

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LOCATION

The Upper Sioux Community is comprised of 547 (July 1, 2022) Dakota Members whose ancestors resided in the Minnesota River Valley for centuries. The Upper Sioux Community is currently located on approximately 2,339 acres of land that borders the Minnesota River and both Yellow Medicine and Chippewa Counties (See Figure 1.4 to the right). The Upper Sioux Community is 120 miles west of Minneapolis-St. Paul, 100 miles southwest of St. Cloud, and five miles south of Granite Falls, Minnesota, on the Minnesota River.

CLIMATE CHANGE

According to the Minnesota State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2019, temperatures are rising, and weather patterns are changing, with increases in severe weather events and extreme precipitation.

According to the Minnesota Climate & Health Program Planning document published in August 2018, the region of the Upper Sioux Community has the following trends:

- There has been an increase in winter and summer temperatures.
- There has been an increase in total average precipitation as well as heavy precipitation events, with longer periods of intervening dry spells.
- There has been an increase in the older adult population.

PLANNING PROCESS

From March 3, 2021, through May 23, 2022, we held 10 planning meetings and workshops held to update all plan information. In July-August 2022, a public review process was completed.

USC OVERALL HAZARD PRIORITY LEVELS 2022

How each hazard ranked for risk to the Upper Sioux Community

Hazard Type	Value	Level
Winter Weather	3.5	High
Summer Weather	3.5	High
Fire	3.5	High
Terrorism	3.5	High
Tornado	3.25	Moderate
Attacks	3	Moderate
Hazardous Materials	3	Moderate
Infectious Disease	3	Moderate
Water Supply Contamination	2.75	Moderate
Wastewater Treatment Facility Failure	2.5	Moderate
100-year floods	2.5	Moderate
Wildfire	2.25	Low
Flash floods	2.25	Low
500-year flood	2	Low
Drought	1.5	Low
Dam Failure	1.5	Low
Landslide and Erosion	1.5	Low

2022 PRIORITIZED STRATEGIES

The following are the highest priority actions for the Upper Sioux Community Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Hazard	Action	Priority Ranking
All Hazards	1. Add communications redundancy to current system	1
All Hazards	2. Enhance cellular communications	2
All Hazards	3. Improve IT, telecommunications, and network security	1
Violent Storms and Extreme Temperatures	18. Install wireless internet system for redundancy in the community's broadband system.	1
Violent Storms and Extreme Temperatures	19. Install ARMER tower on water tower for better radio service for casino and entire community	2
Violent Storms and Extreme Temperatures	20. Pursue cellular improvements for better service and redundancy in communication system for casino and entire community.	2
Violent Storms and Extreme Temperatures	21. Ensure that generators continue to service all community buildings and are in good working condition.	2
Landslide and Erosion	37. Complete streambank stabilization feasibility Study of with Army Corps of Engineers that was started in 2019. The stretch that is being studied starts near the Wacipi grounds and runs approximately 2600 feet downstream along the bank. After the feasibility study is complete, start construction in late 2023.	1
Infectious Diseases	42. Create a plan to make sure that mass transportation and mobile communications can address infectious disease outbreaks.	2
Infectious Diseases	45. Continue cooperation between Board of Trustees, Yellow Medicine County Emergency Manager, Countryside Public Health, Family Health Services Director and Indian Health Services.	1
Infectious Diseases	46. Maintain and update material, plans, and agreements for addressing infectious diseases.	2
Infectious Diseases	47. Complete facility that is designed and equipped to implement care treatment and responses for pandemic and public health emergencies.	1
Infectious Diseases	48. Update Round House with HEPA system.	2
Wastewater Treatment	64. Create a plan for the wastewater system that considers possible failures of pipes and lift stations to ensure that the casino and community is not adversely affected.	1
Terrorism/Attack	65. Install cameras; add security personnel, badges or other security measures at casino, Powpow grounds, government center and all places where the public gathers.	2
Terrorism/Attack	68. Conduct training such as active shooter drills for staff at public gathering places.	2
Terrorism/Attack	69. Review existing security measures at all facilities where the public gathers and identify issues.	2
Terrorism/Attack	70. Develop a plan for cybersecurity threats	1