



COLORADO

Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Department of Public Safety

Mitigation and Recovery Program Report

December 3, 2014

DHSEM is coordinating the following mitigation and recovery efforts with government, private-nonprofit organization, and other critical partners.



Rock debris from construction blasting along Highway 36 in March 2014 north of Lyons was donated to a number of municipalities to use for their stream bank stabilization projects under the Emergency Watershed Protection grant program.

Economic and Community Recovery

Program	USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP)
Lead State Agency	DHSEM
DHSEM POC	Olivia Stinson, Recovery Specialist - Planning
Guidance	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/

Program Update

NRCS/EWP Grant Program nearing Completion and Close Out

The National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) grants were initiated immediately after the September 2013 Front Range floods. Grant funds were made available for exigent work in the stream corridors and watershed areas for emergency stabilization. Originally, grants were made to eleven flood-affected jurisdictions for both construction and technical and design assistance.

While NRCS grants are typically made directly to local jurisdictions, in this case the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management acted as the state sponsor for the program. The first grant agreements were signed on September 24, 2013.

The grant shares were 75% federal funds, 12.5% state funds, and 12.5% the local jurisdiction. The towns of Jamestown, Estes Park and Lyons were recipients of a rock material donation from rock available as a result of the blasting for the construction and repairs of Highway 36 between Lyons and Estes Park. The Colorado Department of Transportation donated approximately \$306,557 in rock material and hauling costs to these three municipalities to be used for the EWP program work.



Boulder County, El Paso County, City of Colorado Springs, Town of Jamestown, Town of Lyons, Town of Estes Park, Jefferson Conservation District, Larimer County and City of Evans participated in this program and are projected to receive a combined total of \$8,517,445 in reimbursements for watershed recovery and protection. The last construction work eligible under the grant program was completed on October 30, 2014. DHSEM will formally close out the grant program with the grantees by December 14, 2014. DHSEM will be working concurrently to close out its parent grant agreement with NRCS by the end of January 2015.

Photo above is the completed Emergency Watershed Protection grant program project along Little James Creek in Jamestown in July 2014 showing new drop structures and rip rap along the banks using the Highway 36 donated rock.

Hazard Mitigation

Program	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
Lead State Agency	DHSEM
DHSEM POC	Scott Baldwin, Mitigation Specialist
Guidance	FEMA HMGP guidance documents may be found at http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program

Program Update

HMGP is open for five disasters: DRs 1762, 4067, 4133, 4134, and 4145.

- The Mitigation team is on track for 100% HMGP application submission to FEMA before the end of the year. Once a final application is sent to FEMA, the application will be reviewed in its entirety within forty-five (45) days and a FEMA Request for Information (RFI) will be communicated to the applicant via DHSEM email.
- Once the FEMA RFI is sent by the State, applicants will have thirty (30) days to reply. **Prompt responses to RFIs are critical; failure to respond thoroughly to these requests will jeopardize FEMA HMGP funding.** Per FEMA HMA guidance:

“Failure to provide requested information by the deadline identified in the request may result in denial...”

- A handful of applicants have not yet responded to the State RFIs which identify deficiencies, missing information and/or revisions necessary for a complete application prior to FEMA submission. We anticipate the State RFI to closely align with the FEMA RFI and provide guidance as to what will likely be requested by FEMA. Failure to respond to the State RFI can cause extended delay in the timely review of applications. **Applicants who have not responded to the State RFI are strongly encouraged to begin working on them immediately.** Please note, not all applicants have received State RFIs, the State is working diligently on application review and RFI creation. Please be patient as we get all remaining RFIs out to applicants.
- **Tip of the Week:** Are you informed? To receive the latest Mitigation information and news visit coemergency.com.

Program Mitigation Planning
Lead State Agency DHSEM
DHSEM POC Patricia Gavelda, Mitigation Planner
Program Update

- The Teller County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update was submitted to FEMA on November 25th after required revisions.
- DHSEM completed its review of the HMP Update for the NE Region (nine counties) and returned it for contractor/local revisions on November 25th.
- DHSEM is currently reviewing three HMP Updates.
- Grand, Ouray, Prowers, and Summit counties are procuring local adoptions.
- Four new HMP Updates are scheduled to be submitted for review this month; additional plan updates are in process.

News from the MARS Crew

- The disaster events of the last few years have created unprecedented needs, challenges and opportunities for the Colorado mitigation and recovery community. DHSEM is currently managing eleven on-going mitigation and recovery programs:
 - CDBG-DR (Community Disaster Block Grants-Disaster Recovery)
 - DCM (Disaster Case Management)
 - FMAP (Flood Mitigation Assistance Program)
 - HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program)
 - HMP (Hazard Mitigation Planning)
 - NRCS-EWPP (Natural Resource Conservation Service-Emergency Watershed Protection Program)
 - PA (Public Assistance)
 - PDM (Pre-Disaster Mitigation)
 - Recovery Planning
 - SDEF (State Disaster Emergency Fund) Recovery Grants
 - SHMP (State Hazard Mitigation Program)
- In order to better support the mitigation and recovery efforts of Colorado communities that are participating in these programs, the MARS team is adding both permanent and two-year personnel:
 - Fourteen people have been recommended to move forward in the Project and Finance queues.
 - There is a tentative schedule to interview candidates for the Deputy State Hazards Mitigation Officer position.

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