

RED LAKE COUNTY

Mitigation Action Chart

#	Hazard	Mitigation Strategy	Mitigation Action	Status Priority Timeframe	Responsibility	Comments on Implementation & Integration	Possible Funding
1	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION Encourage all county residents to sign-up for the county's CodeRED Emergency Notification System.	Existing High Ongoing	Red Lake County Emergency Management (RLCEM)	Red Lake County maintains the CodeRED Emergency Notification System which allows residents and visitors to sign up ("opt-in") to receive severe weather alerts targeted to their location, along with other local emergency alerts. A link to sign up for the system is located on the Red Lake County Sheriff's Office website page.	Red Lake County
2	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	EOP PLANNING Ensure the county's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is updated and addresses policies & procedures needed to support EM functions prior to, during, and following a disaster.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM	The Red Lake County EOP is updated on a regular basis and addresses functions that dually support mitigation and response for natural disasters, including public information and warning, operational coordination, mass care sheltering, evacuation, and access to resources.	Red Lake County
3	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	PLANS, POLICIES & CODES Adopt and enforce plans, policies, and building codes that reduce risk against future natural hazard events.	Existing High Ongoing	RLC Envr. Services., RLC Hwy. Dept, in coord with Red Lake SWCD	Red Lake County departments continue to implement and enforce plans, policies, and codes that address risk reduction for natural hazards, including the Red Lake County floodplain ordinance, subdivision ordinance, shoreland regulations, 5-year transportation plan, building permits and codes for new development, and the Minnesota State Buffer Law.	Red Lake County

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4	All-Hazards	Local Planning & Regulations	REGIONAL PLANNING Participate in regional planning and project efforts that address risk reduction to natural hazard events and improve shared mitigation capabilities.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM, other county depts.	Red Lake County continues to work with key partners on shared efforts that help to mitigate damage from future hazard events, such as flood risk reduction projects, public outreach and education, and regional watershed planning. Long-term active partnerships are in place with the Grand Forks NWS, Red Lake SWCD, NRCS, area watershed organizations, as well MN HSEM Region 4 Emergency Managers.	Red Lake County, other agencies & organizations

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5	All-Hazards	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	VULNERABLE POPULATIONS Work in partnership with key partners on efforts to reduce risk to and benefit underserved communities or socially vulnerable populations within the county from the impacts of future natural hazard events.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM, RLC Public Health, RLC Social Services	RLCEM continues to strengthen collaboration with RLC Public Health and RLC Social Services on preparedness outreach and public education to maximize reaching the public with key information. RLCEM, RLCPH, and RLCS work with local governments, school districts, hospitals, mobile home park (MHP) operators, long-term care and childcare facilities, MN Dept. of Health, American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army on emergency preparedness efforts that benefit those considered to be more vulnerable in the county from severe weather or extreme temperature events. This includes the elderly, disabled, students, and low-income residents. Example efforts include provision of energy assistance programs during periods of extreme cold, evacuation & shelter planning for long-term care facilities and MHP's, and delivery of education and awareness information in different formats. RLCEM and RLC GIS maintain data on location of vulnerable facilities which is incorporated in EM planning.	Red Lake County, other agencies & organizations

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6	All-Hazards	Education & Awareness Programs	OUTREACH & EDUCATION Inform and educate residents through outreach and education programs to increase awareness and preparedness for severe weather events, periods of extreme cold, and extended power outages.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM	RLCEM utilizes the RLCEM website page, the RLC Sheriff's Office Facebook page, and local news media to communicate with residents, visitors, schools, and long-term care facilities on emergency preparedness, severe weather, and other hazard conditions throughout the year. Red Lake County Public Health also helps to support preparedness outreach and public education using their communication platforms. RLCEM also participates in the NWS annual Winter Hazard Awareness Week and Severe Weather Awareness Week each November and April.	Red Lake County
7	Severe Winter Storms	Local Planning & Regulations	SNOW & ICE CONTROL Implement snow removal and ice control to ensure the safety of county roads impacted by winter storms.	Existing High Ongoing	Red Lake County Hwy. Dept.	The RLC Highway Department is responsible for the removal of snow and ice control for county roads, as well as some city and township roads based upon agreement. The department completes its snow removal process in accordance with the RLC Hwy Department Snow Removal Policy. MNDOT removes snow from State Highways as well as disperses salt/sand as needed.	Red Lake County
8	Severe Summer Storms	Education & Awareness Programs	SKYWARN TRAINING Work with the National Weather Service (NWS) to provide SkyWarn training and develop a network of trained Storm Spotters throughout the county.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM in coord with NWS	RLCEM works with the NWS to offer this training on an annual basis to local fire and law enforcement departments and local residents that wish to be trained as spotters.	National Weather Service

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9	Severe Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS Ensure outdoor warning sirens are located where needed and functioning properly.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	Red Lake County Emergency Management and Red Lake County Sheriff's Office work in conjunction with communities where sirens are located to test them and ensure they are functioning properly. RLCEM will work with communities to close any gaps in warning siren coverage. Finding funding for the implementation of outdoor warning sirens is a barrier. Outside grant funding is necessary and can be difficult to obtain. Grant funding may be available for warning sirens from the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Program.	Red Lake County & local jurisdictions
10	Severe Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	STORM SHELTERS / TORNADO SAFE ROOMS Coordinate with local jurisdictions to address the need for the construction of storm shelters or tornado safe rooms in areas where residents or visitors are vulnerable to high wind events, such as mobile home parks and campgrounds.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	RLCEM will assist any communities in their effort to assess and address the need for construction of a storm shelter or tornado safe room. Grant funding may be available for tornado safe rooms from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant program funding, based on application approval.	Red Lake County, Local Gov't, FEMA HMA
11	Severe Summer Storms	Local Planning & Regulations	MHP SAFETY Ensure that licensed manufactured home parks (MHP's) within the county meet the requirements of MN Statute 327.20 for shelters and evacuation plans.	Existing High Ongoing	RLC Public Health	RLC Public Health works in coordination with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) on this effort. Shelter and evacuation plans must be approved by the city or township in which they are located and submitted to the MDH.	Red Lake County, MDH

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12	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	POWERLINE RETROFITS Encourage municipal and rural electric coops to address burying powerlines or strengthening power poles to avoid power outages from high wind events and storms.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM, local jurisdictions in coord with electric utility providers	RLCEM works with our utility coops and local governments on these efforts as needed. FEMA HMA grant funding may be a source for powerline infrastructure retrofits that eligible rural and municipal electric coops can apply for.	Electric Coops, FEMA HMA
13	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	GENERATOR BACKUPS Work with county departments and local jurisdictions to obtain generator backup power where needed for extended power outages due to storms.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLCEM in coord with county depts and local jurisdictions	RLCEM continues to work with county departments and local jurisdictions to secure portable or permanent backup generators to power critical facilities during extended power outages. County and local government funding to purchase generators is limited and obtaining generators can be a slow process. Where applicable, FEMA HMA grant funding may be applied for generators.	Red Lake County, Local Gov't, FEMA HMA
14	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Mitigation Preparedness & Response Support	SEVERE WEATHER PLANS Encourage schools and other facilities that house senior citizens or other vulnerable populations to have emergency plans in place to deal with severe weather, extreme temperatures, and extended power outages.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLCEM in coord with local jurisdictions	RLCEM continues to work with local jurisdictions provide outreach to and support to schools and other facilities on emergency planning. Schools and long-term care (LTC) facilities are required to have such plans in place. RLCEM provides direct training or planning assistance as requested.	Red Lake County, Schools, LTC Facilities
15	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Local Planning & Regulations	BUILDING SAFETY Ensure that new development projects follow state building codes in order to withstand the impacts of severe weather events, including roof collapse from heavy snow or damages from high wind events.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLC Envr. Services	Red Lake County Environmental Services enforces the MN State Building Code when issuing building permits for new development.	Red Lake County

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16	Severe Winter & Summer Storms	Natural Systems Protection	VEGETATION MANAGEMENT Manage trees and other vegetation along roads from severe storm events to reduce risk to passing motorists.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLC Highway Dept., Local Utility Providers	The Red Lake County Highway Department regularly conducts vegetation management along county roads to reduce the risk of downed trees or branches resulting from severe spring and summer storm events. Local utility providers also work to manage vegetation near power lines to reduce the risk of downed lines and power outages.	County, Utilities
17	Extreme Cold Temps	Education & Awareness Programs	EXTREME COLD TEMPS PUBLIC OUTREACH Conduct public outreach and provide information to residents on safety measures when there are periods of extreme cold.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM	RLCEM works to share information received from the National Weather Service when periods of extreme cold are forecast and occurring. RLCEM utilizes the county EM website page, and Sheriff's Office Facebook page. Local radio and TV stations also provide this information to the public. School Districts have plans and policies in place for delaying or closing school to protect students from extreme temps.	Red Lake County

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18	Landslides	Natural Systems Protection	SHORELAND AND BLUFF SETBACK REQUIREMENTS Enforce Shoreland and Bluff setbacks requirements are enforced to reduce risk where flooding or erosion could occur and increase risk for landslides.	New Moderate Ongoing	RLC Envr. Services	The Red Lake County Shoreland Program is administered by the Red Lake County SWCD Office. The RLC Shoreland Ordinance establishes regulations for land use near shorelands including stormwater management and setback requirements. Conditional uses allowable within shoreland areas are subject to review and approval procedures by the county's Environmental Services Department. The RLC Shoreland Ordinance 2018 Amendment was approved by the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners on November 27, 2018.	Red Lake County
19	Landslides	Natural Systems Protection	PROPERTY BUYOUTS Address areas of landslide concern in the city of Red Lake Falls and Red Lake Falls Township.	In-Progress High 2024-2029	RLCEM, RLC Envr. Services in coord with Local Gov't	Red Lake County has submitted an application for hazard mitigation funding to possibly buy out some properties in the city of Red Lake Falls and Red Lake Falls Township. As of 2023 this is still in process.	Red Lake County, City of RLF, RLF Township, FEMA HMA
20	Landslides	Local Planning & Regulations	MN STATE BUFFER LAW Enforce requirements of the MN State Buffer Law to help reduce impacts of erosion in areas that may be susceptible to landslides.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLC Envr. Services in coord with Red Lake SWCD	Red Lake County has adopted the requirements of the Minnesota Buffer Law. The purpose and intent of the law is to protect state water resources from erosion and runoff pollution; to stabilize soils, shores and banks; and to protect or provide riparian corridors. The Buffer Law Program is administered by the Red Lake County SWCD Office. Enforcement the Buffer Law Program is handled by the Red Lake County Environmental Services Department.	Red Lake County, Red Lake SWCD

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21	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and enforce policies that address development in high-risk flood areas.	Existing High Ongoing	RLC Envr. Services	Red Lake County has FEMA Mapped High Risk Areas and participates in the NFIP. Initial entry date into the program was 07/02/1987. The RLC Floodplain Ordinance (2021) establishes the flood plain district and zoning regulations and conditional uses permitted within the floodway, flood fringe, and general floodplain districts. The Environmental Services Department maintains and enforces the floodplain management ordinance for the county.	Red Lake County
22	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations / Structure & Infrastructure Projects	LOCALIZED FLOOD RISK REDUCTION Plan for and implement measures to address localized flood reduction projects for roads, bridges, and culverts throughout the county.	Existing High Ongoing	RLC Hwy. Dept.	The RLC Highway Department is responsible for engineering, design, reconstruction and repair of roads, bridges, and culverts throughout Red Lake County. This department develops a 5-year construction plan that identifies and schedules road improvement projects that include measures for flood mitigation. The RLC Highway Department works in coordination with cities and township local governments and public works departments to plan for and implement local improvement projects.	Red Lake County

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23	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	WATERSHED PLANNING Work with area watershed organizations to address mitigation plans and projects that address risk reduction for localized flooding and erosion.	Existing High Ongoing	RLCEM in coord with Watershed Districts, Red Lake SWCD	Red Lake County participates in regional watershed planning and has adopted the Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan and the Clearwater River One Watershed One Plan. The plans bring together neighboring counties, SWCDs, and the Red Lake Watershed District to develop a comprehensive plan that aligns the local water planning process on major watershed boundaries. The 7 local units of government involved include Red Lake County, Polk County, Pennington County, Red Lake County SWCD, West Polk SWCD, Pennington SWCD, and the Red Lake River Watershed District.	Red Lake County, Watershed Orgs., Red Lake SWCD
24	Flooding	Local Planning & Regulations	PROPERTY BUYOUTS Conduct property buyouts to acquire homes affected by repetitive flooding and physically relocate or remove those homes to eliminate future flood damages.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLCEM	There are properties in the City of Red Lake Falls and Red Lake Falls Township which are adjacent to the Clearwater River and have homes that are shifting due to erosion from high rain events. Red Lake County has submitted an application for hazard mitigation funding to possibly buy out some properties. As of 2023 this is still in process. In the last 20 years, Red Lake County has conducted two rounds of property buyouts for flood prone properties. Approximately 5 to 10 properties were bought out during that time. Future property buyouts will be considered as necessary.	Red Lake County, FEMA HMA

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25	Flooding	Natural Systems Protection	RUNOFF STORAGE AND RESTORATION PROJECTS Conduct floodplain and stream corridor restoration in areas that are impacted by high rain events.	Existing Moderate Ongoing	RLC Envr. Services in coord with Red Lake SWCD and other watershed groups	RLC Environmental Services works in coordination with the Red Lake SWCD and area watershed districts on flood diversion and storage projects as needed for projects included in the Red Lake River One Watershed One Plan and the Clearwater River One Watershed One Plan. FEMA HMA grant funding may be sought for future eligible projects in the future.	Red Lake County, Watershed Districts, FEMA HMA
26	Dam/Levee Failure	Structure & Infrastructure Projects	DAM & LEVEE SAFETY Work with the MN DNR Dam Safety program to address any dams or levees that require repair.	Existing Low Ongoing	MN DNR	Red Lake County continues to be available to work with the MN DNR on any issues that may arise with these structures within the county. There are no high hazard potential dams within the county.	MN DNR