More Public Meetings Added, Online Option Still Open for Comments on Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire Assistance Act

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SANTA FE, New Mexico – The Hermit's Peak/Canyon Fire Assistance Act provides compensation for those impacted by the fire. Compensation may cover eligible losses, including personal injury, loss of property, business loss or financial loss.

FEMA's Interim Final Rule guides the claims process and describes necessary documentation, evaluation criteria and compensation available for those impacted by the fire and subsequent flooding. The rule also provides additional guidance for appeal rights, arbitration and judicial review.

The Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Claims Office is holding six meetings in the most heavily impacted communities to collect public comments. Each meeting runs from 5:30-7 p.m. MT. Doors open at 5 p.m. so attendees can sign up to speak. Two meetings have already been held in Las Vegas and Mora and each city will host a second meeting. Additional meetings have been added in Peñasco and Angel Fire.

Dec. 15, 2022, 5:30 - 7 p.m. MTOld Memorial Middle School
947 Legion Drive, Las Vegas, NM 87701

Jan. 4, 2023, 5:30 - 7 p.m. MT Peñasco Independent School Complex 13 School Road, Peñasco, NM 87553

Jan. 5, 2023, 5:30 - 7 p.m. MTMora High School



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Jan. 9, 2023, 5:30 - 7 p.m. MT New Mexico Bank & Trust Community Room 1 First National Place Angel Fire, NM 87710

These meetings will include an overview of the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Claims Office Regulations and allow members of the public to provide verbal comments for the record. The meetings will not serve as a forum for questions and answers.

The meetings will be staffed by English and Spanish speakers and American Sign Language interpreters.

Submit Comments Online Through Jan. 13, 2023

In addition to the providing feedback in person at the meetings, the public can also submit comments online. The public comment period of 60 days, which started Nov. 14, runs through Jan. 13, 2023.

To submit a comment online, go to <u>regulations.gov/document/FEMA-2022-0037-0001</u> and click the word "Comment" in the box on the left at the top of the page. To review all Federal Notices about the Act, visit <u>regulations.gov/</u> and then put **FEMA-2022-0037** in the search bar at the middle of the top of the page to find all notices by the docket number.

For step-by-step instructions on submitting comments in-person or online, visit fema.gov/hermits-peak and go to the Resources section.

About the Hermit's Peak Fire Assistance Act: On Sept. 30, President Joe Biden signed the Hermit's Peak Fire Assistance Act that provides \$2.5 billion to compensate New Mexicans and Tribal Nations impacted by the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire. The funding may cover eligible loss including personal injury, loss of property, business loss or financial loss. For more information, visit fema.gov/hermits-peak. For information in Spanish, visit fema.gov/es/hermits-peak

