

Scenarios for the Simulation Game of Mitigation Strategies

Scenario 1

Metropolis -- USA

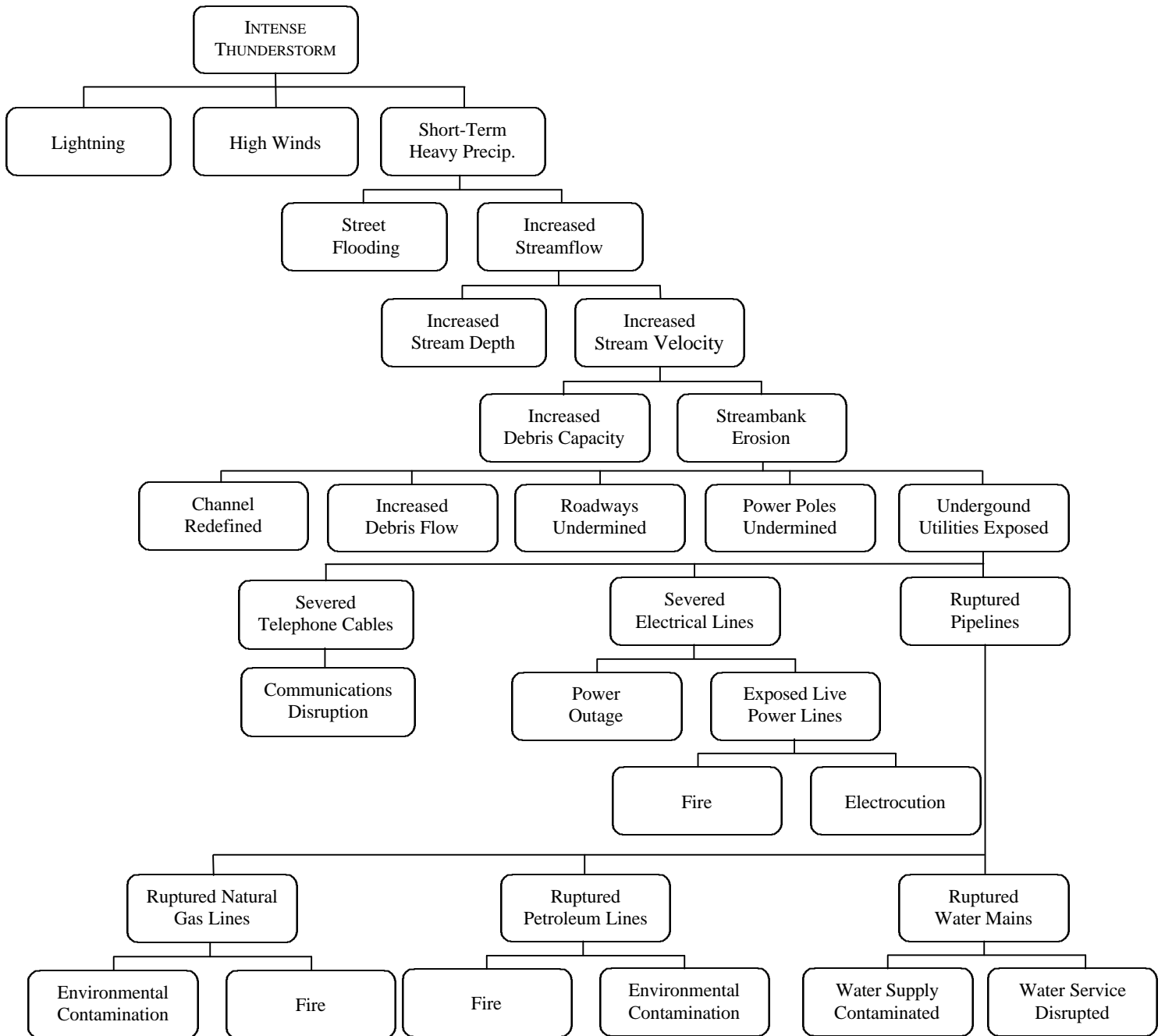
The city of Metropolis is home to 50,000 people and is a thriving ocean port. Most electric power is supplied by the Metropolis Energy Company's Four Mile River Nuclear Plant. Telephone communications are of the best quality. Four television stations and ten radio stations serve the greater metro area. The Four Mile River has been dammed near its source in the Northern Mountains to create a reservoir. Rumors about poor dam construction have died down since it was built forty years ago. The Metropolis River runs south from the mountains as well, but takes its course through residential neighborhoods and runs adjacent to the downtown central business district. Two major interstate highways, one running parallel to the R&R Railroad, service the city and connect the port to points inland. Heavy industry is located throughout the city, including three chemical manufacturing plants each of which has its own trucking line. The arrival of new industry has displaced some poorer people who were living near downtown. Some centrally located neighborhoods are inhabited by the poor. The topography surrounding the city extends from level sea plains on the coast to undulating foothills resting at the base of the Northern Mountains. Cutting in a southwest direction from the mountains is a well-defined valley, known by the geologists at Metropolis University as the Mercalli Fault. Metropolis is governed by a city council of seven and served by a mayor as well. Among the mayor's cabinet officers is the Emergency Planner. The city maintains its own police and fire departments. There are also several community-based groups with multiple agendas, such as conservation and anti-pollution, for the benefit of Metropolis. The economy has been good and the people find themselves happy with their lives, quite complacent and almost routine, until today....

Scenario 2

Puerto Grande -- Ecuador

The city of Puerto Grande is home to 50,000 people and is an ocean port. Most residents do not have electric power, but a new government program has begun testing a nuclear power facility near the Four Mile River. Communications are fair in the downtown area, but most residents do not have ready access to telephones. There is one state-owned television station and two radio stations. The Four Mile River was dammed forty years ago in a modernization phase to provide electricity. The dam has since fallen into disrepair and rumors of poor management abound. The Puerto Grande River also runs south from the Northern Mountains, but takes its course through wealthy neighborhoods and runs adjacent to a small, but growing central business district downtown. There is one two-lane highway leaving the port area for points inland. Most roads are paved for short sections and remain unpaved throughout vast portions of the city. The rush to modernize has seen several foreign-owned companies, including three major chemical plants, set up shop around the outskirts of downtown. To spur development, taxes were waived and the industries remain unregulated. The topography surrounding the city extends from level sea plains on the coast to undulating foothills resting at the base of the Northern Mountains. Cutting in a southwest direction from the mountains is a well-defined valley. Older residents recall that earthquake activity transpired in the valley during their youth. As the city has grown in population, land pressures have forced poorer residents toward less desirable land in the foothills and toward the Northern Mountains. Some have also found refuge on some open land near one of the chemical plants, hoping to find better employment as well. There are several islands off the near coast that are used for farming and fishing by small families, as they have done for generations. Puerto Grande is governed by a mayor and city council of seven. Although all were elected to their positions, most residents believe that they were hand picked by the state political machine. There is no Office of Emergency Planning. The police department is understaffed and the fire department filled largely with volunteers. The economy has been weak in recent years, and the people are not optimistic about future economic gains. Their existence is marginal, routine from day to day, until now....

The hazard that triggered a hazard that triggered a hazard....



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