



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

Executive Office

Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency and Mitigation

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2023 Disaster Recovery Centers – FEMA

On January 26th and 27th, the Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency, & Mitigation (PRRM) Division organized, coordinated, and lead a preliminary damage assessment (PDA) tour of Mendocino County with personnel from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The PDA was conducted to assess storm damages to private property as reported by the public and support the official request made by the County of Mendocino for Individual Assistance (IA) for disaster survivors. On February 1st, the County of Mendocino was added to the major disaster declaration and approved for IA.

On February 3rd, PRRM began coordinating with CalOES and FEMA to establish Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) and Mobile Registration Intake Centers (MRIC) in Mendocino County to provide full service, in person assistance to disaster survivors. Locations proposed for DRC and MRIC operations in Mendocino County were Point Arena and Willits. A FEMA site assessment crew, lead by PRRM staff, was dispatched to Mendocino County on February 7th to determine if the proposed locations met all necessary requirements to serve the needs of disaster survivors. After the sites were approved by FEMA, the PRRM Division worked with Federal, State and City partners to coordinate logistics and open both site on February 11th. Sites were originally scheduled to remain open through February 24th.

On February 21st, in consultation with FEMA and CalOES, the decision was made extend the operations in the County until March 5th. On February 23rd, severe winter weather impacting the majority of Mendocino County and creating hazardous road conditions led to the temporary suspension of all recovery operations in Mendocino County until February 25th. Weather permitting, the DRC Operations in Willits will resume and efforts to secure a new location for MRIC operations in Fort Bragg or elsewhere on the North Coast of Mendocino County are ongoing. PRRM has been providing an onsite managerial presence at all DRC events in both Point Arena and Willits since the beginning of operations.

At close of business on February 22nd, DRC and MRIC operations in Mendocino County had 159 registrations for IA, with an additional 128 visitors that did not register for IA, and Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) crews had directly visited 189 homes and made 169 additional outreach efforts in the communities most heavily impacted by the disaster. FEMA and State Agencies have a total of 35 personnel deployed in Mendocino County.