

Disaster News You Can Use

March 2023

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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

March 24, 1989 Exxon Valdez

The worst and most notorious oil spill of the 20th century was when the Exxon Valdez tanker hit a reef and spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound on March 24, 1989. Efforts to contain the slick failed and oil spread for 1,300 miles, killing hundreds of thousands of aquatic creatures from ducks to whales. The spill also decimated the local fishing industry, causing an estimated \$2.8 billion in economic loss and costing billions to clean up.





FEMA Administrator Criswell Addresses Tribal Leaders at the National Congress of American Indians

“The bottom line is this, we must find ways to improve nation-to-nation relationships, support tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination,” Administrator Criswell said. “Admittedly, too often in our history, we have failed to understand your nations’ unique needs in disaster response and recovery. I think we can all agree that for decades, federal agencies have done more talking than listening. Sadly, this is particularly true for our relationships with Tribal Nations. Over the last year, however, we started talking less and listening more.”

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



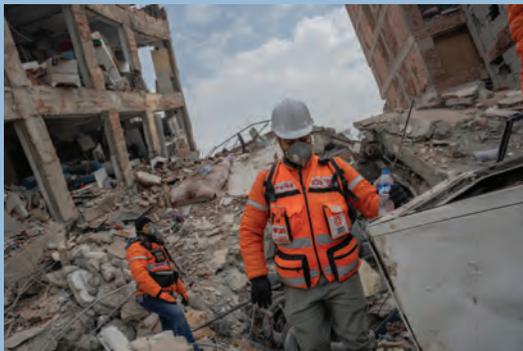
DHS Announces \$2 Billion in Preparedness Grants

As the threats to our homeland continue to evolve, the Department of Homeland Security is fulfilling a key aspect of its mission by equipping state, local, tribal and territorial governments, as well as transportation authorities and nonprofit organizations, with vital resources to help them strengthen our nation’s preparedness. The new threat landscape now includes medium- and small-sized jurisdictions and remote locations and encompasses a greater swath of our country than ever before, to include so-called 'soft targets' and other targets of opportunity.

This year, we are therefore expanding the reach of our more than \$2 billion in funding by adding four additional urban areas as grant recipients: Austin, Texas; Honolulu; Jacksonville, Florida; and Nashville, Tennessee.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

The Psychology of Disaster Recovery



Across the globe, disaster can strike at a moments notice. While news headlines often focus on the death toll or economic cost, there's another hidden expense when natural disasters wreck havoc – the mental health of those who survive.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

Israeli search and rescue teams work through rubble in Turkey -Photo by Erik Marmor

Natural disasters, boosted by climate change, displaced millions of people in U.S. in 2022

New data from the Census Bureau has surprised some experts who warn the situation could get worse: “These numbers are what one would expect to find in a developing country.”

Natural disasters forced an estimated 3.4 million people in the U.S. to leave their homes in 2022, according to Census Bureau data collected earlier this year, underscoring how climate-related weather events are already changing American communities.

The overwhelming majority of these people were uprooted by hurricanes, followed by floods, then fires and tornados. Nearly 40% returned to their homes within a week. Nearly 16% have not returned home (and may never do so), and 12% were evacuated for more than six months.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



The only access to the destroyed Matlacha neighborhood of Fort Myers, Fla., on Sept. 30 after Hurricane Ian



INDUSTRY POLICIES & RESEARCH

New Industry Policies

- FEMA Releases NoFo for FY 2023 Nonprofit Security Program
- Committee Hearing -Rising Seas, Rising Costs: Climate Change and the Economic Risks to Coastal Communities
- FEMA Seeks Public Feedback on Achieving Equitable Recovery

Other Industry News

- Train Derailment Preparedness Renews Attention
- Critical Infrastructure Protection on the Agenda at NATO Meeting
- Mapping Your Supply Chain
- Disastrous Flood-Control Policies
- Homeland Dems Request Briefing from DHS I&A, CISA on Domestic Violent Extremist Threats to Critical Infrastructure
- People living near the Ohio train derailment will have to watch their health for years

Noteworthy Research

- Research and Applied Science: Special Issue, COVID-19 Pandemic Response
- The Need for Emergency Management Models
- A Collaborative Model for Equitable Response and Recovery in Emergency Management
- Fostering Recovery Through Social Connections



Divers inspect, protect and stabilize underwater cables across the Pacific. Photo by CEC Adam Winters

Upcoming Events

Resilient World Webinars:



March 23rd: [*Revolutionize Your Program Management: An Introduction to Odysseus Enterprise Systems*](#)

April 20th: [*KMS/AAS & Public Health*](#)

[Click here to watch the replay of our past webinars!](#)

Industry Conferences:

- March 26-30, 2023 NEMA: National Emergency Management Association Mid-Year Forum in Alexandria, VA
- March 29-30, 2023 PAL Conference: Ports Association of Louisiana
- April 3-6, 2023 National Hurricane Conference in New Orleans, LA



INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES



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Section 1206

What if you could increase FEMA Funding, expedite your community recovery and build for a more resilient tomorrow?

Section 1206 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 increases mitigation funding and expands assistance for individuals and communities following a disaster. The FEMA Public Assistance (PA) program now reimburses the administration and enforcement of building codes and floodplain management (FPM) under the DRRA 1206, which is not part of the Consensus-Based Codes and Standards amendment released in December 2019. Eligible work must relate to repairing, replacing, or retrofit of disaster-damaged structures and may include public, private, and residential facilities. By following locally adopted codes and standards, we can rebuild communities to protect them from future events. DRRA 1206 allows FEMA to provide PA funding for communities to administer and enforce building codes and floodplain management regulations for no longer than 180 days after the disaster declaration. Eligible activities include but are not limited to conducting field surveys, reviewing and processing building applications, preparing cost estimates/information, hiring and training staff, and conducting damage inventory. Updating the community's laws, rules, procedures, and requirements is not an eligible expense under DRRA Section 1206.

The key to success when implementing DRRA 1206 is coordination between local, state, and federal stakeholders, including...

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

Grant Management Tool

The Odysseus™ | GMT provides users with a ready-to-use or customized disaster grant management system that allows your organization to track, administer, and report grant funding. From federal disaster assistance programs to public health, Odysseus™ GMT provides transparency and compliance.



Click Here to
See all the exciting features
of the GMT



INDUSTRY SOLUTIONS

Odysseus™ Enterprise Systems

The OES is a revolutionary software that is transforming preparedness, response, and resiliency program management for the modern professional!

SYSTEM USAGE

Over 1,000 clients

15,000+ System users

25,000+ Plans, projects, and programs managed

\$8.5+ Billion in grants administered

Flexible customization & integration

Simple onboarding

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

672% Increase in program efficiency

300x Stakeholder Collaboration

99.9% Regulatory & program compliance

54x Return on investment

ZERO Downtime

97.1% Performance rating

[Learn more about Odysseus™](#)

Compliance & Performance Management



The Odysseus™|CPM provides program analysts and directors with the ability to systematically evaluate the compliance of your program to various mandated, grant-driven requirements and industry standards. Our library of compliance assessment tools continues to grow.

[Click Here to See all the Innovative Features of the CPM](#)

Knowledge Management System

The Odysseus™ | KMS is dedicated to the development and maintenance of programs, plans, policies, and guidance while offering standardization and flexibility. The KMS reduces redundancy and increases version control with your organization's plans and doctrine.

[Click Here to learn more about the KMS](#)





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& CONSULTANTS

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ENGAGEMENTS

Project Highlight

Hurricane Laura
August 2020-October 2022
Federal Disaster Assistance Management
Port of Lake Charles

In August of 2020, Hurricane Laura struck SW Louisiana with sustained 150 mph winds. The Port of Lake Charles received the full brunt of the storm and sustained over \$100 million worth of damage to their facilities and equipment. Hours after the hurricane struck, Team ISC arrived to begin the arduous FEMA recovery process by developing a comprehensive plan to ensure a successful recovery.



**Across all Hurricane Laura subrecipients,
our clients represent:**

#1 Recipient of FEMA Funds

25% of All Total Obligated
Permanent Work

31% of All Obligated Hazard
Mitigation Funds

ISC is a crisis and consequence management consultant firm that uses data-driven research, sophisticated crisis modeling, and seasoned consultants to help our clients build path to resiliency. We don't just help clients get their communities back to where they were - we make them better.



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