



WARD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

TO: Hailey Kirlin

FROM: Jennifer Wiechmann, Director of Emergency Management/CRS Coordinator

DATE: 19 July 2022

SUBJECT: 510 Progress Report Ward County for 2021

PLAN: Ward County Hazard Mitigation Plan Date of Adoption of Plan: May 15, 2018 *5 Year CRS*

Expiration Date: May 15, 2023

1. How can a copy of the original plan or area analysis report be obtained?
 - a. Email the Ward County Emergency Management Department or go online at:
<https://www.co.ward.nd.us/604/Multi-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan---Current>
2. Describe how this evaluation report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public.
 - a. The report was prepared by the CRS Coordinator working in conjunction with the floodplain administrator and the building inspector to ensure all information was gathered to appropriately update and answer questions. It follows the guidance and updating as outlined in the 2018 Ward County Hazard Mitigation Plan which can be found at <https://www.co.ward.nd.us/604/Multi-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan---Current>. This report can be found at <https://www.co.ward.nd.us/605/Progress-Reports> and will be submitted for review and file by the Ward County Commission at the August 2nd 2022 meeting.
3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:
 - a. NFIP Enforcement – we maintain our Flood ordinance, but have not had any building/substantial improvement within since 2017. The floodplain administrator works

with the building inspector & CRS Coordinators to ensure everything is enforced as per the adopted floodplain ordinance.

- b. Join CRS – this was completed and approved on April 1, 2017
- c. Maintaining CRS membership – we continue to work on this throughout the year.
- d. Assist incorporated municipalities with NFIP & CRS. We work with all CRS communities when requested, as well as server as the applicant agent for most of the incorporated Cities that are enrolled in the NFIP and CRS programs.
- e. Join the NFPA’s firewise community – This goal exists in the previous plan, but with the new update is being taken out – due to the fact that North Dakota is not the intended participant for firewise.
- f. Public Outreach – The Coordinator’s department continues to provide information via meetings, fairs, public forums, and requested meetings from Realtor Companies throughout the year.
- g. Flood control structures – Ward County’s flood committee continuously works with the Souris River Joint Board to ensure that the flood control structures are being worked on. Permit applications have been submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers.
- h. Road Grade Raises – we were able to provide funding for Ward County and a number of townships with FEMA funding, and will continue depending on available grant funding.
- i. Burn bans – Ward County did declare a burn ban restriction for all of Ward County in the Summer and Fall of 2021.
- j. Obtaining Radio’s – Ward County Emergency Management has worked closely with several fire and EMS departments to upgrade their radios to 800 MgHz Radios to become compliant with the North Dakota SIRN 2020 Program.
- k. Social Media – Ward County Emergency Management continues to provide updated information via social media on anything happening such as real world events, planning events (updated hazard mitigation plan), as well as preparedness throughout the year. The number of people who participate in the group continues to grow throughout the year.

- l. Outdoor warning sirens – Ward County Emergency Management continues to assist in the tests for ensuring our outdoor warning sirens are in proper working order as well as assist our jurisdictions, such as the City of Minot, with acquiring new sirens for developing areas.
- m. Automatic Stream Gage – Ward County Emergency Management worked with the NDDOT and City of Minot to upgrade the current gage at Broadway Bridge due to the reconstruction, however, due to funding shortage, it cannot be upgraded.
- n. Storm Shelters – Due to lack of cost share funding this year we were unable to apply for grant funds for these shelters, but hopefully will in the future.
- o. Dam Safety – Fish and Wildlife updated their Emergency Action Plan in 2018.
- p. Generators – Ward County Emergency Management has applied for grants for three of the Cities for backup generators, and Berthold Ambulance and Burlington City Hall were awarded in 2021 and are still being completed in 2022.
- q. GIS – Ward County Highway Department continues to update/upgrade the GIS that affect all communities within the County.
- r. Data Collection/Storage - Ward County Emergency Management continues to work with the County, all Cities, and all Townships to identify any problematic areas and possible solutions/mitigation measures. The office keeps all information in case any grant funding is available. Ward County was able to award over \$300,000 for drainage issues, and dead loop maintenance in 2017.
- s. Water control on dead loops – working with water board to see if there is funding for projects like this.
- t. Mitigate sewer system – Work with homeowners in regards to septic system to have them removed or relocated out of the floodplain.
- u. Design and construct flood control retention/detention on areas – working with the Waterboard to see if there is funding and/or public interest in projects.
- v. Acquire or relocate homes – Ward County Flood Committee continues to identify and offers proposals to homeowners that are in the floodplain/way for home acquisitions.

- w. Culverts - Ward County was able to award over \$300,000 for drainage issues, culverts and dead loop maintenance in 2017.
 - x. Hydrologic Models – Ward County was awarded funding for a hydrological model of the Little Deep Creek from the Army Corps. Of Engineers, and it was completed in 2020 and distributed to the appropriate stakeholders.
 - y. Install telemetry monitoring at lift stations – We continue to look for backup lift stations to ensure we can mitigate possible flooding in the future.
 - z. Complete road grade raises to reduce flooding – Continue working with the township to complete any/all flood damaged roads to better than preexisting conditions.
2. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule.
- a. We are working on all projects, and have successfully fulfilled a number of the requests from the County/Cities, however, we don't feel that they should be considered completed, but re-evaluated each year incase new ones are needed or replaced. Although, we have successfully achieved a number of projects such as drainage/culvert/dead loop maintenance projects, and outreach. Due to lack of budgets/grant funds, we have not been able to upgrade any river gages, monitors at lift stations, purchase and install storm shelters, and obtaining enough radios. The other item is the flood control projects are behind schedule because of lack of funding. It is projected to be completed in 2049; however, it is all based on getting enough funding.
4. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?
- a. CRS Maintenance – needs to be ongoing, and the Coordinator's department should look for any additional credit to submit for reclassification.
 - b. Assist other Communities with CRS – needs to be ongoing, and the Coordinator's department needs to work with all communities for additional documentation for reclassification.
 - c. Mitigate sewer system - Ward County Flood Committee needs to identify and offer proposals to homeowners that are in the floodplain/way for home acquisitions that would include removal of their sewer/septic system.

- d. Drainage projects – Ward County Water Resource Board and Emergency Management needs to work together to identify any additional drainage projects throughout the County that needs to be mitigated.
- e. Install monitoring at lift stations - Ward County Emergency Management needs to continue to look for grant funding.