

Preliminary Damage Assessment Report

South Dakota –Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, and Flooding FEMA-4440-DR

Declared June 7, 2019

On May 21, 2019, Governor Kristi L. Noem requested a major disaster declaration due to a severe winter storm, snowstorm, and flooding during the period of March 13 to April 26, 2019. The Governor requested a declaration for Individual Assistance for 16 counties and 3 tribes, Public Assistance for 58 counties and 3 tribes, snow assistance for 12 counties, and Hazard Mitigation statewide. During the period of May 6-18, 2019, joint federal, state, tribal, and local government Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted in the requested areas and are summarized below. PDAs estimate damages immediately after an event and are considered, along with several other factors, in determining whether a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and the affected local governments, and that Federal assistance is necessary.¹

On June 7, 2019, President Trump declared that a major disaster exists in the State of South Dakota. This declaration made Individual Assistance requested by the Governor available to affected individuals and households in Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Hutchinson, Minnehaha, and Yankton Counties; the Pine Ridge Reservation to include the counties of Oglala Lakota, Jackson, and Bennett; the Rosebud Reservation to include the counties of Mellette and Todd; and the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation to include the counties of Dewey and Ziebach. This declaration also made Public Assistance requested by the Governor available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe winter storm, snowstorm, and flooding in Aurora, Beadle, Bennett, Bon Homme, Brookings, Brown, Brule, Buffalo, Campbell, Charles Mix, Clark, Clay, Codington, Davison, Day, Deuel, Dewey, Douglas, Edmunds, Fall River, Faulk, Grant, Gregory, Hamlin, Hand, Hanson, Hughes, Hutchinson, Hyde, Jackson, Jerauld, Jones, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, Lyman, Marshall, McCook, McPherson, Mellette, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Oglala Lakota, Pennington, Perkins, Potter, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Sully, Todd, Tripp, Turner, Union, Walworth, Yankton, and Ziebach Counties; and the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation, the Lake Traverse Reservation, and the Rosebud Reservation. Furthermore, this declaration authorized snow assistance for a period of 48 hours for the counties of Beadle, Brookings, Clark, Codington, Deuel, Edmunds, Hamlin, Hyde, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Mellette, and Potter. Finally, this declaration made Hazard Mitigation Grant Program assistance requested by the Governor available for hazard mitigation measures statewide.²

Summary of Damage Assessment Information Used in Determining Whether to Declare a Major Disaster

Individual Assistance

- Total Number of Residences Impacted:³ 128
 - Destroyed - 10
 - Major Damage - 74
 - Minor Damage - 35
 - Affected - 9

- Percentage of insured residences:⁴ 4.0%
- Percentage of low income households:⁵ 25.0%
- Percentage of ownership households:⁶ 71.0%
- Total Individual Assistance cost estimate: \$2,898,144

Public Assistance

- Primary Impact: Damage to roads and bridges
- Total Public Assistance cost estimate: \$42,837,890
- Statewide per capita impact:⁷ \$52.62
- Statewide per capita impact indicator:⁸ \$1.50
- Countywide per capita impact: Aurora County (\$154.20), Beadle County (\$6.68), Bennett County (\$41.56), Bon Homme County (\$210.43), Brookings County (\$5.36), Brown County (\$20.95), Brule County (\$25.29), Buffalo County (\$8.90), Campbell County (\$6.61), Charles Mix County (\$35.88), Clark County (\$39.02), Clay County (\$33.13), Codington County (\$17.90), Davison County (\$29.41), Day County (\$18.27), Deuel County (\$33.32), Dewey County (\$37.51), Douglas County (\$171.34), Edmunds County (\$16.13), Fall River County (\$32.55), Faulk County (\$51.21), Grant County (\$10.31), Gregory County (\$322.62), Hamlin County (\$42.26), Hand County (\$241.76), Hanson County (\$48.17), Hughes County (\$20.12), Hutchinson County (\$103.33), Hyde County (\$141.98), Jackson County (\$67.85), Jerauld County (\$121.05), Jones County (\$54.12), Kingsbury County (\$77.33), Lake County (\$284.35), Lincoln County (\$69.36), Lyman County (\$6.80), Marshall County (\$30.77), McCook County (\$170.18), McPherson County (\$28.52), Mellette County (\$48.39), Miner County (\$104.03), Minnehaha County (\$19.15), Moody County (\$168.80), Oglala Lakota County (\$4.87), Pennington (\$5.00) County, Perkins County (\$8.45), Potter County (\$61.07), Roberts County (\$18.82), Sanborn County (\$94.19), Spink County (\$199.74), Sully County (\$132.01), Todd County (\$101.13), Tripp County (\$133.27), Turner County (\$378.42), Union County (\$103.73), Walworth County (\$53.76), Yankton County (\$436.78), and Ziebach County (\$14.28). The costs for the Cheyenne River Reservation are included in the cost estimates for Dewey and Ziebach Counties, costs for the Rosebud Indian Reservation are included in the cost estimates for Todd County, and the costs for the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation are included in the cost estimates for Roberts County.

- Countywide per capita impact indicator:⁹ \$3.78

¹ The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) process is a mechanism used to determine the impact and magnitude of damage and resulting needs of individuals, businesses, public sector, and community as a whole. Information collected is used by the State as a basis for the Governor’s request for a major disaster or emergency declaration, and by the President in determining a response to the Governor’s request (44 CFR § 206.33).

² When a Governor’s request for major disaster assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (Stafford Act) is under review, a number of primary factors are considered to determine whether assistance is warranted. These factors are outlined in FEMA’s regulations (44 CFR § 206.48). The President has ultimate discretion and decision making authority to declare major disasters and emergencies under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5170 and § 5191).

³ Degree of damage to impacted residences:

- Destroyed – total loss of structure, structure is not economically feasible to repair, or complete failure to major structural components (e.g., collapse of basement walls/foundation, walls or roof);
- Major Damage – substantial failure to structural elements of residence (e.g., walls, floors, foundation), or damage that will take more than 30 days to repair;
- Minor Damage – home is damaged and uninhabitable, but may be made habitable in short period of time with repairs; and
- Affected – some damage to the structure and contents, but still habitable.

⁴ By law, Federal disaster assistance cannot duplicate insurance coverage. 42 U.S.C. § 5155 and 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(5).

⁵ Special populations, such as low-income, the elderly, or the unemployed may indicate a greater need for assistance. 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(3).

⁶ Ibid. 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(3).

⁷ Based on State population in the 2010 Census.

⁸ Statewide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY19, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2018.

⁹ Countywide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY19, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2018.