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Inside this Brief

- **Background**
- **Current Law**
- **Oregon Figures and Statistics**
- **Hazard mitigation program**
- **Staff and Agency Contacts**

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Background Brief on...

Emergency Management

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Background

Public Law (PL) 93-288, the "Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act", 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq., passed on May 22, 1974 (amended by PL 100-707 to be cited as 'The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act'), authorizes 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**).

Oregon Laws 1981, Chapter 615 (Senate Bill 5548) established the state's Emergency Management Division within the Executive Department. The Division was charged with carrying out and coordinating 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.

Oregon Laws 1993, Chapter 187 (Senate Bill 157) transferred the Emergency Management Division to the Department of State Police, designating it the Office of Emergency Management (**OEM**). This law also incorporated the Interstate Emergency and Disaster Assistance Compact into statute and authorized the Oregon Emergency Response System.

Current Law

Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 401 sets out the policy and purpose of emergency management within the state and details the Interstate Emergency and Disaster Assistance Compact. The chapter also provides the framework for emergency management in Oregon:

- It designates powers of the Governor during emergencies (ORS 401.055 to .115)
- Defines the Governor's authority concerning federal financial assistance to political subdivisions and to individuals (ORS 401.125 to .135)
- Sets forth the responsibilities of the Office of Emergency Management (ORS 401.260 to .280)

- Describes powers of local governments during emergencies (ORS 401.305 to .335)
- Authorizes the Seismic Safety Policy Commission (ORS 401.337 to .353)
- Defines and sets out policy for emergency service workers (ORS 401.355 to .515)
- Establishes a search and rescue program (ORS 401.550 to .635), and

Sets forth policy for emergency health care services (ORS 401.651 to 670) and emergency communications systems (ORS 401.706 to .857)

Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR), 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.

Executive Order No. 01-26 administratively elevated the Office of Emergency Management to the level of Department and its director to a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

Oregon Figures and Statistics (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HGMP)):

Disaster Declaration	Date	Name	HMGP Eligible Counties	Federal HMGP Funds	Status as of May 2004
DR-985	Mar 93	Scotts Mills Earthquake	3	\$877,466	School Seismic Retrofit Complete in October 1998
DR-1004	Oct 93	Klamath Earthquakes	1	\$451,358	Baldwin Hotel-Museum Retrofit Complete April 1999
DR-1036	1994	El Nino - Salmon (OEDD)*	8	\$343,685	All Projects Complete - Disaster Closed
DR-1061	Jul 95	Wasco Co. Flash Flood	1	\$202,047	Fifteen Mile Creek Project Complete Spring 1999
DR-1099	Feb 96	Flood/Landslide	24	\$10,155,690	All Projects Complete - Disaster Closed
DR-1107	Dec 95	Windstorm	9	\$401,479	All Projects Complete - Disaster Closed
DR-1149	Nov/Dec96	Flood	3	\$497,849	All Projects Complete - Disaster Closed
DR-1160	Dec 96/Jan 97	Flood	11	\$1,286,415	All Projects Complete - Disaster Closed
DR-1221	Feb/Nov 98	Flood	1		All Projects Complete - Disaster Closed
DR-1510	Dec '03/Jan '04	Severe Winter Storm	30	Open	Applications in Process

Federal Disaster Assistance Summary

The images below show the counties effected by Oregon's most recent 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-1221
May-June 98
Flood



DR-1160
Dec 96-Jan 97
Flood/Landslide



DR-1099
Feb 1996
Flood/Landslide



DR-1149
Nov-Dec 96
Flood/Landslide



DR-1107
December 1995
Windstorm



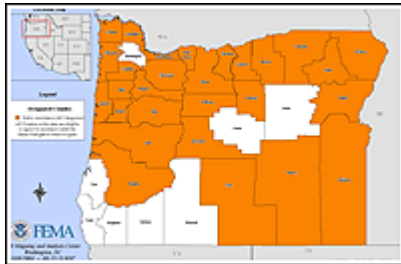
DR-985
Scotts Mills Earthquake



DR-1004
Klamath County
Earthquake



DR-1061
Wasco County
Flash Flooding



DR-1510
Severe Winter Storm

What is the Hazard 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 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (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.

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