



# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## Meeting Date, Location, and Purpose

Date: 07/17/2025

Location

Hybrid: Zoom at OEM in room 135

Time: 09:00 am – 11:00 am

Zoom Link

[Click Here](#)

Purpose: State Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team (State IHMT) 2025 Quarterly Meeting

## Agenda

1. **0900 Welcome/Opening Comments**
  - a. *Erin McMahon, OEM Director*
2. **0910 Introductions**
  - a. *Bridget Good, State IHMT Secretary, OEM*
3. **0915 Act on April 17, 2025, meeting minutes**
  - a. *Jospeh Murray, State IHMT Chair, Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM)*
    - i. *Minutes were approved.*
4. **0920 Voting for IHMT Vice-Chair**
  - a. *Stephen Richardson, State IHMT Chair, Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM)*
  - b. *Marian Lahav was elected as the new State IHMT Vice-Chair.*
5. **0925 Update on Non-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants**
  - a. *Jon Wiebe, OEM*
6. **0935 Update on Post-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants**
  - a. *Kail Daniel, OEM*
  - b. *Post disaster team did just close out two disaster grant rounds within the last three weeks. We submitted over 40 subapplications between 4768 and 5500. We've had 1 award obligation received from FEMA for the Deschutes MJHMP. It was approved prior to the application period even being closed.*
  - c. *HMGP 4854 for the 2024 wildfires. Presidentially declared. We just received our 6-month estimate from FEMA. It went up from 1.1 million at the 30-day estimate to 7.9 million at the 6-month. It is possible the amount will increase again by the 12-month lock-in. We have moved 4 subapplications from the 5500 grant round to the 4854 grant round, because they needed additional technical assistance and time to finalize their subapplications.*
  - d. *We have received our estimates for what our FMAGs for 2025 would look like. FEMA is reviewing the FMAG program, in general. There are no funds tied to the FMAGs at this point. We hope FEMA continues the FMAG program to fund the 4 we currently have.*
  - e. *Period of performances: FEMA is implementing new POP Extension processes and procedures. They are looking at a new timeline that would give awards 2 additional years, from 6-years to 8-years. 1 year would be dedicated to subapplication review and approval. 6 years would be granted to work on the projects, and the final year would be dedicated to closeout. The caveat is that they won't be allowing POP extension requests past the 8<sup>th</sup> year. Current 1-year POP extension requests are reviewed and approved by Region X and go fairly quickly. Longer extensions are reviewed and approved by headquarters and take longer to process. The last submitted request that went to FEMA headquarters took 3 months to approve so OEM's new process is to request all POP extensions for the year now. Work is underway to request a POP extension for 4562.*

- f. OEM Director Erin McMahon: Will OEM create a more aggressive, tighter timeline for POPs for the subrecipients to ensure timely completion for these new projects? Kail affirmed OEM is going to be implementing those parameters.
- g. In order for FEMA to better meet those tighter deadlines, they are deploying strike teams to help with BCA reviews in order to assist in the flow of the quality matrix-based reimbursement program. The metrics must be met by the subrecipient, OEM and by FEMA. They did acknowledge that their levels of review have held up application approvals.

## 7. **0945 Presentation on Oregon spring flooding**

- a. Hannah Fattor, OEM RiskMap Coordinator
- b. Malheur at Vail had some flooding at the end of February. Engineers from Boise came to examine the levee and discovered some seepage and there will be projects in that area that we will help out with. The storm was the result of melting snow and heavy rain. That was the initial problem with Malheur River flooding in February and then an atmospheric river sweeping in in March. It impacted Coos, Curry, Douglas, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Malheur Counties. The storm brought flooding, low elevation snow, landslides in burn scar areas, and strong winds. Mainstream, urban and small stream flooding happening simultaneously. Many areas saw ponding. Southwest Oregon had the majority of the mudslides in Coos, Curry and Douglas Counties.
- c. Jackson County had small stream flooding, rock falls and one fatality from flood waters.
- d. In Douglas County, minor to major flooding. Many homes were damaged. There were minor and major mudflows throughout the county. There were six active shelters for flood evacuees at the peak time of the flood. We saw some mitigation success stories in which structures had been elevated and were not impacted.
- e. Lenny Crow who is the floodplain manager for Cottage Grove and Cresswell, requested assistance to substantial damage assessments and the outreach to OEM. We were able to provide that.
- f. Harney County: They had calls regarding the burn scars impacting the Silvies River watershed. They experienced more intense fire in the area, which caused a loss of vegetation, which creates additional sediments in the rivers and increases the water volume. These burned areas are also hydrophobic, meaning water runs off the soil due to chemicals released during the fire and the precipitation can't seep into the soil. This can cause more intense mudslides. Because the area is more exposed, the snow will melt faster and this contributed to the floods, as well. During the event, debris under bridges caused water to backup.
- g. Our new GIS flood water application allows information to be shared with city planners, as well as community groups. It's sort of open to the public so we can better record high flood waters during events. Contributions came from the Silver Jackets.
- h. During the event, DLCD's national flood coordinator helped out with damage assessments and provided insurance information. OEM provided coordination, tracking and managing assets, and assisting with the disaster declaration. OEM also provided GIS support.
- i. There was a recent map update in Harney County in 2022. This year was likely a 25-year event, so not a 100-year, but still very devastating for the community. We are in talks with them so see how we can assist. The Army Corps of Engineers are helping with the dike and levee evaluations, and they continue to work with communities to record high water marks.
- j. Future needs: Erosion control, especially in Douglas County. Levee and dike rehabilitation, particularly in Malheur and Harney counties, flood code enforcement, whole community recovery, encouraging flood insurance. Protect from landslides, mudslides, clearing debris from under bridges and rehabilitating rivers through actions like reducing channelization, reconnecting floodplains. Overall goal is to help them respond to and mitigate floods going forward as best we are able.
- k. OEM has created a Story Map.
- l. The Burns Paiute Tribe has been unofficially using the high watermark system. They also have a hydraulic and hydrology ancient age study that they used during the event to help determine where their areas of risk were. They blocked off the high risk areas. At the recommendation of NOAA, NWS, USGS, the Burns Paiute Tribe helped add a flood gage upstream, that they paid for with their general fund, because they understood it was needed. They, in conjunction with OEM, did a lot of housing risk

analysis during the event. Suzanne, the EM for the Tribe also provided Flood Insurance and Flood Mapping 101. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) was there to support and had just completed the course. They provided an overview of how to read the flood maps. The Tribe was very successful in their response. Recognition that cleaning the ditches and culverts, and moving people from the hazard areas became very important. Housing mitigation is a priority.

- m. Rynn: The string gages for Harney and Burns haven't set a level for major flooding, so it shows as minor. This is a needed effort going forward. In the City of Burns, there were neighborhoods designated as Shaded Zone X for shallow flooding and that meant the flood insurance requirement was being removed. Rynn wanted to know what the continued level of participation in the program was in that area. Per Hannah, participation in the area is low so there is an ongoing effort to provide education and try to increase the number of insured.
- n. Hannah is going to see if Harney County has any photos of homes that didn't flood as the direct result of mitigation work.

**8. 1005 Oregon NHMP Update**

- a. Marian Lahav, Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- b. In May, OEM reviewed the state plan and sent DLCD a few minor corrections. DLCD responded to those and FEMA issued an APA, approvable pending adoption with no corrections in June. The promulgation letter was sent to the Governor's office. It's being reviewed by DOJ. After their review and the Governor's signature, we will send it back to FEMA for the final review.
- c. DLCD is on the verge of contracting with NW Mathematics to vet the statistics to be used in the public facing risk assessment tool, and to help design a user interface. The public facing tool will use a 25-acre hex frame as the geographic unit of analysis, rather than census tracts. This approach will be particularly useful in rural areas, where much of the census tract in those areas is uninhabited. The tool will be hosted at DLCD.
- d. Jonna mentioned that the letter discusses the State's adherence to FEMA grant terms and conditions, and with the update to those terms and conditions, they want to really review and consider implications.

**9. 1010 Risk Assessment Project Update**

- a. Christine Shirley, DLCD
- b. On the verge of contracting with Northwest Mathematics to vet the statistics for the forward facing tool on the risk assessment. More information will be added when the Zoom account is brought back online.

**10. 1020 Local Mitigation Planning Report**

- a. Michael Howard, Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience (OPDR)
- b. Susan Millhauser, DLCD
- c. See the attached: 20250717\_DLCD\_OPDR\_Local-Mitigation-Report

**11. 1025 Silver Jackets & NFIP Updates**

- a. Deanna Wright NFIP
- b. Information will be added when the Zoom account is brought back online.

**12. 1045 Public comment**

- a. Stephen Richardson facilitating
- b. Each public speaker is limited to three minutes, unless the time is extended by the Chair.

**13. 1055 Other business**

- a. Stephen Richardson facilitating
- b. Any new or updated legislative actions?

**14. 1100 Adjourn**