

**Madison County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan Meeting Notes  
August 20, 2009, 5:00-6:00 p.m. in Ennis, Montana**

*Attendees:*

- John Bancroft            Ennis Town Council
- John Clark                Ennis Town Council
- Christine Durham        Public Health Nurse, Madison County  
                                  Ennis Citizen
- Ralph Hernandez        Mayor, Town of Ennis
- Patty Mayne              Citizen
- Christopher Mumme     Director, Madison County Emergency Management
- Jenifer McPhetres      Ennis Town Council
- Scott Newell             Chief, Ennis Police Department
- Pam Shrauger            Consultant, Big Sky Hazard Management LLC

*Plan Review:*

Hard copies of the draft plan are available in each of the town offices, the County Commissioners' office, and the County Emergency Management office. The plan is also online at <http://www.bigskyhazards.com/draftplans.asp> and sections can be read, downloaded, or printed. The comments deadline is September 15, 2009. Comments can be sent to: Pam Shrauger, [pam@bigskyhazards.com](mailto:pam@bigskyhazards.com), 406-581-4512, 4855 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Bozeman, MT 59715.

*Plan Highlights:*

A hazard mitigation plan is a federal requirement, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for each incorporated jurisdiction. Without an adopted and approved plan, the jurisdiction is not eligible to receive certain types of federal disaster mitigation assistance following a disaster. As additional incentive, each jurisdiction with an adopted and approved plan is eligible to apply for nationally competitive pre-disaster mitigation funds (talk to Christopher Mumme, Madison County Emergency Management, if you are interested in applying for a grant).

The Madison County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan/Program consists of five major components:

1. Planning Process
2. Assets and Community Inventory
3. Risk Assessment
4. Mitigation Strategy
5. Plan Implementation/Maintenance

*Risk Assessment Overview Comments/Discussion Items:*

- Additional information regarding at-risk intersections (pages 21-22 in the original plan) should be added to the hazardous material release hazard profile.
- The probability of a hazardous material release has increased since US Highway 191 was closed to truck traffic for construction. This closure should be lifted this fall, but hazardous materials are still restricted through Yellowstone National Park.
- Hazardous Material Release should be listed as high hazard for the Town of Ennis, perhaps between Severe Thunderstorm and Strong Wind and Flood. (This is also the case for Twin Bridges.)

*Mitigation Strategy Overview Comments/Discussion Items:*

- Add a project related to the Morris Creek diversion. This could prevent flooding in Ennis.
- Add a project related to improving signage (consider LED lights) for chain-up areas, especially for the Norris Hill.

- Add a project for metal, reflective signage along roadways showing address numbers at the driveway entrance.
- Add a project for highway signs and programming for the low-band radio in Ennis.
- Add a project for emergency sirens in Ennis.

*Next Steps:*

Following the public comment period, any comments received (including those received at this meeting) will be incorporated into the plan where applicable. Each jurisdiction will receive a mailing with any pages that were changed or added and a DVD containing electronic versions of the plan and other useful tools and information. The final plan will be sent to Montana Disaster and Emergency Services and then the Federal Emergency Management Agency for review and approval. During this time frame, the jurisdictions will be asked to adopt the plan by resolution (a sample resolution will be included on the DVD). The jurisdictions are encouraged to apply for grants and to implement or continue many of the activities listed in the plan. Annually, each jurisdiction should create a record of any disasters or mitigation activities occurring over the past year. These records should be sent to Christopher Mumme, Madison County Emergency Management. Every five years, the plan needs to be updated and resubmitted for approval.