigation, share information and ideas about understanding risk, and provide actions to mitigate risk.

What is mitigation? Consider this:

What if buildings were not damaged during an earthquake because community officials required that buildings be constructed or retrofitted to withstand intense shaking?

What if a river overtopped its banks but nearby schools were protected from flooding because they were built high enough and far enough from the river to not flood?

What if a wildfire burned, but homes were not threatened because landowners trimmed branches and thinned forests to create a large enough defensible space?

This is mitigation in action; it is the result of residents, building professionals, engineers, community planners, and elected officials

working to provide a safe community for all before a disaster occurs. Mitigation is an investment in your community's future safety and sustainability. When mitigation projects, programs, and policies are created in partnership with populations that have historically been underserved, the entire community benefits.

Join us to learn how proactive mitigation actions and policies help reduce risk and create safer, more disaster resilient communities.

If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Region 10 Office of External Affairs:

[News Desk](mailto:NewsDesk@fema.gov) – (425) 487-4610

[Congressional Affairs](#)

[Tribal Affairs](#)

[Private Sector](#)

2021 Building Code Adoption Tracking (BCAT)

FEMA tracks the current building code adoption status for state, local, tribal and territorial governments through a process called Building Code Adoption Tracking (BCAT).

This effort evaluates several aspects of a community's natural hazard risks and building code adoption including state or territorial

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BCAT 2021 (cont'd)

requirements for mandatory building code adoption, building code adoptions status for jurisdictions (including construction requirements for residential and commercial), and the identification of known weakenings of flood, wind, and seismic provisions of adopted building codes.

Disaster resilience starts with building codes because they enhance public safety and property protection. Therefore, the purpose of this effort will be to track the adoption rate of the latest consensus-based codes across the nation, in addition to the results of building code adoption in improving disaster-resistant buildings in natural hazard areas.



Figure 1: Following its adoption of the IBC & IRC, Washington state is considered to have higher hazard resistance.

The emerging data will be used to inform FEMA policies and laws in pre-disaster and post-disaster goals. Federal funding assistance requirements may be correlated to the adoption of the latest published building code editions (as required by legislation) and/or FEMA policies such as the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 and the associated Federal Cost Share Reform Incentive.

For more information, please visit the [Building Code Adoption Tracker \(BCAT\) webpage](#).

Floodways Training Announcement

Register now for the first-ever virtual offerings of **Managing Floodways in the Pacific Northwest (PNW)**, by FEMA Region 10, Floodplain Management and Insurance (FM&I) Branch.

This 2.5-hour training is to learn about key information and methodologies for managing the floodway, including implementation of community floodway standards and higher standards, no-rise certifications, and floodway modifications.

Sessions for Rural Communities:

- June 4, 2021, 9am-11:30am PST [Click here to register](#)
- June 8, 2021, 1pm-3:30pm PST [Click here to register](#)

Sessions for Urban Communities:

- June 7, 2021, 9am-11:30am PST [Click here to register](#)
- June 10, 2021, 1pm-3:30pm PST [Click here to register](#)

This training is meant to be a refresher course for local officials and floodplain management staff, and will review and discuss policy updates that are important for all staff working with floodways, and is highly recommended for new staff. This training is geared toward non-engineers and those with a non-engineering background, although engineers are still welcome and encouraged to attend

Contact *Mitch Paine*, FEMA Region 10 with any additional questions: mitch.paine@fema.dhs.gov.

Guide to Expanding Mitigation: Connecting with Agriculture and Food Systems

FEMA Region 10

This month, FEMA Region 10 will highlight resources, community planning initiatives, and projects that support risk reduction and community resilience as part of their Mitigation June Campaign.

This resource, the *Guide to Expanding Mitigation: Connecting with Agriculture and Food Systems* includes helpful and informative content for multiple audiences.

Local, fresh food is a priority in this region. Restaurants boast farm-to-table entrees. Weekly farmers markets pop up throughout rural and urban neighborhoods. Docksides fish markets dot our coastlines. The agriculture and food sector is important to local economies. Food is essential, yet communities in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington often overlook risks affecting the local food system when they plan for natural hazards.

Wine, fish, produce, dairy, and livestock are just a sample of goods cultivated in Region 10. Rural communities also rely heavily on independent growing, gathering, hunting, and fishing to survive.

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Ask the Help Desk

The Region 10 Service Center is here to help local community officials and stakeholders with technical, training, mitigation, and mapping questions.

Email RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com.

Food Systems Mitigation (cont'd)

When we consider the variety of wild and farmed resources, the number of people the sector employs, our dependency on these resources for food, and the economic impact of losing them, it is clear that hazard mitigation is essential.

This guide sparks ideas that strengthen mitigation projects and increase the resilience of local and regional food systems by engaging stakeholders from the agricultural and food systems sector.

The guide assists community officials in building effective connections with businesses and individuals. It provides community and tribal leaders with information necessary to begin conversations, build partnerships, and plan for and invest in mitigation projects.

Download the Guide to Expanding Mitigation: Connecting with Agriculture and Food Systems [here](#).



Newsletter Ideas?

Want to spread the word about an upcoming event or recent success story? Let us know what you want to see in future issues! Articles can be up to 500 words and may include pictures.

Email RXNewsletter@starr-team.com.

Online Training

(All times Pacific)

CRS: The 2021 Addendum to the CRS Manual

June 15, 10:00 am
Online - 1 CEC

CRS: Credit for Conservation and Recovery of Threatened & Endangered Species

June 16, 10:00 am
Online - 1 CEC

CRS: Preparing an Annual Recertification

July 20, 10:00 am
Online - 1 CEC

CRS: Developing PPI & Insurance Coverage Improvement Plans

July 21, 10:00 am
Online - 1 CEC

CRS: Preparing a Verification Visit

August 17, 10:00 am
Online - 1 CEC

CRS: Flood Warning and Response (Activity 610)

August 18, 10:00 am
Online - 1 CEC

To register for online courses, visit STARR's training site: j.mp/starronlinetraining, or email RXTraining@starr-team.com.