

Y E A R I N R E V I E W

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## MESSAGE FROM OEM DIRECTOR ANDREW PHELPS

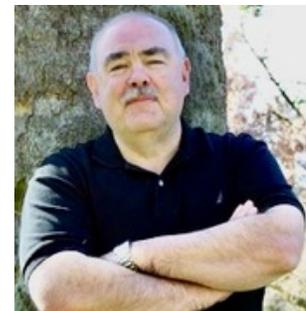


2022 was a historic year for Oregon Emergency Management. From the creation of a new department in state government to emergencies and disasters, this third decade of the new millennium continued to keep emergency managers busy. We emergency managers have learned a lot, identified a lot we still need to learn, and grown stronger in Oregon as a discipline and as a community. In-person training, exercises, conferences and other events have largely restarted, allowing for a different level of establishing, building and maintaining the relationships that are so critical to the work we do. But we're still reminded that our state continues to be impacted by COVID and the effects of a changing climate. As I look back at 2022 and forward to the year ahead, I'm filled with immense pride for what our community of emergency managers and partners has accomplished and the prevailing sense that regardless of what we come up against, we recognize we are stronger together, and that's exactly how we'll continue to approach the challenges we face.

2022's emergency calendar began with a tsunami advisory for the U.S. West Coast following a volcanic eruption on the island nation of Tonga on Jan. 15. As would be the case for many of the emergencies we saw in 2022, the impacts were minimal but provided a good reminder of the threats and hazards we face and opportunities to test our plans, processes and people. We had several heat waves, though not as severe as what we experienced in June 2021. Dozens of wildfires forced thousands of people to evacuate their homes, including what many of us feared would be a repeat of the devastating 2020 wildfires almost exactly two years later. However, many of the changes implemented since 2020 combined with winds that didn't blow as hard for as long prevented a disaster from occurring. We had winter storms and some localized flooding, all of which reminded us that so many of Oregon's communities are susceptible to these hazards but fortunately none of them rose to the level of a major disaster declaration. We even had an earthquake in October near Eugene, where many of us were attending the Oregon Emergency Management Association annual conference. No damage was reported, but it served as a wake-up call (literally, in my case) that we live in earthquake country. I can now cross "earthquake" off the list of hazards I've experienced.

We continue to respond and recover from the impacts of COVID and have seen additional pressure on our emergency management partners in public health due to other respiratory illnesses like influenza and RSV. These will now become part of our hazard portfolio, as ubiquitous as fires and floods.

Those of us in emergency management are no strangers to tragedy, bad days and loss. We at OEM experienced our own loss when long-time teammate Bill Martin passed away unexpectedly in September. Bill had an incredible career in public safety going back to the 1970s and literally spanning the entire nation. His positive impact on me, our department and Oregon's emergency management community is lasting, and we continue to miss his smile, humor and passion for service.



Despite the highs and lows of 2022, the team at OEM accomplished so much. Through a partnership with the Oregon Sheriff's Association, the state now has a Search and Rescue Card that helps fund search and rescue teams, which often rely on volunteers. OEM led the work outlined in House Bill 4087 to collaborate with our media partners to help ensure safer access to disaster areas for journalists who provide such an important role during emergencies. Oregon participated in multiple National Level Exercise 2022 events at the state level and with Washington, Idaho and our federal partners at FEMA. We also partnered with Lane County, the city of Eugene, the University of Oregon and the Oregon22 organization to support emergency planning and public information for the 2022 World Athletic Championships that had been postponed from 2021. These events and activities, and hundreds more, all helped to reduce our shared risk across our state and make Oregon more prepared for the future.



Finally, this year saw the creation of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management on July 1, 2022. After decades as a division within larger departments like the Oregon State Police or the Oregon Military Department, the function of emergency management is now recognized as critical, core infrastructure for state government and not a subset of another discipline or function. This new department followed a year of transitional planning with our partners at OMD, DAS and the Governor's Office. In addition to this new department-level status, OEM has more than doubled its staffing levels, creating two regional programs, adding additional capacity for hazard mitigation and disaster recovery, and creating specific positions to focus on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility and government-to-government relations with Oregon's sovereign tribal nations. OEM got a change of address this year as well, moving out of the Anderson Readiness Center to our own facility in southeast Salem. This new facility will accommodate our day-to-day operations on the second floor, with an expanded Emergency Coordination Center that will also house a Joint Information Center and Recovery Coordination Center on the first floor. While it will take several years for this new department to mature, the foundation has been laid for future success coordinating statewide emergency and disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery planning and operations.

Emergency managers spend tremendous amounts of time planning for things that may never happen and responding to things that some thought never would. Uncertainty is often our home. As we stepped into 2022, we couldn't foresee what the next 12 months would bring, and as we enter 2023, we similarly cannot predict what the new year will bring. It's my hope, however, that we continue to be on the lookout for learnable lessons, that we continue to advocate for the emergency management system and resources that Oregon deserves, and that we can go further and do better when we work together. My standing orders to the incredible team at OEM remain: Take care of the people of Oregon, take care of our partners and "Get to Yes" by seeking solutions.

Wishing you all the best in 2023,

Andrew J. Phelps

## 904 SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS

25 MITIGATION PROJECTS AWARDED  
TOTALING APPROXIMATELY \$7.8 MILLION

9 OPEN DISASTERS TOTALING \$1.5 BILLION

\$5 MILLION AWARDED TO FUND 45 AWARDEES WITH 61 PIECES OF EQUIPMENT THROUGH THE STATE PREPAREDNESS AND INCIDENT RESPONSE (SPIRE) GRANT PROGRAM

55 PERSONNEL REPRESENTING 16 AGENCIES DEPLOYED THROUGH THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT

\$1.1 MILLION REIMBURSED THROUGH THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT

## 5 ECC ACTIVATIONS

MORE THAN 112,000 TEXT-TO-911 MESSAGES REQUESTING ASSISTANCE

MORE THAN 2.1 MILLION 911 CALLS RECEIVED STATEWIDE

MORE THAN \$6.1 MILLION AWARDED TO 36 COUNTIES, SIX TRIBES AND SIX CITIES THROUGH THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT PROGRAM

MORE THAN \$4.8 MILLION AWARDED THROUGH THE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

\$3.8 MILLION AWARDED THROUGH THE URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE

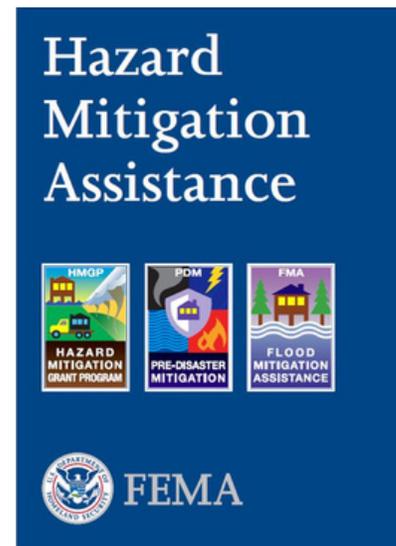
18 OF 23 STATE EXECUTIVE ORDERS ISSUED WERE DISASTER RELATED

55 DIFFERENT TRAINING COURSES FACILITATED WITH OVER 6,000 COURSE COMPLETIONS.

# MITIGATION & RECOVERY DIVISION: MITIGATION

## HAZARD MITIGATION

Throughout 2022, Oregon Emergency Management continued to assist communities and eligible jurisdictions apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants. Hazard mitigation planners worked with jurisdictions to help maximize Oregon communities and Oregonians covered under FEMA-approved and locally adopted natural hazard mitigation plans. The team grew this year, adding three additional mitigation representatives and an administrative assistant to increase efficiency and help further develop internal processes. A Deputy State Hazard Mitigation Officer assists the State Hazard Mitigation Officer and helps prioritize the competitive non-disaster grants. The mitigation section has implemented a section-wide email address ([oem.hazardmitigation@oem.oregon.gov](mailto:oem.hazardmitigation@oem.oregon.gov)) for all pre- or sub-application submissions and technical assistance requests. The increase in staff and refining of internal processes increased participation and application for grant funding.



## HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING

In 2022, OEM hired two additional staff to assist in the review of Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP)s and coordinate more efficient communication with FEMA. The following local or tribal Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP)s received FEMA re-approval this year (thanks, in part, to state assistance), Additionally, several local and tribal NHMP updates are in progress and seven NHMPs will expire in 2023.

- Columbia County and entities within
- Curry County and entities within
- Josephine County and entities within
- Union County
- City of Medford
- City of Sweet Home
- Emerald People’s Utility District
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

The following local NHMP updates got underway in 2022:

- Clackamas County (the first NHMP approved by FEMA in the U.S. back in 2002; this will be the 4th major update since the original 2002 plan)
- Douglas County
- Jackson County
- Lane County
- Washington County
- TriMet

## FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANTS: POST-DISASTER GRANT ROUNDS

1/11/2022: 5327-06-P Lane Electric Cooperative, Wildfire Mitigation Plan  
1/11/2022: 4432-12-R Emerald People's Utility District, Coburg Road Undergrounding  
1/11/2022: 4432-13-R Lane Electric Cooperative Vaughn Road Undergrounding  
2/16/2022: 5327-03-R-CTUIR-Holt Property Acquisition and Demolition  
2/17/2022: 4562-09-R-Town of Butte Falls-Wildfire Mitigation AA  
2/18/2022: 5327-04-R CTUIR Hendricks Property Acquisition Project  
2/25/2022: 5327-11-R City of St. Helens, Community Wastewater Treatment Resilience Project AA  
2/25/2022: 5327-18-P City of Mosier Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan  
2/25/2022: 4519-04-R Douglas County, Bar L Ranch AA  
3/9/2022: 4519-02-DLCD-Updates to Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans for Douglas and Morrow Counties  
3/11/2022: 4562-08-P-DLCD-Updates to Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans for Polk County and the city of Salem  
3/15/2022: 4519-03-R CTUIR 5 Property Acquisition Phase I  
3/22/2022: 5327-05-P, DLCD NHMP Updates for Benton and Linn Counties, the city of La Grande and Linn-Benton Community College  
4/12/2022: 4562-12-P Oregon State University Assessment of Hazards of Wildfire Smoke and Multisector Options for Hazard Mitigation Planning  
4/19/2022: 5327-13-F Clackamas County Upper Sandy River Flood Warning System Upgrade for Installing Direct Power and Communication  
4/28/2022: 4562-73-P DLCD, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs NHMP  
5/20/2022: 4562-65-F, Lane Electric Coop, Wildfire Public Education Campaign  
5/26/2022: 4562-39-P, University of Oregon, Clackamas County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update  
6/7/2022: 4562-28-R-Columbia Memorial Hospital-Columbia Memorial Hospital Expansion AA  
6/30/2022: 5327-21-F Lincoln County-Radio Communications Microwave Dishes Upgrade  
7/1/2022: 4562-35-R-Surfrider Foundation-Ecola Creek Bank Stabilization AA  
7/6/2022: 5327-14-R-City of Eugene-Amazon Concrete Channel Structural & Hydraulic Assessment  
8/25/2022: 4432-07-R EPUD Howard Rd Undergrounding Wires Project  
8/30/2022: 4432-08 EPUD Kenady Lane Undergrounding Wires Project  
11/8/2022: 5394-12-Wasco County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan  
11/10/2022: 4562-29-P-DLCD-Upgrade Oregon NHMP Risk Assessment

**Total Federal Awards: \$8,312,611.15**

**Management Costs: \$260,292.13**

## NON-DISASTER GRANT ROUNDS: BRIC FY2022

In 2022, OEM worked with several BRIC subapplicants and anticipates submitting over 45 subapplications with approximately \$553 million in request. This will be the largest BRIC and FMA request in Oregon history.



# MITIGATION & RECOVERY DIVISION: RECOVERY

## DISASTER DECLARATIONS AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE



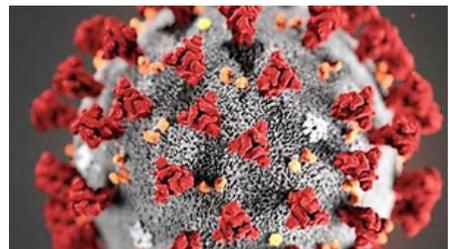
OEM is currently administrating nine open disasters covering an estimated \$1.5 billion in projects through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program, which provides aid through federal financial assistance for a major disaster to help communities in their recovery efforts. From 2020 through 2022, OEM reimbursed over \$520 million in federal funds, helping state and local governments, tribal governments and certain private nonprofits recover from these disasters. As the official recipient of FEMA federal assistance, OEM administers the program and disburses

the funds. As 2022 comes to a close, OEM PA staff remain extremely busy and committed to ensuring compliance, transparency and equity for all applicants and partners.

- Winter Storm 02-13-2021 (DR-4599-OR)
- Wildfires and Straight-line Winds (DR-4562-OR)
- Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides (DR-4519-OR)
- COVID-19 Pandemic (DR-4499-OR)
- Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides (DR-4452-OR)
- Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides (DR-4432-OR)
- Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides (DR-4328-OR)
- Severe Winter Storm and Flooding (DR-4296-OR)
- Severe Winter Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides (DR-4258-OR)

## OPEN DISASTER HIGHLIGHT: DR4499—COVID-19

FEMA PA funds were integral to supporting Oregon's healthcare infrastructure in 2022. Over \$70 million was obligated to Oregon's hospitals and healthcare providers to pay for everything from ventilators for COVID-19 patients to PPE to keep staff safe, along with significantly expanding acute medical care capacity across the state. Much of the PA funding obligated under this grant was used to support and protect the most vulnerable Oregonians. More than \$76.5 million was awarded to jurisdictions for Non-Congregate Sheltering to provide safe places for Oregonians who contracted or were at high risk for COVID-19 to quarantine, rest and recover. An additional \$83 million was awarded for testing projects targeting Oregon's vulnerable populations, providing tests free of charge to those who need them.



Federal funding was awarded to state agencies to support statewide programs to ensure public health and safety by stopping the spread of COVID-19. This included over \$1.1 million to support youth in care, as well as \$2.5 million for hand sanitizer, made by Oregon distilleries shuttered due to the pandemic, distributed for free to community partners, state offices where in-person work was required and healthcare providers.

## STATE RECOVERY FUNCTIONS AND INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE

OEM's State Recovery Functions (SRF) and Individual Assistance (IA) section developed successful partnerships with community partners and state agencies during wildfires and a devastating hailstorm in 2022 that activated SFRs 2, 3, 4 and 5. The agency hired a full-time SRF coordinator to assist with revisions of Oregon's Disaster Recovery Plan and the development of state agency recovery plans and training tools.



IA managed the disaster case management program for the 2020 wildfires with the Oregon Department of Human Services, St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Charities of Oregon, Glide Revitalization and Santiam Service Integration Team through a \$6.2 million FEMA grant. The Disaster Case Management (DCM) grant provided case management services to nearly 1,000 Oregonian fire survivors. Case managers identified resources within each community, assessed individual needs and connected clients with the resources needed to get families back to pre-disaster living. One of those valued partnerships was that of the DCMs and the local long-term recovery groups – groups within IA-declared counties made up of volunteers and nonprofit agencies that provide funding to meet individual needs outside of insurance, FEMA, and what the state provided. Because of these partnerships, over \$14.5 million in services were provided to 2020 wildfire survivors.



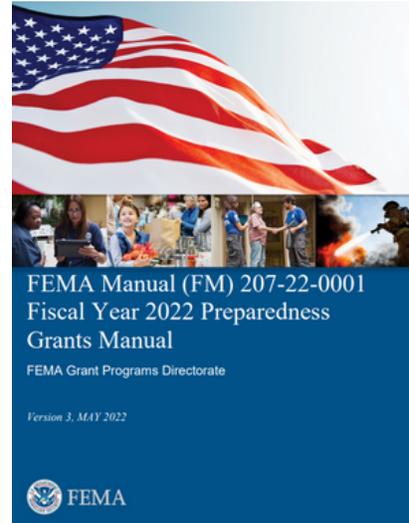
OEM started 2022 with 205 individuals in FEMA direct housing; 24 of those families purchased their FEMA manufactured housing unit, and nearly one year later, there are 51 families in direct housing. The direct housing mission is due to end March 15, 2023. Oregon Housing and Community Services is working with counties to support housing programs with funding through the Community Development Block Grant. OEM's recovery team developed exceptional relationships with local jurisdictions, state and federal agencies and the incredibly valuable philanthropic organizations within Oregon.

# PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE DIVISION: PREPAREDNESS

## PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

In 2022, as part of the transition to a stand-alone department, OEM restructured the preparedness grants under one section. The Preparedness Section is responsible for the management of federal preparedness grants, including the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG), Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), EOC Grants, National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) and the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP). The Preparedness Section also manages the Oregon SPIRE grant program and receives funds from DOGAMI for the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program.

EMPG continued to be an important program for the emergency management community in Oregon serving all 36 counties, six tribes and six municipalities. A total of \$6,110,421 was awarded to fund personnel, equipment and day-to-day expenses for emergency management programs. EMPG supports programs that protect Oregonians, visitors and assets against the greatest threats and hazards; mitigate the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of future disasters; respond quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident; or recover through a focus on the timely restoration, strengthening and revitalization of infrastructure, housing and a sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident.



The HSGP includes a suite of risk-based grants to assist in preventing, preparing for, protecting against and responding to acts of terrorism including the State Homeland Security Program, Urban Area Security Initiative and the Non-Profit Security Program. In 2022, SHSP provided \$4,847,500 for 93 projects from jurisdictions around the state. UASI is supporting projects with \$3,800,000 in the five counties which make up the Portland-metro area.

The Emergency Operations Center Grant program received \$3,750,000 in 2022. This was the first time OEM received these federal funds as appropriated by the Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act 2022 (Pub. L. No. 117-103), which provides funding to equip, upgrade or construct emergency operations centers to provide fully capable facilities to ensure continuity of operations and continuity of government in major disasters or emergencies. These funds are supporting three communities in Oregon: Baker County Sheriff's Office Emergency Operations Center, Benton County Emergency Operations Center, and the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council Emergency Services Training and Coordination Center.



NEHRP is a multi-agency program consisting of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), FEMA, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). In 2022, OEM received \$97,152 to reduce the risks to life and property from future earthquakes in Oregon through the establishment and maintenance of an effective earthquake

hazards reduction program. In 2023, OEM will launch the Be 2 Weeks Ready program, hold meetings of the National Earthquake Program Managers and the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission, and supporting the promotion of earthquake insurance in partnership with DCBS.

OEM received \$388,463 from the RCPGP, which provides funding to close known capability gaps, encourage innovative regional solutions to issues related to catastrophic incidents and build on existing regional preparedness efforts. OEM continues to make progress utilizing these funds to develop a plan, train, and test the logistics and supply chain management to mobilize life-sustaining commodities, resources and services in the state following lessons learned from the COVID-19, 2020 wildfires and more.

The State Preparedness and Incident Response Equipment (SPIRE) grant program funded its second round in 2022, funding 45 awardees with 61 pieces of equipment from across all four priority levels of an approved preparedness equipment list. Equipment included communications trailers, fuel transportation tankers, high-axle all-terrain vehicles, mass casualty incident support trailers, mobile command centers, mobile water tankers, portable lighting, portable power generators, rescue boats, SAR drones, snowcats, sandbagging machines, tactical command vehicles, traffic message boards, vehicle barrier systems with trailers and water purification trailers. OEM received a great deal of feedback regarding the SPIRE grant and is taking steps to improve the program for future grant rounds.



## TRAINING AND EXERCISE

The State Training Program has been in a rebuilding phase during 2022. OEM updated instructors on changes to course materials, held a Basic Academy, ventured into virtual training and began rolling out new courses like G2300 Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions. Its small but mighty team of instructors provided trainings for jurisdictions and agencies and opened classrooms to others to participate. In 2023, the State Training Program is looking to hold more virtual trainings, get back to in-person trainings, develop instructors in all parts of the state for core classes and welcome back the Oregon Prepared Workshop.

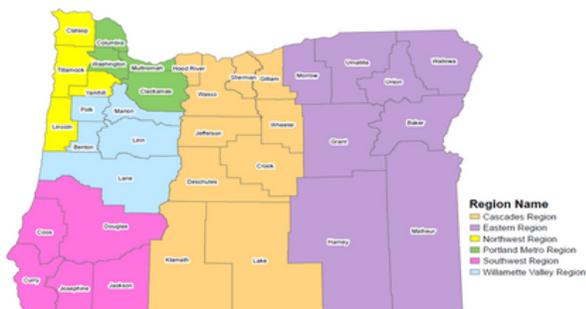
OEM conducted numerous discussion-based exercises in 2022, including several that were part of the National Level Exercise series to review and update the Emergency Operations Plan and the Cascadia Subduction Zone Annex. OEM conducted an Emergency Operations Plan seminar, workshop and tabletop; a Cascadia Subduction Zone Annex Seminar and Workshop; and the Governor’s Disaster Cabinet Workshop.



Discussion-based exercises focused on strategic, policy-oriented issues and oriented participants to authorities and changes and generate dialogue to promote understanding and identify areas of strength and those needing improvement. OEM also participated in the Rehearsal of Concept drill hosted by FEMA.

## REGIONAL COORDINATORS

OEM has two regionally focused teams that serve as dedicated points of contact to support local and tribal emergency managers through all areas of emergencies and disasters. During 2022, the Regional Response and Preparedness Coordinators supported training by facilitating the Basic Academy Course over four weeks, assisting locals with exercises, such as the Cascadia Subduction Zone Functional Exercise in Eastern Oregon, which had six participating counties, and supported partners in pursuing appropriate preparedness grants. The team supported the state and local partners response efforts with the winter storms, fire season, extreme weather and special events by reporting to local Emergency Operations Center (EOC), such as for the Rum Creek Fire and the Cedar Creek Fire and provided situational information and requests to the Emergency Coordination Center (ECC). The Regional Mitigation and Recovery Coordinators worked to staff the new team and integrate with the OEM programs and regions.



The team successfully facilitated six Damage Assessment Workshops throughout each region, provide support to the Mitigation Section by completing 100 compliance checks on property acquisitions and assisting with grant rounds. The team has also supported counties affected by wildfire, drought and hailstorms with their recovery efforts and supports partners in pursuing appropriate disaster grant funding opportunities.

# PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE DIVISION: RESPONSE

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is an all-hazards, all-discipline mutual aid agreement that serves as the cornerstone of the nation’s mutual aid system, allowing states to send personnel, equipment and commodities to assist with response and recovery efforts in other states. Oregon has been a signatory member of the Compact since February 2002. In 2022, OSFM requested assistance in response to the Oregon 2022 wildfires, including:

- 1 mission from WA
- 3 missions from CA
- 126 personnel deployed to OR to assist
- Estimated cost of \$2,638,000



Oregon provided EMAC assistance three times during 2022, with a total estimated deployment cost of \$1,1430,400:

- OEM deployed a PA Specialist to MT to assist in recovery efforts from their late spring flooding.
- OSFM deployed 3 Task Forces (41 personnel from 16 agencies) to the McKinney fire during July.
- OSFM deployed a Type III (13 member) Incident Management Team (IMT) to FL in response to Hurricane Ian to work in an impacted County EOC in September.

## COMMUNICATIONS

OR-Alert was established by the Oregon Legislature in 2020 to ensure statewide access to timely and informative alerts, warnings and notifications (AWNs) through the implementation of a statewide system that enables state, county, city and tribal governments to issue AWNs — providing people in Oregon with meaningful opportunities to make life-saving decisions in the face of emergencies.



As of 2022, 34 counties and two sovereign tribal governments are live on the OR-Alert system, with another committed county scheduled to go live in early 2023. OR-Alert’s tools have been used more than 3,000 times to alert people in Oregon to life-threatening hazards, including wildfires, flooding, acts of violence, hazardous weather, heat emergencies and other incidents. At least 2,800 alert originators have been trained to use the system and OR-Alert now has contact

formation for more than 3.7 million of Oregon's 4.1 million individuals. With Oregon Emergency Management’s support and the community’s input, 21 statewide templates have been developed and professionally translated into Spanish, reviewed for cultural competency and accessibility, and distributed across the enterprise. These templates make it easier for system users to quickly send alerts with clear and consistent messaging, even during times of great stress.

## GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

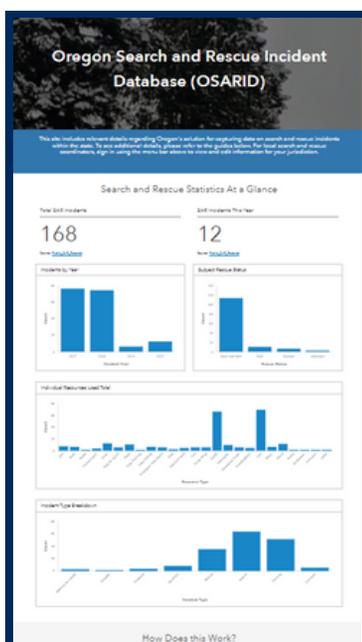
OEM continues to utilize Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in all phases of emergency management. In 2022, the agency founded the Emergency Management GIS Interest Group (EMGIG) to build community and create a space for GIS professionals and interested parties involved with the use of GIS for emergency management to gather and work on statewide initiatives.



OEM GIS also released the Oregon Damage Assessment Project, a new tool for consistent data collection on the damage assessment data for home and business impacts. The tool uses Survey123 and QuickCapture combined with dashboards to allow authorized users access to collect, review, approve and view damage assessment data collected for disasters. OEM regional coordinators held individual training sessions with local and tribal jurisdictions, training 107 people on the usage of the utilities and how other damage assessment processes are conducted. OEM also released a new Volcanoes Data Service fed with data from the USGS volcanoes website; this dataset was adopted into the Esri Living Atlas.

The agency continued to build capability with existing services, including allowing users to upload existing boundaries from other systems, such as SARTopo and Everbridge, to incorporate into the Oregon master evacuation layer. This functionality further looks to integrate other systems outside of the Esri environment and allow non-Esri products the ability to be incorporated into a single dataset.

OEM's statewide evacuation layer service that depicts areas under evacuation from fire activity and other hazards had over 95 million views of the data in 2022 and hit a record with nearly 10 million views for just one day during fire season. The agency has seen its GIS products used in national news, with CNN featuring the wildfires dashboard to share key information about impacts to affected communities.



OEM continued to utilize GIS applications to help inform its response partners of incident activity, generating story maps for all incidents involving the agency. The agency also devised a new approach to collecting and reporting on mitigation properties throughout the state using GIS-based tools. An internal Mitigation Properties Inspection solution allowed inspectors to go out into the field and collect information regarding mitigation properties across the state. Information was collected in a central data service that allows users to report on the status of properties.

The end of this year saw the release of Oregon Search and Rescue Incident Database (OSARID), a solution to collect consistent data regarding search and rescues across the state. This new platform allows local search and rescue coordinators to log in data and produce templated reports for documentation purposes in a consistent platform. Like the damage assessment solution, coordinators can add in data using surveys and view data through dashboards and interactive mapping products.

## STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN BASE PLAN

2022 was focused on updating the State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Base Plan. The EOP provides a statewide framework to coordinate federal, state, local and tribal governments; the private sector; and non-profit organizations working together to provide emergency response activities in the state. The EOP defines roles and responsibilities for state emergency management functions, establishes the conditions under which state resources are mobilized, and describes the organizational concepts and structures used to coordinate actions of response. The revised base plan is aligned with CPG101 and incorporates lessons learned from recent disaster responses. The revised EOP Base Plan, which will incorporate FEMA’s Community Lifelines construct, will be finalized in winter 2023 to be ready for promulgation in 2023.

## ESF #17 ANNEX

OEM collaborated with the Department of Administrative Services Cyber Security Services and the Oregon TITAN Fusion Center to revise the ESF #17 Cyber and Critical Infrastructure Security Annex. The ESF #17 Annex describes how the state will coordinate plans, procedures and resources to support the state’s response to protect cyber and critical infrastructure and key resources threatened by human or natural-caused emergencies.

## CASCADIA SUBDUCTION ZONE ANNEX

Work is underway to draft Oregon’s Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) Annex, which outlines how the state will coordinate federal, state agencies and private sector resources in a unified effort to save lives and protect property and the environment by stabilizing Community Lifelines in response to a catastrophic earthquake and associated tsunamis following a rupture on the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ). The CSZ Annex will be finished winter 2023 and will be exercised during the 2023 functional exercise.

## STATE SEARCH AND RESCUE

Several Search and Rescue (SAR) trends prevailed in 2022 as the public sought more diverse, scenic experiences outside their comfort zone. There were 904 SAR missions (as of Dec. 29, 2022), 178 fewer than in 2021; and 59 Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) missions, down 22 from 2021. This year’s top five SAR counties in terms of missions were Jackson, Douglas, Clackamas, Deschutes and Hood River – all consistent sources of outdoor recreational opportunities. Meanwhile, Sherman and Gilliam counties both reported zero SAR missions for the year, possibly due to wind turbines taking over the recreational landscape. SAR missions in Washington and



Yamhill counties focused more on urban areas than wilderness, while rural SAR missions continued to increase. For example, Wallowa County, which used to average seven SAR missions annually for several years, saw 20+ missions. While 2022 saw an overall drop in total SAR missions statewide, the state experienced a 100% increase in technical, high-risk SAR missions, a disconcerting trend given the extensive resources warranted for each of these rescues.

## STATE 9-1-1 PROGRAM



Oregon's 9-1-1 program administers the Statewide Emergency Communications System. The state has 43 9-1-1 centers known as Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) that cover all 36 counties. Over 2.1 million calls were made to 9-1-1 throughout Oregon in 2022, and PSAPs processed more than 112,000 Text-to-911 messages responding to and supporting requests for assistance. The program funded \$6M in updated call-handling equipment to ensure modern and reliable 9-1-1 call-taking capability. With the collaboration of state agencies and the 9-1-1 PSAP

community, the 9-1-1 program also made significant progress in the development of a Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) strategic plan. The plan serves as a high-level guide to drive the detailed planning and implementation of NG9-1-1 in the state, an essential step toward better serving the public through a modernized emergency communications system utilizing an IP-based network to deliver improved 9-1-1 services, cyber security and call routing capabilities.

## STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

OEM's transition to a stand-alone department included the establishment of a Strategic Communications and Partnership section made up of Public Affairs, Public and Private Partnerships, a Legislative Director and a full-time, dedicated Tribal Liaison and IDEA Coordinator (the latter two will be hired in 2023). This section intentionally places



inclusion, diversity, equity and access (IDEA) front and center and ensures IDEA policies, programs and practices are developed and continually assessed. In 2022, the section prioritized communication translations, interpretative services, plain language and accessible messaging. By advocating for communities subjected to vulnerability by systems and institutions, the section worked to ensure diverse, historically disenfranchised populations – including tribal members; Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC); women; people with disabilities; older adults; those with functional needs; LGBTQIA+; rural communities; those who are economically vulnerable; people with limited English proficiency; and English learners – had equitable access to services and programs throughout Oregon.

In a concerted effort to strengthen partnerships with organizations that champion and also prioritize IDEA efforts, OEM distributed an RFP seeking an agency-wide equity assessment of its operations. It hired Greene Street Communications, a full-service IDEA training, marketing and public relations firm based in Falls Church, Virginia, to review the agency's internal and external policies and communications through an experienced DEI lens. The agency also partnered with United Way of Columbia-Willamette to co-host a workshop following the 2022 Oregon Emergency Management Association Annual Conference in October, focusing on OEM's IDEA initiatives and vision. OEM continues to strengthen that working relationship to find solutions for underserved and underrepresented communities.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

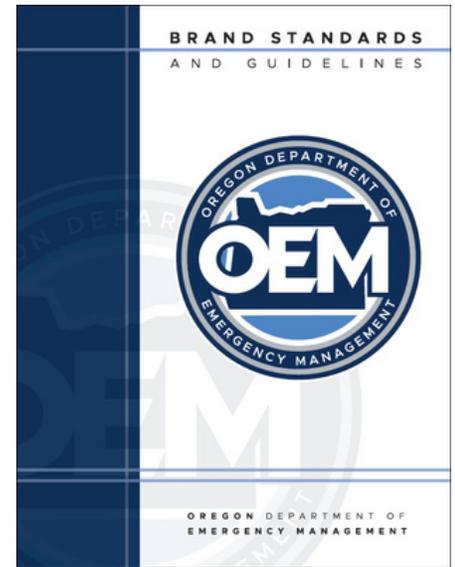
All emergencies are public information emergencies. OEM strives to ensure Oregonians receive timely information to make decisions about their safety and have access to the available resources they need. This year saw its share of public information emergencies, ranging from severe winter storms to heat waves, a distant tsunami advisory and an inland earthquake, another intense wildfire season, and power outages, just to name a few.

2022 was also a year of transitions. The Public Affairs team led the communications strategy as OEM became a stand-alone state department, designing a new logo and brand standards and guidelines for the agency. The modern refresh of the logo with the state outline better represents all communities OEM serves throughout Oregon. The department added several positions within the Public Affairs team under the Strategic Communications and Partnership section, welcoming a new public affairs specialist, a creative director and a website manager. As its staff grows, Public Affairs continues seeking opportunities to innovate and add capabilities to its communications toolbox with new digital media platforms, while also continuing to grow its online audiences.

OEM Public Affairs continued to strengthen relationships with local, state and federal partners through participation in several committees, workgroups, exercises and collaborative projects this year. It provided a statewide crisis communications plan, public information planning and support for the 2022 World Athletic Championships in Eugene. It provided support to OR-Alert partners in the development of statewide alerts and warning templates. It also convened a collaborative committee of news media and public safety agency stakeholders to ensure journalists have safe access to disaster areas under [House Bill 4087](#).

The Public Affairs team continues to apply lessons learned from previous disasters to creatively address communication needs and overcome barriers, working to prioritize equitable and inclusive communications, ensuring translations, plain language and accessible messaging. Visit its webpage devoted to [Equity, Inclusion and Language Access](#).

The past several years of disasters have underscored the importance of proactive preparedness. Throughout 2022, OEM prioritized risk reduction messaging with preparedness campaigns, including “Know Before You Go” recreation safety, “Wildfire Awareness Month” evacuation readiness, “Plan Today. Ready Tomorrow” National Preparedness Month, “ShakeOut” earthquake drill and “Gifts of Preparedness” holiday giving.



## LEGISLATIVE

The establishment of the Strategic Communications and Partnerships Section provided OEM its first legislative director, a role previously administrated by the Oregon Military Department. The director oversaw the agency’s current legislative agenda, which includes four Legislative Concepts (LCs). Two of these LCs establish community-focused disaster relief programs to assist individuals and public organizations recover from disasters and emergency incidents, regardless of federal support. These programs will leverage state dollars, allowing OEM to reduce or eliminate the barriers to access often



experienced when trying to navigate federal programs and fill gaps when federal assistance is unavailable or inaccessible. OEM seeks an investment of \$20 million for the Public Assistance program, \$10 million for Individual Assistance, and eight program and fiscal staff to implement the program.

A state-funded Public Assistance program would be modeled after the federal Disaster Relief Fund, which provides FEMA funding to mobilize resources to protect lives and property, without the delays created by a special legislative appropriation (but retaining legislative oversight and accountability). OEM would use this fund to help local jurisdictions initiate repairs or to match federal recovery dollars. This fund would also be used to marshal state resources to assist with response and recovery operations without the need to re-direct other critical program funding from other state agencies.

A state-funded Individual Assistance program would help those who can’t access FEMA assistance when it’s available and would provide a lifeline to those impacted by disasters when the scope and scale isn’t enough to warrant federal individual assistance. This program will augment existing social service programs that ODHS provides to support disaster survivors. This Individual Assistance program is the cornerstone of OEM’s community engagement work and the focus of its Racial Equity Impact Statement in coordination with the Racial Justice Commission.

A third LC seeks to amend Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 401.532 and rename the Oregon Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund as the Oregon Disaster Risk Reduction Fund. This amendment modifies permissible uses for moneys in the fund. A final LC revises injury coverage for qualified emergency service volunteers (QESVs), transferring responsibility for the provision of workers’ compensation coverage of QESV from OEM to the public body under whose direction the volunteer is acting.

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS



OEM's Public/Private Partnerships (P3) Program, in partnership with multiple states and G&H International, worked on the development of a Private Sector Preparedness, Response and Recovery (PSPR2) Seminar Series featuring subject matter experts sharing valuable lessons, tools and other resources. Launching in 2023 in a series of fast-paced, 90-minute monthly installments, the series will serve as an information exchange for the private sector and government partners on response and recovery themes. The kick-off seminar will examine how businesses can better prepare for, respond to and recover from mass casualty events.

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

3930 FAIRVIEW INDUSTRIAL DR. SE

SALEM, OR 97302

[OREGON.GOV/OEM](http://OREGON.GOV/OEM)

503-378-2911

