

Fire Safety Outage Management

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Why we're here

Today

- Risk studies overview
- Plan overview
- Board head nod to develop plan with emergency response, telecom partners

April 19

- Board check-in with feedback from emergency response partners
- Public outreach to follow

June 1

- Board check-in with public feedback
- Board review regarding plan implementation

Situational awareness

Known risk factors:

- More extreme weather patterns
- Development in wildland urban interface
- Limited clearance for tree trimming
- Declining forest health
- Legal precedent



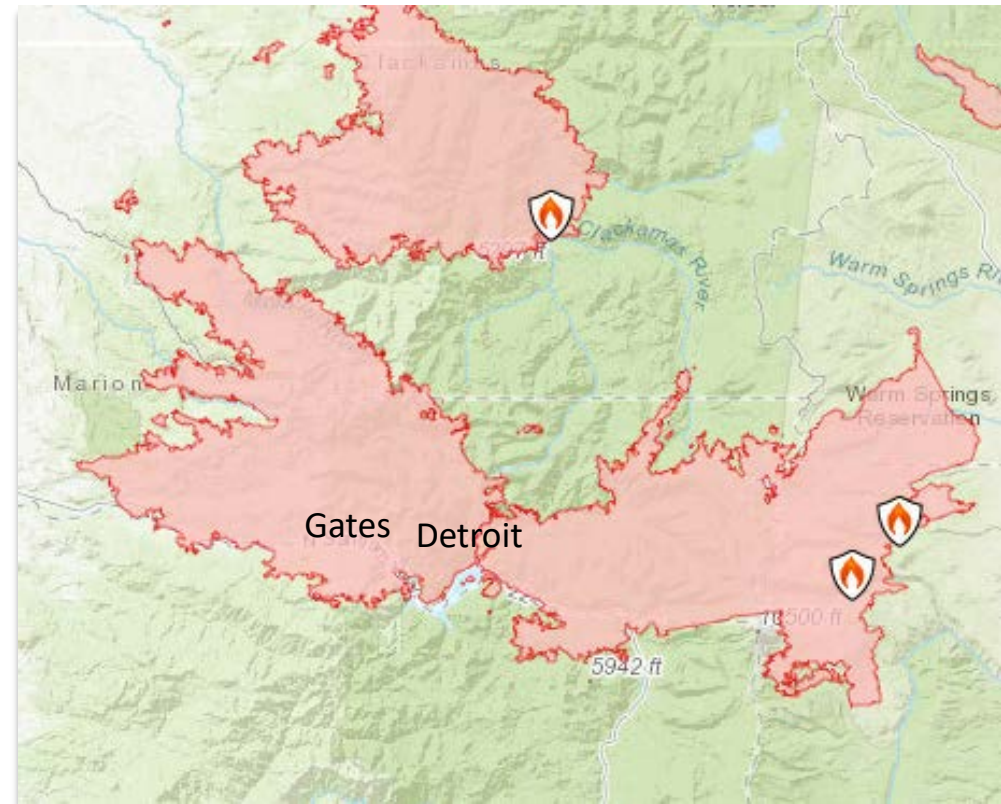
Case studies

Camp Fire 2018



PHOTO: AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Labor Day 2020





THE POWER OF BEING PREPARED

What is a Public Safety Power Shutoff?

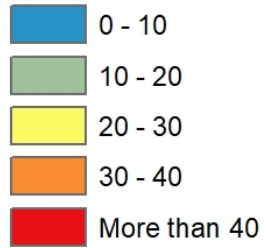
In order to keep communities safe, your local energy company may need to turn off power during extreme weather or wildfire conditions. This is called a Public Safety Power Shutoff.


Best practices

- Significant investments in information technology
- Significant public outreach before, during and after
- Investments in mitigation
- Investments in fire hardening
- Investments in meteorology equipment, staff, control center for fire monitoring and management

Risk assessments

Impacted Structures



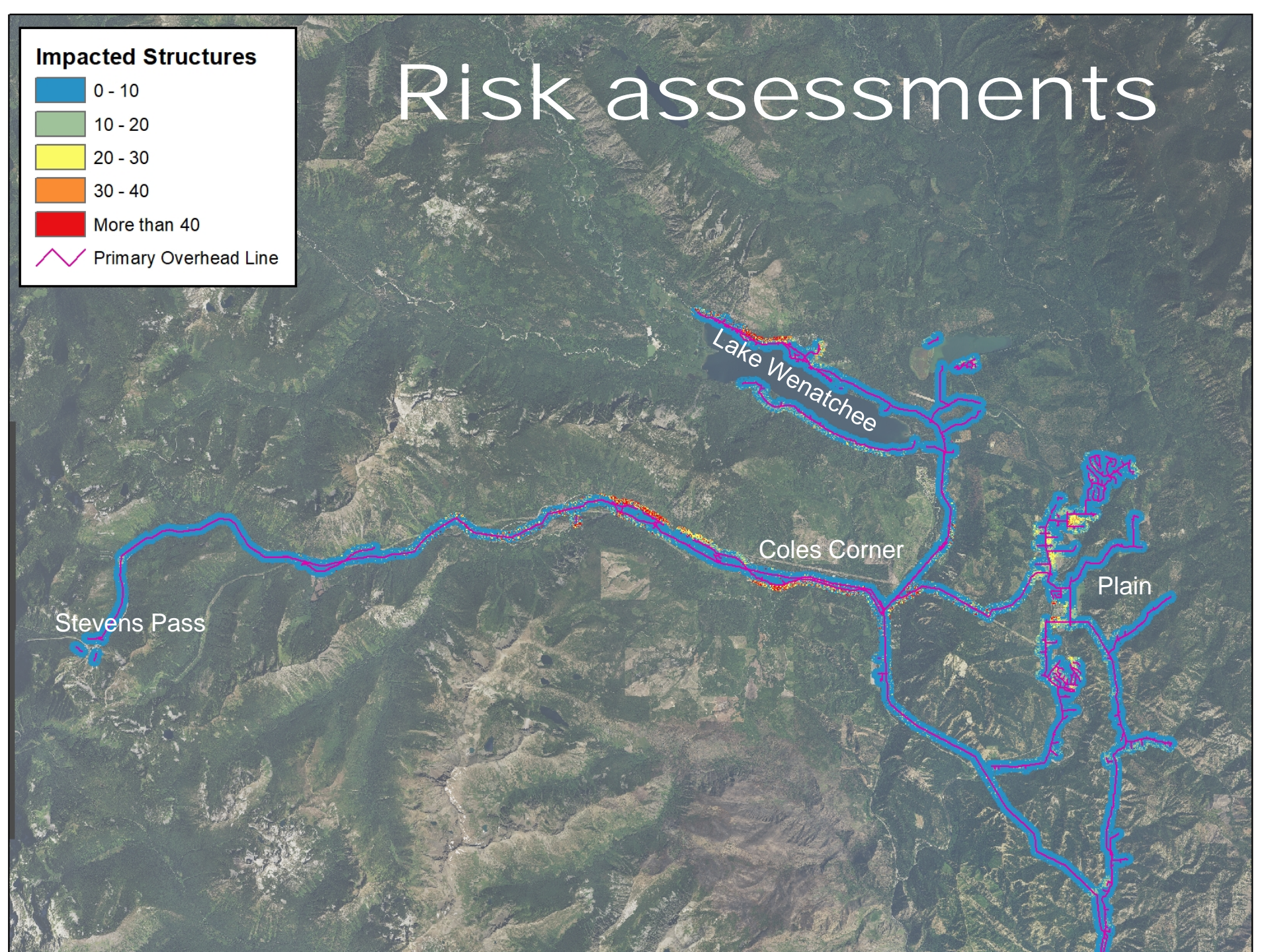
 Primary Overhead Line

Stevens Pass

Lake Wenatchee

Coles Corner

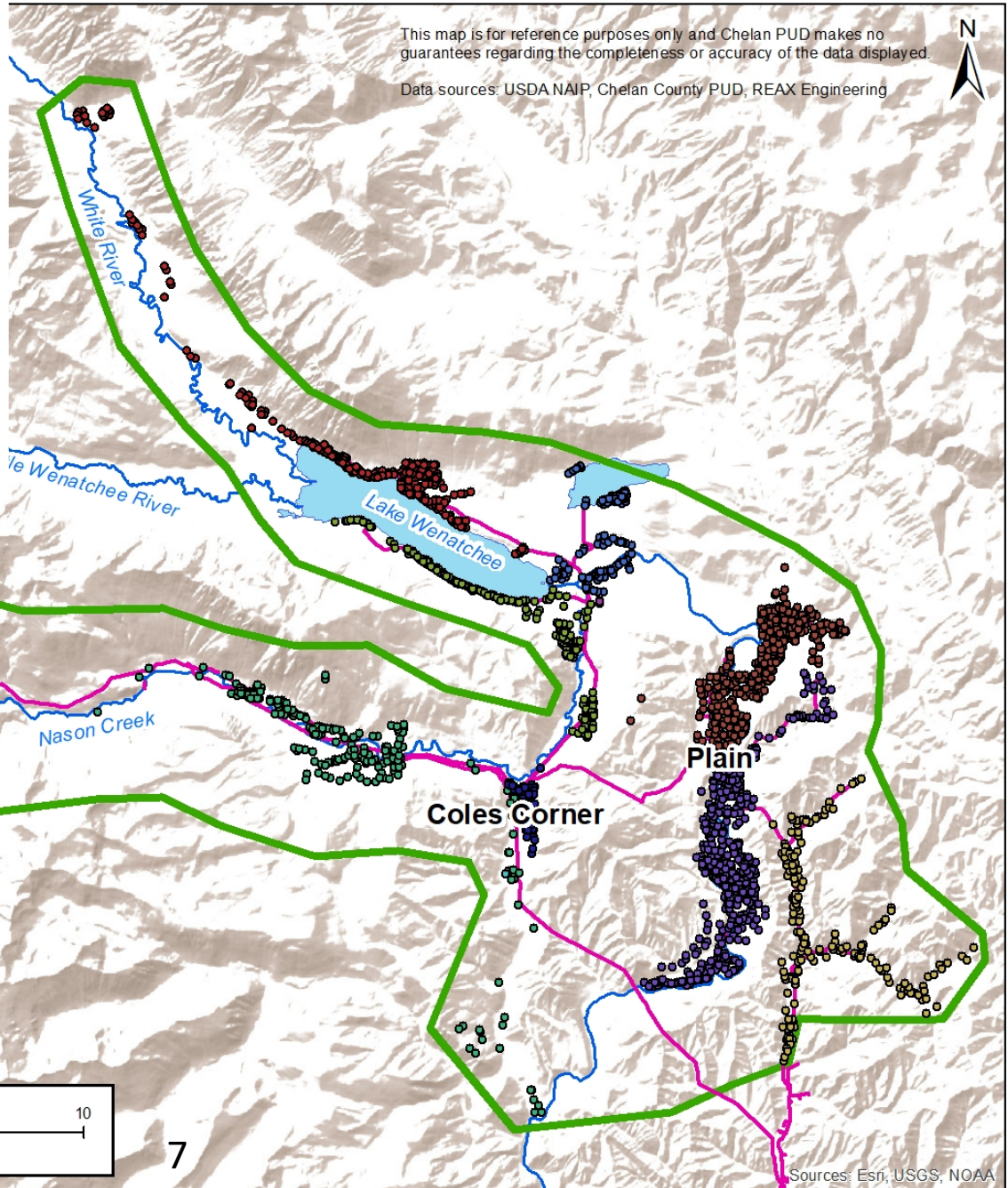
Plain



Phase I area

3,900 meters

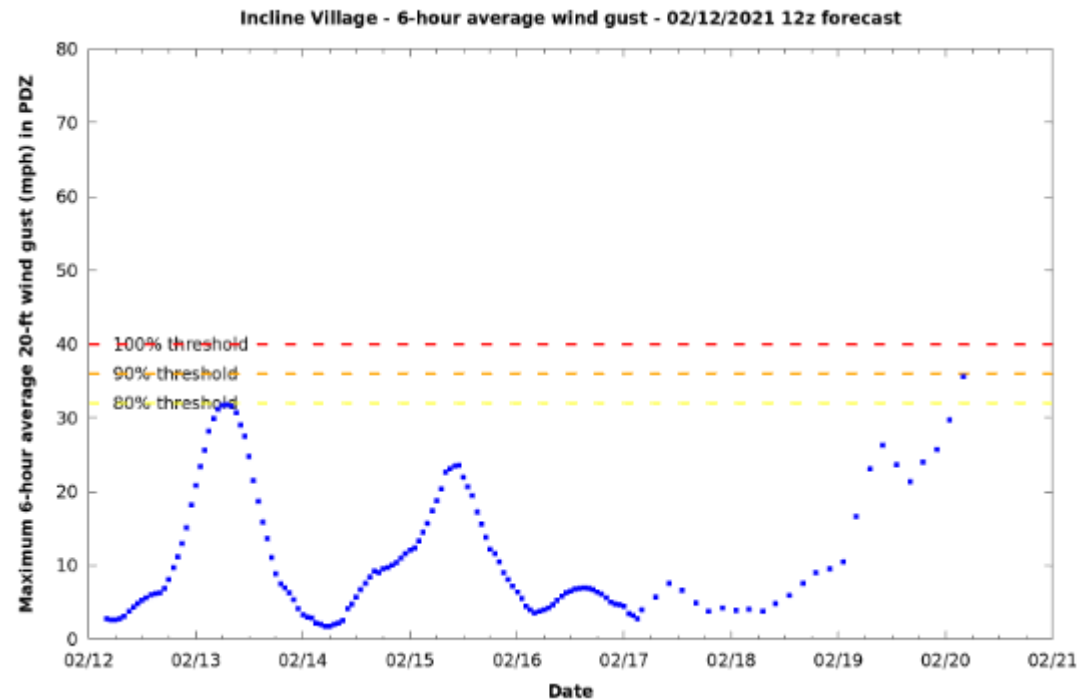
- Phase I area boundary
- Primary overhead lines
- Rivers
- Transformers color-coded by feeder



What is fire outage management?

Purpose: To protect people and property by decreasing the risk of wildfire ignitions from utility infrastructure.

- Based on a set of decision thresholds (wind, dry fuel load) that indicate extreme fire weather
- Used as a last resort when the risks to public safety are greater than the benefits of providing power.
- Plan will focus on most vulnerable areas first
- Plan becomes a living document to refine with experience and new information



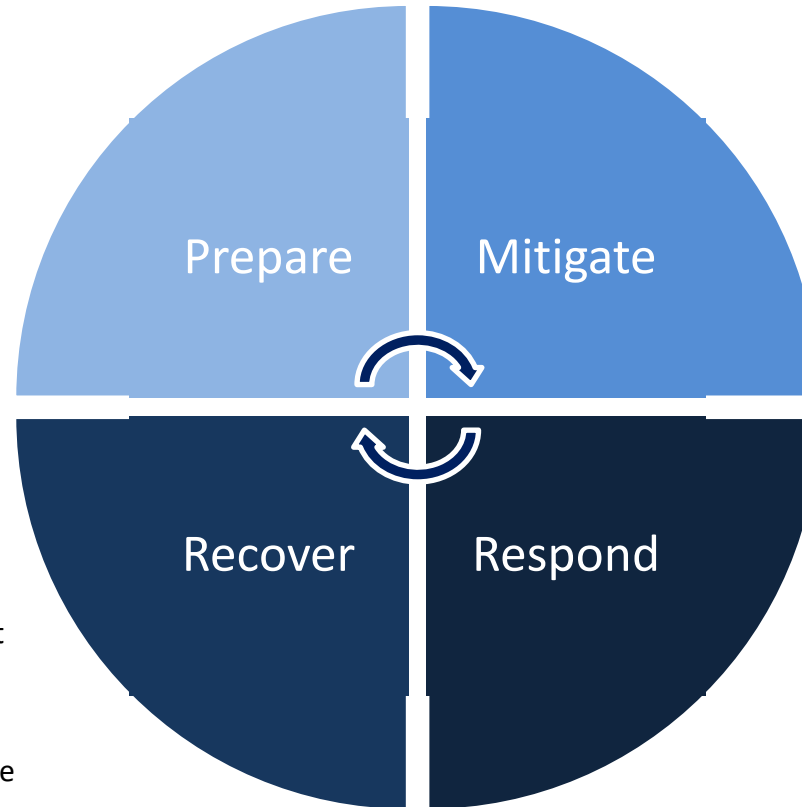
Developing the plan

PREPARE

- Wildfire mitigation plan
- Situational awareness
- Collaborating with emergency partners, including cell tower operators
- Annual awareness campaign

MITIGATE

- Address vulnerable population needs
- Update customer contact info
- Establish notification plan, build templates for quick response
- Consider customer resource center for extended outages



RECOVER

- Inspect lines after weather event
- Re-energize sections
- Draft incident report
- Debrief with emergency response partners and customers
- Continue to improve

RESPOND

- Implement Incident Command Structure
- Monitor situation for worsening or improving situation
- Activate communication protocols
- Activate de-energization protocols

Fire safety outage timeline

5-7 days ahead



Initial forecast

- Stand up Internal ICS
- Monitor weather patterns/thresholds
- Notify emergency response partners of developing conditions

3-4 days ahead



Watch

- Briefing with emergency response partners
- Prepare messaging, consider staffing up call center/dispatch

2 days ahead, repeat at 24 hours



Warning

- Continued briefings with emergency response partners
- Contact with Medline customers
- Calls to key accounts
- Notify all customers of Fire Safety Outage Warning
 - Website
 - Social
 - Readerboard(s)
 - Email
- Media advisory, press conference if necessary

Fire safety outage



Outage

- Continued briefings with emergency response partners
- Day-of notifications, with estimated outage time if available
 - Website
 - Social
 - Readerboard(s)
 - Email
- Media advisory

Inspection**



- Continued briefings with emergency response partners
- Notifications:
 - Website
 - Social
 - Readerboard(s)
 - Email
- Media advisory
- ** Inspection may take longer than the weather event itself.

Power restored



Restore

- Debrief with emergency response partners
- Notifications:
 - Website
 - Social
 - Readerboard(s)
 - Email
- Media advisory
- Debrief with impacted community

Project timeline

1

Initial Plan Draft

- 1.1 Define existing infrastructure and communities at risk
- 1.2 Review emergency operations plan
- 1.3 Compare best practices
- 1.4 Develop initial draft plan
- 1.5 Develop communications plan, send materials to production (website, maps, FAQ, talking points)

We are here

2

Engage Partners

- 2.1 Develop presentation
- 2.2 Identify emergency response and telecom partners
- 2.3 Identify partner agencies that represent vulnerable populations
- 2.4 Conduct outreach sessions
- 2.5 Compile feedback
- 2.6 Update plan
- 2.7 Report to board

March-early April

3

Public Outreach with Partners

- 3.1 Prepare public outreach presentation
- 3.2 Identify outreach session logistics (virtual, open house)
- 3.3 Conduct outreach sessions
- 3.4 Media outreach
- 3.5 Compile feedback
- 3.6 Update plan, communications materials

April-early May

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Executive Approval

- 4.1 Prepare final plan
- 4.2 Report to board
- 4.3 Revise plan as needed
- 4.4 If approved, conduct tabletop exercises and refine plan annually

June

What's next: Partner collaboration

A series of meetings with emergency response agencies:

- Collaborate on the plan, align with existing framework
- Define roles
- Align communication
- Encourage mutual aid

Discussion

