



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: GEORGE HARDEEN
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
OFFICE – 928-871-7917
CELL – 928-309-8532
pressoffice@opvp.org

Navajo Nation on stand-by status through weekend Because of impending mud conditions from snow melt

ST. MICHAELS, Ariz. – Eight Navajo Nation communities declared emergencies this week because of muddy road conditions resulting from recent snowfall.

Among them are: Klagetoh, Inscription House, Wide Ruins, Belabito, Crystal, Sawmill, Black Mesa and Navajo Mountain.

Arizona's Apache County has also declared an emergency. The Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management and other resources are on standby while these chapters deal with recovery issues related to snow melt.

The Navajo Nation Department of Transportation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, chapters, and Apache County have all been plowing snow-packed paved roads this week. Some county roads have been plowed. These include bus routes and residential roads upon request.

All chapter communities in weather-impacted areas are asked to report needs through the assessment forms that were faxed to them and return completed forms to Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management.

All chapters in weather-impacted areas are encouraged to assess their communities, do visits, and use emergency funds to assist people in need.

Jimson Joe, program director for the Department of Emergency Management, encouraged safety practices to avoid injuries. Mr. Joe stressed that record-keeping be enforced as to work schedules, how much road was plowed, how much assistance was given, and any damage from the recent snow storm.

He said communication is important for people to maintain in remote areas, particularly for hunters and those who leave their home site to get wood or travel.

The DEM's phone number is 928-871-6892 and the fax number is (928) 871-7569.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, Contact:

Selena Manychildren
Sr. Public Information Officer
(928) 871-7964
Email: biot_selena.m@hotmail.com