

# NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Fiscal Year 2023  
State Tribal Collaboration Act Annual Report

## MISSION STATEMENT

To protect the people of New Mexico and the nation through a comprehensive, consolidated, and coordinated program of mitigating hazards, preparing for emergencies, preventing attacks, and responding and recovering from events that occur without regard to cause.

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# New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

FISCAL YEAR 2023

## STATE TRIBAL COLLABORATION ACT ANNUAL REPORT

### AGENCY OVERVIEW/BACKGROUND

The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) leads the state's response to emergencies and disasters while providing for the safety and welfare of its citizens. Emergencies and disasters can be either natural or human-made events, as well as specifically recognized circumstances determined by the Governor. To aid in these events, the New Mexico State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) assists local and tribal governments by serving as the conduit for assistance from the Federal Government.

The New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management coordinates state, local, and tribal representatives and resources during emergencies and disasters by implementing an "all-hazards" approach to emergency management, by recognizing and planning for disasters, possible acts of terrorism, or pandemics. DHSEM educates and engages representatives from state, local, and tribal governments during major emergencies and disasters as well as during planning, training, and exercise initiatives, such as winter weather preparedness activities, disaster warning, and emergency public information dissemination.

The NMDHSEM and the SEOC are in Santa Fe, New Mexico on the National Guard Armory grounds. The physical address is 13 Bataan Blvd., Santa Fe, NM, 87508. The business office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The SEOC can be reached 24/7 through its emergency phone line at: (505) 476-9635 or by email at: [nm.eoc@state.nm.us](mailto:nm.eoc@state.nm.us).

Below are key DSHEM contacts.

<b>CABINET SECRETARY</b> <b>David Dye</b> <b>(505) 589-8158</b> <a href="mailto:David.Dye@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>David.Dye@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>	
<b>DEPUTY CABINET SECRETARY</b> <b>Ali Rye</b> <b>(505) 470-9913</b> <a href="mailto:Ali.Rye@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Ali.Rye@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>	<b>DEPUTY CABINET SECRETARY</b> <b>Cara Walton</b> <b>505-476-0868</b> <a href="mailto:Carla.Walton@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Carla.Walton@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>
<b>GENERAL COUNSEL</b> <b>Matthew Stackpole</b> <b>505-699-5807</b> <a href="mailto:Matthew.Stackpole@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Matthew.Stackpole@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>	<b>STATE FIRE MARSHAL</b> <b>Randy Varela</b> <b>(505) 476-9600</b> <a href="mailto:Randy.Varela@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Randy.Varela@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>
<b>PREPAREDNESS BUREAU</b> <b>Valli Wasp, Bureau Chief</b> <b>505-476-9600</b> <a href="mailto:Valli.Wasp@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Valli.Wasp@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>	<b>RESPONSE AND RECOVERY BUREAU</b> <b>Cynthia Holmes, Bureau Chief</b> <b>505-470-9913</b> <a href="mailto:Cynthia.Holmes@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Cynthia.Holmes@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>
<b>HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU</b> <b>Gabriel Garcia</b> <b>(505) 639-3347</b> <a href="mailto:Gabriel.Garcia@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Gabriel.Garcia@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU</b> <b>Jean Montoya</b> <b>(505) 476-9600</b> <a href="mailto:Jean.Montoya@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Jean.Montoya@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>
<b>NEW MEXICO FUSION CENTER</b> <b>Teresa Enriquez</b> <b>(505) 414-5135</b> <a href="mailto:Teresa.Enriquez@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Teresa.Enriquez@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>	<b>TRIBAL LIAISON</b> <b>Daniel Moya</b> <b>(505) 469-9361</b> <a href="mailto:Daniel.Moya@dhsem.nm.gov"><u>Daniel.Moya@dhsem.nm.gov</u></a>
<b>NEW MEXICO EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER</b> <b>505-476-9635</b> <a href="mailto:nm.eoc@state.nm.us"><u>nm.eoc@state.nm.us</u></a>	

## AGENCY POLICY PROMOTING STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS

The DHSEM program managers and local preparedness coordinators, in collaboration with the Tribal Liaison, regularly communicate with and maintain collaborative relationships with New Mexico's Pueblos, Tribes and Nations. In doing so, DHSEM aims to assist tribal governments to build out their capacity and capability and thereby further enhance their emergency management programs.

With direction and support from the Office of Governor Lujan Grisham, DHSEM is committed to strengthening its working relationships with all Pueblos, Tribes and Nations. For Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21), all agency programming will strive to include tribal-specific outreach that is culturally appropriate and designed to encourage engagement. This includes planning, training, exercising, and funding. In coordination with the full-time Tribal Liaison, agency staff will design and implement culturally appropriate techniques to support each Pueblo, Tribe and Nation to accomplish their emergency management goals.

During FY20, FEMA hired a full-time Tribal Liaison to serve in New Mexico. Their primary responsibility is to assist all Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations build their emergency management capabilities. During FY20, DHSEM created a job description and advertised a full-time Tribal Liaison position. Daniel Moya, the DHSEM Tribal Liaison was hired and started employment as of July 27, 2020. The DHSEM and FEMA Tribal Liaisons will coordinate regularly to assure the most effective outreach and technical assistance is being provided to our tribal partners.

## TRIBAL OUTREACH AND SUPPORT

The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management continues to support prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts to prevent loss of life and property and decrease the impacts of disasters in our communities. Damage from wildfire and post-fire burn scar flooding continues to be the most significant hazard to tribal communities in New Mexico.

Under the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013, tribal leaders may request a Major Disaster Declaration directly from the President. In coordination with local and tribal governments, state and federal partners, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the SEOC remains actively involved with maintaining situational awareness for recovery and mitigation activities.

Tribal governments and their members are an essential part of the state's emergency management team. Effective relationships with tribes are necessary to fulfill the state's mission. The DHSEM acknowledges the sovereignty of federally-recognized tribes and is committed to enhancing its working relationship with tribal governments to improve, build and sustain core capabilities that are essential for the execution of critical tasks for each of the five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery.

The core capabilities are highly interdependent and will differ from one tribe to another. They require the use of existing preparedness networks and activities to

improve training and exercise programs, innovation, and appropriate administrative, finance, and logistics systems.

## MITIGATION AND RECOVERY STATUS

### **Acoma Pueblo**

Pueblo of Acoma COVID-19 (EM-3496) – Direct Recipient

DHSEM recovery staff aided the Pueblo of Acoma by developing Project Worksheet (PW) scope of work revisions and closeout of over 100 PWs resulting from FEMA-DR-1936, severe flooding in September 2010. The coordinated effort resulted in an increase of award amounts for the Pueblo under DR-1936 from \$3.7 million to \$8.9 million.

Acoma Pueblo was awarded \$50,000, for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) 2019 funding cycle. The sub-grant awarded \$25,000 in federal share and \$25,000 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for their Emergency Manager. Unfortunately, after technical assistance was provided, the Pueblo did not sign the sub-grant and DHSEM closed the sub-grant after nine months.

Acoma Pueblo Mitigation Plan is approved through January 24, 2023. Acoma is working directly with FEMA on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program through its direct disaster declaration. The Recovery program is assisting with rewriting all underestimated small projects for DR 1936.

### **Cochiti Pueblo**

Cochiti Pueblo is deliberating whether to proceed as a sub-recipient of the state under FEMA-DR-NM-4529 or be a direct recipient to FEMA R6. Most expenses were related to education, training on PPE and signage.

Cochiti Pueblo has a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan that expires July 29, 2020. DHSEM sent notifications of expiration and plan update available funding opportunities in spring 2018 and 2019. 2020 notifications were delayed by COVID-19 and will be sent before the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Notice of Funding Opportunity, anticipated to be in August 2020.

Cochiti Pueblo was awarded \$22,281 for the EMPG 2019 funding cycle. The sub-grant awarded \$11,140.50 in federal share and \$11,140.50 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for its Emergency Manager. Unfortunately, after technical assistance was provided, the Pueblo did not sign the sub-grant and DHSEM closed the sub-grant after nine months.

### **Isleta Pueblo**

Isleta Pueblo COVID-19 (EM-3519) – Direct Recipiente

**Jemez Pueblo**

Jemez Pueblo was awarded \$50,000 for the EMPG 2019 funding cycle. The sub-grant awarded \$25,000 in federal share and \$25,000 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for its Emergency Manager.

The FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan expires November 21, 2024 and is an Annex to the Sandoval County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Laguna Pueblo**

Laguna Pueblo is deliberating whether to proceed as a sub-recipient to the state under FEMA-DR-NM-4529 or go directly to FEMA R6.

Laguna Pueblo completed a self-fund plan update. The FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan expires June 23, 2025. The State Hazard Mitigation Officer provided technical assistance in February 2019 for the planning kick-off meeting.

**Mescalero Apache Nation**

As a sub-recipient under FEMA-DR-NM-4529, the Mescalero Apache Nation has funding for one small project obligated.

The Mescalero Apache Nation utilized a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program sub-grant to create a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Plan is approved and expires January 2, 2025. A Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) was approved for the Soldier Canyon Fire in 2018 which burned on tribal land. FEMA's new Hazard Mitigation Grant Program-Post Fire grant would have provided \$425,008 in mitigation grant funding to be prioritized for the land burned by the fire. DHSEM notified the Nation of the funding availability; calls and emails were not returned. No application for project funding was received by DHSEM.

**Nambe Pueblo**

Nambe Pueblo Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan expired September 12, 2018. DHSEM sent expiration notifications and planned funding opportunities in Spring before the BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity, anticipated to be in August 2020. No application has been submitted to the state or to FEMA. In January 2020, the pueblo completed a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Sub-Grant Agreement for a rain and stream gauge flood warning system.

**Navajo Nation**

The SEOC assisted the Navajo Nation during the 2019 Winter Storm and the Tohajiilee Water Shortage. DHSEM is working with the Navajo Nation to improve communication flow between Finance and Programs to prevent de-obligations. The agency is also working with a local Chapter in retaining funds for a health clinic.

The Navajo Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is approved through April 9, 2024 and is processed by FEMA Region IX. The Nation has a grant through FEMA Region IX for an update.



### **Ohkay Owingeh**

Ohkay Owingeh has a FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Plan that expires December 3, 2022. The Tribe chose to self-fund, despite having a Sub-Grant Agreement to cover the cost of developing the Plan.

### **Picuris Pueblo**

Pueblo of Picuris COVID-19 (EM-3500) – Direct Recipient

Picuris Pueblo wrote a participation letter to be included in the Taos County Mitigation Plan. Taos County secured a sub-grant agreement through DHSEM; however, Taos County is not including Picuris Pueblo as an active participant. Mitigation Program staff informed the Pueblo that it could submit a new Notice of Interest and an application for a Sub-grant.

### **Pojoaque Pueblo**

Pojoaque Pueblo requested withdrawal from FEMA-DR-NM-4529.

Pojoaque Pueblo had a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program sub-grant to update the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (original plan expired in 2012). The Pueblo withdrew from the sub-grant in December 2018 with the stated intent to apply directly to FEMA Region VI.

### **Sandia Pueblo**

Pueblo of Sandia COVID-19 (EM-3520) – Direct Recipient

Sandia Pueblo has a FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan that expires November 21, 2024. It is an Annex to the Sandoval County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Sandia Pueblo was awarded \$61,500, for the EMPG 2019 funding cycle. The sub-grant awarded \$30,750 in federal share and \$30,750 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for its Emergency Management Specialist position. Due to the vacancy, the Pueblo requested and was approved to accomplish emergency management tasks utilizing a contractor.

### **San Felipe Pueblo**

Pueblo of San Felipe COVID-19 (EM-3521) - Direct Recipient

San Felipe Pueblo has a FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Plan that expires September 23, 2024. It is self-funded.

### **Santa Ana Pueblo**

Santa Ana Pueblo requested withdrawal from FEMA-DR-NM-4529.

The Pueblo has a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Sub-grant to create the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. FEMA provided feedback in January 2019 on corrections needed for the Plan to meet the federal requirements. Because there was no FEMA

approval of the Plan, all available funds could not be reimbursed to the Pueblo. The sub-grant was closed.

### **Santa Clara Pueblo**

Santa Clara Pueblo COVID-19 (EM-3485) – Direct Recipient.

In an unprecedented action, FEMA R6 allowed the State of New Mexico and the Pueblo of Santa Clara to transition the Pueblo’s projects from two state and federal Declarations—DR-4047 (severe flooding in August 2011) and DR-4079 (severe flooding in August 2012)—thereby allowing the Pueblo to be a direct grantee/applicant with FEMA R6. Santa Clara Pueblo will complete the required recovery activities identified in the project, including worksheets and managing the grants through close out. The transfer allows the Pueblo to request a larger Federal Award amount.

The Recovery program has transferred numerous project worksheets under FEMA DR 4047 and 4079, to Santa Clara Pueblo. The Pueblo will complete the required recovery activities identified in the project worksheets and manage the grants through close out.

Santa Clara Pueblo Hazard Mitigation Plan is approved through October 28, 2023. The Pueblo has a Sub-grant Agreement for design and construction of a \$3 million Flood Mitigation Project. The Pueblo submitted a request to increase the cost of the project to implement additional flood mitigation activities and utilize additional available Federal and state funding. FEMA Headquarters denied the request; therefore, additional funding was not awarded. The Pueblo, DHSEM and FEMA R6 supported the extension and additional funding.

### **Santo Domingo Pueblo**

As a sub-recipient under FEMA-DR-NM-4529, Santo Domingo Pueblo has concerns about the non-congregate sheltering it is providing for its citizens, as well as with food purchases and distribution. DHSEM Recovery Staff are working with the Pueblo and FEMA R6 on resolution of concerns.

Santo Domingo Pueblo has a FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan that expires November 21, 2024. It is an Annex to the Sandoval County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Santo Domingo Pueblo was awarded \$50,000, for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) 2019 funding cycle. The Sub-grant awarded \$25,000 in federal share and \$25,000 in non-federal share (the Pueblo’s responsibility) for their Emergency Manager. Unfortunately, after technical assistance was provided, the Pueblo did not sign the Sub-grant and DHSEM closed the Sub-grant after nine months.

### **Taos Pueblo**

Taos Pueblo COVID-19 (EM-3510) – Direct Recipient

Taos Pueblo has a FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan that expires December 15, 2023. The Pueblo had a Sub-grant Agreement to cover the cost of developing the Plan.

Taos Pueblo was awarded \$50,000, as requested, for the Emergency EMPG 2020 funding cycle. The sub-grant awards \$25,000 in federal share and \$25,000 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for their Emergency Management Coordinator.

### **Zia Pueblo**

During an August 20, 2016 monsoon season flooding event the Pueblo's water system was severely damaged by extreme floodwater flow and flood-borne debris impacting a pylon pedestal and causing a support pier/pylon to twist slightly and displace from vertically true. The water system is composed, in part, of a flume/aqueduct facility which conveys water from Zia Lake reservoir across the Rio Jemez to a concrete-lined acequia/irrigation ditch (South Ditch) to provide water for irrigation and a potential water source in the event of a requirement for wildfire suppression south of the Rio Jemez.

DHSEM recovery staff continues coordination activities with Zia Pueblo staff, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by conducting Hydrology and Hydraulic (H&H) studies used to develop engineering designs and costs funded by a federal grant. DHSEM staff are evaluating the use of State Disaster Assistance Program funds for repair of the system.

The Pueblo has a FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Plan that expires January 12, 2025. The Pueblo had a Sub-grant Agreement to cover the cost of developing the Plan.

Zia Pueblo was awarded \$50,000, for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) 2019 funding cycle. The sub-grant awarded \$25,000 in federal share and \$25,000 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for their Emergency Manager. Unfortunately, after technical assistance was provided, the Pueblo did not sign the sub-grant and DHSEM closed the sub-grant after nine months.

### **Zuni Pueblo**

Zuni Pueblo COVID-19 (EM-3506) – Direct Recipient

Zuni Pueblo has a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program sub-grant to write a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Pueblo has submitted the Plan to FEMA R6 for review.

Zuni Pueblo was awarded \$50,000, for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) 2019 funding cycle. The sub-grant awarded \$25,000 in federal share and \$25,000 in non-federal share (the Pueblo's responsibility) for their Emergency Manager.

## **DHSEM ADMINISTERED AVAILABLE GRANTS**

DHSEM either administers, or is knowledgeable about, the below grants. Pueblos, Tribes and Nations may be eligible for these grants depending on

the specific grant year criteria. If Tribal stakeholders are taking advantage of these grants, the description is included in the section above for each entity.

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**

The HMGP offers financial assistance to implement measures that will permanently reduce or eliminate future damages and losses from natural hazards through safer building practices and through improving existing structures and supporting infrastructure. A sub-grantee to the State, Tribe or Nation is limited to 5% sub-recipient management cost (100% federal share), as calculated from the total project cost. The project would be awarded at a 75% federal, 25% non-federal share. If a Tribe or Nation requests a direct Presidential Disaster Declaration, it can also request a direct HMGP award. In this case, Management Costs are 10% of all projects submitted at 100% federal share.

Tribes and Nations can apply directly to FEMA for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants if FEMA has an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan. Tribal Mitigation Plans must meet the requirements of 44 CFR 201.7. A status of mitigation planning and projects for Tribes and Nations within the state can be found in the section above.

### **Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP)**

The HMEP increases the emphasis on transportation for ongoing efforts for the improvement of the capability of communities to plan for, and respond to, the full range of potential risks posed by accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials.

### **Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)**

The EMPG is used to sustain and enhance all-hazards emergency management capabilities. The eligible activities are for the development of a comprehensive emergency management program, including planning, organization (salary and benefits), exercise, training, and equipment. For the past few years, due to limited funding, DHSEM has prioritized salary and benefits for flow-through to tribal and local emergency management programs.

The sub-recipient is responsible for matching the grant at a cost share of 50%. EMPG funding allows tribes to build internal capacity to become National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant and to create a Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA). NIMS and THIRA compliance are required for FEMA preparedness grant funding eligibility through DHSEM.

### **Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG)**

The FMAG is for suppression, management and control of any fire burning on publicly- (non-federal) or privately-owned forest or grassland that threatens destruction that constitutes a major disaster.

### **Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)**

The FMA is to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This grant is only

open to Zuni Pueblo, as it is the only Tribe in New Mexico that participates in the NFIP.

**Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)**

The PDM was discontinued in 2019. It promoted implementation of activities designed to reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction to property from natural hazards. Tribes and Nations could apply direct to FEMA if they had a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan. Management Costs were made available at 75% federal and 25% non-federal. If the Tribe or Nation met FEMA’s definition of ‘small, impoverished community’, the Management Cost is 90% federal and 10% non-federal.

**Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)**

The first BRIC will be released in 2020, as a replacement for the PDM. Information will be available when the NOFO is released. A Tribal set-aside amount may be included, which is available annually for Tribes or Nations to apply for. Any project over the set-aside amount would be placed in national competition.

**State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)**

The SHSGP is for planning, organization, equipment, training and exercises related to core capability deficiencies identified in the New Mexico Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis (THIRA) and the Stakeholder Preparedness Report (SPR). The THIRA/SPR are key elements of the national preparedness architecture, including the National Preparedness Goal, The National Incident Management System and the National Planning Frameworks. The implementation of state homeland security strategies and key elements of the national preparedness architecture, including the National Preparedness Goal, the National Incident Management System and the National Planning Frameworks.

The grant remains focused on providing support to local agencies/partners including tribal entities, with a focus on supporting responses to acts of terrorism in the state; applications from our partners require a clearly defined nexus to terrorism to be eligible for this grant. NIMS and THIRA compliance are required to be eligible for this grant.

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU (ASB)

The ASB oversees support functions for all operational units and includes the Grants Management Unit and the Financial Services Unit.

#### Grants Management

This unit is responsible for federal grant applications, management, and compliance. It manages over 40 active disaster and non-disaster grants and over 2,500 disaster and non-disaster sub-grants.

#### Financial Services Unit

This unit oversees Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Purchasing, Procurement, Accounting, and Auditing. The Unit also creates and manages the Operating Budget and Grant Budgets.

### PREPAREDNESS BUREAU

The Preparedness Bureau is the largest Bureau at DHSEM. Below is a summary of each program and the services that are available to all local and tribal governments within the State of New Mexico.

#### Local Preparedness Program

This program provides technical assistance for local and tribal emergency management programs through a continuous cycle of planning, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating and taking action to correct and mitigate.

Local Preparedness Coordinators are assigned to the six DHSEM Preparedness Areas across the state. Tribal outreach and technical assistance are shared amongst the Local Preparedness Program staff. The full time Tribal Liaison that reports to the Cabinet Secretary is responsible for assuring consistent messaging from the Local Preparedness Program.

Local Preparedness Coordinators provide technical assistance with:

- Development of comprehensive emergency management work plans;
- Capability development based on emergency management shortfalls;
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance;
- Planning, training and exercise, grant applications, and performance reporting;
- Exercise design, assessments and after-action reports/improvement plans;
- Identification of valid mitigation projects;
- Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRA);
- Training and exercise needs assessments;
- Coordination with DSHEM Training and Exercise Officers;
- Development of comprehensive all hazard emergency operations plans; and,
- Typing of resource assets.

#### Citizen Corps

New Mexico is an active participant in the Citizen Corps Program. This program's core value is to educate the people of New Mexico about disasters and assist them with protecting themselves and their families and neighbors during and after a disaster. Citizen Corps also connects volunteers with the Emergency Management Community of First Responders so individuals might be knowledgeable to assist during our greatest time of need.

Its mission is to provide opportunities for citizens to engage in education, training, and volunteer service in partnerships with first responder agencies and volunteer organizations at the local level. Citizen awareness of, and involvement in, preparedness, prevention, response and recovery plans and actions will result in stronger, safer communities.

Citizen Corps programs and unique local initiatives are coordinated locally by Citizen Corps Councils—a forum for representatives of fire, rescue, law enforcement, health, education, business, local and tribal government, and volunteer management to identify local needs and coordinate training and volunteer opportunities for the community.

Sandia Pueblo is a member of the New Mexico Citizen Corps Council.

### **New Mexico Youth Preparedness Council**

The Youth Preparedness Council provides youth an opportunity to serve on a State council; to complete youth preparedness projects; to voice their opinions, experiences, ideas, solutions, and questions about youth disaster preparedness; and to participate in the Youth Preparedness Council Summit. The Council has similar roles and responsibilities as the FEMA Youth Preparedness Council. In this way, DHSEM encourages and helps to prepare youth to apply to become FEMA Youth Preparedness Council members and New Mexico representatives.

### **Youth Preparedness Council Summit**

The Youth Preparedness Council Summit is usually held annually every summer; due to COVID restrictions, no Summit was held in 2020. The Youth Preparedness Council Summit will be held annually every summer. The Summit will provide an opportunity for Council members to meet other council members, NM DHSEM representatives, and emergency management mentors. The emergency management mentors will be the primary NM DHSEM support contacts and mentors for the Council members. Sessions during the Summit will provide an opportunity for Council members to meet other council members and mentors; share their experiences, ideas, solutions, and questions; and prepare for activities they will do during their term on the Council. Each Council member must have parent/guardian approval to attend the Summit.

Santo Domingo Pueblo attended the Youth Preparedness Council Summit: two adults and 14 youths attended June 10 through June 14, 2019 at Eastern New Mexico University.

### **Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**

The Teen CERT concept was created to address preparedness and response capabilities from within high schools. While many schools have taken measures to provide for site security analysis and equipment, more effort is needed to train staff and students in school security and emergency response procedures, and to involve youth in the State's overall emergency preparedness and response plans. Teen CERT aims to train students in emergency preparedness and basic response to ensure that they have the skills needed to protect themselves, and assist others, in the event of an emergency. Teen CERT programs can support a school's emergency operations plan and assist emergency services personnel, thus providing valuable surge capacity to local first responders when needed.

Sandia Pueblo and Santo Domingo Pueblo have started a Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

## **TRAINING AND EXERCISE UNIT**

### **Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)**

The DHSEM uses the HSEEP as the methodology for designing, developing, conducting and evaluating exercises. The HSEEP is a capabilities-based and performance-based exercise program that provides a standardized policy, methodology, and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. New Mexico's HSEEP Matrix identifies the documents and submission timeline necessary to be HSEEP consistent.

The HSEEP methodology is based on an Integrated Preparedness Planning process that incorporates planning, training, and exercise elements into a multi-year schedule. The multi-year schedule uses a progressive, whole community approach in which training and exercise activities focus on increasing competency in specific capabilities by escalating exercise complexity. Exercise types include Seminars, Workshop, Tabletop, Drill, Games, Functional and Full-Scale Exercises. Tribal partners are always encouraged to participate, and state assistance is available for Tribal-sponsored exercises.

### **Training Program**

The Training Division strives to meet the educational and skill building capabilities of the first responder community of New Mexico. The courses offered cover various emergency management and domestic preparedness training needs. Many Tribal partners participate every year in these preparedness training classes. The department works with the Exercise Division to augment designated capabilities. The Training Division's primary focus is to enhance local or tribal government knowledge and ability to prevent, protect, respond, and recover from nature caused man-made disasters or emergencies that might occur in their respective territory.

The DHSEM annually sponsors the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop, which is intended to serve as an interactive opportunity for the local and tribal emergency management communities to work with state, federal, private, and non-governmental partners to design a multi-year training and exercise schedule, supported by comprehensive planning initiatives to build capabilities throughout



the state and support the State Preparedness Report and the State Threat Hazard Identification Assessment.

The web-based DHSEM Training Management System, “Preparing New Mexico”, contains a module to track participation at local, tribal, and state governments. For additional information, please visit the Prepare New Mexico website, <https://www.preparingnewmexico.org>.

DHSEM continues to coordinate with the National Emergency Training Center (NETC). These courses are offered at FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. Please note, not all courses may be available every year.

L552 Continuity of Operations (COOP) for Tribal Governments. This course provides tribal representatives with an understanding of how to develop and implement a Continuity of Operations program to ensure continuity of community essential functions across a wide range of emergencies and events.

E580, Emergency Management Framework for Tribal Governments. This course provides tribal leaders with a basic understanding of emergency management principles and their role in leading and directing their Tribes in implementing comprehensive emergency management systems.

E581, Emergency Management Operations for Tribal Government. This course assists Tribal officials to develop organizational structures, operational procedures, and resources for effective emergency management operations. Emergency management and response personnel develop a deeper understanding of emergency management operations. Special emphasis is placed on developing standard operating procedures and using these procedures to test operational readiness.

E582, Mitigation for Tribal Governments. This course provides tribal representatives with an understanding of mitigation concepts and techniques for protecting their communities from all hazards. The course will cover the use of hazard identification and risk analysis for mitigation planning and provide examples of tribal mitigation successes. The course will also provide an overview of FEMA mitigation programs as opportunities for further reducing risk to all hazards in their community.

E344, Protecting Tribal Communities. This course provides Tribal members and their representatives with an overview of FEMA’s mitigation programs, to outline tribal mitigation responsibilities, and to discuss opportunities for achieving mitigation successes. The course will cover mitigation planning, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and mitigation grant programs.

Independent Study (IS) 650 Building Partnerships with Tribal Governments. This course is designed to provide the basic knowledge to build effective partnerships with tribal governments and to work in concert with them to protect native people and their property against all types of hazards. Tribal representatives speak about their history, their culture, their way of life, and what people need to know to develop good relationships with them. What they say will provide insight into a

people who have endured great suffering and challenges but remain proud and committed to taking care of one another, their land, and their traditions.

There are currently five courses in the EMI Tribal Curriculum:

E/L0580	<a href="#"><u>Emergency Management Framework for Tribal Governments</u></a>
E/L0581	<a href="#"><u>Emergency Operations for Tribal Governments</u></a>
E/L0582	<a href="#"><u>Mitigation for Tribal Governments</u></a>
L0583	<a href="#"><u>Emergency Management Overview for Tribal Leaders</u></a>
L0552	<a href="#"><u>Continuity of Operations (COOP) for Tribal Governments</u></a>

“E” courses are only offered in-person at EMI in Maryland. “L” courses are offered locally, with instructors from EMI traveling out to local jurisdictions, on request, when available. A course that is “E/L” is one that could be either in-person in Maryland or brought out locally, if an instructor was available.

For more information, see: <https://training.fema.gov/tribal/default.aspx>.

## MITIGATION UNIT

### Hazard Mitigation

Hazard mitigation is a sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their effects. Mitigation identifies actions which will have a long-term impact on an event or incident.

Hazard mitigation measures fall into six general categories: 1) Preventive measures, 2) property and protection measures, 3) public education and awareness, 4) natural resource protection, 5) emergency services, and 6) structural projects.

The Mitigation Unit coordinates and administers statewide floodplain management, hazard mitigation planning and project programs. Personnel in the Mitigation Unit assist with the identification and promotion of structural and non-structural mitigation practices to reduce the short- and long-term adverse impacts of natural hazard events. Unit personnel provide technical assistance throughout the entire mitigation project life from assisting with the identification of viable projects that will alleviate future damages, through providing oversight of the development of a

project application ensuring compliance with program policy and professional design standards, to conducting site visits during construction to ensure all approved project plans are being followed through a final project inspection.

There are currently 13 Pueblos, Tribes and Nations that have FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plans. Having this FEMA approved plan is one of the requirements for a direct disaster declaration from the President of the United States and for receiving FEMA mitigation funding to implement projects.

### **Floodplain Management**

DHSEM works with local and tribal communities to provide technical assistance for the implementation and management of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies. FEMA manages the NFIP aimed at reducing the impact of flooding on private and public structures by providing affordable insurance to property owners, renters and businesses and by encouraging communities to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations.

Participation in the NFIP requires communities to adopt specific requirements on development within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) which is designated as the land in the floodplain subject to a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

The State of New Mexico currently has 104 NFIP participating communities. Zuni Pueblo is the only tribal community participating in the NFIP to date.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS PROGRAM**

### **Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Program**

WIPP is a sophisticated salt mine where waste is emplaced in tunnels and rooms 2,150 feet below the surface. The underground area is in the middle of a 2,000-foot-thick salt formation. This formation has been geologically stable for 200 million years and is expected to remain stable for the next several million years. WIPP is the nation's repository for "defense-related" transuranic wastes.

Since 1989, the State of New Mexico has been working, internally and with a coalition of western states through the Western Governors' Association, to develop a transportation system whose goal is the safe and uneventful transport of radioactive materials through western states. The WIPP Transportation Safety Program is a cooperative effort among the shipment-corridor states, tribes, local officials and the Department of Energy (DOE). The program goes beyond what is required by law and has been proven through actual use in other radioactive waste shipping campaigns. There is not a shipment on the road that will have undergone as much scrutiny by transportation safety specialists as WIPP shipments. In a July 1989 report, the prestigious National Academy of Sciences WIPP Panel said, "*[t]he system proposed for transportation of TRU waste to WIPP is safer than that employed for any other hazardous material in the United States today and will reduce risk to very low levels.*"

## **WIPP Working Group**

The WIPP Working Group (WWG) is comprised of classified staff at each of the five agencies that participate in the radioactive waste consultation task force and is the primary vehicle for the collaborative management of the WIPP transportation safety program. New Mexico's Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management responsibilities include:

- Assisting the WIPP Working Group in arranging for, organizing, and conducting WIPP training exercises;
- Aiding in establishing Radiological Training classes for WIPP route communities' first responders;
- Assisting other WIPP Working Group members in the trainings they provide; and,  
Assisting the WIPP Working Group in reviewing or developing hazmat response SOPs for local communities.

Emergency preparedness is a significant part of the WIPP Transportation Safety Program. While the shipments are conducted in such a way as to prevent accidents from occurring, if one does take place, local responders will be prepared to respond quickly, safely, and effectively. Due to an expanded role of the WIPP to transport Remote Handled Waste (RHW) a new campaign of training for response and recovery of an incident has begun.

***Emergency Response Plans and Procedures.*** A well organized and coordinated effort is necessary to make response to an accident swift and effective. Plans and procedures specifically designed to deal with transportation incidents involving the WIPP shipments are in place. The State of New Mexico has prepared several guidance documents which specify notification, incident command, and response procedures for use in the event of a WIPP accident.

***Mutual Aid Agreements.*** The State of New Mexico has written agreements with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, and Utah to enhance any response to a WIPP accident, as well as to provide assistance for across state borders.

***Training, Drills & Exercises.*** In coordination with DOE, the State of New Mexico has developed a WIPP-specific training regimen for emergency responders, which is incorporated directly into hazardous materials training programs for fire fighters, police, and emergency medical staff along the routes. Hospital emergency room personnel also have been trained. Drills and exercises supplement the training.

***Emergency Response Equipment.*** Radiation detection and personal protection equipment has been provided to emergency responders along the initial planned shipping routes in New Mexico. Responders have been trained to properly use this equipment in the event of an incident involving a Transuranic Waste Transportation Containers (TRUPACT).

### **Hazardous Materials Program**

DHSEM is authorized to administer the Hazardous Chemicals Information Act (NMSA 1978, Section 74-4E-1) which incorporates the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA), and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Act (NMSA 1978, Section 12-12-17). The purpose of both acts is to gather current information about the nature and location of hazardous materials in the state and disseminate such information to entities responsible for emergency management or the public.

The Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Program was created to address the requirements of the acts. EPCRA authorizes the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) to oversee the administration of the program in the effort to support emergency response capabilities of the local and state responders.

The position of Hazmat Coordinator supports this program in the capacity of: maintaining inventories and data bases relevant to SERC activities, including TIER II and TRI reporting; maintaining current rosters of emergency response personnel, including the local emergency planning committees (LEPC); updating accompanying documents at the direction of the SERC; scheduling activities required by the SERC; and performing other duties requested by the SERC in accordance with the provisions of the above acts.

The Hazardous Materials Program is responsible for coordinating and managing the federally mandated Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know (EPCRA) Program, provide administrative support to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and provide administrative support to the State Hazardous Materials Safety Board. Personnel within this Unit are available to provide specific technical assistance with:

- The Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA);
- Coordination and provision of guidance to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) and Tribal Emergency Response Committees (TERC) under EPCRA regulations;
- Through the direction of the SERC and expertise from the HMSB define effective hazardous materials response strategies that will be reflected in the State's Hazardous Materials Emergency Response (HMER) Plan;
- Workshops and training that supports development and implementation of community strategies that promote hazard identification and planning initiatives;
- Development and delivery of custom hazardous materials courses and/or workshops through sub-granting of federal funds;
- TIER 2 filing information to the state; and,
- Inquiries and report filing under the Toxic Release Inventory program.

## **RESPONSE AND RECOVERY BUREAU**

## **State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)**

The Operations Unit leads DHSEM's efforts to conduct state level emergency management operations, providing state resources to local and/or tribal governments impacted and overwhelmed by an emergency or disaster. The Operations Unit maintains the operability of the SEOC and is the main coordination point for state-level coordination of emergencies and disasters. The SEOC maintains situational awareness and coordinates the deployment of critical resources for the impacted jurisdiction. SEOC staff provide technical assistance and subject matter expertise to local, tribal, state and federal stakeholders on operational planning, training and exercising. To report an incident or request assistance the SEOC maintains a 24/7 emergency phone line (505-476-9635) or by email at [nm.eoc@state.nm.us](mailto:nm.eoc@state.nm.us),

Direction, control, and coordination are the core functions of the New Mexico Emergency Operations System. During an emergency and/or disaster, the SEOC will take steps to analyze the situation and coordinate efficient deployment of state resources. SEOC staff coordinate the response with the efforts of local, tribal, state and federal entities, neighboring states through compacts, voluntary disaster relief organizations and the private sector ensuring effective and efficient use of resources.

## **Recovery Unit**

The principal function of the Recovery Unit is to assess disaster damages and to prepare and administer disaster recovery grants. Disaster recovery is funded either by the State Disaster Assistance Program (DAP), through a Governor's Executive Order, or by a FEMA Public Assistance Program through a Presidential major disaster declaration. When a disaster or emergency overwhelms local or tribal resources, the respective government contacts the New SEOC for assistance. The SEOC Director assigns one or more damage assessment teams to assess the impacted areas to determine the extent of damage, estimate the cost of recovery, and begin identifying potential applicants. Applicants for State and FEMA recovery grants are local governments (county or municipality), private non-profit organizations that serve a governmental function, special districts, community ditch associations, Tribal governments, and state agencies.

The Recovery Unit also administers: (a) the FEMA Fire Management Assistance Grant for fire suppression costs and related expenses for qualifying wildfires; and (b) the FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) Program for FEMA disasters in which there is significant damage to uninsured private property. The IA Program includes many subsidiary programs, principally the Individuals and Households Program, the Other Needs Assistance Program, and the Temporary Housing Program.

## **Disaster Assistance Programs**

State Disaster Assistance may be available for disasters or emergencies that do not qualify for a Presidential Declaration. Only uninsured losses in the public sector are eligible, only if they are not covered by another state or federal government program. Applicant Tribal Governments must demonstrate financial hardship to be

eligible. Based on preliminary damage assessment information, the Governor may issue an Executive Order declaring a disaster and releasing funds to DHSEM for disaster recovery.

A Federal Disaster Assistance Program is only for presidentially declared disasters and available programs are determined by the federal government for each specific disaster. Programs may include those listed below.

- ***Assistance to Individuals and Households:*** To assist individuals and households affected by a disaster or emergency declared by the President and enable them to address necessary expenses and serious needs, which cannot be met through other forms of disaster assistance or through other means such as insurance.
- ***Disaster Housing:*** To provide financial assistance and, if necessary, direct assistance to individuals and households affected as a direct result of a Presidentially declared major disaster or emergency, who have uninsured or under-insured, necessary expenses and serious needs and are unable to meet such expenses or needs through other means.
- ***Public Assistance (PA):*** To assist State and local governments in recovering from the devastating effects of disasters by aiding for debris removal, emergency protective measures and the repair, restoration, reconstruction or replacement of public facilities or infrastructure damaged or destroyed.

## HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU

### New Mexico All-Source Intelligence Center (NMASIC)

The New Mexico All-Source Intelligence Center (NMASIC) is within the Oñate National Guard Armory in Santa Fe. The NMASIC continues to grow its existing relationships with Tribes and establish new ones throughout the state.

The NMASIC has acknowledged that it must work hard to build trust with the Tribes during the initial stages of establishing relationships with the New Mexico Tribes. As it works towards this goal, it is also coordinating with the Arizona, Colorado, and Utah fusion centers regarding all activities with tribes in New Mexico and those that cross state lines. In addition, NMASIC uses the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the New Mexico Department of Health for fact-based information about each Tribe. It is important for the NMASIC to distinguish itself from the BIA to avoid creating the image that the two groups are one and the same.

NMASIC analysts routinely provide intelligence and case support to both BIA and tribal police, in the form of phone calls, emails, and in person meetings. These relationships are of great value to all parties involved and are expected to remain in place long beyond any staff turnovers on either side.

In addition, HSIN is also delivers training and video conferencing services, free of charge, to any law enforcement or public safety entity who wishes to participate. This is not limited to just tribal partners, however our tribal partners do see great value in this, as it eliminates concerns about travel costs or ability of small

departments to release an officer for training, as travel times often exceed the time spent in the actual trainings, when held in traditional classroom settings.

Lastly, the NMASIC continues to extend invitations for tribal departments to send Officers through the DHSEM liaison officer training program. This program continues to grow across the state. It continues to foster a mutual respect and understanding across all levels of law enforcement that will endure to the benefit of all parties involved.

### **Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (CIPP)**

The CIPP has the primary responsibility and authority for coordinating and improving Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource Protection in New Mexico. The CIPP coordinates the protection efforts of all levels of government, private sector, and non-governmental organizations. Together, they provide the mechanism for identifying critical assets, systems, networks, and functions. Information sharing and collaboration will aid in the effort of identifying and applying protective measures across sectors.

The CIPP will evolve with changes within the National Infrastructure Protection Plan, threat environment, and evolving strategies and technology enhancements. New Mexico's strategy to detect and deter terrorism and to protect its citizens is based on enhancing and leveraging all the organizations that are currently supporting the state's counter-terrorism effort into a concerted team effort. The centerpiece of the strategy is a renewed and focused effort at bringing local government, industry, private sector, citizens and agencies into the counter terrorism prevention arena. The purpose of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Program is to provide strategic direction to all New Mexico sectors and reduce the risk of terrorist incidents.

## **TRAINING AND EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION**

The DHSEM training policy is updated to reflect the requirement that within four months of being hired, new DHSEM employees must attend the Department of Indian Affairs and the State Personnel Office Cultural Competency Training. The DHSEM Training and Exercise Unit support this effort by assisting with the coordination and facilitation of class offerings. In the past, DHEM's Tribal Liaison conducted cultural awareness training to DHSEM staff and FEMA representatives. The in-house cultural competency training emphasized culture and beliefs specific to New Mexico Pueblos, Tribes and Nations. The training also addressed challenges within emergency management and recommended solutions such as improving culturally appropriate communication. As the new DHSEM Tribal Liaison becomes familiar with DHSEM's programs and grants, tribal training for DHSEM staff, FEMA and stakeholders will be developed and implemented as deemed appropriate by Cabinet Secretary Dye.

###