



The Navajo Nation
Commission on Emergency Management



Resolution No. CEM 25-009

RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION
COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**DECLARING A LOCALIZED STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE NORTHERN
AGENCY CHAPTERS DUE TO THE CURRENT AND SUBSEQUENT IMPACTS OF
MONSOON RAINFALL AND FLASH FLOODING CREATING POTENTIAL PUBLIC
HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS**

WHEREAS:

1. The Navajo Nation Council established the Commission on Emergency Management, 2 N.N.C. §881. The Commission is authorized to assess, verify, recommend, and declare states of emergency with the concurrence of the Navajo Nation President, 2 N.N.C. §884 (B)(1); and
2. The Commission in conjunction with the Department of Emergency Management is empowered to coordinate emergency and disaster relief services by Navajo Nation and non-tribal entities and to recommend and deploy appropriate resources regarding natural and man-made emergencies, 2 N.N.C. §883 (A) and (C); and
3. The Commission on Emergency Management may seek assistance from federal, state, and other tribal governments, and local and private agencies to address emergency and disaster related situations, 2 N.N.C. §884 (B)(2); and
4. The San Juan Chapter provided a Chapter Resolution (SANJ-2025-67) and a visual and observation assessment report and submitted a situation report of severe damage because of heavy monsoon rainfall and flash flooding that occurred on August 26, 2025. The Tse Daa K'aaan Chapter provided a Chapter Resolution (TDK-2509-01) declaring a localized emergency of severe damage because of heavy monsoon rainfall and flash flooding that occurred on August 26, 2025 & September 13, 2025. The San Juan and Tse Daa K'aaan Chapter will work with the Département of Emergency Management to obtain an evaluation of the situation; and
5. Chapter leadership, together with Council Delegate Rickie Nez, conducted a visual assessment and determined there are significant road washouts, crop field damages, and irrigation systems filled with river rocks and debris, posing a risk to public safety, agricultural livelihood, and essential transportation; and
6. The flooding and heavy mud erosion have compromised critical roadways, making access to homes, farmlands, and chapter facilities unsafe, and leaving the community in need of immediate support and emergency assistance; and
7. The response to flooding incidents has exceeded the local chapter capabilities of the San Juan Chapter to address locally, requiring assistance from Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT), the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), the Bureau of Indian Affairs

(BIA), the Navajo Department of Water Resources, and the Navajo Department of Agriculture, as well as support from neighboring counties and state agencies; and


8. There is an urgent need to recover from flash flood by mobilizing emergency resources from the flash flood, including road clearance, debris removal, irrigation canal restoration, crop protection, and protective measures to mitigate further damage; and
9. The Navajo Nation is recommended to expedite and finalize Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) with local counties, state agencies, and other partners to strengthen emergency support at the chapter level, specifically the pending MOU with San Juan County to ensure county-level assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management hereby declares a Localized Emergency Declaration for Northern Agency Chapters due to damage caused by flash flooding and heavy monsoon rainfall on August 26, 2025, and September 13, 2025. This localized declaration shall remain in effect for 90 days, expiring on December 15, 2025, unless extended by further action of the Commission on Emergency Management.
2. The Northern Agency Chapters Chapter shall have access to its emergency funds to address immediate needs such as clearing and maintaining roads, repairing irrigation systems, and responding to local priorities directly impacted by the flood. The chapters shall provide the Commission on Emergency Management with a report on its emergency response plan within 90 days to review.
3. A comprehensive report of damages, assessments, and response activities shall be submitted to the Commission on Emergency Management by all Northern Agency Chapters, declaring a localized emergency, and all departments involved prior to the expiration date of this declaration.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing declaration was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management in a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstained, this 15th day of September 2025.




Marcarlo Roanhorse, Chairperson
Commission on Emergency Management

Motion: Dariel Yazzie

Second: Johnny Johnson

CONCURRENCE:



Dr. Buu Nygren, President
The Navajo Nation