

# McKenzie County



Emergency Management

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## Emergency Management

**There is a phrase amongst emergency managers:**  
It's not a matter of if, but When a disaster happens  
...are you prepared?



May 26, 2014 Tornado

Disasters are unexpected; they overwhelm first responders; and lives, health and the environment are often endangered. Our last tornado was July 10, 2018 – 12:30 a.m..



## North Dakota Century Code

State and Federal law requires each county to set up an Emergency Management organization that will best serve the entire jurisdiction. (NDCC 37-17.1-07; Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950).

# The Role of Elected Officials



- ❧ Emergency management, from mitigation through long-term recovery, should be recognized and supported by all elected officials as a critical government service.
- ❧ Understand their emergency authorities and responsibilities, and practice them in conjunction with emergency management officials before a disaster occurs.
- ❧ Are required under Federal law to take training relevant to their position in their jurisdictions.

# The Role of Elected Officials Continued



- ❧ They should meet with their emergency management officials and establish solid relationships, request a briefing on state and local preparedness efforts, learn about emergency plans and procedures, and visit the emergency operations center and other critical facilities.
- ❧ Elected officials must have a clear understanding of how government responds to emergencies and disasters, what resources are available, what types of assistance can be provided to citizens, and how much time it may take to deliver that assistance.

# The Role of Elected Officials Continued



- ✧ They must be able to instill a sense of calm in disaster victims and the public, and temper expectations of what government can do to aid in the recovery. A coordinated message between elected officials and emergency management is necessary so people do not receive conflicting information.
- ✧ Elected officials play a crucial role in public safety. Their understanding and support of emergency management is vital to the safety and well-being of the public and communities.

# Emergency Manager Responsibilities



- ❧ Identify and analyze community vulnerabilities
- ❧ Develop mutual aid agreements
- ❧ Inventory and coordinate resources
- ❧ Develop, review and update emergency plans
- ❧ Train participants (first responders, health, public works, volunteers, utility reps, etc.)
- ❧ Plan and conduct exercises
- ❧ Develop and carry out public education programs
- ❧ Oversee emergency management programs
- ❧ Inform elected officials and government leaders

## Emergency Manager Responsibilities – cont.



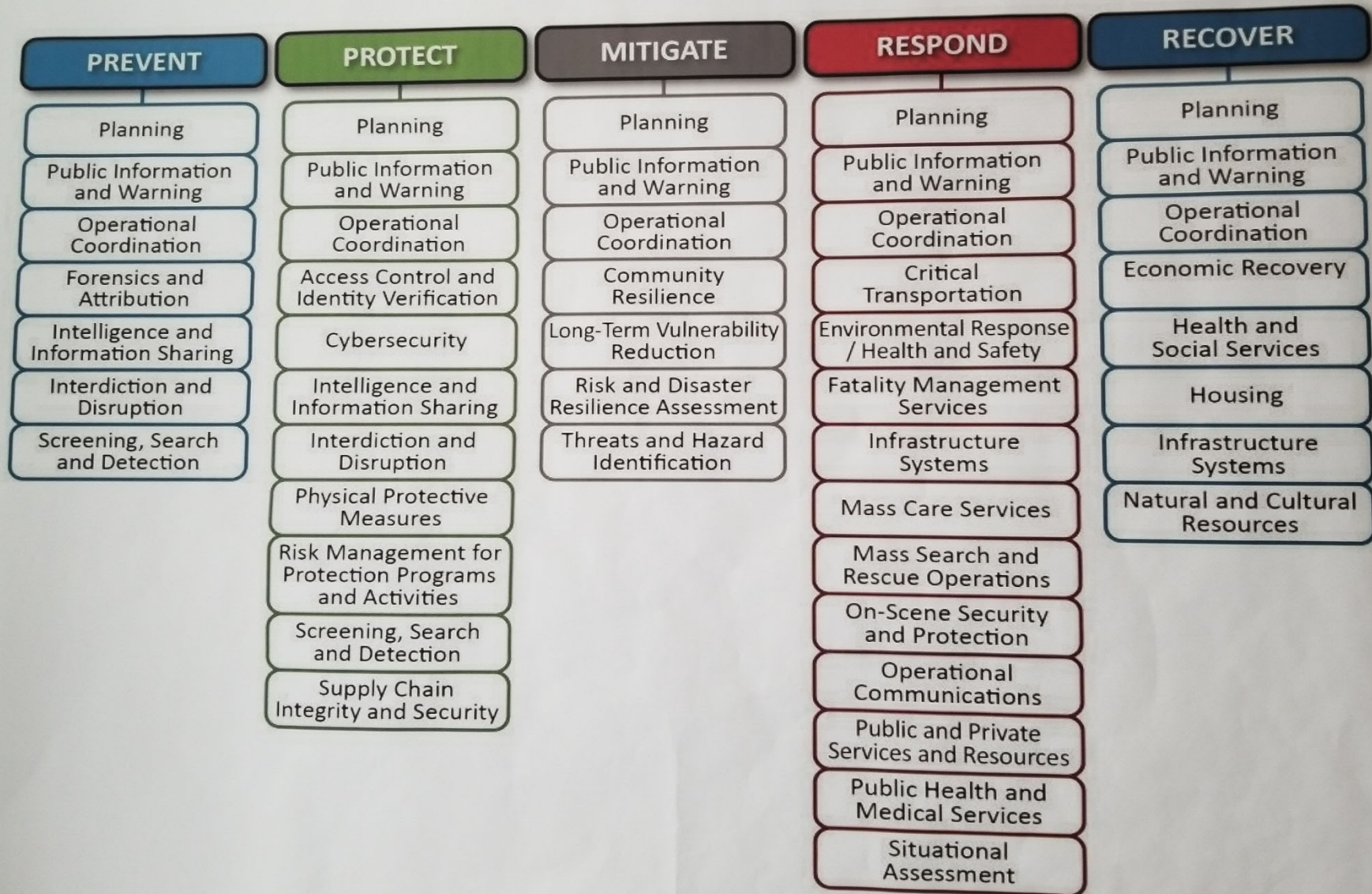
- ❧ Coordinate key activities during emergency events
- ❧ Communications & warnings
- ❧ Emergency Public Information
- ❧ Evacuation or shelter in place
- ❧ Mass care
- ❧ Health and medical
- ❧ Resource management
- ❧ Finance and administration
- ❧ Grants
- ❧ Conduct damage assessments during an incident



## Why is Emergency Preparedness Important?

There are real benefits to being prepared . Being prepared can reduce fear, anxiety, and losses that accompany disasters. Communities, families, and individuals should know what to do in the event of a fire and where to seek shelter during a tornado. They should be ready to evacuate their homes and take refuge in public shelters and know how care for their basic medical needs thereby reducing the demand on public safety resources that are strained or overwhelmed during an emergency.

# Core Capabilities





Emergency Management is on the frontlines of developing disaster plans; coordinating training, drills and exercises; and educating the public about disasters. Because disasters are not a daily or even a monthly occurrence, they often go unnoticed--that is, until something happens.



The essential element in development of an emergency management program at the local level is the support of the elected officials. Although elected officials are not involved with the day-to-day activities of the program, it is only with elected officials direction and support that the program can be effective.



Emergency management programs are built on relationships. Most emergency management programs are small and have limited budgets. Emergency managers bring a wealth of experience to the table, along with a broad network of contacts. They also have the ability to bring together a broad and diverse group of people to focus on the emergency.

## Starts Local & Ends Local

All disasters start local and end local. Most times with the help of other nearby counties, we can contain a minor disaster without State and Federal Assistance. Such as the tornado McKenzie County had this past July.

When a disaster strikes and your local resources are exhausted, then you ask for a declaration from the State. The State then brings in the resources they have to offer. The state has a large inventory of resources from which they can assist a County in its time of need.

Local → State → Federal

If the State has exhausted all of its resources, then the Governor will ask for a Presidential Disaster Declaration. Then FEMA will assist the local jurisdiction.

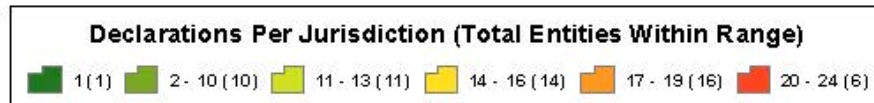
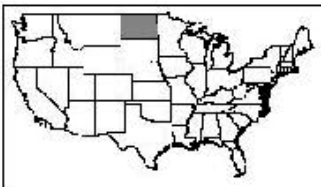
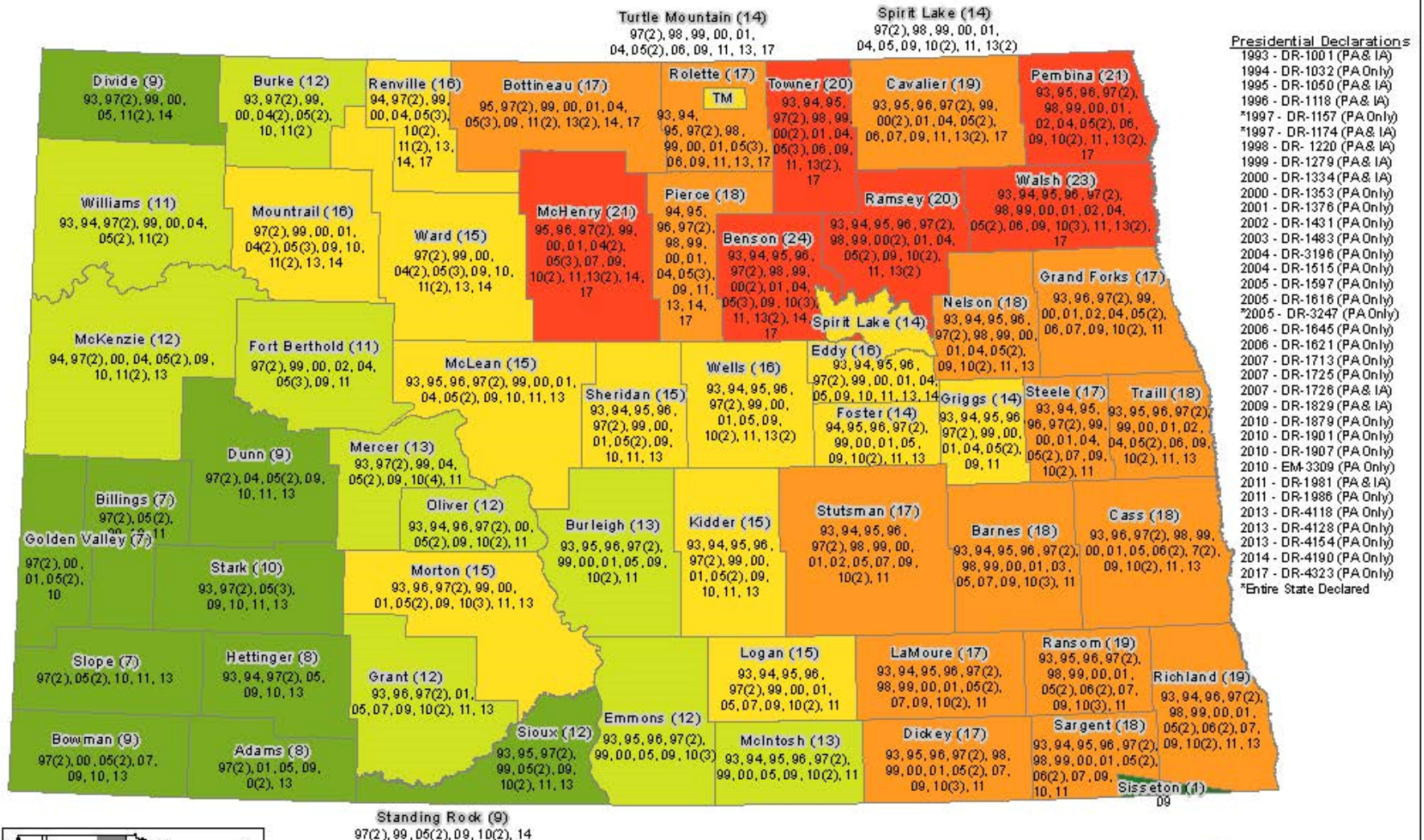
North Dakota has had numerous Presidential Disasters. North Dakota is 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the Country for Presidential Disaster Declarations.

# North Dakota Disaster & Emergency Services (NDDES)



NDDES responsibilities during emergencies and disasters, as mandated by North Dakota State law, are to help protect County residents by coordinating with local response to major emergencies and disasters, directing assistance when needed, and coordinating assistance with the local jurisdiction.

# North Dakota Presidential Disaster Declarations 1993 Through 2017



The McKenzie County  
Local Emergency Planning Committee

## **Quarterly Meeting**

**Wednesday, Feb. 7 • 6 p.m.**

**Rough Rider Center**

*Call for the Agenda*

The Public is always welcome to attend these meetings  
and become a part of our LEPC if they would like.

The meetings to follow will be  
**May 1, August 7 and November 6**



If you have any questions,  
please call  
**Karolin Jappe at 444-7483**



## **Skywarn Class**

The National Weather Service offers a Skywarn class annually to all North Dakota Counties

# North Dakota Assoc. of Counties (NDACo)



## ❧ Purpose

- ❧ Provide a means for the exchange of ideas, information and experiences of all county officials.
- ❧ Promote continuing education of county officials.
- ❧ Facilitate cooperation with other levels of government.
- ❧ Propose and support legislation for county governments.
- ❧ Engage in other activities that strive to achieve more effective county government in North Dakota.
- ❧ Participate in any other activities permitted by law in the furtherance of NDACo's objectives.

# National Association of Counties (NACo)



- ❧ Advocate for county government priorities in federal policymaking
- ❧ Promote exemplary county policies and practices
- ❧ Nurture leadership skills and expand knowledge networks
- ❧ Optimize county and taxpayer resources and cost savings, and
- ❧ Enrich the public's understanding of county government.



## North Dakota Fire Fighters

4 Career Departments

7 Combination Departments

359 Volunteer Departments

**Our Disaster Recovery Plan  
Goes Something Like This...**



**In Closing**

**This is what happens if you fail to  
prepare!**

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If you have a facebook account, I keep the  
McKenzie County Emergency Management  
page updated regularly.