



County of Solano

**2020 LNU Lightning Complex Fire**

**Recovery Strategic Plan**

April 13, 2021

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# Purpose

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The purpose of the LNU Lightning Complex Fire Recovery Strategic Plan is to guide the County's strategic efforts to support a unified and comprehensive response of all stakeholder agencies within Solano County engaged in the ongoing recovery efforts necessitated by the 2020 LNU Lightning Complex Fire.

# Executive Summary

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The County Office of Emergency Services' approach to the development and outline for the LNU Lightning Complex Fire Recovery Plan emphasizes rebuilding, mitigating hazards/risks and associated safety concerns, educating the community on future wildfire response actions, minimizing future risks and addressing the community's need to rebuild quickly. As residents continue to recover from the fire, the current goal is to help the community move forward by bringing together the collective resources of local government, non-profit organizations, philanthropy and community groups to make strategic, inclusive decisions and create a more resilient Solano County. These groups include but are not limited to the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Neighborhood Groups, Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) and Fire Safe Councils. The concept of resilience – increasing the community's ability to withstand a future natural disaster and recover more quickly – plays a central role in the recovery. The County's recovery process will go through short, mid-range and long-term recovery processes while maintaining the same guiding principles throughout.

## Strategic Recovery Plan Guiding Principles

- ◆ Flexibility and Efficiency
- ◆ Data-Driven Decisions
- ◆ Creation of a More Resilient Community
- ◆ Updated with Ever Changing Conditions

Central to the County of Solano's role in the recovery effort is the development of a LNU Lightning Complex Fire *Recovery Strategic Plan*. This plan is comprised of eight strategic areas of focus identified and intended to guide the County's efforts over the next 3 to 5 years. The plan is a living document that will be updated as needed to reflect progress and changing priorities and conditions, and reviewed quarterly going forward to capture the progress and changes formally.

A critical component to the successful implementation of the plan is communications. Communication through various media outlets, during and immediately after a disaster situation was and remains essential to response and recovery; it connects affected people, families, and communities with first responders and countywide support systems.

Solano County utilizes multiple Public Information Resources from all county departments to collaborate on social media, traditional media and AlertSolano to inform the public of ongoing recovery efforts and emergency notifications. County Administrator and Sheriff's Office Public Information specialists combine efforts to send a consistent message throughout all phases of a disaster.

Reliable and accessible communication and information systems are essential to a community's resilience and recovery. The County of Solano's goal for communication is to provide timely, accurate and consistent messaging and information to facilitate the recovery of the whole community. Toward this goal, unique communication strategies will be developed by the Office of Emergency Services in order to support each of the critical issue areas of the recovery strategic plan to ensure that the public is well informed of what is occurring, through several different communication platforms. Examples of platforms include social media, electronic recovery newsletter, use of the SolanoCountyRecovers.org website, and community meetings.

In addition to keeping the public informed on progress and updates to the recovery strategic plan, updates will be provided to the County Board of Supervisors quarterly for a period of 3-5 years or when the board determines the recovery is completed. Information regarding these updates will be provided via the recovery newsletters as well as other platforms as appropriate.

Components of the overall LNU Fire Recovery Plan initiatives include:

1. **Debris on Private Property** – Provide support and assistance to the community through the development and implementation of a debris management plan.
2. **Private Property Re-building** - Support the rebuilding process. Provide the community clear guidance on the rebuilding process with consideration of improving the protection of the community from future wildfire, debris flows and landslides.
3. **Infrastructure Repair and Modifications** – The infrastructure of rural Solano County, including water, sanitary, electrical, cable, telephone lines, cellular towers, bridges, drainages, and roads, sustained damage from the disaster. Efforts will continue to efficiently facilitate the restoration of infrastructure systems and services to support a viable, sustainable community and improves resilience to and protection from future hazards. Consideration of the aesthetics, cultural and natural resources is important to the community.
4. **Storm Preparation and Evacuation** - Develop an updated storm readiness plan for future years to address environmental changes and new data to ensure public safety.
5. **Long Term Flood Control Mitigation** – Develop long-term mitigation plans for wildfire prevention and flood control that will explore modifications to debris basins, waterways, and conveyance systems
6. **Financial Impacts and Economic Recovery** – Develop a comprehensive plan to secure funding for critical hazard mitigation projects and facilitate long term economic prosperity in the community. A new 2021 Solano County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan will be complete in June 2021. This new document includes all the seven Solano cities and will make the county and the cities eligible for Federal hazard mitigation grants.



7. **Natural and Cultural Resources** – Support the protection of natural and cultural resources and during recovery actions preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and restore these resources.
8. **Community Engagement** –Foster community engagement and input to county projects and permitting process changes by regular newsletter and public information news releases.

## Background

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The LNU Lightning Complex Fire began on Sunday, August 16, 2020 when a rare lightning storm passed over the North Bay region of the San Francisco Bay area, including Solano and Napa Counties. Three individual fires were sparked by lightning in Napa County. The largest, the Hennessey Fire, started on August 16 west of Lake Berryessa and moved slowly towards the lake. On Tuesday morning, August 18, the Markley Fire started near the Monticello Dam on Rt 128. The Markley Fire also grew slowly as it climbed out of the nearby canyons into areas inaccessible to fire crews. CalFire ceased active firefighting at sunset on the 18th because of the steep and inaccessible terrain and crew safety. A CalFire crew was assigned to monitor the fire until daylight.

Overnight, August 18-19, winds from collapsing pyrocumulus clouds brought the Hennessey Fire into Solano County over the Blue Ridge with the first fire 911 call at 10:53 pm. Hours earlier (8:30 pm), Cal Fire imposed an Evacuation Warning Order for the area South of Rt 128 along Pleasants Valley Road to Mix Canyon Road. No estimate of the fire's location or timing for possible arrival in Solano County was available. Shortly after the first 911 call, the Vacaville Fire Protection District Chief ordered an evacuation of the warning area and expanded the order to Gates Canyon Road. AlertSolano messages were sent and Sheriff's Office Deputies and mutual aid law enforcement agencies conducted door-to-door, siren and PA notifications in Quail Canyon and along Pleasants Valley Road and adjoining streets.

At the same time, the Markley Fire began moving rapidly south with the same winds, eventually combining with the Hennessy Fire around 7:00 am near the intersection of Pleasants Valley Road and Mix Canyon Road before continuing in a southeasterly direction towards Vacaville and I-505. AlertSolano evacuation messaging continued throughout the morning as fire officials directed.

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, the fire moved south along the Blue Ridge eventually reaching Interstate 80 at Cherry Glen Road. The fire crossed the highway and the Fairfield Fire Department began a series of backburns to keep the fire out of neighborhoods near Nelson Hill. Both Vacaville and Fairfield ordered evacuations east of the fire in case the fire could not be contained in Lagoon Valley. The evacuation orders drove the decision by Travis Air Force Base leadership to evacuate base housing, non-essential personnel and aircraft from the base. As evacuees left the military installation, heavy smoke forced the closure of I-80 creating a traffic jam on all secondary roads including Peabody, Canon and Vanden Roads in Vacaville and unincorporated Solano County.

The following day, August 20, fire crews had substantially stopped the forward movement of the fire and began the mop up and spot fire response process that would continue for over a week. Local Fire agencies with some assistance from Cal Fire were successful in holding the fire line and establish full containment several

days later.

The County opened a Local Assistance Center (LAC) with State (Cal OES) and FEMA support to assist fire victims. Department of Resource Management, Environmental Health staff began planning for Phase 1, Household Hazardous Waste removal and have worked with Cal OES contractors to proceed with debris removal activities. This began immediately after destroyed properties were made accessible utilizing local or state approved contracts. Public outreach and LAC visitors were provided debris removal guidance, instructions on safe clean-up methods, and information on the health effects of ash and dust.

The recovery effort has been continuous and coordinated with the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other organizations. Watershed preparation and restoration work will continue in coordination with the Solano County Water Agency (SCWA), Solano Irrigation District (SID), Solano County Public Works, Solano Resource Conservation District, City of Vacaville Public Works, and the California Department of Water Resources. Projects will be prioritized to prevent erosion and debris flows in critical waterways in and downstream from the burn scar.

# Plan Objectives:

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With the understanding that recovery from the 2020 LNU Lightning Complex Fire will take time and require a concerted community effort. The following objectives will guide the county's strategic recovery effort, focused on addressing the needs of residents as they recover and will ensure the ongoing safety and security of County residents. These objectives include:

1. Identify the issues that are important to the recovery and develop a plan to solve those issues;
2. Provide information to the public on the County's efforts in support of the community's recovery through all means available;
3. Engage the public and elected officials to determine the best solutions for recovery and incorporate feedback into the plan;
4. Utilize private and public partnerships in recovery efforts;
5. Work with non-profits to provide aid where government services are not able or where they need augmentation;
6. Continue to prepare the communities for future disasters and evacuations utilizing the best data possible in making the evacuation determinations; and
7. Develop plans and strategies to address the following issues:
  - a. Communication strategies.
  - a. Rebuilding process for the different categories of damaged and destroyed properties;
  - b. Storm preparation and evacuation for the next 2 to 5 years; and
  - c. Long-term mitigation efforts for fire and winter storms;

The approved plans for debris management on private property must follow state and federal guidelines to ensure reimbursement and allow for rebuilding following soil testing. Finally, the Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) and the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) policies will be followed during the recovery process.

# FEMA Recovery and Support Functions

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*Descriptions of each RSF located as attachments to this document*

# ISSUE 1: Debris on Private Property

*(FEMA RSF: Housing Recovery Support Function)*

Thousands of tons of debris were generated as a result of the 2020 LNU Lightning Fire that burned into the Counties of Solano, Napa, Yolo, Sonoma and Colusa. There are multiple methods of managing fire debris. The debris includes; primarily ash, burned trees, building materials, household items, automobiles, household hazardous waste, and dead animals associated with agricultural operations. Methods of managing fire debris identified in the 42,000 acres that burned in Solano County, these include:

1. Immediate removal of dead animals to prevent disease vector attraction
2. Household hazardous waste inspections and removal by the county or State
3. Removal of material from impacted properties either through a government sponsored fire debris removal program or property owner privately funded cleanup of the property
4. Create a vehicle removal program
5. Identify a site for the purposes of processing debris for government sponsored debris removal
6. Continue removing hazardous trees burned in the fire and continuously monitor burn scar for problem trees

## The Solano County LNU Fire Removal Plan includes

| Action  | Tasks  | Target Date   | Department or Individuals  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Removing Dead Animals from agricultural properties.   | Secure contract(s) for proper removal and disposal of dead animals from agricultural operations. | Completed August/Sept 2020.   | EOC activity<br>County Counsel<br>Environmental Health<br>General Services |
| Facilitate assessment and/or removal of household hazardous waste (HHW)- Phase I debris removal                 | Organize and advertise process. Phase 1 of Debris Removal Operation                              | Complete  | Environmental Health<br>Cal OES Recovery                                   |
| Removing debris to offsite receiver sites to include landfills and other recycling and disposal sites. Phase II | Developed and maintain Web Site for Property Owner and Contractor use                            | May 2021. Receiver site was not required. Debris moved directly to salvagers or landfill without utilizing a transfer site. | Environmental Health<br>Cal OES Recovery                                   |
| Create a fire damaged or destroyed vehicle removal program to facilitate clean up                               | Identify vehicles for removal or retention on damaged sites                                      | Completed Feb, 2021. All known vehicles identified and removed. One inaccessible property                                   | Environmental Health<br>Cal OES Recovery                                   |



|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  | requiring inspection.  | Sheriff/CHP/DMV  |
| <b>Phase 2 Debris Removal</b>  | Clear all eligible properties via Cal OES contractor or through approval and oversight of private Work Plans           | Contractors began work December 2020 and estimate completion by May 31, 2022   | Cal OES Recovery<br>Environmental Health<br>Assessor/Recorder<br>Private contractors working in accordance with Environmental Health approved Work Plans |
| <b>Find a property specifically for debris sorting, repurposing and disposal</b> | Develop a plan that identifies and acquires a site.  | Determined not required. Debris sorted and removed from properties and moved directly to recycler or landfill.   | Resource Management  |
| <b>Develop a Debris Management Plan</b>  | Title:<br>Disaster Debris Removal Program / PHASE II Debris Removal and Cleanup Work Plan / LNU Lightning Complex Fire | Completed September 2020<br><br>Provided to all property owners with Work Plan Applications  | Environmental Health<br><br>Public Works/Resource Management   |
|  | Include tree and vegetation waste plan   | Continuous and ongoing. Hazardous trees threatening roadways have been removed. Regular inspection of stressed trees will continue to identify those requiring removal | Public Works/Resource Management   |
|  | Identify hazardous trees for removal   |  |  |
|  | Continue assessments of stressed trees for removal   |  |  |

# ISSUE 2: Private Property Rebuilding

*(FEMA RSF: Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function)*  
*(FEMA RSF: Housing Recovery Support Function)*

For Solano County to reach full recovery, rebuilding of properties is essential. The community will need clear guidance on the rebuilding process with concern for providing protection to the community from wildfires. This will require the County to:

1. Provide specific guidelines for permits on rebuilding for the following categories:
  - a. Buildings with less than 50% value reconstruction
  - b. Buildings with more than 50% value reconstruction (including completely destroyed)
2. Update the interactive map to refine the damage to each property
3. Create changes to ordinances to allow property owners to be able to build to FEMA flood standards including height restriction and creek setbacks
4. Pursue Board approval to use the new FEMA Hazard Map as a building standard
5. Facilitate with local architects, engineers and land use specialists to provide guidance to the public
6. Develop communications strategy to provide private property owners rebuilding tools and resources available
7. Ensure local building codes are updated with the latest fire prevention requirements

| Action   | Tasks  | Target Date            | Department or Individuals   |
|--|--|------------------------|---|
| Provide specific guidelines for permits on rebuilding for the following categories | Define impacted properties<br><br>Buildings with less than 50% value reconstruction<br><br>Buildings with more than 50% value reconstruction, including completely destroyed | Complete, October 2020 | Building & Safety Services<br><br>Public Works/Flood Control District |
| Develop Building Permit Application Packets  | Include information regarding:<br>Septic systems, Water Service, Wells, Temporary Housing, Trailers, Emergency/Temporary Power<br><br>Provide Online Access                  | Complete               | Building & Safety Services<br><br>Resource Management                 |

|   |   |                           |   |
|---|---|---------------------------|---|
| Streamline planning permit process  | Board approval of amended like for like ordinance   | October 27, 2020/Complete | Resources Management<br>Building & Safety Services; Planning Services     |
| Develop the interactive map to further categorize the damage to each property   | Gather data on each property and categorize   | Complete                  | CalFire<br>Environmental Health<br>Building & Safety Services<br>DOIT/GIS |
|   | Display on interactive map  | Complete                  |   |
| Establish FEMA flood building standards   | Instruct Building & Safety Services staff on requirements   | January 2021              | Resource Management/<br>Building & Safety Services                        |
|   | Distribute map to the public  | January 2021              | Resource Management/<br>Public Works Engineering                          |
| Rebuild of private roads, bridges and gates   | Provide information to the public on standards  | January 2021              |   |
| Support Case Management<br><br>Develop communications strategy to provide private property rebuilding tools and resources available | Identify when permits are required for grading  | February 2021             | Resource Management/Public Works Engineering Services;                    |
|   | Coordination meeting with Building & Safety Services, Solano County Water Agency (SCWA), Environmental Health | March 2021                | Building & Safety<br>Environmental Health                                 |
|   | Respond to property owner requests  | Ongoing                   | Solano County Water Agency  |
|   | Coordinate between Flood Control District and Planning and Development  | Ongoing                   | Resource Management<br>Planning Services                                  |
|   | Consider streamlining design review process   | Ongoing                   | SCWA  |

# ISSUE 3: Infrastructure Repair and Modifications

*(FEMA RSF: Infrastructure Systems Recovery Support Function)*

The infrastructure of the community including water, septic, electrical, cable, telephone, cellular, bridges, drainages and roads sustained significant damage from the disaster. Restoration of systems and services is underway to support a viable, sustainable community and improve resilience to and protection from future hazards. Consideration of the aesthetics, cultural and natural resources is important to the community.

Methods of collaborations and support in management of infrastructure repair and modifications include:

1. Coordinate with Pacific Gas & Electric on restoring a resilient system
2. Transportation
3. Wireless Communications
4. Explore feasibility of new monitoring and siren warning system using best practices and data
5. Public safety radio systems
6. Drainages

| Action   | Tasks   | Target Date | Department or Individuals   |
|--|---|-------------|---|
| Explore feasibility of new monitoring and siren warning system using best practices and data | Determine viability of an early warning siren system  | 2021        | CAO<br>OES<br>DOIT/Communications   |
|  | Modifications to the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system and the Emergency Alert System (EAS) | Ongoing     | OES<br>CalOES<br>Federal Communication Commissions (FCC)<br>FEMA<br>DOIT/Communications |

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Coordinate with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) on restoring a resilient system | Improving the protection of and response to wildfire impacts  | Ongoing   | OES<br>PG&E<br>Resource Management/Building & Safety Services               |
| Roadway Repairs   | Utilize fire resistant designs and materials when repairing fire damage   | Ongoing   | Resource Management/Public Works  |
| Wireless Communications   | Collaborate with cellular providers to harden rural sites. Educate public on risks of relying solely on cell service for alerts | Ongoing   | Solano OES<br>CAO/PIO<br>Cal OES  |
| Public safety radio site hardening and interoperability                       | Harden sites against fire risk. Improve interagency use of multiple radio systems in Solano County                              | Ongoing and continuous. Participate in Law Chiefs efforts to create a Communications Joint Powers Agreement.  | DOIT/Communications<br>Solano OES<br>Sheriff's Office Communications Center |
| Drainage improvements   | Prepare and maintain drainages in the burn scar for potential mudslides and debris flows  | Ongoing and continuous. Make fire safe/resistant repairs to damaged drainages and culverts. Burn scars present a major flood/debris flow hazards for years after wildfires. | Resource Management/Public Works<br>SCWA                                    |

# ISSUE 4: Storm Preparation and Evacuation



*(FEMA RSF: Infrastructure Systems Recovery Support Function)*

*(FEMA RSF: Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function)*

The LNU Lightning Complex Fire burn scar will continue to be a threat for debris flows for the next 2 to 5 years. Due to the changed circumstances on the ground as a result of the fire, a comprehensive storm preparation and evacuation plan should be developed. Storm preparation and evacuation planning will maintain the following principles:

1. Monitor National Weather Service forecasts for flooding potential
2. Monitor stream and flood gage data for evacuation trigger levels
3. Evacuate only when necessary
4. Evacuate only those areas necessary
5. Evacuate for the shortest possible time
6. Return people home as soon as possible
7. Provide the community with clear, timely information and rationale for evacuations
8. Utilize AlertSolano, Social Media and new technology to ensure messaging is effective

### ***Potential changes to evacuation process:***

1. Update the risk map with data provided by both the Watershed Task Force and the FEMA STARR (Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction) reports/map.
2. Evaluate various evacuation routes and determine if standardized signage warning individuals driving into the area of the current flood potential status should be installed.
3. Send proactive media notifications ahead of storm forecasts.
  - a. Give residents advance notice of potential storms
  - b. Exercise flexibility on when the community receives instructions to leave, while still issuing notifications/updates at 48 hours and 24 hours prior to an expected storm.

4. When a decision is made to evacuate, continue to provide timely, accurate and consistent messaging regarding evacuation areas and protocols
5. Educate the public about the difference between an evacuation warning and an evacuation order
6. Update the different potential impacts of rainfall intensity vs rainfall duration in flood zones
7. Continue to update the risk areas for Pleasants Valley and the English Hills to determine if high and extreme risk areas can be reduced as conditions change on the ground
8. Review current data regarding effects of long-term duration storms and thresholds for evacuations
9. Determine methods to reduce evacuation impacts on persons with access and functional needs
10. Evaluate risk area parcel by parcel in areas impacted by the LNU Lightning Complex Fire
11. Evaluate impact of any changes to the Putah Creek and connecting streams due to the fire
12. Evaluate and refine the AlertSolano alerting system to streamline communications

| Action   | Tasks   | Target Date  | Department or Individuals   |
|--|---|--|---|
| Collaborate with scientists from WERT, FEMA Watershed Task Force, USACE                            | Convene the scientists to develop coordination of studies occurring and recommendations for future planning | January 2021   | SCWA<br>Dept of Water Resources (DWR)   |
|  | Monitor NWS storm forecasting and warnings for potential dangers  | Ongoing  | Department of Resource Management (various divisions, including Parks and Recreation & Public Works)                    |
| Work with the California Department of Water Resources to update the Watershed Task Force risk map | Review current plans and existing projects.   | Completed.<br>Cal OES State Operations Center risk map updated with LNU burn scar data | Department of Resource Management (various divisions, including Parks and Recreation & Public Works)<br>SCWA<br>Cal OES |
| Review the Evacuation processes in the Solano County Sheriff's Office                              | Assign lead   | May 2021   | Sheriff's Office<br>OES<br>Fire Districts<br>Resource Management/Public Works (signage, road closures)                  |

|   |  |               |  |
|---|--|---------------|--|
| Develop an outreach/education effort for 2020-2021 storm season | Update evacuation timeline process   | November 2020 | County Administrator's Office PIO<br>Sheriff's Office PIO<br><br>Vacaville Fire District<br>Sheriff's Office/OES |
|   | Develop evacuation routes, signage for evacuation routes, and visible flood warning system | January 2021  | Sheriff's Office<br>OES<br>Resource Management (multiple Divisions including Parks and Public Works).            |
| Evaluate and streamline AlertSolano System                      | Update the threshold terminology   | Ongoing       | OES<br>National Weather Service  |
|   | Update simplified templates for evacuation alerting  | Ongoing       | Public Works<br>Joint Information Center   |
|   | Assess local sign up and alerting protocols  | Ongoing       | SCWA   |
|   | Design and implement outreach & education campaign   | Ongoing       | County Administrator's Office PIO<br>Sheriff's office PIO  |

# ISSUE 5: Long-Term Flood Control Mitigations

*(FEMA RSF: Infrastructure Systems Recovery Support Function)*

The LNU Lightning Fire burned thousands of trees in and near drainages within the burn scar. Water and debris flow and the resultant blockages during winter storms present a threat to not only rural areas but the city of Vacaville as well. This will require the County Office of Emergency Services to consult with SCWA, Resource Management/Public Works, Solano Resource Conservation District, and the City of Vacaville to best determine:

1. Continue tree removal effort and short-term measures in advance of winter storms
2. Identify necessary modifications to, or increase the number of debris basins
3. Identify any water course modifications
4. Develop comprehensive listing of feasible mitigations to reduce future debris flows/risks
5. Consider purchasing select parcels to include in Flood Control program
6. Develop long term funding source for the maintenance and installation of new protection

| Action   | Tasks  | Target Date         | Department or Individuals                             |
|--|--|---------------------|---|
| Develop comprehensive listing of feasible mitigations to reduce future debris flows/risks (see Financial./Economic Recovery) | Coordinate with private interests to assess and prioritize mitigation options. | Ongoing             | Public Works Engineering<br>SCWA                      |
| Initiate design on short-term operational modifications for debris basins under Hazard Mitigation Grant Program              | Hire consultant services to initiate design                                    | Under Consideration | Public Works Engineering<br>SCWA                      |
|  | Coordinate permit needs and planning changes for debris basins                 | TBD                 |   |
| Initiate longer-term analysis/expanded Basins and Channel Capacities   | Initiate Corps 206 study on basins and channel capacities                      | Ongoing             | Public Works Engineering<br>SCWA<br>City of Vacaville |



| Action   | Tasks  | Target Date | Department or Individuals        |
|--|--|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Develop process for debris disposal sites for future flood/ debris flows materials   | Disposal site identification and site mapping                                  | Ongoing     | Public Works Engineering<br>SCWA |
| Develop comprehensive listing of feasible mitigations to reduce future debris flows/risks (see Financial./Economic Recovery) | Coordinate with private interests to assess and prioritize mitigation options. | Ongoing     | Public Works Engineering<br>SCWA |

# ISSUE 6: Financial Impacts and Economic Recovery

*(FEMA RSF: Economic Recovery Support Function)*



The financial impact from the 2020 LNU Lightning Complex Fire has affected individuals, private businesses, special districts and the County of Solano. Economic recovery is the ability to return economic and business activities to a state of health and develop new economic opportunities that result in a sustainable and economically viable community. This issue integrates the expertise of the federal, state and local governments, various jurisdictions and the private sectors of our community to sustain and/or rebuild businesses and employment and develop economic opportunities that result in sustainable and economically resilient communities post disaster.

Methods of managing economic recovery include:

1. Ensure and secure full cost recovery of expenditures on the LNU Lightning Complex Fire
2. Ensure County recovery from lost/reduced property tax due to the LNU Lightning Complex Fire
3. Support recovery from economic loss to the business community
4. Assess financial impact on private property owners caused from property damage and loss
5. Develop long term funding source for the maintenance and installation of new protections identified through mitigation projects and programs
6. Identify and communicate support for individuals who have suffered economic loss such as loss of employment, rental cost, and deficiencies in insurance coverage
7. Develop comprehensive listing of feasible mitigations to reduce future debris flows/risks and



pursue Hazard Mitigation Grants where appropriate.

| Action   | Tasks   | Target Date  | Department or Individuals  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Ensure and secure full cost recovery of expenditures For LNU Lightning Complex Fire  | Retain consultants to ensure compliance with Federal and State funding sources      | Ongoing, first RPA deadline met October 30, 2020<br>Contract Signed December, 2020 | OES<br>Auditor/Controller<br>All Departments                               |
| Ensure County recovery from lost/reduced property tax  | Monitor the line item in the Governor's budget to supplement to Property tax losses | Ongoing  | CAO<br>Auditor-Controller  |
|  | Advocate for future year funding  | Ongoing  | CAO<br>Solano OES  |
| Support recovery from economic loss to the business community  | Assist small businesses through SBA loans and programs                              | Ongoing  | Small Business Administration<br><br>OES<br>Resource Management<br>Cal OES |
| Assess financial impact on private property owners caused from property damage and loss  | Connect individuals to FEMA public assistance                                       | Completed via LAC  | Multiple County Departments  |
| Develop long term funding source for the maintenance and installation of new protections identified through mitigation projects and programs               | Find and apply for state and Federal Flood mitigation grants.                       | Ongoing  | Public Works<br>SCWA   |
| Identify and communicate support to individuals who have suffered economic loss due to loss of employment, rental cost, deficiencies in insurance coverage | Provide access to assistance programs in the county.                                | Ongoing  | Solano H&SS<br>Community Groups  |

| Action  | Tasks   | Target Date                          | Department or Individuals |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Develop comprehensive listing of feasible mitigations to reduce future debris flows/risks and pursue Hazard Mitigation Grants where appropriate (See Long term flood control mitigations) | Conduct engineering assessment and cost benefit analysis of proposed projects           | Initial Damage Assessments complete. | Public Works<br>SCWA      |
|   | Assess and prioritize needs per funding Opportunities (Short/medium/long term strategy) | Prioritized project lists Ongoing    | Public Works<br>SCWA      |
|   | Respond to NOI/<br>Pursue funding   | Ongoing                              | OES                       |

## ISSUE 7: Natural and Cultural Resources

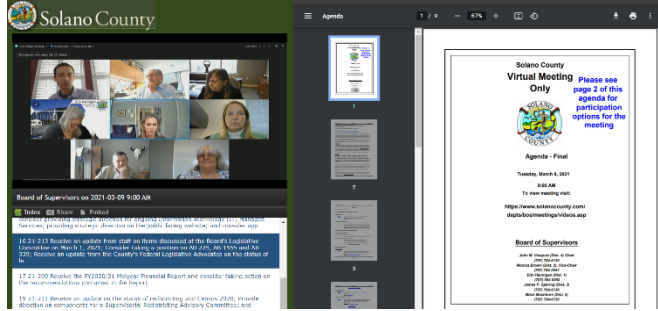
*(FEMA RSF: Natural and Cultural Resources)*

The LNU Lightning Complex fire damaged natural and cultural resources within the burn area. This includes damage to Lake Solano Park and community gathering places. These natural and cultural resources must be protected during recovery actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and restore these resources with consideration of environmental and historical preservation laws, county mandates and stakeholder guidance.

1. Identify cultural enhancements and preservation during recovery actions
2. Prevent damage to natural and cultural resources during recovery actions such as infrastructure repairs, debris removal and reconstruction
3. Prevent further damage to natural and cultural resources impacted by the fire and potential debris flows resulting from the fire.
4. Coordinate with resource specialists from internal and external agencies and other relevant stakeholders to support restoration of impacted natural and cultural resources

| Action   | Tasks  | Target Date        | Department or Individuals  |
|--|--|--------------------|--|
| Identify all known natural and cultural resources in order to preserve or restore impacted areas | <p>Collect data regarding biological cultural and historic resources in the fire area</p> <p>Determine impact to Lake Solano Park and action to restore to public use</p> <p>Identify community centers and needed actions to restore to use</p> | Ongoing            | <p>Fish and Wildlife</p> <p>Cal Fire</p> <p>Department of Resource Management<br/>Parks and Recreation<br/>Planning Services<br/>Tribal Councils<br/>Human Resources/Risk Management<br/>Solano RCD<br/>Bureau of Reclamation<br/>SCWA</p> |
| Identify known endangered and threatened species   | Assess and quantify damage to the resources  | Spring 2021        | <p>Fish and Wildlife</p> <p>Cal Fire<br/>SCWA</p>  |
| Identify funding and necessary actions for the rehabilitation of damaged resources               | Identify desired restoration efforts and potential funding sources   | Spring/Summer 2021 | <p>Fish and Wildlife</p> <p>Cal Fire<br/>SCWA<br/>Resource Mgt- Parks<br/>Human Resources- Risk Management<br/>Solano RCD</p>  |

# ISSUE 8: Community Engagement



*(FEMA RSF: Health and Social Services Recovery Support Function)*

*(FEMA RSF: Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Functions)*

An effective and well-resourced recovery and rebuilding process will require the active engagement of the community’s human, organizational, creative, and philanthropic capital and the deployment of those resources into robust and coordinated activities that support resilient community moving forward.

1. Maintain the SolanoCountyRecovers.org website to facilitate information sharing and recovery efforts
2. Assist property owners through the recovery and rebuilding process
3. Support residents of Solano County to have a venue through which to be engaged in and provide input to the recovery and rebuilding process
4. Facilitate permitting and plan reviews with a centralized location near the burn scar

| Action   | Tasks   | Target Date | Department or Division   |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| Keep the Local Assistance phoneline active for residents needing assistance through the recovery process | Facilitate the rapid access to county agencies for affected residents.  | Ongoing     | Resource Management<br>-Building & Safety Services (lead)<br>-Planning Services<br>-Environmental Health<br>-Engineering |
|  | Help residents navigate government, nonprofit systems and services, and community resources to ensure that their needs are met and/or that residents in need are responded to | Ongoing     | Assessor/Recorder<br>Behavioral Health   |
|  | Evaluate placement of satellite LAC closer to burn area.  | Complete    | General Services   |



|   |   |                |   |
|---|---|----------------|---|
| <p>Assist property owners through the recovery and rebuilding process</p>   | <p>Support the sustained contact with impacted property owners, monitor their needs and steps through the process of rebuilding, and assist them through that process by facilitating communications with county departments and community resources that can help them</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Resource Management<br/>-Building &amp; Safety Services (lead)<br/>-Planning Services<br/>-Environmental Health<br/>-Engineering</p> |
| <p>Integrate behavioral health planning components into overall disaster recovery strategies</p>  | <p>Offer training and guidance regarding behavioral health aspects of recovery to partnering organizations in the disaster recovery efforts</p>   | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Behavioral Health</p>  |
|   | <p>Integrate behavioral health activities and programming into other sectors (schools, health care, social services) to reduce stand-alone services, reach more people, foster resilience and sustainability and reduce stigma</p>  |                |   |
|   | <p>Build on available resources and local capacities and networks (community, families, schools and friends) in developing recovery strategies</p>  |                |   |
| <p>Facilitate or directly provide mental health, spiritual and emotional wellness resources for the community which are easy to access and free of cost</p> | <p>Provide a spectrum of behavioral health services using an approach based on stepped care (from supportive intervention and outreach to long-term treatment)</p>  | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Behavioral Health</p>  |

# Community Planning and Capacity Building

## Recovery Support Function



Following a disaster, communities and their local governments are often forced to make complex recovery decisions. These decisions range widely and can include important topics such as business reinvestment, affordable housing, and building long-term resilience. In addition, many of these communities may lack the capability to address the planning and decision-making processes needed to start their recovery. The consequences of these decisions may impact community prosperity, safety, and identity for years to come.

### *What is Community Planning and Capacity Building?*

The Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function, also known as CPCB RSF, is one of six RSFs established under the National Disaster Recovery Framework. Other RSFs include Housing, Economic, Health and Social Services, Natural and Cultural Resources, and Infrastructure Systems.

The CPCB RSF strives to restore and strengthen state, territorial, tribal, and local governments' ability to plan for recovery, engage the community in the recovery planning process and build capacity for local plan implementation and recovery management. Recovery planning in the post-disaster environment builds short- and long-term community resilience, empowers local leaders and stakeholders and improves recovery outcomes for the individual and the community. Governmental and non-governmental partners, coordinated by FEMA, come together under the banner of the CPCB RSF to share information and pool planning support resources. These resources can include planning technical assistance, program support, or funding for planning and capacity building-related initiatives.

### **Mission of Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function (CPCB RSF):**

The mission of the CPCB RSF is to enable local governments to effectively and efficiently carry out community-based recovery planning and management in a post disaster environment. CPCB also supports state or territorial governments in developing programs of support for local recovery planning.

### **Coordinating Agency:**

Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency

### **Primary Agency:**

Department of Housing and Urban Development

### **Supporting Agencies Include:**

Corp. for National & Community Service  
Department of Agriculture  
Department of Commerce  
Department of Education  
Department of Energy  
Dept. of Health and Human Services  
Department of Interior  
Department of Justice  
Department of Transportation  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Nat. Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster  
Small Business Administration  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Access Board

### **Non-Governmental Partners Include:**

American Planning Association  
American Red Cross  
International City/County Management Association  
National Association of Development Organizations  
The American Institute of Architects  
...and others

# Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function

## *What does the CPCB RSF do BEFORE a disaster?*

The CPCB RSF coordinates assistance among federal and non-federal partners to help local governments and tribes prepare for disaster recovery. The CPCB RSF works through partners to communicate and coordinate availability of guidance materials, tools and training for developing local and tribal pre-disaster recovery and resilience plans. The RSF also builds a network of agencies and organizations that are prepared to aid tribes and local governments with planning when disaster strikes.



## *What does the CPCB RSF do AFTER a disaster?*

The CPCB RSF coordinates and facilitates support among a variety of partners for the planning, capacity, and resilience building capabilities needed by local or tribal governments following large or unique incidents. Coordination and partner support is tailored to the needs of disaster-impacted states, territories, tribes, and local governments through information sharing, assessment, and strategy development process.

Examples of coordinated CPCB RSF support activities include:

- *Education, Peer-to-Peer Forums and Workshops* give recovery planners and officials an opportunity to ask questions and benefit from therecovery planning lessons learned by others.
- *Recovery Planning* is often needed by communities to begin an organized process. CPCB federal partners, as well as universities and NGOs, can pool resources to provide planning technical assistance, staffing resources and funding.
- *Community Engagement* after a disaster can be fraught with challenges, including resident displacement. CPCB partners can advise or support communities with reaching and involving all stakeholders in recovery planning.
- *Management Capacity* is often needed to implement recovery plans. CPCB partners can help communities quickly define local capacity building needs and identify post- disaster resources to fill those management needs.
- *Planning and related Tools, Guidance, Training* and other just-in-time materials are available through the *Community Recovery Management Toolkit* and other partner resources.

### Related Resources:

National Disaster Recovery Framework:  
<http://www.fema.gov/national-disaster-recovery-framework>

Does your community have a recovery plan or an emergency operations plan?  
[www.fema.gov/plan](http://www.fema.gov/plan)

Community Recovery Planning and Management Toolkit:  
<http://www.fema.gov/national-disaster-recovery-framework/community-recovery-management-toolkit>

Does your community have a hazard mitigation plan?  
Local Mitigation Planning Handbook –  
<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/31598>

Hazard Mitigation: Integrating Best Practices into Planning –  
<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/19261>

Does your community have a pre-disaster recovery ordinance?  
American Planning Association  
<https://www.planning.org/research/postdisaster/>

Does your community need an economic recovery plan?  
International Economic Development Council  
<http://restoreyoureconomy.org/recovery/post-disaster-planning-for-economic-recovery/>

Does your community have a continuity of operations plan?  
Continuity Planning & Templates  
<http://www.fema.gov/planning-templates>

Training for disaster recovery  
Emergency Management Institute  
<http://www.training.fema.gov/emi/>

**National CPCB RSF Coordinator:**  
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### ECONOMIC RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION

The National Disaster Recovery Framework introduces six Recovery Support Functions (RSF) that are led by designated federal coordinating agencies at the national level. RSFs involve partners in the local, state and tribal governments and private and nonprofit sectors not typically involved in emergency support functions but critically needed in disaster recovery. These new partners may include public and private organizations that have experience with permanent housing financing, economic development, advocacy for underserved populations and long-term community planning.

The processes used for facilitating recovery are more flexible, context based and collaborative in approach than the task-oriented approach used during the response phase of an incident. Recovery processes should be scalable and based on demonstrated recovery needs.

Each RSF has a designated coordinating agency along with primary agencies and supporting organizations with programs relevant to the functional area. The RSF Coordinating Agency, with the assistance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, provides leadership, coordination and oversight for that particular.

When coordinating agencies are activated to lead a RSF, primary agencies and supporting organizations are expected to be responsive to the function related to communication and coordination needs.

#### Economic Recovery

Economic Recovery is the ability to return economic and business activities (including agricultural) to a state of health and develop new economic opportunities that result in a sustainable and economically viable community. The Economic Recovery RSF integrates the expertise of the Federal Government to help local, regional/metropolitan, state, tribal, territorial, and insular area governments and the private sector sustain and/or rebuild businesses and employment and develop economic opportunities that result in sustainable and economically resilient communities after an incident.

#### Coordinating Agency: Department of Commerce

**Primary Agencies:** Small Business Administration; Department of Agriculture; Department of Homeland Security; Department of Labor; Department of the Treasury

**Supporting Organizations:** Corporation for National and Community Service; Delta Regional Authority; Department of Health and Human Services; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of the Interior; Environmental Protection Agency; General Services Administration; Department of State

#### Objectives:

- Serve as a vehicle for enhancing Federal interagency coordination, information sharing, communication, and collaboration in both the pre- and post-disaster timeframes
- Support the capacity of local, state, tribal, and territorial governments, nonprofits, and the private sector to produce a multi-dimensional strategy capable of supporting economic recovery and enhancing community resilience



## HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION

The National Disaster Recovery Framework introduces six Recovery Support Functions (RSF) that are led by designated federal coordinating agencies at the national level. RSFs involve partners in the local, state and tribal governments and private and nonprofit sectors not typically involved in emergency support functions but critically needed in disaster recovery. These new partners may include public and private organizations that have experience with permanent housing financing, economic development, advocacy for underserved populations and long-term community planning.

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When coordinating agencies are activated to lead a RSF, primary agencies and supporting organizations are expected to be responsive to the function related communication and coordination needs.

### Health and Social Services

Healthcare is an economic driver in many communities, which if damaged make this sector critical to most communities' disaster recovery. Social Services have a major impact on the ability of a community to recover. The support of social services programs for at-risk and vulnerable children, individuals, and families affected by a disaster can promote a more effective and rapid recovery. The Health and Social Services RSF outlines the Federal framework to support locally led recovery efforts to address public health, health care facilities and coalitions, and essential social services needs. Displaced individuals in need of housing will also need health and social services support.

### Coordinating Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

**Primary Agencies:** Corporation for National and Community Service; Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce; Department of Homeland Security/National Protection and Programs Directorate; Department of Homeland Security/Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of the Interior; Department of Justice; Department of Labor; Environmental Protection Agency; Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Supporting Organizations:** American Red Cross; Department of Education; Department of Transportation; Department of the Treasury; Department of Veterans Affairs; National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster; Small Business Administration

### Objectives:

- Complete assessment of community health and social service needs, prioritize those needs, including accessibility requirements, based on the whole community's participation in the recovery planning process, and develop a comprehensive recovery timeline.
- Restore health care public health, and social services functions.
- Restore and improve the resilience and sustainability of the health care system and social service capabilities and networks to promote the independence and well-being of community members in accordance with the specified recovery timeline.



## HOUSING RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION

The National Disaster Recovery Framework introduces six Recovery Support Functions (RSF) that are led by designated federal coordinating agencies at the national level. RSFs involve partners in the local, state and tribal governments and private and nonprofit sectors not typically involved in emergency support functions but critically needed in disaster recovery. These new partners may include public and private organizations that have experience with permanent housing financing, economic development, advocacy for underserved populations and long-term community planning.

The processes used for facilitating recovery are more flexible, context based and collaborative in approach than the task-oriented approach used during the response phase of an incident. Recovery processes should be scalable and based on demonstrated recovery needs.

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When coordinating agencies are activated to lead a RSF, primary agencies and supporting organizations are expected to be responsive to the function related communication and coordination needs.

### **Housing RSF**

The Housing RSF coordinates and facilitates the delivery of Federal resources to implement housing solutions that effectively support the needs of the whole community and contribute to its sustainability and resilience. Housing is a critical and often challenging component of disaster recovery, but must be adequate, affordable, and accessible to make a difference for the whole community.

### **Coordinating Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**Primary Agencies:** Department of Agriculture; Department of Justice; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Supporting Organizations:** American Red Cross; Corporation for National and Community Service; Department of Commerce; Department of Energy; Department of Health and Human Services; Department of Veterans Affairs; Environmental Protection Agency; General Services Administration; National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster; Small Business Administration; U.S. Access Board

### **Objectives:**

- Identify Strategies to Strengthen the Housing Market
- Meet the Need for Quality Affordable Rental Homes
- Utilize Housing as a Platform for Improving Quality of Life
- Build Inclusive and Sustainable Communities
- Integrate Disaster Mitigation Measures into Community Design and Development to Improve Disaster Resilience



### INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION

The National Disaster Recovery Framework introduces six Recovery Support Functions (RSF) that are led by designated federal coordinating agencies at the national level. RSFs involve partners in the local, state and tribal governments and private and nonprofit sectors not typically involved in emergency support functions but critically needed in disaster recovery. These new partners may include public and private organizations that have experience with permanent housing financing, economic development, advocacy for underserved populations and long-term community planning.

The processes used for facilitating recovery are more flexible, context based and collaborative in approach than the task-oriented approach used during the response phase of an incident. Recovery processes should be scalable and based on demonstrated recovery needs.

Each RSF has a designated coordinating agency along with primary agencies and supporting organizations with programs relevant to the functional area. The RSF Coordinating Agency, with the assistance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, provides leadership, coordination and oversight for that particular.

When coordinating agencies are activated to lead a RSF, primary agencies and supporting organizations are expected to be responsive to the function related communication and coordination needs.

#### **Infrastructure Systems RSF**

The Infrastructure Systems RSF works to efficiently facilitate the restoration of infrastructure systems and services to support a viable, sustainable community and improves resilience to and protection from future hazards.

**Coordinating Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Primary Agencies:** Department of Energy; Department of Homeland Security; Department of Transportation; Federal Emergency Management Agency; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Supporting Organizations:** Delta Regional Authority; Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce; Department of Defense; Department of Education; Department of Health and Human Services; Department of Homeland Security; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of the Interior; Department of the Treasury; Environmental Protection Agency; Federal Communications Commission; General Services Administration; Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Tennessee Valley Authority

#### **Objectives:**

- Include private sector infrastructure owners and operators and related service providers in planning at all levels.
- Provide technical assistance to all levels of governments for identifying/prioritizing critical infrastructure systems and assets.
- Create an inter-agency, inter-jurisdictional recovery planning process.
- Provide adequate Federal support and resources to assist affected local, state, tribal, territorial, and insular area governments with effective community planning and redevelopment efforts.
- Identify legal, policy, and programmatic requirements that may potentially limit efficient recovery and mitigate to the extent possible.
- Encourage the concepts of regional infrastructure resiliency.
- Provide mitigation opportunities that leverage innovative and green technologies.
- Create processes, policies, and timelines that support renewed economic activity.



### NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION

The National Disaster Recovery Framework introduces six Recovery Support Functions (RSF) that are led by designated federal coordinating agencies at the national level. RSFs involve partners in the local, state and tribal governments and private and nonprofit sectors not typically involved in emergency support functions but critically needed in disaster recovery. These new partners may include public and private organizations that have experience with permanent housing financing, economic development, advocacy for underserved populations and long-term community planning.

The processes used for facilitating recovery are more flexible, context based and collaborative in approach than the task-oriented approach used during the response phase of an incident. Recovery processes should be scalable and based on demonstrated recovery needs.

Each RSF has a designated coordinating agency along with primary agencies and supporting organizations with programs relevant to the functional area. The RSF Coordinating Agency, with the assistance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, provides leadership, coordination and oversight for that particular.

When coordinating agencies are activated to lead a RSF, primary agencies and supporting organizations are expected to be responsive to the function related communication and coordination needs.

#### **Natural & Cultural Resources (NCR) RSF**

The NCR RSF facilitates the integration of capabilities of the Federal Government to support the protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties through appropriate response and recovery actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and restore them consistent with post-disaster community priorities and in compliance with applicable environmental and historical preservation laws and Executive orders.

#### **Coordinating Agency: Department of the Interior**

**Primary Agencies:** Department of the Interior; Environmental Protection Agency; Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Supporting Organizations:** Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; Corporation for National and Community Service; Council on Environmental Quality; Delta Regional Authority; Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce; Department of Homeland Security/National Protection and Programs Directorate; General Services Administration; Heritage Emergency National Task Force; Institute of Museum and Library Services; Library of Congress; National Archives and Records Administration; National Endowment for the Arts; National Endowment for the Humanities; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

#### **Objectives:**

- Coordinate and facilitate the sharing and integration of NCR impact data to help understand the recovery needs and support good decision making for NCR recovery stakeholders.
- Facilitate or provide funding and/or technical assistance in support of community recovery priorities to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and restore impacted NCR.
- Identify and leverage resources and programs that are available to support the development and implementation of sustainable recovery strategies.
- Provide technical assistance to help impacted communities develop recovery planning, establish recovery task forces, develop cultural and natural resources protection organization networks, and enhance their recovery capability and readiness for future disasters.

*(continued on next page)*

- Integrate environmental staff knowledgeable in natural resources and environmental regulatory requirements early in a disaster recovery planning process.
- Coordinate environmental and historic property (EHP) issues across the RSFs and with local, State, Tribal, Territorial, and Insular Area governments and provide expertise in support of the Unified Federal Review (UFR) process to help ensure EHP compliance in recovery.
- Integrate sustainable planning elements to provide a multi-disciplined effort that includes consideration of long-term environmental effects to natural resources, integration of open space and sensitive resources, and community well-being.