

Natural Hazard Action Item Proposal Form

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| Proposed Action Item: | | Alignment with Plan Goals: | |
| Participate in the NOAA Storm Ready Program | | Strengthen Organizational and Community Capacity | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Region 7 experiences extreme cold, high winds, winter storms, heavy rain, thunderstorms, and occasional tornados. ○ Typically, winter weather will close interstate traffic, placing increased demands on lodging, rest stops, and local emergency services. ○ Extreme winds are not uncommon in Eastern Oregon valleys and canyons. ○ Only nine tornados have been recorded in Eastern Oregon since 1888, but they have caused damage to timber resources, personal property, and critical infrastructure. ○ Thunderstorms can bring heavy winds, rain, hail, and lightning, which can all lead to mudslides, power outages, and damages to crop-producing fields. ○ All buildings and homes within Wallowa County, and particularly those on the valley floor, are subject to severe weather, including ice and snow storms, lightning storms, and hail, heavy rain, and fast winds. Information pertaining to weather-related hazards and mitigation techniques would be helpful for new home-owners and developers in the area. ○ The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires communities to identify a comprehensive range of actions and projects that reduce the effects of hazards on the community [201.6(c)(3)(ii)], such as actions addressing emergency services. Participating in NOAA's Storm Ready Program will reduce the impact of a severe weather event on a community by helping community members strengthen safety programs. | | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enhance available coverage through NOAA weather radio ○ Identify and pursue funding sources for weather alert radio purchases ○ Provide staff support to assist with NOAA Storm Spotter program ○ Improve warning dissemination to public | | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | | Emergency Services / Emergency Management | |
| Internal Partners: | | External Partners: | |
| County Public Works Departments, County Roads Departments, Baker City | | Oregon Department of Transportation, local fire departments, American Red Cross, local radio stations, Eastern Oregon University | |
| Timeline: | | If available, estimated cost: | |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | | |
| Short Term | | | |
| Form Submitted by: | | RARE Participant | |