

Special Jurisdictions Appendix

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District Profile

South Platte Natural Resources District

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

Table NRD.1: South Platte NRD Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Ryan Reisdorff	Assistant Manager	South Platte NRD
Galen Wittrock	General Manager	South Platte NRD
Travis Glanz	Water Resources Specialist	South Platte NRD

Location and Geography

The South Platte Natural Resources District (SPNRD or NRD) is located in the southern panhandle of Nebraska, and includes three counties: Cheyenne, Deuel and Kimball Counties. The total area of the NRD is 2,589 square miles. Major waterways in the area include Lodgepole Creek and the South Platte River. The NRD is primarily made up of shrub land and herbaceous/grassland land types.

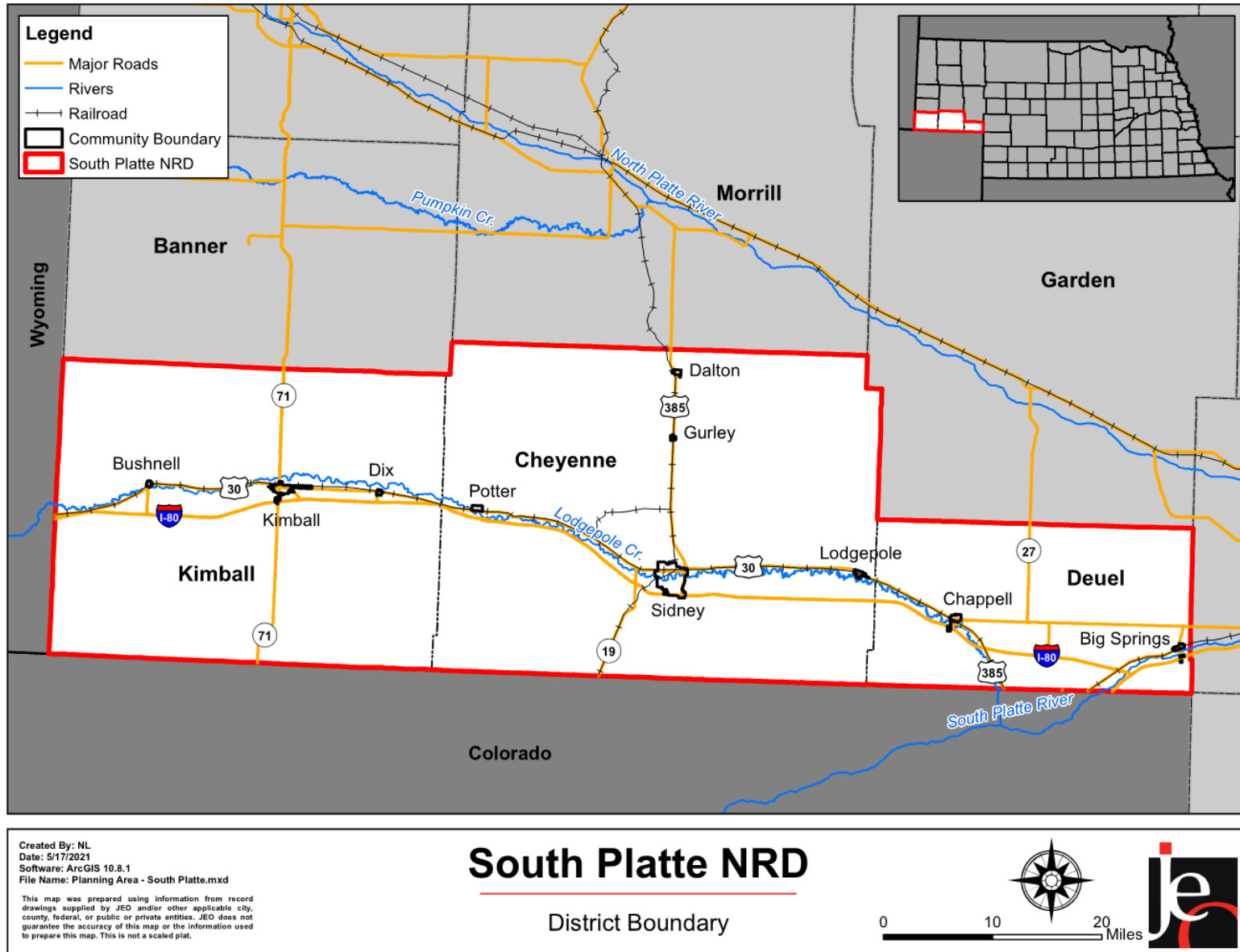
The South Platte NRD is responsible for monitoring water levels, checking the quality of ground water, and maintaining recreational areas throughout the district. The NRD works to consistently update the public on new recreational opportunities, and educational outreach workshops the NRD regularly hosts.

Transportation

The South Platte NRD includes Interstate 80, which is Nebraska's largest travel corridor. In addition to I-80, the NRD also has multiple highways connecting with the county seats of Cheyenne, Deuel and Kimball Counties.

According to the NRD, major roadways are the biggest concerns, Interstate 80, Highway 30, Highway 71, Highway 385, Highway 19, Highway 27 and Highway 138. Many chemicals, primarily agricultural-related, are regularly transported using the highway systems. The NRD does not know what chemicals are being transported using these roadways. The local planning team noted that there was a train derailment in 2015 near Brownson, which is now an unincorporated area within Cheyenne County. Some critical facilities are located along a transportation route and experience a higher level of vulnerability due to the proximity to major transportation routes. The local planning team identified that municipal wells in Kimball, Dix, Sidney, Gurley, Dalton, Lodgepole, and Chappell are located along transportation routes.

Figure NRD.1: South Platte NRD



Demographics

It is estimated that SPNRD serves a population of about 15,068 people throughout the district. However, the NRD does not collect the demographic information of the district's population, nor does the U.S. Census Bureau recognize it as a distinct unit. As a result, there is no population data generated specifically for the NRD. For information regarding population data, please refer to a specific jurisdiction's community profile or to Section Three: Demographics and Asset Inventory.¹

Table NRD.2 South Platte NRD Estimated Population

County	2010 Population	2019 Population	Percent Change
Cheyenne	9,998	9,604	-3.9%
Deuel	1,941	1,831	-5.7%
Kimball	3,821	3,633	-4.9%
Total	15,760	15,068	-4.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau²

Future Development Trends

Changes in the past five years include the sale of Cabela's Inc. to Bass Pro Shops. This resulted in the corporate office in Sidney being drastically scaled back. Many of the new home developments that were planned in Sidney, Nebraska have been delayed or cancelled altogether. The housing market in Sidney and the surrounding areas was poor during the last few years. However, more recently the housing market in Sidney has picked back up, and most of the people are thought to be from out-of-state moving into the area.

Clean Harbors, a hazardous waste incinerator, located south of Kimball is expanding to double its capacity by 2023 or 2024. This expansion will create approximately 100 new jobs in Kimball County, plus will require several people to come to town, at least temporarily, for construction of the expansion.

Additionally, the U.S. Air Force is going to updating the Minute Man Missile Silos in the area. Several contractors will be in the area over the next couple of years completing the upgrades. The majority of these contractors will probably be based in Kimball, Nebraska.

Structural Inventory and Valuation

Please refer to the individual community profiles for information regarding parcel improvements, valuation, and discussion for specific jurisdictions across the planning area.

¹ United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://data.census.gov>.

² United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://data.census.gov>.

Community Lifelines

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Chemical sites are located throughout the NRD. Complete lists of chemical storage sites in each jurisdiction may be found in their community profile.

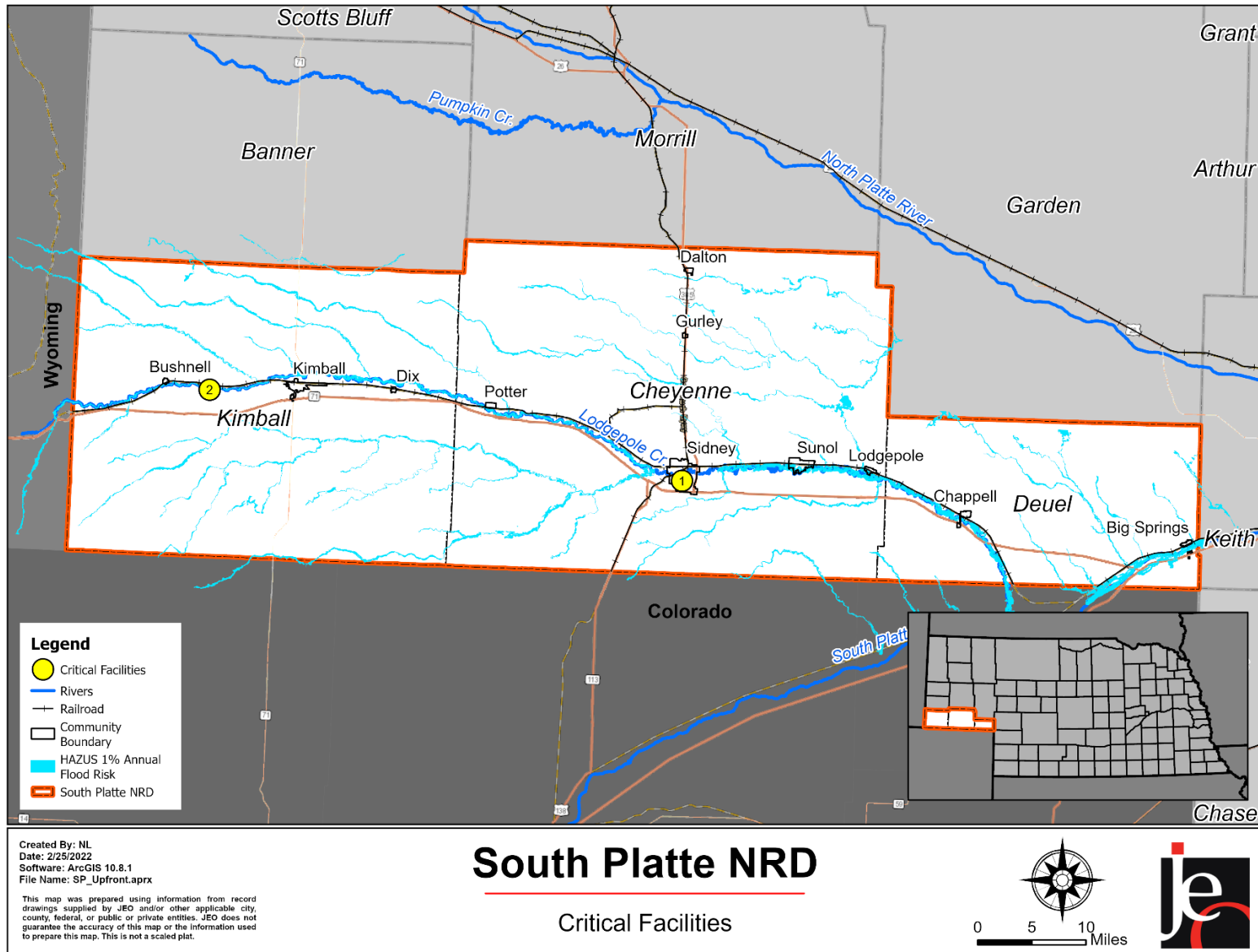
Critical Facilities

The local planning team identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response, public shelter, and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update. The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

Table NRD.3: Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	South Platte NRD Offices	N	N	N
2	Oliver Reservoir	N	N	Y

Figure NRD.2: Critical Facilities



Governance

The South Platte NRD is governed locally by a board of seven elected directors and entrusted with a broad range of responsibilities to protect and enhance the district's natural resources. The NRD serves both incorporated and unincorporated areas within their jurisdiction and have the capability to assist villages, cities, and counties financially and administratively with mitigation and strategic actions, most commonly flood control and drainage improvements. The positions of Board Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer are elected annually from the board of directors.

- General Manager
- Assistant Manager
- Water Resources Coordinator
- Natural Resources Conservationist
- Water Resources Specialist
- Information and Education Coordinator
- Water Resources Technician
- Administrative Manager/Bookkeeper
- District Secretary
- Kimball Field Office Secretary, NRCS
- Sidney Field Office Secretary, NRCS
- Oliver Reservoir Seasonal Workers (2)

Subcommittees

- Executive
- Natural Resources Projects and Programs
- District Operations

Capabilities

The capability assessment consisted of a review of existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following paragraphs and table summarize the NRD's overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

The NRD has the authority to levy taxes to fund projects and programs that fulfill its statutory obligations. In addition, the NRD seeks out partnerships and alternative funding opportunities (e.g., grants) to accomplish NRD goals and implement mitigation strategies. The NRD also regularly engages in public education and information programs related to hazard mitigation in the area, and routinely works with other counties, cities, and villages within their jurisdictional boundaries.

The NRD has applied for the following grants over the last five years:

- USDA – Regional Conservation Partnership Program – East Sidney Watershed
- Environmental Trust Fund – East Sidney Watershed
- EPA 319 – East Sidney Watershed
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation – this project

SECTION SEVEN: SOUTH PLATTE NRD DISTRICT PROFILE

- Water Sustainability Grant – Expanding Hydrogeological Framework and WWUMM Update
- USBR WaterSMART Drought Response Program – partnered grant
- Environmental Trust Fund – Integrated Water Management Action Initiative – partner grant

Awarded grants including the following:

- Pre-Disaster Mitigation
- Water Sustainability Grant – Expanding Hydrogeological Framework and WWUMM Update
- USBR WaterSMART Drought Response Program – partnered grant
- Environmental Trust Fund – Integrated Water Management Action Initiative – partner grant

According to the local planning team, current district funds are limited to maintain current and ongoing projects. However, the planning team noted that the NRD is always open to taking on new projects depending on what the project is, the cost, how critical the new project is, etc.

Major projects that the NRD will be funding on in the next one to two years include:

- Paying off the Revolving Loan Fund (a partnership with the City of Sidney) for the East Sidney Watershed.
- Working on IMP projects through the Integrated Water Management Action Initiative – these projects include excess flows for retiming the river and recharging the aquifer, potential irrigated acre buy-outs (decertification), or other water saving projects
- Working on the Upper Platte Basin and our local SPNRD Drought Plans – these projects are partially funded through the WaterSMART grant.

District funds have decreased over the last few years. Real estate evaluations have dropped while the district has maintained our tax levy. Also, several larger projects have been completed including acre decertifications, rehabbing the excess flow recharge pits, and updates to the Basin-Wide Plan and local IMP. Completing these projects has allowed the district to not raise taxes while the amount of funds has decreased.

Table NRD.5: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources needed to implement mitigation projects	Moderate
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Moderate/High
Community support to implement projects	High
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Moderate

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the General Manager and Assistant Manager and the plan will be reviewed bi-annually. The public will be included in the review and revision process via press release and board meetings.

Plan Integration

The SPNRD has multiple plans that are consistent with the goals and objectives of the hazard mitigation plan. Each applicable planning mechanism is listed below.

Basin-Wide Plan for Joint Integrated Water Resources Management of Overappropriated Portions of the Platte River Basin, Nebraska (2019)

This plan encompasses portions of the Central Platte NRD, Tri-Basin NRD, Twin Platte NRD, South Platte NRD, and North Platte NRD. The purpose is to meet the requirements for portions of the Upper Platte River Basin that have been designated as overappropriated and achieve the goals and objectives described in *Neb. Rev. Stat. 46-715(2)*. Goals include (1) sustaining a fully appropriated condition while maintaining economic viability and welfare, (2) Prevent flow reductions that would cause non-compliance with any interstate compact or agreement, (3) Partner with municipalities and industries to maximize conservation, (4) identify disputes between groundwater users and surface water appropriators and implement solutions, and (5) keep the plan current and keep stakeholders informed. Also identified are actions that need to be taken to meet those goals.

Groundwater Management Plan (2002)

A groundwater management plan outlines groundwater supply, use, and management within the NRD. The plan includes hydrogeologic characteristics of the NRD, a water quality inventory, land use and contamination source inventory, water use and demand, critical areas for protection, groundwater goals and objectives, groundwater programs and practices, and groundwater management areas implementation.

Integrated Management Plan (2019)

The district's second increment Integrated Management Plan focuses on ground water issues - specifically water availability across the district. The IMP goals and objectives are consistent with those of the Basin-Wide Plan but are specific to the NRD's obligation toward that plan.

Long Range Implementation Plan (2000)

The Long Range Implementation Plan gives a general timeline for completion and will indicate the funding necessary to carry out the goals and objectives of the NRD's Master Plan. It includes a summary of planned activities and an assessment of current and projected needs. The NRD Board of Directors and staff will review this plan on an annual basis and make any modifications that are deemed necessary.

Master Plan (2013)

The NRD's Master Plan outlines the goals and objectives for the NRD. It also outlines current activities that are being done to meet these goals and objectives. SPSNRD updates the Master Plan every ten years with the next update scheduled for 2023. The NRD will evaluate projects in the hazard mitigation plan for inclusion in the Master Plan.

Oliver Dam Emergency Actions Plan (2021)

An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) was developed for Oliver Dam in 2021. The purpose of the EAP is to reduce the risk of human life loss and injury and minimize property damage during an unusual or emergency event at Oliver Reservoir Dam. The plan includes event detection, notification and communication, expected actions, responsibilities, and dam inundation areas.

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area-wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Dam Failure

According to the USACE National Inventory of Dams, there are 49 dams in the NRD. Of these dams, seven have been classified as high hazard dams. A "high hazard" designation is not an evaluation of the condition of a dam. Instead, it signifies the high number of individuals that live downstream from it.

The NRD planning team indicated that Oliver Reservoir is the biggest concern for the area. The NRD manages the dam and is responsible for its safety. The dam was rated as "Satisfactory" by the USACE in June 2020. While not as large of a concern, the NRD is also concerned about the Bushnell West dam, northwest of Bushnell. According to the USACE, the Bushnell West Dam was last assessed in June 2018 and was rated as "Satisfactory". The NRD's biggest concerns as it relates to dam failure include loss of life, loss of critical structures, and loss of transportation routes. In order to prepare for a potential overtopping or failure, the NRD has worked to develop an Emergency Action Plan for the Oliver Reservoir.

Table NRD.6 lists the high hazard dams located in South Platte NRD, according to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. Figure NRD.3 shows a map of all dams within the NRD. They can also be viewed on the NeDNR Dam Inventory map (<https://dnr.nebraska.gov/dam-safety>). The local planning team noted that they are most concerned about flooding impacts to the communities in the case of a dam failure. Specifically, property and structural damages, loss of life, and any damage to infrastructure (roadways, utilities, etc.) are the NRD's top concerns.

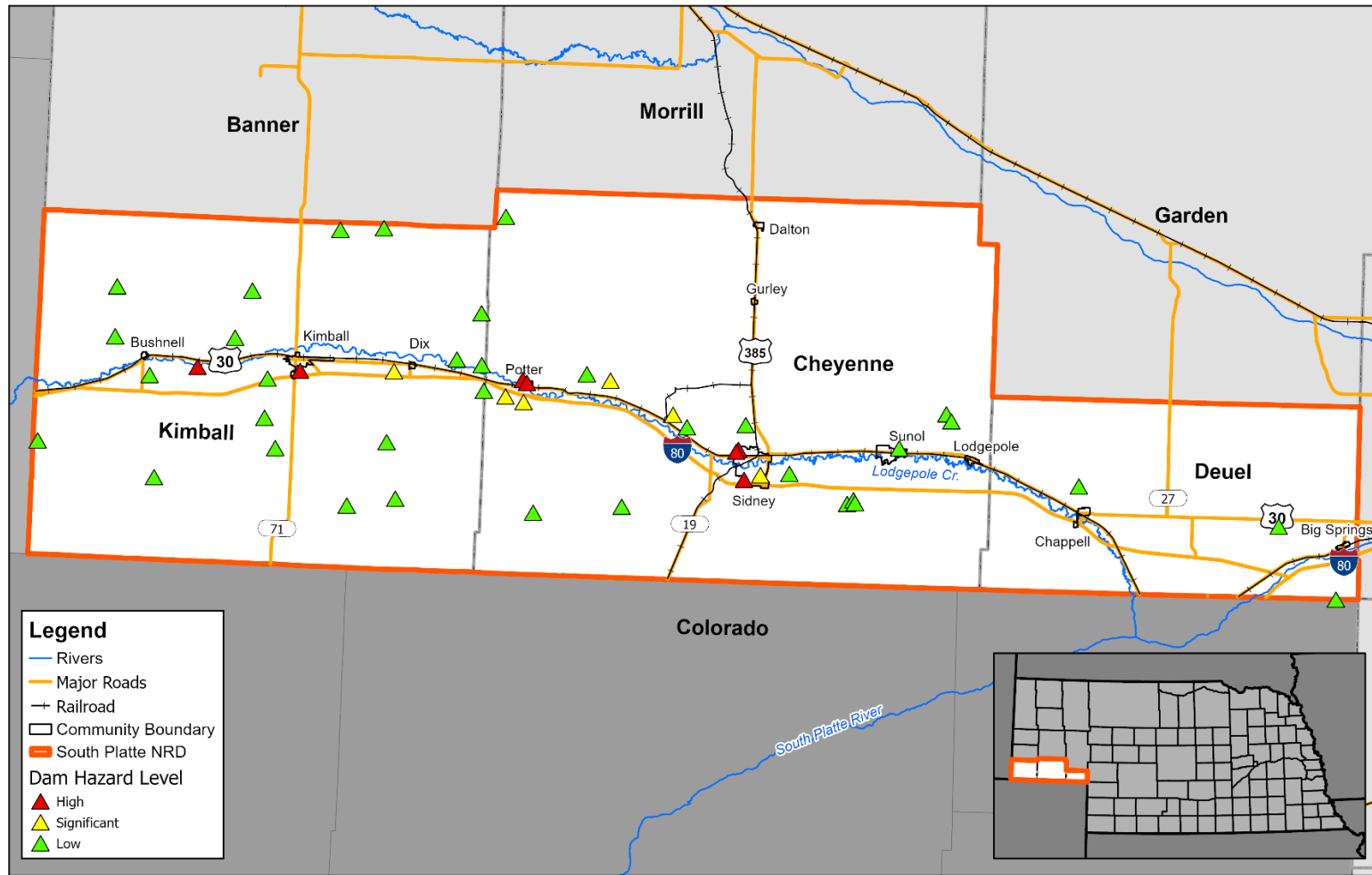
Table NRD.6: High Hazard Dams in South Platte NRD

Dam Name	NID ID	Location	Condition	Inspection Date
Heimer Dam	NE00601	Potter	Fair	8/11/2020
Potter Dam	NE02293	Potter	Satisfactory	8/11/2020
Sidney East Dam	NE01146	Sidney	Satisfactory	8/11/2020
Sidney West Dam	NE01147	Sidney	Satisfactory	8/11/2020
Verde Lane Dam	NE00607	Sidney	Satisfactory	8/11/2020
Janicek Dam	NE00750	Kimball	Fair	8/11/2020
Oliver Dam	NE00749	West of Kimball	Satisfactory	6/10/2020

Source: USACE, 2021³

³ United States Army Corps of Engineers. February 2021. "National Inventory of Dams." <https://nid.sec.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=105:19:15077170345077::NO::>

Figure NRD.3: Dams within South Platte NRD



Legend

- Rivers
- Major Roads
- + Railroad
- Community Boundary
- South Platte NRD

Dam Hazard Level

- ▲ High
- ▲ Significant
- ▲ Low


Created By: NL
 Date: 2/9/2022
 Software: ArcGIS Pro 2.8
 File Name: SP_Upfront.aprx


This map was prepared using information from record drawings supplied by JEO and/or other applicable city, county, federal, or public or private entities. JEO does not guarantee the accuracy of this map or the information used to prepare this map. This is not a scaled plot.

Dam Locations

South Platte NRD HMP Update 2022







Drought

The local planning team indicated that drought is a top concern for the NRD. Extreme drought last occurred in the region in 2012/2013, according to the NCEI. Significant drought, however, was reported in 2020/2021. The South Platte NRD is largely responsible for the ground water management which occurs in the region and the NRD is very aware of the fact that drought can be detrimental to a local economy. The planning team indicated that excessive irrigation/municipal pumping may result in the water table declining and force the wells to pump air. From past experiences in 2002 and 2012, the NRD saw a variety of impacts as a result of drought, including low aquifer levels, emergency watering procedures, and road degradation. Locally, drought may be defined as any time crop yields suffer as a result of insufficient natural moisture, typically two to three inches below normal precipitation yields. The local planning team noted that the water supply may be sufficient or insufficient depending on where you live within the NRD. The Brule aquifer (within the Lodgepole Creek Valley) is not very resilient in the face of drought and may dewater earlier than other aquifers. The Ogallala aquifer is located outside the valley, in the uplands of the table area. The Ogallala is highly resilient to drought and will be able to handle a drought better than other aquifers.

To monitor water levels closely, most municipalities within the NRD measure their wells monthly. During times of drought, most measure their wells weekly. All communities in the NRD have residential water meters, except Gurley and Potter. Additionally, many communities in the NRD have drought response plans. In 2018 the Village of Dix replaced a municipal well that was no longer producing properly. Some irrigation wells have also been replaced in recent years.

According to the planning team, the district currently has a moratorium on new wells and irrigated acres and has an allocation on all irrigated acres within the district. Other non-regulatory items the NRD does include the taking of excess flows of the South Platte River through the Western Canal when they are available, permanently decertifying over 2,000 irrigated acres, and helping to cost share on water saving irrigation equipment such as moisture probes/sensors.

Flooding

According to the local planning team, there have been four major flooding events in recent history including storms in 1997, 1999, 2010, and 2014. In 2010, flooding occurred between Sidney and Lodgepole, which washed out county roads, overtopped Highway 30, and washed-out railroad tracks in Lodgepole. This 2010 event also washed out a number of dams.

In 2014, flooding also occurred upstream of Oliver Reservoir, which filled the lake from its lowest level in history to full overnight. The dam held, but the reservoir would have been strained if the reservoir were full when it started raining. Moving forward, the NRD is most concerned about areas surrounding dams, areas along the South Platte River, and the eastern side of the City of Sidney.

In the last five years, a couple mitigation projects have taken place. The East Sidney Watershed was constructed in a partnership with the City of Sidney and SPNRD. This drainage improvement project redirects runoff water coming from the I-80 business area of Sidney directly into Lodgepole Creek – eliminating when it used to flow through residential neighborhoods. The design of the improvement includes a bio-swale that allows for the slow release of runoff, rather than a rapid inundation. This not only helps protect the City of Sidney but other residents downstream on Lodgepole Creek as well.

The second project was the conduit that runs through Oliver Reservoir's primary spillway was repaired. The old concrete had degraded over time and needed to be repaired with a slip liner.

SECTION SEVEN: SOUTH PLATTE NRD DISTRICT PROFILE

During this project additional rip rap was installed around the primary spillway's "morning glory" to prevent erosion.

NeDNR is currently working on remapping of the floodplain in both Deuel and Cheyenne Counties. Kimball County wants to have the mapping done as soon as possible.

Tornadoes

According to the NCEI, there were six tornadoes in Sidney from 1996 to April 2021. No damages or injuries were reported from these events. Primary concerns for tornadoes include potential damage to the District Office in Sidney and how the NRD would be able to function if a tornado destroyed the office, vehicles, equipment, etc. Another concern is for the safety of those using the recreation facilities at Oliver Reservoir. The NRD would like to install a warning siren at the site to provide advance warning. There are currently no safe rooms, storm shelters, or weather radios available at NRD sites.

Mitigation Strategy

Continued Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Alert/Warning Siren at Oliver Reservoir
DESCRIPTION	Install a tornado siren at the Oliver Reservoir recreation area. This objective will be completed after a hardened structure is built to protect campers from a high wind event.
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes, High Winds
ESTIMATED COST	\$25,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5-10 years
PRIORITY	Low
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	The NRD worked with Region 21 to write a grant for a new siren, but the grant was not awarded at the time.

Mitigation Action	Dam Failure Exercises
DESCRIPTION	Conduct table-top exercises to determine the response scenarios in the event of dam failure.
HAZARD(S)	Dam Failure
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD, Region 21 EMA
STATUS	A tabletop exercise was completed in the spring of 2021 in Kimball County to address a dam failure at Oliver Reservoir. A second exercise is planned for Cheyenne County in the winter of 2022. The exercises are run through the local LEOP groups.

Mitigation Action	Dam Upkeep/Repairs
DESCRIPTION	Work to update principal spillway at Oliver Reservoir
HAZARD(S)	Dam Failure, Flooding
ESTIMATED COST	\$50,000 -\$55,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD Assistant Manager
STATUS	Completed the liner through the conduit and added additional rip rap around the primary spillway. Ongoing – rip rap will always need to be monitored. DNR is also indicating that we may need to redo the spilling basin in the future. The concrete on the spilling basin is old and cracked.

SECTION SEVEN: SOUTH PLATTE NRD DISTRICT PROFILE

Mitigation Action	Develop Dam Failure Emergency Action and Evacuation Plans
DESCRIPTION	Work with officials to develop emergency action and evacuation plans if a dam were to fail.
HAZARD(S)	Dam Failure
ESTIMATED COST	\$15,000
FUNDING	SPNRD
TIMELINE	Ongoing
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	The tabletop exercise in Kimball County was completed in spring 2021 and the Cheyenne County exercise is planned for winter 2021. Additionally, the Level 3 test in the EAP was completed, which is basically a practice run for notification of dam failure. These exercises will be completed again in the future.

Mitigation Action	East Sidney Watershed Project: Joint East Sidney Watershed Authority
DESCRIPTION	The NRD intends to partner with the City of Sidney to limit flooding within the city.
HAZARD(S)	Flooding
ESTIMATED COST	\$1,000,000+
FUNDING	General Fund, City of Sidney
TIMELINE	1-2 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	All construction work is complete; however, the NRD is still dealing with issues like getting grass established and placing additional rip rap in places where erosion has occurred. Additionally, after the grass is established, a barbed wire fence will need to be moved as it currently cuts off the constructed channel and the dam. In the future, the cattle will be allowed in the channel but not on the dam.

MITIGATION ACTION	Emergency Communication
DESCRIPTION	Establish an action plan to improve communication between agencies to better assist residents and businesses during and following emergencies; establish inter-operable communications.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$1,000+, Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD, Region 21 EMA, Kimball County Sheriff
STATUS	The NRD is still working on getting all agencies better prepared if there ever would be a dam breach at Oliver Reservoir. The big steps accomplished this year are the tabletop exercises and the EAP level 3 test described under the dam failure sections.

SECTION SEVEN: SOUTH PLATTE NRD DISTRICT PROFILE

Mitigation Action	Expand Water Storage Capacity, Emergency Water Supplies, Dry Hydrants
DESCRIPTION	The South Platte NRD intends to consider expanding water storage by using retention and aquifer and recharge projects; the NRD also works to limit water consumption by metering wells, provide soil moisture sensors, and facilitate cost-share programs for local ag producers.
HAZARD(S)	Drought
ESTIMATED COST	\$250,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	Ongoing
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	Excess flows are diverted out of the South Platte River when available. Cost share is provided, when available, for meter maintenance, meter replacement, soil moisture sensors, etc. The NRD will begin working on a drought contingency plan in the winter of 2022.

Mitigation Action	Flood-Prone Property Acquisition
DESCRIPTION	Voluntary acquisition and demolition of properties prone to flooding will reduce the general threat of flooding for communities. Additionally, this can provide insurance benefits to those communities within the National Flood Insurance Program. Repetitive loss structures are typically the highest priority. The NRD does not have any repetitive loss properties. However, this is still an objective, should conditions change
HAZARD(S)	Flooding
ESTIMATED COST	Varies
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Low
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	Not yet started

SECTION SEVEN: SOUTH PLATTE NRD DISTRICT PROFILE

Mitigation Action	Hazardous Tree Removal Program
DESCRIPTION	Identify and remove hazardous limbs and/or trees: the NRD encourages the removal of older, diseased trees, and the planting of new trees; about four communities per year participate in the program
HAZARD(S)	High Winds, Severe Thunderstorms, Severe Winter Storms, Tornadoes
ESTIMATED COST	\$30,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	Ongoing
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	<p>The community forestry program is a very active program in the district. Homeowners can receive cost share to remove dead, dying, or diseased trees and plant new trees. The program has recently been modified so an individual homeowner can apply by themselves.</p> <p>Additionally NRD removes dead trees or dead limbs each year at the Oliver Reservoir campground. This program helps keep the area safer for recreational use.</p>

Mitigation Action	Public Awareness and Education
DESCRIPTION	The NRD works hard to improve public awareness and education for the NRD's objectives, including forestry and range management, water supply, use and conservation of surface and groundwater.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$500+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	Ongoing
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	The NRD continually updates the public about the current activities at the SPNRD. The website was recently updated to make it easier for the public to find out about what we do. Also the NRD's social media presence has been slowly growing over the past few years.

SECTION SEVEN: SOUTH PLATTE NRD DISTRICT PROFILE

Mitigation Action	Stormwater System and Drainage Improvements
DESCRIPTION	These improvements can serve to convey runoff more effectively within cities and towns, preventing interior localized flooding. May also reduce the risk of illness/ disease by eliminating standing water.
HAZARD(S)	Flooding
ESTIMATED COST	\$10,000-\$100,000+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	<p>The East Sidney Watershed project has been constructed, but it is not completely finished, as described in the East Sidney Watershed Project above.</p> <p>The NRD is always willing to work with other jurisdictions on future projects that have not yet been identified. Chappell and Lodgepole have expressed concerns with cleaning out dead trees and debris in Lodgepole Creek so that it doesn't dam the creek up and make flooding events worse – but no projects have come about yet. Kimball is also wanting to complete their flood mapping, as issues could arise in the City of Kimball with similar concerns near Lodgepole Creek.</p>

Mitigation Action	Windbreaks/ Living Snow Fence
DESCRIPTION	Installation of windbreaks to increase water capacity in soil, and to prevent drifting on common roadways.
HAZARD(S)	Drought, High Winds, Severe Winter Storms
ESTIMATED COST	\$30,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	Ongoing
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	South Platte NRD
STATUS	This program is open and available for landowners in the district. No new living snow fences have been installed along major roadways in the last five years.

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District Profile

Region 21 Emergency Management Agency

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

Table R21.1: Region 21 Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Ron Leal	Director	Region 21 Emergency Management Agency
Kay Anderson	Deputy Director	Region 21 Emergency Management Agency

Location and Geography

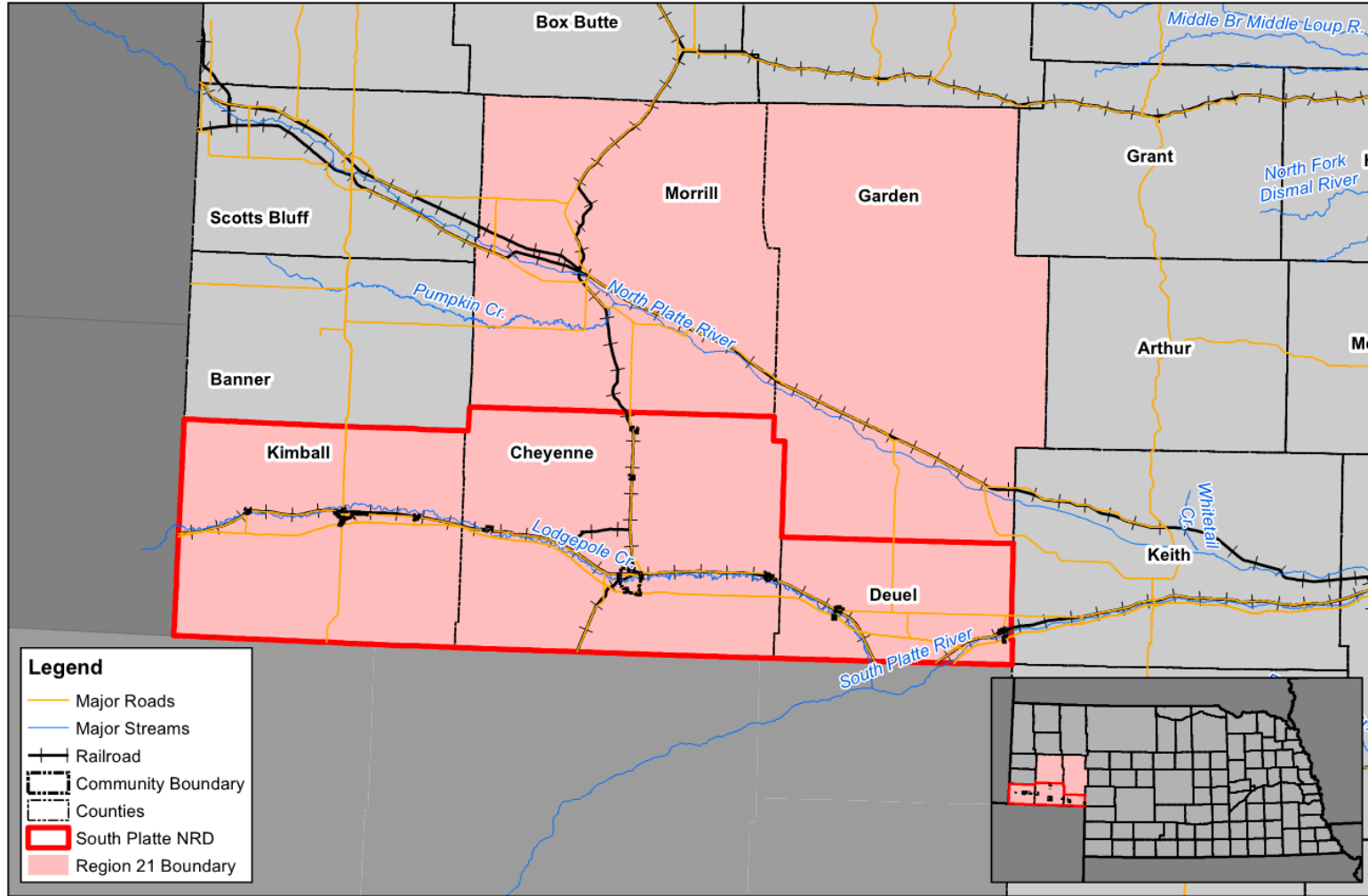
The Region 21 Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is located in the panhandle of Nebraska and covers Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden, Kimball, and Morrill counties. The total area of Region 21 is 5,750 square miles. Major waterways within the region include the North Platte River, running through the center of the emergency management district, from northwest to southeast. Region 21 is primarily made up of shrub land and herbaceous/grassland land types.

Transportation

Major highways in Region 21 include Interstate 80, U.S. Highway 26, U.S. Highway 385, and Nebraska Highway 92. According to the Nebraska Department of Transportation, the average daily traffic count for Interstate 80 (at Sidney) is 7,345 vehicles, 4,560 of which are heavy commercial vehicles. The traffic count near the junction of U.S Highway 26 and 385 (north of Bridgeport) is 5,000 vehicles per day, 500 of which are heavy commercial vehicles. The traffic count for the junction of U.S. Highway 26 and Nebraska Highway 92 (at Bayard) is 2,895, with 465 trucks per day.⁴ A BNSF railway goes north-south through Cheyenne and Morrill counties and two Union Pacific railways go east-west through the region. I-80, Highway 30 and Highway 385 are the transportation routes of most concern. Diesel spills from truck accidents are the most common types of spills.

⁴ Nebraska Department of Transportation. 2018. "Interactive Statewide Traffic Counts Map." [map]. <https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=bb00781d6653474d945d51f49e1e7c34>.

Figure R21.1: Region 21 Emergency Management District



Legend

- Major Roads
- Major Streams
- Railroad
- Community Boundary
- Counties
- South Platte NRD
- Region 21 Boundary

Created By: NL
 Date: 6/7/2021
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: Planning Area - Region 21.mxd

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Region 21 Emergency Management

District Boundary

Demographics

It is estimated that Region 21 serves a population of 21,712 people over five counties. However, the EMA does not collect the demographic information of their population, nor does the U.S. Census Bureau recognize Region 21 as a distinct unit. As a result, there is no population data generated specifically for the Region. For information regarding population data, please refer to a specific jurisdiction's community profile or to Section Three: Demographics and Asset Inventory.⁵

Table R21.2 Region 21 Estimated Population

County	2010 Population	2019 Population	Percent Change
Deuel	1,941	1,831	-5.7%
Cheyenne	9,998	9,604	-3.9%
Garden	2,057	1,864	-9.4%
Kimball	3,821	3,633	-4.9%
Morrill	5,042	4,781	-5.2%
Total	22,859	21,713	-5.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau⁶

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, there have been no changes within Region 21 Emergency Management; however, in Cheyenne County the Cabela's is being sold. There are no planned changes over the next five years at this time.

Structural Inventory and Valuation

Please refer to the individual community profiles for information regarding parcel improvements, valuation, and discussion for specific jurisdictions across the planning area.

Community Lifelines

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Chemical sites are located throughout the Region. Complete lists of chemical storage sites in each jurisdiction may be found in their community profile.

Critical Facilities

The local planning team identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response, public shelter, and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update. The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

⁵ United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://data.census.gov>.

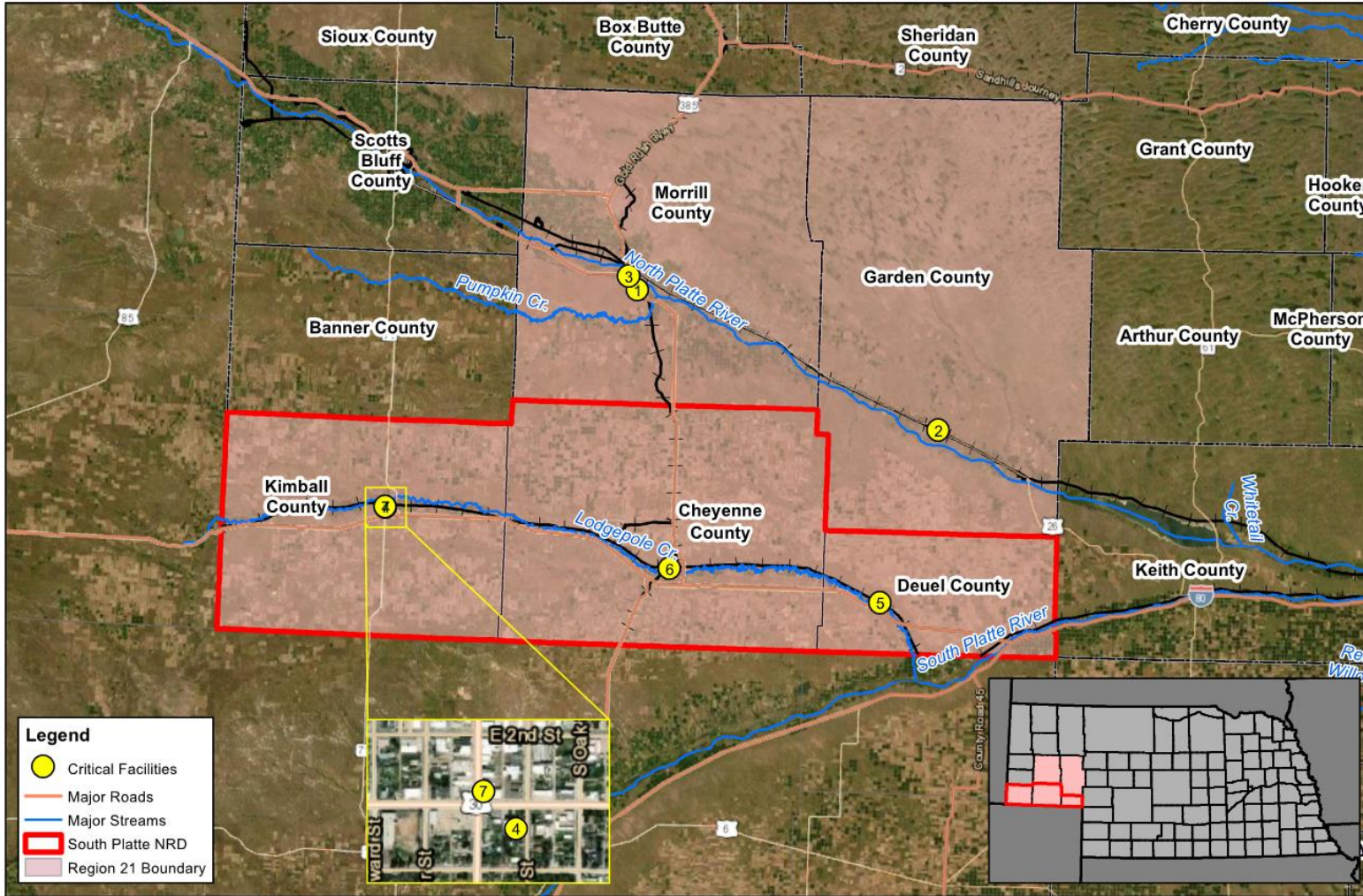
⁶ United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://data.census.gov>.

SECTION SEVEN: REGION 21 EMA DISTRICT PROFILE

Table R21.3: Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Bridgeport Ethanol	N	N	N
2	Garden County Courthouse	N	Y	N
3	Morrill County Courthouse	N	N	N
4	Kimball County Courthouse	N	Y	N
5	Deuel County Courthouse	N	Y	N
6	Cheyenne County Courthouse	N	Y	N
7	Kimball County Transportation Building	Y	Y	N

Figure R21.2: Critical Facilities



Created By: NL
 Date: 6/29/2021
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: CF - Region 21.mxd

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Region 21 Emergency Management

Critical Facilities



0 10 20 Miles



Governance

Region 21 EMA is governed by a five-member Board of Directors. The EMA serves both incorporated and unincorporated areas within the district and has the capability to assist communities and counties financially and administratively with mitigation and strategic actions (most commonly flood control and drainage improvements). The following positions may help implement mitigation projects:

- Director
- Deputy Director

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a Capability Assessment Survey completed by the jurisdiction and a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and the programs. The survey is used to gather information regarding the jurisdiction's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; and educational and outreach capability.

Table R21.4: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	No
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Emergency Operational Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	No
	Zoning Ordinance	No
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	No
	Floodplain Ordinance	No
	Building Codes	No
	National Flood Insurance Program	No
	Community Rating System	No
Other (if any)		
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	No
	Floodplain Administration	No
	GIS Capabilities	No
	Chief Building Official	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	No
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	No
	Other (if any)	
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1 & 6 Year plan	No
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	No
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	No
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Other (if any)	
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	Yes
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	Yes
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	N/A
	Other (if any)	No

Table R21.5: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources needed to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	High
Community support to implement projects	Moderate
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Moderate

Plan Integration

Region 21 Emergency Management Agency has multiple planning documents that discuss or relate to hazard mitigation. Each plan is listed below along with a short description of how it is integrated with the hazard mitigation plan. The emergency management agency will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates.

Community Wildfire Protection Plans - Western Sandhills (2019), Wildcat Hills (2021)

Region 21 EMA resides in two Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) regions. Garden and Deuel counties are part of the Western Sandhills CWPP region, and Morrill, Cheyenne, and Kimball counties are part of the Wildcat Hills CWPP region. The Western Sandhills CWPP was first developed in October 2019, while the Wildcat Hills CWPP was updated in July 2021. The purpose of the CWPPs is to help effectively manage wildfires and increase collaboration and communication among organizations who manage fire. The CWPPs discuss county-specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identify areas most at risk from wildfires, discuss protection capabilities, and identify wildfire mitigation strategies. These documents are updated every five years.

Local Emergency Operations Plan – Cheyenne County (2018), Deuel County (2017), Kimball County (2017)

Region 21 EMA updated the Cheyenne County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) in 2018, the Deuel County LEOP in 2017, and the Kimball County LEOP in 2017. These LEOPs establish standardized policies, plans, guidelines, and procedures for emergency resources and governmental entities to respond and recover when a disaster event occurs. They contain information regarding direction and control, communications and warning, damage assessment, emergency public information, evacuation, fire services, health and human services, law enforcement, mass care, protective shelters, and resource management. These plans are updated every five years.

Historical Occurrences

For the complete discussion on historical occurrences, please refer to *Section 4: Risk Assessment*.

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area-wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Flooding

The local planning team indicated that the most recent impacts were during May and June of 2015, when many County Roads were washed out. The entire emergency management region experienced highway damages, and minor flooding was experienced in Bridgeport and Lewellen. The counties within the region were not heavily impacted by the 2019 March flooding event. According to the local planning team, Bridgeport is the biggest concern for the region, because many residences and a sewage lagoon are at risk of flooding damages. Another additional concern is the historic bridge near Lewellen. The bridge is consistently the catalyst of flooding events, largely due to ice jams occurring at the bridge. To prevent lasting impacts as a result of flooding, the emergency manager monitors water levels during high precipitation events. Further, the emergency management region also keeps 800 1-ton sandbags on hand at all times, and 5,000 small sandbags to prevent floodwaters from reaching certain areas of the community. In the past, to prevent flooding at Lewellen, individuals had to cut the dirt road, to relieve tension near the Lewellen Bridge, allowing water to pass both under and around the bridge. To prevent

lasting impacts in the future, the local planning team intends to emphasize preparedness and monitoring, to improve lead-time for any flooding events.

Hazardous Materials - Transportation

No significant events have occurred, save a few minor diesel spills. The primary concerns of the emergency management region are transported chemicals from both truck traffic and railroad transportation. For truck traffic, Highway 385 is a particular concern for the local planning team because so many trucks utilize this highway. Another area of concern includes Bridgeport Ethanol, an ethanol producer just outside of Bridgeport, NE. To limit lasting impacts due to chemical spills, local firefighters are trained in a hazmat awareness capacity of chemical spills, in addition, some firefighters have taken "Firefighter 1" classes, which contain some limited chemical spill response techniques. In the case of a significant chemical spill, the Hazardous Materials Team out of Scottsbluff would respond. Moving forward, the emergency management region intends to offer hazardous material training every two years to all firefighters.

Severe Thunderstorms/Hail

While the area experiences a severe thunderstorm event annually, the local planning team recalled 2010, 2013, and 2015 as especially difficult years for severe thunderstorms. Thunderstorm components of greatest concern for the region include flooding, hail, and lightning strikes. Jurisdictions across the Region 21 district have experienced damages as a result of severe thunderstorms, specifically related to hail on crops. Once hail reaches quarter size, individuals in the community become very concerned about impacts to crops. Region 21 has a number of vulnerable populations which would require additional support in a thunderstorm event, including the hospital and nursing homes in Bridgeport and Oshkosh. To prevent lasting impacts as a result of severe thunderstorms, the emergency management region intends to emphasize backup generators and notification systems to improve awareness of hazard events. Recently, Region 21 Emergency Management provided weather radios to each office in the Morrill County Courthouse to encourage awareness of hazard events, the emergency manager intends to outfit the Morrill County courthouse next with more weather radios. The emergency management region was also able to provide a backup generator to the Bridgeport Sheriff's office, to prevent any sort of prolonged power outages.

Severe Winter Storms

Based on the characteristics of the region, the local planning team is most concerned about rural residents, especially those who may lose access to power or safe transportation. The entire planning area experiences one or more winter storms annually, but significant years included the winter of 2011/2012, which included short term road closures. Presently, little is done for mitigation techniques of severe winter storms to prevent lasting impacts. Current snow removal resources are sufficient for most events. According to the local planning team, it takes about 10" of snow to exhaust local resources. In cases where local resources are completely exhausted, additional assistance is available from the Nebraska Department of Transportation, Scottsbluff Public Works, and Bridgeport may be able to help clear unincorporated areas in the region. The southern half of Region 21 Emergency Management is occupied by the South Platte NRD, which works to utilize living snow fences whenever possible.

Tornadoes/ High Winds

While the entire planning area is equally prone to a tornado or high wind event, each jurisdiction has unique characteristics which make them uniquely vulnerable to such events. In 2017, the City Bayard was damaged from a tornado. Based on land use, the vast majority of the emergency management region is dedicated to agriculture, meaning that the risk for injury/loss of life is relatively low, compared to other more urban areas. The local planning team estimates that about

50 percent of homeowners have basements to seek refuge in a tornado or high wind event. Region 21 has a number of highly vulnerable populations which the local planning team would be concerned about should they experience a tornado or high winds, specifically nursing homes and hospitals. To improve awareness of tornado and high wind events, Region 21 was able to help Broadwater get a new outdoor warning siren. The EMA encourages the testing of tornado sirens once a month at trailer parks, schools, and parks.

Mitigation Strategy

Continued Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Alert/Warning Sirens
DESCRIPTION	Perform an evaluation of existing alert sirens in order to determine sirens which should be replaced or upgraded. Install new sirens where lacking and remote activation.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000+ per siren, Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund, local match from communities pursuing projects
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Individual Jurisdictions, Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	In progress. Broadwater, Gurley, and Bushnell have been upgraded with new outdoor sirens.

Mitigation Action	Backup Generator
DESCRIPTION	Provide a portable or stationary source of backup power to redundant power supplies, municipal wells, lift stations and other critical facilities and shelters.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$3,500+ depending on site requirements
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management, Fire Departments
STATUS	This project has not yet started due to lack of funds.

Mitigation Action	Community Education – Hazardous Materials
DESCRIPTION	Develop an education program to inform residents of risks related to chemical releases; could include direct outreach to residents living in the immediate vicinity of chemical storage sites
HAZARD(S)	Hazardous Materials - Fixed Sites, Hazardous Materials - Transport.
ESTIMATED COST	\$3,000+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	The district is currently working with NEMA to start a hazardous materials vulnerability study in the Panhandle.

SECTION SEVEN: REGION 21 EMA DISTRICT PROFILE

Mitigation Action	Comprehensive City Disaster/Emergency Response Plan
DESCRIPTION	Develop a Comprehensive City/Village Disaster and Emergency Response Plan
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000+, Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	This project is currently in progress.

Mitigation Action	Continuity Planning
DESCRIPTION	Develop continuity plans for critical community services; encourage businesses to do the same
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000+, Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	This project is currently in progress and is an ongoing action.

Mitigation Action	Emergency Communication
DESCRIPTION	Establish an action plan to improve communication between agencies to better assist residents and businesses during and following emergencies; establish inner-operable communications.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$1,000+, Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	The district currently uses a Facebook page to notify the public of emergencies and disaster events. An action plan has not been completed.

Mitigation Action	Emergency Exercise: Hazardous Spill
DESCRIPTION	Perform and emergency exercise to prepare for potential explosions or hazardous spills; ensure that nearby businesses and residents have appropriate plans in place
HAZARD(S)	Hazardous Materials - Fixed Sites, Hazardous Materials - Transport.
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	The district regularly works with local volunteer fire departments and city/village officials to prepare them for a hazardous spill event. This is an ongoing action.

Mitigation Action	Emergency Management Exercise
DESCRIPTION	Develop and facilitate an exercise to identify gaps in planning and to ensure that community response plans are sufficient to meet the needs of the jurisdiction.
HAZARD(S)	Flooding
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	In Progress. Firefighters are trained to a hazmat awareness capacity.

Mitigation Action	Emergency Operations Center
DESCRIPTION	Identify and establish and Emergency Operations Center
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$0-\$10,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	An Emergency Operations Center has not yet been established.

SECTION SEVEN: REGION 21 EMA DISTRICT PROFILE

Mitigation Action	Public Awareness and Education
DESCRIPTION	Outreach projects, distribution of maps and environmental education increase public awareness of natural hazards and how people can protect themselves; other examples include educating citizens on water conservation methods, evacuation plans, etc.; purchase equipment such as overhead projectors and laptops to facilitate presentation of information
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$3,000+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 EMA, Cheyenne County LEPC
STATUS	This project is still in the planning process.

Mitigation Action	Safe Rooms
DESCRIPTION	Assess, design and construct fully supplied safe rooms in highly vulnerable urban and rural areas such as mobile home parks, campgrounds, schools, and other such areas throughout the planning area; assess the adequacy of current public buildings to be used as safe rooms; construct safe rooms in areas of greatest need, either as new construction or retrofitting; Region 21 is interested in installing safe rooms in new schools and companies, in addition to improving existing buildings.
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes and High Winds
ESTIMATED COST	\$200-\$300/sq ft stand alone, \$150-\$200 addition/retrofit
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	This project has not yet started due to lack of funds.

Mitigation Action	Short Term Residency Shelters
DESCRIPTION	Identify and designate short term shelters for rural residents: these structures would not serve as FEMA approved safe rooms; the building could also be used for short-term sheltering during a high heat event for those without A/C; the building is not intended to be used for long term recovery such as long-term displacement from floods, fires, etc.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	The district is working with the Red Cross to identify short term shelters. The district recently renewed a five-year MOU with the Red Cross for all five counties in Region 21.

Mitigation Action	Weather Radios
DESCRIPTION	Conduct an inventory of weather radios at schools and other critical facilities; provide new radios as needed
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$50 per unit
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Region 21 Emergency Management
STATUS	This is an ongoing activity for Region 21.

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District Profile

Bushnell Fire District

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

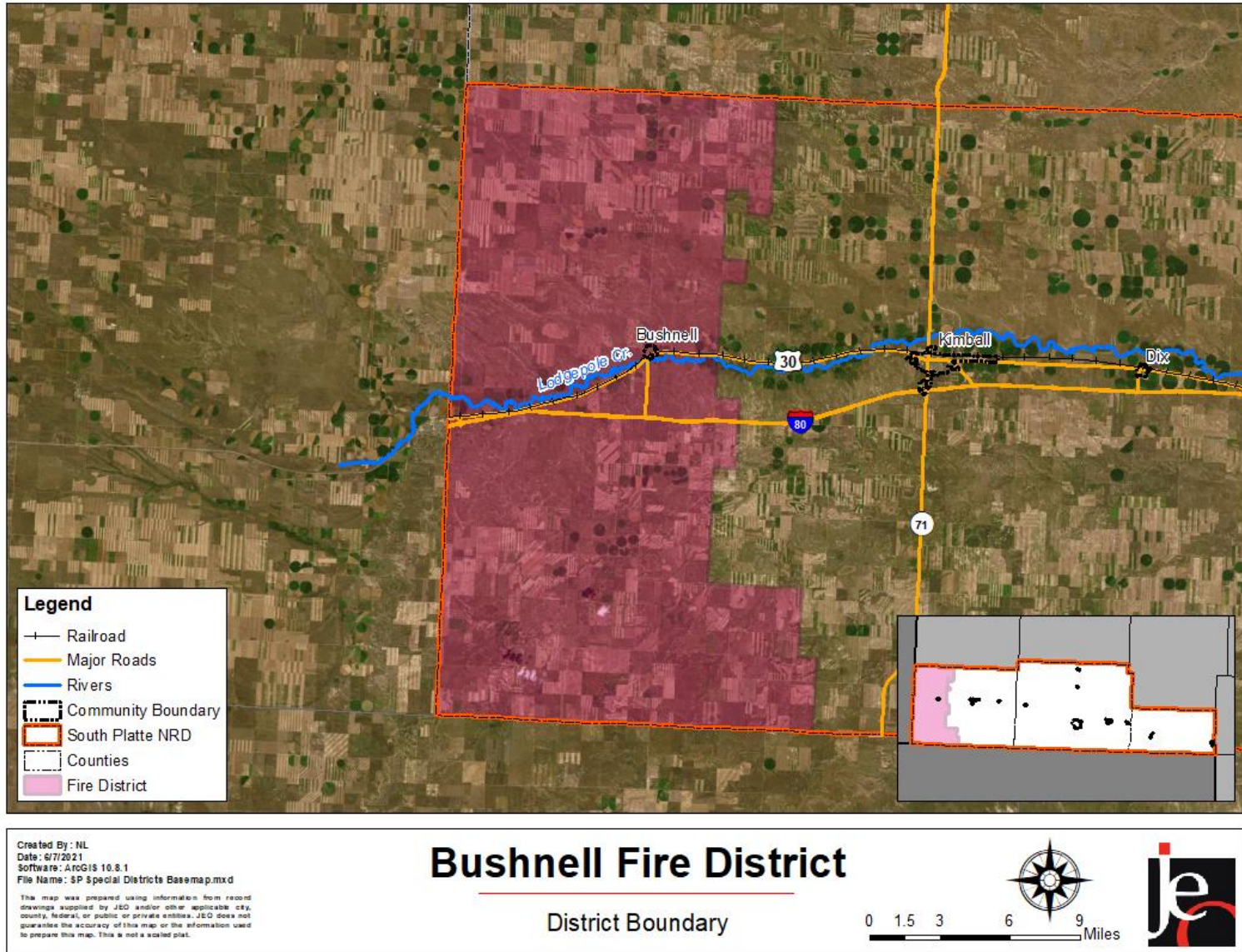
Table BFD.1: Bushnell Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Klent Schnell	Fire Chief	Bushnell Fire District

Location and Geography

The Bushnell Fire District covers the western portion of Kimball County, including the Village of Bushnell. There are approximately 205,000 acres of land in the fire district, which is made up primarily of native rangeland and CRP land. The majority of fires are grassland/wildland fires.

Figure BFD.1: Bushnell Fire District Boundary



Demographics

The district serves approximately 200 people, according to the local planning team. Please see the Village of Bushnell and Kimball County profiles for regional demographic information.

Future Development Trends

In the past few years, fire district has added an additional building to house equipment and has continued to upgrade PPE, communications equipment, and training techniques. The district would like to obtain a backup generator for the fire hall in the next five years.

Staffing

The Bushnell Fire District is supervised by a fire chief and an 18-member fire board who will oversee the implement of hazard mitigation projects.

Capabilities

Due to the unique structure of fire districts, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district’s overall capabilities. The Bushnell Fire District will continue to utilize existing relationships with local, county, state, and federal agencies in the implementation of mitigation projects.

In the last five years, the district has applied for grants from the Nebraska Forest Service and NEMA. The grant from Nebraska Forest Service was awarded. According to the planning team, district funds are mostly limited to maintaining current facilities and any new capital projects must be planned out five to seven years in advance. Over the last five years, the operating budget has remained about the same.

Table BFD.2: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Limited
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Limited
Community Support to Implement Projects	Moderate
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

The Bushnell Fire District has standard operating guidelines (SOGs). The SOGs outline the district’s response to a variety of different calls that could be received. The district is also a part of the Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan, which was updated in July 2021. The CWPP discusses county specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identifies areas most at risk from wildfires, discusses protection capabilities, and identifies wildfire mitigation strategies. Bushnell Fire District follows the Kimball County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2017). Annex F of the LEOP covers fire services by listing the county fire departments, mutual aid partners, and equipment lists

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e. annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this community profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Fire Chief and the Bushnell Johnson Rural Fire Board. The plan will be reviewed bi-annually. The public will be included in the review and revision process via social media and Panhandle Alert.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Major transportation corridors in the district include Interstate 80 and US Highway 30. Union Pacific has one rail line that runs east to west through the center of the district. Transportation routes of most concern to the district include Interstate 80, Highway 30, and the railroad. The railroad transports numerous oils, gases, and liquids and some hazardous materials are transported along Interstate 80. No chemical spills have occurred in the area recently, according to the local planning team. The team did express concern for evacuation of the Village of Bushnell, should the need arise. The village houses the largest concentration of people in the district and many residents are older in age. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, there are 18 chemical storage sites in the district which house hazardous materials. The planning team indicated that the fire district emphasizes hazardous materials awareness as it does not have the resources or manpower to have a chemical spill response team. A team from Scottsbluff or North Platte would be called in to handle a major spill. Roads and facilities at risk from a spill include Interstate 80, Highway 30, and the railroad.

Fire district equipment includes one fire engine, four type VI wildland fire rigs, two tenders, and one equipment trailer that contains a rescue tripod system, grain rescue system, spill containment rope, extra PPE, foam, and ladders. The district holds two events a year on public education and awareness. The planning team indicated that the fire hall is always open to anyone that wants to see the equipment on hand.

Table BFD.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
Spiker 1	Road 9
Echo 07 Launch Facility	County Rd 6
Echo 06 Launch Facility	County Rd 17
Kilo 09 Launch Facility	County Rd 20
Echo 03 Launch Facility	County Rd 26

SECTION SEVEN: BUSHNELL FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

Delta 10 Launch Facility	County Rd 7
Delta 11 Launch Facility	County Rd 17
Delta 07 Launch Facility	County Rd 17
Delta 08 Launch Facility	County Rd 40
Delta 09 Launch Facility	County Rd 17
Forsling Lease	Unlisted
Haussener 1 Lease	County Roads W & 245
Echo 01 MAF	County Rd 16
Echo 02 Launch Facility	County Rd 13
Echo 04 Launch Facility	County Rd 17
Echo 05 Launch Facility	County Rd 25
Caradori 31-25	Road 48
Nelson 42-35	Jct Roads 46 & 13

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy⁷

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

Table BFD.4: Bushnell Fire Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Bushnell Fire Department	N	N	N
2	Water Tower and Well #1	N	Y	N
3	Well #2	N	N	N

⁷ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. "Search Tier II Data." Accessed January 2021.

Figure BFD.2: Bushnell Fire District Critical Facilities



Created By: KD
 Date: 12/15/2021
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: SP School Districts Basemap.mxd

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Bushnell Fire District

Critical Facilities



0 50 100 200 300 Feet

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. A full list of historical hazard occurrences can be found in the Kimball County jurisdictional profile. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Drought

Drought is very common across the whole planning area. Because the fire district and much of the planning area is an agricultural-based economy, drought plays an important role. According to the NCEI, extreme drought last occurred in the region in 2012/2013. Significant drought, however, was reported in 2020/2021. To monitor for drought, the fire district regularly checks the National Drought Monitor website and discusses weather-related events at monthly meetings. Particular concerns for the district include a possible increase in wildfires, increased demand on resources, and possible increase in mutual aid situations.

The planning team noted that the water supply in the Village of Bushnell is sufficient, but supply is always lacking when fighting fires outside the village. The district relies heavily on mutual aid fire districts to supply water during such firefighting operations.

Grass/Wildfire

According to the Nebraska Forest Service, the Bushnell Fire District responded to 53 fires between 2000 and 2020. These fires burned a total of 3,466 acres and resulted in two injuries. The local planning team expressed concern for not having a sufficient and reliable water supply during wildfires, as well as the ability to evacuate people if needed. Another concern is for high wind events that can drive fire to the size that state and federal assets are needed.

The planning team indicated that the district has responded by mutual aid to five large wildfires in Scotts Bluff and Banner Counties during the last two years. These fires were very demanding on equipment and personnel. When responding to mutual aid calls, the district notifies surrounding department that they may need to help cover for them. The biggest impact from wildfires, the planning team noted, is the length of time that reimbursement from state and federal agencies takes.

Hazardous Materials – Transportation

Transportation routes of most concern to the district include Interstate 80, Highway 30, and the railroad. The railroad transports numerous oils, gases, and liquids; and some hazardous materials are transported along Interstate 80. No chemical spills have occurred in the area recently, according to the local planning team. The Bushnell Fire Department is trained for HAZMAT awareness only (not for response). In the event of a large spill, the NSP HAZMAT Response Team would respond, as would Region 21 Emergency Management. The Village of Bushnell and Oliver Reservoir are located along the Union Pacific Railroad and so do have increased vulnerability to transportation-related chemical spills.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Annual HAZMAT Training
DESCRIPTION	Provide the fire department with annual HAZMAT training opportunities.
HAZARD(S)	Hazardous Materials – Transportation
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000
FUNDING	Bushnell Johnson Rural Fire Board General Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Bushnell Johnson Rural Fire Board
STATUS	Not yet started

MITIGATION ACTION	Rural Well Upgrades
DESCRIPTION	Equip rural irrigation wells to allow fire tenders to refill during rural wildfires
HAZARD(S)	Grass/Wildfire, Drought
ESTIMATED COST	\$10,000-\$15,000 per generator
FUNDING	Bushnell Johnson Rural Fire Board General Fund
TIMELINE	1 year
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Bushnell Johnson Rural Fire Board and Bushnell Fire Department
STATUS	Not yet started

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District Profile

Dix Fire District

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

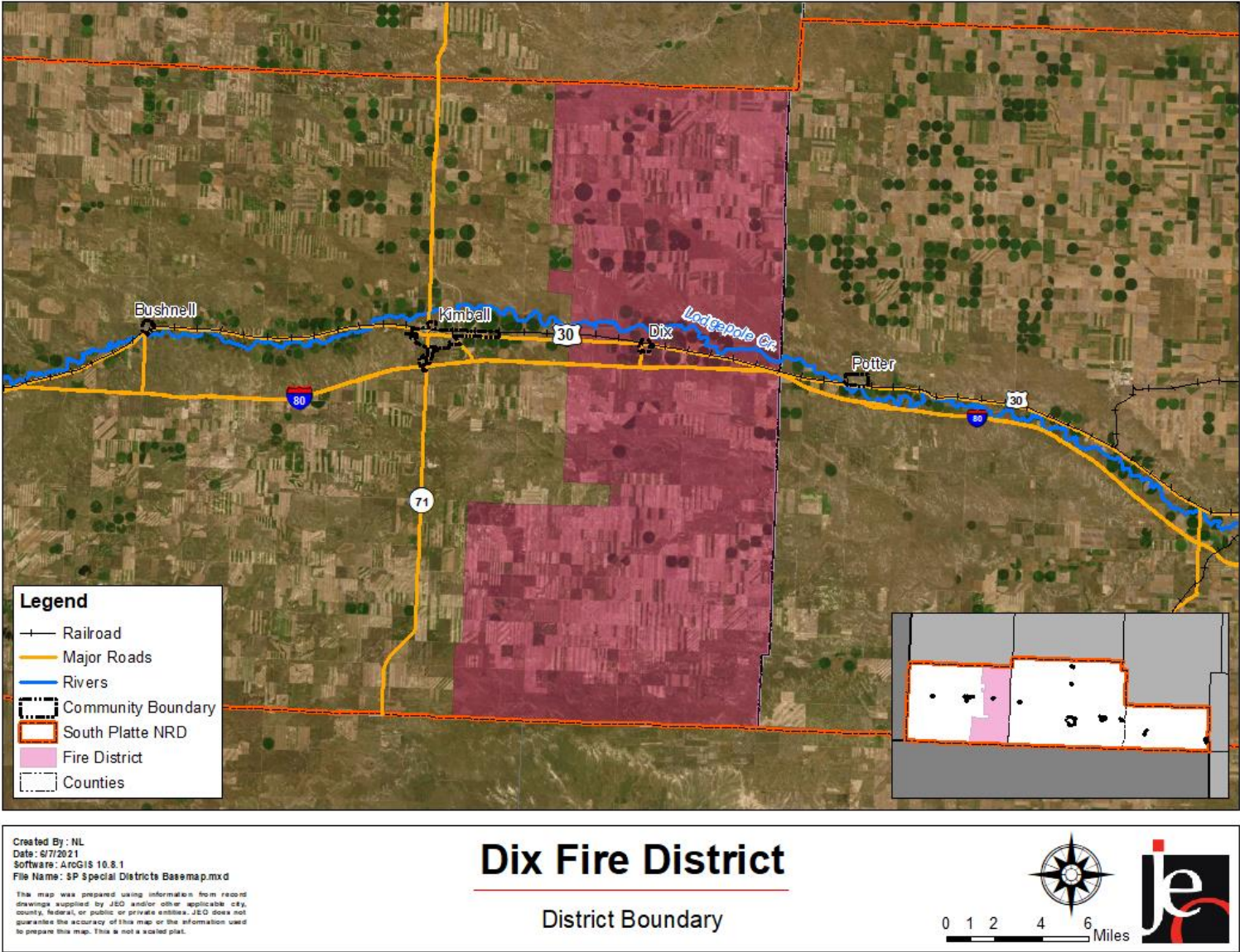
Table DxD.1: Dix Fire District Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Walter Kielian	Fire Chief	Dix Fire District

Location and Geography

The Dix Fire District covers the eastern portion of Kimball County, including the Village of Dix. The district is made up of approximately 2,544 acres. Areas most at risk to fire include Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land, transportation corridors, and Timber Express, west of the Village of Dix.

Figure DXD.1: Dix Fire District Boundary



Demographics

See the Village of Dix and Kimball County profiles for regional demographic information. Dix Fire District serves approximately 525 people.

Future Development Trends

The planning team indicated that the fire hall is too small to fit all the fire trucks and a larger one may be needed in the future.

Staffing

The Dix Fire District is supervised by a fire chief and a five-member fire board who will oversee the implement of hazard mitigation projects.

Capabilities

Due to the unique structure of fire districts, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district’s overall capabilities. The Dix Fire District will continue to utilize existing relationships with local, county, state, and federal agencies in the implementation of mitigation projects.

The planning team indicated that funds are limited to maintaining current facilities and systems. In the last five years, the district has not applied for any grants. The planning team indicated that the district is trying to budget for a fire station expansion in the near future. District funds have remained about the same in recent years.

Table DXD.2: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Limited
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Limited
Community Support to Implement Projects	Limited
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Limited - Moderate

Plan Integration

The Dix Fire District has standard operating guidelines (SOGs). The SOGs outline the district’s response to a variety of different calls that could be received. The district is also a part of the Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan, which was updated in July 2021. The CWPP discusses county specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identifies areas most at risk from wildfires, discusses protection capabilities, and identifies wildfire mitigation strategies. Dix Fire District follows the Kimball County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2017). Annex F of the LEOP covers fire services by listing the county fire departments, mutual aid partners, and equipment lists

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this community profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Fire Chief and the Dix Rural Fire Board. The plan will be reviewed bi-annually. The public will be included in the review and revision process via board meetings.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Major transportation corridors in the district include Interstate 80 and US Highway 30. Union Pacific has one rail line that runs east to west through the northern portion of the district. Transportation routes of most concern include I-80, Hwy 30, and the UP railroad. Hazardous materials are regularly transported along local routes; some of these include anhydrous ammonia and nuclear waste. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, there are 19 chemical storage sites in the district which house hazardous materials. The planning team expressed concern about Timber Express, a site outside of the village that makes telephone poles. Treated materials and shavings are transported to and from the site and there is a big pile of treated materials between the highway and the railroad. The site contains heavy fuels and is downwind of the railway. Another site of concern is White Wood, northwest of the village. Fire district equipment includes three engines, one tender, one command/rescue truck.

Table DXD.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

FACILITY NAME	ADDRESS
Kilo 02 Launch Facility	Road 26
Kilo 03 Launch Facility	Road 69
Kilo 04 Launch Facility	Road 69
Kilo 05 Launch Facility	Road 59
R & R Service	300 Miller St
Kilo 01 MAF	Road 59
Kilo 11 Launch Facility	County Rd 59
Harry Phillips Lease	Road 59
Houtby Lease	County Rd 55
Schmid 3	Road 65
Kenton Unit	Roads 28 & 59

SECTION SEVEN: DIX FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

Boice 1 Battery	Road 55
South Houtby Waterflood Unit	County Rd 28
Millard Lease	County Rd 14
State of Nebraska C Lease	County Rd 69
Foxtrot 01 MAF	County Rd 59
Foxtrot 06 Launch Facility	County Rd 40
Foxtrot 08 Launch Facility	5949 Road 42 N
South Kenton Waterflood Unit	County Rd 28

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy⁸

Dix Fire personnel are trained at the HAZMAT awareness level and not at operations level for hazardous materials spills. The planning team indicated that this is insufficient and that ideally most should attain Technician level. Public outreach and education efforts include Fire Prevention Week at the local elementary school.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

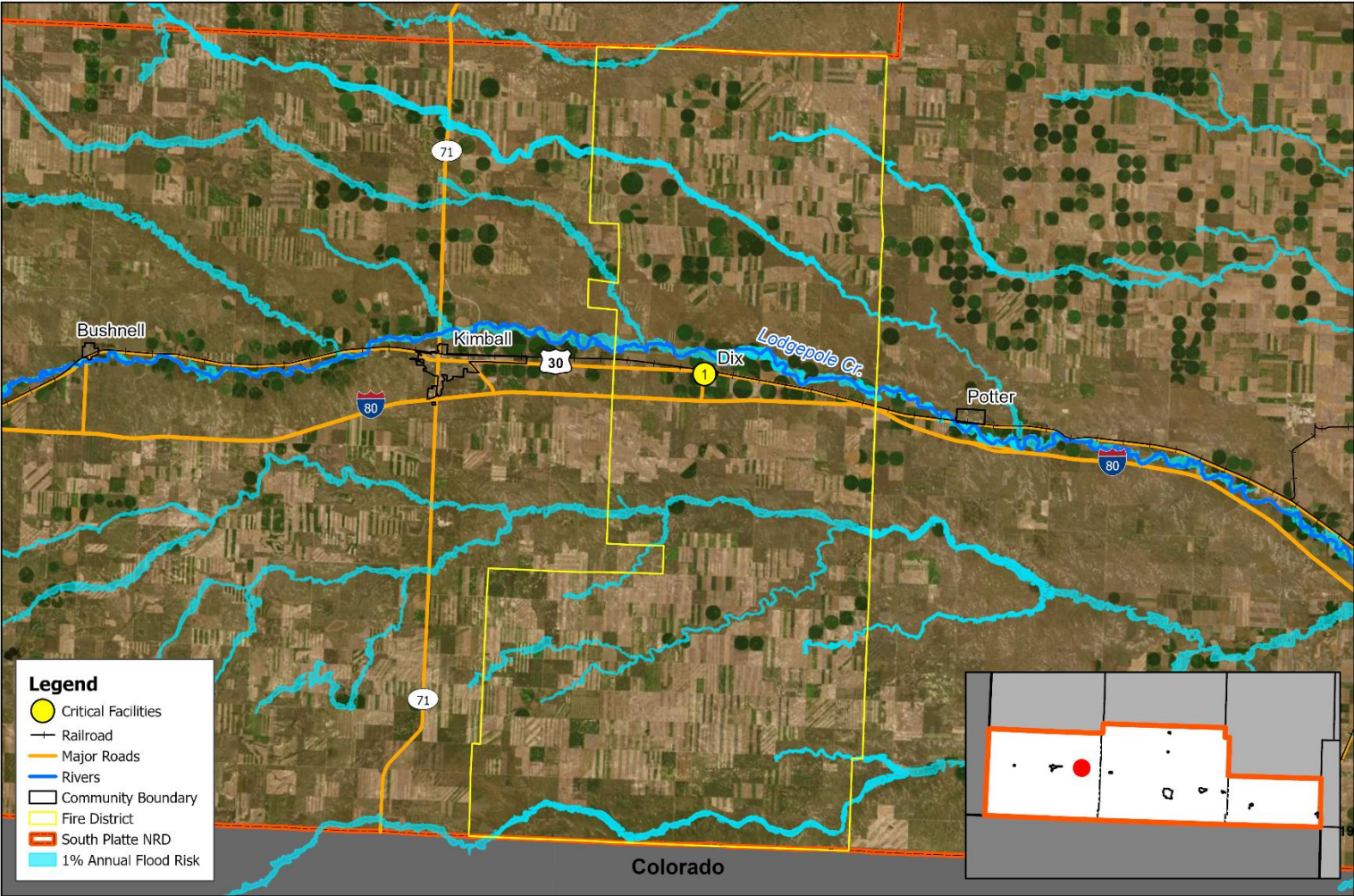
The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

Table DXD.4: Dix Fire District Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Dix Fire Department	Y	N

⁸ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. "Search Tier II Data." Accessed January 2021.

Figure DXD.2: Dix Fire District Critical Facilities



Created By: NL
Date: 3/4/2022
Software: ArcGIS Pro 2.8
File Name: SP_Upfront.aprx

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Dix Fire District

Critical Facilities

0 3 5 Miles

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. A full list of historical hazard occurrences can be found in the Kimball County jurisdictional profile. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Grass/Wildfire

According to the Nebraska Forest Service, the Dix Fire District responded to 50 fires between 2000 and 2020. These fires burned a total of 2,544 acres and resulted in no injuries or fatalities. The local planning team expressed concern about the large number of acres of CRP, as well as no-till cropping practices which leave a considerable amount of fuel to sustain a large wildfire. Recent fires have reduced available pastureland and destroyed small amounts of crops and hay. No structures were lost in these recent fires, according to the planning team.

Hazardous Materials – Fixed Sites

The planning team expressed concern about Timber Express, a site outside of the village that makes telephone poles. Treated materials and shavings are transported to and from the site and there is a big pile of treated materials between the highway and the railroad. The site contains heavy fuels and is downwind of the railway. Another site of concern is White Wood, northwest of the village. The planning team noted that most fixed site chemical storage facilities in our district are rural and fairly isolated, so impacts to the general population would be minimal.

Hazardous Materials – Transportation

Transportation routes of most concern include I-80, Highway 30, and the Union Pacific Railroad. Hazardous materials are regularly transported along local routes; some of these include anhydrous ammonia and nuclear waste. No chemical spills have occurred in the area recently, according to the local planning team. Dix Fire Department personnel are trained for HAZMAT awareness only (not for response). In the event of a large spill, the Dix Fire Department would be the first to respond, followed by neighboring departments, the Incident Commander, and a HAZMAT response team from Scottsbluff for North Platte.

The Potter-Dix Elementary School is located close to the three most likely HAZMAT transportation routes through the community and would therefore be more vulnerable to this hazard. To mitigate risk, the school has been developing an emergency response plan, of which the Dix and Potter Fire Departments have been involved with. The school administration or the Incident Commander would make the decision to shelter in place or evacuate, based on available information.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Fire Station Expansion
DESCRIPTION	Expand fire station to provide room for all current apparatus and provide space for administration and training functions.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$750,000 - \$1.2M
FUNDING	District Funds, Local Bond
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Dix Fire District
STATUS	Not yet started

MITIGATION ACTION	Update SCBA Equipment
DESCRIPTION	Update current SCBA equipment
HAZARD(S)	Grass/Wildfire
ESTIMATED COST	\$20,000
FUNDING	District Funds
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Dix Fire District
STATUS	Not yet started

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Airport Profile

Kimball Municipal Airport

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

Table KMA.1: Airport Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Ryan McElroy	Chairman	Kimball Municipal Airport
Don Muench	Board Member	Kimball Municipal Airport
Bobbie Duncan	Board Member	Kimball Municipal Airport
John Fergenson	Board Member	Kimball Municipal Airport

Location and Geography

The Kimball Airport is located approximately two miles south of the City of Kimball.

Climate

As an airport just outside of Kimball, Nebraska, the plan will utilize the City of Kimball as the location for all the climate data. For Kimball, the normal high temperature for the month of July is 85.6 degrees Fahrenheit and the normal low temperature for the month of January is 14.3 degrees Fahrenheit. On average, Kimball gets 16.9 inches of rain and 29.8 inches of snowfall per year. The following table compares these climate indicators with those of the entire state.

Table KMA.2: Climate Data for Kimball

	Kimball	State of Nebraska
July Normal High Temp¹	85.6 °F	88.0°F
January Normal Low Temp¹	14.3 °F	12.0°F
Annual Normal Precipitation²	16.9 inches	30.3 inches
Annual Normal Snowfall²	29.8 inches	25.9 inches

Source: NCEI 1981-2010 Climate Normals⁹, High Plains Regional Climate Center, 1981-2010¹⁰
Precipitation includes all rain and melted snow and ice.

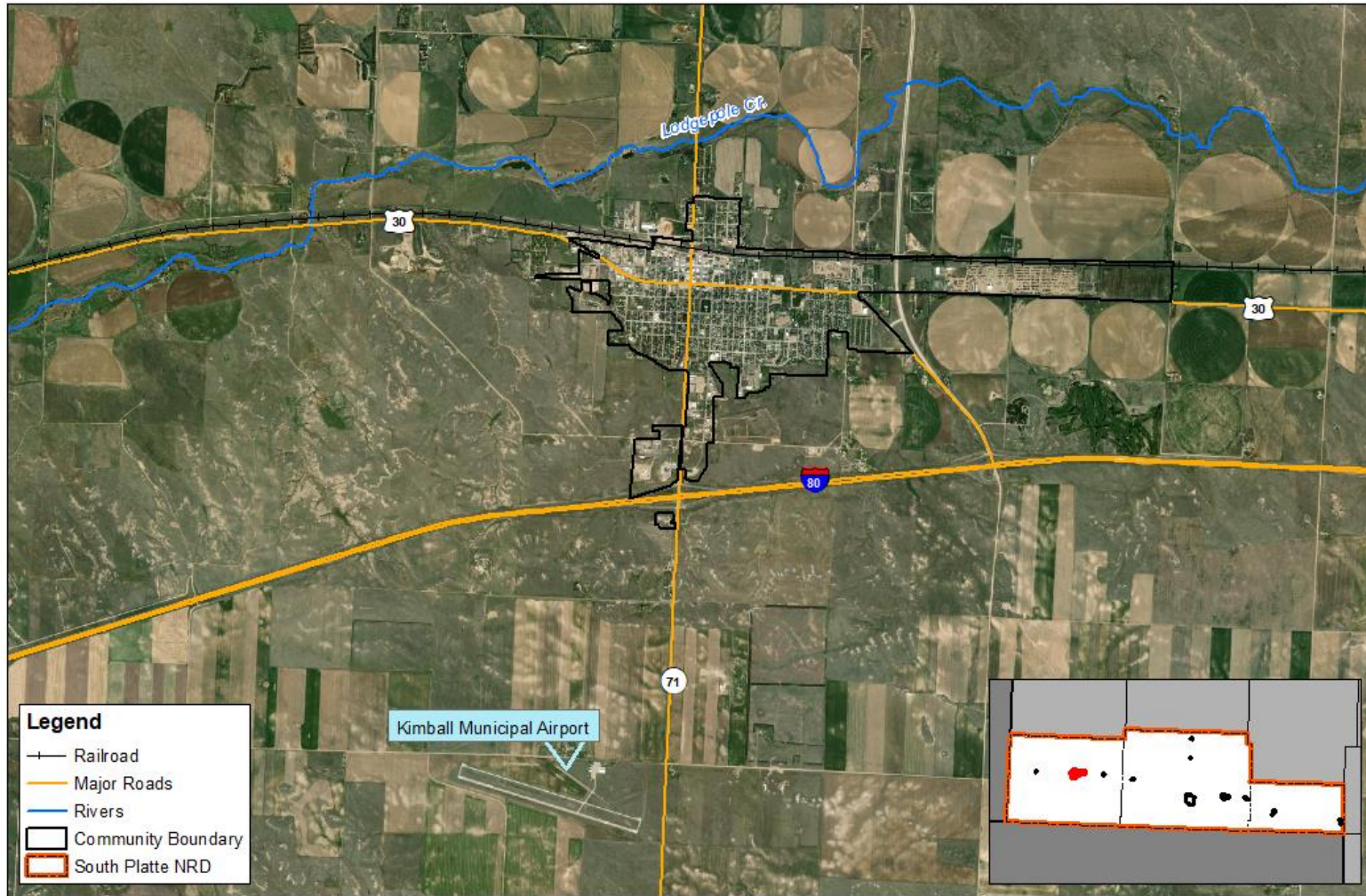
Transportation

According to the NDOT's 2014 Statewide Traffic Flow Map, US Highway 71 runs through Kimball, running north/south, and accommodates approximately 2,020 vehicles per day, 445 of which are heavy commercial vehicles. The Union Pacific Railroad runs east/west south of Kimball, just north of the community. Transportation information is important for hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

⁹ National Centers for Environmental Information. "1981-2010 U.S. Climate Normals." Accessed December 2020. <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datatools>.

¹⁰ High Plains Regional Climate Center. "Monthly Climate Normals 1981-2010 – Kimball, NE." Accessed December 2020. <http://climod.unl.edu/>.

Figure KMA.1: Kimball Municipal Airport



Created By: NL
 Date: 6/28/2021
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: SP Community Basemap.mxd
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Kimball Municipal Airport

South Platte NRD Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022

A north arrow is positioned above a scale bar that ranges from 0 to 6,000 feet. To the right of the scale bar is the logo for JEC, consisting of the letters 'je' in a stylized font with a red and black color scheme.

Demographics

The U.S. Census Bureau does not maintain demographic data for the Kimball Airport, nor does anyone live on airport property land. As a result, no demographic information may be shown. For demographic data for the City of Kimball, please refer to Kimball's *Participant Section*.

Future Development Trends

In the last five years, the airport added new runway lights. A new runway is planned for the airport in 2022.

Community Lifelines

Critical Facilities

The local planning team identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response, public shelter, and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update. The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

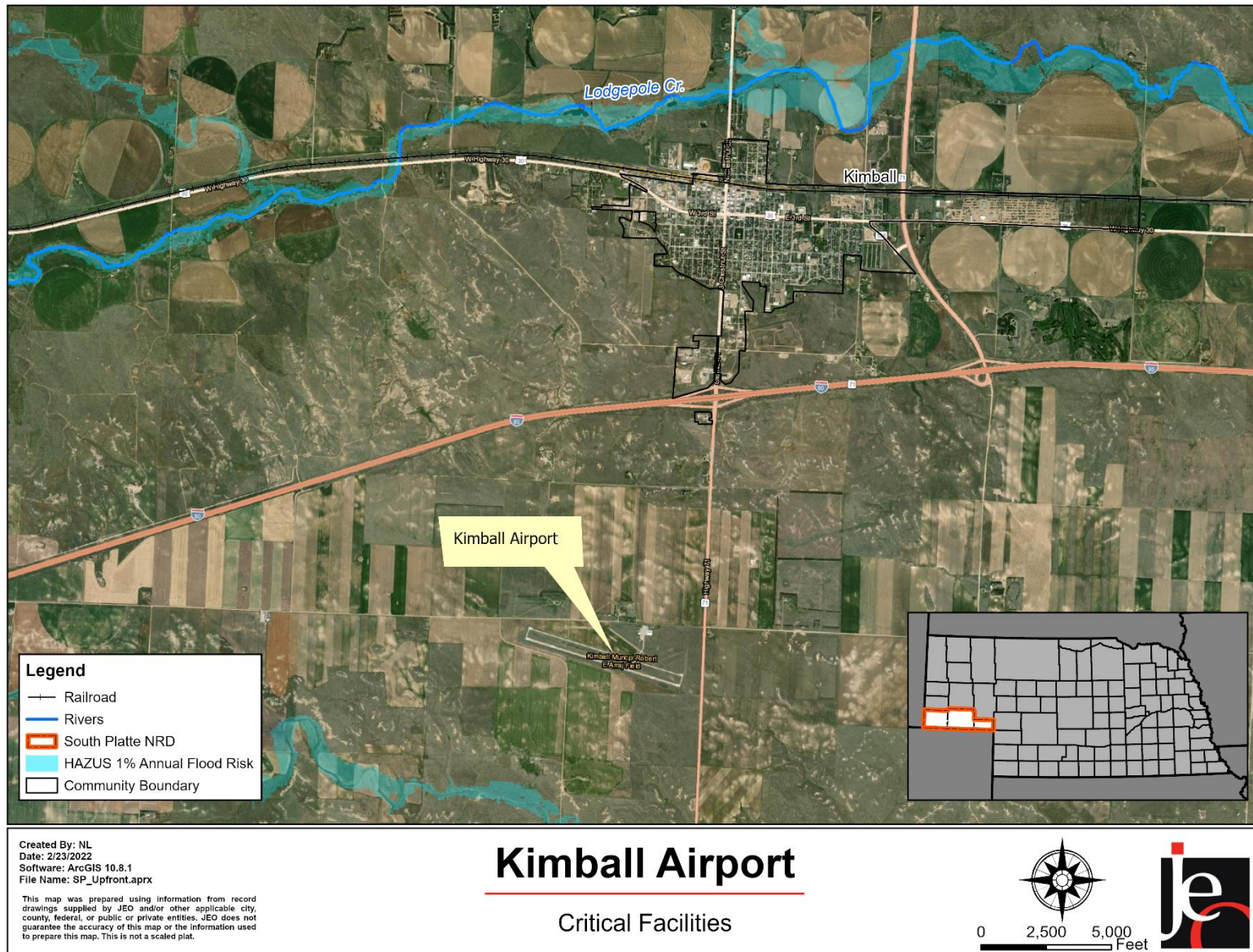
Table KMA.3: Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Kimball Municipal Airport	N	N	N

Governance

The airport's officials may be supporting actors in implementing any mitigation and strategic actions identified within this process. The airport has five Board Members, which includes one Board Chair.

Figure KMA.2: Critical Facilities



Capability Assessment

Due to the unique structure of the airport, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district's overall capabilities. The Kimball Municipal Airport will continue to utilize existing relationships with local, county, state, and federal agencies to aid in the implementation of mitigation projects.

Table KMA.5: Capability Assessment

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources needed to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Limited
Community support to implement projects	Moderate
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

The airport collaborates with the City of Kimball and Kimball County on planning efforts.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e. annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Chair and the Board. The plan will be reviewed bi-annually.

Historical Occurrences

See the City of Kimball community profile for historical hazard events. The following table provides a summary of hazards that have affected or have the potential to affect the Kimball Municipal Airport. The airport was evaluated for previous hazard occurrence and the probability of future hazard events on each of the 16 hazards profiled in this plan. The evaluation process was based on data collected; previous impacts or the potential for impacts to infrastructure, critical facilities, people, and the economy; and the proximity to certain hazards such as dams and levees.

Table KMA.6: Kimball Municipal Airport Hazard Matrix

Hazard	Kimball Municipal Airport
Animal and Plant Disease	
Dam Failure	X
Drought	X

SECTION SEVEN: KIMBALL MUNICIPAL AIRPORT PROFILE

Hazard	Kimball Municipal Airport
Earthquakes	X
Extreme Heat	X
Flooding	X
Grass/Wildfire	X
Hail	X
Hazardous Materials – Fixed Sites	X
Hazardous Materials – Transportation	X
High Winds	X
Levee Failure	
Severe Thunderstorms	X
Severe Winter Storms	X
Terrorism and Civil Disorder	X
Tornadoes	X

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area-wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities.

Hail

As the owner of five buildings on the property, the airport board ranked hail as a hazard of top concern. The City of Kimball owns each hanger and has insurance on these structures. According to the local planning team, the community experiences a hail event every 5-7 years. The planning team noted that most hail events are approximately pea-sized hail. For pilot's safety, visibility is a top concern, and the FAA has a weather control channel for pilots to understand conditions.

Hazardous Materials – Transportation

The airport is a provider for takeoff/landing facilities for many crop dusters, which makes the airport vulnerable to a chemical spill event. Crop dusting season lasts from mid spring until July. The airport also has a fuel island which has gasoline, also presenting an additional vulnerability for the airport. While the airport has only experienced minor spills in the past, the airport does have inflatable catches for a chemical spill, which may contain any spill. Additionally, to encourage awareness, the airport has posted placards on fuel tanks and pumps. To mitigate risk, the airport works to ensure sprayers and pilots keep a clean environment.

In the case of a significant chemical spill, the Scottsbluff Hazardous Materials team would likely be the first responders.

High Winds

Airports are uniquely vulnerable to high wind events. The local planning team noted that high winds may prohibit safe landings about twice a year at Kimball. The airport has worked to improve notifications of high wind events to keep pilots safe and aware of any potential danger. The airport has an automated radio transmitter which transmits current conditions to pilots. This information includes temperature, visibility, and date/time information. Past impacts from high winds include torn flags and a broken door.

In terms of protection, it is the responsibility of the individual to shelter-in-place, the airport does not presently have any protected areas for high wind events. There are tie downs for planes and some open hangar space, if needed. The airport tries to keep a hangar spot open for travelers.

Tornadoes

Airports are uniquely vulnerable to tornado events. Presently, the airport does not have any sort of protected areas from high wind events. Courtesy cars are available if people need transportation to Kimball for shelter. The airport is interested in pursuing funding for a tornado safe room, to mitigate this vulnerability.

Mitigation Strategy

Continued Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Additional Hangers
DESCRIPTION	The airport authority is interested obtaining additional hangers to protect aircrafts from inclement weather.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$10,000-\$40,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Kimball Municipal Airport Board
STATUS	This project has been delayed due to runway issues.

Mitigation Action	Backup Generator
DESCRIPTION	Provide a portable or stationary source of backup power to redundant power supplies, municipal wells, lift stations, and other critical facilities and shelters.
HAZARD(S)	High Winds, Severe Thunderstorms, Severe Winter Storms, Tornadoes
ESTIMATED COST	\$15,000-\$30,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Kimball Municipal Airport Board
STATUS	This project has been delayed due to runway issues.

Mitigation Action	Storm Shelters / Safe Rooms
DESCRIPTION	Assess, design, and construct fully supplied safe rooms in areas of greatest need, either as new construction or retrofitting.
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes, High Winds
ESTIMATED COST	\$200-\$300/sq. ft. stand alone, \$150-\$200/sq. ft. addition/retrofit
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Kimball Municipal Airport Board
STATUS	This project has been delayed due to runway issues.

Removed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Civil Service Improvements
DESCRIPTION	Presently, the Kimball Municipal Airport subcontracts out its snow removal strategies; the airport authority may be interested in obtaining a snowplow or blade specifically for use at the airport.
HAZARD(S)	Severe Winter Storms
REASON FOR REMOVAL	This is no longer a priority for the airport due to a lack of staff.

Mitigation Action	Portable Containment Barriers
DESCRIPTION	To prevent the spread of spilled chemicals, the airport authority is interested in investing in containment barriers for crop duster chemicals
HAZARD(S)	Hazardous Materials - Transportation
REASON FOR REMOVAL	The crop dusters are responsible for their own containment.

Mitigation Action	Public Awareness and Education
DESCRIPTION	The Kimball Airport Authority provides Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) messages during times of inclement weather, these messages are distributed via radio and online resources
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
REASON FOR REMOVAL	The FAA has implemented a web-based notification system to make it easy to create NOTAMs.

District Profile

Kimball Public School District

**South Platte Natural Resources District
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

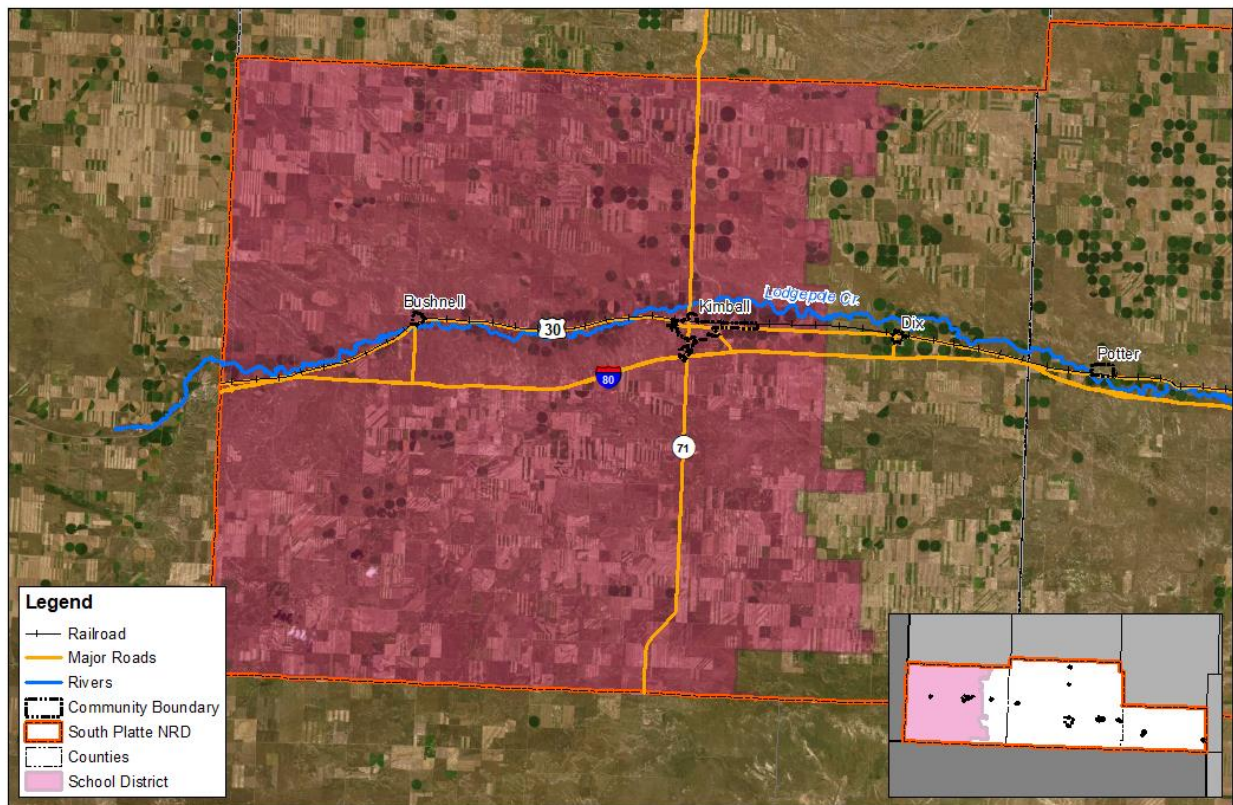
Table KPS.1: Kimball Schools Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Trevor Anderson	Superintendent	Kimball Public Schools
Travis Terrill	Technology Director	Kimball Public Schools
Gregg Fossand	Building & Grounds Director	Kimball Public Schools

Location and Services

Kimball Public Schools is a school district located in Kimball County, in the southwest corner in the panhandle of Nebraska. Its offices are located at 901 South Nadine Street, Kimball, Nebraska, 69145, and 1000 East 6th Street, Kimball, NE 69145. The district’s mission, as expressed on its website, states “Educating every student for a lifetime of success.” The district is comprised of two schools: Kimball Junior/Senior High School and Mary Lynch Elementary School. Students are allowed to opt-in to the school district, which currently include students from Pine Bluffs, Banner County, and Potter-Dix. Both English and Spanish are spoken in the district.

Figure KPS.1: Kimball School District Boundary



Created By: NL
 Date: 6/7/2021
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: SP School Districts Basemap.mxd

Kimball Public Schools
 District Boundary

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0 2 4 8 Miles

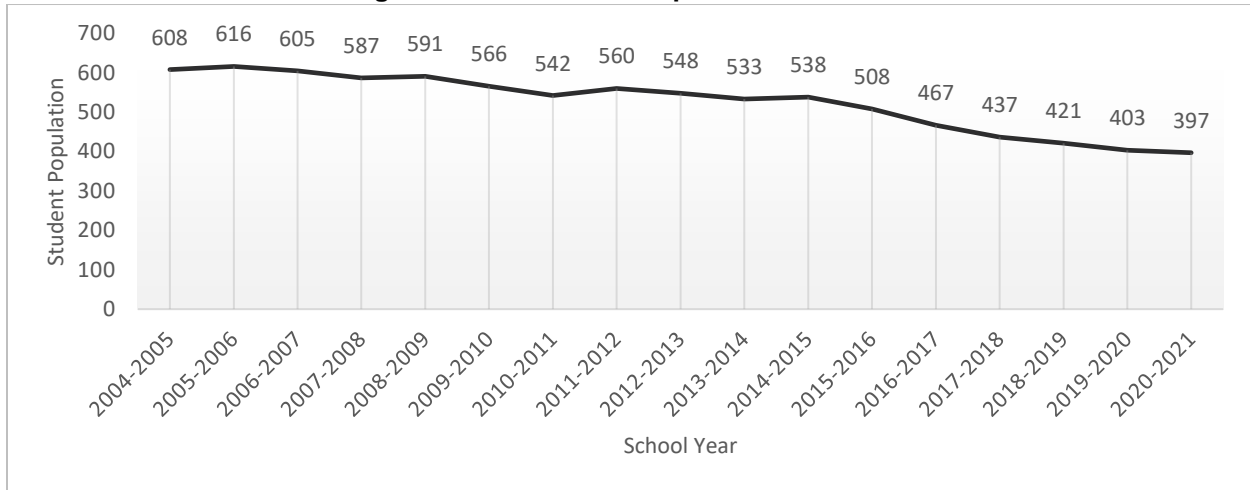
Transportation

Rural transportation routes are of the most concern to the local planning team due to conditions of the roads in the event of rain or snow. In the past year, an accident occurred involving a school vehicle and wildlife. Wildlife on the roadway is a common occurrence, according to the planning team. The district owns nine buses, with around 90 students being bused to and from school.

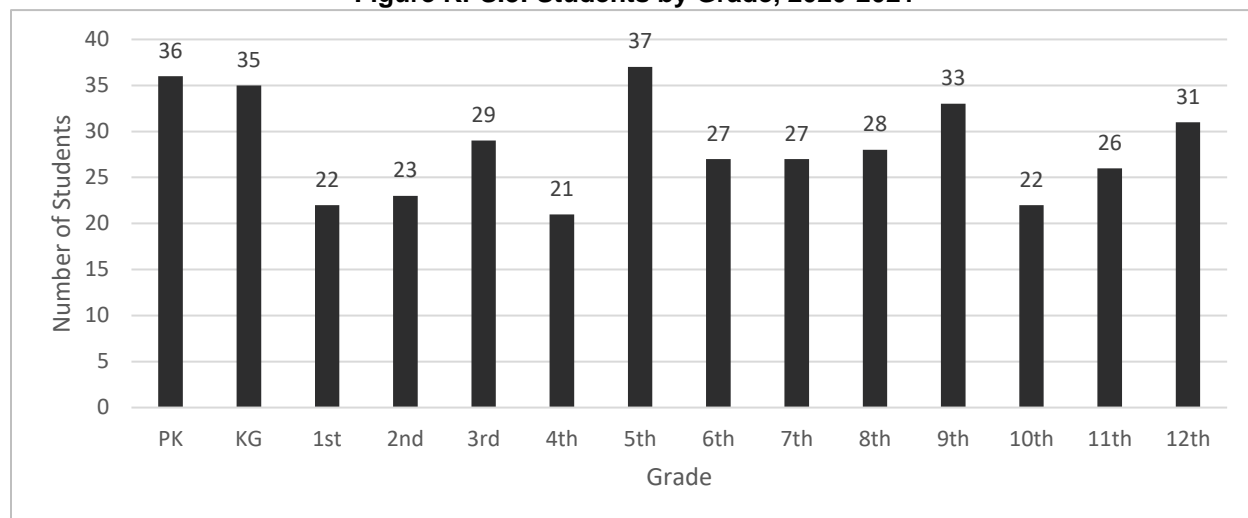
Demographics

The following figure displays the historical student population trend starting with the 2004-05 school year and ending with the 2020-21 year. The figure indicates that the student population has generally declined in recent years. There are approximately 397 students enrolled in Kimball Public School District. The planning team anticipates an increase in student population over the next five years due to multiple projects coming to the area and the prospect of new jobs being created. The district employs approximately 85 teachers and staff.

Figure KPS.2: Student Population 2004-2021



Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Figure KPS.3: Students by Grade, 2020-2021

Source: Nebraska Department of Education

The figure above indicates that the largest number of students are in 5th grade, followed by Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten. The lowest population of students are in 1st, 4th, and 10th grade. According to the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), 48.88% of students receive either free or reduced priced meals at school in the 2019-20 year. This is higher than the state average of 45.60%. Additionally, 19.28% of students are in the Special Education Program. These students may be more vulnerable during a hazardous event than the rest of the student population.

Table KPS.2: Student Statistics, 2019-2020

	District	State of Nebraska
Free/Reduced Priced Meals	48.88%	45.60%
Special Education Students	19.28%	15.56%
English Language Learners (ESL)	*	7.43%
School Mobility Rate	18.46%	8.36%

*Data is not available with fewer than 10 students.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, enrollment has declined in the district. Staff has also declined during that time. The planning team attributes this to a decrease in the overall population of the school district. In recent years the district has acquired new school vehicles and updated some technology equipment. As noted above, it is anticipated that enrollment will increase in the next five years due to new developments and projects coming to the area.

The district is in the preliminary process of evaluation its facilities and anticipates either renovating facilities or completing a new construction project. The scope of the project will encompass all district facilities.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

The district's major transportation corridors include US Highway 30, State Highway 71, and Interstate 80. The Union Pacific Rail Line runs west/east through the north portion of the City of Kimball. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the district, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Chemical storage facilities of concern include buildings that store fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia, and crude oil. However, none of these locations are directly located near to district facilities. According to the planning team, no chemical spills have occurred that impacted the district. In the event of a spill, a custodian or teacher would be the first to respond. The fire department would then be next to respond.

Table KPS.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
Swanson 11X-21	Rd 14
Giesecking 41X-9	County Road 45
Maxted 1	County Road 37
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	201 E Front St
Kimball Energy Oil	103 S Howard St
Wolf-Mobil	County Road 54
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	1101 S Highway 71
Castronics LLC	4386 E Highway 30
Hagstrom Commingled Tank Batt	County Road 30
Woolsey	Highway 71
Trevethan 1-17	Rd 14
NDOT Kimball Yard	3979 Road 32
Clean Harbors Env Services Inc	2247 S Highway 71
Kimball Energy Propane Storage	Jct W 1st St & Hwy 30
Kilo 06 Launch Facility	County Road 12
Kilo 10 Launch Facility	County Rd 28
Kilo 08 Launch Facility	Highway 71
Kilo 07 Launch Facility	County Rd 10
Delta 01 MAF	County Rd 27
WAPA Kimball Substation	County Road 22
State of Nebraska 1 Lease	Unlisted
Chaney East Unit	County Road 23
Terrestrial 1-32 Tank Battery	Unlisted
State of Nebraska 36-2 & 3	Highway 30 E
Owasco Unit Tank Battery	Highway 30 E
Flying Eagle 1,2,3 Battery	Unlisted
Campbell 2-20 Tank Battery	Unlisted
Gross C-1,2,3 Lease	Unlisted
Wykert Tank Battery	Unlisted
Grubb 2-1A	Rd 37
Bourlier Unit	County Road 14
Giesecking 1	County Road 45

SECTION SEVEN: KIMBALL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

Facility Name	Address
Bernice Zweiner Lease	Highway 71 S
State of Nebraska 27-21 Lease	Road 210
Evertson 1	Jct Roads 39 & 30
Prairie State Lease 01	County Road 14
South Torgeson Units 6 & 7	Roads 22 & 37
Foxtrot 09 Launch Facility	County Rd 49
Foxtrot 10 Launch Facility	County Rd 49
Delta 04 Launch Facility	County Rd 52
Delta 05 Launch Facility	County Road 42
Delta 06 Launch Facility	County Rd 29
Forsling 3	Road E
Frederick 1 Lease	Road E
Kimball Energy Station	312 S Chestnut St
Endura Products Corp	2891 W Highway 30
TIGT Kimball Jct Compressor	County Rd 12
Sloss Unit 99	County Road 43
Heidemann Farms 1-13 Lease	16 Road E
Sue Ann Wilson 15-34 Lease	Road 20
WJD Ranch 42-22	County Rd 27 W
Haase 24-10	Unlisted
Art Pirnie 6-3	Road 20
Jessen 34-15	County Road 50
Jessen 23-15	County Road 50
Reader 21-11	County Road 54
Kimball Batch Plant	1098 W Highway 30
Elite Oil Field Services LLC	107 S Cedar St
Tallgrass Pony Exprss Pipeline	3381 Road 28 S
Kunau 1 Tank Battery	Lindbergh Rd
Elite Oil Field Services LLC	501 W 2nd St
Cauley 44-29	Rd 46
Cederburg 35-15 1R	Road 20

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy¹¹

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

The school district operates two facilities. School facilities are listed below, along with information indicating the school’s address, number of students and staff, if the facility is used as a shelter during emergencies, if the facility is located in the floodplain, and the presence of a backup power generator.

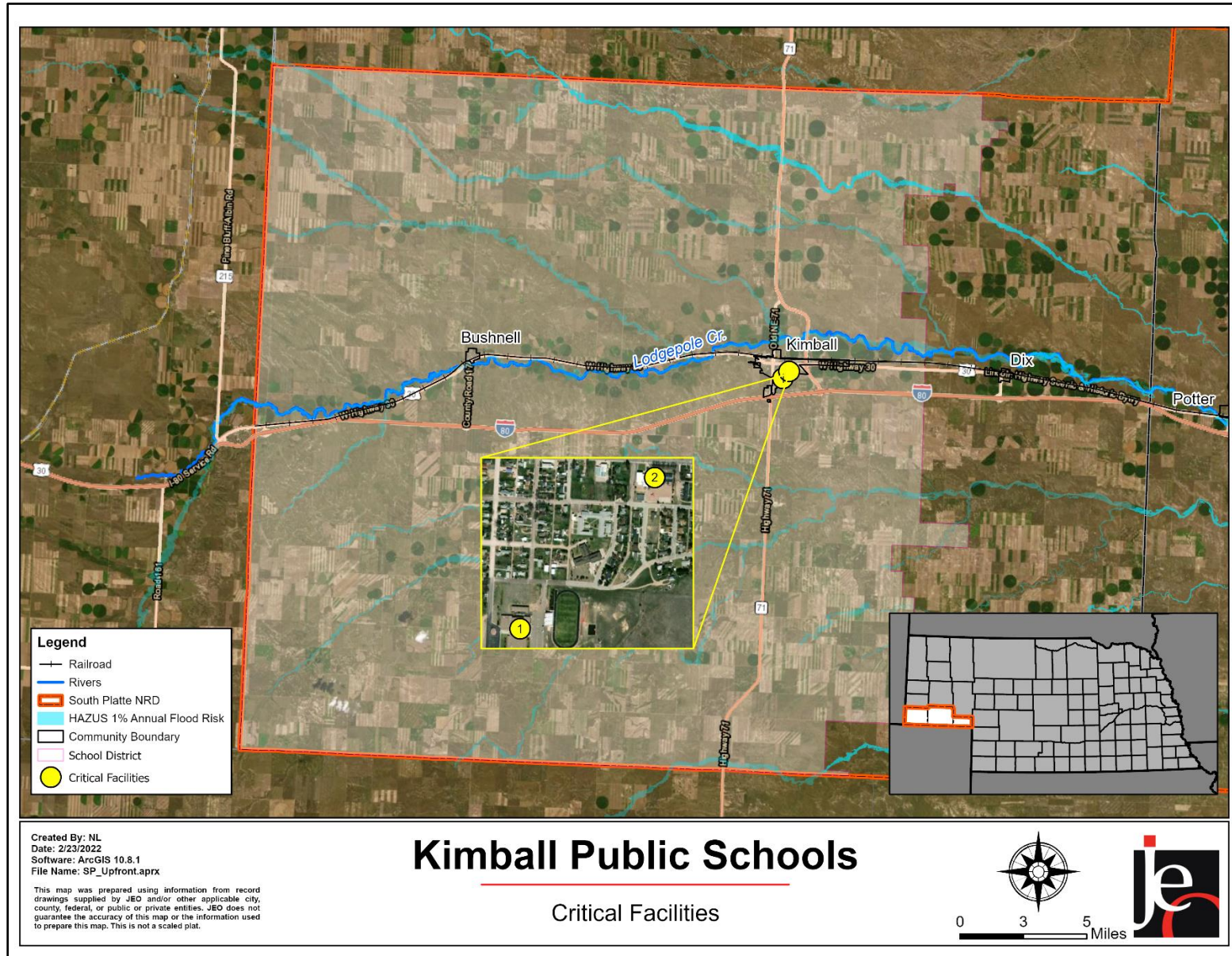
¹¹ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. “Search Tier II Data.” January 2021.

The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the district.

Table KPS.4: Kimball Schools Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	# of Students	# of Staff	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Kimball Jr/Sr High School	170	40	Y	N
2	Mary Lynch Elementary School	230	40	Y	N

Figure KPS.4: Kimball Schools Critical Facilities



School Drills and Staffing

Safety drills are conducted monthly throughout the school year. These include bus safety/evacuation, tornado, fire, building evacuation, lockdown, hold, secure, and shelter. Staff are trained in emergency procedures prior to the start of each school year. Families are informed about emergency procedures at the district through the school website and a parent meeting held annually. Emergency events are communicated to parents through the district-wide notification system that sends an alert to phones as well as a text and phone call. Presently, alerts are only sent in English.

Historical Occurrences

See the City of Kimball community profile for historical hazard events.

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Hail

The local planning team identified hail as a top concern for Kimball Schools. The school district is most concerned about damages to vehicles and personal injury related to hail. In the past, hail damage to the roof resulted in the need for a roof replacement.

In terms of response, the school has the capability to shelter in place during a hail event or call students indoors during a severe thunderstorm to prevent bodily harm.

Severe Thunderstorm

The local planning team identified severe thunderstorms as a top concern for Kimball Schools. According to the local planning team, the area experiences approximately 12 severe thunderstorms per year. The school's biggest concern related to severe thunderstorms is potential damage to facilities, vehicles, and infrastructure. There is also concern for potential student and staff injury. For notification, the school utilizes the Kimball County Sherriff's notification system, which provides details to the public regarding impending severe weather.

The school has suffered significant losses as a result of severe thunderstorms in the past. In 2015, high winds combined with rain resulted in water getting into the school's HVAC system. Water traveled down the air ducts and ruined many of the school's IT resources. The school has had waterproofing issues with their roofing as well, especially the gym roof. The school made two insurance claims relating to severe thunderstorms in 2015, totaling \$300,000. Communications have been updated in recent years to improve the ability to send out notifications. The planning team noted that the district does not have backup generators but would benefit from one at Kimball Junior/Senior High School and Mary Lynch Elementary School. Most power lines going to school facilities are buried underground.

Severe Winter Storms

Severe winter storms were identified as a hazard of top concern for the school district. The district is forced to cancel school between two and six days per year as a result of severe winter storms. The planning team's biggest concern as it relates to severe winter storm is commuting, especially since many high schoolers can drive at 14, if they live in a rural area. Presently, the school enacts "mud/snow routes" during times of inclement weather, which keeps buses on hard surfaces, and off dangerous roadways. Under these conditions, parents are responsible for bringing their kids to predesignated locations, where buses will take them the rest of the way.

When closing school, the superintendent uses a variety of sources to make an informed decision. The superintendent has a good relationship with the National Weather Service in Cheyenne, WY, which improves prediction capabilities. The superintendent also calls neighboring jurisdictions to learn about local conditions and what other superintendents will do.

Extremely cold and snow in February and March 2021 caused power outages and road closures throughout the school district and resulted in school closure for four days during that time. Gutter damage from winter storms resulted in multiple insurance claims and both gutter guards and snow guards have been installed to prevent future damage. Kimball Public Schools has also invested in an "all call" system to alert parents of school cancellations. According to the local planning team, this system alerts 88-90% of all people.

Tornadoes

The local planning team identified tornadoes as a top concern for Kimball Schools. While the school district has not suffered any damages directly, tornadoes are a common hazard for the planning area as a whole. The local planning team added that tornadoes occur in the planning area approximately twice a year. The school district is most concerned about a tornado any time while students are commuting to or from school, including the open lunch hour, when students have permission to leave campus for lunch. In addition to the concern of injury or bodily harm, the school district is also concerned about vulnerability to the safety of their data.

To protect students from tornado events, the school has pre-designated shelter areas which are hardened for protection, such as interior classrooms or restrooms. The school does not have a FEMA-certified Safe Room. Both the elementary school and the high school have weather radios located in their offices. The planning team indicated that a safe room would be considered if the district moves forward with a construction/renovation project.

Terrorism

When presented with a list of hazards from the State of Nebraska HMP, the local planning team identified terrorism as a top concern for Kimball Public Schools. While the school has not experienced any acts of terrorism in the past, the school is increasingly concerned about how commonplace these events have become. According to the local planning team, some individuals within the schools may feel as if "that doesn't happen here," or "Kimball is too small for that." Both schools need additional security, but the high school does have higher attendance, perhaps more greatly necessitating security.

To mitigate against lasting impacts as a result of terrorism, the school intends to improve awareness of terrorism events. The school superintendent wishes to re-key locks frequently and encourages visitors to wear badges or nametags.

Administration

The school district has a superintendent, two principals, and supportive staff. The school board has a cabinet and is also made up of a six-member school board. The district also has a number of additional departments and staff that may be available to implement hazard mitigation initiatives.

The Kimball County Cabinet includes the resources listed below:

- Superintendent
- Elementary Principal/Director of Special Services
- Secondary Principal
- Business Manager
- Technology Director
- Director of Transportation/Building & Grounds
- Activities Director
- Food Service Director

Capabilities

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the jurisdiction's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Table KPS.5: Capability Assessment

Survey Components		Yes/No
Planning Capability	Capital Improvements Plan/Long-Term Budget	Yes
	Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes
	Disaster Response Plan	Yes
	Other (if any)	
Administrative & Technical Capability	GIS Capabilities	Yes
	Civil Engineering	No
	Staff who can assess jurisdictional vulnerability to hazards	No
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreements	No
Other (if any)		
Fiscal Capability	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded grants in the past	Yes
	Authority to levy taxes or bonds for specific mitigation projects	No
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds in place	No

SECTION SEVEN: KIMBALL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

	Flood Insurance	No
	Other (if any)	
Education and Outreach	Local school groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access, and functional needs populations, etc. (Ex. Parent groups, hazard mitigation boards, etc.)	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (Ex. Responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education, etc.)	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Other (if any)	
Drills	Fire	5/yr
	Tornado	2/yr
	Intruder	3/yr
	Bus Evacuation	2/yr
	School Evacuation	1/yr
	Other (if any)	

Table KPS.6: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Limited
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Limited
Community Support to Implement Projects	Moderate
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Moderate

Plan Integration

Grants and Funding

District funds are currently limited to maintaining facilities and systems. Funds have decreased over recent years due to decreased property valuations in the area. The district did not apply for any grants in the last five years.

Crisis Response Plan

The school district utilizes a Crisis Response Plan (2022) to react to hazardous events. The Crisis Response Plan assigns specific responsibilities to individuals, provides clear assignment of responsibility during an emergency, addresses shelter in place protocols, identifies scenarios that require evacuation, and identifies opportunities for mitigation following an event. The plan is updated annually prior to the start of the school year.

Emergency Operations Plan

The district also has an Emergency Operations Plan (2021) which addresses actions to take for tornadoes, fire, flooding, blizzard, and other severe weather hazards.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e. annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this community profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Safety and Security Committee. The local planning team will review the plan no less than bi-annually and will include the public in the review and revision process via website updates and the alert system.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Update Fire Detection and Alert System
DESCRIPTION	Update facilities with a new fire detection and alert system
HAZARD(S)	Urban Fire, Grass/Wildfire
ESTIMATED COST	\$20,000-\$30,000
FUNDING	Depreciation Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Building and Grounds
STATUS	A new fire panel has been installed at the Junior/Senior High School and new smoke detectors will be added in the near future.

Completed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Facility Monitoring
DESCRIPTION	Install security cameras in/around critical facilities and key infrastructure
HAZARD(S)	Terrorism and Civil Disorder
STATUS	Security cameras were installed in identified locations.

MITIGATION ACTION	Facility Security
DESCRIPTION	Install locks on entries to critical areas for all critical facilities
HAZARD(S)	Terrorism and Civil Disorder
STATUS	New locks were installed on entries to all critical facilities.

MITIGATION ACTION	Impact Resistant Roof Covering
DESCRIPTION	Use roofing materials that are resistant to hail impacts for new buildings; retrofit existing building with hail resistant roofing
HAZARD(S)	Hail
STATUS	Roofing was upgraded in summer 2021.

SECTION SEVEN: KIMBALL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

MITIGATION ACTION	Surge Protectors
DESCRIPTION	Purchase and install surge protectors on sensitive equipment in critical facilities
HAZARD(S)	Severe Thunderstorms
STATUS	Surge protectors were installed on sensitive equipment at critical facilities.

Continued Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Backup Generators
DESCRIPTION	Provide a portable backup generator to redundant power supplies, municipal wells, lift stations, and other critical facilities and shelters
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes, High Winds, Severe Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms
ESTIMATED COST	\$15,000-\$30,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Low - this is a priority, yet it is presently cost-prohibitive
LEAD AGENCY	School Superintendent's Office
STATUS	Currently cost-prohibitive

MITIGATION ACTION	Electrical System Looped Distribution/Redundancies
DESCRIPTION	Provide looped distribution service and other redundancies in the electrical system as a backup power supply in the event the primary system is destroyed or fails
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$50,000+
FUNDING	Special Building Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Building and Grounds
STATUS	Not started

MITIGATION ACTION	Install Vehicular Barriers
DESCRIPTION	Install vehicular barriers to protect critical facilities and key infrastructure where possible
HAZARD(S)	Terrorism and Civil Disorder
ESTIMATED COST	\$500 per concrete barrier; \$20 per linear foot of chain linked fence
FUNDING	Special Building Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Low
LEAD AGENCY	Building and Grounds
STATUS	Not started

SECTION SEVEN: KIMBALL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

MITIGATION ACTION	Safe Rooms
DESCRIPTION	Assess, design and construct fully supplied safe rooms in highly vulnerable urban and rural areas such as mobile home parks, campgrounds, schools, and other such areas throughout the planning area; assess the adequacy of current public buildings to be used as safe rooms; construct safe rooms in areas of greatest need, either as new construction or retrofitting
HAZARD(S)	High Winds, Tornadoes
ESTIMATED COST	\$200-\$300/sq ft stand alone, \$150-\$200 addition/retrofit
FUNDING	Varies
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Low
LEAD AGENCY	Building and Grounds
STATUS	Not started

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District Profile

Leyton Public School District

**South Platte Natural Resources District
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

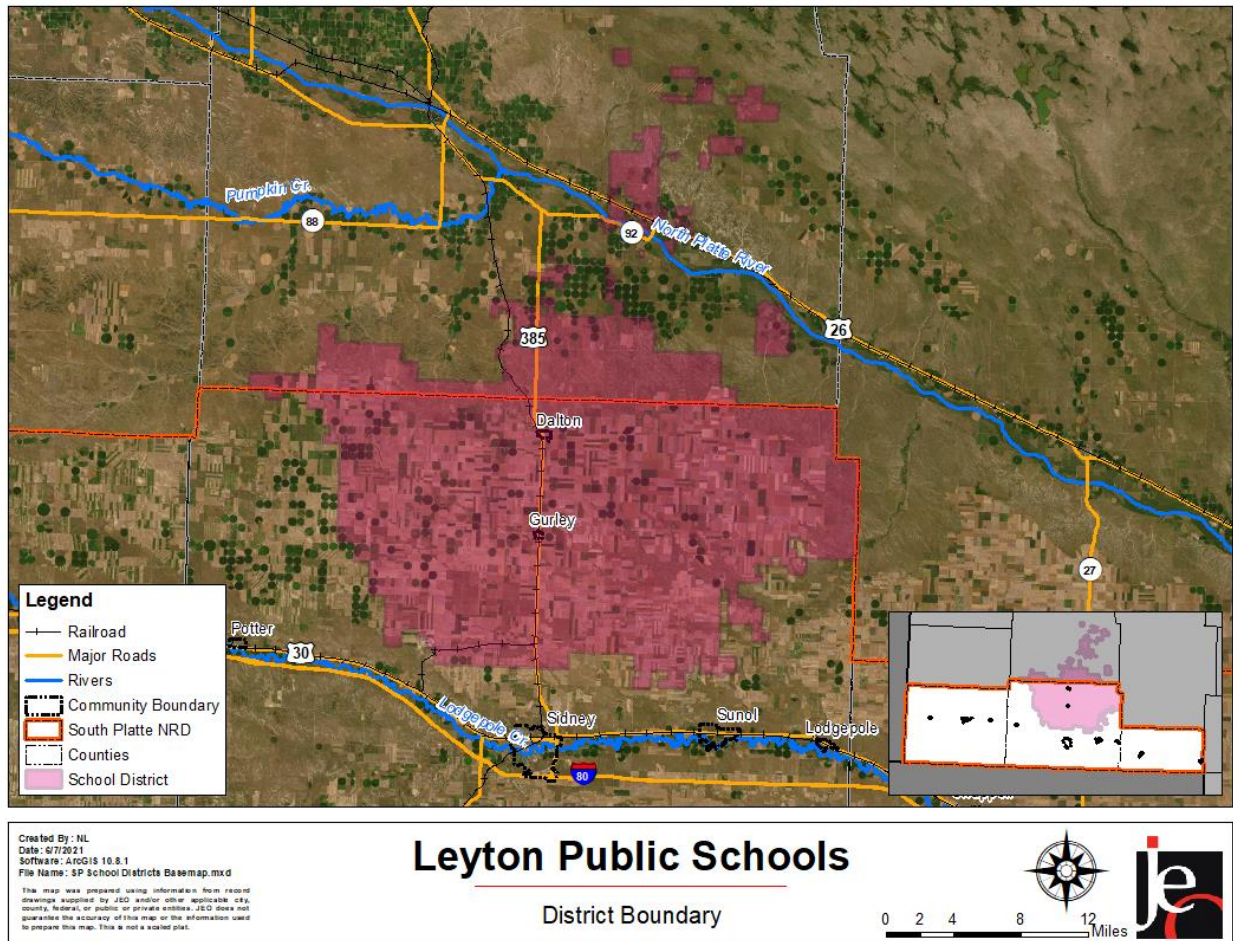
Table LPS.1: Leyton Schools Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Christopher Geary	Superintendent	Leyton Public Schools

Location and Services

Leyton Public Schools is a rural school district located in Cheyenne County, in the southern corner of the panhandle in Nebraska. Its offices are located at 504 Main Street, Dalton, Nebraska, 69131, and 521 Rose Street, Gurley, NE 69141. The district’s mission, as expressed on its website, strives “to cultivate lifelong learners as they successfully transition into our diverse world.” The district is comprised of two schools: Leyton High School and Leyton Elementary/Junior High School. Students from surrounding communities can opt-in to the school district. These include Bridgeport, Sidney, and Chappell.

Figure LPS.1: Leyton School District Boundary



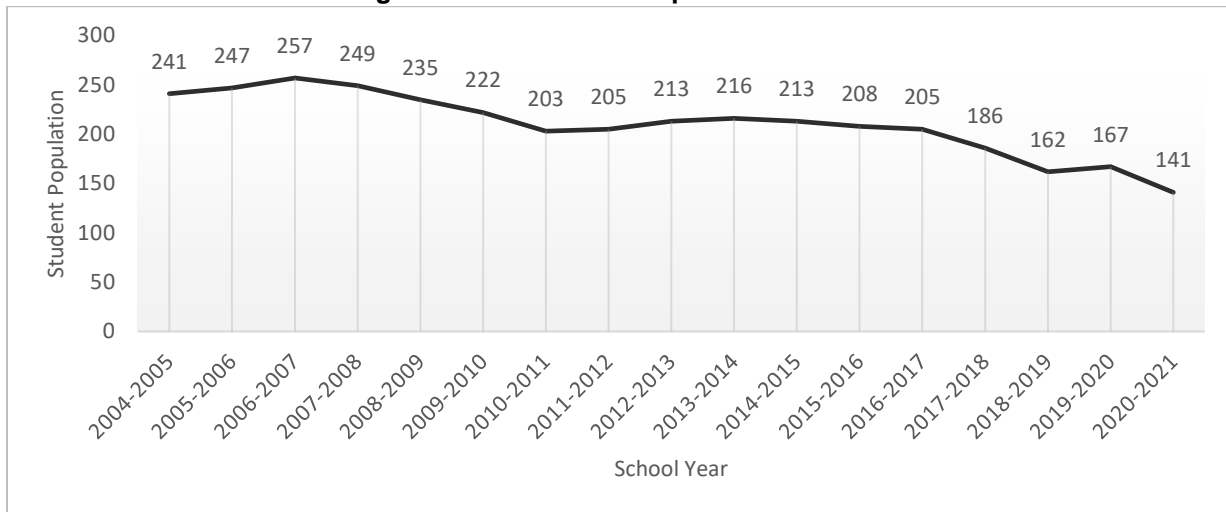
Transportation

The transportation route of most concern is Highway 30. The planning team noted that car accidents have impacted busing students. Railroad crossing closures or blockages can also impact student transportation. The school has four bus routes, serving approximately 100 students.

Demographics

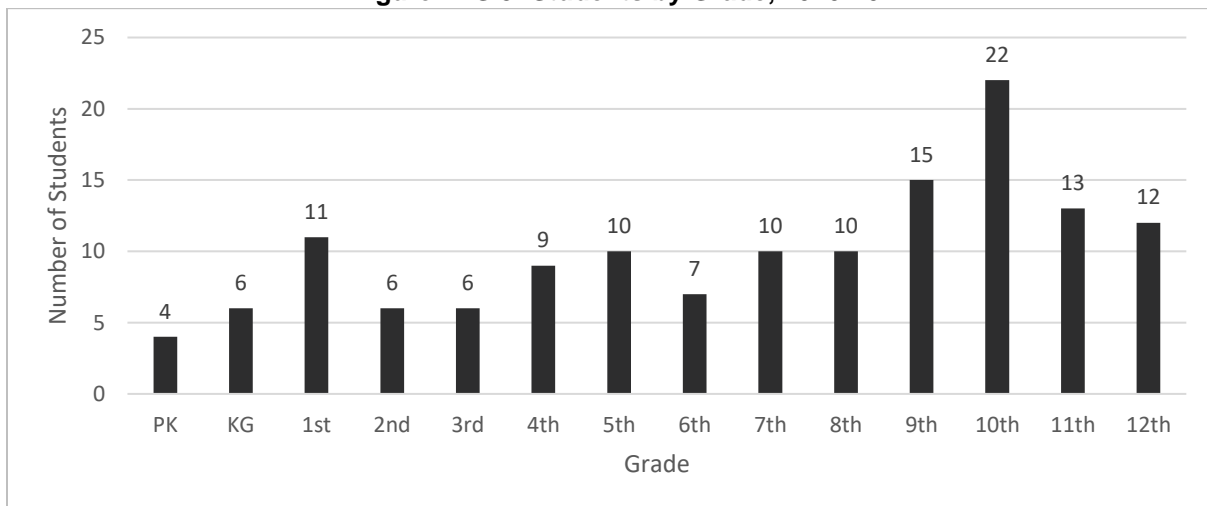
The following figure displays the historical student population trend starting with the 2004-05 school year and ending with the 2020-21 year. The figure indicates that the student population has generally declined in recent years. There are approximately 141 students enrolled in Leyton Public School District. The planning team expects a gradual decline in enrollment over the next five years. The district employs 25 teachers and 35 support staff.

Figure LPS.2: Student Population 2004-2021



Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Figure LPS.3: Students by Grade, 2020-2021



Source: Nebraska Department of Education

The figure above indicates that the largest number of students are in 10th grade, followed by 9th grade and 1st grade. The lowest population of students are in Pre-kindergarten. According to the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), 36.53% of students receive either free or reduced priced meals at school in the 2019-20 year. This is lower than the state average of 45.60%. Additionally, 14.63% of students are in the Special Education Program. These students may be more vulnerable during a hazardous event than the rest of the student population.

Table LPS.2: Student Statistics, 2019-2020

	District	State of Nebraska
Free/Reduced Priced Meals	36.53%	45.60%
Special Education Students	14.63%	15.56%
English Language Learners (ESL)	*	7.43%
School Mobility Rate	7.32%	8.36%

*Data is not available with fewer than 10 students.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Future Development Trends

The district recently installed a new all-weather track and renovated the science room. There are no current plans for new construction or renovation.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

The district's major transportation corridors include US Highway. The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Rail Line runs north/south through the Village of Gurley and the Village of Dalton. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the district, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, there are 25 chemical storage sites in district that contain hazardous chemicals. However, none of the facilities are located near a school according to the local planning team. In the event of a spill, local fire departments would be the first to respond.

Table LPS.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
Egging Company	12145 Road 38
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	602 Broad St
AT&T Microwave Tower 1340	10974 Road 58
Hotel 10 Launch Facility	Road 56
Hotel 08 Launch Facility	County Rd 36
Graff 6 & 7	Road 60
Reimers Well	Jct Roads 54 & 107
Knievel 5	Jct Roads 121 & 42
Reimers Unit	Road 50
Golf 11 Launch Facility	County Rd 50
Golf 03 Launch Facility	County Rd 50

SECTION SEVEN: LEYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

Golf 02 Launch Facility	County Rd 42
Golf 04 Launch Facility	County Rd 42
Hotel 11 Launch Facility	County Rd 56
Hotel 09 Launch Facility	Road 46
Hotel 01 MAF	12770 Road 46
Hotel 03 Launch Facility	County Rd 73
Hotel 05 Launch Facility	County Rd 38
Hotel 02 Launch Facility	County Rd 52
Panhandle Co-op Assn	4857 Road 107
Jormar Unit	Road 109
Ammo Federal Crude Oil Battery	Roads 105 & 32
R L Stevens Lease	Jct Roads 119 & 42
Stueve Lease	Rd 42
NDOT Dalton Reload Yard	5808 Highway 385

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy¹²

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

The school district operates three facilities. School facilities are listed below, along with information indicating the school’s address, number of students and staff, if the facility is used as a shelter during emergencies, if the facility is located in the floodplain, and the presence of a backup power generator.

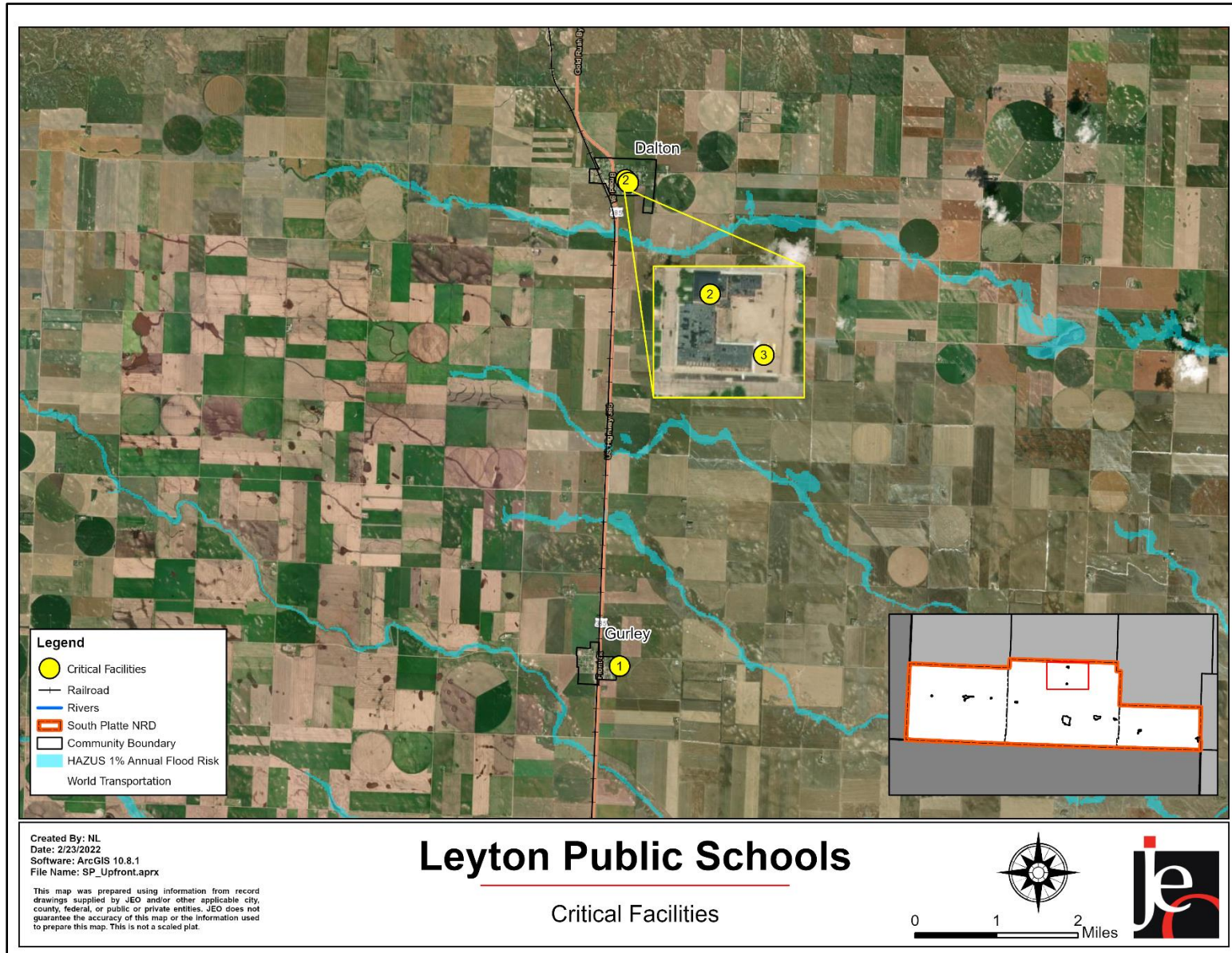
The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the district.

Table LPS.4: Leyton Schools Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	# of Students	# of Staff	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Gurley Elementary School	78	15	N	N
2	Dalton High School	66	12	N	N
3	Dalton Bus Barn	0	0	N	N

¹² Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. “Search Tier II Data.” January 2021.

Figure LPS.4: Leyton Schools Critical Facilities



School Drills and Staffing

Safety drills are conducted throughout the year with fire drills occurring monthly, tornado drills once a semester, and SRP drills once a semester. District staff is trained about emergency procedures through staff meetings and review of the All Hazards Safety Plan. Families are educated about emergency procedures through newsletters. Emergency events are communicated to parents and staff through the districts “All Call” notification system.

Historical Occurrences

See the Village of Dalton and Village of Gurley community profiles for historical hazard events.

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district’s capabilities.

Extreme Heat

Extreme heat is largely a non-structural hazard, and the school district is most concerned about bodily harm to students. The school district has had some experience with students having heat-related injuries. Going forward, LPS is concerned about the fact that they start school so early, students are being released to have practice during the hottest part of the day.

To prevent future losses as a result of extreme heat, the school district has purchased air conditioning for the first time during the 2015/2016 school year. Additionally, the school has created a Heat Plan on how to conduct outside activities if temperatures are deemed too dangerous for student activities. Ample water is provided to student athletes, as are ample breaks. The school district has hired a school nurse in recent years, which can aid in response if a student were to experience a heat-related injury. A “school response team” has also been created which may respond if additional resources are required.

Hazardous Materials - Transportation

According to the local planning team, LPS has not experienced any previous damages. Because the school district is located within agricultural lands, and chemicals are often transported along major transportation corridors. According to the local planning team, a fertilizer plant does exist two miles east of the elementary schools, which is unlikely to affect the schools, solely based on proximity. However, many farmers are responsible for transporting the chemicals they use, and may travel very close to school facilities, as both schools are located along Highway 385 and a Burlington-Northern Santa Fe line. Further, the schools are largely surrounded by agricultural land; this can be a concern when farmers are spraying/crop dusting.

Leyton Public Schools does have a Crisis Response Plan, which includes emergency protocol for a chemical spill. The plan includes procedures for a chemical spill both within the building, and events which occur outside the building. The schools are most concerned about a chemical spill event during late winter, early spring, and late summer.

Severe Thunderstorm

The school district has suffered damage as a result of severe thunderstorms in the past, hailstorms affected a roof between 2012 and 2014. During the summer of 2016, the school replaced their roof, due to hail damages. The main concern for the hazard is property damage and the potential for injury to students. To improve awareness of a thunderstorm event, the school has purchased weather radios, utilize emergency management’s CodeRed system, and listen to local radio stations. They have also trimmed trees of concern to prevent them from falling during severe thunderstorms.

Severe Winter Storms

The school district’s top concern for a severe winter storm includes transportation for students and staff. The school has suffered damages as a result of severe winter storms in the past; in 2016, the elementary school’s roof flooded, and heavy snow resulted in the roof caving in. Transportation to and from the schools are the school district’s biggest concern as it relates to severe winter storms.

For detection of a severe winter storm event, the superintendent works closely with school board members, surrounding principals, and contacts the National Weather Service to access the best information possible. After making a decision, the superintendent will send out a message on the all-call system to which the school subscribes.

Tornadoes

The school district has had experiences with tornadoes, but that did not impact the school district directly. The school district’s biggest concern as it relates to tornadoes includes bodily injury, death and damage to school property. The schools are highly concerned about younger students, who may be especially scared of inclement weather.

The schools do have areas for students to seek refuge in case of a tornado event. At the high school, students seek refuge in interior hallways and restrooms, while elementary school students are able to utilize the school basement for shelter.

To limit lasting impacts as a result of tornadoes, the school district has formed strong relationships with the local fire department, which will alert the school in cases of inclement weather. The school also has purchased weather radios to alert school administrators of any issues.

Administration

The school district has a superintendent, one principal, and supportive staff. The school board is made up of a six-member panel. The district also has several additional departments and staff that may be available to implement hazard mitigation initiatives.

Capabilities

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the jurisdiction’s planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Table LPS.5: Capability Assessment

Survey Components		Yes/No
Planning Capability	Capital Improvements Plan/Long-Term Budget	Yes
	Continuity of Operations Plan	No
	Disaster Response Plan	No
	Other (if any)	
Administrative & Technical Capability	GIS Capabilities	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Staff who can assess jurisdictional vulnerability to hazards	No
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreements	No
	Other (if any)	
Fiscal Capability	Applied for grants in the past	No
	Awarded grants in the past	No
	Authority to levy taxes or bonds for specific mitigation projects	No
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds in place	No
	Flood Insurance	No
	Other (if any)	
Education and Outreach	Local school groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access, and functional needs populations, etc. (Ex. Parent groups, hazard mitigation boards, etc.)	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (Ex. Responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education, etc.)	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Other (if any)	
Drills	Fire	10/yr
	Tornado	2/yr
	Intruder	4/yr
	Bus Evacuation	2/yr
	School Evacuation	1/yr
	Other (if any)	

Table LPS.6: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Limited
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Limited
Community Support to Implement Projects	Limited
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Grants and Funding

District funds are currently limited to maintaining current facilities and systems, according to the local planning team. Funds have remained fairly stable in recent years. The district has not applied for any grants in the last five years.

Crisis Response Plan

The school district utilizes a Crisis Response Plan (2021) to react to hazardous events. The Crisis Response Plan discusses natural hazards and assigns specific to individuals, provides clear assignment of responsibility during an emergency, addresses shelter in place protocols, and identifies the following: scenarios that require evacuation, critical evacuation routes, and sheltering locations. The plan is reviewed and updated annually.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this community profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Superintendent. The local planning team will review the plan no less than annually and will include the public in the review and revision process via the school newsletter.

Mitigation Strategy

Completed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Acquire Identification Resource
DESCRIPTION	Provide the opportunity to purchase and have available the most current Emergency Response Guidebook: this guidebook outlines emergency protocol and visually identifies hazardous materials labels. This would aid in the identification of which chemicals were being transported, to further informed action on the part of the observer and responders
HAZARD(S)	Hazardous Materials - Transportation
STATUS	This project has been completed.

MITIGATION ACTION	Surge Protectors
DESCRIPTION	Purchase and install surge protectors on sensitive equipment in critical facilities
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes, Severe Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms
STATUS	Surge protectors have been installed.

MITIGATION ACTION	Weather Radios
DESCRIPTION	Conduct an inventory of weather radios at schools and other critical facilities; provide new radios as needed
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
STATUS	Weather radios have been obtained for the school.

Continued Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Backup District Records
DESCRIPTION	Develop protocol for backup of critical district records
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$100+, Staff Time
FUNDING	District General Fund
TIMELINE	1 year
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Information Technology Office
STATUS	Hard drives are currently being used.

SECTION SEVEN: LEYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

MITIGATION ACTION	Develop Event Cancellation/Notification Procedures
DESCRIPTION	Develop event cancellation notification procedures during extreme heat events
HAZARD(S)	Extreme Heat
ESTIMATED COST	\$0
FUNDING	None
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Administration
STATUS	The All Call System is functional and currently being used.

MITIGATION ACTION	Infrastructure Hardening
DESCRIPTION	Harden critical facilities to withstand high winds, hail, heavy snow, by: hardening roofs, hail resistant barriers to HVAC systems, shatter-proofing windows, building tie-downs and anchors, and other architectural designs that reduce damage
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	Varies by Structure
FUNDING	Building Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Maintenance
STATUS	When depreciable items are replaced, they are replaced with hail resistant products

MITIGATION ACTION	Install Vehicular Barriers
DESCRIPTION	Install vehicular barriers to protect critical facilities and key infrastructure where possible
HAZARD(S)	Chemical Transportation, Terrorism and Civil Disorder
ESTIMATED COST	\$500 per concrete barrier; \$20 per linear foot of chain linked fence
FUNDING	Budget
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Building and Grounds
STATUS	Playground perimeter fence has been installed at the elementary school.

SECTION SEVEN: LEYTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

MITIGATION ACTION	Rescue/Snow Removal
DESCRIPTION	Improve capabilities to rescue those stranded in blizzards and increase the capacity to which snow can be removed from roadways after an event
HAZARD(S)	Severe Winter Storms
ESTIMATED COST	Snow Blower: \$800+; Truck mounted plow: \$2,000+; ATV Plow: \$1,500+
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Building and Grounds
STATUS	Need replacement for plow truck and/or an ATV with snowplow.

MITIGATION ACTION	Safe Rooms
DESCRIPTION	Design and construct storm shelters and safe rooms in highly vulnerable areas such as mobile home parks, campgrounds, schools and other areas
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes
ESTIMATED COST	\$200-\$250 per sq ft
FUNDING	Building Funds
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Maintenance
STATUS	Currently being considered by the Building Committee

MITIGATION ACTION	Static Detectors
DESCRIPTION	Static detectors are designed to detect lightning strikes and can predict the distance to the lightning strike and whether a storm is approaching or moving away from the detector: deploying a static detector at outdoor events can warn of approaching, fast moving storms and associated lightning thus helping officials to respond appropriately
HAZARD(S)	Severe Thunderstorms
ESTIMATED COST	\$250+
FUNDING	Athletic Fund
TIMELINE	1 Year
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Administration
STATUS	In the planning stages

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District Profile

Lodgepole Fire District

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

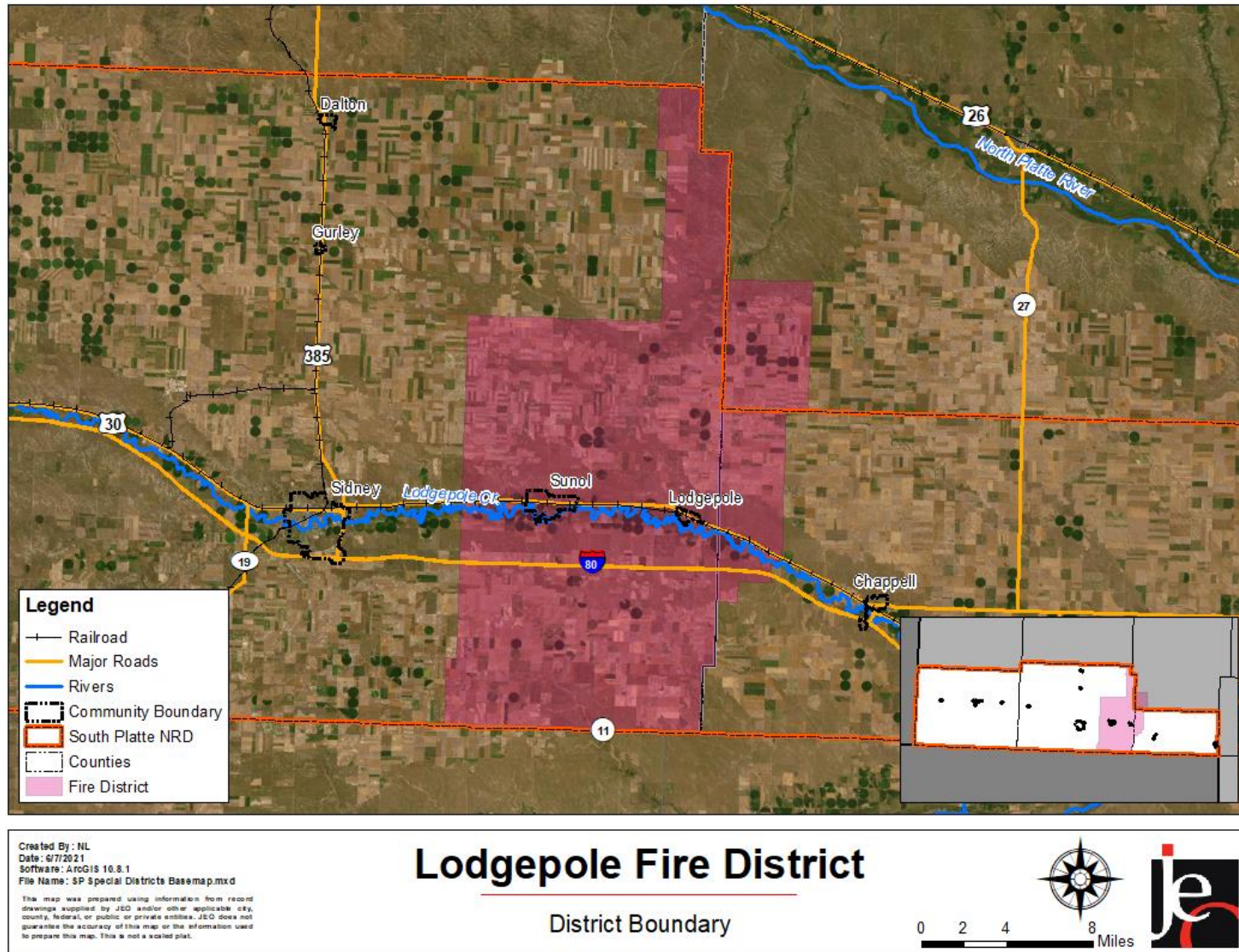
Table LFD.1: Lodgepole Fire Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Wade Dickinson	Fire Chief	Lodgepole Fire District

Location and Geography

The Lodgepole Fire District covers the southeastern corner of Cheyenne County, including the Village of Lodgepole. There are approximately 196,800 acres of land in the fire district. Areas most at risk to fire include the northeast region and south-central region of the fire district.

Figure LFD.1: Lodgepole Fire District Boundary



Demographics

See the Village of Lodgepole and Cheyenne County profiles for regional demographic information.

Future Development Trends

The fire district has recently upgraded a tanker and grass rig and will be upgrading another grass rig in the coming year.

Staffing

The Lodgepole Fire District is supervised by a fire chief and a five-member fire board who will oversee the implement of hazard mitigation projects.

Capabilities

Due to the unique structure of fire districts, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district’s overall capabilities. The Lodgepole Fire District will continue to utilize existing relationships with local, county, state, and federal agencies in the implementation of mitigation projects.

In the last five years, the district was awarded grants from the Buckley Trust and Virginia Smith. According to the planning team, district funds are limited to maintaining current equipment facilities. Over the last five years, district funds have increased due to increased tax levies.

Table LFD.2: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Moderate
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Moderate
Community Support to Implement Projects	Moderate
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Moderate

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this community profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Fire Chief and the Lodgepole Rural Fire Board. The plan will be reviewed bi-annually. The public will be included in the review and revision process via board meetings.

Plan Integration

The Lodgepole Fire District has standard operating guidelines (SOGs). The SOGs outline the district's response to a variety of different calls that could be received. The district is also a part of the Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan, which was updated in July 2021. The CWPP discusses county specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identifies areas most at risk from wildfires, discusses protection capabilities, and identifies wildfire mitigation strategies. Lodgepole Fire District follows the Cheyenne County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2018). Annex F of the LEOP covers fire services by listing the county fire departments, mutual aid partners, and equipment lists.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Major transportation corridors in the district include Interstate 80 and US Highway 30. Union Pacific has one rail line that runs east to west through the district. The planning team indicated that hazardous materials are transported along all three routes and that the most recent spill was on the Union Pacific Railroad. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, there are four chemical storage sites in the district which house hazardous materials. The district performs HAZMAT awareness training on a regular basis. Equipment for the district includes tankers, utility trucks, and rescue trucks.

Table LFD.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
India 05 Launch Facility	Road 8
Hotel 06 Launch Facility	Road 139
Hotel 04 Launch Facility	County Rd 34
NDOT Lodgepole Yard	Link 17F

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy¹³

¹³ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. "Search Tier II Data." Accessed January 2021.

Critical Facilities

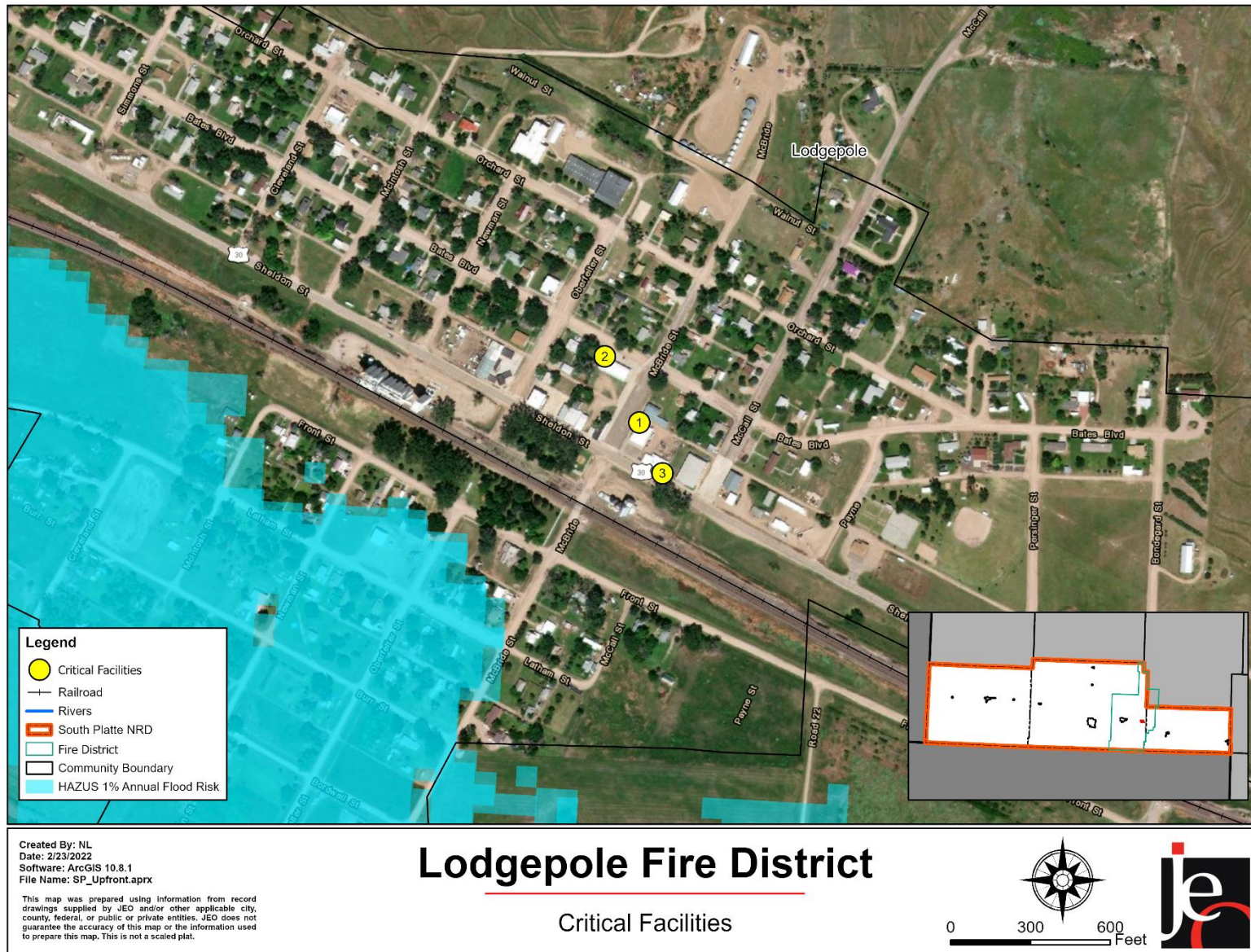
Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

Table LFD.4: Lodgepole Fire Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Lodgepole Fire Department	N	N
2	Community Hall	N	N
3	Lodgepole Village Office	N	N

Figure LFD.2: Lodgepole Fire Critical Facilities



Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. A full list of historical hazard occurrences can be found in the Cheyenne County jurisdictional profile. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Flooding

Lodgepole has three NFIP policies in-force for \$420,000 as of August 2021. According to NeDNR as of November 2021, there is one repetitive flood loss property in Lodgepole. The body of water of most concern for Lodgepole is Lodgepole Creek, which runs along the south side of the village. The water table is also a significant issue in Lodgepole as basements will flood in times of high precipitation and soil saturation. The planning team indicated that the south side of the village is most prone to flooding, particularly the area south of the Union Pacific rail line. One flood in this area required residents to evacuate and a shelter was set up after a 10-inch rain event.

According to the NCEI, there have been seven flood events in Lodgepole from 1996 to April 2021. These events have resulted in \$50,000 in property damage, but no injuries or fatalities occurring. A significant flood in July 2010 resulted in flooded basements, closed roadways, and police cars being swept away. The highway link connecting the community to I-80 also closed, forcing residents to detour through Chappell, adding an extra ten miles to their trip. Both the Red Cross and FEMA assisted with the flood response, as did regional emergency management.

Grass/Wildfire

According to the Nebraska Forest Service, Lodgepole Fire Department responded to eleven fires within the district from 2000 to 2020, with an average magnitude of 17.1 acres. The local planning team indicated that there was also a grass fire in March of 2020 that the fire department responded to. One fire burned from Lodgepole to Chappell and threatened the edge of the village and a rural building. Another significant fire burned south of the village. The most common cause was from the railroad. No injuries or fatalities resulted from any of these events.

The fire department has large tankers to bring water outside the communities, these are sufficient resources for local events. The district plans to continue maintaining and upgrading equipment as needed and maintaining mutual aid relationships.

Hazardous Materials – Transportation

In the event of a transportation-related hazardous material spill, the fire district would notify the State HAZMAT team. Private contractors may also be notified. Lodgepole Fire is trained to the awareness HAZMAT level but will assist in any way possible should such an event occur.

High Winds

While the Village of Lodgepole has not had direct impacts from a tornado event, high winds are very common in this region, and have been known to cause power outages. The NCEI reports that 67 high wind events have occurred throughout Cheyenne County from 1996 to April 2021, resulting in \$25,500 in property damage. Concerns for this hazard include causing or fanning a fire, as well as possible structure damage and loss of life. According to the Lodgepole village

planning team, Lodgepole experiences approximately five to six power outages per year because of high wind events.

Tornadoes

According to the NCEI, one tornado occurred in or near the Village of Lodgepole between 1996 and April 2021. The EF1 tornado caused \$10,000 in property damage to a steel building but did not cause any other significant impacts. During that same period, 26 tornadoes have occurred throughout Cheyenne County. The fire district is concerned about loss of life and damage to property. Storm spotting is performed by the fire department.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Alert Siren
DESCRIPTION	Perform an evaluation of existing alert sirens in order to determine sirens which should be replaced or the placement of new sirens.
HAZARD(S)	Tornadoes, High Winds, Severe Winter Storms, Severe Thunderstorms
ESTIMATED COST	\$3,000
FUNDING	Fire District General Fund, HMA
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Lodgepole Fire Department
STATUS	Not started

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District Profile

Potter Fire District

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

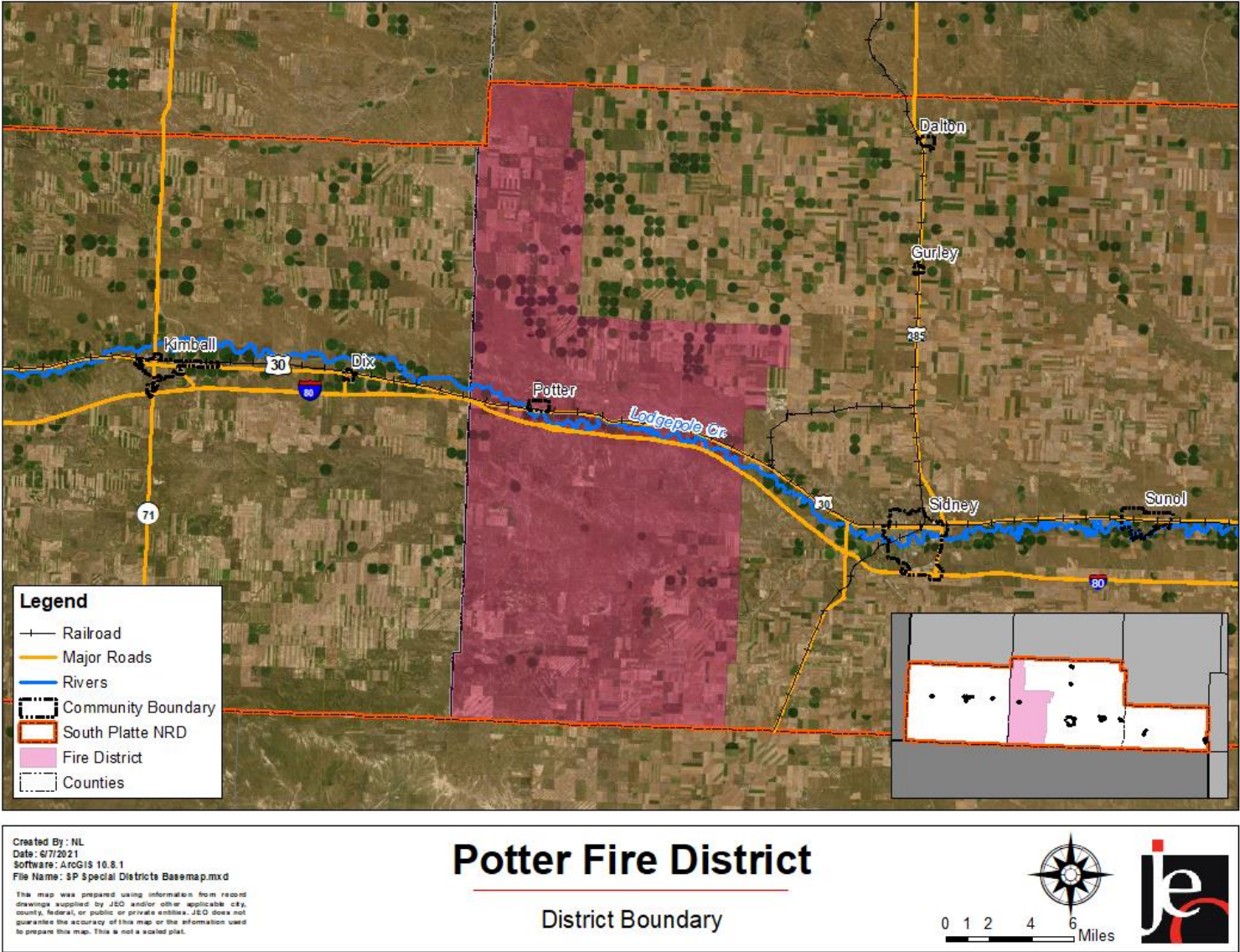
Table PFD.1: Potter Fire District Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Mark Onstott	Chief	Potter Vol Fire/Rescue Department
Scott Kasten	Assistant Chief	Potter Vol Fire/Rescue Department
Jerry Gasseling	Assistant Chief	Potter Vol Fire/Rescue Department
Melissa Gorsuch	Village Clerk/Treasurer	Village of Potter

Location and Geography

The Potter Volunteer Fire District (PVFD) covers the western portion of Cheyenne County, including the Village of Potter. There are approximately 191,540 acres within the district. Potter Fire is primarily concern with the village outer limits as natural growth has occurred right up to many homes. There is also a concern about the industrial complex in the northeastern section of the district which have Belle Pole and Adams industries.

Figure PFD.1: Potter Fire District Boundary



Demographics

Potter Fire District serves approximately 675 people. Please see the Village of Potter and Cheyenne County profiles for regional demographic information.

Future Development Trends

The fire district has acquired new equipment over the last five years, including a Stuart Stevens 6x6 1250 gallons multipurpose fire truck with foam, Heavy Rescue Truck, 4x4 Ambulance with electric cot & new stair chair (updated to be IV certified), 8x8 2800 gallons Hemit with foam, updated SCBA, wildland hose and accessories, wildland helmets, extractor (washing machine), and rescue ropes and safety harnesses. New equipment and buildings planned for the next five years include a new air compressor for SCBA, K12 saw, new bunker gear, wildland fire shelters, new pumper truck (engine), new life pack, fire hall expansion (two new bays to get all trucks in one location), and a backup generator.

The planning team noted that all equipment decisions are based on the safety for its fire personnel, safety of the citizens, and protection of property. The team would like the expansion of the fire hall to help with a shelter or alternate EOC, if necessary, but would also need a backup generator for this to be considered. The Village of Potter is in the process of adding a backup generator to the main water well to ensure water is available if any disruption occurs to the natural gas supply.

Staffing

The Potter Fire District is supervised by a fire chief and a five-member fire board who will oversee the implement of hazard mitigation projects. Other offices are listed below.

- Fire Chief
- Assistant Chief (2)
- Captain (2)
- Rescue Captain
- Lieutenant (2)
- PIO

Capabilities

Due to the unique structure of fire districts, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district's overall capabilities. The Potter Fire District will continue to utilize existing relationships with local, county, state, and federal agencies in the implementation of mitigation projects.

The planning team indicated that funds are limited to maintaining current facilities and systems. Other fundraising and grants are needed to keep the district moving forward for the safety of its personnel, the community, citizens, and for protecting property. In 2021, the fire district was awarded a Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant through the Nebraska Forest Service, which was used to update gear that was at end of life, per NFPA. District funds have remained relatively the same in recent years.

Table PFD.2: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Limited
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Moderate
Community Support to Implement Projects	Moderate
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Moderate

Plan Integration

The Potter Fire District has a Response Plan and standard operating guidelines, which were updated in 2020 and 2019, respectively. These documents outline the district's planned response to a variety of different calls that could be received. The district is also a part of the Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan, which was updated in July 2021. The CWPP discusses county specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identifies areas most at risk from wildfires, discusses protection capabilities, and identifies wildfire mitigation strategies. Potter Fire District follows the Cheyenne County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2018). Annex F of the LEOP covers fire services by listing the county fire departments, mutual aid partners, and equipment lists. Potter Fire also joined the Tri-State Mutual Aid Agreement in 2021. An Emergency Action Plan is currently in place for Oliver Dam.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Fire Chief, Assistant Chiefs, Rural Fire Protection Board, Village of Potter Clerk and Board. The plan will be reviewed annually. The public will be included in the review and revision process at monthly fire department meetings, fire board meetings, village board meetings, and through Facebook.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Major transportation corridors in the district include Interstate 80 and US Highway 30. Union Pacific has two rail lines that runs east/west through the central part of the district. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous materials are regularly transported along local routes; however, the fire district is not made aware of all chemicals due to the carriers keeping them right below the reporting minimum. The planning team did note that several agricultural chemicals, propane, fuel, radiological hazards, other hazardous material are transported to the Clean Harbors disposal site, near Kimball, NE. Many of these dangerous chemicals must be transported through Potter in order to

SECTION SEVEN: POTTER FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

make it to Kimball. The local planning team noted that Love Canal Superfund waste was recently sent to Clean Harbors to be disposed of, as well as waste associated with the Ebola crisis. Potter's residents are also potentially concerned about the industrial annex at the Brownson rail switching yard and heavy industrial tank cleaning.

According to the planning team, Potter has experienced minor train derailments a few years previous, but no spills had resulted from those incidents. Additionally, the planning team noted that often hazardous materials train cars will be transported at night, on locomotive with flatbeds. Most contents being transported are unknown.

Potter-Dix schools are close to the Union Pacific tracks and Highway 30, as well as grain elevators, occupied mobile homes, M&S Drilling, Pins & Needles, and county maintenance yard which are located directly on the railroad. These facilities may experience a higher level of vulnerability due to being located so close to these major transportation corridors. Depending on the severity of the spill, chemical and wind direction these areas along with the entire Village of Potter will be difficult. The PVFD fire hall is located near the UPRR.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, there are 20 chemical storage sites in the district which house hazardous materials. Warren Air Force Base oversees approximately 16 Minute Man Silos within the fire district, with several others in surrounding fire districts. The other areas of concern are Clean Harbors site in Kimball, NE, Adams Industries, and Belle Pole located in the northeast side of the fire district.

Table PFD.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	3040 Link 17B
Juliet 10 Launch Facility	Road 77
Foxtrot 05 Launch Facility	Road 83
Nelson Lease	Road 73
Nelson D Lease	Road 69
State of Nebraska 1 Lease	Unlisted
Willis D Lease	Roads 56 & 85
BWAB Inc Olsen 1 & 3 Lease	Unlisted
Golf 10 Launch Facility	County Rd 40
Mills Lease	County Rd 69
Engstrom A Lease	Unlisted
Foxtrot 04 Launch Facility	County Rd 46
Foxtrot 03 Launch Facility	County Rd 75
Foxtrot 07 Launch Facility	Road 77
Golf 09 Launch Facility	County Rd 26
Wilson B-1X	Road 73
Egging 2 Crude Oil Battery	US Highway 30
NDOT Potter Yard	Link 17B
Slama 2 Lease	Road 81
Slama Lease	Road 81

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy¹⁴

Concerns related to fixed site chemical storage sites include potential injuries and fatalities, contamination of the aquifer, and fire or evacuation protocols that exceed the capabilities of local fire departments. Roads and facilities at risk from a spill event include I-80, Highway 30, and the Union Pacific railroad.

Potter Fire personnel (and all other local fire departments in the area) are trained at the awareness level and not at operations level for hazardous materials spills. There are operational teams located in Scottsbluff, NE, North Platte, NE, and Cheyenne, WY. These locations are all over one hour away. EM1 located in Sidney, NE and Alan Michaels (State Fire Marshal) in Chappell, NE are also resources that would be notified and involve if there is an incident.

Table PFD.4: Potter Fire District Equipment

Units	Make/Model	Description
1	Stuart Stevens 6x6	Tender/Tactical Type II (1250 gallons w/ foam)
1	Kaiser 6x6	Tactical Type IV (1000 gallons w/ foam)
1	Chevy ¾ Ton	Type VI (250 gallons)
1	Oshkosh 8x8	Truck, Fire/Support Water Tender S1 (2800 gal w/ foam)
1	Chevy	Truck, Fire, Engine Type II (750 gallons)
1	Freightliner	Truck, Fire, Engine Type I (1000 gallons w/ foam injector)
1	Oshkosh	Truck, Fire, Pumper (Airport Crash Truck, 750 gallons w/ foam)
1	International	Truck, Fire, Support Water Tender S1 (4000 gallons)

¹⁴ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. "Search Tier II Data." Accessed January 2021.

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Units	Make/Model	Description
1	GMC	Truck, Fire, Support Water Tender S3 (1800 gallons)
1	Chevy Tahoe	Truck, Pickup (Command)
1	Ford N Series	Truck, Fire, Heavy Rescue
1	Ford F550	Ambulance (BLS)

Critical Facilities

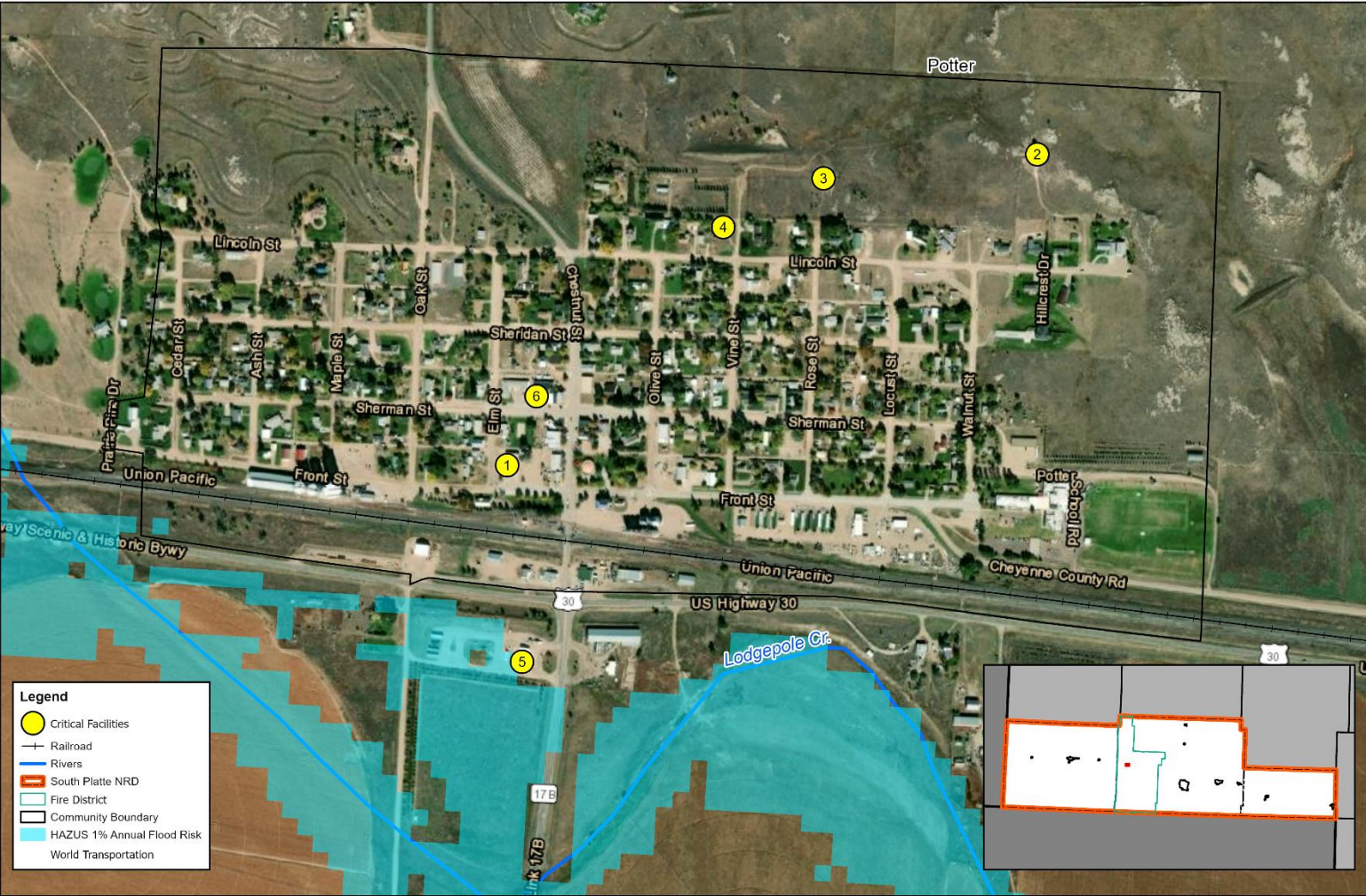
Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

Table PFD.5: Potter Fire District Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Potter Fire Department	N	N
2	Water Tower	N	N
3	Well House - Upper	N	N
4	Well House - Lower	N	N
5	FVC Gas Station	N	N
6	Potter Village Office	N	N

Figure PFD.2: Fire District Critical Facilities



- Legend**
- Critical Facilities
 - Railroad
 - Rivers
 - South Platte NRD
 - Fire District
 - Community Boundary
 - HAZUS 1% Annual Flood Risk
 - World Transportation

Created By: NL
 Date: 2/23/2022
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: SP_Upfront.aprx

This map was prepared using information from record drawings, supplied by JEO and/or other applicable city, county, federal, or public or private entities. JEO does not guarantee the accuracy of this map or the information used to prepare this map. This is not a scaled plat.

Potter Fire District

Critical Facilities



0 300 600 Feet



Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. A full list of historical hazard occurrences can be found in the Cheyenne County jurisdictional profile. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district’s capabilities.

Grass/Wildfire

On average the PVFD responds to between 40-50 wildland fires per year. The PVFD is also part of the Wildcat Hills (CWPP) and the newly formed Tri-State Mutual Aid Agreement. These agreements strengthen the fire departments’ and communities’ protection by allowing them to assist each other more frequently. The PVFD also responds to an average of 5-10 mutual aid wildland fires per year.

The local planning team described some of the large wildfires in the region over the past two years, as shown in Table PFD.6. These fires include the Buffalo Creek Fire, which burned 2,600 acres and damaged Wildlife Management Areas; the Hackberry Fire, which burned 6,000 acres and damaged critical land for bighorn sheep, other wildland, and pasture ground for cattle; the Vista Trend Fire, which burned 2,000 acres; the Post Fire, which burned 6,500 acres on forest service land; the Hubbard Gap Fire, which burned 4,500 acres and damaged critical land for bighorn sheep, other wildland, and pasture ground for cattle; and the Cheyenne County - US Highway 30, which was a complex of nine fires over an 11 mile stretch of the Union Pacific Railroad. This complex burned nearly 1000 acres of cattle pasture ground, many stubble fields (wheat/corn) and threatened a two-story home and threatened other rural homes. Several miles of fence line had to be repaired or replaced as a result of this fire. The cause of the fire was due to railroad operations.

Table PFD.6: Recent Wildfires in the Region

Wildfire	Location	Date	Acres Burned
Buffalo Creek Fire	Wildcat Hills	Summer 2021	2,600
Hackberry Fire	Wildcat Hills	Summer 2021	6,000
Vista Trend Fire	Wildcat Hills	September 2021	2,000
Post Fire	Near Crawford, NE	September 2021	6,500
Hubbard Gap Fire	Wildcat Hills	Summer 2020	4,500
Cheyenne County - US Hwy 30 Fires	UPRR Corridor	November 2020	1,000

The PVFD is concerned with these wildland fires causing injuries/fatalities, blocked transportation routes (I-80, US Highway 30, UPRR, local county roads, etc.), crop damage, pastureland damage, potential impacts to vulnerable populations (the fire district is made up of a higher percentage of 64+ aged individual than the county or state), disruption of services (power, water, education, etc.).

PVFD has worked with the Village of Potter to mow a fire break along the northern side of the community, around the main water tower north of town and on the east side of the school. The

PVFD has worked with the village to cut fire line around the dump north of town to reduce the risk of fire spread during burns of old grass or trees. The Nebraska Forest Service Wildland Fire Protection Program provides services in wildfire suppression training, equipment, pre-suppression planning, wildfire prevention, and aerial fire suppression.

The PVFD would also like to start a program to help landowners conduct prescribed burns to help mitigate some of the risk and help wildlife. The PVFD also conducts several trainings in house and sending individuals to outside training (Forest Service, Gering Engine Academy, etc.) to ensure the district's readiness.

Other projects needed in the future include working with local landowners both in the community and rural areas to ensure homeowners are clearing areas around homes or building to mitigate potential damage; working with UPRR to ensure right of ways are cleared of flammable items to mitigate risk from rail transportation; and working to become a FireWise Community USA participant through the Nebraska Forest Service and US Forest Service in order to educate homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, and others in the effort to protect people, property, and natural resources from the risk of wildland fire. The Firewise Communities approach emphasizes community responsibility for planning in the design of a safe community as well as effective emergency response, and individual responsibility for safer home construction and design, landscaping, and maintenance.

Hazardous Materials - Transportation

According to the planning team, Potter has experienced minor train derailments a few years previous, but no spills had resulted from those incidents. Additionally, the planning team noted that often hazardous materials train cars will be transported at night, on locomotive with flatbeds. Most contents being transported are unknown. Potter-Dix schools are close to the Union Pacific tracks and Highway 30, as well as grain elevators which are located directly on the railroad. These facilities may experience a higher level of vulnerability due to being located so close to these major transportation corridors. The PVFD will be conducting training with UPRR in Spring of 2022 to coordinate efforts with their team.

Highway 30 and a major railway run directly through the south side of Potter which often carry agricultural chemicals and other hazardous chemicals. The local planning team noted that many chemicals are disposed of west of Potter, at the Clean Harbors site in Kimball, NE. The Potter Volunteer Fire Department recently (Dec 2021) toured the facility to ensure the team is aware of the critical areas of concern, fire suppression systems and layout of facility. Many of these dangerous chemicals must be transported through Potter in order to make it to Kimball. The local planning team noted that Love Canal Superfund waste was recently sent to Clean Harbors to be disposed of, as well as waste associated with the Ebola crisis. Potter's residents are also potentially concerned about the industrial annex at the Brownson rail switching yard and heavy industrial tank cleaning.

The PVFD is concerned with a potential hazardous transportation incident causing injuries/fatalities, blocked transportation routes (I-80, US Highway 30, UPRR, local county roads, etc.), potential impacts to vulnerable populations (the fire district is made up of a higher percentage of 64+ aged individuals than the county or state), and disruption of services such as power, water, education, etc. The PVFD recently went through training (Dec 2021) with the

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Scottsbluff Fire Department and their Haz Mat trainer, as they will be one of the Haz Mat teams the department would work with in the event of a Haz Mat Incident.

The PVFD has recently been working with the Potter-Dix School District on an EOP which addresses these concerns, evacuation plans, etc. Projects currently planned for the district include performing an evaluation of existing alert sirens in order to determine sirens which should be replaced or upgraded and installing new sirens where they are lacking with remote activation (through CCCC).

Future needs for the district include exercises to prepare for potential explosions or hazardous spills and ensuring that nearby businesses and residents have appropriate plans in place for evacuations, reunification plan, shelter in place plan, etc.

High Winds

High winds have affected PVFD's ability to fight wildland/structure fires which both the Hubbard Gap and Cheyenne County - NE Highway 30 Wildfires were affected by high winds. High winds were to blame for two power poles and lines down on a county road north of Potter in July 2021. Concerns for this hazard include injuries, fatalities, wildland fires, structure fires, accidents due to downed power lines/poles or blown transformers, blocked transportation routes, crop damage, impacts on vulnerable populations, disruption of services.

The fire district would like to ensure it has the correct apparatus functioning correctly (checks are done 2 times per month) and conduct training with fire personnel (completed a training with High West Energy in July 2021).

Projects currently planned include continued work with partners, such as High West Energy and National Weather Service, to conduct trainings and keep open lines of communication.

A backup generator is needed at fire hall so it can be used as a shelter or EOC if necessary. The village needs to continue to identify and remove hazardous limbs and/or trees. Other needs for the district include assessing, designing, and constructing fully supplied safe rooms in highly vulnerable urban and rural areas such as mobile home parks, campgrounds, schools, and other such areas throughout the planning area; assess the adequacy of current public buildings to be used as safe rooms; construct safe rooms in areas of greatest need, either as new construction or retrofitting

Severe Thunderstorms/Hail

Potter is highly prone to hailstorms and experiences approximately 2 to 3 hail events per year. The local planning team noted that the summer of 1997 or 1998 was extremely damaging. This event stripped bark off trees, killed livestock, and accounted for millions of dollars in property damages. Potter also sustained significant damages during the summers of 2010-2013, these events were not as severe as the 1997/1998 event, but still accounted for substantial damage.

According to the NCEI, Potter has experienced 37 hail events since 1996. These events have had an average magnitude of 1.2-inch hailstones. Damages from these events have totaled over \$340,000 in damages to property.

The PVFD is concerned with severe thunderstorms / hail incidents causing injuries/fatalities, blocked / washed out transportation routes (I-80, US Highway 30, UPRR, local county roads, etc.), crop damage, livestock damage, potential impacts to vulnerable populations (the fire district is made up of a higher percentage of 64+ aged individual than the county or state), disruption of services (power, water, education, transportation, etc.).

To mitigate against lasting impacts as a result of hail damages, the village has invested in rubber roofing for village buildings, as well as insuring village-owned buildings. Further, the village has a tree board, responsible for trimming problem limbs before they fall during a severe hail, or other hazard event.

The district would like to purchase a backup generator for the PVFD to ensure easy exit of the department's apparatus from the fire hall and allow the fire hall to be used as an emergency shelter or emergency command center. Projects needed in the future include: conducting an inventory of weather radios at schools and other critical facilities and provide new radios as needed; and working with suppliers / businesses or receive a grant or donations of several units for critical facilities within the community.

Severe Winter Storms

The PVFD spends countless hours on transportation routes each year during winter storms for accidents in the district and helping other surrounding fire departments. The PVFD responds to an average of 30-40 incidents each year attributed to winter storms. One day during the Winter of 2020, the department spent eight hours on I-80 due to accidents involving two people running into snowplows and damaging guard rails, along with several other accidents. In 2019 over 100 vehicles were stuck on I-80 between two fire districts in Western Nebraska, with these individuals needing to be rescued and transported to area hotels or shelters. During storms the district has hundreds of miles of county roads which make it difficult to navigate.

The main concerns for this hazard are injuries/fatalities to the public and to fire department personnel. There is also concern for blocked transportation routes, impacts on vulnerable populations and disruption of services.

PVFD has put in place safety protocols during events, such as having responding apparatus traveling in pairs, utilizing certain vehicles to block the scene in an attempt to protect citizens involved in incidents, along with fire department personnel. The fire department has worked with the county and state to assist with clearing roads when there is an incident. PVFD and other departments have worked with NDOT to provide more personnel and equipment for traffic control to help slow the truck traffic down. PVFD and other departments have put in place a notification process for the county and NDOT when incidents do occur. The fire district recently purchased a new 4x4 Ambulance to help the medical team navigate roads in adverse conditions.

NDOT is planning on utilizing variable speed signs in attempt to slow down traffic particularly trucker traffic. The district identified a need to find a method to slow down traffic (truckers/18 wheelers) during incidents, so there is not a secondary incident involving innocent individuals/families or fire department personnel.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Backup Generator for Fire Hall
DESCRIPTION	Purchase and install a backup generator for the fire hall in case of a power outage. Fire Department could then also be used for a reunification center, EOC or emergency shelter.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$12,000 to \$15,000
FUNDING	General Fund, Bonds and/or Village Funds
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Potter Rural Fire Protection District #4 Board
STATUS	Not started

MITIGATION ACTION	Fire Hall Expansion
DESCRIPTION	Build two additional bays with concrete approach pad to house fire apparatus that is currently stored at offsite locations.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$300,000
FUNDING	General Fund, Bonds and/or Village Funds
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Potter Rural Fire Protection District #4 Board
STATUS	Not started

MITIGATION ACTION	Firewise Community
DESCRIPTION	Work with the Nebraska Forest Service and US Forest Service to become a Firewise Community USA participant. Develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Train landowners about creating defensible space. Enact ordinances and building codes to increase defensible space, improve building materials to reduce structure ignitability, and increase access to structures by responders. Develop and implement brush and fuel thinning projects.
HAZARD(S)	Grass/Wildfire
ESTIMATED COST	Staff Time
FUNDING	Village General Fund, Fire District General Fund, or Bonds
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Potter Rural Fire Protection District #4 Board
STATUS	The Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan was updated in July 2021. Other projects and actives are yet to be completed.

SECTION SEVEN: POTTER FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

MITIGATION ACTION	Hazardous Fuels Reduction
DESCRIPTION	Coordinate with Union Pacific Railroad to ensure rights of way are cleared of flammable materials.
HAZARD(S)	Grass/Wildfire
ESTIMATED COST	Staff Time
FUNDING	General Fund, Bonds and/or Village Funds
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Potter Rural Fire Protection District #4 Board
STATUS	Not started

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District Profile

Sidney Fire District

**South Platte NRD
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

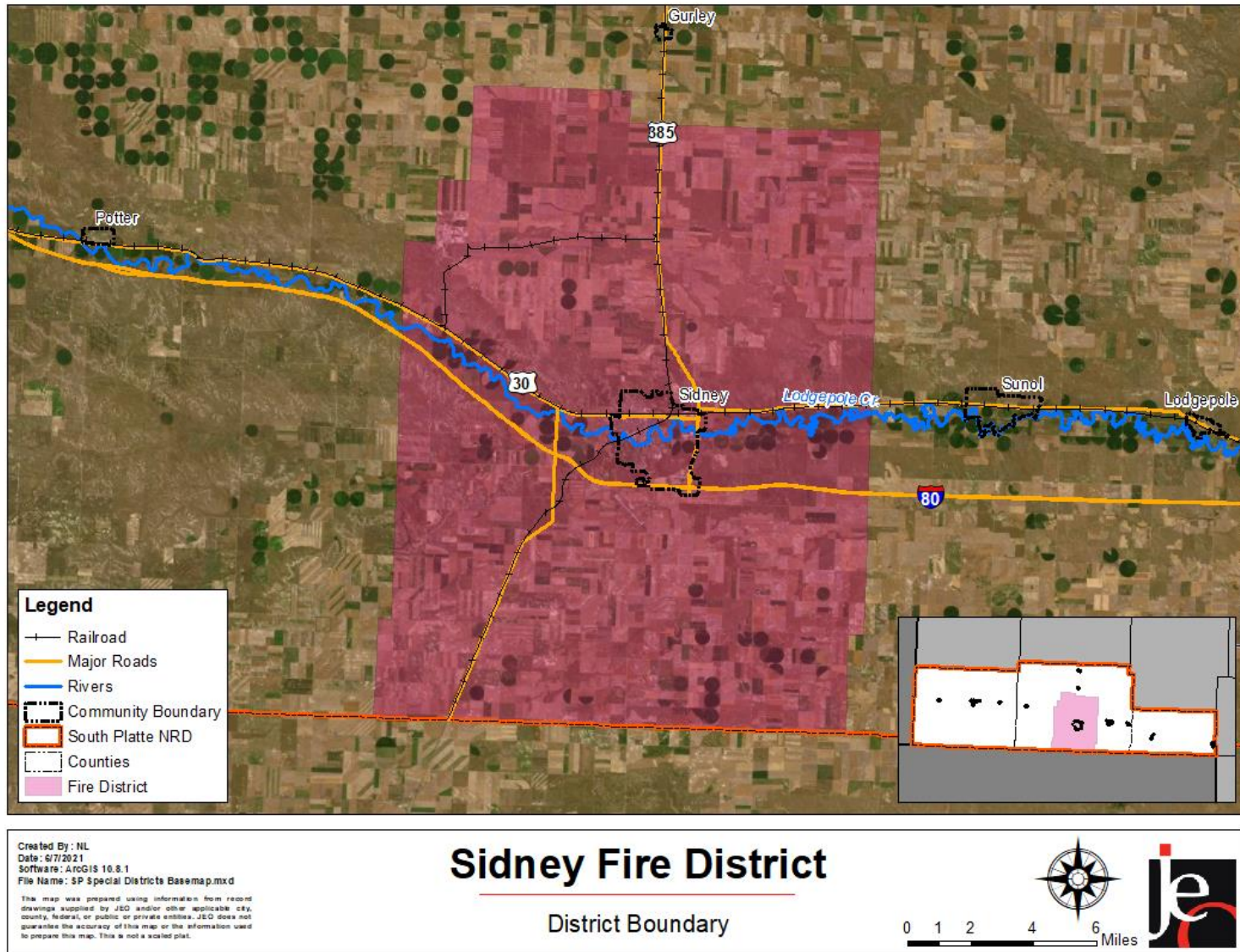
Table SFD.1: Sidney Fire District Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
LaVerne Bown	Fire Chief	Sidney Fire District
Dana Reece	Assistant Chief	Sidney Fire District
Matt Butts	Assistant Chief	Sidney Fire District
Mike Butts	Captain	Sidney Fire District
Nick Sutton	Captain	Sidney Fire District
James Harmon	Lieutenant	Sidney Fire District
Dave Sanders	Lieutenant	Sidney Fire District

Location and Geography

The Sidney Fire District covers the south-central portion of Cheyenne County, including the City of Sidney. There are approximately 181,760 acres throughout the district. The local planning team indicated that areas most at risk for fire include cropland, CRP land, wheat stubble, and pastures.

Figure SFD.1: Sidney Fire District Boundary



Demographics

The district serves about 7,500 people. Please see the City of Sidney and Cheyenne County profiles for regional demographic information.

Future Development Trends

Since the last plan update, a new hospital building was built on the east edge of Sidney. The district will be replacing their fire engine and a new gas station will be opening.

Staffing

The Sidney Fire District is supervised by a fire chief and a five-member fire board who will oversee the implement of hazard mitigation projects.

Capabilities

Due to the unique structure of fire districts, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district’s overall capabilities. The Sidney Fire District will continue to utilize existing relationships with local, county, state, and federal agencies in the implementation of mitigation projects.

A large portion of district funds are currently dedicated to replacing the current structural engine. The department has a reserve fund which receives an annual contribution from the City of Sidney for capital expenditures. For the rural department, funds are dedicated to maintaining equipment and operating costs.

According to the planning team, rural funding has increased two to three percent a year in recent years. City funding has remained steady in the last few years.

Table SFD.2: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Moderate
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Limited
Community Support to Implement Projects	Moderate
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

The Sidney Fire District has a Response Plan (2021) and standard operating guidelines (SOGs). These documents outline the district’s planned response to a variety of different calls that could be received. The district is also a part of the Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan, which was updated in July 2021. The CWPP discusses county specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identifies areas most at risk from wildfires, discusses protection capabilities, and identifies wildfire mitigation strategies. Sidney Fire District follows the Cheyenne County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2018). Annex F of the LEOP covers fire services by listing the county fire departments, mutual aid partners, and equipment lists

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e. annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Fire Chief, Assistant Chiefs, Captains, and Lieutenants. The plan will be reviewed bi-annually. The public will be included in the review and revision process via board meetings.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Major transportation corridors in the district include Interstate 80, US Highway 385, and US Highway 30. Union Pacific, Sidney and Lowe, and Burlington Northern Santa Fe all have rail lines that run through the district.

Hazardous materials are regularly transported along Interstate 80 and Union Pacific railroad. Chemical spills have been mostly minimal in the area. One spill closed the on ramp to I-80 at Exit 59 for about twelve hours. In the event of a spill that requires evacuation, the City of Sidney would be most difficult to evacuate due to the concentrated population, the presence of a hospital, and long-term care facilities. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, there are 56 chemical storage sites in the district which house hazardous materials.

Table SFD.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
TIGT Huntsman Station 01	2835 Road 111
Sidney Ready-Mix	2535 Fort Sidney Rd
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	Jct 9th & Forrest Sts
Sapp Bros Sidney Truck Stop	2914 Upland Pkwy
Titan Machinery Inc	525 Parkland Dr
Beyer TXO 1A	Road 103
Olson 3-1	Jct 17E & Road 18
NDOT Sidney Yard	2320 Illinois St
CenturyLink	1100 Jackson St
West Engelland Compressor Sta	Road 111
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	303 E Illinois St
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	1402 Illinois St
Progress Rail Services Corp	3224 Road 107
AT&T Microwave Tower 1350	1686 Road 131

SECTION SEVEN: SIDNEY FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

Basin Electric Power Co-op	10515 Road 28
WAPA Virginia Smith Converter	2281 Road 111
WAPA Sidney Substation	2291 Road 111
Progress Rail Services Corp	10929 Road 32N
Bird Oil Field	Road 20 & 93
Diamond B Oil Inc Shop	Highway 30 & Fairgrounds Rd
Hruska 1 Lease	Jct Roads 103 & 32S
Krueger - Ladegard Lease	Road 99
Sorge Lease	Jct Roads 103 & 32 S
M Cruise 1 Lease	Road 30
Tremain Lease	Roads 32 & 130
Doran D Field	Highway 30
Cruise A	2829 Road 111
Johnson Field	Road 32
Sparks B & C	Road 107
State 4	Road 16
Armstrong 2 Lease	Road 101
Rudolph Lease 2 & 3	Road 16 & 93
Golf 05 Launch Facility	County Rd 41
Golf 06 Launch Facility	County Rd 26
India 11 Launch Facility	Road 119
India 10 Launch Facility	Road 115
Sparrow Field	Jct Roads 36 & 119
CHH Federal 01	Jct Roads 40 & 107
Golf 07 Launch Facility	Highway 19
India 01 MAF	County Rd 125
India 02 Launch Facility	County Rd 16
Sioux Federal 9 Lease	Jct Roads 103 & 42
Cabelas Inc	115 Cabela Dr
Pasque 1	Road 16
Pro Oil Bulk Plant	11574 US Highway 30
Cabelas Distribution Center	3200 Road 101
M & B Mather Lease	Jct Roads 113 & 28
Pahl Lease	Jct Roads 111 & 30
Rippe B Lease	Jct Roads 111 & 30
Sparks A Lease	Jct Roads 109 & 28
Mathewson 1-20	Road 89
ATC Sunol 88995	1686 Road 131
Sidney Sand & Gravel Plant	1839 Road 117
Bell Lumber & Pole Company	9965 Road 34
Adams Industries Inc	1655 Industrial Ave
Charter Communications NE0085	1830 10th Ave
*Love's Travel Stop	645 Chase Blvd.
*Beyer Solutions	10811 Lincoln Highway
*308 Ag	3281 Highway 385
*Renkoski Property Development LLC	301 Illinois St.

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy¹⁵

*Facilities not included in NDEE list of Tier II facilities.

¹⁵ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. "Search Tier II Data." Accessed January 2021.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

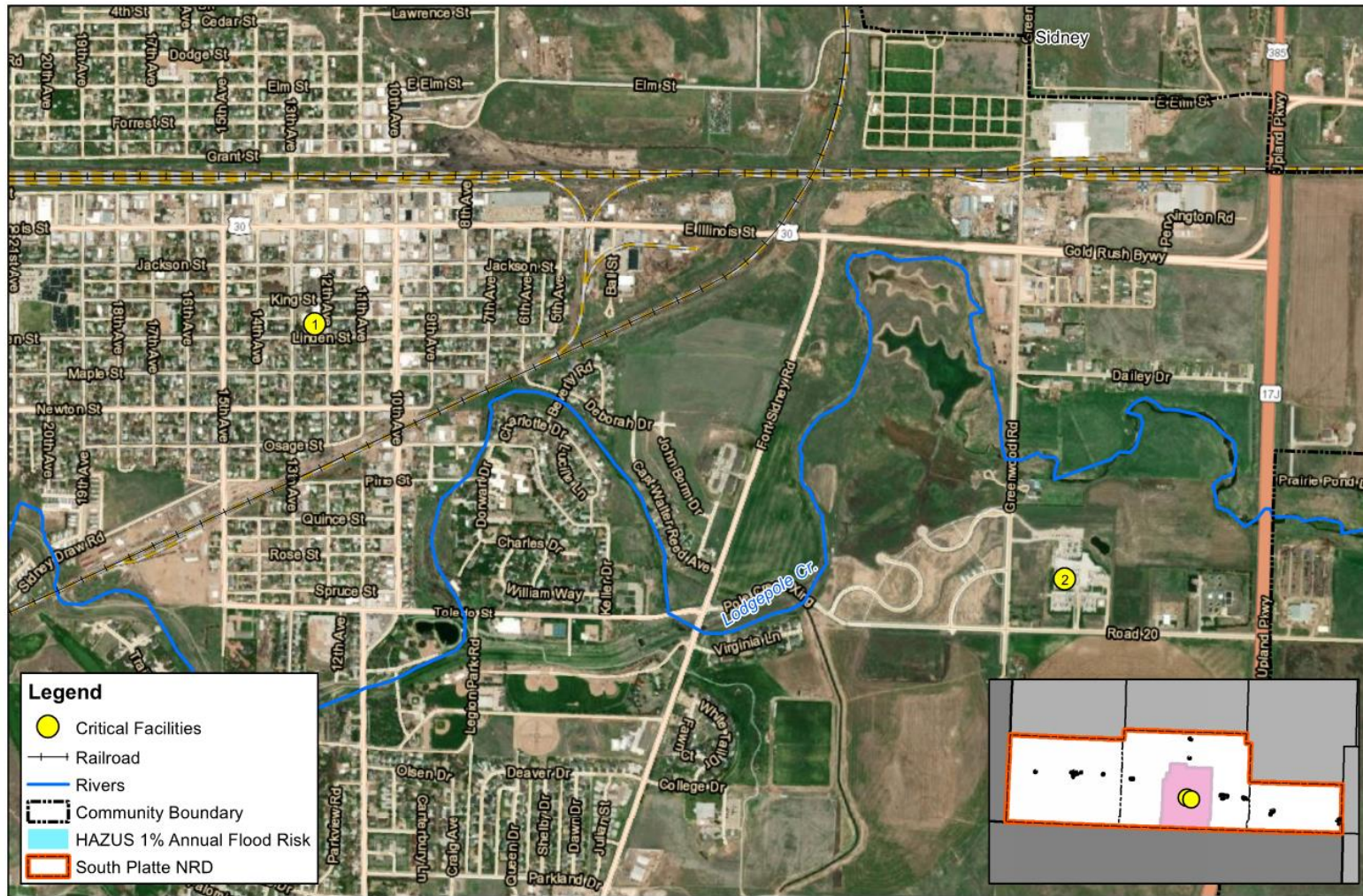
The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

Table SFD.4: Sidney Fire Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Sidney Fire Department	N	N
2	Sidney Regional Medical Center	N	N

SECTION SEVEN: SIDNEY FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

Figure SFD.2: Fire District Critical Facilities



Created By: KD
 Date: 12/15/2021
 Software: ArcGIS 10.8.1
 File Name: SP School Districts Basemap.mxd

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Sidney Fire District

Critical Facilities



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 Feet

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. A full list of historical hazard occurrences can be found in the Cheyenne County jurisdictional profile. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Drought

Drought is very common across the whole planning area. Because the fire district and much of the planning area is an agricultural-based economy, drought plays an important role. According to the NCEI, extreme drought last occurred in the region in 2012/2013. Significant drought, however, was reported in 2020/2021.

To monitor for drought, the fire district regularly checks the weekly Drought Monitor released by the National Weather Service in Cheyenne, WY. Particular concerns for the district include the prevalence of wildland fires due to fuels becoming drier and more flammable. The planning team noted that the water supply is currently sufficient. To mitigate impacts to this hazard, the district has signed mutual aid agreements with neighboring fire departments.

Grass/Wildfire

According to the Nebraska Forest Service, the Sidney Fire District responded to 134 fires in the district between 2000 and 2020. These fires burned a total of 940 acres and resulted in no injuries or fatalities. The local planning team expressed concern for not having the funds to replace outdated equipment as well as a decrease in the number of responders. Another concern is for increased wind events and continued drought conditions.

To mitigate risk to this hazard, the district helped reform a mutual aid association to increase the number of resources available if a large incident were to occur. Additionally, the fire district refrains from issuing burn permits when conditions warrant.

Hazardous Materials – Fixed Sites

The U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center reports five fixed-site chemical spills in Sidney between 1990 to 2020. No evacuations, damages, injuries, or fatalities were reported to have occurred. The fire district's main concern is the health and safety of the public and the environment. Facilities at risk if a spill were to occur include Sidney Regional Medical Center, Highway 30, and Highway 385.

Resources available to respond in the event of a fixed-site chemical spill include the Nebraska Hazardous Incident Team and the local mutual aid Hazardous Materials Response Team. Local training includes annual HAZMAT awareness personnel training. District resources include fire engines, tankers, utility trucks, a rescue truck, and a HAZMAT decontamination trailer. Public outreach and education occurs regularly and includes fire prevention best practices. To mitigate risk to this hazard, the fire district ensures that annual HAZMAT training occurs, has established procedures for contacting state and mutual aid resources if needed, and worked on identifying which fixed sites are of most concern.

Hazardous Materials – Transportation

Significant transportation routes in the district include Interstate 80, Highway 30, Highway 385, and the BNSF and Union Pacific railroads. Numerous oils, gases, and liquids are transported on the railroads; and some hazardous materials are transported along Interstate 80. According to PHMSA, there were 18 transportation-related chemical spills in Sidney between 1971 and January 2021. These spills resulted in \$207,545 in damages, two injuries, and one serious evacuation.

In the event of a large spill, the Sidney Fire Department, Sidney Police Department, Regional West EMS, NDOT, and the Nebraska State Patrol would all respond. The planning team indicated that the fire district does not have the appropriate spill resources and training. Local training includes annual HAZMAT awareness (not response).

Vulnerable populations located near transportation routes include the Sidney Regional Medical Center as well as any residents who live along those routes. To mitigate risk to this hazard, the fire district ensures that annual HAZAMAT training occurs. Sidney Fire also coordinates with Region 21 EMA and Sidney Police Department on shelter locations.

Severe Thunderstorms

According to the NCEI, there were 60 thunderstorm events in Sidney from 1996 to April 2021 which resulted in \$37,000 in property damage. No injuries or fatalities were reported. The planning team indicated that no significant events have occurred locally in recent years. Primary concerns for this hazard include damaging winds, hail, lightning, and possible tornadoes. The planning team indicated that the fire hall/city hall are in need of a backup generator.

Severe Winter Storms

Sidney has been affected annually by severe winter storms. Significant storms in recent years include blizzards in 2018, 2019, and 2020. Impacts from these storms include stranded motorists on Interstate 80, reduced traffic on other arterials, and power outages in rural areas. According to the NCEI, there were 114 severe winter storm events throughout Cheyenne County from 1996 through April 2021. These resulted in \$500,500 in property damages and \$11,423,410 in crop damages.

Primary concerns for the local planning team include impassable roads and significant snow/blizzards delaying response time or stranding motorists. Snow removal resources are currently deemed as sufficient by the planning team.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Backup Generators
DESCRIPTION	Provide a portable or stationary source of backup power to redundant power supplies, municipal wells, lift stations and other critical facilities and shelters.
HAZARD(S)	All hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$150,000
FUNDING	General Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Sidney Fire Department
STATUS	The fire hall/city hall is currently in need of a backup generator.

MITIGATION ACTION	New Tanker
DESCRIPTION	Purchase a new tanker to replace the current one that is past its useful life.
HAZARD(S)	Grass/Wildfire
ESTIMATED COST	\$300,000
FUNDING	Bonds
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Sidney Rural Fire District
STATUS	Not started

MITIGATION ACTION	New SCBA and Compressor
DESCRIPTION	Replace the current SCBA units and compressor
HAZARD(S)	Grass/Wildfire
ESTIMATED COST	\$250,000
FUNDING	General Fund, Donations
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	High
LEAD AGENCY	Sidney Fire Department
STATUS	Not started

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District Profile

Sidney Public School District

**South Platte Natural Resources District
Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022**

Local Planning Team

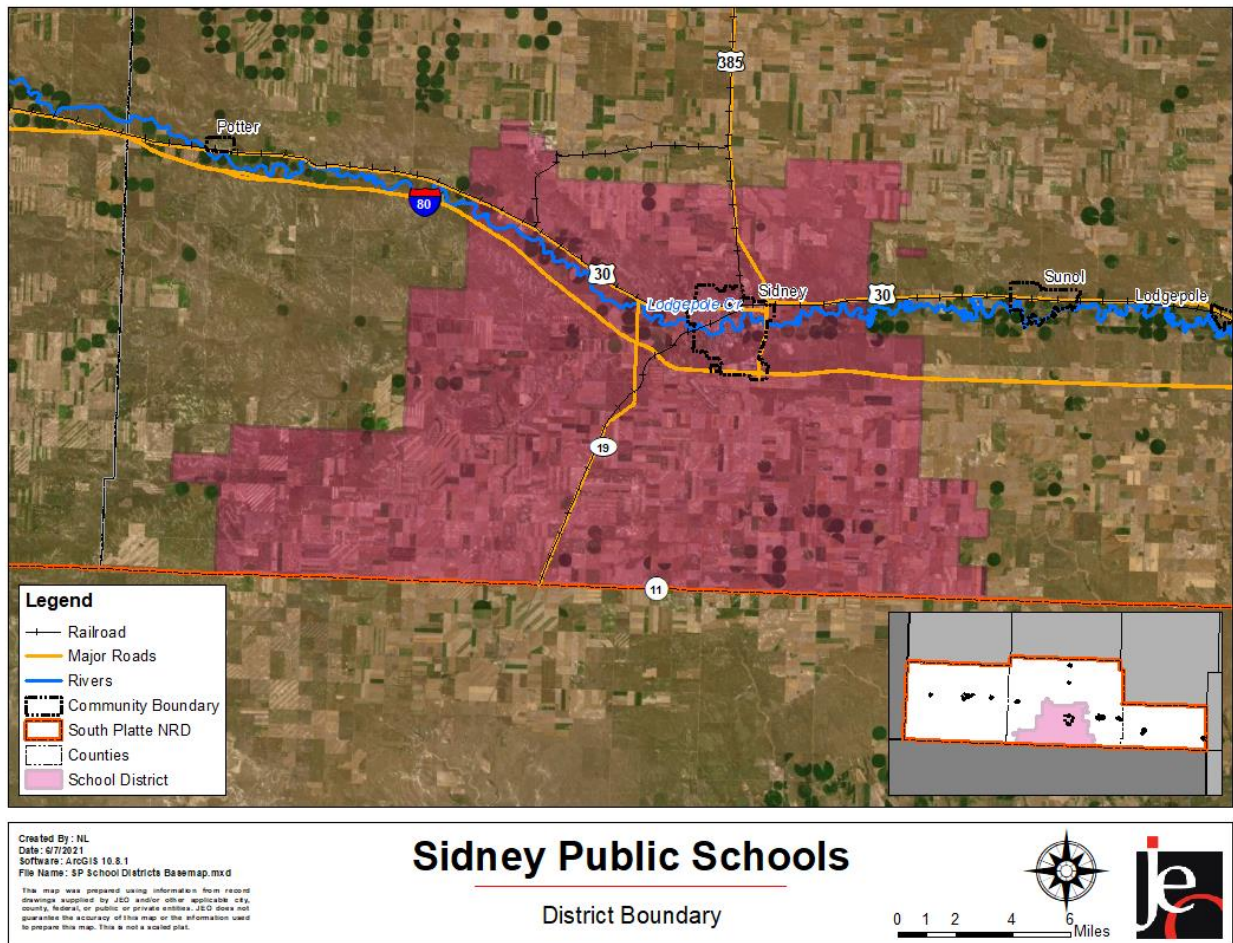
Table SPS.1: Sidney Schools Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Jay Ehler	Superintendent	Sidney Public Schools

Location and Services

Sidney Public Schools is a school district located in Cheyenne County, in the southern portion of the panhandle in Nebraska. Its main office is located at 1101 21st Avenue, Sidney, Nebraska, 69162. The district’s mission, as expressed on its website, strives “to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to become productive citizens.” The district is comprised of six schools: Sidney High School, Sidney Middle School, Central Elementary School, North Ward Elementary School, South Ward Elementary School, and West Elementary School. Besides English, Spanish is also spoken by many within the district. Sidney Public Schools also provides opt-in services for students in the surrounding communities of Potter, Dalton, Lodgepole, Chappell, Peetz, and Gurley.

Figure SPS.1: Sidney School District Boundary



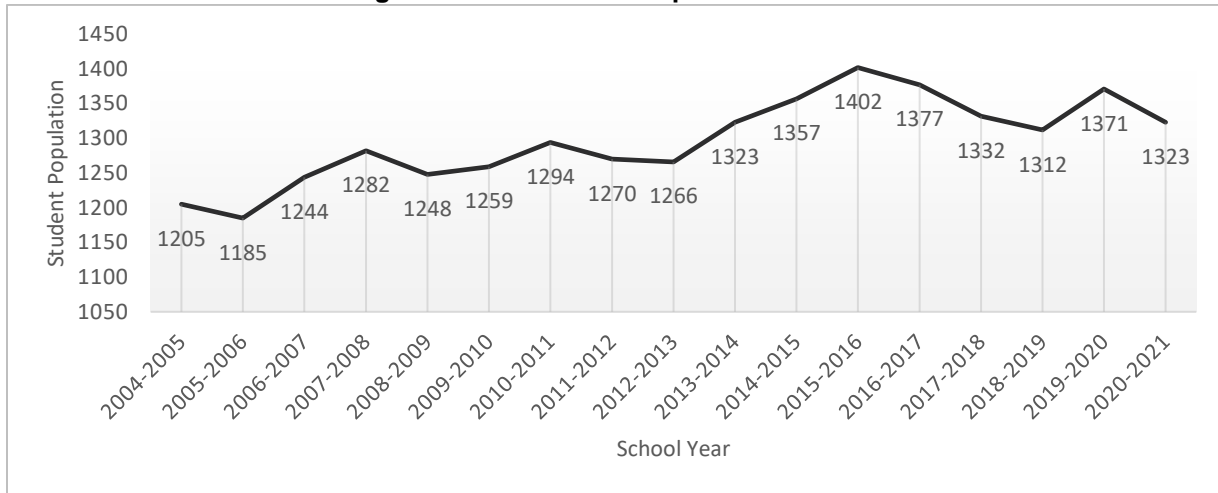
Transportation

The district planning team did not express too much concern with particular transportation routes but did indicate that county roads have experience some issues after snowstorms. Additionally, there have been no transportation accidents that impacted the school in recent years. The district has six buses and run three routes daily. Approximately 500 students are bussed daily.

Demographics

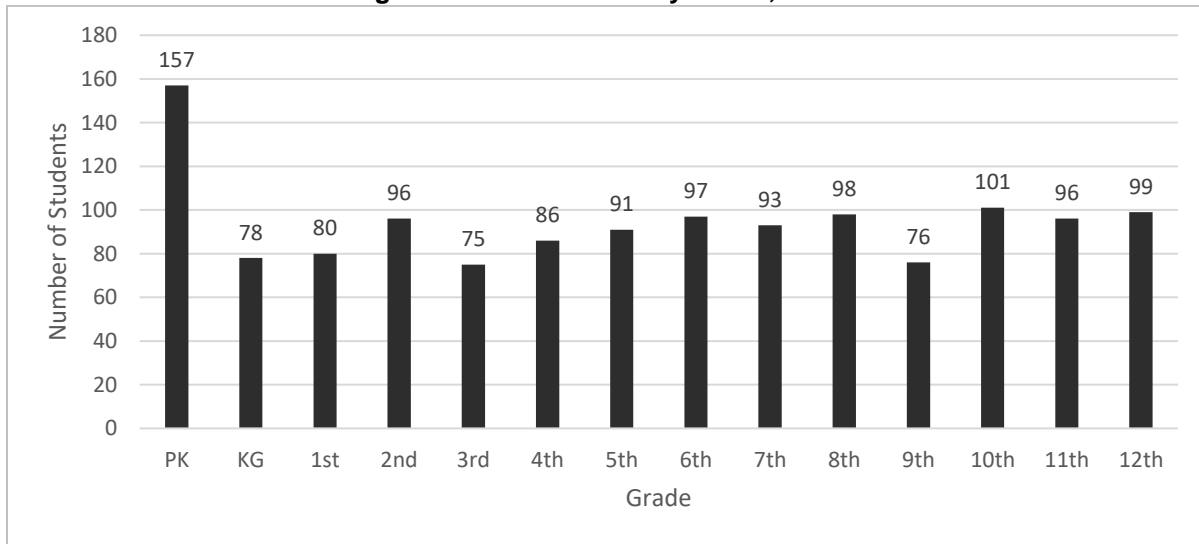
The following figure displays the historical student population trend starting with the 2004-05 school year and ending with the 2020-21 year. The figure indicates that the student population has declined in recent years. There are approximately 1,323 students enrolled in Sidney Public School District. Enrollment is expected to remain similar to what it is now over the next five years. The district employs teachers, with a total of about 175 staff members.

Figure SPS.2: Student Population 2004-2021



Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Figure SPS.3: Students by Grade, 2020-2021



Source: Nebraska Department of Education

The figure above indicates that the largest number of students are in pre-kindergarten, followed by 10th grade and 6th grade. The lowest population of students are in 3rd grade and 9th grade. According to the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), 40.41% of students receive either free or reduced priced meals at school in the 2019-20 year. This is lower than the state average of 45.60%. Additionally, 11.42% of students are in the Special Education Program. These students may be more vulnerable during a hazardous event than the rest of the student population.

Table SPS.2: Student Statistics, 2019-2020

	District	State of Nebraska
Free/Reduced Priced Meals	40.41%	45.60%
Special Education Students	11.42%	15.56%
English Language Learners (ESL)	2.13%	7.43%
School Mobility Rate	13.64%	8.36%

Source: Nebraska Department of Education

Future Development Trends

There have not been any development changes over the past five years to district facilities. According to census data, the district's student population is generally decreasing. The planning team attributes this to the sale of Cabela's Inc. to Bass Pro Shops and the subsequent closure of most corporate offices. Enrollment decreased by 12% at the time but has since seen half of that number return. There are no current plans for development or renovation.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

The district's major transportation corridors include US Highway 30, Highway Link L17J, and Interstate 80. The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Rail Line runs north/south through the city and the Union Pacific Railroad runs west/east through the city. This information is important to hazard mitigation plans insofar as it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the district, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

Hazardous Materials – Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

In the event of a chemical spill impacting the school district, the Director of Operations and Maintenance Director would be the first to respond, with other agencies being on-call. No chemical fixed sites are located near schools and there are no current concerns for fixed site chemical spills, according to the planning team.

Table SPS.3: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

Facility Name	Address
TIGT Huntsman Station 01	2835 Road 111
Sidney Ready-Mix	2535 Fort Sidney Rd
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	Jct 9th & Forrest Sts
Sapp Bros Sidney Truck Stop	2914 Upland Pkwy
Titan Machinery Inc	525 Parkland Dr
Beyer TXO 1A	Road 103
Olson 3-1	Jct 17E & Road 18
NDOT Sidney Yard	2320 Illinois St
CenturyLink	1100 Jackson St
West Engelland Compressor Sta	Road 111
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	303 E Illinois St
Frenchman Valley Farmers Co-op	1402 Illinois St
Progress Rail Services Corp	3224 Road 107
AT&T Microwave Tower 1350	1686 Road 131
Basin Electric Power Co-op	10515 Road 28
WAPA Virginia Smith Converter	2281 Road 111
WAPA Sidney Substation	2291 Road 111
Progress Rail Services Corp	10929 Road 32N
Bird Oil Field	Unlisted
Diamond B Oil Inc Shop	Highway 30 & Fairgrounds Rd
Hruska 1 Lease	Jct Roads 103 & 32S
Krueger - Ladegard Lease	Road 99
Sorge Lease	Jct Roads 103 & 32 S
M Cruise 1 Lease	Road 30
Tremain Lease	Roads 32 & 130
Doran D Field	Highway 30
Cruise A	2829 Road 111
Johnson Field	Road 32
Sparks B & C	Road 107
State 4	Road 16
Armstrong 2 Lease	Road 101
Rudolph Lease 2 & 3	Unlisted
Golf 05 Launch Facility	County Rd 41
Golf 06 Launch Facility	County Rd 26
India 11 Launch Facility	Road 119
India 10 Launch Facility	Road 115
Sparrow Field	Jct Roads 36 & 119
CHH Federal 01	Jct Roads 40 & 107
Golf 07 Launch Facility	Highway 19
India 01 MAF	County Rd 125
India 02 Launch Facility	County Rd 16
Sioux Federal 9 Lease	Jct Roads 103 & 42
Cabelas Inc	115 Cabela Dr
Pasque 1	Road 16
Pro Oil Bulk Plant	11574 US Highway 30
Cabelas Distribution Center	3200 Road 101
M & B Mather Lease	Jct Roads 113 & 28

SECTION SEVEN: SIDNEY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFILE

Facility Name	Address
Pahl Lease	Jct Roads 111 & 30
Rippe B Lease	Jct Roads 111 & 30
Sparks A Lease	Jct Roads 109 & 28
Mathewson 1-20	Road 89
ATC Sunol 88995	1686 Road 131
Sidney Sand & Gravel Plant	1839 Road 117
Bell Lumber & Pole Company	9965 Road 34
Adams Industries Inc	1655 Industrial Ave
Charter Communications NE0085	1830 10th Ave

Source: Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy¹⁶

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update.

The school district operates six facilities. School facilities are listed below, along with information indicating the school’s address, number of students and staff, if the facility is used as a shelter during emergencies, if the facility is located in the floodplain, and the presence of a backup power generator.

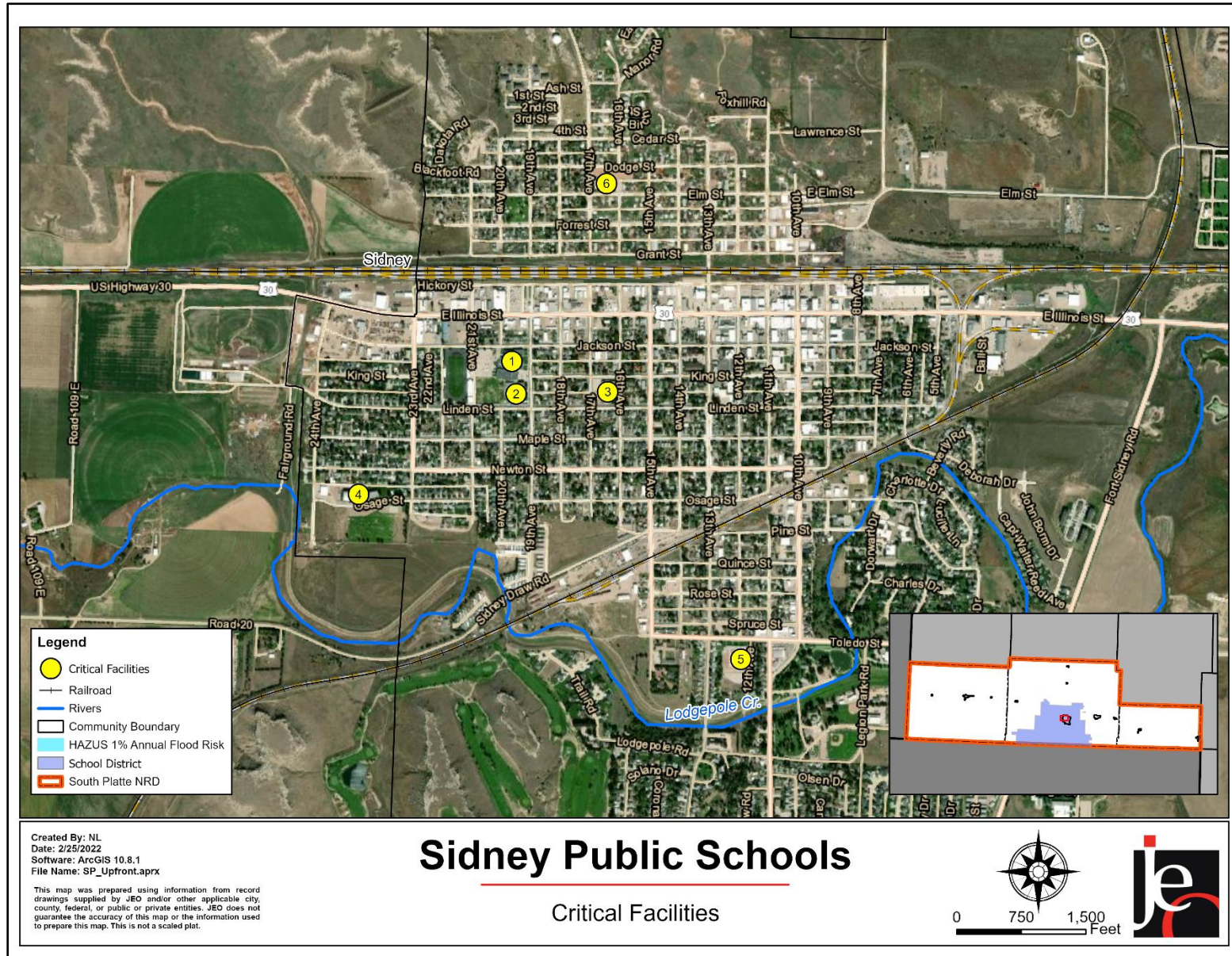
The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the district.

Table SPS.4: Sidney Schools Critical Facilities

CF #	Name	# of Students	# of Staff	Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Sidney High School	372	45	Y	N
2	Sidney Middle School	192	17	Y	N
3	Central Elementary School	139	18	Y	N
4	West Elementary School	192	16	Y	N
5	South Elementary School	173	17	Y	N
6	North Elementary School	173	19	Y	N

¹⁶ Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. “Search Tier II Data.” January 2021.

Figure SPS.4: Sidney Schools Critical Facilities



School Drills and Staffing

Safety drills are conducted regularly in the district, with fire drills happening monthly, tornado drills semi-annually, and both bus evacuation and lockdown drills occurring twice a year. Staff is trained by the district safety committee, using safety videos from the district's insurance provider and other building trainings. Students and families are educated about emergency procedures primarily using email, social media, and the REMIND app.

Historical Occurrences

See the City of Sidney and Cheyenne County community profiles for historical hazard events.

Hazard Prioritization

For additional discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were selected by the local planning team from the regional hazard list as the relevant hazards for the jurisdiction. The selected hazards were prioritized by the local planning team based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities.

Hail

The school district is impacted by hail approximately five to seven times per year, with an average magnitude of marble sized hail. The school has suffered impacts from hail previously, including a number of broken windows in either 2008 or 2009. The protocol for a hail event includes keeping students indoors and shelter in place.

To mitigate against future lasting impacts from hail events, the school district has invested in higher quality roofing materials, placed covers on some HVAC appliances, insured its facilities, provided covering for some school vehicles, and installed heavy duty windows.

High Winds

The school district is impacted by high winds regularly. Most often, the impacts related to high winds include damaged tree branches, damage to roofs, and snow damage, which is compounded by high winds. The school district responds to high wind events on a case-by-case basis. Often, the administrators will ask coaches to get students indoors/out of practice by a given time. The district's biggest concerns related to high winds include structural damages, as well as safety from falling tree branches.

To mitigate against lasting impacts as a result of severe winter storms, the maintenance staff is responsible for removing dead trees and branches, so they do not fall unexpectedly during a high wind event. Improved roofing materials have also been installed.

Severe Thunderstorms

The school district experiences between eight and ten severe thunderstorms per year and has experienced damages as a result of severe thunderstorms in the past. Some of the impacts have included damage to servers (via electrical issues) and ponding on parking lots and playgrounds. For event detection, the school utilizes radar, television, cell phones and weather radios to be aware of any impending inclement weather. In terms of response, the school will keep students indoors in the case of a severe thunderstorm, as well as practice indoors for sports. The school district does have a portable backup generator in case of a power outage.

Severe Winter Storms

The school district is impacted by about five severe winter storms per year, on average. In Sidney, the local definition of a severe winter storm often includes between four and eight inches of snow accumulation, often coupled with high winds. On average, the school cancels school due to severe winter storms approximately three times per year. Related to severe winter storms, the school is primarily concerned about transportation issues. These concerns are exacerbated due to the fact that many high school drivers are new, inexperienced drivers, who are unfamiliar in driving under inclement conditions.

In the case of an impending severe winter storm, the superintendent consults the National Weather Service, as well as neighboring superintendents before making a decision on whether or not to cancel school. Once the superintendent has made a decision, he contacts the district's chief information officer, who updates social media, and contacts the local media. Additionally, the district subscribes to a voice memo system, with which the superintendent records a memo and may send it to parents who have opted-in to the system.

In terms of recovery, the streets department is responsible for clearing streets in Sidney, who do an excellent job, according to the planning team.

Tornadoes

While the school district has not been impacted by a tornado directly, tornadoes are relatively common in the planning area, the school district's biggest concerns related to tornadoes include bodily injury, loss of life and student safety. According to the Local Planning Team, the planning area experiences three to five tornadoes per year. In the case of a tornado event, the school typically detects inclement weather by using TV, radio, weather radios or cell phones. Then, once a tornado is detected in the area, students and faculty are instructed to follow the emergency plan, which includes sheltering in place, in hardened areas like interior hallways, locker rooms, and restrooms. Every building has its own emergency plan, which is practiced twice a year.

Administration

The school district has a superintendent, six principals, one assistant principal, and supportive staff. The school board is made up of a six-member panel. The district also has a number of additional departments and staff that may be available to implement hazard mitigation initiatives.

Capabilities

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the jurisdiction's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Table SPS.5: Capability Assessment

Survey Components		Yes/No
Planning Capability	Capital Improvements Plan/Long-Term Budget	Yes
	Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes
	Disaster Response Plan	Yes
	Other (if any)	
Administrative & Technical Capability	GIS Capabilities	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Staff who can assess jurisdictional vulnerability to hazards	No
	Grant Manager	Yes
	Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes
	Other (if any)	
Fiscal Capability	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded grants in the past	Yes
	Authority to levy taxes or bonds for specific mitigation projects	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds in place	No
	Flood Insurance	No
	Other (if any)	
Education and Outreach	Local school groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access, and functional needs populations, etc. (Ex. Parent groups, hazard mitigation boards, etc.)	Yes
	Ongoing public education or information program (Ex. Responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education, etc.)	Yes
	StormReady Certification	No
	Other (if any)	
Drills	Fire	Monthly
	Tornado	Semi-Annually
	Intruder	Semi-Annually
	Bus Evacuation	Annually
	School Evacuation	Annually
	Other (if any)	Yes

Table SPS.6: Overall Capability

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial Resources Needed to Implement Mitigation Projects	Moderate
Staff/Expertise to Implement Projects	Moderate
Community Support to Implement Projects	Moderate
Time to Devote to Hazard Mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Grants and Funding

District funds are mostly dedicated to maintaining current facilities. The district was awarded a grant in recent years from Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER). The ESSER funds will help improve HVAC systems, which include improvements to air quality, and safety equipment and procedures. District funds have seen a slight decrease in recent years.

Response and Strategic Plans

The school district utilizes a Crisis Response Plan to react to hazardous events. The Crisis Response Plan discusses natural hazards and assigns specific responsibilities to individuals, provides clear assignment of responsibility during an emergency, addresses shelter in place protocols, and identifies the following: scenarios that require evacuation, critical evacuation routes, sheltering locations, and opportunities for mitigation following an event. The plan is updated as needed and the district has annual meetings to discuss safety and crisis response. The district also has a Safety Procedures Plan, which is updated annually, and a Strategic Plan (2022), which has goals and objectives regarding school safety and security.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation and strategic actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e. annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating this community profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team will include the Director of Operations and Maintenance Director. The local planning team will review the plan no less than semi-annually and will include the public in the review and revision process through social media, board meetings, email, radio, and newspaper.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	New Elementary Roof
DESCRIPTION	Install a new roof on the Elementary School
HAZARD(S)	Hail, High Winds, Severe Thunderstorms, Severe Winter Storms, Tornadoes
ESTIMATED COST	\$200,000
FUNDING	District General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Sidney Public Schools
STATUS	Not started

MITIGATION ACTION	Snow Removal Equipment
DESCRIPTION	Purchase snow removal equipment
HAZARD(S)	Severe Winter Storms
ESTIMATED COST	\$50,000
FUNDING	District General Fund
TIMELINE	5+ years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Sidney Public Schools
STATUS	Not started

Continued Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Backup Generators
DESCRIPTION	Provide a portable or stationary source of backup power to redundant power supplies, municipal wells, lift stations and other critical facilities and shelters.
HAZARD(S)	All Hazards
ESTIMATED COST	\$5,000+
FUNDING	Board/District Taxing Authorities
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Maintenance Department
STATUS	The district has acquired one portable backup generator but would like to obtain another one.

MITIGATION ACTION	Improve Snow/Ice Removal Program/Snow Fence
DESCRIPTION	As needed, continue to revise and improve the snow and ice removal program for streets. Revisions should address situations such as plowing snow, ice removal, parking during snow and ice removal, and removal of associated storm debris. This would include equipment that is needed and paving routes
HAZARD(S)	Severe Winter Storms
ESTIMATED COST	Staff Time
FUNDING	District General Fund
TIMELINE	2-5 years
PRIORITY	Medium
LEAD AGENCY	Maintenance Department
STATUS	Snow removal equipment has received some updates. Other improvements are still needed.

Removed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

MITIGATION ACTION	Static Detectors
DESCRIPTION	Static detectors are designed to detect lightning strikes and can predict the distance to the lightning strike and whether a storm is approaching or moving away from the detector. Deploying a static detector at outdoor events can warn of approaching, fast moving storms and associated lightning, thus helping officials to respond appropriately
HAZARD(S)	Severe Thunderstorms
REASON FOR REMOVAL	The district has other means of detecting storms and lightning.