

Eight- Step Floodplain Assessment

Butte County Capital Fund 5- Year Action Plan Rehabilitation Project

Decision Process for E.O. 11988

Step 1- Determination of if Located in a Wetland

The Butte County 5- Year Action Plan Rehabilitation Project is the rehabilitation of several existing single and multi-family housing units which are managed by the Housing Authority of the County of Butte (HACB). Two Projects have housing units located in a 100-year floodplain based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Map Service Center maps (FEMA 2019). See Figures 1a and 1b for maps.

These locations are as follows:

Project 43-03:

- **(2) 1201-1248 Hazel Street and 1233-1239 Ivy Street:** 32 units on approximately 3.46 acres, flood zone AO, FEMA FIRM Map No. 06007C0505E, 01/06/2011
- **(3) 1-22 La Leita Court:** 22 units on approximately 2.95 acres, flood zone AO, FEMA FIRM Map No. 06007C0505E, 01/06/2011
- **(4) 1-30 Natoma Court & 694 E. 12th Street in Chico:** 32 units on approximately 4.32 acres, flood zone AO, FEMA FIRM Map No. 06007C0505E, 01/06/2011.

Project 43-13:

- **(2) 961-977 Ivy Street in Chico:** 9 units on 0.73 acre, flood zone AO, FEMA FIRM map No. 06007C0502E, 01/06/2011

A total of approximately 11 acres of Project housing are located within flood zone AO, indicating the area is subject to inundation by 1-percent-annual-chance shallow flooding (usually sheet flow on sloping terrain) where average depth is one foot or less.

Rehabilitation and associated site improvements at each site will include the following general activities:

Non-Exhaustive List of Rehabilitation Activities:

- Replace appliances
- Landscaping
- Improvements for American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility improvements
- Replace sidewalks
- Replace signs
- Install ceiling fans, screen doors, light fixtures and related interior home components
- Replace HVAC system
- Remodel bathrooms
- Replace VCT tile
- Abate asbestos as necessary
- Replace water heaters
- Replace water heaters and cabinets
- Replace fencing

- Investigate damaged, blocked, crushed sewer laterals and mainlines and replace as required

For a complete list of activities to be performed by year for each site location, see the individual Categorical Exemptions.

Per 24 CFR 55.12, the decision making steps required by Executive Order 11988 do not apply to financial assistance for minor repairs or improvements on one- to four-family properties. However, the proposed project includes rehabilitation of existing single and multi-family housing units that occupy the floodplain; therefore, an evaluation of direct or indirect impacts associated with occupancy or modification to the floodplain is required.

Step 2- Early Public Notice

A public notice concerning the project was published in the Chico Enterprise Record Newspaper, the local newspaper for Chico and surrounding areas in Butte County, on May 25, 2020. The target groups were persons residing within the City of Chico, including the floodplain residents. Attached is a copy of the aforementioned published public notification that appeared in the Enterprise Record Newspaper on May 25, 2020 (*Attachment A*). This was a 15-day notice which ended on June 9, 2020.

Step 3- Consider Alternatives

The Housing Authority of the County of Butte has considered the following alternatives to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: alternative location, reduced Project, and no Project. All three alternatives were deemed infeasible, as the alternatives will not accomplish the primary objective of the Project- to perform necessary maintenance and modernization to existing HUD buildings. An alternative location is not feasible as the buildings and structures are pre-existing and in need of maintenance and repair to maintain the quality of life and conformance with state building standards for the residents.

Step 4- Identified Adverse and Beneficial Impacts

Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988, are included in the main environmental document. As explained in the Categorical Exemptions and Statutory Worksheets, this activity will have no significant impact on the environment for the following reasons: the Project will not significantly alter the building's flood-resistance and will not increase flood-related hazards at the Project sites. At the time of construction, all buildings and structures onsite were constructed to California Building Code and National Flood Insurance Program Standards. As such, significant environmental impacts due to the proposed actions will not occur.

Step 5- Mitigation for Adverse Impacts

As explained under Step 4, significant environmental impacts due to the proposed actions will not occur. Therefore, mitigation is not required.

Step 6- Reevaluation of Alternatives

As explained under Step 3, the alternative location, alternative Project, and no Project alternatives are not feasible. The Project consists of necessary rehabilitation and improvements to occupied housing units in order to maintain quality of life, safety, and compliance with state law. None of the alternatives would accomplish the objectives of the Project.

Step 7- Announcement and Explanation to Public of Decision

It is our determination that there is no practicable alternative other than locating the project in the AO flood zone because the need to improve the aesthetic character, safety, and ADA accessibility of the existing affordable housing units must be met, the number of dwelling units would not be increased beyond what is currently existing so additional persons would not be exposed to a flood hazard, the project is economically feasible, and no substantial adverse impacts to the floodplain will occur as a result of the project. A public notice of this determination was published in the Chico Enterprise Record Newspaper on (May 25, 2020). A copy of the notice as published is attached (*Attachment A*).

Step 8- Project Implementation

HACB will assure that this plan, as modified and described above, is executed and necessary language will be included in all agreements with participating parties. HACB will also take an active role in monitoring the construction process to ensure no unnecessary impacts occur nor unnecessary risks are taken. The flood insurance requirement for the life of the property will be monitored by HACB as the insured party on the flood insurance policy. Flood insurance documents are included in Appendix D.

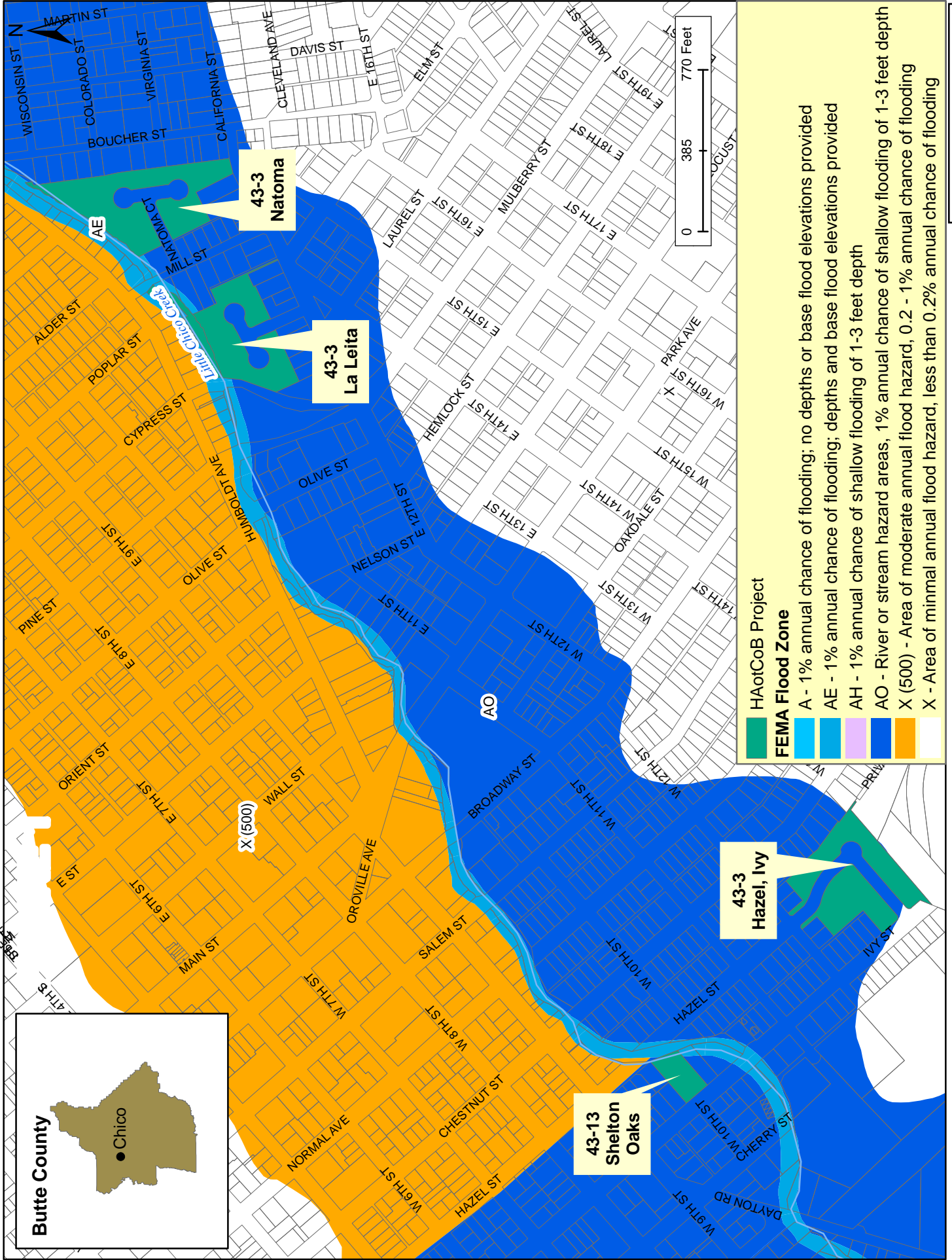


Figure 1b

Attachments

**Early Notice and Public Review
of a
Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain**

This is to give notice that the Housing Authority of the County of Butte has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management, to determine the potential affect that its activity in the floodplain and wetland will have on the human environment for rehabilitation and upgrades to housing units and the administration building of the Housing Authority of the County of Butte under the Five-Year Action Plan Capital Fund Program. The purpose of the Project is to perform modernization and physical maintenance on the interior and exterior of four affordable housing sites in Chico. 95 units contained within 52 buildings are included in the Project and located in a floodplain. The proposed projects are in Chico, CA, Butte County and are located at:

Hazel/Ivy site: 1201-1248 Hazel Street, 1233-1239 Ivy Street. The site consists of 3.46 total acres with approximately 3.0 acres in the AO zone.

La Leita Court site: 1-22 La Leita Court. The site consists of 2.95 total acres with approximately 2.60 acres within the AO zone and 0.25 acres within the AE zone.

Natoma site: 1-30 Natoma Court, 694 E. 12th Street. The site consists of 4.32 total acres with approximately 4.23 acres within the AO zone and 0.09 acres within the AE zone.

Shelton Oaks site: 961-977 Ivy Street. The site consists of 0.73 total acres with approximately 0.59 acres within the AO zone and 0.04 acres within the AE zone.

The Housing Authority of the County of Butte has considered the following alternatives to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values: alternative location, reduced project, and no project. All three alternatives were deemed infeasible, as the alternatives will not accomplish the primary objective of the Project- to perform necessary maintenance and modernization to existing HUD buildings.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Information regarding the proposed projects can be reviewed at the Housing Authority of the County of Butte website <http://www.butte-housing.com/> or at the below address between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advisory Notice: Pursuant to current State Public Health directives to shelter-in-place and practice social distancing, interested parties must make an appointment to view or request copies of information pertaining to this notice by contacting Jerry Martin as listed below.

Written comments must be received by the Housing Authority of the County of Butte at the following address on or before **June 9, 2020**. Comments should be sent to:

**Jerry Martin
Modernization Coordinator
Housing Authority of the County of Butte
2039 Forest Avenue
Chico, CA 95928
(530) 895-4474 ext. 219
JerryM@Butte-Housing.com**

