# Staff Report

Meeting Date: 10-21-2025

To: Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

From: Seth Curry  
Floodplain Administrator

Subject: **2nd Reading** **of the new floodplain management ordinance**

## Background

The County must adopt a new floodplain management ordinance to remain in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Suspension from the NFIP and ineligibility for FEMA funding will result if a new ordinance is not adopted and made effective by December 11, 2025.

Staff has drafted a new ordinance that has been reviewed and conditionally approved by FEMA, subject to adoption by this Board.

The 1st reading of the ordinance occurred on 10-7-2025. The 2nd reading of the ordinance is scheduled for 10-21-2025. If adoption occurs on 10-21-2025, the County will meet the required deadline of December 11, 2025.

## Analysis

The Planning Commission recommends adoption of the flood ordinance.

Notice of this project was published and posted as required prior to today’s meeting and no public comments were received at the time of the writing of this report.

## Environmental Review

Adoption of the Floodplain Management Ordinance is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) (*Common Sense Exemption*) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility the ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment. The ordinance establishes regulatory standards to limit and manage development within flood-prone areas, thereby reducing potential environmental and public safety impacts rather than creating them.

Additionally, the ordinance qualifies for a categorical exemption under §15307 (*Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources*) and §15308 (*Actions of Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment)* as an action by a regulatory agency to protect natural resources and the environment by preventing degradation of floodplains, riparian areas, and water quality. Future projects subject to this ordinance will undergo separate environmental review, as applicable.

## Recommended Action

Waive the 2nd reading and adopt the flood ordinance, which will repeal and replace Title 10 Chapter 10 of the Siskiyou County Code regarding flood damage prevention, by making the recommended motion below.

## Recommended Motion

I move to take the following actions:

1. Waive the 2nd Reading of the new flood ordinance.
2. Determine the project exempt from CEQA in accordance with Sections 15061(b)(3), 15307, and 15308.
3. Adopt the new flood ordinance repealing and replacing Title 10 Chapter 10 of the Siskiyou County Code.

## Attachments

1. Draft Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, an Ordinance of the County of Siskiyou, to repeal and replace Title 10 Chapter 10 of the Siskiyou County Code regarding flood damage prevention.