

State of Nevada



Annual Report *2015-2016*

Nevada Department of Public Safety's
Division of Emergency Management

*Nevada Department of Public Safety
Division of Emergency Management*

“Nevada’s Essential Emergency and Disaster Coordinating Partner.”

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I. Executive Summary

Over the last state fiscal year, the Nevada Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Division of Emergency Management (DEM) has worked hard to ensure that it is prepared to meet the emergency and disaster needs of partners throughout the state of Nevada. Its efforts have been intended to be strategic by both maintaining the positive efforts already underway and also ensuring that the agency evolves along with Nevada's dynamic public safety landscape. This report is intended to provide statewide partners and decision makers with insights into how DEM provides those services and evolves, and what resources it maintains to do both.

This report begins with an overview of the agency. The overview outlines DEM's responsibilities as defined in various statutes, but it also provides insights into how those responsibilities are shaped by the Governor's vision for public safety in Nevada as well as how DEM aligns with and conforms to the DPS Director's stated mission for his department. Just as important as the statutory and mission requirements, though, this section also provides a brief overview for how the agency is funded, resourced, and organized to carry out that mission.

The next section is the largest section of this report, and is divided into four parts aligned with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. By also describing DEM's efforts during this most recent fiscal year through the lens of the four phases of emergency management, this report shows how DEM fits into not only state executive branch and legislative frameworks, but also into the national structure and framework.

While this report does provide significant detail of DEM's daily activities, it is primarily intended to provide a high level overview to partners and decision makers throughout the state. In that sense, it also provides a baseline against which future progress can be measured, and also, to assist future policy discussions with data and other relevant information on what kinds of emergencies and disasters Nevada experiences, and how it mitigates against, prepares for, and responds to the same. Those interested in receiving more detailed information on the various aspects of DEM's operations should feel free to contact the agency directly.

It should also be noted that none of this could happen nor could any organizational growth occur without the people of DEM. The agency's 33 full-time employees and various contract staff and volunteers work hard to perform two distinct but related functions: developing and maintaining the agency's various programs below during day-to-day operations while also being prepared to fulfill an emergency role for statewide partners during the activation of the State Emergency Operations Center. These competing tasks provide a challenging dynamic within DEM, but as you will see in the report that follows, the people of DEM contribute to the DPS culture and vision of "taking care of business" for its partners throughout Nevada.

II. Agency Overview

DEM serves as the State of Nevada's coordinator of resources before, during, and after declared and non-declared emergencies and disasters within the state. Nevada's emergencies and disasters can be man-made (primarily terrorism) or natural (primarily fire, flood, and earthquake), and DEM's role is to ensure communities across the state have the capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from each. DEM has a small but talented staff that is committed to using the resources provided by the federal and state government to ensure that these requirements are met.

The Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) outline the following legally-mandated duties for DEM and the DEM Chief, under the direction of the Director of DPS, through NRS 414 and other chapters, which include:

- Coordinating all activities of all organizations for emergency management within the state, through:
 - Developing and testing plans for emergencies and disasters;
 - Conducting activities to reduce the probability that an emergency will occur or reduce the effects of unavoidable disasters;
 - Conducting activities to provide assistance to victims; and,
 - Increasing the effectiveness of recovery operations.
- Administering the Emergency Assistance Account in accordance with Nevada Administrative Code 414.
- Performing all duties under NRS 414A, the Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid System, including:
 - Coordinating between local, state, and tribal entities within Nevada for mutual aid during the response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters;
 - Maintaining an inventory of statewide response resources for mutual aid response;
 - Assisting in the records management and reimbursement process for mutual aid response within Nevada; and,
 - Administering the Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee.
- Performing all duties under NRS 415, the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, including:
 - Providing for mutual cooperation between other states during declared events by the Governor of the affected state, or during emergency related exercises; and,
 - Being prepared to assist other party states through sharing of resources.
- Performing all duties under NRS 415A, the Emergency Volunteer Health Act, which includes:

- Ordering, limiting, restricting, or otherwise regulating the duration of practice, the geographical area of practice, and the types of voluntary health practitioners that can practice in Nevada; and,
- Assigning persons to the State Disaster Identification Team and activate the team if there is a state of emergency and upon the request of a political subdivision.
- Performing responsibilities under NRS 353 relating to the Disaster Relief Account (DRA), including:
 - Accepting grants, gifts, or donation for deposit into the DRA;
 - Prescribing by regulation the information that must be included in a report of damages;
 - Preparing a report of damages;
 - Providing technical assistance to a state agency or local government by conducting an assessment of the damages related to an event where DRA funds are sought;
 - Determining whether an event constitutes a disaster; and,
 - Communicating with BOE, LCB, and Department of Taxation with notices of intent to request a grant or a loan and report of damages.
- Coordinating Search and Rescue (SAR) at the state level, which includes:
 - Appointing membership to the SAR Board;
 - Appointing a DEM employee to serve as the SAR Coordinator; and,
 - Establishing recommendations and training for organizations specializing in SAR.
- Consulting with development committee of each school that does not have a local emergency manager regarding their plan for responding to a crisis or emergency.
- Administering the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security in accordance with NRS 239C.
- Activating the State Emergency Operations Center as necessary.

Aligning with the DPS Vision and Mission

The statutory responsibilities outlined above are the foundation for DEM's activities as provided by the legislature. Because DEM is an executive branch agency a part of and subordinate to DPS, additional guidance is provided at each level of authority. This additional guidance is used to shape how DEM executes its statutory duties and responsibilities as listed above.

Previously, the Governor's Strategic Planning Framework provided an overview of the Governor's vision for Nevada. One particular aspect of this Framework required the administration to provide for "safe and livable communities" in the state. It states: *Nevada is a great place to live, work, and play, and State Government must provide public safety services while protecting our national and cultural resources.* In April of 2016, well into the fiscal year on which this annual report is based, the Governor released "Generations to Come," which provided a new Strategic Planning Framework for 2016 through 2020. In this new document, the Governor provided the following updated vision for Public Safety in Nevada:

Perhaps no other responsibility of State Government is as critical as maintaining law and order and ensuring the public's safety in an environment that is conducive to their health and well-being. This priority is necessary not only as a quality of life consideration for private citizens, but also within the context of economic development efforts, as new businesses consider relocating to Nevada and need confidence that employees and their families will be safe. Nevada's law enforcement personnel must be sufficiently trained and equipped to respond effectively to crime and public safety incidents and emergencies, including cyber-security threats, Nevada's safety infrastructure must be modernized to ensure optimum resiliency to natural and man-made disasters, and our families, our citizens, and our businesses must have full and complete confidence that they live, work, and operate in a state that is safe and secure. All of this must take place against the backdrop of clean air and water, with sensible environmental stewardship rooted in the cultural and historic landscape that in turn makes Nevada unique. We must provide adequate open space, including state parks, and recognize that Nevada is a state with a long history of drought, while continuing to grapple with the issue of federal control over most of Nevada's public lands.

"Generations to Come" also provided specific and updated goals and objectives for Public Safety as a Core Function in Nevada's government, some of which apply directly to emergency management within the state. While these goals and objectives are understood and are beginning to be addressed, they have had only a minor impact on DEM during this reporting period. Instead, DEM's roles and responsibilities were aligned with the previous Framework—"Nevada is a great place to live, work, and play, and State Government must provide public safety services while protecting our national and cultural resources"—and are further aligned with the vision, mission, and core values developed by the Director and leadership of DPS. This is intended to ensure that not only is DEM aligned with the Director's vision for public safety in Nevada, but also that DEM is capable of providing coordination and support to its peer agencies within DPS.

DPS's strategic framework is as follows:

- **DPS Vision:** To be a unified multi-discipline and total force organization that will provide excellent public safety services and will be known for our abilities and resource capabilities to “to take care of business” anywhere and anytime in the State of Nevada.
- **DPS Mission:** In partnership with the people of Nevada, the Department of Public Safety provides services in support of protecting our citizens and visitors by promoting safer communities through prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, education, and enforcement.
- **DPS Core Values:** Integrity, Excellence, Courage, Accountability, Leadership, and Teamwork.

Through a recent strategic planning and implementation process conducted during this fiscal year, DEM worked to better align with DPS's vision, mission, and core values. Starting in July of 2015, DEM team members worked to define the way ahead, which consisted of multiple opportunities for internal and external input and culminated with an initial strategic vision and an action plan for calendar year 2016. Throughout the second half of this fiscal year, this plan drove DEM's day-to-day activities in line with its vision, mission, and strategic objectives. It is important to note that the purpose of this plan was to provide transparency to the statewide emergency management community on DEM's goals, roles, and responsibilities, to provide measurable outcomes for DEM to aim to achieve, and to maximize accountability for DEM both internally and with statewide partners.

The vision, mission, and strategic goals included in DEM's strategic plan are provided below:

- **DEM Vision:** *Nevada's Essential Emergency and Disaster Coordinating Partner.*
- **DEM Mission:** *Coordinating preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation resources through partnerships to sustain safe and livable communities for Nevada's residents and visitors.*
- **DEM Strategic Goals:**
 - *An efficient team, strengthened by collaboration, communication, and leadership.*
 - *An essential partner in the coordination of emergency and disaster resources for the Whole Community.*
 - *A statewide leader in sustaining and building emergency and disaster response capacity.*

DEM's Operational Resources

DEM carries out its statutory roles and responsibilities in line with the Governor's vision and the Director's public safety mission, and with resources provided by the state and federal governments. These resources are essentially DEM's people, its fiscal authority, and its capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. These resources help DEM assist and support the DPS mission.

Administratively, DEM consists of 33 full-time employees, 31 of whom are located in Carson City and two in Las Vegas. In addition to the Chief, DEM employees are divided into five sections or functions, which together support the overall roles, responsibilities, mission, and objectives of DEM. The sections are the Fiscal and Administrative Section, the Preparedness Section, the Homeland Security Section, the Grants, Mitigation, and Recovery Section, and the Public Information Officer.

To support these sections, DEM receives funding appropriations and authority from the state and federal governments. Total state *appropriations* for Fiscal Year 2016 for Budget Account 3673 is \$372,611 and for Budget Account 3675 is \$175,223, for a total of \$547,834. Total federal funding *authority* for Fiscal Year 2016 for Budget Account 3673 is \$4,770,840 and for Budget Account 3675 is \$252,830, for a total of \$5,023,670.

Budget Account 3673: Emergency Management Division

This is the primary operating budget account for DEM. Under the authority of NRS 414, DEM coordinates the efforts of the state and its political subdivisions together in partnership with private and volunteer organizations and tribal nations in reducing the impact of emergencies. DEM is given oversight and coordination responsibility for all statewide emergency preparedness, pre- and post-emergency mitigation efforts, and the development, review, approval, and integration of state emergency response planning. This includes the integration of volunteer organizations and the private sector in the state emergency management process as well as oversight of response exercises, training, and emergency operations planning. DEM is responsible for assuring the state's readiness and ability to respond to and recover from natural and technological emergencies and disasters by assisting local governments with their emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts while providing a crucial link for accessing state and federal assistance and support. DEM's operations also include those of the Nevada Office of Homeland Security.

Budget Account 3674: Emergency Management Assistance Grants

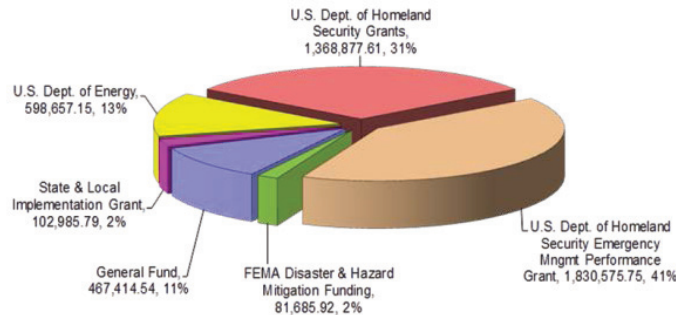
Since 2006, this budget account has been a pass-through account for federal funds received to reduce the impact of emergencies within the State of Nevada. This budget account also provides operational support to DEM, budget account 3673 and the Nevada Office of Homeland Security, budget account 3675.

Budget Account 3675: Office of Homeland Security

This is the operating budget account that supports the Office of Homeland Security. The mission of the Nevada Office of Homeland Security is to collaborate, advise, assist, and engage with various federal, state, local, and tribal entities, private sector, non-governmental partners, and the general public to prevent, detect, and deter terrorism activities in order to minimize the impact on lives, property, and the economy. The Office of Homeland Security was created by the 2003 Legislature, Assembly Bill 441 and is established in NRS 239C.

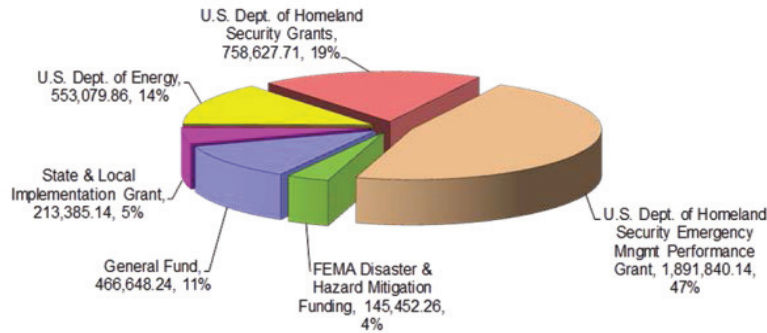
The following charts illustrate the breakdown of operating revenue for DEM over the most recent state fiscal years:

SFY 2014 Actual Operating Revenue Budget Accounts 3673 & 3675 - Total \$4,450,197



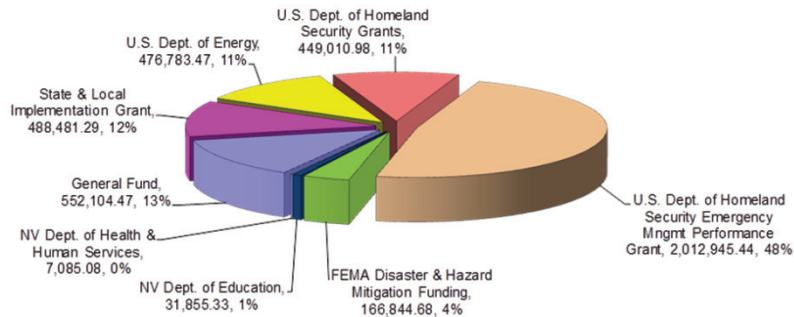
SFY 2014 Actual Operating Revenue			
Funding Source	BA 3673	BA 3675	Totals
General Fund	\$ 299,742.54	\$ 167,672.00	\$ 467,414.54
State & Local Implementation Grant	\$ 102,985.79	\$ -	\$ 102,985.79
U.S. Dept. of Energy Grants	\$ 559,753.26	\$ 38,903.89	\$ 598,657.15
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Grant	\$ 1,316,704.59	\$ 52,173.02	\$ 1,368,877.61
U.S. DHS Emerg Mngmt Performance Grant	\$ 1,673,235.10	\$ 157,340.65	\$ 1,830,575.75
FEMA Disaster & Hazard Mitigation Funding	\$ 81,685.92	\$ -	\$ 81,685.92
NV Dept. of Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NV Dept. of Health & Human Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 4,034,107.20	\$ 416,089.56	\$ 4,450,196.76

SFY 2015 Actual Operating Revenue
Budget Accounts 3673 & 3675 - Total \$4,029,033



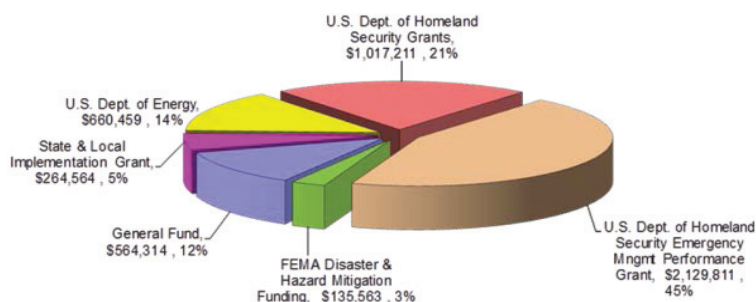
SFY 2015 Actual Operating Revenue			
Funding Source	BA 3673	BA 3675	Totals
General Fund	\$ 313,450.24	\$ 153,198.00	\$ 466,648.24
State & Local Implementation Grant	\$ 201,799.31	\$ 11,585.83	\$ 213,385.14
U.S. Dept. of Energy Grants	\$ 513,905.17	\$ 39,174.69	\$ 553,079.86
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Grant	\$ 740,476.22	\$ 18,151.49	\$ 758,627.71
U.S. DHS Emerg Mngmt Performance Grant	\$ 1,722,382.26	\$ 169,457.88	\$ 1,891,840.14
FEMA Disaster & Hazard Mitigation Funding	\$ 145,452.26	\$ -	\$ 145,452.26
NV Dept. of Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NV Dept. of Health & Human Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 3,637,465.46	\$ 391,567.89	\$ 4,029,033.35

SFY 2016 Actual to Date Operating Revenue
Budget Accounts 3673 & 3675 - Total \$4,185,111 thru June 30, 2016



SFY 2016 Actual to date Operating Revenue (as of June 30, 2016)			
Funding Source	BA 3673	BA 3675	Totals
General Fund	\$376,881.47	\$175,223.00	\$552,104.47
State & Local Implementation Grant	\$474,185.04	\$14,296.25	\$488,481.29
U.S. Dept. of Energy Grants	\$435,761.09	\$41,022.38	\$476,783.47
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Grant	\$432,806.07	\$16,204.91	\$449,010.98
U.S. DHS Emerg Mngmt Performance Grant	\$1,837,533.93	\$175,411.51	\$2,012,945.44
FEMA Disaster & Hazard Mitigation Funding	\$166,844.68	\$ -	\$166,844.68
NV Dept. of Education	\$31,855.33	\$ -	\$31,855.33
NV Dept. of Health & Human Services	\$7,085.08	\$ -	\$7,085.08
Totals	\$3,762,952.69	\$422,158.05	\$4,185,110.74

Budgeted Operating Revenue SFY 2017
Budget Accounts 3673 & 3675 - Total \$4,771,922



Budgeted Operating Revenue SFY 2017			
Funding Source	BA 3673	BA 3675	Totals
General Fund	\$ 388,336.00	\$ 175,978.00	\$ 564,314.00
State & Local Implementation Grant	\$ 250,021.00	\$ 14,543.00	\$ 264,564.00
U.S. Dept. of Energy Grants	\$ 618,435.00	\$ 42,024.00	\$ 660,459.00
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security Grant	\$ 996,710.00	\$ 20,501.00	\$ 1,017,211.00
U.S. DHS Emerg Mngmt Performance Grant	\$ 1,950,753.00	\$ 179,058.00	\$ 2,129,811.00
FEMA Disaster & Hazard Mitigation Funding	\$ 135,563.00	\$ -	\$ 135,563.00
NV Dept. of Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NV Dept. of Health & Human Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 4,339,818.00	\$ 432,104.00	\$ 4,771,922.00

III. DEM and the Four Phases of Emergency Management

The DEM mission is built around what the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has outlined as the four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. They are defined briefly below:

- **Mitigation:** Long term activities that prevent, reduce the likelihood of, or reduce the effects of an emergency or disaster.
- **Preparedness:** Medium term activities, such as action or response plans, that improve a person, group, or organization's ability to deal with an emergency or disaster.
- **Response:** Immediate activities conducted to protect a person, group, or organization during an emergency or disaster.
- **Recovery:** Activities intended to restore order, functionality, and safety following an emergency or disaster.

These four phases are seen through DEM's operations. It is important, once again, to see these functions as a part of the DPS vision and mission, and translated through DEM's strategic objectives provided above. Together, what follows shows how DEM uses its resources, capacity, and capabilities to meet federal and state requirements from all of the sources outlined above.

Mitigation

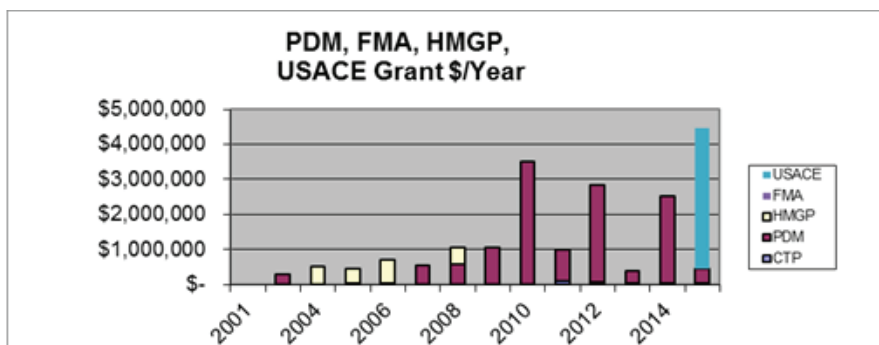
Mitigation involves efforts to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. To be effective, action must occur prior to a disaster to reduce human or financial consequences through analysis of risk, reductions of risk, and insurance against risk. Disasters can occur at any time and place, and without preparation, consequences can be fatal. DEM's mitigation efforts are primarily coordinated by the State Hazard Mitigation Officer and various grants and committees, all of which are described below.

DEM Hazard Mitigation Program

The DEM Mitigation Program assists local jurisdictions and State agencies in mitigation planning, and obtaining federal grants to complete planning, public awareness, and mitigation projects. Since 2002, the State of Nevada, 17 counties, eight cities, and three tribes have completed FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMP). Nevada is currently only one of 12 states in the nation that has an Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan.

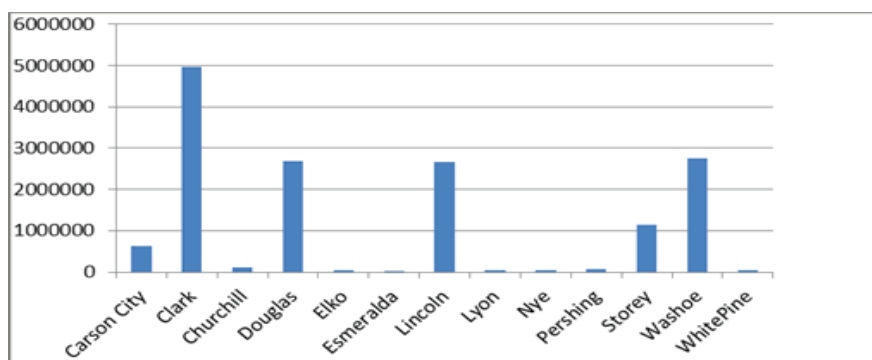
A FEMA-approved Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan documents sustained and proven commitment to hazard mitigation. This designation recognizes current or ongoing proactive efforts in implementing a comprehensive program. The enhanced status acknowledges the coordinated effort a state currently is taking to reduce losses, protect life and property, and create safer communities. Approval of an Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan results in eligibility for increased Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding. In order to be an Enhanced State, Nevada must ensure all hazardous mitigation plans are reviewed and updated every five years from the date of the approval of the previous FEMA approved plan.

As shown below, nationally-competitive federal grant funds have provided Nevada with \$18.7 million in planning and project grants.

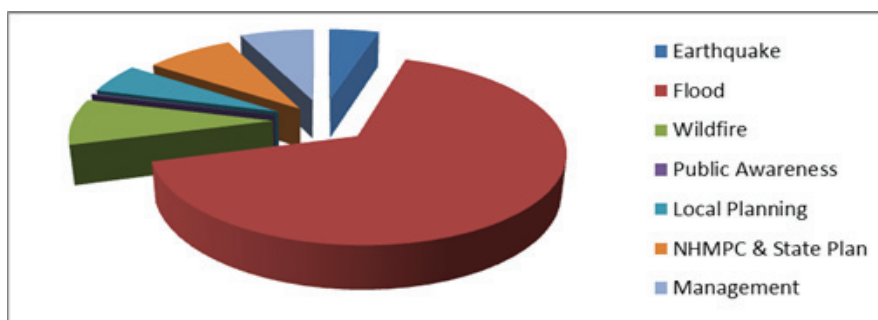


(Key: USACE – US Army Corps of Engineers, FMA – Flood Mitigation Assistance, HMGP – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and PDM – Pre Disaster Mitigation)

Every county in Nevada has received funding from the Hazardous Mitigation program. The mitigation grant projects were conducted by dollar amount in the following Counties:



The following chart provides the hazard category of hazard mitigation projects that have been funded:



As a part of Nevada’s hazard mitigation efforts, DEM participates as an active member of and provides grant funding to the following public awareness programs:

- Nevada Flood Awareness Week
- Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month
- Rural northern Nevada Drought Risk Assessment Public Awareness

The Mitigation Program funding streams that are administered through DEM are as follows:

- FEMA Cooperative Technical Partners Grant
- FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants (PDM)

- FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants (FMA)
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Post Disaster
- USACE Planning and Project funding (this is not funding that comes through the state but must be applied for and is utilized to direct USACE technical assistance and project funding)
- National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) grant
- National Earthquake Technical Assistance Program (NETAP) grant for earthquake training
- Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) – To support the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

There are four types of funding eligibility that are impacted by not having current FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plans:

- State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Fire Management Assistance Grants
- National Flood Insurance Grants
- Public Assistance Program Categories C-G in federally declared disasters

Additionally, DEM's Hazard Mitigation Program administers three committees used to assist in the Program and advise the Chief of DEM:

- Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (NHMPC)
 - NHMPC Planning Subcommittee
- Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC)

Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Annual Report

A part of DEM's mitigation efforts are the administration of the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC). Throughout the fiscal year covered in this report, the NESC prepared and approved an annual report. The report, which is provided below, provides an overview of the NESC's mission and purpose, as well as an overview of their activities and recommendations to date.

Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Annual Report - Period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

The Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC) was established through the authority contained in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 414, which authorizes the Chief of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEM) to carry out the emergency management program for the State of Nevada. The Council acts as an advisory body to DEM. The Council's mission is to provide decision makers and the general public with information and actions to reduce earthquake losses and speed recovery. The Council promotes earthquake awareness and preparedness through education, research, and policy recommendations. Membership consists of representation from northern and southern Nevada, as well as statewide representation with expertise in disciplines as outlined in the bylaws.

The NESC met four times from July 2015 to June 2016 for their quarterly meetings.

The August 5, 2015 quarterly meeting included the introduction of Chief Caleb Cage, the new Chief of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management. Additional discussion included the planning of the upcoming joint meeting with Utah and Idaho.

On November 10, 2015, the NESC held an all-day joint meeting with the Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC). There was also participation by the Idaho State Hazard Mitigation Officer participated in this meeting representing Idaho as well as FEMA Region IX. This meeting was held at the University of Nevada Harry Reid Engineering Laboratory.

Discussion for this meeting included the following topics:

- Multi-hazard monitoring network.
- Performance of buildings and nonstructural components in the 2014 South Napa earthquake discussing the FEMA P-1024 report.
- Presentation on 2008 Wells earthquake by the incident commander from that event.
- Earthquake Response Incident Command handbook project.
- Presentation on UNR Earthquake Engineering Laboratory.
- Tour of the Shake Lab.
- Updates on Utah projects including a report from the Earthquake Engineering and Research Institute (EERI), Rapid Visual Screening Program, Unreinforced Masonry (URM) guide, and Salt Lake City initiatives including "Fix the Bricks."
- Initiatives for states to work together in the future.

The participants of this joint meeting discussed the importance of states working together for the greater good of the residents of each of the states. Included in this discussion were the challenges each state faces with regard to various policies and laws including Open Meeting Law constraints. There is a great likelihood of an earthquake event happening near one of the borders which would affect both bordering states and it is very important to work out relationships in advance of a potential event.

The NESC makes a point to have this joint meeting with Utah and Idaho every other year and alternates the location between Reno and Las Vegas.

At the February 3, 2016 quarterly meeting, a member of the National Guard provided a presentation on the Vigilant Guard 17 exercise which is an earthquake scenario planned for November 2016. The NESC also heard a report from a fault mapping project for Northern Nevada which was funded with deobligated funds from the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). Additional topics included discussion of potential next steps following the URM building inventories being completed throughout the state, and what the Central US Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) is doing with regard to earthquake clearinghouse. Finally, a discussion was held regarding the Seismological Society of America Conference to be held in Reno in the spring and the plan to take advantage of this conference and plan an Earthquake Business Resiliency Meeting the day prior to the conference.

Finally, the most recent quarterly meeting was held May 11, 2016. This meeting included discussion of joint efforts with California and the challenges related to a joint meeting with the NESC and the California Seismic Safety Commission (CSSC). A City of Reno representative provided an update regarding the status of the URM verification project in process by the City of Reno. The Council again discussed next steps beyond a URM inventory of buildings and the Council decided to create a subcommittee to develop the potential next steps. A Resilient Nevada All Hazards document was created and discussed prior to forwarding to Chief Cage. Finally, an update was provided on the Earthquake Business Resiliency Meeting that was held in Reno prior to the Seismological Society of America Conference in April 2016. Discussion included the importance of holding a similar meeting in Southern Nevada.

National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP)

Nevada received \$31,500 for several projects completed for 2015. Currently FEMA provides these funds through third-party consortia partners. These projects are as follows:

- Clark County Earthquake Awareness Billboards. Clark County was able to place numerous earthquake awareness billboards in both static and digital formats that were in place the month of October to coincide with the Great Nevada Shakeout. These billboards received a lot of positive feedback from the community.

- Earthquake Flashcards. DEM was able to obtain a series of 3 different earthquake instructional flashcards. A total of 9000 flashcards, 3000 of each of the three cards, were printed with the DEM logo included on the card.
- Clark County URM App. Clark County partnered with EERI to create a phone app to help automate the process of the URM verification survey. This application is nearly complete with the grant cycle ending July 31. This application will greatly enhance Clark County's ability to continue with their survey of URM buildings in the incorporated Clark County.

National Earthquake Technical Assistance Program (NETAP)

Nevada held four NETAP Earthquake classes this year as follows:

Reno

March 7, 2016: FEMA 154 and ATC-20 Pre and Post Earthquake Inspection

March 8, 2016: FEMA P-767 Earthquake Mitigation for Hospitals

Clark County

March 10: FEMA P-767 Earthquake Mitigation for Hospitals

March 11: FEMA 154 and ATC-20 Pre and Post Earthquake Inspection

Nevada held four total earthquake classes this year, two in Reno and two in Las Vegas. There were approximately 100 total attendees over the four classes including participation from tribal members. DEM works closely with the local jurisdictions to provide this training throughout the State of Nevada. These courses also draw participation from jurisdictions over the border into California.

Preparedness

Preparedness efforts entail a constant cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and performing corrective action ensuring effective coordination while responding to incidents. This cycle is part of the broader element within the National Preparedness System to prevent, respond to, and recover from natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other disasters.

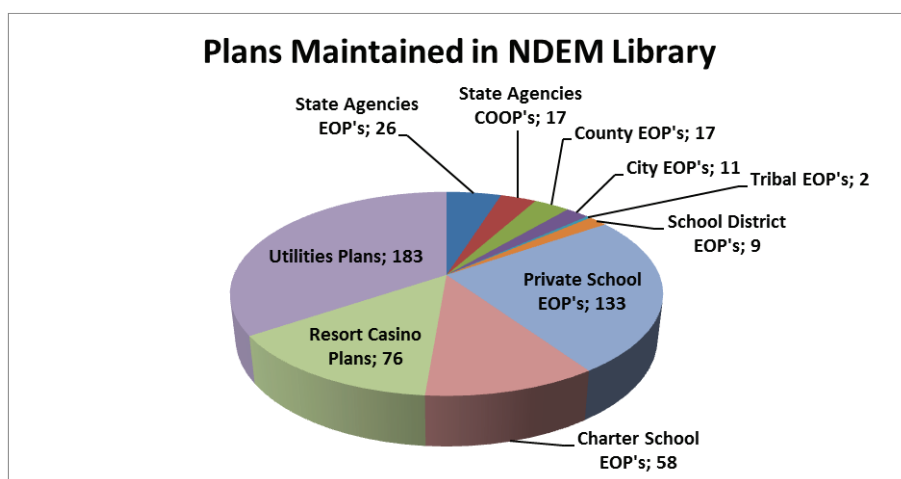
Planning, Training, and Exercise are fundamental to emergency management preparedness, and provide the direction and skills necessary to appropriately respond and recover from an event. In order PT&E to be most effective, it is necessary to do an assessment of the threats, hazards and preparedness level of the state. An annual Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) is completed by DEM which identifies and prioritizes the threats and hazards. Along with the THIRA, a State

Preparedness Report (SPR) is developed which outlines the current preparedness level of the state in terms of equipment, personnel and training. The combination of the THIRA and SPR provides guidance for the areas where additional planning, training and exercise would be most effective. States are required to submit an annual update to their THIRA in order to qualify for most grant programs administered through DEM. Annual workshops are conducted in the local jurisdictions statewide to capture and catalogue the critical information required in the annual update of the THIRA. The THIRA and SPR inform the PT&E efforts of DEM. Where gaps are identified in capacity, DEM seeks to build plans, train to those plans, and then exercise to evaluate both. PT&E is essential to DEM's overall efforts to be "Nevada's essential emergency and disaster coordinating partner."

Planning Overview

The DEM Planning Section ensures that Nevada and its emergency management partners are prepared for the threats and hazards they may face. The Planning program develops statewide and regional all-hazards plans to support local and tribal jurisdiction emergency and disaster response, including the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (SCEMP) and the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Operating Guide. Annual reviews such as the FEMA Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA), conducted by the Planning Section, provide an ongoing analysis of the natural and human caused events which may affect our communities, and also takes a comprehensive look at those resources within Nevada to gauge our ability to meet the resource requirements for response.

Additional planning review is conducted routinely with schools, all utility providers, and casinos within Nevada to ensure both our infrastructure and economic base are prepared for any contingency. DEM maintains a library of plans to monitor, as much as possible, the posture of the organizations within the state with significant emergency management responsibilities. DEM currently has 532 plans within this library, with a breakout of the organizations and plan types shown in the chart below.



The DEM Planning Section is responsible to conduct an annual review of 222 school, 434 utility, and 139 casino plans to insure their requirements under NRS 239C, and NRS 463.790 Nevada Revised Statutes are met. In addition, within this fiscal year DEM provided assistance to 17 State agencies in the development or update of their Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan, 6 local and tribal organizations in the development or update of their EOP, and participated in 9 statewide emergency planning projects.

A significant step forward was taken by DEM in the spring of 2016 with the initiation of a strategic planning effort for the mass migration of southern California to Nevada in the event of a catastrophic earthquake. No other state has ever taken on such a dynamic and complex scenario. Building on the strength of DEM staff, the Mass Migration Strategic Plan (MMSP) will address the migration of more than 500,000 evacuees to Clark County and the Las Vegas valley. From critical infrastructure impact to medical services, from commodities to housing requirements, the MMSP is designed to provide a framework for Nevada should such an event occur, and it will provide initial guidance for other states and regions of the country that face the same dilemma.

As a part of our commitment to all communities, DEM actively participated with the Nevada Department of Education in the Grants for School Emergency Management (GSEM) Emergency Response Plan process. In collaboration with the Nevada Department of Education, DEM Planning Staff assisted school administrators and staff in the development of high quality school EOPs, tailored to fit within the district and community requirements. We also structured and supported workshops for school officials to examine best practices and provide a peer-to-peer environment for their planning efforts.

The DEM Planning Section also provides continual Whole Community planning expertise to city, county, tribal, and state emergency management programs that are required to develop all hazards emergency operations plans. DEM Planners provide technical assistance in the development of jurisdiction and agency COOP plans, which are used to ensure businesses and local governments are able to provide essential services and functions when the entity is directly impacted by an emergency or disaster.

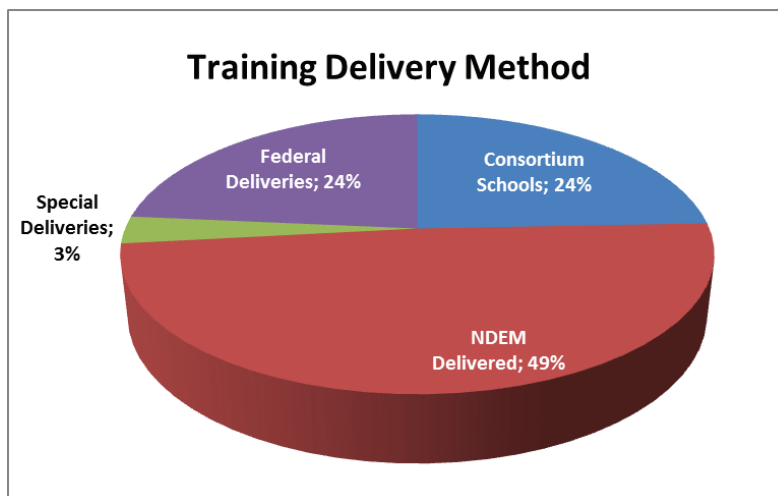
A critical function of the DEM Planning Section is in support to the State Emergency Operations Center during activation due to a state emergency. The Planning Section falls under the SEOC's incident command structure and maintains the state's common operating picture, tracks resources, determines statewide resource needs, and develops the state's Incident Action Plan for the event. This is an example of one of the few times when the day-to-day mission of DEM team members matches or comes close to matching their emergency response functions in the State Emergency Operations Center.

Training Overview

Training Nevada's response community is one of DEM's highest priorities. The DEM Training Program and the State Training Officer work to include Nevada's whole community, providing training opportunities across the state in a wide variety of preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Nevada's Emergency Management Training Program has a formal, documented, training program composed of training needs assessment, curriculum, course evaluations, and records of training.

A training needs assessment is conducted annually, and those results are used to prepare the Nevada Training and Exercise Plan for the following three years. Included in this process is a regular evaluation of all exercise activities and real world events. This allows DEM staff to address any immediate needs for additional training, improving the capabilities of resources.

During this last fiscal year, DEM was instrumental in delivering 22 courses to 853 students from all across Nevada. The courses include those delivered directly by DEM, federal deliveries coordinated by DEM, special deliveries at the request of a jurisdiction, and deliveries from our National Domestic Preparedness Consortium school partnerships with the Center for Domestic Preparedness, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX), Louisiana State University (LSU), CTOS-Center for Radiological/Nuclear Training at the Nevada National Security Site, New Mexico Tech (NMT), University of Hawaii (UH), and the Transportation Technology Center, Inc., Security and Emergency Response Training Center (see chart below). DEM also tracked 15,848 students taking online courses from FEMA taking courses ranging from basic emergency management to advanced specialty skills.



Additionally, DEM develops and deliver capability-specific courses when requested. Over the years DEM has been able to address specific educational needs with partners across the state. Some of these courses include: the Nevada Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician Course (NWSART) and the Nevada Land Search Management

Course (NLSM), both Nevada POST certified courses, the Tactical Large Animal Emergency Rescue Course (TLAER), and the Virtual Search Planning Course. Many of these courses have been delivered to multiple sites across Nevada.

The variety of courses delivered have also included Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training (MERRTT) , designed to meet the training needs of persons serving in fire service, law enforcement, emergency medical service, emergency management, public works, or on a hazardous materials team. They meet the requirements outlined in the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Land Withdrawal Act. DEM has trained over 100 first responders in Nevada.

DEM follows the guidance and structure of the National Incident Management System, and many of the regular course offerings provide essential emergency response customers with basic command and control skills. In support of DEM's responsibility to operate the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), DEM has aggressively engaged in an internal training program that provides training to staff and Emergency Support Function (ESF) personnel when the SEOC is activated.

The State Training Officer manages a cadre of over 100 qualified instructors across the state, ready to provide a wide variety of courses to meet the needs of Nevadans. This critical position and program helps DEM meet the response needs of all Nevadans.

Exercise Overview

In emergency management, exercise is essential. It is the foundational activity which verifies and validates all of the planning and training activities that ensure our response capabilities are met. DEM's State Exercise Officer aims to ensure that the whole community has a strong foundation in emergency response through routine exercise activities. Directed by the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP), the State Exercise Officer routinely assists agencies and organizations across Nevada in structuring quality exercise activities which appropriately test a wide range of core capabilities and plans.

At any given time the State Exercise Officer is involved in a multitude of exercises at various stages of development and implementation. In this fiscal year alone, DEM was involved directly or indirectly with 29 workshops, discussion based exercises, tabletop exercises, functional exercises, or full scale exercise events. In 15 of those events DEM participated as a major partner in the design and production of the event, allowing DEM to provide other jurisdictions, agencies, and tribes, provide a realistic gauge as to the overall preparedness of Nevada. The comprehensive review and analysis of these events then form the foundation for further planning and training efforts, and set the foundation for the steady improvement Nevada has shown in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disaster.

DEM has also identified the Vigilant Guard 17 Full Scale exercise to be held in November as its capstone exercise for calendar year 2016. An exercise of this dimension requires a planning process encompassing a full year prior to implementation. Working with the Planning Section, the State Exercise Officer has developed a series of progressively larger exercises designed to test key components of Clark County as well as the State Of Nevada. This consistent building of activity is both logical, and allows key organizations the opportunity to fine tune their operations. It has also led DEM to prepare a Strategic Mass Migration Plan for Nevada in May 2016, which will become a central component to be reviewed, developed further, and then tested for validation during the Vigilant Guard 17 exercise.

Exercise then is the third component for the essential triad of planning, training, and exercise that builds and maintains the skills necessary to make the Nevada Division of Emergency Management “Nevada’s Essential Emergency and Disaster Coordinating Partner.”

Grant Administration Overview

Preparedness is not only about PT&E for DEM. DEM also builds preparedness capacity by managing numerous grants which support DEM’s functions and also support preparedness efforts for local, tribal, and state jurisdictions. These grants support a wide array of emergency management and homeland security activities throughout the state.

DEM is responsible for applying for federal funding, and is the designated State Administrative Agency (SAA) for the distribution of these federal funds. This provides funding for equipment, planning, training, exercise, and management and administrative funding to emergency prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery personnel in Nevada. These grants also provide funding to local governments for our critical infrastructure, which is defined as food and water systems, agriculture, health systems and emergency services, information and telecommunications, banking and finance, energy (electrical, gas and oil, dams), transportation (air, road, railways). An overview of each grant administered by DEM is provided below.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY GRANTS

DEM administers three grants through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE): Agreement in Principal (AIP), Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), and Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

Agreement in Principal (AIP) – Department of Energy Five-Year Agreement

The intent of the AIP is to work cooperatively to assure citizens of Nevada that the public's health and safety, as well as the environment, are protected. It is voluntarily entered into between the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO). The following coordination of emergency management capabilities and participation in emergency response and preparedness activities may be performed under the terms of the AIP consistent with specific priorities agreed upon between DEM and Assistant Manager for Safety and Security (AMSS) officials: develop procedures and operational capabilities ensuring compatibility between the state, local, and NNSA/NFO EOC; incorporate compatible communication systems, including computers, telephones, and radios, between DEM, local, and NNSA/NFO EOCs so that required contact can be maintained during emergency situations; ensure compatibility and integration of emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recover activities that provide for a comprehensive approach to hazard identification, consequence assessment, resource identification, and preliminary damage assessment; develop comprehensive training programs relative to preparedness, response, and recovery activities in conjunction with NNSA/NFO related emergencies; develop and conduct exercises that will test the preparedness and readiness capabilities of participating Nevada communities; and coordinate to prepare emergency management agreements incorporating mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities with Nevada communities and government agencies in close proximity to the NNSS.

Emergency Preparedness Working Group

The purpose of the Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) is to provide a forum for coordination of the Low Level Waste Grant Program between National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO), the Nevada Division of Emergency Management, and the Counties of Clark, Elko, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine. The purpose of the grant program is to provide assistance to the counties located along the low-level waste transportation routes in Nevada in developing an operational level emergency response capability.

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

The purpose of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) grant is to provide the State of Nevada with the capability to carry out activities needed to ensure the safe and uneventful transportation of transuranic waste within Nevada. Funds are provided to the State of Nevada by the Western Governors' Association (WGA) for activities related to the planning, preparation, and oversight of shipments of transuranic waste within Nevada.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY GRANTS

FEMA provides a number of grants to states around the country and DEM coordinates several of them for state, local and tribal jurisdictions. Much like some of these other grants, the FEMA grants are primarily used to build capacity at the state and local level to respond to and recover from natural and man-made disasters. An overview of the FEMA grants is provided below.

Emergency Management Performance Grant

Title VI of the Stafford Act authorizes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through FEMA to make grants for the purpose of providing a system of emergency preparedness for the protection of life and property in the United States from hazards and to vest responsibility for emergency preparedness jointly in the Federal Government, states, and their political subdivisions. The purpose of the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program is to provide Federal grants to states to assist state, local, territorial, and tribal governments in preparing for all hazards. EMPG grants support the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient Nevada. Delivering core capabilities requires the combined effort of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The EMPG Program's allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

The EMPG Program supports a comprehensive, all-hazard emergency preparedness system by building and sustaining the core capabilities contained in the Goal. Either the SAA or the state's emergency management agency are eligible to apply directly to FEMA for EMPG Program funds on behalf of state, local and tribal emergency management agencies, however, only one application is accepted from each state or territory. Funding guidelines for this grant are as follows:

- EMPG Program focuses on planning, operations, equipment acquisitions, training, exercises, construction, and renovation to enhance and sustain the all-hazards core capabilities of state, local, tribal and territorial governments.
- A cost match is required under this program. The federal share shall not exceed 50 percent of the total budget. The 50% cost share requirement is graciously met through an agency outside of the State of Nevada system.
- 50% of the budget funding from this grant is used to support DEM staff and operating expenses, the other 50% supports local jurisdictions and tribal nations Emergency Management Programs.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Post Disaster

The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is to help Nevada communities implement hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential major disaster declaration. Hazard mitigation is any action taken to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural hazards. The HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act and administered by FEMA.

HMGP provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. Authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act and administered by FEMA, HMGP was created to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters. The program enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

HMGP funds may be used to fund projects that will reduce or eliminate the losses from future disasters. Projects must provide a long-term solution to a problem, for example, elevation of a home to reduce the risk of flood damages as opposed to buying sandbags and pumps to fight the flood. In addition, a project's potential savings must be more than the cost of implementing the project. Funds may be used to protect either public or private property or to purchase property that has been subjected to, or is in danger of, repetitive damage.

Homeland Security Grant Program

The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) was established as a funding mechanism to build and sustain national preparedness capability by enhancing the ability of states, local governments, and tribal governments to prepare, respond, and recover from terrorist attacks and other disasters. Funding received from the HSGP was applied to preparedness activities including Planning, Organization, Equipment Purchase, Training, and Exercise (POETE) in addition to management and administration costs. There has been significant improvement to the HSGP based on stakeholder input and risk assessments allowing the program to move from a completely competitive process to a national allocation wherein funding streams within HSGP are allotted specific amounts of funding based on on-going risk assessment methodology.

Presently, The HSGP plays an integral role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System through the support of building, sustaining, and delivering core capabilities that are essential in achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient Nation. To do this requires the combined effort of whole community in lieu of any exclusive effort on the part of single organizations or levels of government. Based on allowable costs, HSGP is designed to support efforts to sustain and build core capabilities across five mission areas including Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery.

HSGP is currently comprised of the following interconnected grant programs:

- **State Homeland Security Program:** Provides assistance with state, local, and tribal preparedness activities addressing high-priority gaps in preparedness across all mission and core capability areas where a nexus to terrorism may exist.
- **Urban Area Security Initiative:** Provides assistance for unique capability-based and risk-driven POETE needs of high-density, high-threat Urban Areas on the basis of capability targets identified through the THIRA process and other associated assessment efforts. Additionally, assistance is provided to build sustainable and enhanced capacity to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond, and recover from acts of terrorism.
- **Operation Stonegarden:** Supports enhanced coordination and cooperation among the United States Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, and local, state, tribal, territorial, and Federal law enforcement agencies. Funding supports joint effort investments to secure borders and travel corridors between the United States and bordering countries of Mexico and Canada in addition to states and territories that is within international water borders.

It is important to note that although Nevada does currently qualify for both the SHSP and UASI funding streams, the guarantee of funding is never absolute. In 2013, Nevada lost the UASI funding due to the drop in ranking as a result of the Metropolitan Statistical Analysis (MSA) received for Nevada's Las Vegas urban area. As a result, considerable and collaborative outreach efforts were put forth on a statewide basis to assess, review, and rebut any inaccuracies in information affecting future year funding. This effort included outreach to commissions, delegate members, and high ranking members of FEMA to ensure data provided was accurate and properly vetted. Additionally, Nevada is one of the few states nationally that allocates SHSP funding to urban area projects with a statewide emphasis.

Over the course of the past eight years, the national HSGP funding allocation has declined significantly as the process for allocation transitioned from a reactive and competitive basis to a risk-based methodology used to allocate funding for state's preparedness activities. DHS uses comprehensive risk methodology with a focus on threat, vulnerability, and consequence to determine the relative risk of terrorism faced by a particular area. The risk is calculated on population affected, critical infrastructure, and the security of the economy. A noticeable trend in declining and stagnant HSGP allocations is seen from 2008 to 2016 equating to nearly a 39% drop in funding to 50 states and eligible territories. Figure 1 illustrates this declining trend in the HSGP program allocations including the SHSP, UASI, MMRS, CCP, and OPSG:

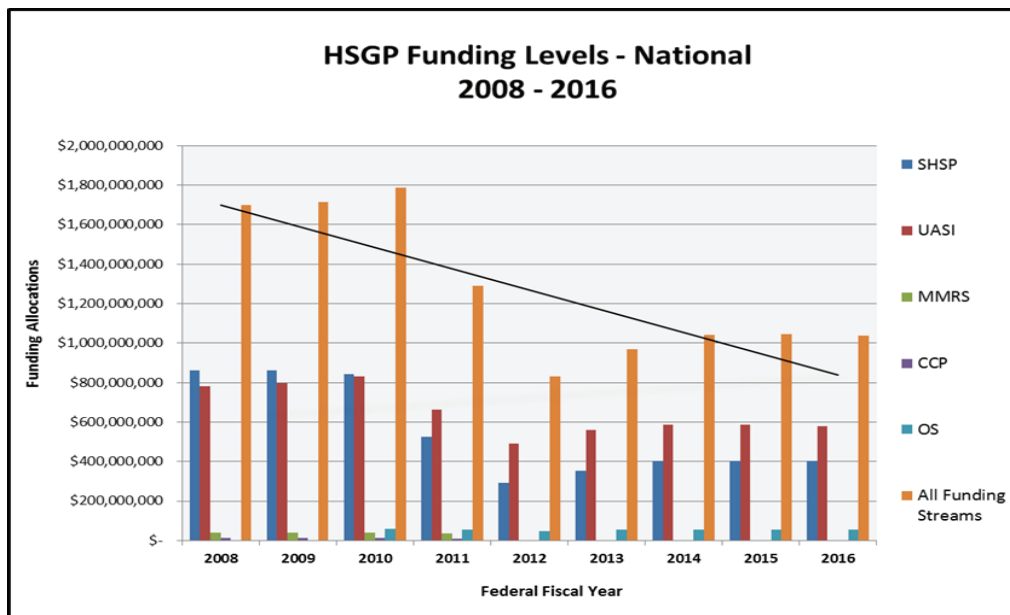


Figure 1. HSGP Funding Levels – National

Although the methodology for funding the SHSP remains based on minimum amounts established under legislative mandate in addition to DHS’s risk methodology, the same cannot be said of the UASI methodology for funding. Eligible HSGP urban areas under the UASI funding stream are determined through analysis of the relative terrorism risk faced by the 100 most populated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) within the United States. As relative risk is assessed, in part, in a classified manner, predicting where a state will fall in the annual funding allocation remains a mystery. With the lack of knowing whether UASI funding will be available for Nevada, there is a constant threat that Nevada may receive only its SHSP funding allocation which significantly impacts the Las Vegas Urban Area and subsequently the ability to fund statewide projects as SHSP funding then must be further spread to cover urban area projects with statewide impact.

Overview of the SHSP/UASI Preparation Process

Nevada is uniquely democratic and transparent with the HSGP process, specifically in the selection of SHSP and UASI projects requesting federal funding. As the process of administering the HSGP lies with DEM acting as the SAA, preparation for the process begins in the fall as DEM conducts a Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) which is a multifaceted process by which all states identify the events or conditions under which state capabilities are planned for and measured. Though not specific to those events with a terrorism nexus, the THIRA is a federal requirement in obtaining HSGP funding, and input for the THIRA can come from a multitude of sources including after action reports, improvement plans, multi-year training and exercise plans,

surveys, quarterly reports, and other THIRA assessments. Completion of the THIRA involves statewide participation and outreach to federal, state, county, city, regional, non-profit, and private sector partners. The THIRA is the foundational assessment, under which the State Preparedness Report (SPR) is conducted. The SPR enhances this process by measuring the state's core capabilities contained in five mission areas against the events identified in the THIRA, with the requirement of each state to identify the top 5-6 events from the THIRA to measure capability against. This process has the ultimate goal, in theory, to build capability for the top 5-6 events identified in the THIRA.

In January, the results from the Nevada THIRA are translated to a visual tool referred to as the "Nevada Heatmap" showing increases, decreases, or static change in each of the 32 core capabilities established by DHS. As foundational reports for the HSGP process, both the THIRA and SPR are integral in the creation of Nevada's capability priorities and ultimately the drivers of the final grant award for the state including the SHSP and UASI funding streams.

With the completion of the THIRA and SPR, the process moves in an administrative direction over the course of the next three months with the management of the HSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) release and subsequent open meeting schedule allowing for the preparation, submission, vetting, and ultimate submission of the HSGP Grant Application to DHS. The allowable process time to complete these tasks ranges typically from 45-60 days. During this time, significant effort is placed on HSGP messaging, timelines, grant guidance, stakeholder outreach, project submission and review, and committee approvals necessary and required of the process.

Administration of the HSGP in Nevada

Nevada has a legislative mandate to provide a comprehensive state oversight structure for the coordination of domestic preparedness for acts of terrorism and related emergencies. Per Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 239C.160, the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) is tasked with making recommendations with respect to actions and measures that may be taken to protect residents and visitors of the state from potential acts of terrorism and related emergencies in addition to serving as the public body serving in review capacity for the State's applications to the Federal Government for homeland security grants and related programs.

Upon release of the THIRA and SPR data, the NCHS reviews and approves a selected number of core capabilities to be used in consideration of HSGP project requests for the current fiscal year. HSGP project proposal solicitations are sent out through DEM, collected, reviewed, and summarized. The HSGP projects submitted for those projects with statewide impact are presented to the Nevada Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG) for review, vetting, technical review, and ultimately rank-prioritization for funding consideration. The HSGP projects submitted for those projects with Las Vegas Urban Area impact are presented to the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) in a similar and parallel process. Recommendations from the HSWG and UAWG are

forwarded to the NCHS Finance Committee for additional review, and then final funding recommendations are put before the NCHS for approval in submitting the final HSGP Grant Application to DHS. In total, this process currently entails a minimum 11 open meetings in 12 weeks. Figure 2 illustrates the current HSGP process:

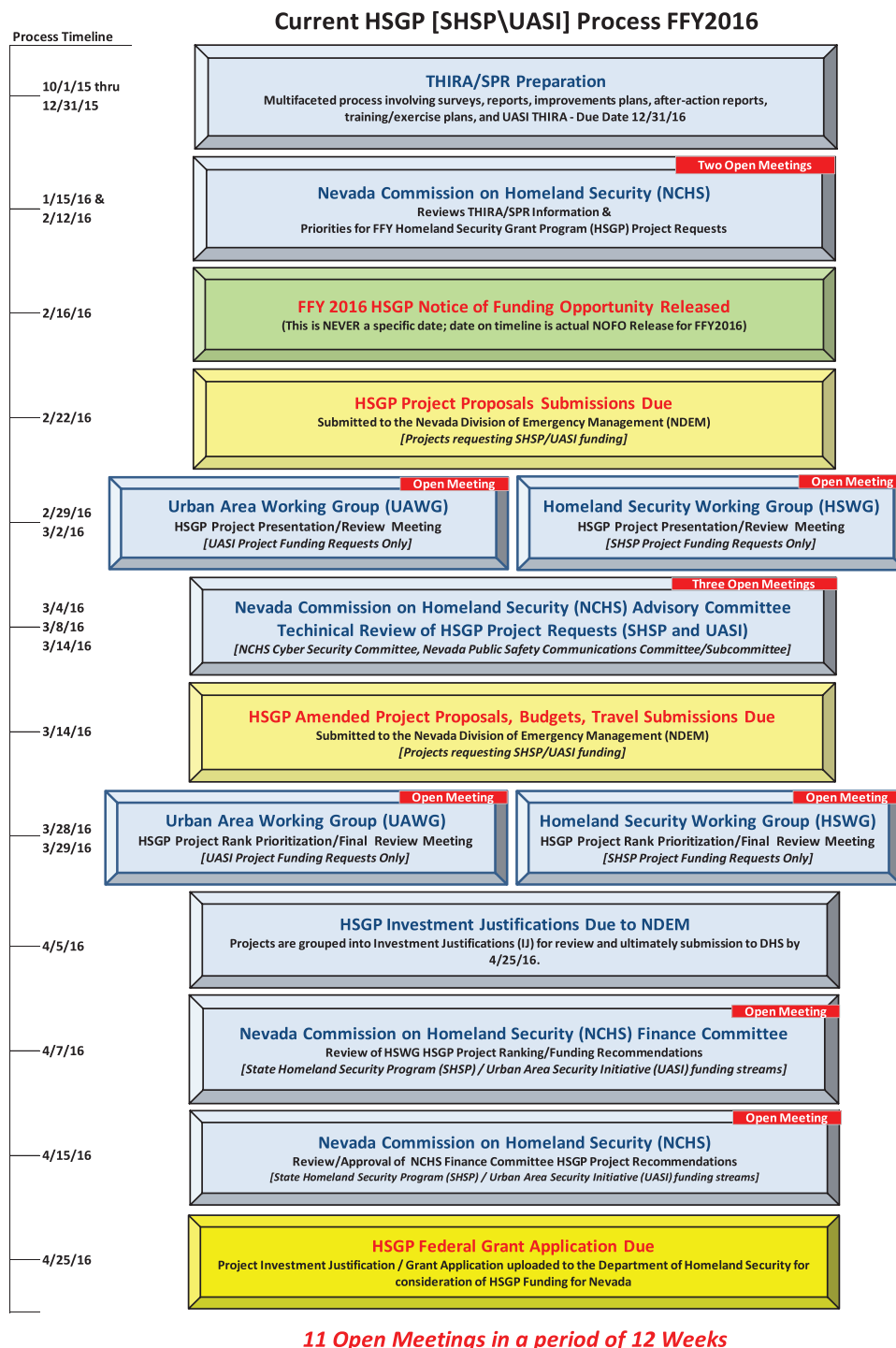


Figure 2. Current HSGP [SHSP/UASI] Process 2016

History of SHSP/UASI Funding

Of particular significance to Nevada is the continued downward and stagnant trend of both the SHSP and UASI funding allocations seen nationally. From the 2008 to 2016, the SHSP has seen a decline of over 53% in funding allocation, and the UASI has seen a similar decline of nearly 26%. Both funding streams have remained at a stagnant rate of increase since 2014. As funding allocations decrease, the ability to impact the creation and sustainment of statewide, urban, and blended statewide/urban projects becomes increasingly difficult. Figure 3 illustrates the SHSP/UASI national funding trend and associated funding levels:

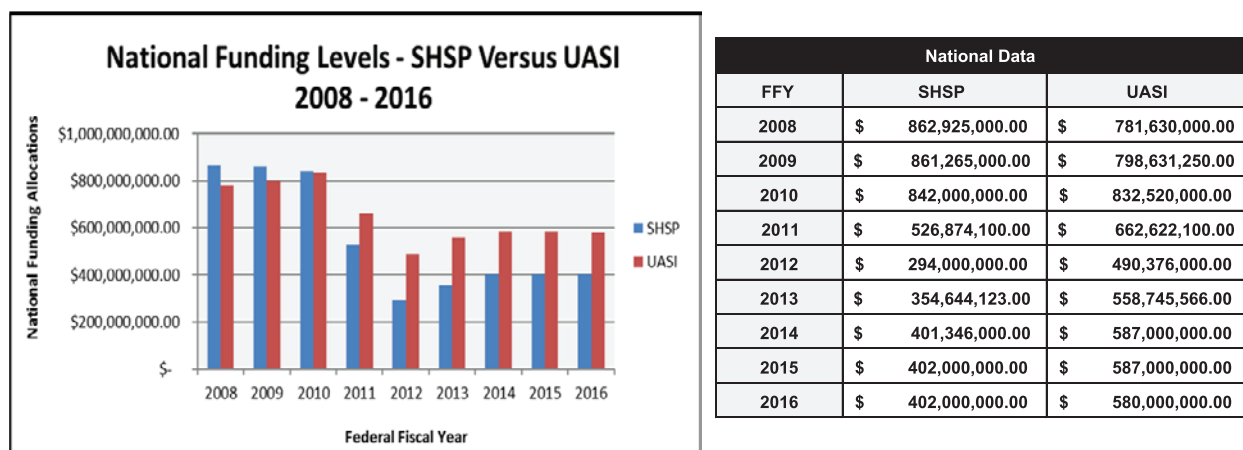


Figure 3. National Funding Levels – SHSP versus UASI 2008-2016 / National Data

In review of the allocations specific to Nevada in both the SHSP and UASI funding streams between 2008 and 2016, the downward trend is more alarming translating to nearly a 60% decline in funding in the SHSP, and a similar decline of 67% in UASI funding as shown in Figure 4 below:

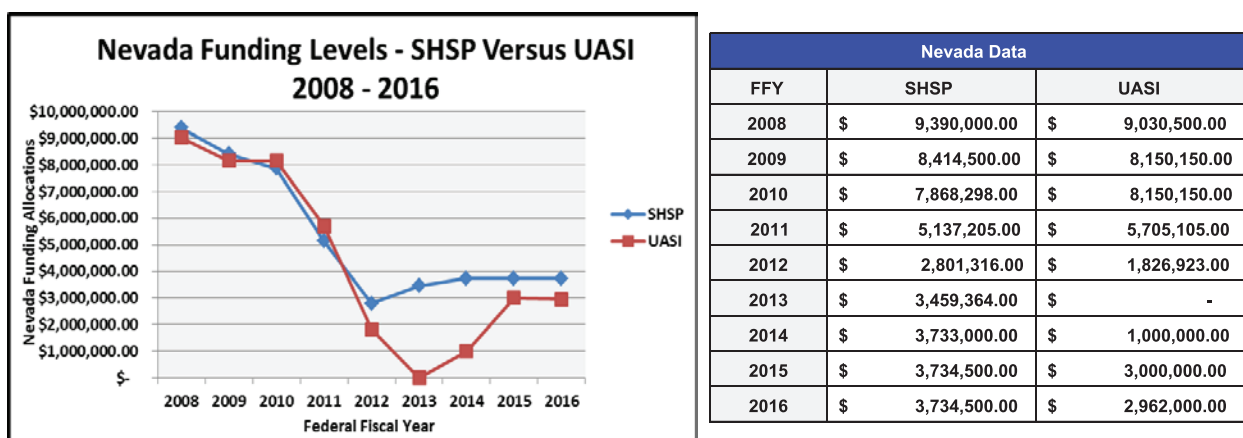


Figure 4. Funding Levels SHSP and UASI 2008-2016 / Nevada Data

Nevada Homeland Security Working Group Report

The Nevada Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG) was reestablished on November 16, 2015, per Executive Order (EO) 2015-32, as an advisory body to the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) to ensure statewide collaboration in the development and implementation of security and emergency management preparedness initiatives. As a provision of the EO, the HSWG shall deliver a report to the Governor on or before June 30 and December 31 each year detailing the activities of the body. The current EO is preceded by EO 2011-31 that expired on June 30, 2015, and the initial EO creating the HSWG on March 3, 2008.

The HSWG met twice during the first reporting period on March 2, 2016, and March 29, 2016. Both meetings were video-conferenced between Carson City and Las Vegas, with the State Emergency Operations Center as the primary venue for both meetings.

The HSWG membership comprises not more than 35 voting members as stipulated in EO 2015-32, and in 2016, a total of 31 designated voting members were seated to the body. The Chief of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management (State Administrative Agent, SAA) and the Urban Area Administrator (UAA) participated as non-voting members and co-chairs of the HSWG. The role of the HSWG is to bring together subject matter experts from state agencies, law enforcement, tribal representatives, first responder organizations, local government, and private sector partners to participate in an open and collaborative vetting process to select projects eligible to receive Homeland Security Grant Program funding (HSGP) for the current federal fiscal year (FFY). Under the HSGP, and for the HSWG process, two funding streams including the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) are considered when funding Nevada's HSGP projects. Although the HSWG primarily focuses on projects with statewide impact requesting SHSP funding, it also considers UASI funding requests having similar statewide impact. The HSWG makes a project funding recommendation to the NCHS Finance Committee, and in turn, the Finance Committee reviews project recommendations and after consideration passes the final project recommendations to the NCHS for final consideration and approval. The NCHS met on April 15, 2016 and approved the HSWG recommendations with the concurrent recommendation of the Finance Committee.

The Homeland Security Grant Program Process FFY 2016

The Nevada Commission on Homeland Security (NCHS) set five priorities for the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 HSGP process as follows on February 12, 2016:

NCHS Priorities for FFY 2016		
Mission Area	Core Capability	Rank
Protection	Cybersecurity	1
Prevention/Protection	Intelligence and Information Sharing	2
All	Public Information and Warning	3
All	Operational Coordination	4
Response	Operational Communication	5

Upon release of the HSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on February 16, 2016, Nevada received an allocation of \$3,734,500 through the State Homeland Security Program in addition to \$2,962,000 through the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Per the grant guidance, Nevada was given until April 25, 2016, to submit its final HSGP Grant Application to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The HSWG met first on March 2, 2016, after the release of the FFY 2016 HSGP guidance and federally established grant allocation for Nevada to review 26 SHSP and four SHSP/UASI combined project requests totaling \$6,865,645. Project requests were submitted by project managers representing various state agencies, local government, and tribal entities. All projects represented were presented as having statewide impact. As an additional requirement, projects with a cyber security or communications component were directed for technical advisory review by the NCHS Cyber Security Committee, the Nevada Public Safety Communications Committee (NPSCC), and the NPSCC Grants Subcommittee in order to ensure the submitted projects fit within the technical parameters of the proposed core capability. In a parallel and separate process for reviewing those projects with a UASI funding component, the Urban Area Working Group reviewed a total of 16 UASI and 4 UASI/SHSP combined project requests totaling \$6,363,265. As a final request from both of the HSWG and UAWG meetings, project managers were asked to make voluntary reductions or to withdraw projects that did not require FFY 2016 funding

The HSWG met for a second and final time on March 29, 2016, to hear from project managers who had voluntarily reduced or withdrawn projects for consideration. In addition, the advisory rankings from the NCHS Cyber Security Committee and the NPSCC were provided for consideration. Upon review and discussion of proposed changes, and taking into consideration the advisory recommendations as presented, the HSWG rank prioritized a total of 29 projects representing both SHSP and combined SHSP/UASI funding requests. Each voting member participated in a recorded voting process selecting 21 projects staying within the \$3,547,775 allowable SHSP budget allotment. In a parallel and separate process for reviewing and rank-prioritizing those projects with UASI funding stream requests, the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) recommended funding seven additional projects comprised of five UASI/SHSP projects and two UASI-only projects totaling \$2,813,900 falling within the allowable UASI budget allotment. Both the HSWG and UAWG recommendations were forwarded to the NCHS Finance Committee on April 7, 2016, for review.

With recommendation approval granted by the NCHS Finance Committee on April 7, 2016, and concurrent approval by the NCHS on April 15, 2016, the submission of Nevada's 2016 HSGP Grant Application to the Department of Homeland Security was completed on April 20, 2016, ahead of the federal deadline. The HSWG successfully completed its duties for FFY 2016.

The HSWG recommendations for the allocation of SHSP and SHSP/UASI combined funding requests totaled \$5,218,850, and the UAWG recommendations for the allocation of UASI-only funding requests totaled \$1,142,825. A combined total of

\$6,361,675 in HSGP funding recommendations is summarized below including HSWG rankings and funding allocation recommendations:

FFY 2016 HSGP			
SHSP and SHSP/UASI Combined Project Ranking			
Rank	Project Name	SHSP Allocation	UASI Allocation
1	Nevada Threat Analysis Center	\$598,075.00	\$-
2	Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center	\$645,000.00	\$912,227.00
3	Cyber Incident Response Planning	\$52,000.00	\$84,000.00
4	Southern Nevada Community Emergency Response Team	\$47,700.00	\$189,091.00
5	Northeast Nevada Citizen Corps CERT Program	\$56,800.00	\$-
6	Nevada Cyber Statewide Capacity & Needs Assessment Plan	\$100,000.00	\$-
7	Statewide Citizen Corps CERT	\$9,150.00	\$-
8	Washoe County Sheriffs CERT	\$67,940.00	\$-
9	Statewide Recovery Initiative	\$150,000.00	\$-
10	Washoe County Cyber Security	\$25,375.00	\$-
11	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)	\$38,211.00	\$-
12	Douglas County CERT Program	\$18,000.00	\$-
13	Lyon County CERT Program	\$18,000.00	\$-
14	CBRNE Task Force Sustainment	\$395,640.00	\$202,000.00
15	Information Security Management System Modernization	\$572,306.00	\$-
16	TRIAD CBRNE Response	\$261,626.00	\$-
17	Homeland Security Working Group	\$27,540.00	\$-
18	Ely Shoshone Tribe Cyber Security	\$3,000.00	\$-
19	Las Vegas Fire Bomb Squad	\$139,068.00	\$283,757.00
20	Statewide NIMS	\$273,344.00	\$-
21	Tribal NIMS	\$49,000.00	\$-
Subtotal of SHSP and SHSP/UASI Ranked Projects:		\$3,547,775.00	\$1,671,075.00
Combined Subtotal of SHSP and SHSP/UASI Ranked Projects:		\$5,218,850.00	
FFY 2016 HSGP			
UASI Only (*Not ranked by the HSWG)			
*	Metropolitan Medical Response System	\$161,250.00	
*	Southern Nevada Incident Management Team Enhancement	\$35,618.00	
*	Henderson Regional HazMat Response Capability	\$95,000.00	
*	Henderson Multi-Use Emergency Operation Center	\$252,663.00	
*	Clark County Emergency Communication	\$45,268.00	
*	City of North Las Vegas P-25 Phase II Radio Upgrade	\$53,026.00	
*	Clark County Fire FAO Alternate Facility & Dispatch Training Center	\$500,000.00	
Subtotal of UASI Only Projects:			\$1,142,825.00
Combined Total of SHSP, SHSP/UASI, and UASI-Only Projects for FFY 2016 HSGP:			\$6,361,675.00

Of the total HSGP projects initially submitted in the 2016 process, only 28 out of 46 projects received funding, either at the originally requested amount, or at a reduced amount that significantly affected the capacity of the projects to provide capability change within Nevada. The limitations and complexity of the current HSGP process may have an impact on the capability of Nevada to sustain required capabilities in addition to restraining the development of new and innovative projects.

Homeland Security Non-Profit Grant

The NSGP provides funding support for target hardening and other physical security enhancements to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of a terrorist attack and located within one of the urban areas receiving funding under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). The program seeks to integrate the preparedness activities of nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of a terrorist attack with broader state and local preparedness efforts. The NSGP also serves to promote emergency preparedness coordination and collaboration activities between public and private community representatives as well as state and local government agencies. The NSGP supports the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Mission to Strengthen National Preparedness and Resilience. Each non-profit organization may apply for up to \$75,000 and must apply through their respective State Administrative Agency (SAA).

State and Local Implementation Grant Program

The State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) was created under the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. SLIGP is designed to provide resources to assist regional, state, local and tribal government entities as they plan for the nationwide public safety broadband network (PSBN) being developed by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). It is funded by the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA), United States Department of Commerce

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 created FirstNet as an independent authority within NTIA to provide emergency responders with the first nationwide, high-speed, broadband network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet has been obligated by Congress to take all actions necessary to ensure the building, deployment and operation of the nationwide public safety broadband network.

NTIA awarded \$116.5 million in grants to 54 U.S. states and territories. This funding provides recipients with the resources to work with stakeholders throughout the state or territory to identify needs, gaps, and priorities for public safety wireless broadband. This work will also help recipients prepare for consultation with FirstNet.

Public Information and Outreach Overview

The Public Information Officer (PIO) contributes to fulfilling the Nevada Division of Emergency Management's (DEM) mission and meeting strategic objectives and program goals. This is accomplished by organizing and implementing public information activities in order to provide the partnering agencies, public, and media with timely and accurate information during an incident and in matters of public interest and to provide a positive organizational image.

One of the priorities for the PIO is to educate and prepare citizens through relevant, prompt, and authoritative emergency information. Internally communication systems and networks are essential for protecting lives and property in the event of any kind of significant disaster or emergency. The media and the public seek information and guidance during times of natural and manmade disasters and emergencies; therefore, the DEM PIO has an inherent obligation to protect its citizens by disseminating this information.

Due to the importance of disseminating information quickly and accurately in times of crisis, DEM has several operational documents outlining policies, procedures and protocol. Dependent on the size of the incident and the division's activation level, the PIO determines the execution of the appropriate action plan to include the Joint Information Center (JIC).

PIOs are often referred to as crisis communicators. They obtain information from various sources, compile the pertinent details in a concise manner and disseminate the specifics to pertinent parties internally and externally. Information is provided on warnings, alerts, shelter, evacuation orders, and the general progress of events. All facts must be reported as accurately as possible and in a timely manner as the incident unfolds.

Communication may occur through a number of avenues, including press conferences, phone calls, email, media outlets, and through social media. (Many federal and state agencies provide timely updates and information through Facebook and Twitter, for example.) Further, external affairs are often involved in developing public outreach materials, such as handbooks and flyers, and media materials, such as press releases/advisories.

Within the emergency management framework, PIOs are responsible for supporting the agency's incident command structure. These professionals advise the incident command on all matters related to public information. As such, public information officer jobs involve the following duties:

- Coordinating the agency's public information system before, during, and after an emergency;
- Developing and updating a comprehensive public information program, which includes educating and increasing awareness of emergency preparedness and response;
- Creating and distributing weekly information reports and maintaining an Internet presence through social media, blogging, and website updates;
- Overseeing public outreach events and programs; and,
- Establishing an emergency information center during times of crisis.

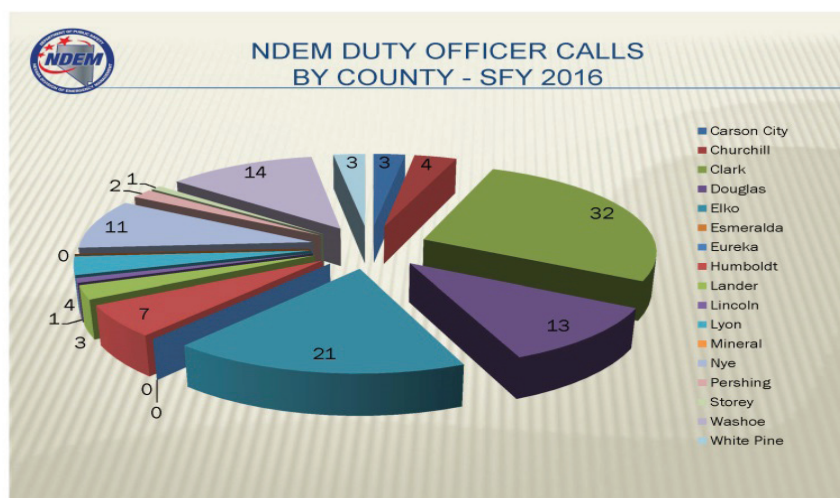
Response

Response describes how entities and agencies around the state seek to stabilize a situation following an emergency or disaster. DEM is responsible for ensuring the state is properly prepared to deal with, and assist with, large-scale emergency response, and it is also responsible to coordinate resources and information through the Duty Officer Program and the State Emergency Operations Center in a statewide response to such incidents. This includes the coordination of support to private sector organizations, local jurisdictions, county and state organizations, tribal governments, and regional incidents as requested.

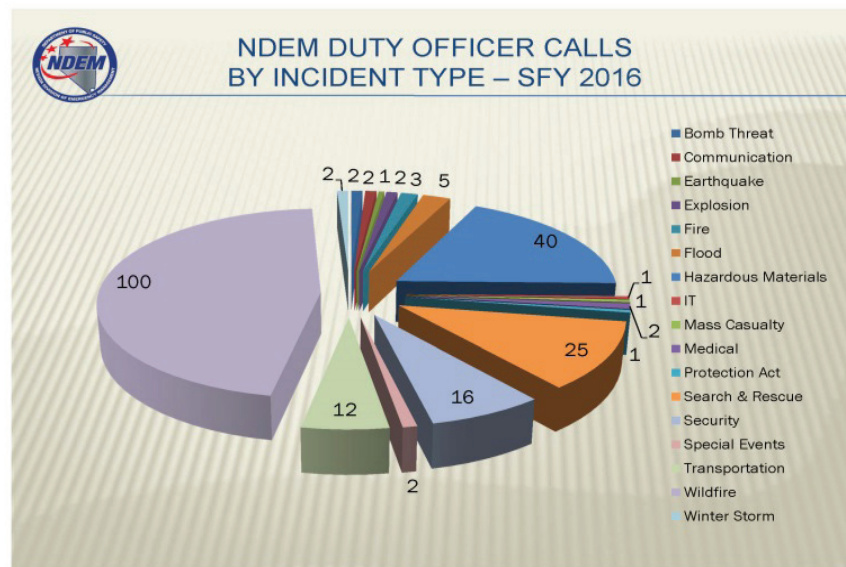
Duty Officer Program

The DEM Duty Officer (DO), in many cases, is the first contact that local government, adjoining states and the Federal government has with the State of Nevada when a disaster/emergency (All Hazard Incidents) occurs. The DEM DO is the first point of contact for state coordination and support for local, tribal, state and federal jurisdictions throughout Nevada and nationally. When first contacted by an affected jurisdiction, the Duty Officer will assign an Incident Mission Number, respond to the requests from the affected jurisdiction and begin the documentation of his or her actions. The professionalism, knowledge, and assistance provided by the DO and the cooperation between the state and local jurisdictions will assist in bringing an event to a successful conclusion. The Duty Officer rotation changes every week.

DEM Duty Officers were involved in 119 incidents in FY2016. Those incidents resulted in the Duty Officers being involved in 17 different types of incidents, assisting 14 of the 17 Nevada Counties, and coordinating resources with 10 other states. Duty Officers also participated in multiple training events and exercises throughout the year. Duty Officer calls vary in significance from mere notifications to events that could very well result in local, tribal, state, or federal declarations. Over the last year, DEM has fielded countless calls through the Duty Officer program, and a breakdown of the calls by type follows:

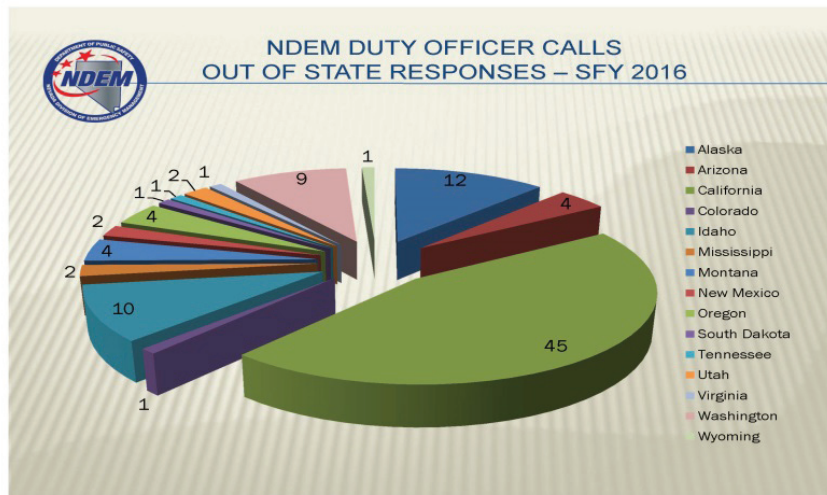


Duty Officer Call Breakout - By County			
County	# of Incidents	Primary Incident Type	Secondary Incident Type
Carson City	3	Search & Rescue	Hazardous Materials
Churchill	4	Search & Rescue	Hazardous Materials
Clark	32	Security (CST Support)	Search & Rescue
Douglas	13	Search & Rescue	Fire
Elko	21	Hazardous Materials (UPRR Regulatory Reporting)	Winter Storm
Esmeralda	0	n/a	n/a
Eureka	0	n/a	n/a
Humboldt	7	Hazardous Materials (UPRR Regulatory Reporting)	Search & Rescue
Lander	3	Search & Rescue	Wildfire
Lincoln	1	Flood	
Lyon	4	Flood	Transportation
Mineral	0	n/a	n/a
Nye	11	Search & Rescue	Hazardous Materials
Pershing	2	Search & Rescue	Protective Action
Storey	1	Communications	n/a
Washoe	14	Hazardous Materials (UPRR Regulatory Reporting)	Wildfire
White Pine	3	Search & Rescue	Wildfire
Total Incidents:	119		
Total Counties:	14 out of 17		



General Statistics	
# of Training Exercises	11
# of Real Incidents	215
# of NDEM Staff Activations/Deployments (Not Counting Duty Officers)	23
# of NDEM Staff Activations/Training	11

Top 3 Incident Categories:	Qty
Wildland Fire	100
Search & Rescue	25
Hazmat (*Regulatory Reporting Requirements)	40
Total number of DEM Duty Officer calls All categories (including Top 3 categories):	226



Duty Officer Call Breakout - By State		
State	# of Responses	Type
Alaska	12	Wildfire
Arizona	4	Wildfire
California	42	Wildfire
	2	Search and Rescue
	1	CST Support
Colorado	1	Wildfire
Idaho	10	Wildfire
Mississippi	2	Search and Rescue
Montana	4	Wildfire
New Mexico	2	Wildfire
Oregon	4	Wildfire
South Dakota	1	Wildfire
Tennessee	1	Search and Rescue
Utah	2	Wildfire
Virginia	1	Search and Rescue
Washington	9	Wildfire
Wyoming	1	Wildfire
Total Responses	99	
Total States	15	

The State of Nevada uses NIMS incident typing criteria. The incident types range from a simple event requiring minimum response requirements, to an event requiring complex local, tribal, state, and federal involvement. As the potential severity of the incident, the geographic area impacted, or the demand on local resources changes, the DEM Duty Officer, DEM Chief or designee, or the SEOC Manager will alter emergency response and coordination activities to meet the emergency needs.

Typically, activation of the SEOC occurs when the Duty Officer confers with the DEM Chief indicating a level of activity that is overwhelming, or the need associated with the type emergency is complex and better suited for a multi-agency response. Catastrophic emergencies will prompt activation just by the nature of the conditions typically associated with the type of incident. Activation of the SEOC is based upon a decision process and is not automatically done due to any particular conditions.

Criteria for activation includes, but is not limited to: a local ECC/EOC activation/declaration of emergency; protracted duration of assistance initially provided by the Duty Officer; loss of or impending loss of life/mass casualty event; DEM management decision; and/or a request by the Governor.

Search and Rescue Overview

Although the Sheriff of each county is responsible for the functions of search and rescue for missing persons within their county, the Nevada Division of Emergency Management under Nevada Revised Statutes 414, maintains the position of State Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator and provides resources and training to resources throughout the state. Through the State Board for Search and Rescue, policy is developed to assist agencies in search and rescue operations, provide direction and guidance to the Coordinator, and carry out other specific duties.

The State SAR Coordinator is responsible for the inventory of search and rescue resources throughout the state, and much of this work falls to the broader responsibilities of DEM for resource management. Additionally, they are directed to apply for funding opportunities and financial assistance to search and rescue organizations, maintain statistical data regarding searches, and coordinate assistance during intrastate searches and rescues. The position of State SAR Coordinator acts as a liaison with other states when operations transit state lines and they prepare the State SAR Plan.

Aside from wildfire and hazardous materials reporting from rail systems, Search and Rescue is one of the most often requested calls for DEM. In 2015, DEM assisted local jurisdictions in state, out of state, and internationally, on numerous search and rescue operations. These calls involved a wide variety of services from simple coordination to the location and deployment of local and federal assets, to the complex planning of active search operations or the assistance in multi-day operations.

Over the course of six years, the State SAR Coordinator has developed an advance search planning process called Virtual Search Planning (VSP). Based upon the analysis of complex factors including human behavior, historic weather, terrain analysis, physiological, psychological, and pharmacological components, and statistical data related to prior events, the VSP process has found over 90% of subjects when it has been used in the first operational period. The process is so effective it has been used not only in Nevada, but has been requested and used across the country and in Australia. The advantage of this process is that it may be performed independent of the actual location of the search, and in most cases the process is completed remote from the actual location.

In FY 2016, DEM taught search and rescue resources key search skills at the technician level and the management level through two POST-certified courses, the Nevada Land Search Management Course and the Nevada Wilderness Search and

Rescue technician Course. Both of these courses exceed the Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements for training technicians and managers for search and rescue operations. DEM continues to be a force multiplier when it comes to assisting Nevada Sheriffs in search and rescue operations, and it is setting a national standard as it further develops and implements the Virtual Search Planning Process.

Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)

As a result of recommendations received from the public safety community, the federal Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) enhanced the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) with the inclusion of an objective requiring states and territories to identify a central point of coordination for interoperable emergency communications efforts. In Nevada, as in most states, the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) is assigned a diverse set of responsibilities including:

- Overseeing daily operations of Nevada's interoperability efforts;
- Coordination of interoperability and communications projects;
- Maintenance of governance structures;
- Assembly of working groups to develop and implement key initiatives;
- Updating, implementing, and management of the Statewide Community Infrastructure Program (SCIP); and
- Continuous outreach efforts working with local, county, state, tribal, and territorial partners on communications projects and policy development throughout Nevada.

Recovery

The declaration process is a key aspect of the four phases of emergency management. The principle that guides response efforts states that emergencies and disasters begin and end at the local level, and only escalate to higher levels of government when local resources are overwhelmed and additional support is necessary. This principle is observed nationally and is defined in the National Incident Management System. The declaration process is outlined below:

- 1) Emergency or Disaster Event and Response:** The event occurs. Local first responders (e.g., Fire, Law Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services) respond utilizing the Incident Command System (ICS). Depending on the extent of the emergency, the local jurisdiction activates their Emergency Operations Center and initiates their Emergency Operations Plan.

- 2) Local Jurisdiction Declaration:** If the situation exceeds the capabilities of the local community, a local emergency declaration can be issued by the municipality. A declaration enables a jurisdiction to respond to the event and provide resources for use in the emergency/disaster. Declarations remain in effect as long as necessary to ensure an effective response.
- 3) State Disaster Request:** A local community that has declared an emergency can request assistance from the state. DEM coordinates support requests with state agencies that may be able to assist based upon their authorities, capabilities and resources. When the magnitude of the emergency warrants consideration of a Gubernatorial Declaration, DEM coordinates a Preliminary Damage Assessment with the affected community at the county level. The jurisdiction's request for State assistance with DEM's recommendation is forwarded to the Governor for a decision.
- 4) Gubernatorial Declaration:** When approved, a Governor's Declaration of Emergency is an administrative function that authorizes the use of state resources (e.g., state personnel, equipment and funding) in support of local emergency response and recovery efforts. If the Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) confirm impacts that meet federally-established thresholds for an Emergency or Major Disaster Declaration, the State would request a Joint PDA with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). If the damages meet the federal threshold, DEM will prepare a State request and application for a federal disaster declaration for the Governor to send to the President via FEMA Region IX.
- 5) Federal Disaster Declaration:** FEMA examines damage and disaster declaration requests and makes their recommendation to the President. Presidential approval of the declaration activates eligible programs (i.e., Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation).

DEM manages the declaration process on behalf of the state. Through mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, and through all aspects of the agency's function, DEM is constantly engaged in this process and related efforts. As noted in the process outlined above, it begins with an emergency or disaster event, which results in an immediate decision: is this event a local or state emergency requiring a declaration of emergency or disaster at any level, coordination of resources, or activation of the local, state, or other Emergency Operations Center.

Conducting damage assessments are often a key step to managing events as they transition from the response phase to the recovery phase. In order to determine the level of damage and whether personal or public damages qualify for state or federal grant assistance, DEM will activate State Technical Assistance Response Teams (START) upon request of the affected jurisdiction(s) to complete an assessment. The START operates under NRS414.080 Mobile Support Unit. DEM has approximately 20 members located statewide with varying degrees of expertise, and it is responsible for coordinating, planning, training and conducting exercises for this team.

There are two primary programs administered by FEMA that may be of assistance during disaster recovery:

- **Individual Assistance:** FEMA may provide financial assistance and direct services to eligible individuals and households who, as a direct result of a major disaster, have necessary expenses and serious needs and are unable to meet such expenses or needs through other means. FEMA's programs are designed to help meet essential needs and assist individuals and their households in taking the first steps toward recovery. FEMA programs are not intended to return all homes or belongings to their pre-disaster condition. Currently Nevada does not have a designated Individual Assistance Officer. This is a shared responsibility between the State's Public Assistance Officer and the Recovery Manager.
- **Public Assistance:** The Public Assistance Program provides grants to state, local, and federally recognized tribal governments and certain private non-profit entities to assist them with the response to and recovery from disasters. Specifically, the program provides assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and permanent restoration of infrastructure.

FEMA's Proposed Disaster Deductible Concept and Increase to Public Assistance Per Capita Indicator

In 2016, FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate introduced the Disaster Deductible Concept, a policy change intended to ensure that states participate financially in the recovery process. Under this proposed concept, following receipt of a major disaster declaration authorizing the Public Assistance Program, states would be required to demonstrate they have satisfied a predetermined deductible amount before FEMA would provide assistance through a Project Worksheet for eligible Public Assistance work. The deductible, which is intended to be provided by the state, not local or other jurisdictions, would need to be satisfied before any project is deemed eligible for assistance.

Under this proposed policy change, FEMA could provide credit toward the deductible for:

- States that adopt standardized and enhanced building codes;
- Planning and adoption of risk-informed mitigation strategies;
- Funding emergency management programs and individual assistance programs;
- Funding specifically reserved for disaster response and recovery;
- Adoption of proactive fiscal planning such as establishing a disaster relief fund or a self-insurance fund;

- Investment in programs of assistance available when there is not a federal declaration; and
- Self-funding of FEMA-eligible projects.

If this policy is changed at the national level, DEM believes that the state should anticipate increased investments recovery programs and an increase in applicants to Nevada's Disaster Relief Account, described below.

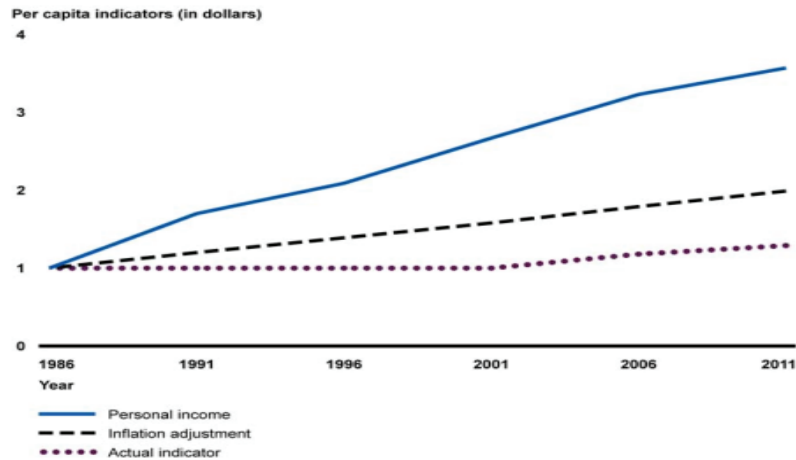
Additionally, FEMA is also currently consulting with federally recognized tribal nations on a separate process for tribes to request and receive presidential disaster declarations under the Stafford Act, and the proposed process does not incorporate a disaster deductible. The draft pilot guidance adopts a \$300,000 damage amount to establish a level of damage that must occur before FEMA will consider a PA declaration, eliminating the \$1 million minimum part of the "Estimated Cost of Assistance." Also, federally recognized tribes will have the option of applying for assistance through the state as a sub-recipient, which means that Nevada may see an increase in federal declarations for tribes and increased costs to administer recovery programs for tribes.

In addition to these two proposed changes, the DHS Inspector General (IG) issued a report in May 2012 which noted that FEMA had been using a \$1 per capita damage amount since 1986 to determine its recommendation (during its preliminary damage assessment process) to the President whether an event warranted federal assistance. The DHS IG also explained that FEMA did not begin adjusting that number for inflation until 1999. The DHS IG pointed out that if the inflation adjustment had been occurring over that 13-year period, from 1986 to 1999, fully 36% fewer disasters would have qualified for a presidential declaration based on that factor.

Currently Nevada's statewide per capita impact indicator will remain at \$1.41 for all disasters declared on or after October 1, 2015. Nevada's statewide threshold is \$3.8 million. If, as proposed, it was adjusted for inflation, it would be closer to \$2 raising statewide total to approximately \$7.6 million. Alternately, if adjusted for personal income, that amount would be closer to \$4, raising the statewide threshold to \$15.2 million.

FEMA is considering basing the statewide per capita impact indicator on a state's total taxable resources or another measurement that more accurately reflects a state's financial capacity for recovery without federal assistance. Nevada can anticipate an increase to the threshold for presidentially-declared disasters resulting in greater reliance on state and local resources for recovery.

Figure 6: Comparison of Actual Public Assistance Per Capita Indicator with the Indicators if They Had Been Adjusted for Increases in Personal Income and Inflation, 1986 through 2011



Source: GAO analysis of Department of Homeland Security, Department of Commerce, and Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Declared Emergencies and Disasters

In addition to the events that DEM monitored or supported through the Duty Officer Program, there were numerous declared emergencies and disasters at the local and state level throughout the last fiscal year. Following the declaration process described above, these events began locally and arose to the state level when additional support was needed. They were primarily related to flooding and public safety events, some were in response to significant events and others were preemptive, and several resulted in a significant recovery process. The significant events from the last fiscal year, and a presidential declaration for the previous fiscal year, are described in detail below:

Moapa Valley Flooding Event September 8, 2014

In September of 2014, southern Nevada experienced a series of damaging storms that included high winds and heavy rains and resulted in significant damages to infrastructure in Clark County and on the Moapa Band of Paiutes Tribal Reservation. While this serious flooding event did not occur in the fiscal year covered by this report, the extensive recovery effort that followed has extended well into the current fiscal year and will likely continue beyond. An overview is provided here not only to capture this significant weather event, but also to show the significant recovery effort underway by tribal authorities, Clark County, the State of Nevada, and FEMA.

By September of 2014, southern Nevada had experienced over a year of heavy storms that had caused significant damage over time, all of which culminated on September 8, 2014. This storm caused considerable damage, which was estimated initially to be

approximately \$7.6 million and affected residents in the Moapa Valley, Overton, Logandale, Bunkerville, the town of Moapa, the Moapa Band of Paiutes Tribal Reservation, and Sandy Valley. The storm produced an estimated rainfall of 4.63 inches and caused damage to homes, property, businesses, and critical infrastructure throughout the county, including areas within tribal jurisdiction.

Because of the nature of the weather event and the damages, the Clark County Office of Emergency Management requested assistance from the State of Nevada, resulting in the formation of a joint local, tribal, and state damage assessment team, which assessed local damages from September 10 through September 12, 2014. The Preliminary Damage Assessment showed that at least 25 homes were seriously damaged as well as Interstate 15. Additional damages included debris removal and protective measures, all of which resulted in substantial cost.

On September 9, the Governor Sandoval issued a state emergency declaration on behalf of Clark County and the Moapa Band of Paiutes Tribal Reservation. The Moapa Band of Paiutes issued an emergency declaration as well. In a letter dated October 23, 2014, Governor Brian Sandoval requested that a federal emergency be declared, which was granted by the President of the United States as well. Significantly, this is the only presidential emergency declaration for the State of Nevada in recent history.

Following the presidential emergency declaration, local, state, federal, and tribal officials have worked toward addressing recovery issues related to this weather event, particularly with respect to damages to infrastructure on the Moapa Band of Paiutes Tribal Reservation. While this process has been challenging for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the fact that DEM has only one Recovery specialist on its staff, by April of 2016, FEMA had approved two thirds of the recovery projects and efforts were well underway to achieve approval for the remaining projects. This recovery effort is significant and will most likely continue into the future.

Multiple County Flash Flooding Event July 3 – July 11, 2015

Beginning on July 3, 2015, and continuing through July 11, 2015, thunder storms and flash flooding events occurred in Douglas County, Washoe County, Storey County, Lyon County, and Pershing County. During the week of July 6-10, the National Weather Service issued 44 Flash Flood Warnings, 22 Thunderstorm Warnings, 11 Flood Advisories and one Dust Storm Warning. Large amounts of water and debris flows damaged county maintained roads, covered access roads for county maintained services, filled ditches and culverts, and engaged several first response agencies causing overtime and backfill situations around the state. Water, mud and debris covered the property of over 437 private homeowners and in some instances entered homes and seeped into garages and crawl spaces under homes.

On July 8, 2015, the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners declared a state of emergency, citing lacking local resources to respond to the flash flooding events, particularly with respect to the residential areas around Stephanie Way and Johnson Lane in Gardnerville. Though they did not declare emergencies, multiple other county emergency managers requested assistance from the Nevada State Technical Assistance and Response Team (START). Joint Local and State Damage Assessment Teams were formed to assess damages in the affected areas. The Joint Teams met to survey the damaged areas and to estimate the costs to return the affected communities to pre-disaster conditions. Additionally, they determined if the damages were sufficient to warrant a request of a State disaster declaration or a federal disaster declaration, which would allow for further requesting federal assistance from FEMA and other federal agencies should the damages to the affected counties and the state exceed its capability to respond and recover from these flash types of events.

After reviewing all of the information reported by the Counties and the State agencies, it was determined by the Joint Damage Assessment Team that requesting a State or FEMA Declaration was not warranted for this event, however, the Douglas County declaration was justified. The estimated damage combined for all 5 counties for repair or replacement cost of public infrastructure is approximately \$3.8 million, which meets the federal indicator for Nevada (\$3,807,777) for Federal Fiscal Year 2015. Although the estimate meets or exceeds the federal indicator, Douglas County was the only county to declare, and all other counties and state agencies reviewed indicated they were able to absorb the costs from existing county and state budgets.

The Team recognizes that the Counties, especially Douglas County, were greatly impacted, therefore, it is recommended the State assist the Counties in seeking other options for assistance which may include: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture - Rural Development Program, Nevada Rural Development Programs, Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), the State Disaster Relief Account, Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants, etc. In January of 2016, Douglas County announced it had received a grant from FEMA through the Carson Water Subconservancy District to develop preliminary design of a flood prevention structure east of Stephanie War. According to their press release, "the proposed structure would extend approximately from Terry Ann Street at the North to Chowbuck Drive on the South the structure would offer some level of flood protection to approximately 300 parcels in the area."

City of Caliente Flash Flooding Event July 15, 2015

On July 15, 2015, the City of Caliente had a major flash flooding event that caused damage to streets, bridges, culverts, and other public facilities. The costs of response, clean-up, repair and replacement of such damaged property are far in excess of available City of Caliente resources, and on July 23, 2015, the Caliente City Council declared a state of emergency due to the impact of damages and the threats to the

health, well-being, and public safety of the citizens of the City of Caliente. In addition to the city's declaration, a Joint Local and State Damage Assessment Team was formed to assess damages in the affected areas.

The Joint Team's assessment was conducted by local city and county officials and the Nevada State Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. The team met to survey the damaged areas and to estimate costs to return the affected communities back to pre-disaster conditions. Additionally, the team sought to determine if the damages were sufficient to warrant a request for a State Emergency Declaration or a Federal Disaster Declaration, further requesting federal assistance from FEMA and other federal agencies should the damages to the affected City/County and the State exceed its capability to respond and recover from this flash flooding event.

After reviewing all of the information reported by the city and the county it was determined by the Joint Damage Assessment Team that requesting a State or FEMA Declaration was not warranted. The estimated damage, repair, or replacement cost for public infrastructure from the flash flooding event was approximately \$145,000, which is below the federal indicator for the State (\$3.8 million) for Federal Fiscal Year 2015. However, the Joint Team determined the storm event was severe and impacted the City enough to constitute a local disaster.

The majority of the damages sustained by the City of Caliente during the flash flooding event was under Category A: Debris Removal. The City of Caliente took immediate measures to remove and reduce debris buildup following the weather events, however, they requested assistance in the removal of over 10,000 cubic yards of debris from the main flood channels. For the removal of debris from five sites, the Preliminary Damage Assessment estimated the total cost to be just over \$122,000. An additional estimate of \$18,900 was assessed for Category D: Water Control Facilities.

Due to the loss and damages to the public infrastructure within the City of Caliente, it was recommended that the county and the state consider seeking other options for assistance to the affected jurisdictions. Options include but are not limited to: the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S Department of Agriculture - Rural Development Program, Nevada Rural Development Program, the State Disaster Relief Account, and the Pre-Disaster mitigation grants. The Nevada Division of Emergency Management monitored this emergency following the declaration and visited the area and local leaders several times.

Lyon County and City of Yerington Joint Declaration in Anticipation of Flooding September 25, 2015

On September 25, 2015, the City of Yerington and Lyon County issued a joint emergency declaration in anticipation of an El Nino event that may cause the Walker River to flood the City of Yerington and Mason Valley. The joint declaration was

preemptive in nature, which made it a relatively unusual approach, however it resulted in support from the State and Federal governments as expected. The local governments and members of the community carried out their efforts to clear the built up debris from the Walker River over the months that followed.

Following the declaration, DEM continued to monitor and assist wherever possible. Agency leaders met several times with local leader to ensure that there issues and concerns were heard, potential resources and agencies to assist were identified, and to develop action items to follow up on. The immediate request from Yerington and Lyon County was a letter from the Governor requesting an expedited permitting process by federal partners, which DEM assisted in writing and disseminating to the appropriate local, state, and federal partners.

Following the Governor's letter, DEM participated in ongoing discussions with several organizations, including Lyon County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Water Master, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. The purpose of these meetings was to review issues, procedures and permitting requirements for mitigation of the Walker River as called for in the joint Lyon County/City of Yerington Declaration of Emergency, and to ensure that the local government parties had the support they needed. In addition to these phone meetings, DEM representatives also visited Yerington to participate in the Walker River Irrigation District's meeting regarding the declared emergency anticipating El Nino weather.

While the state was able to assist in various ways, the vast majority of the work was done by the local governments. The various entities identified resources, developed a plan, and quickly worked to help the river flow more freely during a future flooding event. This was enabled by an expedited permit approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on November 6, 2015 (SPK-2015-00942).

Over the weeks that followed, Lyon County and the City of Yerington worked to clear the Walker River of sediment, sand bars, and debris, which was estimated to be over one hundred tons in total. Because they were able to work to identify internal and existing resources to accomplish these tasks, the local governments were also able to clear two additional segments of the river that were not included in the original budget or plan. Finally, Natural Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS) received \$30,000 from the Division of Water Resources to complete the Walker River dredging project, DEM continued to work with local leaders to identify additional funding, and various volunteer organizations pitched in as well, with 23 students from Yerington High School working in March of 2016 to plant trees in three spots along the Walker River.

In December, DEM was informed that the County Commission would be considering a resolution to close out the declaration at their December 17, 2015 meeting. At that meeting, the manager of the DEM Grants, Mitigation, and Recovery presented on state activities during the declaration. At that meeting, it was determined that the original scope of work for the project is complete.

Nye County Flash Flooding and Industrial Fire October 18, 2015

On Sunday, October 18, 2015, the Nevada Division of Emergency Management was requested to assist Nye County during a fire at the U.S. Ecology Waste Plant located approximately 11 miles outside of Beatty, Nevada on U.S. 95 (Incident #10192010-119), as well as in response to flash flooding in the area that resulted in road closures (Incident #10192010-120). Nye County declared two emergencies for the flooding and the fire and Governor Sandoval declared two state emergencies for the same incidents. Later, the Governor also signed an amended declaration to ensure that roadwork in Esmeralda County could receive federal support as well.

The fire started in a trench which contained a wide variety of materials placed there decades prior, and there was some indication the trench contained low-level radioactive materials. DEM activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Emergency Support Functions from DHHS (Radiation Control), NDEP, and NDOT in order to coordinate the deployment of various resources to the site for air testing, traffic control, infrastructure repair, and to otherwise assist Nye County Emergency Management and the Nye County Sheriff's Office. While the SEOC remained activated, DEM Southern Nevada Field Office staff deployed as State Liaison to Nye County's Emergency Operations Center as a result of both events. Liaison support was continuous from Sunday to Monday, and included coordinating resource requests, assisting with WebEOC access, and supporting the Nye County Emergency Operations Center. Local PIO support was also provided by the liaison team.

Resource coordination for both the fire and the flood included resources from local, state, and federal entities. Deputies from the Nye County Sheriff's Office deployed to control traffic and conduct rescues from the floods, as well as other law enforcement efforts; the Department of Transportation and the Nevada Highway Patrol assisted in road closures and ongoing assessments of road conditions; and others participated as well. With respect to the fire, local, state, and federal resources were deployed to determine what materials were burning, and what the threat to the neighboring residents would be. These assessments were conducted by fixed-wing and rotary wing flyovers conducted by the Department of Energy's Remote Sensing Laboratory, and a ground team consisting of the Nevada National Guard Civil Support Team, the Las Vegas, all-hazard ARMOR response unit, and Remote Sensing Laboratory as well. Preliminary results from all of the tests showed negative readings for radioactive material.

Throughout the incident, DEM coordinated public outreach efforts as well, though much of it was handled through the Governor's Office and at the county level during the response phase. DEM was also able to provide or coordinate regular updates to the Nevada federal delegation, state legislators, the Governor and the Governor's Office, the Director of the Department of Public Safety, the State Fire Marshal, and other key officials. Information sharing was central to most of the After Action Review comments, referring to both internal and external communications, and DEM is developing ways to improve in future training, exercises, and incidents.

Following the response phase of the Nye County industrial fire and the flash flooding events, the State of Nevada moved into an investigation phase. With the roads reopened and assets redeployed, a team of investigators from the Department of Health and Human Services (Radiation Control), the State Fire Marshal, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection moved to the U.S. Ecology site to determine the cause of the fire, the contents of the trench, and recovery efforts going forward. The State Fire Marshal published his final report in December of 2015.

From November 2015 through January 2016, key stakeholders from Nye County and the State met weekly to discuss next steps. The intent of these meetings was to ensure that communication was open, that the local communities had relevant information as it became available, and to provide updates on the long-term recovery efforts. In February of 2016, representatives from DEM, the State Fire Marshal, DHHS, and NDEP held town halls with local officials in Amargosa Valley and Beatty to provide a thorough overview of the response and recovery efforts to date.

Finally, on March 15, 2016, DEM assisted the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) in amending Governor Sandoval's October 26, 2015, emergency declaration to include road work in Esmeralda County. This amended declaration allowed the State of Nevada to pursue federal support of approximately \$500,000 from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for damages related to the flash flooding events of October 18, 2015. The declaration was provided to NDOT and forwarded to the FHWA for consideration and resulted in considerable federal funding for the recovery effort.

Carlin Winter Storm November 3-4, 2015

Over Tuesday, November 3, and Wednesday, November 4, 2015, the City of Carlin received eight to ten inches of wet, heavy snow, which caused damage to local infrastructure (Incident # 11042015-126). Specifically, power lines and trees were brought down by the weight of the snow, several small fires started, and emergency responders had difficulty moving due to the snow and debris on the roads. There were no casualties, injuries, or reported problems with pets or animals, but as a result of the storm, power was out to the entire city for a time before Wells Rural Electric was able to restore power for most residents.

In response to the weather incident, local authorities opened a shelter for residents, but no one required that service, so it was closed down within two hours. County road crews cleared debris, first responders went door-to-door to ensure resident safety, an Incident Command Post (ICP) was established at the Carlin Fire Station, and a local church set up a food line to feed volunteers who are helping to clear the debris. The City of Carlin recognized that they would need further assistance and signed a Declaration on November 6, 2015.

In declaring an emergency, the City of Carlin also requested support from the DEM PIO as well as the deployment of the DEM Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) capability in order to assess damages. Additionally, DEM Fiscal and Administrative staff provided notice to appropriate executive and legislative branch representatives that the City of Carlin could potentially apply for state assistance through Budget Account 1335, the Disaster Relief Account. Finally, DEM's lead planner, Bill Elliott, deployed to assist the ICP in establishing an Incident Action Plan (IAP) and serve as the DEM liaison for this declaration. Following his trip, Elliott also provided an overview of recommendations and measures for the city going forward.

DEM's PDA team consisted of four members and departed on Thursday and returned on Friday. During their time there, they broke into two teams (one focused on homes and businesses and the other on public infrastructure) in order to provide a proper assessment of the damages. The Homes and Businesses Team assessed 17 homes that were damaged, finding that thirteen homes had damage to their electrical systems, main lines sheared off by downed tree limbs and some had their electrical panels pulled out by downed tree limbs. Five homes showed some structural damage such as broken windows, minor roof damage, and a broken door. Most homes had yard and fence damage.

The Public Infrastructure Team found there to be no structural damage to any of the public buildings, however, the cemetery, public park, and fire department all had trees with broken limbs that needed to be cut down and disposed of. Much of the debris removal was conducted immediately following the weather event, with much of it being hauled to a yard near the public works. The team found that there was a large amount of debris that needs to be chipped and hauled off from the yard, with many homeowners have moved their debris to the roadway and the city is using Nevada Division of Forestry Hand Crews to breakdown the limbs.

Immediately following the storm, City leadership worked to identify and compile costs and damages. In the weeks and months that followed, DEM members from all sections worked with the City of Carlin to determine pre-disaster costs of the damaged storm areas, determining an estimated cost of event recovery of \$398,000.00. Later, it was determined that the City of Carlin would not submit a request to the Disaster Relief Account but rather absorb costs locally.

As of April 22, 2016, Carlin had made progress on chipping the pile (over 100,000 cubic yards) of vegetative debris caused by the winter storm.

Las Vegas New Year's Eve Declaration December 31, 2015

Beginning in October of 2015, various entities within Clark County began requesting additional resources from the State of Nevada in support of their efforts to protect Nevada's residents and visitors during the New Year's Eve celebration.

These requests were made by the Clark County Emergency Manager, the Director of McCarran International Airport, and the Sheriff of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police. While the initial request was for 24 Nevada National Guard (NNG) personnel to support the Sheriff and 44 to support the airport, and additional 100 troops were requested by the Clark County Emergency Manager to address the County's evolving needs to support first responders with necessary resources that were not available locally.

NRS 414.135 establishes the Emergency Assistance Account (EAA), to be administered by the Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Management (DEM). This fund is supported by an annual transfer of interest earned from the Disaster Relief Account, not to exceed \$500,000. In its role as the administrator of the EAA, DEM must approve in advance all expenditures for the following purposes: providing supplemental emergency assistance to state and local governments affected by natural, technological, or man-made emergencies or disasters in cases where state and local resources are exhausted; paying actual expenses incurred by DEM for administration during emergencies or disasters; and for any other purpose authorized by the Legislature. In order to fulfill the requirements of NRS 414.135, DEM is required to adopt regulations to administer the EAA and to provide for reimbursement of expenditures from the EAA.

Further, NRS 414.0335 and NRS 414.0345 define "disaster" and "emergency," respectively, in the following ways:

A disaster is "an occurrence or threatened occurrence for which, in the determination of the Governor, the assistance of the Federal Government is needed to supplement the efforts and capabilities of state agencies to save lives, protect property and protect the health and safety of persons in this state, or to avert the threat of damage to property or injury to or the death of persons in this state." An emergency is "an occurrence or threatened occurrence for which, in the determination of the Governor, the assistance of state agencies is needed to supplement the efforts and capabilities of political subdivisions to save lives, protect property and protect the health and safety of persons in this state, or to avert the threat of damage to property or injury to or the death of persons in this state."

Pursuant to NRS 414, NAC 414 establishes DEM's regulations for the administration of the EAA. NAC 414.100 states that the EAA must be expended to provide supplemental emergency assistance to the state or to its political subdivisions that are severely and adversely affected by emergencies or disasters, actual expenses related to DEM's response to support state and local entities, and to reimburse state agencies that have contributed financial assistance or payments for the deployment of physical resources for costs exceeding their budgetary capabilities. NAC 414.105 states that a written application for assistance from the EAA must be submitted to DEM within 30 days of the determination of an emergency or disaster for a county and within 45 days for a city. That written application must include:

- A copy of the declaration of emergency or disaster.
- Any official report of a governmental entity concerning any actual or potential threat to the life, health, safety or property of persons in this state.
- Any professional reports or certifications supporting the existence of an emergency or disaster.
- Any preliminary damage assessment conducted by state officials or by a local preliminary damage assessment team.
- A full disclosure of the financial records of the applicant for a determination of the financial need of the applicant by the Division.
- A certification that the existing financial or physical resources of the applicant are insufficient and no other funding sources are available to support all the estimated costs in providing a satisfactory remedy to the emergency or disaster.
- A certification that all other available resources have been exhausted, including, without limitation, inter-local agreements, mutual aid agreements and private resources.
- A description of all the projects to be paid, in whole or in part, by any allocation from the Emergency Assistance Account.

The threat environment surrounding New Years Eve around the world was complex, especially given recent attacks in San Bernardino, California and Paris, France. Las Vegas, Nevada expected over 300,000 visitors to the Strip and outlying areas over the celebration, and other recent events suggested additional vulnerabilities in the area. Given this landscape, Governor Sandoval signed an emergency declaration in order to ensure that the State of Nevada was able to provide the necessary resources from the EAA and the NNG to prevent or respond to an emergency in the area.

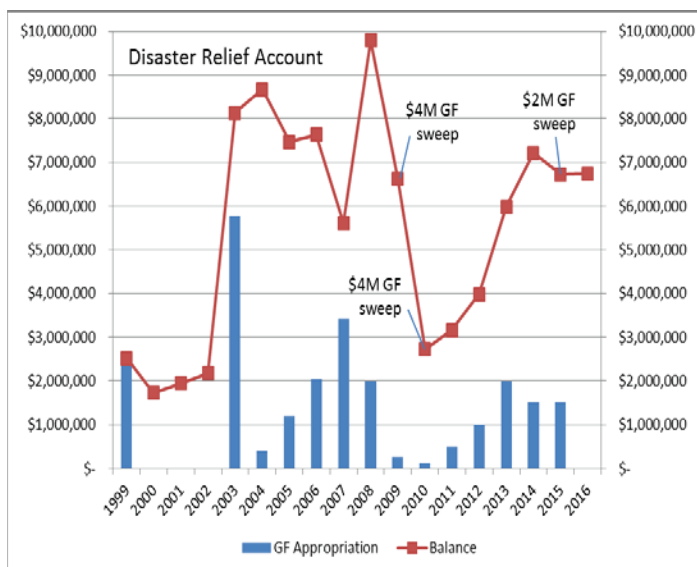
Disaster Relief Account

The Disaster Relief Account (DRA) was created during the 1997 Legislative Session and was subsequently incorporated into law as Nevada Revised Statute, Chapter 353.2705-2771. The account is administered by the Legislative Interim Finance Committee and requires submission of requests for assistance from the fund to the State Board of Examiners for recommendation to the Interim Finance Committee.

The DRA is intended to assist state agencies and local government with grants/loans when necessary to assist with emergency/disaster related costs exceeding the financial capabilities of the applicant and may also be applied for to assist with match requirements that are a condition for receipt of federal disaster assistance funds.

DEM is responsible for facilitating the State emergency declaration process. As part of the emergency declaration process, DEM may provide resources (technical assistance teams) to assist local jurisdictions with preliminary damage assessments, which assist in the determination of their amount of damages. DEM is responsible for the processes and procedures associated with the DRA as well as assisting jurisdictions navigate the various federal, public, and individual assistance programs.

The charts show the historical balances of the DRA. The account is funded periodically through a direct Legislative appropriation averaging approximately \$1.5 million per State Fiscal Year. However, there have also been several sweeps of the account over the years; most notably in 2009 and 2010 when the State made adjustments as a result of the economic downturn, and another sweep as recent as 2015. Interest income over the life of the account has averaged approximately \$230,000 per State Fiscal Year; but, this amount has decreased drastically over the most recent years, averaging only about \$20,000 in interest income per State Fiscal Year from 2010 to 2015. The amount of interest income that the account generates is significant because, the interest income earned is transferred annually to the Emergency Assistance Account which is administered by DEM in accordance with NRS 414.135.



Disaster Relief Account		
SFY	GF Appropriation	Ending Balance
1999	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 2,515,428.00
2000	\$ -	\$ 1,732,628.81
2001	\$ -	\$ 1,944,299.18
2002	\$ -	\$ 2,171,804.95
2003	\$ 5,772,144.55	\$ 8,131,640.52
2004	\$ 402,291.00	\$ 8,670,672.97
2005	\$ 1,205,686.16	\$ 7,466,142.83
2006	\$ 2,043,219.00	\$ 7,631,057.02
2007	\$ 3,427,042.00	\$ 5,613,835.15
2008	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 9,791,288.31
2009	\$ 253,006.40	\$ 6,616,777.72
2010	\$ 126,503.20	\$ 2,716,990.83
2011	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 3,158,121.83
2012	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 3,981,893.63
2013	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 5,989,129.02
2014	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 7,208,510.45
2015	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 6,720,753.30
2016	\$ -	\$ 6,743,818.23 *

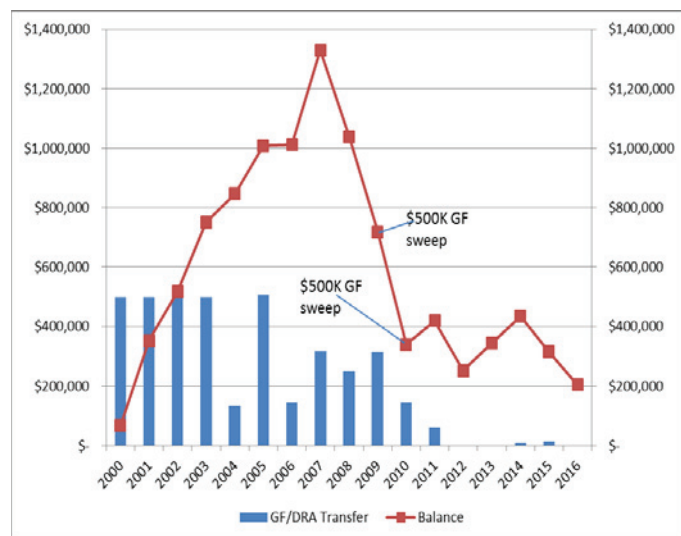
* Balance as of May 25, 2016

Emergency Assistance Account (EAA)

The Emergency Assistance Account (EAA) was created during the 1997 Legislative Session as a sub-account within the Disaster Relief Account, and was subsequently incorporated into law as Nevada Revised Statute, Chapter 414.135. In addition, regulations were developed and adopted into Nevada Administrative Code, Chapter 414. NRS 414 establishes the division, and provides DEM with the authority to administer the EAA.

The funds in this account are to be used to provide supplemental emergency assistance to state and local governments that are severely and adversely affected by a natural, technological or man-made disaster. The EAA can provide small grants to state agencies and local government when necessary to assist with emergency/disaster costs exceeding the financial capabilities of the applicant. Additionally, these funds are available to assist DEM with the administrative costs associated with administering an emergency/disaster.

The charts below show the historical balances of the EAA. The account is funded annually through a transfer of the interest income from the DRA. Interest transfers over the life of the account have averaged approximately \$230,000 per State Fiscal Year; but, this amount has decreased drastically over the most recent years, averaging only about \$20,000 in interest income per State Fiscal Year from 2011 to 2016. And similar to the DRA, the EAA also had sweeps from the account in 2009 and 2010. The sweeps coupled with the reduced interest transfers have left the balance at the lowest level since creation of the account. This greatly limits the state's ability to respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters throughout the state for the foreseeable future.



Emergency Assistance Account		
SFY	Transfer from DRA	Ending Balance
2000	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 66,517.79
2001	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 353,148.55
2002	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 517,234.60
2003	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 750,523.53
2004	\$ 134,097.00	\$ 847,304.87
2005	\$ 506,913.24	\$ 1,008,072.85
2006	\$ 144,696.91	\$ 1,012,298.34
2007	\$ 317,382.93	\$ 1,329,680.93
2008	\$ 249,170.08	\$ 1,037,749.78
2009	\$ 314,891.52	\$ 717,884.62
2010	\$ 143,984.84	\$ 340,129.72
2011	\$ 60,478.47	\$ 419,576.39
2012	\$ 1,609.30	\$ 252,353.15
2013	\$ 1,308.74	\$ 344,887.43
2014	\$ 8,544.76	\$ 434,925.43
2015	\$ 15,709.21	\$ 315,248.16
2016	\$ pending	\$ 204,752.17 *

* Balance as of May 25, 2016

Disaster Relief Account and Emergency Assistance Account Regulations Changes

DEM made changes to the regulations for both the DRA and the EAA during this fiscal year. Going through the state rulemaking process, DEM established the initial regulations for the DRA and made minor amendments to the regulations for the EAA. The updated DRA regulations can be found in APPENDIX A, and the updated EAA regulations can be found in APPENDIX B.

Appendix A

Regulations for the Disaster Relief Account

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

LCB File No. R047-16

Effective June 28, 2016

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 353.2753.

A REGULATION relating to disaster relief; setting forth the requirements for a certain report of damages prepared by the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety to prescribe by regulation the information that must be included in a report of damages prepared by the Division upon the request by a state agency or local government for an assessment by the Division of the damages related to an event for which the state agency or local government seeks a grant or loan from the Disaster Relief Account. (NRS 353.2753) This regulation sets forth the requirements for such a report.

Section 1. Chapter 353 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A written report prepared by the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety pursuant to NRS 353.2753 will set forth, without limitation:

1. A description of:
 - (a) The event resulting in damage, including, without limitation:
 - (1) The location of the event;
 - (2) Each state agency or local government affected by the event;

(3) Any resources requested and used by the state agency or local government affected by the event; and

(4) Any declarations requested by the state agency or local government affected by the event and an indication of any such declarations which have been approved, signed or provided.

(b) Any damage caused by the event to public infrastructure, including, without limitation, information relating to:

(1) Roads and bridges;

(2) Water control facilities;

(3) Public buildings and equipment;

(4) Utilities; and

(5) Public land, including, without limitation, parks and recreation areas.

(c) Any damage caused by the event to homes, businesses and other privately owned land and structures.

(d) Any responses by the state agency or local government to the event and any resulting damages, including, without limitation:

(1) Debris removal; and

(2) Emergency protection measures.

(e) Any other assistance requested by the state agency or local government affected by the event, including, without limitation, whether such assistance is granted and the nature and value of such assistance.

2. An itemized list of the estimated monetary value of:

(a) Any damage listed pursuant to paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection 1;

(b) Any cost of responses by a state agency or local government listed pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection 1; and

(c) Any cost to repair damaged public infrastructure and public land.

3. The purpose of each proposed eligible project submitted to the Division by a state agency or local government related to the event, including, without limitation:

(a) Repair;

(b) Replacement;

(c) Emergency response; or

(d) Mitigation.

Appendix B

Regulations for the Emergency Assistance Account

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

LCB File No. R046-16

Effective June 28, 2016

AUTHORITY: §§1-3, NRS 414.135.

A REGULATION relating to the Emergency Assistance Account; revising the requirements for an application for an allocation from the Account; revising provisions relating to the appointment of a preliminary damage assessment team by the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety to administer the Emergency Assistance Account to pay for certain projects and expenses incurred by the State or local governments in this State resulting from certain emergencies or disasters. (NRS 414.135) **Section 1** of this regulation revises the definition of “project” for the purposes of requesting money from the Account to include efforts to provide preparations for an emergency or disaster. Existing regulations require an application for an allocation from the Account to include a copy of the declaration of emergency or disaster. (NAC 414.105) **Section 2** of this regulation provides that, if such a declaration is not available at the time of the application, the applicant may instead provide a detailed explanation of the emergency or disaster.

Existing regulations require the Division to appoint a preliminary damage assessment team if the applicant for an allocation from the Account is a state agency and a preliminary damage assessment team has not been deployed before the application is made. (NAC 414.110) **Section 3** of this regulation provides that the Division must first determine if appointment of a damage assessment team is appropriate, and then only appoint such a team if the Division determines it would be appropriate to do so. **Section 2** makes a conforming change regarding the deployment of such a preliminary damage assessment team.

Section 1. NAC 414.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:

414.045 “Project” means any effort to provide satisfactory preparations for or a satisfactory remedy to a natural, technological or human-caused emergency or disaster.

Sec. 2. NAC 414.105 is hereby amended to read as follows:

414.105 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a state agency or political subdivision that seeks assistance from the Emergency Assistance Account for an emergency or disaster must submit, in writing, an application for assistance to the Division in accordance with the requirements for the application set forth in this section.

2. A state agency or county submitting an application for assistance from the Emergency Assistance Account must submit the application for assistance directly to the Division.

3. Before a city may submit an application to the Division for assistance from the Emergency Assistance Account, the city must apply for any available assistance from the county in which the city is located.

4. An application for assistance from the Emergency Assistance Account for an emergency or disaster must be received by the Division:

(a) Within 30 days after the determination of an emergency or disaster, if the applicant is a state agency or county; or

(b) Within 45 days after the determination of an emergency or disaster, if the applicant is a city.

5. Each application for assistance from the Emergency Assistance Account must include the following:

(a) A copy of the declaration of emergency or disaster or, if such a declaration is not available, a detailed explanation of the emergency or disaster.

(b) Any official report of a governmental entity concerning any actual or potential threat to the life, health, safety or property of persons in this state.

(c) Any professional reports or certifications supporting the existence of an emergency or disaster.

(d) Any preliminary damage assessment conducted:

(1) If the applicant is a state agency, by officials of the agency and a preliminary damage assessment team deployed by the Division , if any, to arrive at a consensus pertaining to the preliminary damage assessment; or

(2) If the applicant is a political subdivision, by a preliminary damage assessment team.

(e) A full disclosure of the financial records of the applicant for a determination of the financial need of the applicant by the Division.

(f) A certification that the existing financial or physical resources of the applicant are insufficient and no other funding sources are available to support all the estimated costs in providing a satisfactory remedy to the emergency or disaster. Such a certification from a state agency must be submitted by the Budget Division of the Office of Finance.

(g) A certification that all other available resources have been exhausted, including, without limitation, interlocal agreements, mutual aid agreements and private resources.

(h) A description of all the projects to be paid, in whole or in part, by any allocation from the Emergency Assistance Account.

Sec. 3. NAC 414.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:

414.110 Upon the receipt of an application for assistance from the Emergency Assistance Account, the Division will:

1. Verify the declaration of emergency or disaster if provided with the application.
2. Verify that the emergency or disaster *poses a threat to the life,*
safety, health or property of persons in this state.
3. Review any professional reports or certifications supporting the existence of an
emergency or disaster.
4. If the applicant is a state agency and a preliminary damage assessment team has not been
deployed before application is made, determine if it is appropriate to appoint a preliminary
damage assessment team and, if so, appoint a preliminary damage assessment team to work
with officials from the agency to conduct a preliminary damage assessment.
5. Review the financial records of the applicant for a determination that the applicant has
exhausted or will exhaust the existing financial or physical resources as a result of the emergency
or disaster.
6. Review the certification of financial need submitted by the applicant.
7. Verify that the applicant has exhausted all other available resources.
8. Review the projects submitted for approval by the Division.

