



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region 9
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, CA 94607

FEMA

May 21, 2026

Claire Peabody
Emergency Services Analyst
Santa Cruz County Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience
5200 Soquel Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Reference: Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval
Santa Cruz County, CA

Dear Claire Peabody:

The 2026 Santa Cruz County Hazard Mitigation Plan was officially adopted by Santa Cruz County and submitted for final review and approval to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA confirms this plan meets the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 201, Section 6 (44 C.F.R. 201.6). A list of the status of participating jurisdictions is enclosed.

FEMA approves this plan for five years with an effective date of May 5, 2026, which is the completion date of our final review. To maintain grant eligibility, Santa Cruz County and participating jurisdictions must review, update, and resubmit the plan to FEMA before **May 4, 2031**.

While local mitigation plans may include additional content to meet Element H: Additional State Requirements or other local objectives, FEMA's approval only applies to elements required by its *Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide* (FP-206-21-0002).

This plan approval ensures eligibility for project grants under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs, including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), HMGP Post-Fire, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), and Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STORM RLF). Funding requests are reviewed individually for eligibility and other program requirements.

Thank you for your continued commitment to reducing risk and enhancing community safety. If you have any questions about the planning or review process, please contact the FEMA Region 9 Hazard Mitigation Planning Team at fema-r9-mitigation-planning@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

KATHRYN J LIPIECKI

Kathryn Lipiecki
Director, Mitigation Division
FEMA Region 9

Digitally signed by KATHRYN J

LIPIECKI

Date: 2026.05.21 21:15:11 -07'00'

Enclosures (2)

Santa Cruz County Plan Review Tool, dated May 5, 2026

Status of Participating Jurisdictions, dated May 21, 2026

cc: Alison Kearns, Planning and Implementation Branch Chief, FEMA Region 9
Robyn Fennig, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Victoria LaMar-Haas, Hazard Mitigation Planning Chief, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Status of Participating Jurisdictions as of May 21, 2026

Jurisdictions Adopted and Approved

#	Jurisdiction	Adoption Receipt Date
1	County of Santa Cruz	May 5, 2026

Jurisdictions Approvable Pending Adoption

#	Jurisdiction
1	City of Capitola
2	City of Scotts Valley
3	City of Watsonville
4	Cabrillo College
5	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
6	Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
7	Santa Cruz Port District
8	Scotts Valley Water District
9	Soquel Creek Water District



FEMA

May 22, 2026

Claire Peabody
Emergency Services Analyst
Santa Cruz County Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience
5200 Soquel Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Reference: Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval for Additional Jurisdictions
Santa Cruz County, CA

Dear Claire Peabody:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) received documentation on May 5, 2026, confirming that the City of Capitola, City of Scotts Valley, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz Port District, and Soquel Creek Water District have officially adopted the 2026 Santa Cruz County Hazard Mitigation Plan. FEMA confirms these jurisdictions are in conformance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 201, Section 6 (44 CFR 201.6). An updated list of the status of participating jurisdictions is enclosed.

The 2026 Santa Cruz County Hazard Mitigation Plan has an approval date of May 5, 2026, for all participating jurisdictions. To maintain grant eligibility, Santa Cruz County and participating jurisdictions must review, update, and resubmit the plan to FEMA before **May 4, 2031**.

While local mitigation plans may include additional content to meet Element H: Additional State Requirements or other local objectives, FEMA's approval only applies to elements required by its *Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide* (FP-206-21-0002).

This plan approval ensures eligibility for project grants under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs, including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, HMGP Post-Fire, Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), and Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STORM RLF). Funding requests are reviewed individually for eligibility and other program requirements.

Thank you for your continued commitment to reducing risk and enhancing community safety. If you have any questions about the planning or review process, please contact the FEMA Region 9 Hazard Mitigation Planning Team at fema-r9-mitigation-planning@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Kearns", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alison Kearns
Planning and Implementation Branch Chief
Mitigation Division
FEMA Region 9

Enclosure (1)

Status of Participating Jurisdictions, dated May , 2026

cc: Robyn Fennig, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, California Governor's Office of
Emergency Services
Victoria LaMar-Haas, Hazard Mitigation Planning Chief, California Governor's Office of
Emergency Services

Status of Participating Jurisdictions as of May , 2026

Jurisdictions Adopted and Approved

#	Jurisdiction	Adoption Receipt Date
1	County of Santa Cruz	May 5, 2026
2	City of Capitola	May 5, 2026
3	City of Scotts Valley	May 5, 2026
4	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency	May 5, 2026
5	Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County	May 5, 2026
6	Santa Cruz Port District	May 5, 2026
7	Soquel Creek Water District	May 5, 2026

Jurisdictions Approvable Pending Adoption

#	Jurisdiction
1	City of Watsonville
2	Cabrillo College
3	Scotts Valley Water District



FEMA

June 15, 2026

Claire Peabody
Emergency Services Analyst
Santa Cruz County Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience
5200 Soquel Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Reference: Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval for Additional Jurisdiction
Santa Cruz County, CA

Dear Claire Peabody:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) received documentation on June 3, 2026, confirming that the City of Watsonville has officially adopted the 2026 Santa Cruz County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

FEMA confirms the jurisdiction is in conformance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 201, Section 6 (44 CFR 201.6). An updated list of the status of participating jurisdictions is enclosed.

The 2026 Santa Cruz County Hazard Mitigation Plan has an approval date of May 5, 2026, for all participating jurisdictions. To maintain grant eligibility, Santa Cruz County and participating jurisdictions must review, update, and resubmit the plan to FEMA before **May 4, 2031**.

While local mitigation plans may include additional content to meet Element H: Additional State Requirements or other local objectives, FEMA's approval only applies to elements required by its *Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide* (FP-206-21-0002).

This plan approval ensures eligibility for project grants under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs, including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, HMGP Post-Fire, Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), and Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STORM RLF). Funding requests are reviewed individually for eligibility and other program requirements.

Thank you for your continued commitment to reducing risk and enhancing community safety. If you have any questions about the planning or review process, please contact the FEMA Region 9 Hazard Mitigation Planning Team at fema-r9-mitigation-planning@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Kearns", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alison Kearns
Planning and Implementation Branch Chief
Mitigation Division
FEMA Region 9

Enclosure (1)

Status of Participating Jurisdictions, dated June 15, 2026

cc: Robyn Fennig, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Victoria LaMar-Haas, Hazard Mitigation Planning Chief, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Status of Participating Jurisdictions as of June 15, 2026

Jurisdictions Adopted and Approved

#	Jurisdiction	Adoption Receipt Date
1	County of Santa Cruz	May 5, 2026
2	City of Capitola	May 5, 2026
3	City of Scotts Valley	May 5, 2026
4	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency	May 5, 2026
5	Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County	May 5, 2026
6	Santa Cruz Port District	May 5, 2026
7	Soquel Creek Water District	May 5, 2026
8	City of Watsonville	June 3, 2026

Jurisdictions Approvable Pending Adoption

#	Jurisdiction
1	Cabrillo College
2	Scotts Valley Water District