

Natural Hazard Action Item Proposal Form

Proposed Action Item:		Alignment with Plan Goals:	
Continue to assess the vulnerability of all county and city bridges that are not under the state's authority.		Protect Human Welfare, Property, and Natural Resources	
Rationale for Proposed Action Item:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If bridges are closed due to flood, landslide, earthquake, or severe weather, remote locations may be isolated from emergency services. ○ The bridge system in Picture Gorge, if destroyed, would be a problem for transport and a deterrent to tourism. As of yet, the area has seen minor rock slides, but nothing that has caused significant harm. ○ Most bridges are not seismically retrofitted, which is a particularly important issue for the Northeast region because of its risk from earthquakes. Incapacitated bridges can disrupt traffic and exacerbate economic losses because of the inability of industries to transport services and products to clients ○ Number of county highway bridges: Baker: 80; Grant: 36; Union: 67; Wallowa: 58 ○ Number of city/municipal highway bridges: Baker: 7; Grant: 9; Union: 6; Wallowa: 11 ○ Bridges near Wallowa River won't legally carry the bigger fire trucks ○ Buildings, bridges, highways and utilities that are better able to withstand earthquakes not only save lives but also enable critical activities to continue with less disruption. ○ The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires communities to identify actions that address existing buildings and infrastructure [201.6(c)(3)(ii)]. Assessing the structural integrity of county bridges will help in monitoring their condition and diminish the impacts of a future natural hazard. 			
Ideas for Implementation:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ County bridges over 20ft fall under the State's authority; bridges under 20ft are monitored by the county roads departments. Continue to inspect the integrity of all bridges that are not within the state's control. ○ Bring bridges up to standards for the transfer of fire equipment. 			
Coordinating Organization:		County Roads Departments	
Internal Partners:		External Partners:	
County Public Works Departments, City of Halfway, Union County Traffic Control Department		Oregon Department of Transportation, local fire departments, Emergency Services	
Timeline:		If available, estimated cost:	
Short Term (0-2 years)	Long Term (2-4 or more years)		
	Long Term		
Form Submitted by:		RARE Participant	