

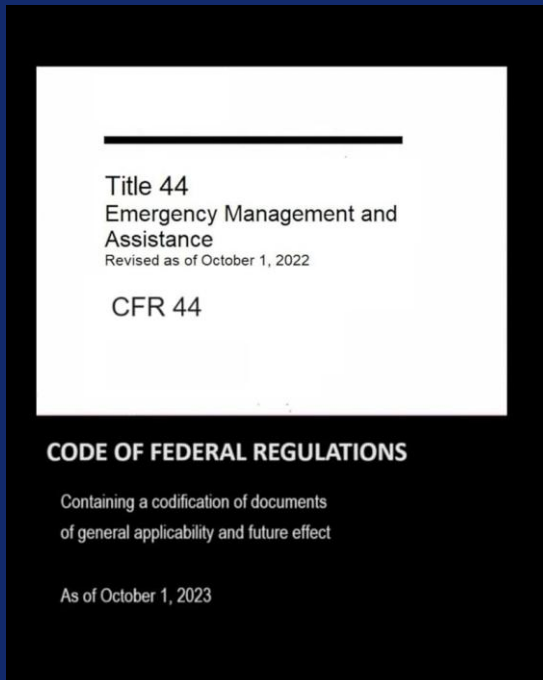
2026 Water Leaders Workshop – Post-Fire Cascading Impacts What we have learned

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Prepare. Prevent. Protect.

GAPS IN CROSS-AGENCY RESOURCE DEPLOYMENT & INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

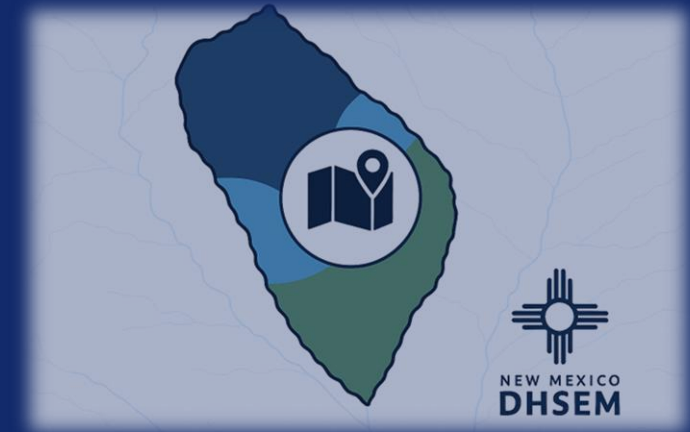


- Recurrence periods are shrinking, cascading impacts are becoming the norm-***Reality is that large – scale wildfire events will continue to increase in frequency, intensity and scale***
- Program limitations and lag-time for Federal Declaration Requests-***Limits in funding and what we can and cannot do; federal emergency frameworks under 44 CFR, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Clean Water Act were never designed for this reality.***
- Federal programs are not structured to address cascading impacts inherent to the post-fire landscape – ***Fire and Water don't adhere to jurisdictional boundaries where wildfires contaminate every tier of the water supply chain simultaneously.***
- Lack of capacity, funding, and authority – ***Shifts in Federal Funding require changes at the State level***

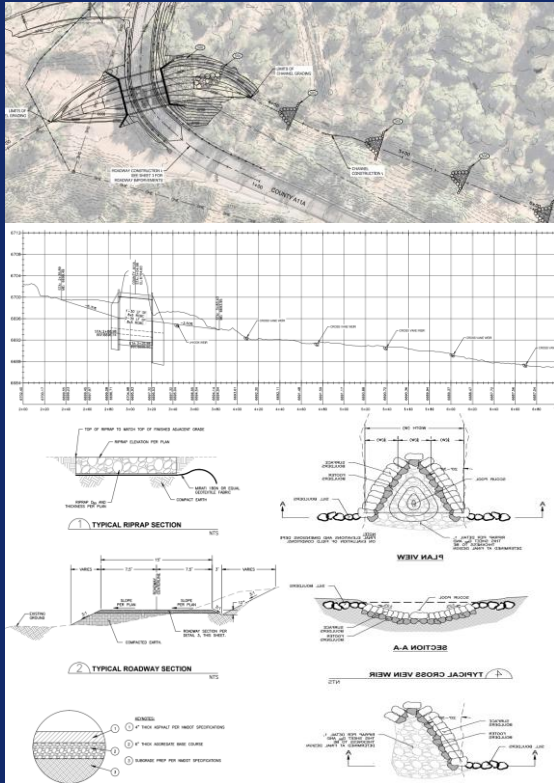


Coordinating cross-cutting topics on a Common Operating Picture map unifies all phases of the disaster cycle

- Multi-jurisdictional overlap and coordination
- Shared damage assessment platforms & geospatial data alignment
- Data governance and structured response-to-recovery data transition
- Reduction of duplicated and static datasets, consistent project tracking
- Tribal consultation protocols & sovereign coordination pathways
- Data sharing agreements, controlled access, anonymization methods



APPROACHES TO ADDRESS GAPS



- An immediate reorganization of how wildfires are managed, funded, and executed - ***We have to coordinate better, across agencies, across authorities, across jurisdictions***
- Establishment of a holistic post-fire program to cooperatively assist with recovery after wildfires burn in these areas by leveraging subject matter experts - ***Sustained support from a state network of practitioners***
- Coordination will provide technical assistance for local leaders to inform decision makings, and standardize localized reporting frameworks to capture gaps missed by national protocols and inform state leadership earlier in the recovery process



The Future of Post-Fire Recovery

DHSEM is proposing to establish a Post-Fire Program that will unite federal, state, tribal, local, academic, and non-governmental partners under a coordinated framework to build state-level expertise, engage communities, and deliver holistic, long-term fire recovery and mitigation solutions across New Mexico



Questions and Contacts

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