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Background Brief on ...

Emergency Management

Public Law (PL) 93-288, the “Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act,” 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq., passed on May 22, 1974, (references to the Act’s amendment by PL 100-707 will be cited as “The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act”) authorized the President of the United States to establish a program of disaster preparedness, provide technical assistance to the states, make grants to states within specified limits, and insure that all appropriate federal agencies prepare to issue warnings of disasters to state and local officials.

Executive Order 12148, signed July 20, 1979, merged many of the federal government’s separate disaster-related responsibilities into a new Federal Emergency Management Agency (**FEMA**).

Senate Bill 5548 (1981) established the state’s Emergency Management Division, now known as Oregon Emergency Management (**OEM**), within the Executive Department. OEM was charged with coordinating and implementing the civil defense of the state, maintaining liaison and cooperating with civil defense agencies and organizations of other states and the Federal Government, and carrying out other duties as prescribed by the Governor.

House Bill 2370 (2007) transferred OEM to the Oregon Military Department.

Current Law

Oregon Revised Statutes (**ORS**) Chapter 401 sets out the policy and purpose of emergency management within the state and details the Interstate Emergency and Disaster Assistance Compact.

Oregon Figures and Statistics (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP))

Disaster Declaration	Date	Name	HMGP Eligible Counties	Federal HMGP Funds	Status as of May 2004
DR-1632	Dec '05/Jan '06	Severe Storms	19	\$1,388,700	Projects On-Going
DR-1672	Dec. '06	Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	xx	xx	In Process of closing
DR-1683	Jan. '07	Severe winter storms and flooding	xx	xx	In process of closing
DR-1733	Dec '07	Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	7	Approx. \$10 million	Projects On-Going
DR-1824	March '09	Severe winter storm, record or near record snow	xx	xx	Projects On-Going

- It designates powers of the Governor during emergencies (ORS 401.165 to 401.236)
- It defines the Governor’s authority concerning federal financial assistance to political subdivisions and to individuals (ORS 401.232 to 401.234)
- It sets forth the responsibilities of OEM (ORS 401.052 to 401.165)
- It describes powers of local governments during emergencies (ORS 401.305 to 401.335)
- It authorizes the Seismic Safety Policy Commission (ORS 401.915 to 401.935)
- It defines and sets out policy for emergency service workers (ORS 401.358 to 401.378)
- It establishes a search and rescue program (ORS 404.100 to 404.250)
- It sets forth policy for emergency health care services (ORS 401.651 to 401.670) and emergency communications systems (ORS 403.100 to 403.542)

Oregon Administrative Rules chapter 104 details rules for local government participation in FEMA’s Emergency Management Assistance Program, earthquake preparedness drill requirements, the Oregon Emergency Response System, 9-1-1 Standards and Training, and the 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone Systems Program.

Hazardous Mitigation Program

Authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) administered by FEMA,

provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the program is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

Please visit the OEM web site for more information www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM

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FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE SUMMARY

The images below show the counties affected by Oregon's most recent and still open disaster declarations. Each county is color coded to indicate which federal disaster programs are applicable. There are three major federal disaster assistance programs, Individual Assistance (**IA**), Public Assistance (**PA**) and Hazard Mitigation (**HM**). The federal disaster designation, noted by DR, is a unique number assigned by FEMA.



DR – 1632
Severe Winter Storms



DR – 1672-Severe
Winter Storms,
Landslides-Mudslides



DR – 1683
Severe Winter Storm
and Flooding



DR – 1733
Severe Winter Storms, Flooding,
Mudslides and Landslides



DR – 1824
Severe Winter Storm, Record
and Near Record Snow,
Landslides, and Mudslides