



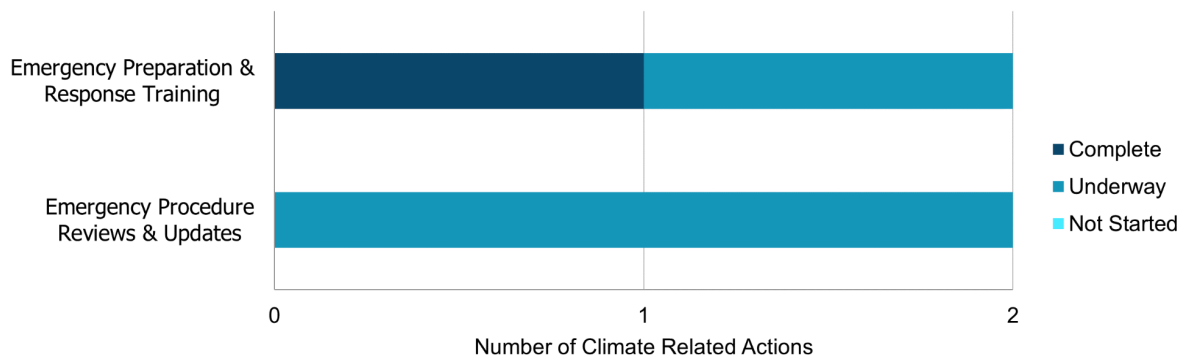
WSA Climate Change Adaptation Priorities

Priority Area 4: Emergency Preparedness & Response

Bolster emergency preparedness and response activities to better avoid, reduce impacts of, respond to, and recover from extreme events due to climate change.

Overall Progress

Area 4 Progress on Climate Action Items
Updated 11/2023



Emergency Preparation & Response Training

Climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of extreme weather events that can cause emergency incidents. WSA is committing to increasing its training to ensure MDE personnel and our partners are prepared to respond and support recovery efforts.

- 1. Training Seminars and Workshops (Complete for 2023):** Develop and host two 1-hour Climate Emergency Preparedness (CEP) Training seminars and one half-day workshop on varying topics annually. These training events will improve and maintain a high level of emergency preparedness for WSA staff and collaborating partners.
- 2. Dam Failure Exercises (In Progress):** Conduct annual tabletop exercises of dam failures.

Emergency Response Procedure Reviews & Updates

An anticipated increase in emergency incidents, due to more extreme weather in the future, places a premium on WSA’s readiness to respond 24/7.



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

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1. **Annual Review of WSA Emergency Response SOPs (In Progress):** Ensure WSA Emergency Response standard operating procedures (SOPs) are reviewed and updated, when necessary, by May 30, annually.
2. **Dam Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) (In Progress):** Conduct enforcement oversight to ensure all EAPs are updated annually and exercised every five years by owners of high- and significant-hazard dams.