

MPC-457

April 1, 2014- July 31, 2017

Project Title:

Tribal Emergency Preparedness Planning

University:

North Dakota State University / Eastern Washington University

Principal Investigators:

Jon Mielke (NDSU)
Program Administrator
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
515 ½ E. Broadway – Suite 101
Bismarck, ND 58501
E-mail: jon.mielke@ndsu.edu
Phone: 701-328-9865

Dick Winchell (EWU)
Professor and Chair
Dept. of Urban Planning, Public and Health Administration
668 N. Riverpoint, Suite A
Spokane, WA 99202
E-mail: dwinchell@ewu.edu
Phone: 509-828-1205
Cell: 509-385-4754

Ashley Murphy (EWU)
Graduate Research Assistant
Urban Planning Programs
668 N. Riverpoint, Suite A
Spokane, WA 99202
E-mail: ashley.murphy@eagles.ewu.edu
or murphy.ashley02@gmail.com
Cell: [509-994-8500](tel:509-994-8500)

Research Needs:

Natural disasters are becoming more severe and more frequent, and because of this both the federal government and states are putting more resources and funding toward emergency management for local governments and for Native American tribal governments. The emergency management cycle flows from: event (disaster), response to

disaster (life saving measures), recovery (rebuilding), mitigation (trying to lessen future disasters' impact), then preparation (planning on how to response for next disaster will be). Each part of the cycle is important; however, the preparedness section is critical for how response and recovery will be done in the future. This, along with the thought that during a disaster it is too late to plan, emergency preparedness planning is a critical issue for Native American tribal governments.

There is a general lack of emergency preparedness planning being done by tribes that then makes response, recovery, and mitigation harder to do well. The truth is that not all emergencies can be handled by tribal governments alone, but like other governments, tribes need assistance beyond their resources which includes planning for future disasters. Federal and state governments and tribes that have gone through emergencies have the knowledge and resources to help those tribes that have not yet become fully involved to create plans based on best practices for response, recovery, and mitigation, along with where to get resources and funding for emergency management.

Research Objectives:

The purpose of this research is to help close the gap in tribal government emergency management by developing a resource workbook and best practices manual in emergency preparedness, developing a training workshop to go along with the materials in the manual for presentation to tribal governments, and putting together a clearing house hub of information of the lessons learned based on emergency planning for Native American tribal governments.

Critical issues to be addressed include:

1. The need for tribes to understand the importance of emergency preparedness planning and the resources available for planning and programs to address those needs;
2. To assess current tribal emergency management plans and programs and identify the tribal needs or gaps in emergency preparedness planning and programs;
3. To identify and describe case studies of tribal emergency planning and operations that have taken place;
4. To create informational resources that address the lack of awareness by all tribes of program resources and knowledge to address disaster planning, programs, and opportunities for mitigation; and
5. To create knowledge exchange and shared information among tribes to better understand emergency preparedness planning and program implementation and address potential lack of coordinated response and recovery by tribes involved in regional disasters.

Research Methods:

The research approach/methodology for this project will begin with research and identification of current federal programs and plans which include, but not limited to, the Emergency Response for Federal Agencies (ERFA), Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO), Program and the Stafford Act under Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and how tribes can best utilize planning and program resources. This effort will also consider current National Incident Management (NIMs) training and FEMA website materials.

The project will access and review existing tribal emergency plans working with tribal governments to find good examples along with gaps within current tribal plans. At least two case studies will be identified and described based on contact, correspondence, interviews, and site visits, if possible, with local tribes to investigate reported emergency situations and tribal responses to emergencies. This will include interviews with tribal police, BIA law enforcement, along with fire departments and EMTs, that have worked on or with reservations in emergency situations to gather firsthand knowledge.

Expected Outcomes:

Research findings will be used to develop a resource workbook and a training presentation for tribes to use as elements of their corresponding comprehensive plan or in each tribe's on-going program planning. The workbook will describe the critical issues, identify current programs and resources, and include best practices that have been identified by both tribes and government agencies (FEMA, EMD, etc.). It will also describe actions that may be taken to reduce the risk of a disaster that includes training and preparation, as well as post analysis of a disaster. The workbook will also include an evaluation of the risks associated with specific disasters (earthquakes, floods, tornados, etc.). The resource workbook and training presentation will be developed, reviewed, and presented to tribes at training workshops.

A training workshop based on the materials developed in the resource workbook will become a technology transfer resource to address tribal needs. This training workshop will later be offered at the National Tribal Transportation Symposium or other similar events, with the resource workbook and training materials distributed to the Tribal Technical Assistance Programs (TTAPs) and Local Technical Assistance Programs (LTAPs) for dissemination and training workshops across their respective regions.

Educational Benefits:

Not Applicable

Work Plan:

	Task	Expected Completion Month
Task 1	Conduct literature review	Month 1
Task 2	Compile list of online and hardcopy resources	Month 1
Task 3	Survey tribes about gaps in emergency management plans / knowledge	Month 2
Task 4	Review existing emergency management plans	Month 2
Task 5	Conduct data and gap analysis	Month 3
Task 6	Compile information into handbook	Month 3
Task 7	Present handbook and draft report	Month 5
Task 8	Final report submitted	Month 6

Total Project Duration: April 2014 through September 2014 (dependent on start date)

Budget:

Expense Item	Requested Funds	Local Match
Research Assistant		
300 hours @ \$15/hr.	\$4,500	
Fringe benefits @ 8%	\$ 360	
Travel		
Site visits	\$2,000	
Regional tribal meeting	\$1,000	
Indirect EWU expenses @ 10%	\$ 786	
NDSU/UGPTI/MPC Overhead & Supervision		<u>\$ 8,646</u>
Subtotals	<u>\$8,646</u>	\$ 8,646

Total Project Cost: \$17,292

TRB Keywords:

Disaster preparation
 Disaster response
 Tribal
 Emergency