

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS (HIVA)

Walla Walla County, Washington

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

Hazard Overview

Civil unrest or disturbance is a result of individuals or groups within the population feeling their needs or rights are not being met by society, a segment of it, or the current political system. Civil unrest spans a variety of actions including labor unrest, strikes, civil disobedience, demonstrations, riots and rebellion. Events that could trigger these actions include racial tension, unemployment, unpopular political and social actions, and a decrease in the supply of essential goods or services.

History and Probability of Occurrence

There have been no major incidents of local civil disorder in Walla Walla County.

There have been, and will continue to be, civil demonstrations at some local colleges. These events, however, have historically been peaceful, well organized and coordinated with law enforcement officials.

The probability of a civil disturbance incident endangering the lives and property of Walla Walla County residents within the next 25 years is LOW.

Vulnerability

Any large disturbance would most likely affect local government or college administration. Under an extreme scenario, there may be some looting, arson, and rioting that could approach the Walla Walla downtown area. There is little likelihood of significant impact elsewhere in the County.

The vulnerability of Walla Walla County residents to a civil disturbance is LOW. A limited area or segment of population, property, commerce, infrastructure or service would be exposed to the effects of a civil disturbance. In a worse case scenario there could be a disaster of minor to moderate proportions.

Risk Rating

The risk rating for Walla Walla County is rated as LOW. A LOW risk rating indicates there is little potential for a civil disturbance disaster during the next 25 years. The threat is such as to warrant little special effort to prepare for, respond to, recover from, or mitigate against this hazard. This hazard need not be specifically addressed in the county's emergency management training and exercise program except as generally dealt with during hazard awareness training.

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