

## 10. ENHANCED STATE MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS

### 10.1. ENHANCED SHMP COMPONENT CONSIDERATIONS

The 2018 SHMP update activity was unable to support §201.5 *Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan (eSHMP)* compliance. However, future SHMP updates should consider developing this section to “enhance” state mitigation benefits.

*A State with a FEMA approved Enhanced State Mitigation Plan (eSHMP) at the time of a disaster declaration is eligible to receive increased funds under the HMGP, based on twenty percent of the total estimated eligible Stafford Act disaster assistance [vs current 15 percent]. The Enhanced State Mitigation Plan must demonstrate that a State has developed a comprehensive mitigation program, that the State effectively uses available mitigation funding, and that **it is capable of managing the increased funding** [emphasis added]. In order for the State to be eligible for the 20 percent HMGP funding, FEMA must have approved the plan within 5 years prior to the disaster declaration.*

<b>3. ENHANCED STATE MITIGATION PLAN REGULATION CHECKLIST</b>	
REGULATION CHECKLIST – ENHANCED PLAN	
*M=MET; NM=NOT MET	
<b>ENHANCED (E) STATE MITIGATION PLAN</b>	
<b>Meet Standard State Mitigation Plan Elements</b>	
E1. Does the Enhanced plan include all elements of the standard state mitigation plan? [44 CFR §201.5(b)]	
<b>Integrated Planning</b>	
E2. Does the plan demonstrate integration to the extent practicable with other state and/or regional planning initiatives and FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(1)]	
<b>State Mitigation Capabilities</b>	
E3. Does the state demonstrate commitment to a comprehensive mitigation program? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(4)]	
E4. Does the enhanced plan document capability to implement mitigation actions? [44 CFR §§201.5(b)(2)(i), 201.5(b)(2)(ii), and 201.5(b)(2)(iv)]	
E5. Is the state effectively using existing mitigation programs to achieve mitigation goals? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(3)]	



3. Enhanced State Mitigation Plan Regulation Checklist (Continued)

REGULATION CHECKLIST – ENHANCED PLAN  
\*M=MET; NM=NOT MET

*Note: The following provides considerations as to how the SHMP could fulfill “Enhanced SHMP” criteria.*

**Integrated Planning**

E2. Does the plan demonstrate integration to the extent practicable with other state and/or regional planning initiatives and FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(1)]

Describe how the SHMP is integrated to the extent practicable with other state and/or regional planning initiatives as well as FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives that provide guidance to state and regional agencies.

**Does the State Mitigation Action Plan fulfill these criteria?**

**Describe how SHMAC agencies “integrate” SHMP precepts into their regulations, policies, and procedures?**

**State Mitigation Capabilities**

E3. Does the state demonstrate commitment to a comprehensive mitigation program? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(4)]

Describe how the SHMP integrates, to the extent practicable, within DHS&EM’s as well as other state and/or regional agencies planning initiatives and FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives?

DHS&EM’s mitigation staff provides the following; demonstrating their capability to efficiently and effectively manage the State’s mitigation program. Their staff’s initiatives fulfill federal regulatory funding criteria, ensures mitigation measure cost effectiveness analyzes project Benefit versus Cost (B/C), effectively manages each disaster’s mitigation grant programs, prepares and *submits accurate environmental reviews*, and submits complete, accurate, and timely quarterly progress and financial reports.

**DHS&EM:**

- \* PDM coordinator reviews and coordinates potential application reviews with FEMA Region X mitigation staff to confirm cost effectiveness.
- \* SHMO coordinates B/C verification to ensure projects proposed for FEMA/State submittals fulfill regulatory criteria as defined within the State Hazard Mitigation Assistance Management Plan developed for each disaster declaration.
- \* Mitigation staff and DHS&EM grants staff coordinate preparing and submitting complete, accurate, and timely quarterly progress and financial reports.
- \* Complete mitigation grant project financial reconciliations, within established performance periods



**State Mitigation Capabilities**

E4. Does the enhanced plan document capability to implement mitigation actions? [44 CFR §§201.5(b)(2)(i), 201.5(b)(2)(ii), and 201.5(b)(2)(iv)]

Assess completed mitigation actions, document each mitigation action's or initiative's effectiveness (i.e., its actual avoided cost)

**Need support information**

Demonstrate the State's commitment to mitigation through legislation initiatives, mitigation councils, review boards, and with private public partnerships.

- \* The State Hazard Mitigation Advisory Committee (SHMAC) reviews and assists DHS&EM with reviewing and prioritizing hazard mitigation projects and initiatives
- \* Depending on jurisdiction capability and small and impoverished community status, the State provides the local cost share for HMGP projects and initiatives. However, the State does not currently provide cost sharing for PDM or FMA projects or initiatives.

**State Mitigation Capabilities**

E5. Is the state effectively using existing mitigation programs to achieve mitigation goals? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(3)]

Describe how the State effectively use existing mitigation programs to achieve its mitigation goals.

- \* The DHS&EM staff collects potential projects requests from eligible applicants with current FEMA-approved HMPs
- \* The SHMAC reviews and prioritizes local jurisdictions mitigation grant program ideas and applications to determine whether they fulfill community needs and meet agency area specific mitigation initiatives"

Describe how the State is committed to a comprehensive state mitigation program by providing workshops and training, State planning grants, improving local community capability by training or certifying local officials in Emergency Management and Floodplain Management positions such as:

- \* DHS&EM organizes a Semi-Annual Emergency Management Conference that invites EMPG communities to a regionally selected location for subject-specific training opportunities

Describe how the State provides a portion of the non-Federal match for mitigation projects.

- \* The Alaska governor currently authorizes Disaster Fund distributions for approved FEMA HMGP planning and project grant's 25 percent non-federal cost share.
- \* The DHS&EM director assists small and impoverished community by requesting the FEMA Region 10 administrator authorize a waiver from paying the normal HMGP 25 percent non-federal cost share to a reduced 10 percent cost share.
- \* To the extent allowed by state law, the State requires or encourages local governments to use a current version of a nationally applicable model building code or standard that addresses natural hazards as a basis for design and construction of State-sponsored mitigation projects.
- \* The State Fire Marshal's Office enforces State Building Code compliance only in large



jurisdictions There are too few staff to conduct inspections for all remote/rural communities. However, all federally funded projects are required to meet applicable federal building and infrastructure code compliance

- \* Follows a comprehensive, multi-year plan to mitigate necessary and essential infrastructure for post-disaster response and recovery operations.
- \* DHS&EM mitigation staff maintains a statewide list of local and tribal mitigation plan status, communication with SHMAC state agency membership, and local jurisdictions to determine mitigation project needs.

***Is this statement true? (Need support information)***

Provide a comprehensive description of how the State integrates mitigation into its post-disaster recovery operations.

- \* SHMP defines how state agencies as well as DHS&EM Response, Recovery, and Mitigation projects and initiatives integrate and supports fund expenditures by projecting and reviewing projected cost avoidance.
- \* DHS&EM reviews and revises its SHMP to reflect changes in plan development, progress in statewide mitigation efforts, and priority changes
- \* As in the Standard SHMP, identifies agency and jurisdictional development changes and how they fulfill statewide mitigation initiatives, milestones, and priorities.

**HMA Grants Management Performance**

E6. With regard to HMA, is the state maintaining the capability to meet application timeframes and submitting complete project applications? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(2)(iii)(A)]

**HMA Grants Management Performance**

E7. With regard to HMA, is the state maintaining the capability to prepare and submit accurate environmental reviews and benefit-cost analyses? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(2)(iii)(B)]

**How will the State accomplish the environmental review processes in lieu of Region X?**

- Project applicants work concurrently with State and FEMA Region 10 to accomplish relevant environmental assessments.
- Will the State contract hire contractors similar to their current hazard mitigation plan development contracts to assure the EAs fulfill FEMA criteria.
- \* The state does not currently prepare and submit environmental reviews but is seeking to prepare project RFPs to select contractors with this specific capability and capacity. Selected contractor(s) will then receive task orders to complete selected projects' environmental assessments, review for FEMA compliance, and ensure that associated projects will comply with environmental guidelines and criteria.
- \* The DHS&EM currently assists communities with project benefit-cost analysis (B/CA).



**HMA Grants Management Performance**

E8. With regard to HMA, is the state maintaining the capability to submit complete and accurate quarterly progress and financial reports on time? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(2)(iii)(C)]

- \* Mitigation staff and DHS&EM grants staff coordinate preparing and submitting complete, accurate, and timely quarterly progress and financial reports.
- \* Complete mitigation grant project financial reconciliations, within established performance periods.

**HMA Grants Management Performance**

E9. With regard to HMA, is the state maintaining the capability to complete HMA projects within established performance periods, including financial reconciliation? [44 CFR §201.5(b)(2)(iii)(D)]

**Mitigation Policies, Programs, and Capabilities regarding compliance, monitoring and audits:**

**Internal Division**

DHS&EM Mitigation Section and Grants Section staff monitors each HMGP and PDM project award along with the HMGP disaster or PDM funding cycle funding the projects. This is done through the following:

Division quarterly project reports.

Program check lists, funding and performance data-base tracking within the division and with the Division of Administrative Services.

The Division also provides a Sub-grantees Handbook via the division website.

**State**

The State of Alaska, Inspector General’s Office auditors perform annual or as-needed program and grant audits to ensure compliance and Single Audit Act reporting.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) – The division, through the Division of Administrative Services reports all federal funding awards into the FFATA website for public visibility of federal funds.

**Federal**

FEMA, Region 10 Grants Program Division conducts annual monitoring visits on each HMGP and PDM project award along with the HMGP disaster or PDM funding cycle funding the projects. FEMA audits are conducted on an as-needed basis. FEMA compliance and audit reports are provided to the division following each monitoring or audit.



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