



Damage Assessment and Disaster Assistance Webinar

An Orientation to Initial
Damage Assessments

| March 13, 2025

Emergency Management Cooperative

www.washingtoncountyor.gov



Introductions

Instructor Team

- **Facilitator:** John Wheeler, Washington County Emergency Management/Emergency Management Cooperative
- **Presenter:** Cam Lessey, Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) Public Assistance Program Representative
- **SMEs/Q&A Support:**
 - Courtney Yan, EMC Emergency Management Coordinator / Recovery Lead
 - Dan Gwin, OEM State Public Assistance Officer

→ About this webinar

- Follow up from the January 2024 Winter Storm
- Part of ongoing recovery planning initiative
 - Washington County Recovery Framework completed in April 2024
- Continued effort to organize CBOs in preparing for response and recovery: Disaster Services Network
- Success in post-disaster cost recovery depends on preparedness
- Attendees: County, cities, utilities (water, power), private nonprofits, healthcare, special districts (fire/EMS, parks), ORS 190 (WCCCA), state agencies
- Presentation and recording shared following the webinar
- Ask questions in the chat

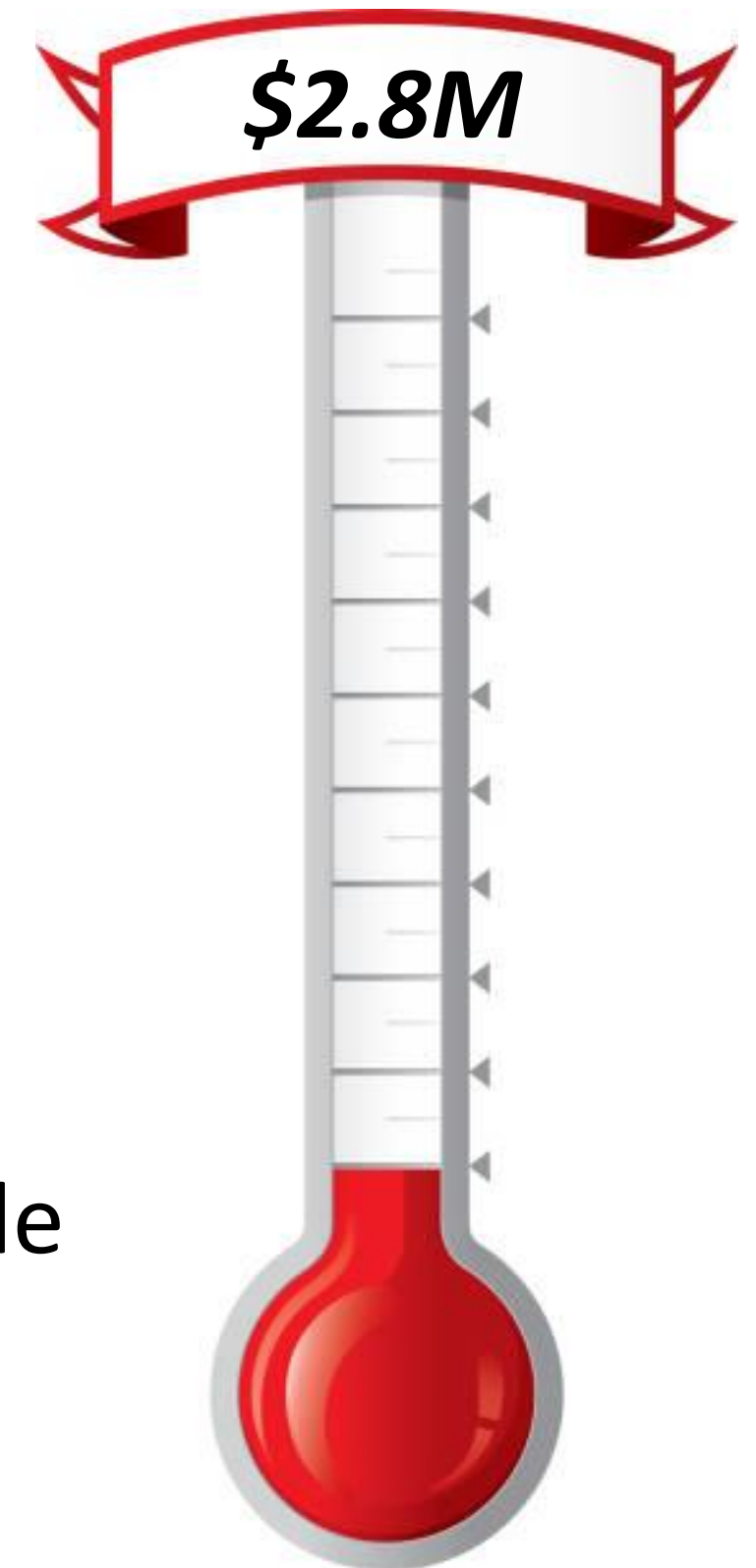
Damage Assessment and Disaster Assistance Webinar

Orientation to Initial Damage Assessments

Cam Lessey, Public Assistance Program Representative
Oregon Department of Emergency Management

→ Washington County IDA Process

- Washington County Emergency Management's role:
 - Work with partners to determine participation in IDA
 - Gather IDA data and submit complete package by deadline
 - Coordinate countywide participation in the PDA
- Local determination to proceed with initial damage assessment
 - Typically starts with a state data call
 - Based on informal assessment of impacts
 - Please self-report significant damages/costs to us
- Will distribute OEM's IDA Data Collection Form to all eligible entities *that we have contact information for*
- May offer an orientation webinar and office hours





Washington County IDA Process

- Who is your IDA lead?
- Could be leader/executive, CFO, facilities, public works, emergency manager, finance/admin staff, grants manager, or other
- Report IDA points of contact to WCEM:
 - <https://forms.office.com/g/22WhR2qNCT>
 - Recommend at least a primary and alternate contact
 - Form closes March 31
 - Will update annually



Cost Tracking: Washington County Example

1. All costs associated with incident response and recovery are segregated from routine costs, irrespective of FEMA PA eligibility
2. Departments track all personnel time and materials and services costs to one of two reporting categories (RC):
 - RC for emergency operations costs
 - RC for finance and administration costs
3. When County is included in presidential declaration, Finance Department analyzes costs in these RCs and transfers confirmed PA eligible costs to two new categories
4. A preliminary assessment can be used for IDA
5. Departments aren't required to make eligibility determination
6. Provides total incident cost
7. Some departments have custom cost-tracking systems using project-based accounting



Thank you for attending!

- Report IDA points of contact to:
 - <https://forms.office.com/g/22WhR2qNCT>
 - Form closes March 31
- Questions and Follow up
 - John Wheeler, WCEM/EMC
john_wheeler@washingtoncountyor.gov / (503) 846-7581
 - Cam Lessey, OEM
cam.lessey@oem.oregon.gov
 - Courtney Yan, EMC – *Contact about the Disaster Services Network!*
courtney_yan@washingtoncountyor.gov



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