

Chapter 9. Fire District #51 Annex

9.1. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN POINT OF CONTACT

Primary Point of Contact

Jay Wiseman – Fire Chief
P.O. Box 99
Snoqualmie Pass, WA 98068
Telephone: 425-761-0781
Email: jwiseman@snoqualmiepassfirerescue.org

Alternate Point of Contact

Troy Donlin
P.O. Box 99
Snoqualmie Pass, WA 98068
Telephone: 425-434-6333
Email: tdonlin@snoqualmiepassfirerescue.org

9.2. JURISDICTION PROFILE

King and Kittitas County Fire District 51 (dba Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue) is a fire protection district that provides structural fire, wildland fire, emergency medical response and rescue operations in the Snoqualmie Pass/ Lake Kachess / Stampede Pass areas of Kittitas County and along I-90 from Milepost 42 to Milepost 67. Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue is a dual County Fire District in both King and Kittitas Counties. Approximately one third of the District is in King County and 2 thirds in Kittitas County The district was formed in the early 1970s and is funded through property taxes and is run by an elected Board of Fire Commissioners who appoint a Chief of the Department for day-to-day operations. Besides the property owners and residents within Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue, the District also provides service to the I-90 corridor, which has up to 40,000 vehicles per day travel across it. The Districts primary industry is the Summit at Snoqualmie Ski Resort with four separate base area facilities including food and beverage services and maintenance facilities. The Summit at Snoqualmie also has approximately 40 chair lifts. The following is a summary of key information about the jurisdiction:

Population Served—1000 as of 2018

- **Land Area Served**—Approximately 40 square miles
- **Value of Area Served**—The estimated value of the area served by the jurisdiction is \$470,507,209
- **Land Area Owned**—Approximately 1/3 acre
- **List of Critical Infrastructure/Equipment Owned by the Jurisdiction:**
 - 4 – Fire Engine: \$1,400,000
 - 3 – Aid Car: \$300,000
 - 4 – Brush Trucks: \$200,000
 - All portable equipment located in the emergency vehicles and station: \$100,000
- **Total Value of Critical Infrastructure/Equipment**—The total value of critical infrastructure and equipment owned by the jurisdiction is \$10,000,000.
- **List of Critical Facilities Owned by the Jurisdiction:**
 - Fire Station #83: \$150,000
 - Fire Station 291: \$6,000,000

- **Total Value of Critical Facilities**—The total value of critical facilities owned by the jurisdiction is: \$6,150,000
- **Current and Anticipated Service Trends**— As the transient population traveling over I-90 continues to increase, so do the District’s calls for service. The vast majority of responses are directly related to incidents on I-90. The Community is also growing and calls for service have increased due to this growth.

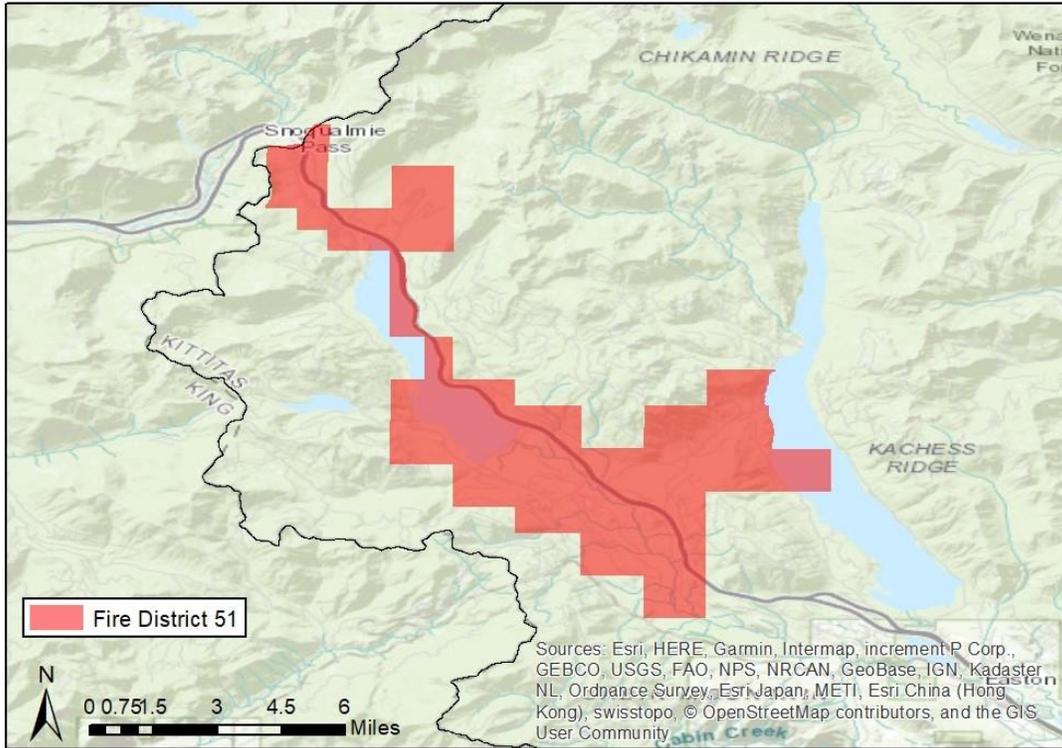


Figure 9-1. Fire District 51 Boundaries

9.3. JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC NATURAL HAZARD EVENT HISTORY

Table 9-1 lists all past occurrences of natural hazards within the jurisdiction.

9.4. HAZARD RISK RANKING

Table 9-2 presents the ranking of the hazards of concern. The jurisdiction is most at risk from earthquakes, with severe storms ranked second. The area has moderate risk from flooding, wildfire, and volcano. There is low risk from all other hazards.

9.5. APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND PLANS

The following existing codes, ordinances, policies or plans are applicable to this hazard mitigation plan:

- Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan, final rule CFR part 201.4
- Building Code KCC 14.04
- Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan
- Emergency Response Plan
- Critical Areas KCC 17A.05

- Federal and state occupational safety and labor-and-industry mandates
- Firewise programs within the County supported by Kittitas County Conservation District, Washington Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service, and the fire districts.
- Kittitas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

9.6. CLASSIFICATION IN HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAMS

The jurisdiction's classifications under various hazard mitigation programs are presented in Table 9-3.

9.7. HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN AND EVALUATION OF RECOMMENDED INITIATIVES

Table 9-4 lists the initiatives that make up the jurisdiction's hazard mitigation plan. Table 9-5 identifies the priority for each initiative. Table 9-6 summarizes the mitigation initiatives by hazard of concern and the six mitigation types.

9.8. FUTURE NEEDS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND RISK/VULNERABILITY

The District's service area is extremely vulnerable to avalanche events that could isolate the area or cause a large population to become trapped in the area. The other major concern is failure of the dam on either Lake Keechelus or Lake Kachess, which would cause a major flooding event and potentially isolate portions of the district. There there is only one facilities within the District that could serve as a command post or emergency shelter if a major hazard incident were to occur. Station 291 has an emergency diesel generator and can serve as an incident command post, EOC and an emergency shelter.

Table 9-1. Natural Hazard Events

Type of Event	Date	Preliminary Damage Assessment
Severe winter storm	03/25/2011	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	03/02/2009	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	01/30/2009	No estimate available
Earthquake/Nisqually	03/01/2001	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	01/17/1997	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	02/09/1996	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	01/03/1996	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	11/26/1990	No estimate available
Volcanic eruption/ St. Helens	05/21/1980	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	12/10/1977	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	12/13/1975	No estimate available
Severe winter storm	12/29/1964	No estimate available

Table 9-2. Hazard Risk Ranking

Rank	Hazard Type	Risk Rating Score (Probability x Impact)
1	Earthquake	54
2	Severe winter storm	27
3	Flooding	18
4	Wildfire	12
5	Volcano/Lahars	8
6	Landslide	2
6	Avalanche	2
7	Dam Failure	1
7	Drought	1
7	Tsunami/Seiche	1

Table 9-3. Community Classifications

	Participating?	Classification	Date Classified
Public Protection	Yes	8/9	—
Storm Ready	No	—	—
Firewise	No	—	—

Table 9-4. Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Matrix

Applies to new or existing assets	Hazards Mitigated	Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
Initiative #FD8-01 —Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance and updating of this plan.						
New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing
Initiative #FD8-02 —Continue to support through active participation the countywide initiatives identified in volume 1 of the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan.						
New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing
Initiative #FD8-03 —Participate in the Firewise program by identifying project site locations and promoting Firewise techniques as a defensible space initiative.						
New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing	New and Existing
Initiative #FD8-04 —Comply with all applicable building and fire codes, as well as other regulations when constructing or significantly remodeling infrastructure facilities.						
New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing
Initiative #FD8-05 —Require that development in high fire hazard areas provide adequate access roads, onsite fire protection systems, evacuation signage and fire breaks.						
New	New	New	New	New	New	New
Initiative #FD8-06 —Enhance communication capabilities between agencies, coordination of radio types and use of existing and new systems.						
New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing	New & Existing

Table 9-5. Mitigation Strategy Priority Schedule

Initiative #	# of Objectives Met	Benefits	Costs	Do Benefits Equal or Exceed Costs?	Is Project Grant-Eligible?	Can Project Be Funded Under Existing Programs/Budgets?	Priority*
1	3	Medium	Low	Yes	Yes	Yes	High
2	3	Medium	Low	Yes	No	Yes	High
3	3	High	Low	Yes	Yes	Yes	High
4	4	High	Low	Yes	No	Yes	High
5	4	High	Low	Yes	No	Yes	High
6	4	High	Medium	Yes	Yes	No	Medium

* See Section 1.3 for definitions of high, medium and low priorities.

Table 9-6. Analysis of Mitigation Initiatives: Initiative Addressing Hazard, by Mitigation Type

Hazard Type	1. Prevention	2. Property Protection	3. Public Education and Awareness	4. Natural Resource Protection	5. Emergency Services	6. Structural Projects
Avalanche	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Dam Failure	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Drought	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Earthquake	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Flood	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Landslide	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Severe Weather	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Seiche	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Volcano	1, 2	4	1, 2		6	
Wildfire	1, 2	3, 4, 5	1, 2	3	6	

1. Prevention: Government, administrative or regulatory actions that influence the way land and buildings are developed to reduce hazard losses. Includes planning and zoning, floodplain laws, capital improvement programs, open space preservation, and stormwater management regulations.
2. Property Protection: Modification of buildings or structures to protect them from a hazard or removal of structures from a hazard area. Includes acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofit, storm shutters, and shatter-resistant glass.
3. Public Education and Awareness: Actions to inform citizens and elected officials about hazards and ways to mitigate them. Includes outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and school-age and adult education.
4. Natural Resource Protection: Actions that minimize hazard loss and preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. Includes sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management, and wetland restoration and preservation.
5. Emergency Services: Actions that protect people and property during and immediately after a hazard event. Includes warning systems, emergency response services, and the protection of essential facilities.
6. Structural Projects: Actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Includes dams, setback levees, floodwalls, retaining walls, and safe rooms.