



APPENDIX D: PRESS RELEASE

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

MWDOC and Participating Agencies have begun preparing an update to their Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP), a five-year strategic plan to improve local resilience to hazard events. The plan is being prepared by agency staff, with support from key stakeholders and technical consultants. It will also incorporate regular feedback from key MWDOC community members. MWDOC and Participating Agencies plan on releasing a public review draft in Fall 2024, with final adoption planned for Winter 2025 following approval from the California Office of Emergency Services and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The 2024 MJHMP will summarize the natural and human-caused hazards that threaten the community, including drought, flooding, earthquakes, and wildfires. As a part of this process, the plan will also identify how climate change is expected to affect future hazards. The MJHMP will analyze how community members, buildings, and infrastructure are vulnerable to the threats posed by these hazards. It will outline a Hazard Mitigation Strategy that will provide specific policy and action recommendations to agency staff and community partners to improve overall resiliency to hazard events. The plan will also include steps to maintain it and keep it updated, including keeping the plan current in the face of changing conditions.

In addition to protecting MWDOC and Participating Agencies from current and future hazards, having an MJHMP will allow them to be eligible for grants from FEMA for additional hazard mitigation efforts under the provisions of the federal Robert T. Stafford Act and the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.