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Notice of Preparation

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT FOCUSED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Date: July 24, 2018
To: Agencies and Interested Parties
From: Napa County Planning, Building, and Environmental Services Department
Subject: **Notice of Preparation of a Draft Focused Environmental Impact Report for the Climate Action Plan**
Review Period: July 24, 2018 through August 22, 2018

Napa County (County) proposes to prepare and adopt a Climate Action Plan (CAP) to both reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and help the community adapt to the effects of climate change in the unincorporated County, consistent with State and local guidance. A CAP is a document that includes policies, measures, and strategies to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change, as well as to improve the health, safety, mobility, and livability of the greater community. The objectives of the CAP are to reduce GHG emissions, streamline project reviews consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by serving as a “qualified GHG reduction plan” under CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5, provide strategies for the community to use in adapting to the effects of climate change, and prioritize measures to comply with California environmental and land use planning laws.

PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE OF PREPARATION

In accordance with the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15082, the County has prepared this notice of preparation (NOP) to inform agencies and interested parties that an EIR will be prepared for the above-referenced project. The purpose of an NOP is to provide sufficient information about the project and its potential environmental impacts to allow agencies and interested parties the opportunity to provide a meaningful response related to the scope and content of the EIR, including mitigation measures that should be considered and alternatives that should be addressed (CCR Section 15082[b]).

The project location, description, and potential environmental effects are summarized below.

PROJECT LOCATION

Napa County is located in the northern San Francisco Bay area, approximately 50 miles due west of Sacramento, California. The County is bordered by Lake County to the north, Yolo and Solano County to the east, Sonoma County to the west, and San Pablo Bay to the south (Exhibit 1).

The planning area for the CAP is the same planning area that was considered by the 2008 General Plan (GP), which encompasses all unincorporated land in Napa County (Exhibit 2). The unincorporated County includes approximately 789 square miles.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Background

In June 2008, the County prepared and adopted the *2008 Napa County General Plan Update* (2008 GP) and certified the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) (SCH# 2005102088), which assessed the potential environmental impacts of implementing the 2008 GP. Within the GP, the County adopted goals, policies, and action items aimed at reducing GHG emissions. Further, the County adopted Action Item CON CPSP-2 which specifically called on the County to develop a GHG emissions inventory in a manner consistent with AB 32 and then to develop an emission reduction plan that included consideration of a “green building”

ordinance and other mechanisms “shown to be effective at reducing emissions.” PEIR Mitigation Measure 4.8.7a implemented Action Item CPSP-2.

Subsequently, the County prepared a Draft CAP and presented it to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in 2012. However, that plan was not adopted.

In 2017, a new Draft CAP was prepared and released for public review. The Final Draft CAP was presented to the County’s Planning Commission in July 2017. Following the hearing, the County determined that additional revisions to the Draft CAP, as well as the preparation of an EIR would be required. These changes will be incorporated into the text of the Revised Draft CAP and proposed GHG Reduction Measures.

Climate Action Plan

The CAP implements 2008 GPU Action Item CON SPSP-2 and PEIR Mitigation Measure 4.8.7a, consistent with State legislation and policies that are aimed at reducing statewide GHG emissions. The CAP has been prepared to be consistent with the requirements of AB 32 (2006), which tasked the California Air Resources Board (ARB) with developing a Climate Change Scoping Plan to establish an interim target to achieve 1990 levels of GHG emissions by 2020 and provide a path for local governments to contribute their fair share of the GHG reductions necessary to achieve the target; SB 32 (2016), which requires a 2030 statewide GHG reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels; and Executive Order (EO) S-3-05, which established a longer-term 2050 statewide GHG reduction goal of 80 percent below 1990 levels.

To achieve these objectives and align with the State’s 2020 and 2030 targets and long-term 2050 goal, the CAP will:

- ▲ include a summary of baseline GHG emissions and forecasted growth of these emissions in 2020, 2030, and 2050;
- ▲ identify GHG emissions reduction targets and goals to reduce the unincorporated County’s GHG emissions in 2020, 2030, and 2050;
- ▲ identify and evaluate strategies, measures, and actions to comply with statewide GHG reduction targets and goals; and,
- ▲ identify the expected climate change effects on the County, including areas of vulnerability, and adaptation strategies, measures, and actions that could be implemented to reduce these effects.

The CAP will also be used for future project-specific environmental documents by maintaining consistency with the tiering and streamlining provisions of Section 15183.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Where projects are determined to be consistent with the CAP, the EIR will provide the appropriate level of environmental review to allow future projects to tier from and streamline their analyses of GHG emissions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(b)(2).

As part of ongoing implementation and monitoring of the CAP, the CAP strategies and measures will be assessed and monitored. Reporting on the status of the actions, periodic updates to the GHG emissions inventory, and other monitoring activities will provide the mechanisms to ensure that the County is making progress towards the CAP’s stated goals.

The CAP will also include provisions for how the County’s operations contribute their fair share of GHG reductions through local actions and operations.

The CAP will consider GHG reduction strategies for the following sectors:

- ▲ On-Road Transportation,
- ▲ Building Energy (Electricity & Natural Gas),
- ▲ Agriculture,
- ▲ Land Use Change,
- ▲ Multi-Sector Strategies,
- ▲ Off-Road Vehicles and Equipment,
- ▲ Solid Waste,
- ▲ Water and Wastewater, and
- ▲ High-GWP Gases.

The proposed GHG Reduction Measures and Adaption Measures under consideration for inclusion in the Revised Draft CAP are listed in Attachment A of this NOP. This list of proposed measures is a good faith attempt at disclosing project details at the time the NOP is prepared, and the list may be modified or changed in the Revised Draft CAP document or as a result of public comments on the Revised Draft CAP.

Potential Environmental Effects

Pursuant to CEQA and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064, the discussion of potential effects on the environment in the EIR shall be focused on those impacts that the County has determined may be potentially significant. The EIR will also evaluate the cumulative impacts of the project when considered in conjunction with other related past, current, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. The County has determined that the project could result in potential environmental impacts in the following topic areas, which will be further evaluated in the EIR:

- ▲ Aesthetics,
- ▲ Agriculture and Forestry Resources,
- ▲ Air Quality,
- ▲ Biological Resources,
- ▲ Cultural and Historical Resources,
- ▲ Greenhouse Gas Emissions,
- ▲ Energy,
- ▲ Hazards and Hazardous Materials,
- ▲ Hydrology and Water Quality,
- ▲ Land Use and Planning,
- ▲ Noise,
- ▲ Transportation and Traffic,
- ▲ Tribal Cultural Resources, and
- ▲ Utilities and Service Systems.

CEQA allows a lead agency to limit the detail of discussion of the environmental effects that are not considered potentially significant (PRC Section 21100, CCR Sections 15126.2[a] and 15128). CEQA requires that the discussion of any significant effect on the environment be limited to substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse changes in physical conditions that exist within the affected area, as defined in PRC Section 21060.5 (statutory definition of “environment”). Environmental issue areas scoped out of the focused EIR will include an explanation of why these issues would not result in significant environmental effects and are not required to be evaluated further. Environmental issue areas that would be scoped out of the focused EIR are listed below.

- ▲ Geology and Soils
- ▲ Mineral Resources
- ▲ Population and Housing
- ▲ Public Services
- ▲ Recreation

Alternatives to be Evaluated in the EIR

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR Section 15126.6), the EIR will describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project that are capable of meeting most of the project’s objectives and that would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. The EIR will also identify any alternatives that were considered but rejected by the lead agency as infeasible and briefly explain the reasons why. The EIR will provide an analysis of the No Project Alternative and will also identify the environmentally superior alternative.

Documents Available for Public Review

The NOP is available for public review at the following locations:

Napa County Planning, Building, and
Environmental Services Department
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, California

Napa Main Library
580 Coombs Street
Napa, California

The NOP is also available for public review online at:

<https://www.countyofnapa.org/592/Climate-Action-Plan>

Providing Comments

Agencies and interested parties may provide the County with written comments on topics to be addressed in the EIR for the project. Because of time limits mandated by State law, comments should be provided **no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 22, 2018**. Please send all comments to:

Napa County Planning, Building, and Environmental Services Department
Attention: Jason Hade
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559
Telephone: (707) 253-4417
Fax: (707) 299-4320

Comment letters may also be submitted electronically via e-mail at: Jason.Hade@countyofnapa.org. Comments provided by email should include "Climate Action Plan Project NOP Scoping Comment" in the subject line, and the name and physical address of the commenter in the body of the email. All comments on environmental issues received during the public comment period will be considered and addressed in the Draft EIR, which is anticipated to be available for public review in mid- to late-2018

Public Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting will be held by the County concurrently with a Planning Commission public hearing on the Revised Draft CAP to inform interested parties and receive comments about the project and the Draft EIR review process. Attendees will have an opportunity to communicate directly with County and consulting staff. The meeting time and location are as follows:

Wednesday, August 15, 2018, starting at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Napa County Administration Building, Third Floor Board Chambers
1195 Third Street, Napa

The meeting space is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals needing special assistive devices will be accommodated to the County's best ability. Assistive listening devices are available for the hearing impaired from the Clerk of the Board; please call (707) 253-4580 for assistance. If an ASL interpreter or any other special arrangement is required, please provide the Clerk of the Board with 48-hour notice by calling (707) 253-4417.

REFERENCES

Napa County. 2008. *General Plan EIR*. Available: <https://www.countyofnapa.org/1760/General-Plan>.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: Regional Map

Exhibit 2: Project Map

ATTACHMENTS

A Proposed GHG Reduction Measures and Adaptation Measures under Consideration

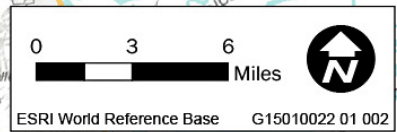
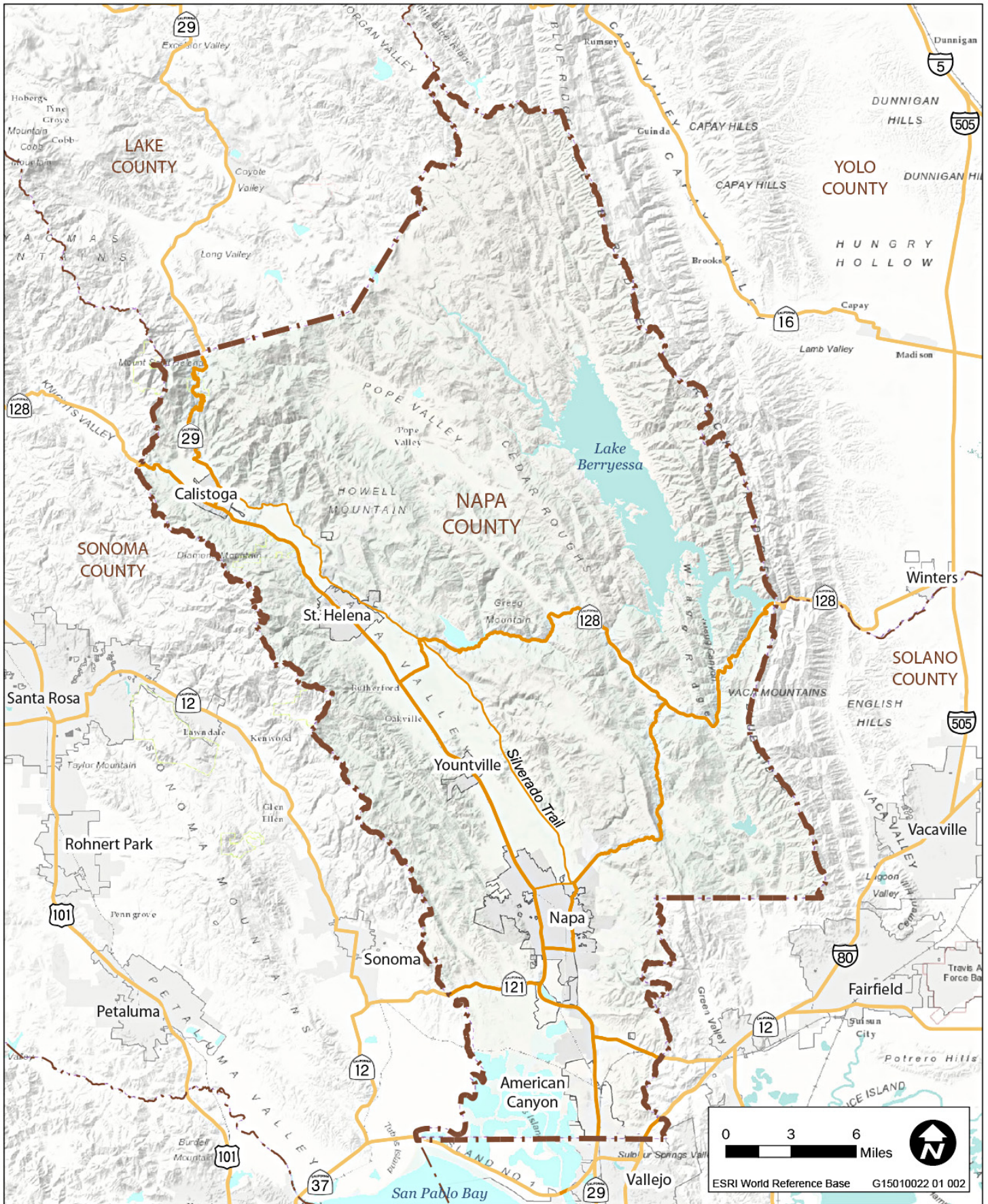


Exhibit 1

Project Location





Exhibit 2

Regional Location



Attachment A

**Proposed GHG Reduction and Adaptation
Measures Under Consideration**

GHG Reduction Measure Number	Emissions Sector	Measure Name
AG-1	Agriculture	Support the conversion of stationary diesel or gas-powered irrigation pumps to electric pumps
AG-2	Agriculture	Support use of electric or alternatively fueled agricultural equipment.
AG-3	Agriculture	Support the use of Tier 4 final Diesel Equipment for Off-Road Agricultural Equipment.
AG-4	Agriculture	Support reduced application of inorganic nitrogen fertilizer.
AG-5	Agriculture	Support the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) in efforts to reduce open burning of removed agricultural biomass and flood debris.
AG-6	Agriculture	Encourage and support the use of carbon farming and other sustainable agricultural practices in the County.
BE-1	Building Energy	Require compliance with California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) Tier 1 Green Building standards and Tier 1 Building Energy Efficiency Standards for eligible alterations or additions to existing buildings
BE-2	Building Energy	Require compliance with CALGreen Tier 1 Green Building standards and Tier 1 Building Energy Efficiency Standards for all new construction, and phase in ZNE standards for new construction, beginning with residential in 2020 and non-residential by 2030
BE-3	Building Energy	Increase participation in MCE's Deep Green option (100% Renewable Energy).
BE-4	Building Energy	Require new or replacement residential and commercial water heating systems to be electrically powered and/or alternatively fueled (e.g., solar water heating) for all residential land uses
BE-5	Building Energy	Expand current renewable energy and green energy incentives and update local ordinances.
BE-6	Building Energy	Select MCE's Deep Green Option for all County-owned facilities.
BE-7	Building Energy	Support waste-to-energy programs at unincorporated landfills.
BE-8	Building Energy	Work with PG&E, Bay Area Renewable Energy Network (BayREN), MCE, property-assessed clean energy (PACE) financing programs, and other regional partners to incentivize energy efficiency improvements in existing buildings.
BE-9	Building Energy	Require energy audits for major additions to or alterations of existing buildings.
BE-10	Building Energy	Develop a program to allow new development to offset project greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by retrofitting existing income-qualified homes and buildings.
BE-11	Building Energy	Encourage solar panel installations on commercial roof spaces
HG-1	High Global Warming Potential (GWP) Gases	Encourage registration of facilities in the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Refrigeration Management Program and incentivize installation of low-GWP refrigerant systems.
HG-2	High Global Warming Potential (GWP) Gases	Incentivize the use of low-GWP refrigerants
MS-1	Wastewater	Support efforts to increase Napa Green Certified wineries and vineyards land in the County, with a goal of achieving a 100- percent certification rate for all eligible wineries and properties by 2030
MS-2	Multiple Sectors	Work with other local jurisdictions within the County to develop a unified Climate Action Plan.
MS-3	Multiple Sectors	Promote the sale and consumption of locally- grown foods and/or products.
MS-4	Multiple Sectors	Establish a local carbon offset program in partnership with Sustainable Napa County.

GHG Reduction Measure Number	Emissions Sector	Measure Name
LU-1	Land Use Change	Establish targets and enhanced programs for oak woodland and coniferous forest preservation and mandatory replanting
LU-2	Land Use Change	Refine protection guidelines for existing riparian lands.
LU-3	Land Use Change	Repurpose or otherwise prevent burning of removed trees and other woody material from land use conversions of oak woodlands and coniferous forests.
OR-1	Off-Road Transportation	Require Tier 4 equipment for all construction activity and mining operations as a condition for approval by 2030.
OR-2	Off-Road Transportation	Promote use of alternative fuels for recreational marine vessels.
SW-1	Solid Waste	Encourage expansion of composting program for both residential and commercial land uses.
SW-2	Solid Waste	Meet an 80% Waste Diversion Goal by 2020 and a 90% Goal by 2030
TR-1	On-Road Transportation	Update Transportation System Management Ordinance (for Employers).
TR-2	On-Road Transportation	Adopt parking reduction ordinance revisions.
TR-3	On-Road Transportation	Increase affordable housing, especially workforce housing, in Napa County.
TR-4	On-Road Transportation	Support efforts to allow commuter service to operate on railroad rights-of-way
TR-5	On-Road Transportation	Support efforts of solid waste collection services to convert diesel solid waste collection vehicles to use compressed natural gas (CNG).
TR-6	On-Road Transportation	Support efforts of transit agencies to increase availability and accessibility of transit information.
TR-7	On-Road Transportation	Support alternatives to private vehicle travel for visitors.
TR-8	On-Road Transportation	Support Napa County's incorporated cities in developing transit-oriented development unique to the needs of the Napa Region.
TR-9	On-Road Transportation	Support interregional transit solutions.
TR-10	On-Road Transportation	Work with Napa County's incorporated cities, Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTa), and neighboring regions to increase presence of park and ride facilities near residential centers.
TR-11	On-Road Transportation	Promote existing ride-matching services for people living and working in the unincorporated County.
TR-12	On-Road Transportation	Increase the supply of electric vehicle charging stations.
TR-13	On-Road Transportation	Promote Telecommuting at Office Based Businesses.
TR-14	On-Road Transportation	Develop and implement active transportation projects
TR-15	On-Road Transportation	Require new development projects to evaluate and reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
WA-1	Water	Amend or revise water conservation regulations for landscape design.
WA-2	Water	Adopt a new water conservation ordinance for commercial and residential land uses limiting outdoor watering.
WA-3	Water	Expedite and/or reduce permit fees associated with water conservation installations in existing facilities.
WA-4	Water	Require water audits for large new commercial or industrial projects and significant expansions of existing facilities.
Adaptation Measure Number	Category	Measure Name
Temp-1	Temperature	Map Critical Infrastructure Locations Vulnerable to Extreme Heat Events
Temp-2	Temperature	Develop Outreach Programs for Outdoor Workers

GHG Reduction Measure Number	Emissions Sector	Measure Name
Temp-3	Temperature	Educate Residents on Heat-Related Illness Prevention
Temp-4	Temperature	Encourage the installation of Cool Roof Technologies and Rooftop Gardens
Temp-5	Temperature	Incorporate Cool Pavement Technology
Temp-6	Temperature	Improve Parking Lot Shading and Landscaping
Temp-7	Temperature	Update the County's Excessive Heat Emergency Response Plan
Temp-8	Temperature	Support Research on the Effects of a Warmer Climate on the Agriculture and Wine Industries
Temp-9	Temperature	Understand the Tolerance of Current Wine Grape Varieties to Withstand Increased Temperatures
Temp-10	Temperature	Develop Outreach Programs for Winemakers
Temp-11	Temperature	Develop and Implement Strategies to Increase Energy Resiliency
Fire-1	Wildfire Risk	Map and Identify Locations That Are Newly at Risk, or at Higher Risk for Fire Hazards
Fire-2	Wildfire Risk	Map Critical Infrastructure Locations Vulnerable to Wildfires
Fire-3	Wildfire Risk	Collaborate with the Napa County Firefighters Association in the Dissemination of Wildfire Information
Fire-4	Wildfire Risk	Coordinate Emergency Preparedness Systems
Fire-5	Wildfire Risk	Collaborate on Programs to Reduce Fire Hazards
Water-1	Water Supply and Quality	Evaluate Vulnerabilities of Water Supply Systems and Networks
Water-2	Water Supply and Quality	Consider Innovative Options to Meet Future Demand
Water-3	Water Supply and Quality	Promote Use of Rainwater Catchment Systems
Water-4	Water Supply and Quality	Support Napa Green Land Certification Efforts
Water-5	Water Supply and Quality	Collaborate with Agencies to Identify Future Water Supplies and Explore Alternative Supply Sources
Water-6	Water Supply and Quality	Pursue Grant Funding Opportunities for Water Resource Planning Projects
Flood-1	Flood Risk	Update the County's Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan to Address Flooding and Climate Change
Flood-2	Flood Risk	Partner with Incorporated Towns and Cities and Local Organizations to Address Flooding
Flood-3	Flood Risk	Identify Potential Streamside Restoration Areas
Flood-4	Flood Risk	Encourage the Replanting of Bare or Disturbed Areas
Flood-5	Flood Risk	Coordinate Emergency Evacuation and Supply Transportation Routes
Flood-6	Flood Risk	Improve Sewage and Solid-Waste Management Infrastructure
Flood-7	Flood Risk	Improve Capacity of Storm Water Infrastructure
Flood-8	Flood Risk	Increase Use of Pervious Surfaces and Landscaping in Developed Areas
Flood-9	Flood Risk	Map Critical Infrastructure Locations Vulnerable to Flooding
Flood-10	Flood Risk	Understand the Tolerance of Current Wine Grape Varieties to Withstand Increased Flooding
Flood-11	Flood Risk	Design Programs to Address Vector- and Waterborne Diseases
SLR-1	Sea-Level Rise	Identify Areas Affected by Sea-Level Rise

GHG Reduction Measure Number	Emissions Sector	Measure Name
SLR-2	Sea-Level Rise	Update Napa County's Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan to Incorporate Sea-Level Rise
SLR-3	Sea-Level Rise	Floodplain Mapping Coordination
SLR-4	Sea-Level Rise	Support Ongoing Analysis of Sea-Level Rise Data
SLR-5	Sea-Level Rise	Create a Comprehensive Outreach Strategy
SLR-6	Sea-Level Rise	Incorporate Sea-Level Rise Effects into Capital Improvement Plans
SLR-7	Sea-Level Rise	Assess Sea-Level Rise Impacts on Agriculture