



STATE OF WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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For Immediate Release

June 22, 2012

Flood Damage Assessment Continues In Northlands State officials explore assistance options

(MADISON) – Since the flooding of June 19th and 20th the City of Superior and the counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas and Wisconsin Emergency Management have been in continuous contact with Governor Scott Walker and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region V apprising them of the situation. Our thoughts go out to the home and business owners impacted by the flooding and those who suffered losses. We are working with the county emergency management directors to assess the extent of the damage across their municipalities. Initial estimates indicate that overall damage in Wisconsin is significantly less than what occurred in Minnesota. That state requested a Preliminary Damage Assessment by FEMA for public damage incurred across 14 counties and one tribal government that will start Monday, June 25th.

“Our regional director along with the county emergency managers in northwest Wisconsin are providing me continual updates on the situation and damage estimates to homes and roads” said Brian Satula, Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator. As those estimates come in, Governor Walker and Wisconsin Emergency Management will assess the level of damage and determine what assistance may be available. The options include:

- Presidential Disaster Declaration- This assistance comes in two areas, public and individual. Public assistance could cover publicly owned buildings, roads, bridges and other infrastructures. Individual assistance would address losses for residents after insurance coverage is accounted for. In order to request a Presidential Disaster Declaration for public assistance, Douglas County for example would need at least \$149,000 in public losses and \$7.7 million in public losses for the state. For Individual Assistance there must be hundreds of homes that have been determined to have “major damage” or be “destroyed” according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines. Currently five homes in Douglas County have been identified with “major damage”. When Wisconsin approaches these thresholds a Preliminary Damage Assessment would be requested from FEMA Region V.
- Wisconsin Disaster Fund- This fund is intended to cover debris clearance, emergency protective measures and damage to publically-owned roads and bridges. The Wisconsin Disaster Fund covers 70% of the approved cost. The other 30% is paid for by local government. This fund does not cover Individual Assistance.
- Small Business Administration Agency (SBA) Declaration- The SBA Agency Declaration can be requested if 25 homes and/or businesses sustain at least 40% uninsured property damage. It provides low interest loans up to \$200,000 for property damage (per

- homeowner) and up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property (per homeowner or renter).
- Other Programs- Many counties and municipalities plan to repair damaged roads through the Department of Transportation Aid Program.

Governor Walker and Wisconsin Emergency Management will remain in contact with local and state officials over the weekend as the flood waters recede and more damage information comes in. Wisconsin Emergency Management is also coordinating Governor Walker's visit to Superior on Tuesday June 26th.

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