



2025 Pierce County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan



Pierce County
Emergency Management

Special Acknowledgements

Participating Pierce County Jurisdictions	
City of Bonney Lake	Unincorporated Pierce County
City of Buckley	Carbonado Historical School District
City of Dupont	Clover Park School District
City of Edgewood	Dieringer School District
City of Fife	Eatonville School District
City of Fircrest	Fife School District
City of Gig Harbor	Franklin Pierce School District
City of Lakewood	Orting School District
City of Milton	Pacific Lutheran University
City of Orting	Peninsula School District
City of Puyallup	Puyallup School District
City of Roy	Steilacoom Historical School District
City of Sumner	Sumner-Bonney Lake School District
City of Tacoma	Tacoma School District
City of University Place	University of Puget Sound
Town of Carbonado	University Place School District
Town of Eatonville	White River School District
Town of South Prairie	Crystal River Ranch Association
Town of Steilacoom	Firgrove Mutual Water Company
Town of Wilkeson	Fruitland Mutual Water Company
Anderson Island Fire & Rescue	Graham Hill Mutual Water Company
Pierce County Fire District #23	Lakeview Light and Power Company
Central Pierce Fire & Rescue	Lakewood Water District
East Pierce Fire & Rescue	Mt. View-Edgewood Water Company
Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One	Ohop Mutual Light Company
Key Peninsula Fire Department	Parkland Light and Water Company
Pierce County Fire Protection District #13	Peninsula Light Company
Riverside Fire & Rescue	Riviera Community Club
West Pierce Fire & Rescue	Spanaway Water Company
Community Health Care	Summit Water and Supply Company
Parks Tacoma	Tacoma Public Utilities
Pierce Transit	Valley Water District
Port of Tacoma	

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Plan Cover Acknowledgements

This plan's cover of Mount Rainier is sourced from the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management's internal picture catalog.

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Reader’s Guide to the Plan

The following subsections describe what a hazard mitigation plan is, what type of plan the Pierce County’s Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (RHMP) is, and how the Pierce County RHMP is organized.

What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

The purpose of a hazard mitigation plan is to improve a community’s resilience to hazards and lessen disaster impacts. Hazard mitigation planning is a process that brings a community together to identify their local disaster risks and vulnerabilities. Then, that community can create short-term and long-term strategies to protect people and property from these risks.

Figure 1 Pierce County December 2025 Flood, Landslide, and Severe Weather Incident



What Type of Plan is the Pierce County RHMP?

The Pierce County RHMP is a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan. Multi-jurisdictional plans bring together several jurisdictions – cities, towns, fire districts, school districts, utility providers, educational institutions, special purpose districts, and more – to collaborate on reducing risk to local hazards together. All jurisdictional partners in the Pierce County RHMP either are located within Pierce County or their service area is in Pierce County. Coordinated by the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management (PCDEM), the Pierce County RHMP:

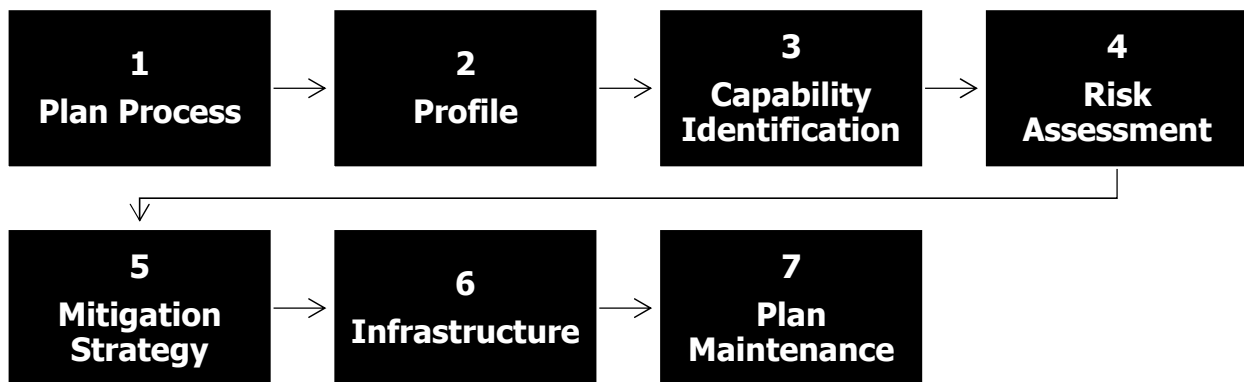
- Analyzes hazard risk across 64 jurisdictions using the same methodology;
- Builds critical relationships between emergency management and hazard mitigation planning partners; and
- Brings together short and long-range planning process across a variety of disciplines.

How is the Pierce County RHMP Organized?

The Pierce County RHMP is comprised of the Pierce County RHMP “Base Plan” document that details how Pierce County on the county-level is assessing natural and human-caused hazards (see Figure 3 for a visualization of the Pierce County RHMP Base Plan’s organization). The Pierce County RHMP also has Jurisdictional Annexes, which are essentially “mini” hazard mitigation plans – one created for each jurisdictional partner participating in the Pierce County RHMP planning process.

Both the Pierce County RHMP Base Plan and its Jurisdictional Annexes are organized into seven sections: Plan Process, Profile, Capability Identification, Risk Assessment, Mitigation Strategy, Infrastructure, and Plan Maintenance (see Figure 2 below).

Figure 2 Pierce County RHMP Base Plan and Jurisdictional Annex Organization

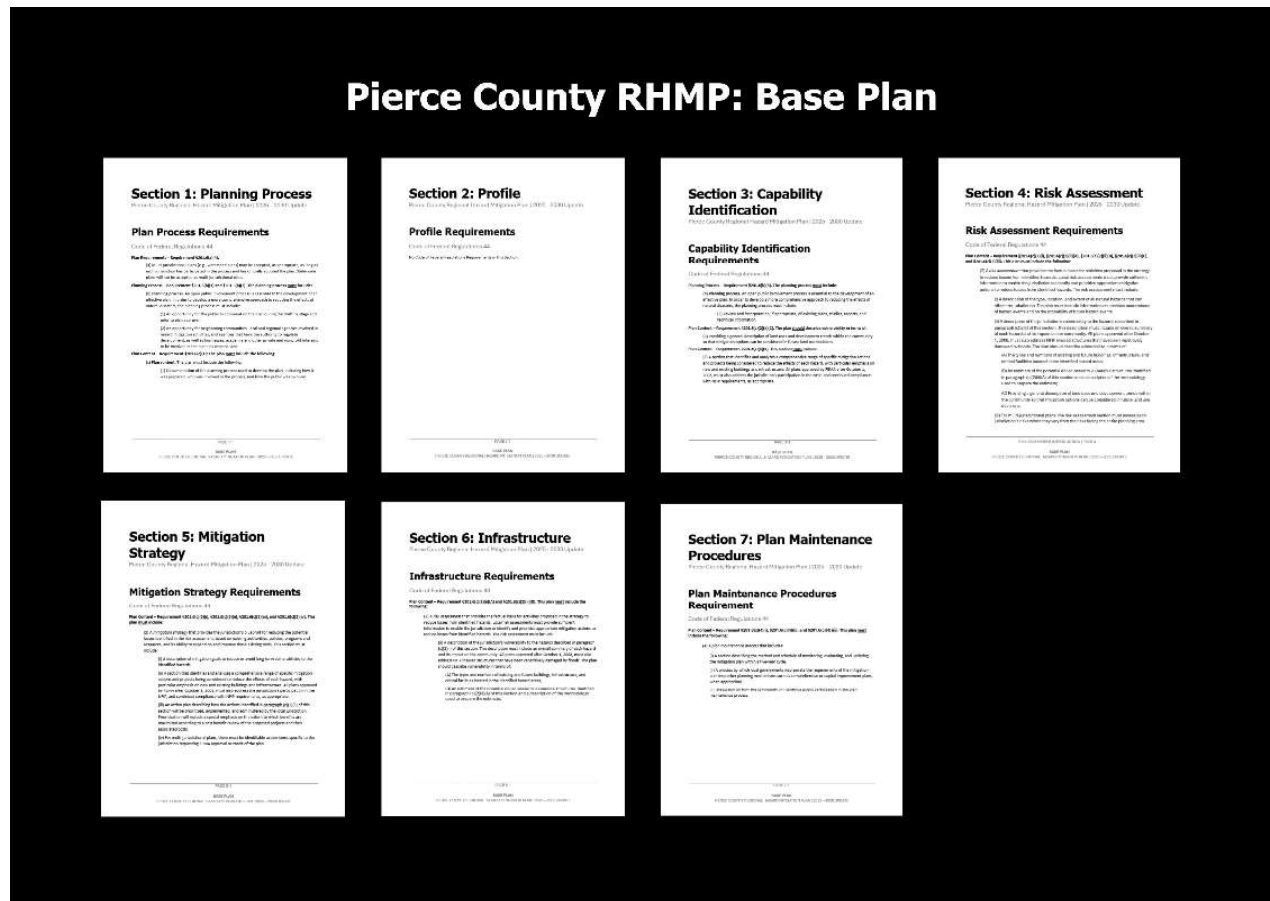


Pierce County RHMP Base Plan

The Pierce County RHMP Base Plan is a “road map” to the overall plan (see Figure 3). Altogether, the Base Plan:

- Explains the 2025 Pierce County RHMP planning process (Section 1);
- Orients the reader to Pierce County (Section 2);
- Identifies Pierce County capabilities (Section 3);
- Identifies and profiles local hazards (Section 4);
- Develops a framework and methodology for reducing risk to those hazards (Section 5);
- Identifies a framework for cataloging critical infrastructure that could be impacted by hazard incidents (Section 6); and
- Develops a way to track plan maintenance over the plan’s duration (Section 7).

Figure 3 Pierce County RHMP Base Plan Organization

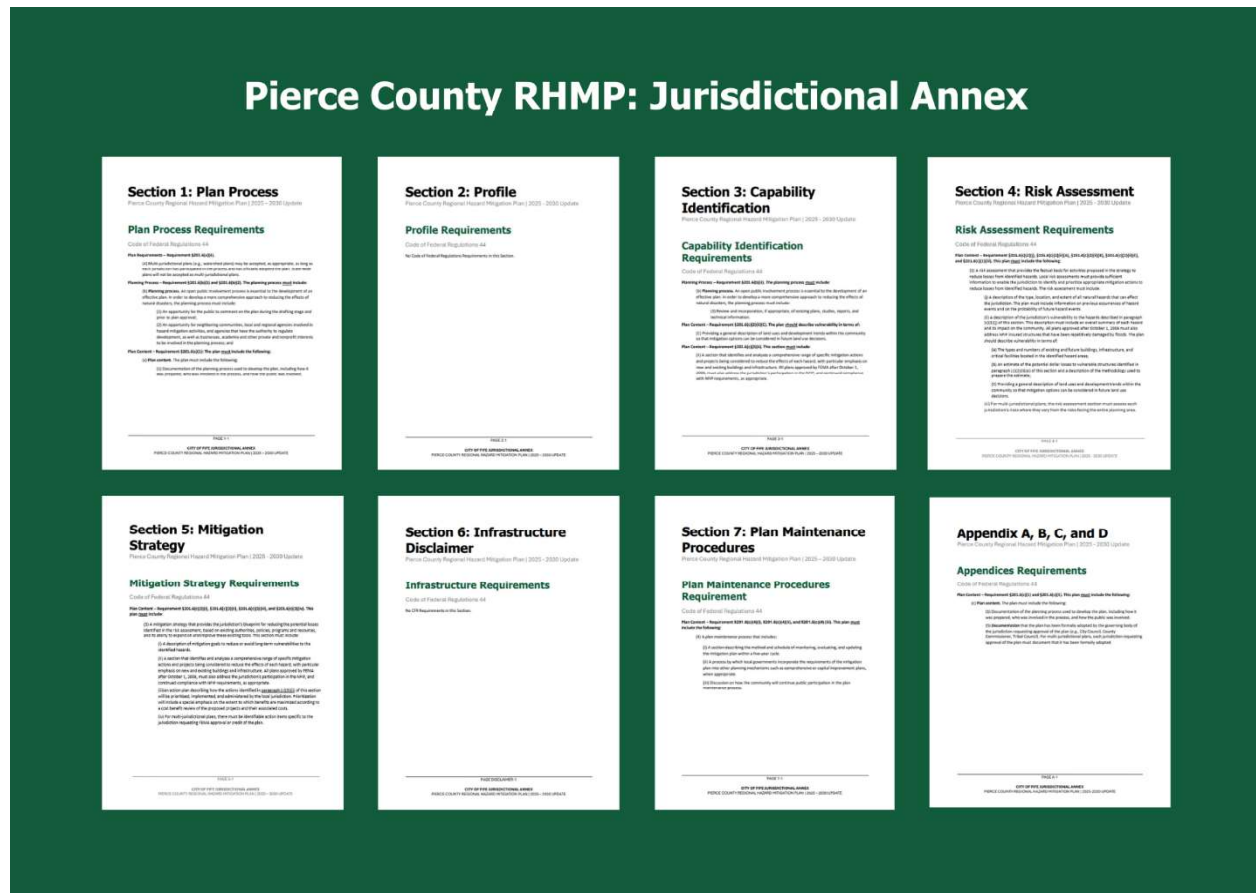


Pierce County RHMP Jurisdictional Annexes

Together, Figure 3 and Figure 4 show how similarly the Pierce County RHMP Base Plan and each of its Jurisdictional Annexes are organized. The primary exception to this is that each Jurisdictional Annex has four appendices as well. Figure 4 is an example of the plan organization for one of the Pierce County RHMP city Jurisdictional Annexes. Furthermore, each Jurisdictional Annex has its own jurisdiction-specific:

- Plan process descriptions (Section 1);
- Community profiles (Section 2);
- Local capability identification (Section 3);
- Risk assessment and vulnerability analysis (Section 4);
- Mitigation strategies (Section 5);
- Critical infrastructure inventories (Section 6); and
- Plan maintenance strategy (Section 7).

Figure 4 Pierce County RHMP Jurisdictional Annex Organization



Connecting the Base Plan and Jurisdictional Annexes

As there are 64 jurisdictions participating in the Pierce County RHMP, Jurisdictional Annexes are also sorted into five Discipline Groups for clarity and coordination: the Cities and Towns Group, Utility Group, Fire Group, Education Group, and Other Group (see Figure 5 below). For additional information on the Pierce County RHMP structure, organization, and methodology, please see the Pierce County RHMP Base Plan “Section 1: Plan Process.”

Figure 5 Connecting the Pierce County RHMP Base Plan and Jurisdictional Annexes

