



## Office of Emergency Services CEO Report December 2025

### About OES

Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is the primary local coordination agency for emergencies and disasters affecting residents, public infrastructure, and government operations in the Mendocino County Operational Area (OA). The Mendocino County OA includes the county and its cities, towns, and special districts, in coordination with tribes.

### Introduction

OES attended the bimonthly Fire Chiefs meeting, the statewide Tsunami Steering Committee meeting, and hosted a Pre-Season Winter Weather Coordination meeting. The county experienced a couple of atmospheric rivers in early and mid-November. OES worked closely with the National Weather Service, monitored the hazardous weather, and shared messages to the public and operational area partners.

### Fire Chiefs Meeting

Mendocino County OES attended the Fire Chiefs Association meeting in Hopland. OES reported out on the secondary ingress route, into Brooktrails, known as Firco Road. The Chiefs were also updated on the Flood Plan contract and a future tabletop exercise to test the new plan. OES also discussed the grant-funded flood fight supplies that will be placed at four fire stations in flood prone sections of our county.

### Pre-Season Winter Weather Coordination Meeting

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, OES hosted a Pre-Season Winter Weather Coordination meeting. Over 60 attendees included operational area partners from cities, county departments, local fire departments, volunteer organizations, state, federal, and tribal agencies. Key topics of the meeting included a seasonal weather outlook by National Weather Service, critical agency updates, and presentations from Caltrans and County DOT regarding what Operational Area partners can expect from them during winter weather events.



## **California Tsunami Steering Committee Meeting**

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, OES sat in on this statewide committee meeting. Among the agenda items was a look back at the Kamchatka event in July. The committee was interested in how northern coastal counties like ours were impacted and how well the coordination with state partners prepared us for our hourly meetings with our partners in our own counties.

## **Mass Evacuation Guide**

OES reviewed the Cal OES Mass Evacuation Guide as it pertains to local operational area roles and responsibilities. Comments were returned to Cal OES for clarification and proposed changes.

## **Grants Update**

A coalition of 12 states including California have filed a lawsuit against the US department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) due to changes made to the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP). New conditions being challenged in the lawsuit include:

1. The performance period for both EMPG and HSGP grants was shortened from three years to one year.
2. For grants requiring population counts, states must now submit revised population numbers that exclude individuals removed under immigration law.