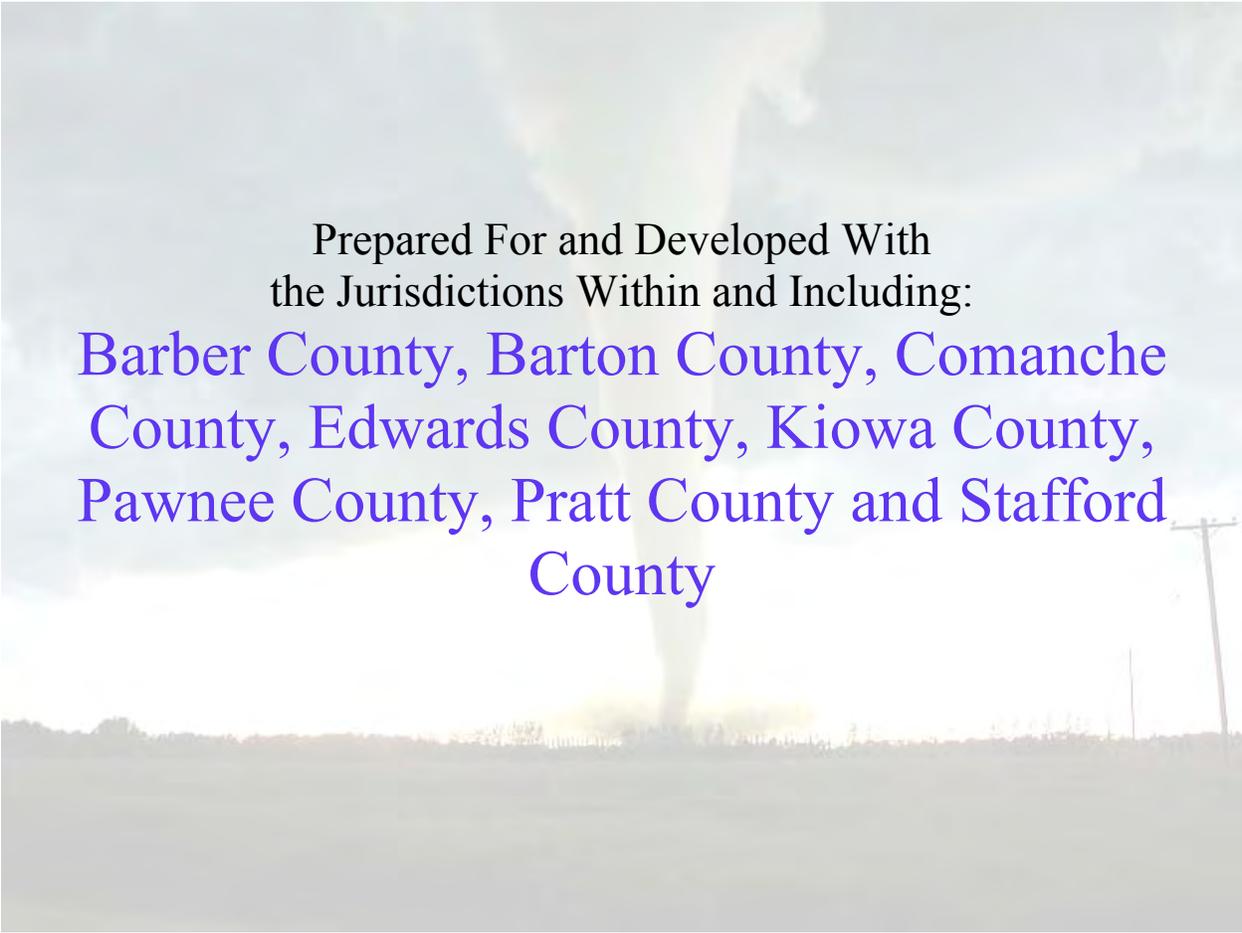


South Kansas
(Homeland Security Region E)
Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional
Mitigation Plan



Prepared For and Developed With
the Jurisdictions Within and Including:
Barber County, Barton County, Comanche
County, Edwards County, Kiowa County,
Pawnee County, Pratt County and Stafford
County

August, 2014

Prepared By:

Blue
Umbrella

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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
ANFO	Ammonium Nitrate/Fuel Oil
BATF	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CAFO	Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CPRI	Calculated Priority Risk Index
CRS	Community Rating System
CWPP	Community Wildfire Protection Plans
DASC	Data Access and Support Center
DFIRM	Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map
DWR	Division of Water Resources
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
EF	Enhanced Fujita
EMAP	Emergency Management Accreditation Program
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
°F	Fahrenheit
FIA	Flood Insurance Administration
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FMA	Flood Mitigation Assistance
GIS	Geographic Information System
HFRA	Healthy Forests Restoration Act
HMA	Hazard Mitigation Assistance
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HMPC	Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
IPSR	Institute for Policy and Social Research
K.S.A	Kansas Statutes Annotated
KCC	Kansas Corporation Commission
KCP&L	Kansas City Power and Light
KDA	Kansas Department of Agriculture
KDEM	Kansas Division of Emergency Management
KDHE	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
KDOT	Kansas Department of Transportation
km	Kilometer

Acronym	Meaning
KWO	Kansas Water Office
LAMP	Levee Analysis Mapping Procedures
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LSP	Levee Safety Program
MH 2.1	Multi Hazard version 2.1
MLI	Mid-Term Levee Inventory
MPH	Miles per Hour
NCDC	National Climatic Data Center
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NFIRS	National Fire Incident Reporting System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NLD	National Levee Database
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSFHA	No Special Flood Hazard Area
NWS	National Weather Service
ONA	Other Needs Assistance
PA	Public Assistance
PAL	Provisionally Accredited Levee
PDM	Pre-Disaster Mitigation
PDSI	Palmer Drought Severity Index
PIO	Public Information Officer
REC	Rural Electric Cooperative
RMP	Risk Management Plan
SBA	Small Business Administration
SHMO	State Hazard Mitigation Officer
SoVI	Social Vulnerability Index
SRL	Severe Repetitive Loss
STAPLEE	Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic and Environmental
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USD	Unified School District
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WUI	Wildland Urban Interface

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mitigation is commonly defined as sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and their effects. Hazard mitigation planning provides communities with a roadmap to aid in the creation and revision of policies and procedures, and the use of available resources, to provide long-term, tangible benefits to the community. A well designed hazard mitigation plan provides communities with realistic actions that can be taken to reduce potential vulnerability and exposure to identified hazards.

In order to create an effective, realistic and useful plan, a methodical and thoughtful planning process that included regional and local stakeholders and followed Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Guidelines has been completed.

This is a multi-hazard, multi-jurisdictional mitigation plan combination and update covering Kansas Homeland Security Region E. Region E is comprised of eight participating counties and is located in the southern region of the State. This plan was prepared to meet the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), as defined in regulations set forth by the Interim Final Rule (44 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 201.6).

A regional Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC), formed by participating County Emergency Managers and State of Kansas Mitigation Planners, conducted a regional risk assessment that identified and characterized potential hazards, suggested incorporation of review elements from previous plans into new regional plan, conducted a regional vulnerability analysis, and proposed and explored potential mitigation actions. The outcome was a mitigation plan that combined each discrete county plan into one regional plan.

It is worth noting that all neighboring Kansas counties are undergoing a similar mitigation planning effort, and as part of this statewide process all county and state planners are working together toward common mitigation goals. During the creation and adoption of this plan communication channels were opened to facilitate the cross pollination of ideas, to incorporate neighboring regions concerns, and to ensure the overall preparedness of the State of Kansas.

The following table presents a list of participating jurisdictions, by county. A special welcome is afforded to Unified School District (USD) #474 - Haviland , a new participant to the Plan. Please note that many Unincorporated Townships and special districts are not included in the following list as they are covered under their home counties participation and adoption.

Barber County Participating Cities and Townships

Barber County
City of Hardtner
City of Hazelton
City of Isabel
City of Kiowa
City of Medicine Lodge
City of Sharon
City of Sun City

Barton County Participating Cities and Townships

Barton County
City of Albert
City of Claflin
City of Ellinwood
City of Galatia
City of Great Bend
City of Hoisington
City of Olmitz
City of Pawnee Rock
City of Susank

Comanche County Participating Cities and Townships

Comanche County
City of Coldwater
City of Protection
City of Wilmore

Edwards County Participating Cities and Townships

Edwards County
City of Belpre
City of Kinsley
City of Lewis
City of Offerle

Kiowa County Participating Cities and Townships

Kiowa County
City of Greensburg
City of Haviland
City of Mullinville

Pawnee County Participating Cities and Townships

Pawnee County
City of Burdett
City of Garfield
City of Larned
City of Rozel

Pratt County Participating Cities and Townships

Pratt County
City of Byers
City of Coats
City of Cullison
City of Iuka
City of Pratt
City of Preston
City of Sawyer

Stafford County Participating Cities and Townships

Stafford County
City of Hudson
City of Macksville
City of Radium
City of Seward
City of St. John
City of Stafford

The following table presents a list of participating colleges, universities and USDs. The information also presents the district covered, if applicable, and the county:

Participating Colleges, Universities, and USDs

School, College or University	District
Barber County	
USD #254	Barber County North
USD #255	South Barber County
Barton County	
USD #112	Claflin
USD #355	Ellinwood
USD #428	Great Bend
USD #431	Hoisington
Barton County Community College	-
Comanche County	
USD #300	Comanche County

Participating Colleges, Universities, and USDs, Continued

Edwards County	
USD #347	Kinsley / Offerle
USD #502	Lewis
Kiowa County	
USD #422	Kiowa County
USD #474	Haviland
Pawnee County	
USD #495	Fort Larned
USD #496	Pawnee Heights
Pratt County	
USD #382	Pratt
USD #438	Skyline Schools
Pratt County Community College	-
Stafford County	
USD #349	Stafford
USD #350	St. John / Hudson
USD #351	Macksville

In addition to the above noted jurisdictions, many special districts are covered under the participation and adoption by the overarching county. These entities include:

- Fire Districts
- Sewer Districts
- Water Districts
- Watershed Districts

Some of the above noted special districts went above and beyond and participated independently in the planning process. These entities are noted below.

Participating Special Districts

Barber County
Barber County Water Districts (all)
Barton County
Post Rock Rural Water District #1

It is important to note that while special districts are not required to individually adopt the mitigation plan, in doing so they retain the ability to control and oversee any grant funding received. In not adopting, the special districts may cede control to the overarching county.

Additionally, numerous private, non-profit and charitable organizations independently participated in this planning effort, including:

Private and Non-Profit Participating Stakeholders

Barber County
Alfalfa Rural Electrical Cooperative (REC)
Ninnescah REC
South Pioneer REC
Barton County
Arkansas Valley REC
Midwest Energy
Rolling Hills REC
Comanche County
CMS Electrical Cooperative
Edwards County
Midwest Energy
Pawnee County
Midwest Energy
Pratt County
Midwest Energy
Ninnescah REC
South Pioneer REC
American Red Cross
Stafford County
Arkansas Valley REC
Midwest Energy

All previously participating jurisdictions elected to participate in this planning process.

GOALS

Based upon the research conducted to complete this document, the HMPC identified goals and objectives to reduce potential risks associated with identified hazards. The goals and objectives of this multi-hazard mitigation plan are to:

- **Goal 1:** Reduce and/or eliminate the risk to the people and property of south Kansas from the identified hazards in this plan.
- **Goal 2:** Strive to protect all of the vulnerable populations, structures, and critical facilities in south Kansas from the impacts of the identified hazards.
- **Goal 3:** Improve public outreach initiatives to include education, awareness and partnerships with all willing entities in order to enhance understanding of the risks south Kansas faces due to the impacts of the identified hazards.
- **Goal 4:** Enhance communication and coordination among all agencies and between agencies and the public.

To accomplish the above identified goals, the HMPC has developed a series of robust and achievable mitigation actions. These actions are discussed in detail in Section 5 of this plan.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

The following table presents the members of the south Kansas HMPC. Each planning committee member served as a point of contact for their county, assisting with the direction and dissemination of information concerning the planning effort. A special thanks is afforded to these people who made the successful completion and adoption of this plan possible.

Hazard Management Planning Committee

Participant	Title	Organization
Jerry McNamar	Emergency Manager	Barber County
Amy Miller	Emergency Manager	Barton County
John Lehman	Emergency Manager	Comanche County
Richard Neilson	Emergency Manager	Edwards County
Ray Stegman	Emergency Manager	Kiowa County
Mark Wagner	Emergency Manager	Pawnee County
Tim Branscom	Emergency Manager	Pratt County
Steve Moody	Emergency Manager	Stafford County
Jeanne Bunting	Mitigation Planner	Kansas Division of Emergency Management
Matt Eyer	Plan Author	Blue Umbrella Solutions

In addition to these HMPC members, representatives from each participating jurisdiction deserve a special thanks for assisting in this planning effort. Through their submission of data, participation in discussions and meetings, and feedback on plan revisions they assisted in making a robust plan.

RESOLUTIONS OF ADOPTION

44 CFR Requirement 201.6(c)(5): Documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County Commissioner, Tribal Council). For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.

Upon review and approved pending adoption status by FEMA Region VII adoption resolutions will be signed by the participating jurisdictions and added to the Appendix documents. Additionally, the following table will be completed noting adoption date for each participating jurisdiction and, if applicable, resolution number.

BARBER COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Barber County		
City of Hardtner		
City of Hazelton		
City of Isabel		
City of Kiowa		
City of Medicine Lodge		
City of Sharon		
City of Sun City		
USD #254 - Barber County North		
USD #255 - South Barber County		

BARTON COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Barton County		
City of Albert		
City of Claflin		
City of Ellinwood		
City of Galatia		
City of Great Bend		
City of Hoisington		
City of Olmitz		
City of Pawnee Rock		
City of Susank		
Barton County Community College		
USD #112 - Claflin		

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
USD #355 Ellinwood		
USD #428 - Great Bend		
USD #431 - Hoisington		

COMANCHE COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Comanche County		
City of Coldwater		
City of Protection		
City of Wilmore		
USD #300- Comanche County		

EDWARDS COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Edwards County		
City of Belpre		
City of Kinsley		
City of Lewis		
City of Offerle		
USD #347 - Kinsley / Offerle		
USD #502 - Lewis		

KIOWA COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Kiowa County		
City of Greensburg		
City of Haviland		
City of Mullinville		
USD #422 - Kiowa County		
USD #474 - Haviland		

PAWNEE COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Pawnee County		
City of Burdett		
City of Garfield		
City of Larned		

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
City of Rozel		
USD #495 - Fort Larned		
USD #449 - Pawnee Heights		

PRATT COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Pratt County		
City of Byers		
City of Coats		
City of Cullison		
City of Iuka		
City of Pratt		
City of Preston		
City of Sawyer		
Pratt County Community College		
USD #382 - Pratt		
USD #438 - Skyline Schools		

STAFFORD COUNTY

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Stafford County		
City of Hudson		
City of Macksville		
City of Radium		
City of Seward		
City of St. John		
City of Stafford		
USD #349 - Stafford		
USD #350 - St. John / Hudson		
USD #351 - Macksville		

INDEPENDENTLY PARTICIPATING SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Unincorporated cities, townships, special districts and agencies that are part of a larger entity, such as a county health department or rural water district, will be considered as adopting when the umbrella county adopts the plan. It is important to note that these entities are not required to individually adopt the mitigation plan, in doing so they retain the ability to control and oversee any grant funding received. In not adopting, these entities may cede control to the overarching county.

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Barber County		
Barber County Water Districts		
Barton County		
Post Rock Rural Water District #1		

INDEPENDENTLY PARTICIPATING STAKEHOLDERS

While not required, private, non-profit and charitable organizations that independently participated in this planning effort are encourage to adopt the plan.

	Adoption Date	Resolution Number
Barber County		
Alfalfa REC		
Ninnescah REC		
South Pioneer REC		
Barton County		
Arkansas Valley REC		
Midwest Energy		
Rolling Hills REC		
Comanche County		
CMS Electrical Cooperative		
Edwards County		
Midwest Energy		
Pawnee County		
Midwest Energy		
Pratt County		
Midwest Energy		
Ninnescah REC		
South Pioneer REC		
American Red Cross		
Stafford County		
Arkansas Valley REC		
Midwest Energy		

Completed resolutions of adoption may be found in Appendix A.

EXAMPLE RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

The following presents an example resolution of adoption for participating jurisdictions to use as a template, if necessary.

Model Resolution

Resolution # _____: **Adopting the South Kansas (Region E) Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

Whereas, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

Whereas, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments; and

Whereas, an adopted Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) fully participated in the FEMA prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and FEMA Region VII officials have reviewed the South Kansas (Region E) Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body; and

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the South Kansas (Region E) Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, adoption by the governing body for the (Name of Government/District/Organization) demonstrates the jurisdictions’ commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals and objectives outlined in this plan, and

Whereas, adoption of this legitimizes the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the (Name of Government/District/Organization) adopts the South Kansas (Region E) Multi-Hazard, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as an official plan; and

Be it further resolved, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and FEMA Region VII officials to enable the plan’s final approval.

Passed

Certifying Official

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PLANNING PROCESS

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Eight participating counties within the south Kansas region (Kansas Homeland Security Region E) prepared this Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan to provide sustained actions to eliminate or reduce risk to people and property from the effects of natural and man-made hazards. This Plan documents south Kansas's planning process and identifies applicable hazards, vulnerabilities, and hazard mitigation strategies. This plan will serve to direct available community and regional resources towards creating policies and actions that provide long-term benefits to the community. Local and regional officials can refer to the plan when making decisions regarding regulations and ordinances, granting permits, and in funding capital improvements and other community initiatives.

This plan was also developed to make participating jurisdictions with south Kansas eligible for applicable federal disaster assistance, including the FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, and Flood Mitigation Assistance program. Additionally, this regional Plan will serve as the basis for the State of Kansas to prioritize available grant funding.

This Plan has been prepared in coordination with the FEMA Region VII and the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM).

This Plan has been designed to be a living document, a document that will evolve to reflect regional changes, correct any omissions, and constantly strive to ensure the safety of south Kansas's citizens. In addition, this document allows each participating jurisdiction to integrate the data, information and hazard mitigation goals and actions from the plan into other planning mechanisms.

1.2 BACKGROUND

South Kansas is vulnerable to a wide range of natural hazards, including flooding, tornadoes, drought, and winter storms. These hazards threaten the safety of citizens and have the potential to damage or destroy property and disrupt local and regional economies. Their occurrence is natural and there is little we can do to control their force and intensity. Each year some of these hazards cause disasters that cost hundreds of lives, cause countless injuries, and cost taxpayers billions of dollars to help communities recover. And while the intensity of these natural disasters cannot be controlled, there are many actions that can be taken to minimize their potential impacts to the region. Actions taken to reduce the potential impact of a hazard can greatly diminish the possibility that the hazard will result in a disaster. The practice of minimizing risks to people and property from identified hazards is referred to as hazard mitigation. FEMA describes hazard mitigation as "sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and their effects."

1.3 DISASTER MITIGATION ACT OF 2000

In an effort to reduce natural disaster losses the United States Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) in order to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act). DMA 2000 amended the Stafford Act by repealing the previous Mitigation Planning section (409) and replacing it with a new Mitigation Planning section (322). Section 322 of the DMA makes the development of a hazard mitigation plan a specific eligibility requirement for any local government applying for Federal mitigation grant funds.

This Plan was prepared to meet the requirements of the DMA 2000, as defined in regulations set forth by the Interim Final Rule (44 CFR Part 201.6).

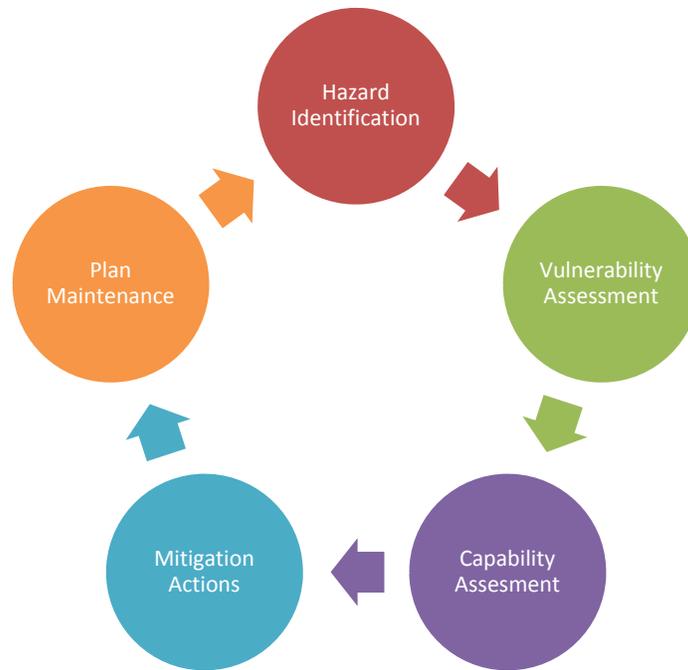
1.4 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS

44 CFR 201.6(c)(1) Documentation of the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

KDEM contracted with Blue Umbrella Solutions in November 2014 to assist south Kansas in developing a multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan. Blue Umbrella Solutions and the south Kansas HMPC worked together in developing this Plan to meet the requirements of the DMA 2000, as defined in regulations set forth by the Interim Final Rule (44 CFR Part 201.6). As part of this process, the following tasks were conducted:

- Consultation with FEMA Region VII on Plan development
- Review of current mitigation plans for all participating jurisdictions
- Incorporation of review elements into new regional plan
- Delivery of organizational and planning meetings
- Solicitation of public input as to Plan development
- Assessment of potential regional risks
- Assessment of vulnerabilities and assets
- Development of the mitigation actions
- Development of a draft multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan
- Implementation, adoption, and maintenance of the Plan

In general, the following diagram shows the planning cycle:



1.5 PLANNING PROCESS PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

44 CFR 201.6(a)(4): Multi-jurisdictional plans may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as each jurisdiction has participated in the process and has officially adopted the plan.

All eligible jurisdictions within south Kansas were invited to participate in the organization, drafting, completion and adoption of this Plan. Invited jurisdictions included, but were not limited to, elected officials, relevant State of Kansas agencies, counties, cities, school districts, universities and community colleges, special districts, including rural fire and water districts, non-profit agencies, and businesses.

In order to have an approved hazard mitigation plan, DMA 2000 requires that each jurisdiction participate in the planning process. Each jurisdiction choosing to participate in the development of the Plan were required to meet detailed participation requirements, which included the following:

- When practical and affordable, participation in planning meetings
- Provision of information to support the Plan development
- Identification of relevant mitigation actions
- Review and comment on Plan drafts
- Formal adoption of the plan

County Emergency Managers were designated as HMPC representatives for each participating jurisdiction within their county. Jurisdiction provision of information, identification of

mitigation actions and Plan review and comment are detailed throughout this Plan and were, in general coordinated by each relevant HMPC member.

Jurisdictions who were unable to attend meetings due to budgetary or time constraints were contacted by their HMPC member via email or phone to discuss hazard mitigation planning, including the process, goals, mitigation actions, local planning concerns and Plan review.

Multiple methods of communication with HMPC members, participating jurisdictions, and the public were used during the planning process. Communications used include:

- On-site meetings
- Telephone
- Email
- Internet resources
- Social media

1.6 CONSULTATION WITH FEMA REGION VII

Upon initiation of the planning process, a meeting was held with FEMA Region VII to review current and pending planning requirements and to discuss methods to provide for a smooth planning and review process. The meetings were held on January 3 and 4, 2013 at the FEMA Region VII offices, and the following participants were in attendance:

Participant	Organization
Joe Chandler	FEMA Region VII
Michelle Wolf	FEMA Region VII
Jeanne Bunting	State of Kansas
Matthew Eyer	Blue Umbrella Solutions

1.7 REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MITIGATION PLANS

44 CFR 201.6(b):(3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

Prior to the delivery of the south Kansas project kickoff meetings, all relevant south Kansas hazard mitigation plans and applicable planning documents were reviewed and mined for data to be used in the consolidation and creation of the new regional Plan, and for use to guide kickoff meeting discussions. In addition to the regional mitigation plans, the Kansas State Hazard Mitigation Plan and available relevant data from state and federal agencies was reviewed. These sources are noted throughout the Plan.

1.8 ORGANIZATIONAL AND PLANNING MEETINGS

44 CFR 201.6(b): An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan. In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include: (2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process.

Within south Kansas there are many jurisdictions and organizations who have a vested interest in participating in the creation and adoption of the hazard mitigation plan. An integral part of the planning process included the identification, development, and coordination of all of these entities. As such, a series of three organizational and planning meetings were scheduled and all past and potential future participants were notified by the State of Kansas as to the dates and locations of the meetings. In addition, communities neighboring the region were invited to participate in the planning process.

It is worth noting that all neighboring Kansas counties are undergoing a similar mitigation planning effort, and as part of this statewide process all county and state planners are working together toward common mitigation goals. During the creation and adoption of this plan communication channels were opened to facilitate the cross pollination of ideas, to incorporate neighboring regions concerns, and to ensure the overall preparedness of the State of Kansas.

The following table presents the date, location and purpose of each planning meeting.

Meeting Number	Date	Location City	Purpose
1	04/23/2014	Greensburg	Review of planning process, project coordination, scope, participation requirements, strategies for public involvement. Formation of HMPC. Discussion and review of potential hazards.
	04/24/2014	Pratt	
	04/25/2104	Saint John	
2	07/09/2104	Pratt	Results of the hazard identification, classification, and delineation discussed Sections of the plan were made available for review and comment. Development of mitigation goals and actions
3	08/18/2104	Greensburg	Review of completed draft Plan. Review of public comments. Incorporation of any changes. Discussion of approval and adoption timeframes.
	08/18/2014	Pratt	
	08/19/2014	Saint John	

A series of kick-off meetings were held with available representatives from jurisdictions within the planning region in attendance. At the kickoff meeting, the planning process, project coordination, scope, participation requirements, strategies for public involvement, and schedule were discussed in detail. Additionally, the HMPC was created to include the Emergency Manager from each participating county along with relevant State of Kansas partners. HMPC

members were tasked with the following roles and responsibilities that continued for the duration of the planning process:

- Meeting attendance and facilitation assistance
- Data collection and submission
- Assistance in soliciting public involvement and input
- Draft and final Plan review
- Oversight of facilitation of final Plan adoption by respective jurisdictions

During the meeting, participants were led through a guided discussion concerning hazard data sourced from their previous hazard mitigation plans. Additionally, research was conducted prior to the meeting on recent regional hazard events to further inform the discussion. Participants were encouraged to discuss past hazard events, past impacts, and the future probability for all identified hazards. Based on this discussion, a comprehensive list of regional hazards was created.

At the conclusion of the meeting, all participants were provided with a data collection forms to solicit information needed to properly complete the Plan. The forms asked for information concerning data on historic hazard events, at risk populations and properties, and available capabilities. Additionally, participating jurisdictions were provided with their mitigation actions from the previous plans for review and comment, and asked to identify any additional mitigation actions.

Each participating jurisdiction was required to complete and return the forms and actions to be considered as participating. These forms were used in the development of this Plan.

A series of mid-term planning meetings were held with HMPC representatives in attendance. Based upon the initial research, discussions held during the kickoff meetings, information obtained from the data collection forms, additional research, and subsequent discussion with HMPC members, the results of the hazard identification, classification, and delineation were discussed in detail. In addition, sections of the Plan were made available for review and comment. Based on the supplied hazard information, participants were asked to assist in the development and review of mitigation goals and actions.

A final planning meeting was held with representatives from jurisdictions within the planning region in attendance. The completed draft Plan was made available for review and comment.

1.9 PUBLIC OUTREACH

44 CFR Requirement 201.6(b): An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan. In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include: (1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval (2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process

As part of the overall planning process, the general public were provided with numerous opportunities to contribute and comment on the creation and adoption of the Plan. These opportunities include:

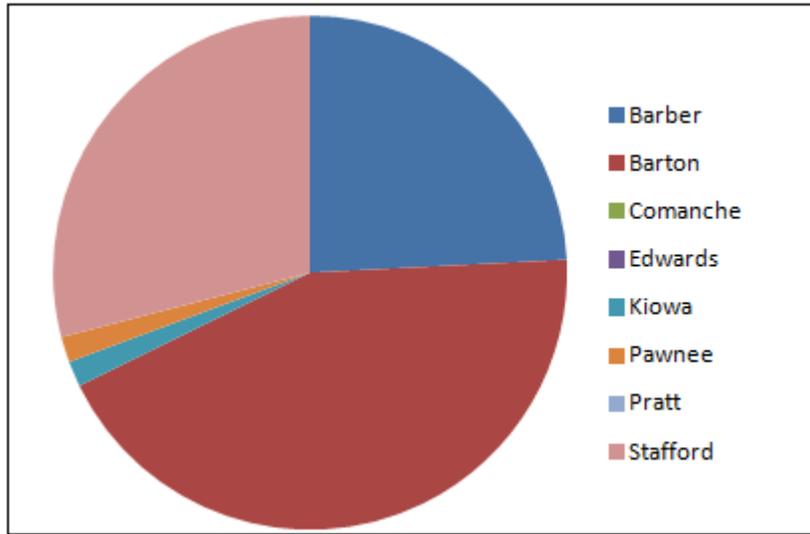
- SurveyMonkey (online survey)
- Facebook
- Meeting with local emergency managers
- Two week comment period upon completion of draft Plan

Input from the general public provided the HMPC with a clearer understanding of regional concerns, increased the likelihood of citizen buy-in concerning proposed mitigation actions, and provided elected officials with a guide and tool to set regional ordinances and regulations. This public outreach effort was also an opportunity for adjacent jurisdictions and entities to be involved in the planning process.

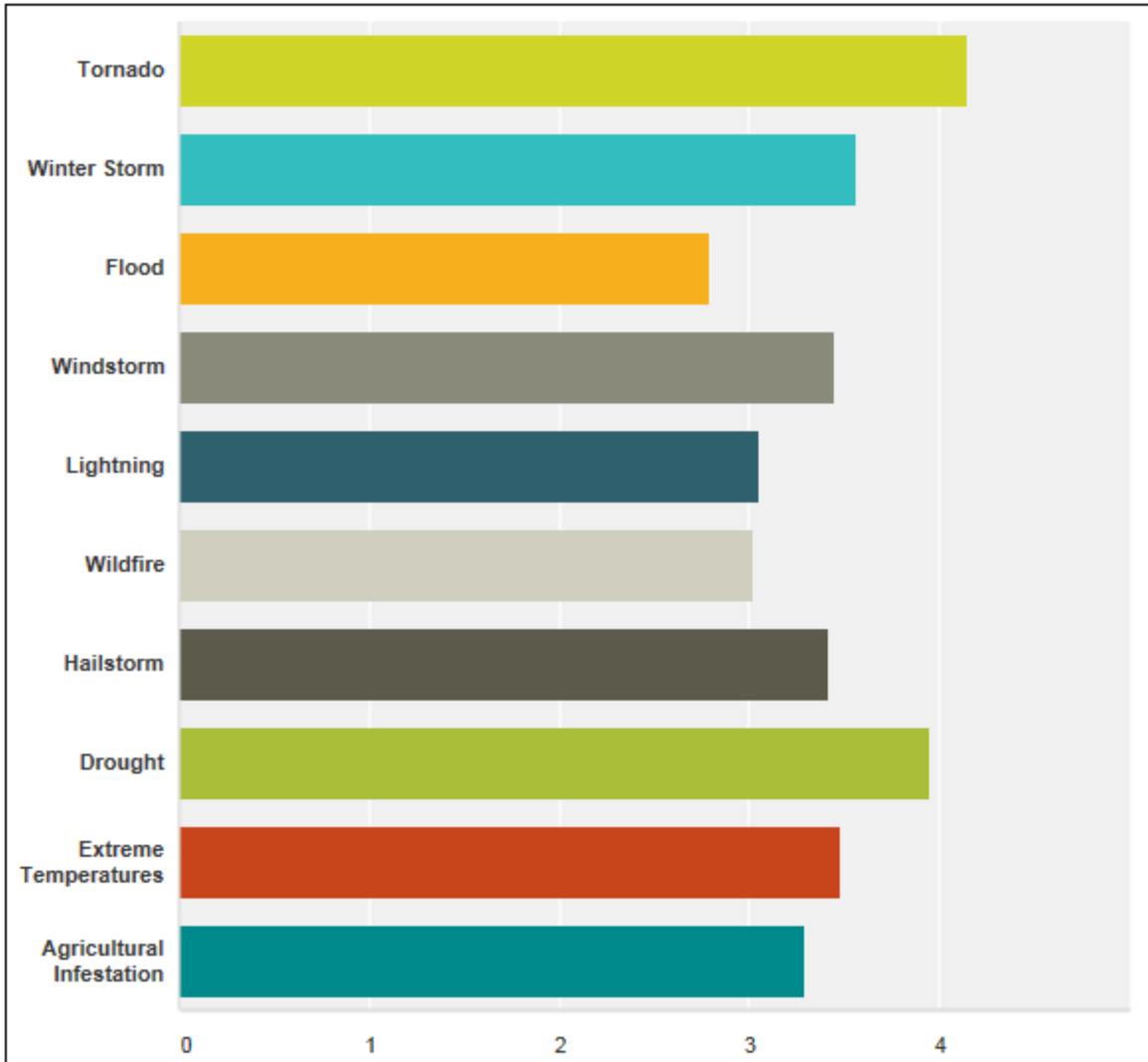
Additionally, as citizens were made more aware of potential hazards and the local and regional process to mitigation against their impacts, it was believed that they would take a stronger role in making their homes, neighborhoods, schools, and businesses safer from the potential effects of natural hazards.

The following graphics show the results of the public input, with 63 responses received, from the SurveyMonkey online survey for the region for each question asked.

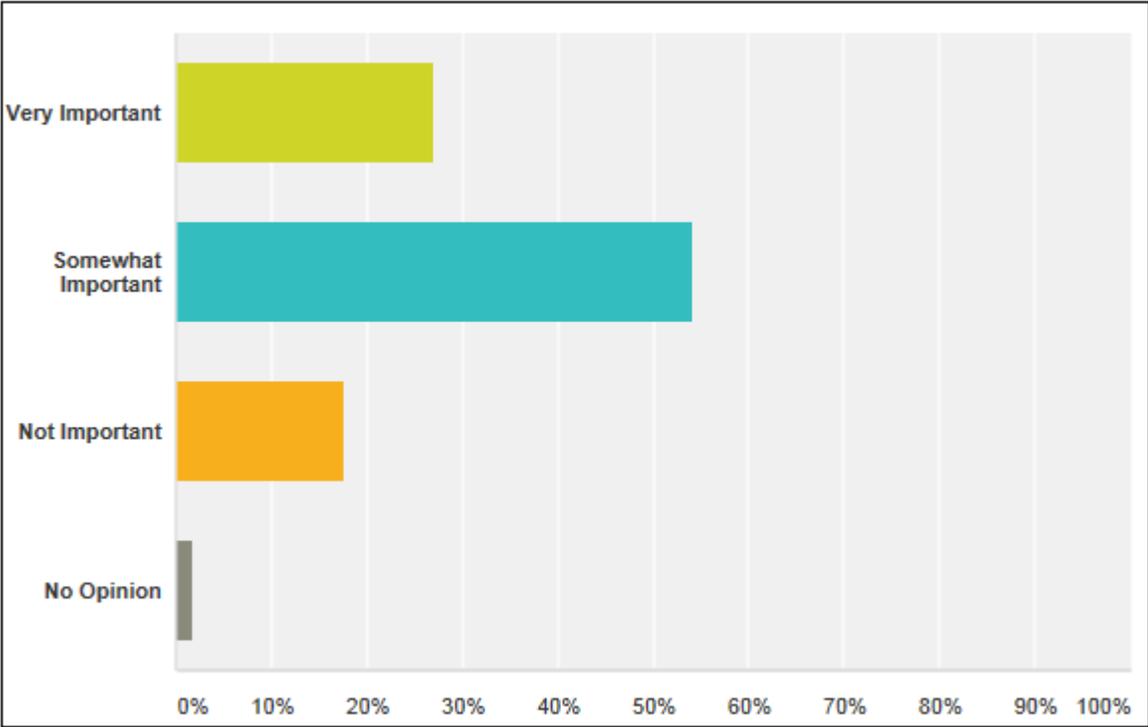
Question 1: What County and jurisdiction do you live in?



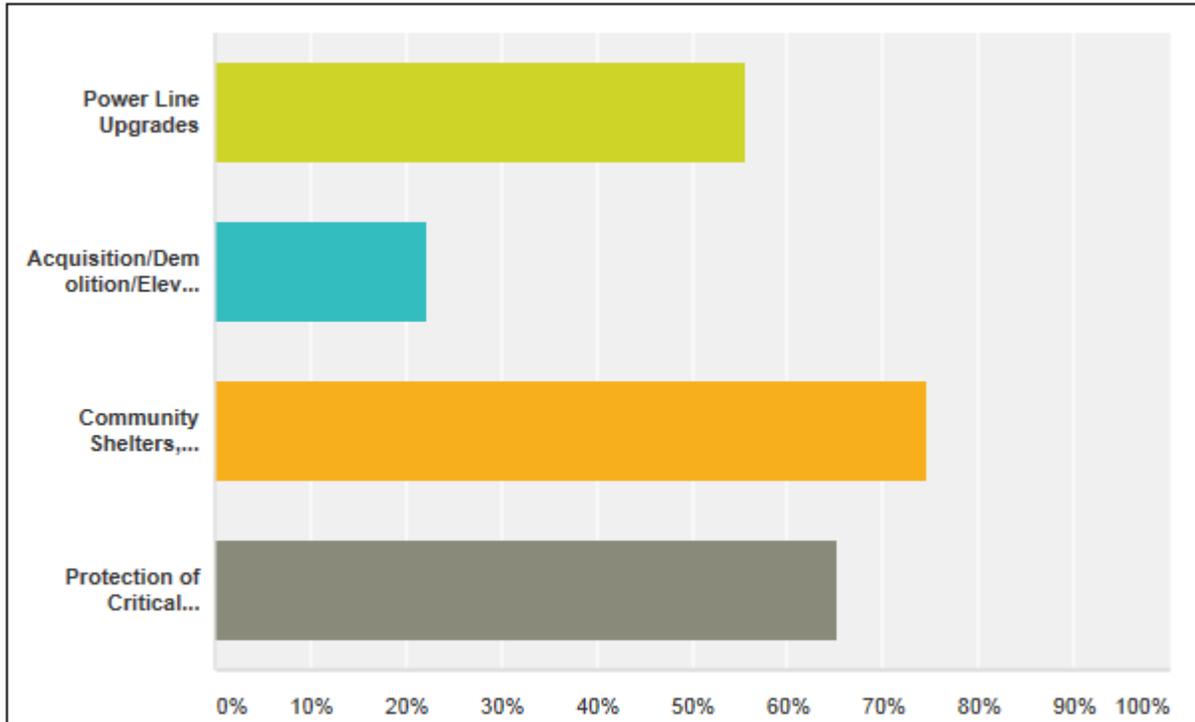
Question 2: In the Region consisting of Barber, Barton, Comanche, Edwards, Kiowa, Pawnee, Pratt and Stafford Counties, the planning committee has determined that the hazards listed below are of significance to the area. Please indicate the level of risk, or extent of potential impacts, in the Region, that you perceive for each hazard.



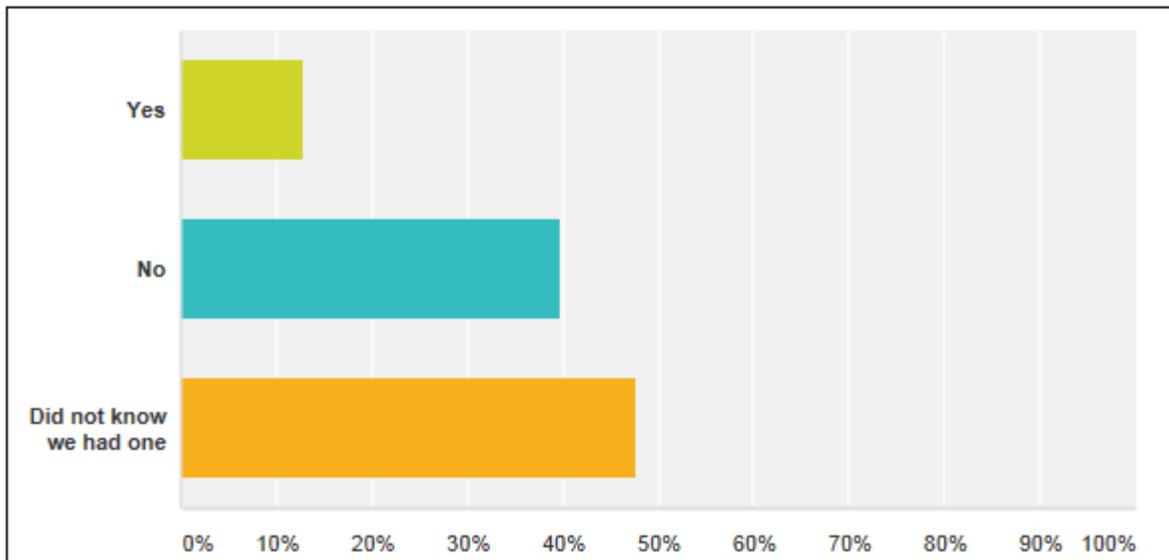
Question 3: In the region, the planning committee has determined that a flood event is a hazard for your region. How important to you is it that you participate or continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program?



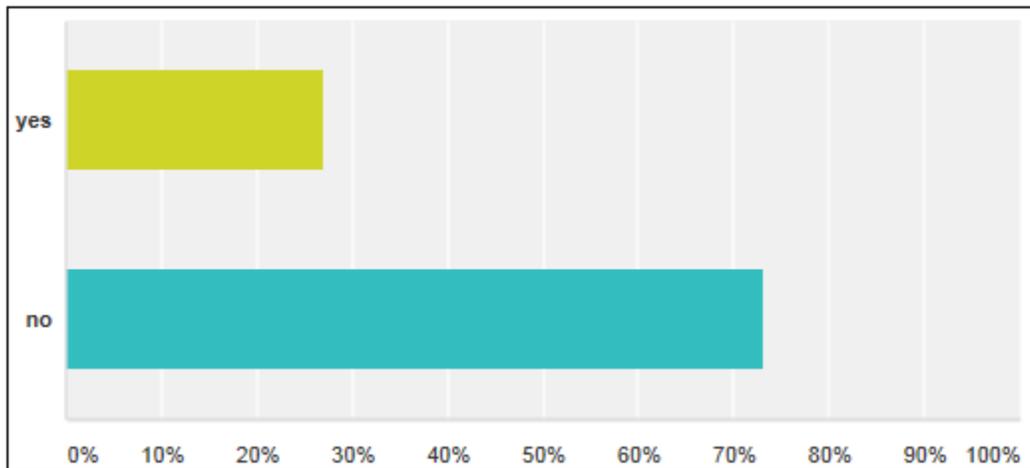
Question 4: Funding requests for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds are currently reviewed initially by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. Listed below are their current funding priorities. Please check those that benefit your community.



Question 5: Have you had an opportunity to read your current Hazard Mitigation Plan?



Question 6: Do you know where the mitigation plan for your county can be found if you wanted to look at it?



In addition, the following comments relating to mitigation planning were from interested citizens of the region. Please note that questions answered with a "none," "non applicable," or similar response, or left blank are not reported.

Question 7: Your input is valuable to this planning process. Please comment on any other issues that the planning committee should consider in developing a strategy to reduce future losses caused by natural hazard events.

- I think snow is our biggest problem because there are so many people over the age of 70 that live here. The town never plows and makes it safe for them to get out and are stuck sometimes for days in their house. Also there is a lot of fumes around that if a wild fire ever took off outside of town it could be real bad especially with the winds are blowing.
- Poles with lines are dangerous!
- Better communication between community leaders (ie: city, county, school, etc.) regarding collaboration in the situations leading up to and during an event listed above.
- Safety.
- Electro Magnetic Pulse, from Sun, Basic Protection
- The moderate to critical hazards indicated in my survey should be those the committee concentrate the focus for community welfare.
- Barton County needs to assist the residents of Hoisington to mitigate the designated flood areas in town. Property values and growth are stifled because of the flood designation. Most properties in the designated areas will NEVER flood, but they are forced to buy flood insurance and their values are diminished because of the designation. The county and city would make huge gains in valuation and housing units if there were a mitigation project. Increased valuation and population would benefit the entire county, city, and schools.
- Better training and Tools for Fire Dept and Law Enforcement.
- As a city, Great Bend needs more accessible tornado/storm safety locations. As a mobile home owner, we have storm plans and friends across town with basements. Availability

is totally dependent upon day & time. Great Bend does have good sirens and weather watchers. Great Bend also does a good job of spraying for mosquitoes.

- Proper drainage from the streets and gutters.
- Put a tornado siren in the town of Heizer. We don't. Know when one is coming by the time it's too late.
- Natural Hazards are unpreventable. I have watched the weather in Central Kansas change over the past 60 years. Central Kansas has not had a major flood since the 60s and a freak flood in north end of Great Bend since the 70s. Low lying areas are prone to Flooding and either people already know it, expect it, or a few signs could be put up warning people.
- I believe that after the tornado hit Hoisington in April of 2001 that we learned it very important to have competent Community Shelters. Also the need to protect our Critical Facilities like Clara Barton Hospital and the City Power Plant.
- Looking at emergency services beyond 911 and law enforcement is critical. Domestic and sexual violence emergency response, mental health emergency response should be an integral part of the plan.
- Better communication, more realistic/attainable action plans.
- Organize LEPC meetings in county so players are aware of what is going on.
- At a recent meeting I attended with other people from our hospital, EMS, Health Dept and Environmental I felt like we have good representation from all in the event of a hazard.
- Training for volunteers

Question 8: Do you have any mitigation projects you would like to see implemented and what are they?

- New poles and less lines on each one. Some of the poles have so many lines on it that it is dangerous!
- Increase in Neighborhood Awareness of Crime. Increase both City Police and County Sheriff's Budgets.
- Alleviate the designated flood zones / flood ways in Hoisington. The flood zone has significantly impacted the ability for the community to grow both in housing units and valuation. The designated areas in town could be mitigated and property values would significantly increase as would growth. There are numerous lots by the ball park that are now unusable since the tornado. Houses on north Center are paying for flood insurance and they will NEVER flood.
- A replacement for St. Rose basement: Are there businesses located around Court House Square that have basements that could be opened for tornado/storm shelters? The square would allow for adequate parking. Would not need to be unlocked all the time because then it could become a home-less shelter.
- A tornado siren be place in Heizer Kansas.
- I live in Pawnee Rock and we have homes that are dilapidated and have been empty for 20 years. One is on South Central St and the other on South Rock street. Both owned by (removed) of Great Bend. Both properties are about to fall in, are overgrown with trees and vegetation and shelter fox, skunks, raccoons, possums and snakes. Our Community

and City Council seem unable to have properties like this bulldozed down and burned which would be healthier for the citizens of Pawnee Rock.

- I will read the mitigation plan to better understand what implementation of the mitigation projects that would benefit our community and our county.
- New tornado sirens.
- Plan to mitigate the drought and how water conservation and alternative water sources might help.
- LEPC or ESF-8 meetings in county so all players are at the same table and know the plan for the county.
- County wide message system.
- Tornado Shelters.

A copy of the surveymonkey.com questionnaire may be found in Appendix C.

1.10 RISK ASSESSMENT

44 CFR 201.6(c) Plan Content. The plan shall include the following: (2) A risk assessment that provides the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Local risk assessments must provide sufficient information to enable the jurisdiction to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified hazards. The risk assessment shall include: (i) A description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction. The plan shall include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events.

44 CFR 201.6(c)(2)(iii) For multi-jurisdictional plans, the risk assessment section must assess each jurisdiction's risks where they vary from the risks facing the entire planning area.

As part of the mitigation planning effort, the hazards that could potentially impact jurisdictions in south Kansas were identified based on historical data, past occurrences, and local and regional knowledge. Identified hazards were then provided with a risk ranking using a weighted formula whose parameters included probability of occurrence, potential magnitude/severity of the event, event duration, warning time of occurrence.

Initially, participants of the kickoff meetings discussed hazard data sourced from their previous hazard mitigation plans and any recent regional hazard events. In general, participants were asked to consider:

- Previously identified mitigation plan hazards
- State of Kansas mitigation plan identified hazards
- FEMA identified hazards
- Recent hazard events, including declared disasters

Participants were encouraged to discuss past hazard events, including magnitude and severity, past impacts, and the future probability for all identified hazards. Based on this discussion, a comprehensive list of regional hazards was created. It should be noted that all discussed hazards did not warrant inclusion in the south Kansas Plan.

Finally, a data collection form to solicit and further develop the discussed hazards was provided to participants. Based upon the initial research, discussion held during the kickoff meetings, information obtained from the data collection forms, additional research, and subsequent discussion with HMPC members, a complete profile was developed for each selected hazard, and each hazard was assigned a risk ranking. HMPC participants were asked to review the profiled and developed hazards at the second planning meeting to further refine the information.

Further discussion of hazards, and justification for hazard omission may be found in Section 3.

1.11 VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND LOSS ESTIMATION

44 CFR 201.6(c)(2)(ii) A description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section. This description shall include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community. All plans approved after October 1, 2008 must also address NFIP insured structures that have been repetitively damaged by floods. The plan should describe vulnerability in terms of: (A) The types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas; (B) An estimate of the potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures identified in paragraph (c)(2)(ii)(A) of this section and a description of the methodology used to prepare the estimate; (C) Providing a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions.

As part of the information collection process, participating jurisdictions created an inventory of assets that could be potentially impacted by identified hazards, including a total number, identified values and potential losses, and development trends if available. Based on the gathered information an south Kansas assets at risk inventory was created.

Identified assets include:

- Critical facilities
- Critical infrastructure
- Historic structures and locations
- Economic assets
- Vulnerable populations
- Special needs populations

Further discussion of vulnerabilities and loss may be found throughout the Plan.

1.12 CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

A capability assessment was conducted to determine the abilities, policies, and available resources of local and regional jurisdictions to implement mitigation actions. The following information was researched as part of the capability assessment:

- Existing and proposed local and regional ordinances, regulations, and policies
- Active and proposed plans related to mitigation planning, regional and local planning
- Current and proposed public outreach measures and programs
- Available personnel
- Available resources, including technological capabilities
- Available financial resources related to mitigation activities

Additionally, this assessment assisted in identifying any roadblocks, limitations or conflicts that could potentially obstruct mitigation actions and in identifying those activities that could be enhanced to further mitigation goals.

Further discussion of regional capabilities may be found in Section 4.

1.13 DEVELOPMENT OF MITIGATION GOALS

44 CFR 201.6(c)(3) A mitigation strategy that provides the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools. This section shall include: (i) A description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.

Based upon the developed regional hazards the HMPC and participating jurisdictions were asked during the second planning meeting to assist in developing a set of goals related to future hazard event outcomes. Research conducted prior to the meeting provided participants with a list of goals from previous planning efforts as a starting point for development. In general, the goals and objectives of this Plan are to:

- **Goal 1:** Reduce and/or eliminate the risk to the people and property of south Kansas from the identified hazards in this plan.
- **Goal 2:** Strive to protect all of the vulnerable populations, structures, and critical facilities in south Kansas from the impacts of the identified hazards.
- **Goal 3:** Improve public outreach initiatives to include education, awareness and partnerships with all willing entities in order to enhance understanding of the risks south Kansas faces due to the impacts of the identified hazards.
- **Goal 4:** Enhance communication and coordination among all agencies and between agencies and the public.

The above identified goals are discussed in detail in Section 5 of this Plan.

1.14 DEVELOPMENT OF MITIGATION ACTIONS

44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(ii) A section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure. All plans approved by FEMA after October 1, 2008, must also address the jurisdiction's participation in the NFIP, and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate. (iii) An action plan describing how the actions identified in paragraph (c)(3)(ii) of this section will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction. Prioritization shall include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of the proposed projects and their associated costs. (iv) For multi-jurisdictional plans, there must be identifiable action items specific to the jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval or credit of the plan.

To accomplish the above identified goals, the HMPC has developed a list of robust and achievable mitigation actions for each participating jurisdiction that address hazard vulnerabilities that exist today and in the foreseeable future.

The mitigation actions noted in this Plan include both structural and non-structural measures. Examples include:

- Requiring resistant new construction
- Relocation of structures
- Structural modification
- Construction of shelters
- Construction of barrier, deflection, or retention systems
- Detection and warning systems
- Regulatory measures
- Community awareness and education programs
- Behavioral modification

Mitigation actions were prioritized by the responsible jurisdiction based on both historical and new information and jurisdictional capabilities.

A complete discussion of the development of mitigation actions can be found in Section 5.

1.15 DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH KANSAS MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

44 CFR 201.6(d) Plan review.(1) Plans must be submitted to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) for initial review and coordination. The State will then send the plan to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office for formal review and approval. Where the State point of contact for the FMA program is different from the SHMO, the SHMO will be responsible for coordinating the local plan reviews between the FMA point of contact and FEMA.

Information obtained from previous mitigation plans, research, meetings, data collection forms, conversations, and public input was used to complete a draft of the Plan. The Plan was made available online for review for public comment. Valid comments and suggestions received from stakeholders were integrated into the final Plan. The Plan was then submitted to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management SHMO for initial review. The SHMO then submitted the Plan to FEMA Region VII for review and approval

1.16 PLAN ADOPTION, REVIEW AND MAINTENANCE

44 CFR 201.6(c)(4) A plan maintenance process that includes: (i) A section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle. (ii) A process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate. (iii) Discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.

44 CFR 201.6(c)(5) Documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County Commissioner, Tribal Council). For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.

In order to have an approved hazard mitigation plan, DMA 2000 requires that each jurisdiction officially adopt the Plan. After FEMA Region VII review and Approval Pending Adoption status participating jurisdictions were tasked with formally adopting the Plan. Information concerning adoption dates and, if applicable, resolution number were presented in the Resolutions of Adoption section and copies of the resolutions are presented in Appendix A.

Prior the Plan adoption process, the HMPC developed a long-term maintenance strategy. This strategy is discussed in detail in Section 6.

1.17 PLANNING PROCESS PARTICIPATION

44 CFR 201.6(a)(4): Multi-jurisdictional plans may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as each jurisdiction has participated in the process and has officially adopted the plan.

1.17.1 BARBER COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Barber County	X	X	X
City of Hardtner	X	X	X
City of Hazelton	X	X	X
City of Isabel	X	X	X
City of Kiowa	X	X	X
City of Medicine Lodge	X	X	X
City of Sharon	X	X	X
City of Sun City	X	X	X
USD #254 - Barber County North	X	X	X
USD #255 - South Barber County	X	X	X
Barber County Water Districts (all)	X	X	X

1.17.2 BARTON COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Barton County	X	X	X
City of Albert	X	X	X
City of Claflin	X	X	X
City of Ellinwood	X	X	X
City of Galatia	X	X	X
City of Great Bend	X	X	X
City of Hoisington	X	X	X
City of Olmitz	X	X	X
City of Pawnee Rock	X	X	X
City of Susank	X	X	X
City of Pawnee Rock	X	X	X
City of Susank	X	X	X
USD #112 - Claflin	X	X	X
USD #355 - Ellinwood	X	X	X
USD #428 - Great Bend	X	X	X
USD #431 - Hoisington	X	X	X
Barton County Community College	X	X	X
Post Rock Rural Water District #1	X	X	X

1.17.3 COMANCHE COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Comanche County	X	X	X
City of Coldwater	X	X	X
City of Protection	X	X	X
City of Wilmore	X	X	X
USD#300 - Comanche County	X	X	X

1.17.4 EDWARDS COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Edwards County	X	X	X
City of Belpre	X	X	X
City of Kinsley	X	X	X
City of Lewis	X	X	X
City of Offerle	X	X	X
USD #347 - Kinsley / Offerle	X	X	X
USD #502 - Lewis	X	X	X

1.17.5 KIOWA COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Kiowa County	X	X	X
City of Greensburg	X	X	X
City of Haviland	X	X	X
City of Mullinville	X	X	X
USD #422 - Kiowa County	X	X	X
USD #474 - Haviland	X	X	X

1.17.6 PAWNEE COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Pawnee County	X	X	X
City of Burdett	X	X	X
City of Garfield	X	X	X
City of Larned	X	X	X
City of Rozel	X	X	X
USD #495 - Fort Larned	X	X	X
USD #496 - Pawnee Heights	X	X	X

1.17.7 PRATT COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Pratt County	X	X	X
City of Byers	X	X	X
City of Coats	X	X	X
City of Cullison	X	X	X
City of Iuka	X	X	X
City of Pratt	X	X	X
City of Preston	X	X	X
City of Sawyer	X	X	X
USD #382 - Pratt	X	X	X
USD #438 - Skyline Schools	X	X	X
Pratt Community College	X	X	X

1.17.8 STAFFORD COUNTY

	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Data Submission	Mitigation Action
Stafford County	X	X	X
City of Hudson	X	X	X
City of Macksville	X	X	X
City of Radium	X	X	X
City of Seward	X	X	X
City of St. John	X	X	X
City of Stafford	X	X	X
USD #349 - Stafford	X	X	X
USD #350 - St John/Hudson	X	X	X
USD #351 - Macksville	X	X	X

1.17.9 STAKEHOLDERS

The following list includes stakeholders involved in the planning process, including private, non-profit and charitable organizations.

Stakeholder	Meeting Attendance or Communication with HMPC Representative	Mitigation Action
Barber County		
Alfalfa REC	x	x
Ninnescah REC	x	x
South Pioneer REC	x	x
Barton County		
Arkansas Valley REC	x	x
Midwest Energy	x	x
Rolling Hills REC	x	x
Comanche County		
CMS Electrical Cooperative	x	x
Edwards County		
Midwest Energy	x	x
Pawnee County		
Midwest Energy	x	x
Pratt County		
Midwest Energy	x	x
Ninnescah REC	x	x
South Pioneer REC	x	x
American Red Cross	x	x
Stafford County		
Arkansas Valley REC	x	x
Midwest Energy	x	x

1.18 NON-PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS

All previously participating jurisdictions participated in this planning effort.