

Utah High-Hazard Dam Emergency Action Plans

Allison Rafert, Courtney Flint, Sara McCulley, and Michael Englert

Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) are **legally mandated documents** for moderate-hazard and high-hazard dams that **outline the actions to be taken in the case of an emergency** involving a dam, including a dam failure.

Relevant Policy

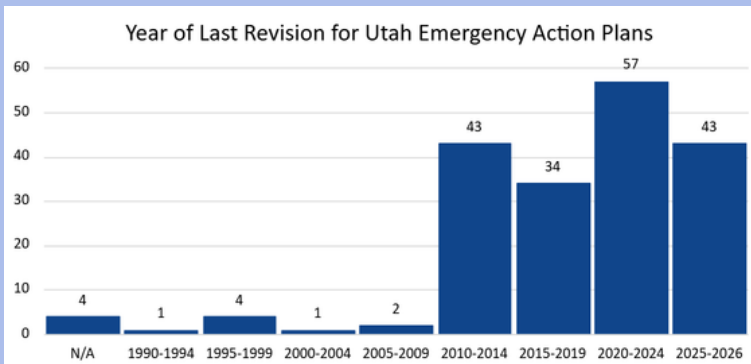
Utah Code 73-5a-601
Utah Administrative
Code R566-12-6A

How Often are Utah Emergency Action Plans Updated?

Most EAPs are **not updated annually**.

Out of 189 high-hazard, state-regulated dams in Utah, **65 dams (34%) had EAPs older than 10 years old**.

Figure 1. Number of high-hazard dams in Utah grouped by year of latest emergency action plan update. Any update to an EAP, regardless of the extent of the revision or completeness of the uploaded document, was counted as an EAP's most recent revision. EAPs and updates were obtained from the Utah Division of Water Rights DAMVIEW Dam Safety Database Information Viewer.



What Downstream Vulnerabilities are Mentioned in EAPs?



EAPs for nearly all dams with people (100%) or communities (93%) in their inundation zones mention **social vulnerability**.



Critical infrastructure in dam inundation zones is mentioned in 68% of the Utah EAPs.



Compared to other vulnerabilities, **protected areas** are the least likely to be mentioned in EAPs (24%).

Want to Learn More? Scan this code to visit the Flint lab webpage.



This project is part of the I-GUIDE Project which is funded by the National Science Foundation (Award #2118329).

