Annex F Alta Fire Protection District

F.1 Introduction

This is a new participating jurisdiction to the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan process.

This Annex details the hazard mitigation planning elements specific to the Alta Fire Protection District (Alta FPD), a participating jurisdiction to the Placer County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Update. This Annex is not intended to be a standalone document, but appends to and supplements the information contained in the base plan document. As such, all sections of the base plan, including the planning process and other procedural requirements apply to and were met by the District. This Annex provides additional information specific to the Alta FPD, with a focus on providing additional details on the risk assessment and mitigation strategy for this special district.

F.2 Planning Process

As described above, the District followed the planning process detailed in Section 3 of the base plan. In addition to providing representation on the Placer County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC), the District formulated their own internal planning team to support the broader planning process requirements. Internal planning participants, their positions, and how they participated in the planning process are shown in Table G-1. Additional details on plan participation and District representatives are included in Appendix A.

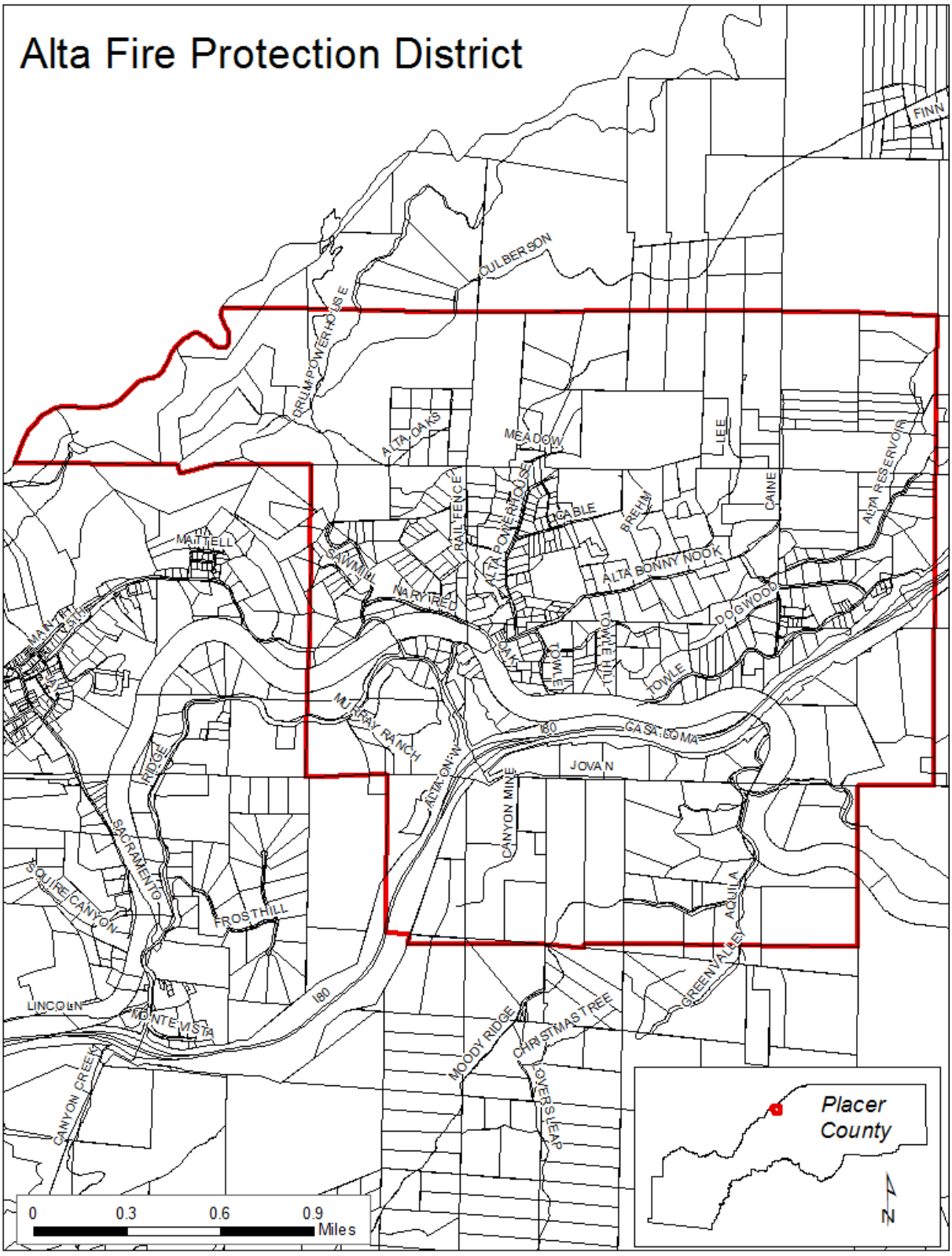
Table G-1 District Planning Team

Name	Position/Title	How Participated
Rich Thickens	Fire Chief	Attended meetings. Provided hazard identification table and updated hazard data. Provided new mitigation actions and updated old mitigation actions. Provided vulnerability and capability data.
Karen Calvert	Director – Alta Fire Protection District	Validated hazard identification table and data. Provided mitigation actions. Validated vulnerability and capability data.
Ed Snider	Alta Fire Protection District Board Member	Validated hazard identification table and data. Provided mitigation actions. Validated vulnerability and capability data.

F.3 District Profile

The Alta FPD service area is illustrated in Figure G-1.

Figure G-1 Alta Fire Protection District



Source: Alta FPD

F.3.1. District Information and Background

The Alta Fire Department formed in 1948 to provide fire protection and public safety services for the residents of Alta. The Alta FPD was established after an election of voters, within the boundaries of the proposed District, and by a resolution put forth by the Placer County Board of Supervisors in 1958 to administer and govern the business and affairs of the Alta Fire Department. The District is a California Independent Non-enterprise Special District governed by California Health and Safety Code, Section 13800-13970 et seq. (Cited as the Fire District Law of 1987).

The Alta FPD services a 4.12 square mile area that houses approximately 640 full time residents. The District services the community of Alta.

F.4 Hazard Identification and Summary

The District's planning team identified the hazards that affect the District and summarized their frequency of occurrence; spatial extent, potential magnitude, and significance specific to the District (see Table G-2).

Table G-2 Alta Fire Protection District Hazard Identification Table

Hazard	Geographic Extent	Probability of Future Occurrences	Magnitude/ Severity	Significance
Agricultural Hazards	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Avalanche	Limited	Unlikely	Limited	Low
Dam Failure	Limited	Occasional	Negligible	Low
Drought and Water Shortage	Extensive	Likely	Critical	High
Earthquake	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Flood: 100/500 year	Limited	Occasional	Negligible	Low
Flood: Localized Stormwater Flooding	Extensive	Highly Likely	Limited	Medium
Landslides and Debris Flows	Limited	Occasional	Limited	Medium
Levee Failure	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Seiche (Lake Tsunami)	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Severe Weather: Extreme Heat	Extensive	Highly Likely	Limited	Medium
Severe Weather: Freeze and Snow	Extensive	Highly Likely	Limited	Medium
Severe Weather: Fog and Freezing Fog	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Severe Weather: Heavy Rains and Storms (Thunderstorms/Hail, Lightning/Wind/Tornadoes)	Limited	Highly Likely	Negligible	Medium
Soil Bank Erosion	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Subsidence	Limited	Unlikely	Negligible	Low
Wildfire	Extensive	Highly Likely	Catastrophic	High
Hazardous Materials Transport	Extensive	Highly Likely	Critical	High

Geographic Extent
Limited: Less than 10% of planning area
Significant: 10-50% of planning area
Extensive: 50-100% of planning area

Probability of Future Occurrences
Highly Likely: Near 100% chance of occurrence in next year, or happens every year.
Likely: Between 10 and 100% chance of occurrence in next year, or has a recurrence interval of 10 years or less.
Occasional: Between 1 and 10% chance of occurrence in the next year, or has a recurrence interval of 11 to 100 years.
Unlikely: Less than 1% chance of occurrence in next 100 years, or has a recurrence interval of greater than every 100 years.

Magnitude/Severity
Catastrophic—More than 50 percent of property severely damaged; shutdown of facilities for more than 30 days; and/or multiple deaths
Critical—25-50 percent of property severely damaged; shutdown of facilities for at least two weeks; and/or injuries and/or illnesses result in permanent disability
Limited—10-25 percent of property severely damaged; shutdown of facilities for more than a week; and/or injuries/illnesses treatable do not result in permanent disability
Negligible—Less than 10 percent of property severely damaged, shutdown of facilities and services for less than 24 hours; and/or injuries/illnesses treatable with first aid

Significance
Low: minimal potential impact
Medium: moderate potential impact
High: widespread potential impact

F.5 Vulnerability Assessment

The intent of this section is to assess the District's vulnerability separate from that of the planning area as a whole, which has already been assessed in Section 4.3 Vulnerability Assessment in the main plan. This vulnerability assessment analyzes the population, property, and other assets at risk to hazards ranked of medium or high significance that may vary from other parts of the planning area. For more information about how hazards affect the County as a whole, see Chapter 4 Risk Assessment in the main plan.

F.5.1. Assets at Risk

This section considers the District's assets at risk, specifically critical facilities and infrastructure, natural resources, and growth and development trends. Table G-3 lists District assets identified by representatives from the District as important to protect in the event of a disaster.

Table G-3 Alta Fire Protection District—Critical Facilities, Infrastructure, and Other District Assets

Name of Asset	Facility Type	Address	Replacement Value	Hazard Info
Station 98	Fire Department	33950 Alta Bonnynook Rd Alta, CA 95701	$502,783	Wildfire Hazardous Materials spill zone for railroad
Alta-Dutch Flat Elementary School	School	34050 Alta Bonnynook Rd Alta, CA 95701		Wildfire, Landslide, Hazardous Material Spill Zone for Railroad
Sierra First Baptist Church	Religious / Historical	33990 Alta Bonnynook Rd Alta, CA 95701	$600,000	Wildfire, Hazardous Material Spill Zone for Railroad
Camp Alta	Religious / Historical	794 Alta Powerhouse Rd Alta, CA 95701	$2,000,000	Wildfire
Cal Fire Station 33	Fire Department	33752 Alta Forestry Rd Alta, CA 95701	$2,975,000	Wildfire, Hazardous Material Spill Zone for Railroad
Alta Powerhouse and Substation	Infrastructure – Historical	Alta Powerhouse Rd, Alta CA 95701	.	Oldest hydroelectric power-producing unit in the PG&E system, first produced electricity in 1902. Wildfire
PCWA Hydrants	Infrastructure / Water Supply	Various	>$2 million	Many structures protecting these are wooden, at risk in wildfire
Alta Powerhouse After-bay and Dam	Infrastructure / Water Supply	Alta Powerhouse Road	>$100 million	Failure would cause major flooding
Lake Alta	Recreation / Water	Alta Bonny Nook	Unknown	Public Water Supply

Name of Asset	Facility Type	Address	Replacement Value	Hazard Info
	Supply	Road		In Railroad Hazardous materials spill zone
Alta Reservoir	Infrastructure / Water Supply	Alta Reservoir Road	>$50 Million	Public Water Supply
PCWA Boardman Canal	Infrastructure / Water Supply	Canal Rd Alta CA 95701	>$20 million	Key component for PCWA raw water transportation system, runs from Alta to Rocklin
UP Railroad	Infrastructure / Commercial Corridor	Various	>$100 million	Hazardous / flammable materials transportation
Kinder Morgan Pipeline	Infrastructure / Critical Utility	Various	>$100 million	Hazardous/ flammable materials transportation
Interstate 80	Infrastructure / Commercial Corridor	Various	>$500 million	Critical primary ingress / egress access for multiple communities

It is important to note that there are several elderly, disabled, and low income people in the Alta community. In the case of a wildfire evacuation, these people may not have transportation. Likewise, in the event of a power outage during the winter months, these special populations may not be able to get to a shelter for warmth. Alta FPD has a Local Community Special Needs Citizen Network that is working to compile a database of these individuals.

Natural Resources

Population growth and development trends within District boundaries are covered in Section 4.3.2 of the main plan and in the individual annexes of the incorporated communities falling within the service area of the District.

Growth and Development Trends

Population growth and development trends within District boundaries are covered in Section 4.3.2 of the main plan and in the individual annexes of the incorporated communities falling within the service area of the District**.**

F.5.2. Estimating Potential Losses

This section provides the vulnerability assessment, including any quantifiable loss estimates, for those hazards identified above in Table G-2 as high or medium significance hazards. Impacts of past events and vulnerability of the District to specific hazards are further discussed below (see Section 4.1 Hazard Identification for more detailed information about these hazards and their impacts on the Placer County

Planning Area). Methodologies for calculating loss estimates are the same as those described in Section 4.3 of the base plan. In general, the most vulnerable structures are those located within the floodplain, in the wildland urban interface, other priority hazard areas, unreinforced masonry buildings, and buildings built prior to the introduction of modern building codes.

An estimate of the vulnerability of the District to each identified hazard, in addition to the estimate of risk of future occurrence, is provided in each of the hazard-specific sections that follow. Vulnerability is measured in general, qualitative terms and is a summary of the potential impact based on past occurrences, spatial extent, and damage and casualty potential. It is categorized into the following classifications:

- **Extremely Low**—The occurrence and potential cost of damage to life and property is very minimal to nonexistent.
- **Low**—Minimal potential impact. The occurrence and potential cost of damage to life and property is minimal.
- **Medium**—Moderate potential impact. This ranking carries a moderate threat level to the general population and/or built environment. Here the potential damage is more isolated and less costly than a more widespread disaster.
- **High**—Widespread potential impact. This ranking carries a high threat to the general population and/or built environment. The potential for damage is widespread. Hazards in this category may have occurred in the past.
- **Extremely High**—Very widespread with catastrophic impact.

Drought and Water Shortage

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Likely
Vulnerability–High

Drought is a significant hazard to this forested District. Recent years of drought stress have resulted in high mortality levels, leaving the forest susceptible to disease and insect infestation. As a result of recent drought conditions throughout California, infestations of the Pine Beetle are on the rise and pockets of mortality are rapidly spreading. Several areas within the District forests show signs of Pine Beetle and thus will become more vulnerable to wildfire. Drought conditions also may impact the water supply of people residing within District boundaries.

Flood: Localized Stormwater Flooding

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Highly Likely
Vulnerability–Medium

Heavy rains occur on an annual basis in the Alta FPD service area. Impacts to the area usually include mild flooding and damage to infrastructure roads. The District experiences localized flooding annually. Though a drought was affecting much of California, heavy rains caused mild to moderate damages in the area and increasing hazards on Highway 80, a critical commercial corridor that goes through the District.

Landslide and Debris Flows

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Occasional
Vulnerability–Medium

There have been landslides within the District, historically the E. Towle/W. Towle landslide which removed the historic town of Towle. Old historic underground mining operations have caused fatal events within the District as well. The combination of large underground spring water sources and abandoned unmapped mining tunnels are common within the district.

Severe Weather: Extreme Heat

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Highly Likely
Vulnerability–Medium

Extreme heat is a concern to the District. Extreme hot weather within the region, accompanies low humidity and increased risk of wildfire ignition and extreme fire behavior. Ignition potential is further increased due to critically low fuel moistures resulting from years of drought. Also vulnerable to the effects of extreme hot weather is the elderly population located within District boundaries. The District contains a significant elderly population, with some residing in homes that have not been sufficiently updated to protect against extreme temperatures.

Severe Weather: Freeze and Snow

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Highly Likely
Vulnerability–Medium

Freeze and snow is an annual occurrence within the District. This severe weather severely impacts the Highway 80 commercial corridor and compromises resident and emergency responder's ingress and egress. Infrastructure road surface damage and pavement deterioration are also concerns during winter. The elderly and special needs population located within District boundaries also require monitoring during severe weather episodes. The District contains a significant elderly population, with some residing in homes that have not been sufficiently updated to protect against extreme temperatures. The Districts newly formed CERT team trains specifically for cold weather events, staffing evacuation centers, traffic control and assisting with health and welfare checks on remote citizens within the community.

Severe Weather: Heavy Rains and Storms (Thunderstorms/Hail, Lightning/Wind/Tornadoes)

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Highly Likely
Vulnerability–Medium

Heavy rains, wind, thunderstorm, hail lightening and storms are an annual occurrence within the District. The heavily forested district has many homes around large trees. Wind and heavy rain events will bring trees down, and occasionally onto homes. This severe weather severely impacts the Highway 80

commercial corridor and compromises resident and emergency responder's ingress and egress. Infrastructure road surface damage and pavement deterioration are also concerns during winter. The elderly and special needs population located within District boundaries also require monitoring during severe weather episodes. The District contains a significant elderly population, with some residing in homes that have not been sufficiently updated to protect against extreme temperatures. The District's newly formed CERT team trains specifically for cold weather events, staffing evacuation centers, traffic control, and assisting with health and welfare checks on remote citizens within the community.

Wildfire

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Highly Likely
Vulnerability–High

All four of the communities that the Alta FPD is responsible for or provide mutual aid to are listed on the National Fire Plan's "Communities at Risk" list as set forth in Section 4.1 of the main plan. These include the communities of: Alta, Dutch Flat, Casa Loma, Emigrant Gap and Gold Run.

The state fire data classifies the entire district as an area of extreme fire hazard. Using state fuel models, the types of fuels present within District boundaries tend to dry out during summer months creating the extreme fire conditions.

The District has experienced direct wildfire threat annually, often deriving from the North Fork of the American River canyon, which experiences heavy recreational usage. The landscape along this canyon is densely vegetated and exists in a mixed mosaic of ownerships which makes landscape scale fuel reduction difficult. The District is also intersected by Highway 80 and the Union Pacific railroad, both of which increase the probability of roadside, railway ignition sources. The most recent threat to the community of Alta was the 2015 Lowell fire that burned 2,304 acres of forestland. The District is actively working with the community to install shaded fuel breaks in strategic locations.

Hazardous Materials Transport

Likelihood of Future Occurrence–Highly Likely
Vulnerability–High

Highway 80, a Cal-Trans identified hazardous material route, intersects the Alta FPD response area. Also crossing the district is the Union Pacific Railroad which transports Hazardous Materials. The quantity of hazardous materials travelling this rail route in the coming years is expected to increase dramatically. The District actively trains with cooperating agencies for hazardous material response and works closely with the Placer County Hazardous Materials Team. Hazardous materials transportation poses a significant risk to the public and to District staff.

F.6 Capability Assessment

Capabilities are the programs and policies currently in use to reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. This capabilities assessment is divided into four sections:

regulatory mitigation capabilities; administrative and technical mitigation capabilities; fiscal mitigation capabilities; and mitigation education, outreach, and partnerships.

F.6.1. Regulatory Mitigation Capabilities

Table G-4 lists regulatory mitigation capabilities, including planning and land management tools, typically used by local jurisdictions to implement hazard mitigation activities and indicates those that are in place in the District.

Table G-4 Alta Fire Protection District's Regulatory Mitigation Capabilities

Plans	Y/N Year	Does the plan/program address hazards? Does the plan identify projects to include in the mitigation strategy? Can the plan be used to implement mitigation actions?
Comprehensive/Master Plan	N/A	
Capital Improvements Plan	N	
Economic Development Plan	N/A	
Local Emergency Operations Plan	N	
Continuity of Operations Plan	N	
Transportation Plan	N/A	
Stormwater Management Plan/Program	N/A	
Engineering Studies for Streams	N/A	
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	Y / 2012	Western Placer Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Yes, the plan identifies hazards and contains a list of mitigation projects that is reviewed annually.
Other special plans (e.g., brownfields redevelopment, disaster recovery, coastal zone management, climate change adaptation)	N	
Building Code, Permitting, and Inspections	**Y/N**	**Are codes adequately enforced?**
Building Code	Y	Enforced by Placer County
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score	N	Score:
Fire department ISO rating:	Y	Rating: 6Y
Site plan review requirements	N	
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	**Y/N**	**Is the ordinance an effective measure for reducing hazard impacts? Is the ordinance adequately administered and enforced?**
Zoning ordinance	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Subdivision ordinance	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County

Floodplain ordinance	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Natural hazard specific ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Flood insurance rate maps	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Elevation Certificates	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Erosion or sediment control program	N/A	Responsibility of Placer County
Other	N	
How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?		

F.6.2. Administrative/Technical Mitigation Capabilities

The Board is comprised of 5 members and is selected by registered voters within the District. The Board serves as the governing body for the District's residents. The Board of Directors approves District Rules and Regulations and, through the Fire Chief, ensures adherence to District policies. The Alta FPD provides service through one primary station in Alta.

Alta FPD's dispatch services are provided by the Placer County Sheriff's Office 911 center in Auburn. The 911 center uses computer aided dispatching to ensure optimal resource monitoring and management utilizing the closest resource backed up by station cover assignments in a multi-tiered alarm structure. Table G-5 identifies the personnel responsible for activities related to mitigation and loss prevention in the District.

Table G-5 Alta Fire Protection District's Administrative and Technical Mitigation Capabilities

Administration	**Y/N**	**Describe capability Is coordination effective?**
Planning Commission	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Mitigation Planning Committee	N	
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (e.g., tree trimming, clearing drainage systems)	N	
Mutual aid agreements	Y	
CERT Team	Y	Newly formed in 2013, the Alta FPD CERT team has already received federal recognition and certification.
Staff	**Y/N FT/PT**	**Is staffing adequate to enforce regulations? Is staff trained on hazards and mitigation? Is coordination between agencies and staff effective?**

Chief Building Official	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Floodplain Administrator	N	
Emergency Manager	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Community Planner	N	
Civil Engineer	Y	In coordination with Placer County
GIS Coordinator	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Other		
Technical	**Y/N**	**Describe capability Has capability been used to assess/mitigate risk in the past?**
Warning systems/services (Reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Hazard data and information	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Grant writing	Y	In coordination with Placer County
Hazus analysis	Y	Placer County GIS personnel.
Other		
How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?		

F.6.3. Fiscal Mitigation Capabilities

Table G-6 identifies financial tools or resources that the District could potentially use to help fund mitigation activities.

Table G-6 Alta Fire Protection District's Fiscal Mitigation Capabilities

Funding Resource	Access/ Eligibility (Y/N)	Has the funding resource been used in past and for what type of activities? Could the resource be used to fund future mitigation actions?
Capital improvements project funding	N	
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	N	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	N	
Impact fees for new development	N	
Storm water utility fee	N	
Incur debt through general obligation bonds and/or special tax bonds	Y	
Incur debt through private activities	N	
Community Development Block Grant	N	

Funding Resource	Access/ Eligibility (Y/N)	Has the funding resource been used in past and for what type of activities? Could the resource be used to fund future mitigation actions?
Other federal funding programs	N	
State funding programs	N	
Other	Y	Local community fundraising
How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?		

F.6.4. Mitigation Outreach and Partnerships

Table G-7 identifies education and outreach programs and methods already in place that could be/or are used to implement mitigation activities and communicate hazard-related information. Additional information can be found after the table.

Table G-7 Alta Fire Protection District Mitigation Education, Outreach, and Partnerships

Program/Organization	Yes/No	Describe program/organization and how relates to disaster resilience and mitigation. Could the program/organization help implement future mitigation activities?
Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	Y	CERT Team formed in 2013. Nationally recognized. Focusing on building qualified instructors to expand program capabilities.
Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	Y	CERT team activities, participation in the National Night Out Community Block Party program, cooperate with Cal Fire for fire prevention activities and events.
Natural disaster or safety related school programs	Y	School programs
StormReady certification	N	
Firewise Communities certification	Y	Process has been started in multiple AFPD communities.
Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster-related issues	N	
Other	Y	Inland waters hazmat trailer funded by Grant
How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?		

The Alta FPD has automatic aid agreements with bordering Districts and mutual aid agreements with other fire agencies throughout the area. The District relies heavily upon this aid from neighbors.

The District also works with other agencies on wildfire-related matters. Working with professional fire experts from the U.S. Forest Service and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection helps ensure that the District's work complements state and federal work and is up to standard for controlling wildfires.

F.6.5. Other Mitigation Efforts

F.7 Mitigation Strategy

The District is involved in a variety of mitigation activities including public education, fuels management projects, and other activities to reduce fuel loads and fire risk. These mitigation activities include:

- Public Education and Fire Safety
  - ✓ A variety of public outreach activities are conducted throughout the district on an annual basis.
  - ✓ The District maintain an active educational presence in the community and the Alta – Dutch Flat School
  - ✓ The District also coordinates the use of the County Chipper for local fuel reduction activities.

- Fuels Management Activities.
  - ✓ The District has been partnering with Cal Fire and PG&E to actively pursue fuel reduction opportunities. Several miles of shaded fuel break and roadside shaded fuel break have been recently installed and efforts to extend these breaks continue.
  - ✓ The District has worked together with Cal Fire, the Placer County RCD and the USFS to plan and develop strategic fuel breaks that will protect the community. Federal, State and Private Grants continue to support the planning and implementation.
  - ✓ Cooperation between Caltrans and Cal Fire is resulting in fuels reduction work and demonstration of proper fuels reduction implementation.

- Defensible Space
  - ✓ In recent years due to lack of funding, the district has limited involvement in the enforcement of the defensible space program. When funding has been available, the District provides annual defensible space inspections of area residents.
  - ✓ The District currently operates an elderly assistance program where they coordinate volunteers to clear properties.

- Community Response
  - ✓ The District supports a growing CERT team and continues to seek out funding opportunities to enhance training and capabilities of community members.

F.7.1. Mitigation Goals and Objectives

The District adopts the hazard mitigation goals and objectives developed by the HMPC and described in Chapter 5 Mitigation Strategy.

F.7.2. Mitigation Actions

The planning team for the District identified and prioritized the following mitigation action based on the risk assessment. Background information and information on how each action will be implemented and administered, such as ideas for implementation, responsible office, partners, potential funding, estimated cost, and schedule are included.

Action 1. Apparatus Water Fill & Drafting Location Improvements

Hazards Addressed: Wildfire

Issue/Background: There are numerous hydrants, within the Alta District Boundary, that rely on a fully functioning and limited potable water supply. The water supply is from 2 water tanks located at the geographical high point of the District, Alta Reservoir, located on Alta Reservoir Road. This facility is operated by PCWA to provide drinking water and hydrant water supply. Tank capacity is less than 100,000 gallons for the entire system. Should the facility lose power or a problem in the canal system arises in an emergency, there is no guarantee that the tanks will be refilled.

Given the limited supply of potable water, the District apparatus and firefighters are prepared to draft form the numerous lakes and canals that are located within the District. However, access to these locations is generally less than ideal. No turn around locations, or access is just out of reach of apparatus requiring hose lays and pumps to fill apparatus which can require a lot of time to setup and refill and engine or tender.

Ideal location examples:

- The Meadow on Alta Bonny Nook Road – Excellent road and freeway access, large area to line up apparatus, reliable water source (Lake Alta) is higher in elevation that the roadway so gravity feed is possible.
- Nary Red Road next to PCWA Flume over roadway – Good road access from 2 directions, good turn around at the post office (less than ¼ mile down the road), good reliability of water source, gravity feed is possible.

Other Alternatives: Setup several permanent fill locations in the District that would provide for good access from multiple directions, good turnaround spots, parking for multiple apparatus such that roads are not blocked by apparatus that are awaiting a refill and preferably gravity feed, so no pumps are required.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented:

Responsible Office/Partners: PCWA, Alta FPD, Placer County Fire, CALFire

Project Priority: High

Cost Estimate: Low to Moderate

Benefits (Losses Avoided): With Gravity systems and large diameter in-ground pipe 4"-6" fire apparatus can be refilled in a fraction of the amount of time now required.

Potential Funding: County, State and Federal Funding

Timeline: Within 5 year plan

Action 2. Evacuation / Reunification Center Improvements

Hazards Addressed: Multi-hazard. Critical need for a full service evacuation location within the Alta FPD that is handicap / special needs accessible for all members of the community. Central community location for information sharing.

Issue/Background: The construction of the Alta FPD Community Hall was in coordination with the construction of the Alta FPD's Fire Station and was financed through the use of District assessments on properties. There is a critical need within the Alta community for a full service evacuation / reunification location. The aging facility is in desperate need of facility improvement to meet ADA standards so that it can service all residents of the District in case of emergency.

Critical elements that need addressing are a generator system to run the building, enhancing communication capabilities within the community from this building, and upgrading the community service that it can provide such as ADA access, restrooms and showers.

Other Alternatives: The alternative to seeking grant opportunities is to continue operating the facility and relying on volunteers to contribute their time and skill to upgrading the facility when funding is available. This alternative allows for maintenance of current use standards, but makes expansion unlikely.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented: The Community Hall is currently rented out for a minimal fee to cover operation and maintenance costs. These fees will continue to support maintenance and utility expenses for the facility.

Responsible Office/Partners: Alta FPD

Project Priority: High

Cost Estimate: Moderate

Benefits (Losses Avoided): Create a safe evacuation center location for all residents, including elderly and special needs residents.

Potential Funding: County, State and Federal funding.

Timeline: Within 5 year plan

Action 3. Natural Systems Protection / Education and Awareness Programs and Community Fuel Breaks

Hazards Addressed: Wildfire. Installation of a number of fuel breaks surrounding the community served by the Alta FPD. The North Fork of the American River Canyon directly east of Alta, is federally listed as a Wild and Scenic River and has numerous management and suppression restrictions on it in case of a fire. The North Fork American River is a primary source of domestic water from Auburn, downstream to the San Francisco Bay Area. Wildfire threat is constant and continual thereby justifying the investment in protection of these vital resources.

The area has an active large fire history most recently being threatened by the 2015 Lowell Fire burning 2,304 acres and directly threatening the communities of Alta and Dutch Flat. The community was also threatened by the Government Fire in 2008/

Potential economic impact from closure of the economic corridor of Highway 80 has been estimated at 1 million dollars per closure hour of lost revenue to the economy of the state. The transcontinental railroad also weaves throughout these communities and project area. Closure of that system can equal 1 million dollars per minute of lost revenue to the economy.

Issue/Background: The Alta FPD aligns with multiple densely populated WUI areas throughout the Interstate 80 corridor. These communities are at high risk to wildfire from the North Fork American River Canyon, interstate and rail ignitions. Multiple years of drought and high rates of tree mortality and bark beetle infestation and created a catastrophic level of risk for residents of these communities.

The installation of strategic fuel break on the outskirts of these communities will provide a strong anchor point for suppression action. Implementation of these fuel breaks also provides an invaluable education opportunity for responsible fire prevention and forest management.

Other Alternatives: Rely on the individual property owner or land manager to develop strategic fuel breaks to protect resources and assets that may be outside of their ownership or responsibility. This is the current practice which has led to a disjointed arrangement of small fuel treatments that make strategic utilization difficult.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented: These projects are identified in the Nevada Yuba Placer CAL FIRE Fire Plan and the Western Placer CWPP. Continued development of funding opportunities and on the ground implementation will be completed through an interagency partnership fostered by the Placer County Fire Alliance.

Responsible Office/Partners: Alta FPD / Placer County Fire / CAL FIRE Nevada Yuba Placer Unit / Placer County RCD / Placer OES / PG & E

Project Priority: High

Cost Estimate: Moderate

Benefits (Losses Avoided): Reduced risk of loss of life and property from catastrophic wildfire.

Potential Funding: County, State and Federal funding.

Timeline: These projects are active and ongoing.

Action 4. Natural Systems Protection / Education and Awareness Programs

Hazards Addressed: Multi-hazard. The current drought and bark beetle infestation is rapidly creating large pockets of dead and dying pine trees throughout the Alta FPD area of responsibility. Large quantities of infested treats dramatically increase wildfire threat within the wildland urban interface area. The infestation across Placer County is increasing and reaching a critical threat to forestland and ecosystem health.

The area has an active large fire history most recently being threatened by the 2015 Lowell Fire burning 2,304 acres and directly threatening the communities of Alta and Dutch Flat. The community was also threatened by the Government Fire in 2008.

Issue/Background: The Alta FPD aligns with multiple densely populated WUI areas throughout the Interstate 80 corridor. Multiple years of extreme drought have stressed the forest environment and weakening trees creating an optimal condition for infestation by bark beetles. Recent aerial imagery assessments show a rapidly spreading mortality problem within Placer and Nevada Counties with new pockets of infestation appearing daily. Recent large fire activity has overwhelmed regional sawmills and timber values have declined dramatically. Removal of dead and dying trees is an incredibly expensive feat for the residents of Alta.

Other Alternatives: Rely on the individual property owner or land manager to remove dead trees and properly dispose of material. With the current market, this option is extremely expensive and the scale of infestation and mortality is overwhelming for small land owners.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented: These projects are identified in the Nevada Yuba Placer CAL FIRE Fire Plan and the Western Placer CWPP. Continued development of funding opportunities and on the ground implementation will be completed through an interagency partnership fostered by the Placer County Fire Alliance.

Responsible Office/Partners: Alta FPD / Placer County Fire / CAL FIRE Nevada Yuba Placer Unit / Placer County RCD / Placer OES / PG & E

Project Priority: High

Cost Estimate: High

Benefits (Losses Avoided): Reduced risk of loss of life and property from catastrophic wildfire, protection of forestland.

Potential Funding: County, State and Federal funding.

Timeline: These projects are active and ongoing.

Action 5. Emergency Communications and Information System Improvements.

Hazards Addressed: Responder and resident life safety.

Issue/Background: The community of Alta exists within the wildland urban interface of the Sierra Foothills. Steep canyons and heavy timber provide a challenging environment for communications among first responders. Many of the residences are in remote locations: winter weather can be extreme in this small community that exists in the 3,800 ft elevation zone. The community in transected by the UP Railroad, Highway 80 and the Kinder Morgan Pipeline, all which increase its hazard potential. The current EMS radio system has significant gaps and holes. The District desires to upgrade fire station communications, including a repeater system to help alleviate gaps in the current system.

Other Alternatives: No current recommendations.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented:

Responsible Office/Partners: Alta FPD

Project Priority: High

Cost Estimate: Moderate

Benefits (Losses Avoided): Improving communication capabilities within the District, allowing for more efficient response and enhanced life safety for responders and residents of the District.

Potential Funding: County, State and Federal funding.

Timeline: Within 5 year plan

Action 6. Alta Fire Protection District CERT Team

Hazards Addressed: A qualified team of volunteers that can be used to support all-risk incidents within the community.

Issue/Background: The Alta FPD CERT team is currently trained to support wildfire response, cold weather events, staffing of evacuation centers, traffic control, assisting with health and welfare checks on remote citizens, and other assigned duties when firefighters are tasked elsewhere. Recently team participation has been expanded to the communities of Colfax, Weimar, Applegate and Meadow Vista.

As the team develops, many members are becoming qualified instructors, allowing for the expansion of team capabilities and abilities. The community that Alta FPD serves is high risk for weather, wildfire,

drought and hazardous materials events. Enhanced training and equipment will allow the CERT team to better service its community and surround mutual aid area.

Other Alternatives: Continue to operate with current training and volunteers.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented: This team was initiated in February of 2013 and has successful earned national recognition and certification for 27+ volunteers. Additional grant funds will be sought to expand training opportunities and team capabilities.

Responsible Office/Partners: Alta FPD / Placer OES

Project Priority: High

Cost Estimate: Low

Benefits (Losses Avoided): Preparing a community to support all-risk events and reducing reliance on mutual aid. Empowering residents to take an active prevention and education role in their community.

Potential Funding: County, State and Federal funding.

Timeline: This project is active.

Action 7. Reflective Addressing

Hazards Addressed: Many home in the district have poor address markings for emergency access which delays response time to 911 calls.

Issue/Background: The community of Alta is in an unincorporated area of Placer County. There are many residences with insufficient address markings. The Alta FPD has limited green signs and numbers available to the community at cost, but it is difficult to advertise this service with limited volunteer help available. Because of this, many homes are poorly marked for emergency access, which delays response time trying to find an address in this very rural community. Ideally uniform reflective address signs on metal posts community wide would help alleviate this problem.

Other Alternatives: Continue to provide reflective addressing supplies to the community at cost to residents who actively seek to have this done. Residents provide their own posts.

Existing Planning Mechanism(s) through which Action Will Be Implemented: The Alta FPD has a very active volunteer base.

Responsible Office/Partners: Alta FPD

Project Priority: Medium

Cost Estimate: Low

Benefits (Losses Avoided): Improvement of location of residents by emergency personnel.

Potential Funding: District, County, State and Federal Funding

Timeline: Within 5 year plan