

Grantee: State of Nebraska

Grant: B-08-DF-31-0001

October 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009 Performance Report

Grant Number:

B-08-DF-31-0001

Obligation Date:

06/02/2009

Grantee Name:

State of Nebraska

Award Date:

05/28/2009

Grant Amount:

\$5,557,736.00

Contract End Date:**Grant Status:**

Active

Review by HUD:

Reviewed and Approved

Submitted By:

No Submitter Found

Disasters:

Declaration Number

FEMA-1770-DR-NE

Plan Description:

From May 22 to June 24, 2008 the State of Nebraska was impacted by a series of severe thunderstorms that produced high winds, hail, tornados, and heavy rain, which lead to various flooding events. NEMA, other state agencies, and FEMA worked together to determine the adverse impacts to the state. Based on the information collected, the State of Nebraska received a major disaster declaration, which enabled 61 counties to receive assistance through the Public Assistance program and 14 counties to receive assistance through the Individual Assistance program. To date, public assistance applicants have had over \$35,000,000 in projects written, which will be funded 75 percent by FEMA, 12.5 percent from the state, and 12.5 percent from the applicant. This has strained the Governors Emergency Fund as well as local resources. Damages from the storms varied greatly. There were many roads that were damaged making them impassable. Debris littered roads, parks, and private property from the tornados and high winds. Buildings were struck leaving homeowners, the Buffalo County Fair Grounds, and others with extensive damages. Homes and businesses were flooded in several cities including Cozad, Schuyler, and Platte Center. Utilities throughout the state suffered losses such as downed power lines, exposed water mains, and damaged sewer lines. To date, repairs are still being made, and several buildings and bridges are being replaced.

Recovery Needs:

Unfortunately, even with the broad reach of the disaster declaration, many individuals and local government entities were forced to bear the burden of financial shortfalls. Local entities are currently required to pay nearly \$5 Million for their share of the disaster relief. This does not include individual homeowners and business owners who were forced to rebuild and repair the damages left by the storm that were not covered by insurance or FEMA programs.

In the instance of the Village of Dannebrog, debris clogged the Oak Creek, which runs along the edge of town. However, due to public assistance program limitations, the Village will not receive additional funding to clean the creek of the debris, which causes them concern for future potential flooding issues. The Village is left with a decision: face the potential for flooding, or bear the expense of cleanup on its own.

Due to an excessive amount of rainfall, Federal Secondary Road 1695 in Gosper County experienced substantial slope erosion. Where the shoulders slid, the pavement settled and started to crack. For safety reasons, Gosper County closed this section of road to the traveling public. After evaluating the situation, the County decided to remove the existing damaged pavement and rebuild the slopes in order to make it safer for the traveling public and to keep the slides from happening again. FEMA declared the \$270,000 project ineligible for funding.

Gosper County was also denied FEMA funding for Federal Secondary Road 1550. The front slope of the road was eroded away for approximately 1700 feet west of Bridge Number C003720410, and the abutments and rip rap on Bridge Number C003720410 were washed away causing the approaches to be washed away as well. The estimated cost by FEMA is \$100,000.

Flood waters also caused damage to the dike along Wahoo Creek on the east side of the Village of Ithaca. Water

eroded in to the embankment or dike on various spots, and one spot in particular shows weaknesses that could break the dike in another flood occurrence. The cost to rebuild the affected areas is estimated at \$15,000-\$20,000.

The City of Grand Island experienced nearly double the amount of rainfall during May and June 2008. The rainfall events caused high ground water levels and flooding throughout the community, which overwhelmed the city's sewer system causing sewage to fill the lift station, pipes, and manholes resulting in sewer back ups into homes. The estimated cost of repairs/replacement is \$5,361,400.

The public sewer infrastructure system of the City of Valley also sustained considerable damage because of the heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding. Major damage took place in the Gardiner Street sewage pumping station when flood waters inundated the station, causing damage and destruction to the pumps, motors, control system, and underground pumping chamber. Temporary pumps were installed to provide relief, but in order to prevent future damages from occurring again, the damaged pumping station needs to be replaced. The existing pumping station simply cannot meet the demands that heavy rainfall and flooding events place on the sewer collection system and pump station. The estimated cost to replace the damaged pumping station is \$478,200. FEMA funding was not provided for this project.

Streets and storm sewers were also damaged by the storms in many other communities including the City of Gothenburg, the City of Loup City, the City of Ravenna, and the City of Kearney. Ponding water caused subgrade damage, and saturated conditions caused numerous problems with street surfacing. Storm water run-off from heavy rain was directed down the street causing irreversible street damage and flooding. Constant wet conditions from drainage saturated the subgrade and caused deterioration of street surfacing. Sanitary sewers backed up from heavy rains, and extra flow in the sewer from runoff was experienced during the excessive rain. These flows carried gravel, grit and silt in the sewer causing blockages and damage to the sewer main. The estimated amount of funds needed to complete the repairs is as follows:

City of Gothenburg \$750,000
City of Loup City \$34,000
City of Ravenna \$710,000
City of Kearney \$2,000,000

Funding is not only necessary for public infrastructure projects; funding is also needed for floodplain mapping and studies. Currently, FEMA has very limited funding in order to produce new floodplain maps in Nebraska. This, along with the large number of maps now in need of updating nationwide, means that floodplain mapping completed by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR) is not being converted to effective floodplain maps by FEMA. Despite the backlog of countywide maps needing attention by FEMA, NDNR continues to complete new floodplain mapping for interested counties. However, these maps are completed according to the FEMA Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners, but are not actually effective floodplain maps. Instead, NDNR's maps qualify as best available data for the counties to regulate floodplain development in the jurisdiction, which their local floodplain management ordinance allows. These maps are referred to as work maps. In addition to being much more precise than the current maps, new floodplain maps will be provided to the counties in digital format (called a DFIRM or Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map). The DFIRM format will allow counties with Geographic Information System capability to respond to floodplain inquiries much faster than their current paper-only floodplain maps will allow.

In March 2009, NDNR completed a reassessment of county floodplain mapping priorities. The reassessment showed that the counties with existing floodplain maps most in need of updating are (in order of ranking number): Hamilton County (#1), Adams County (#2), York County (#3), Seward County (#4), and Jefferson County (#6). All of these counties were declared disaster areas in FEMA-1770, experienced damages due to flooding, and are the counties most in need of new floodplain mapping.

The floodplain administrators for Adams County and Jefferson County were contacted, and both administrators stated they would greatly appreciate new maps for their counties. The Adams County floodplain administrator stated that the topography on which their existing floodplain map is based was accurate in the 1960s. Since then a good portion of the northern half of the county has been land-leveled to enable flood irrigation. This area is where the worst flooding occurred in Adams County last year. Therefore, the current floodplain maps are inaccurate and highly questionable for recovery work there. The Jefferson County administrator also has several issues with their existing floodplain maps, but stated that the greatest benefit to him would be to have a DFIRM instead of the existing paper maps. Jefferson County has struggled to try to rubber sheet a digital version of their county maps into a geographic information system, but a DFIRM would eliminate all of the hassles and inaccuracies this process produces.

In addition to floodplain mapping, NDNR is proposing to fund the type of flood studies which are not currently eligible for FEMA funding. Annual guidance from FEMA stipulates that any study performed must lead to an actual

project to be completed with their funds. However, many communities do not know the best alternative for reducing flood losses, and often the situation leading to their flood problems is so complex that it requires a full, professional study. NDNR proposes to create a pool of this flood study money with which it could advertise and contract directly with private engineering/consulting firms. These private companies function as the city/village engineer for communities too small to have a full-time engineer on staff. These communities have significant flood problems, but lack the necessary resources with which to address them. If accepted, the NDNR would require any approved funds to go toward communities in the declared counties that experienced direct damage due to flooding.

Overall	This Report Period	To Date
Total Projected Budget from All Sources	N/A	\$3,895,507.00
Total CDBG Program Funds Budgeted	N/A	\$3,895,507.00
Program Funds Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00
Obligated CDBG DR Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expended CDBG DR Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Match Contributed	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Received	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00

Progress Toward Required Numeric Targets

Requirement	Required	To Date
Minimum Overall Benefit Percentage	\$50.00	\$0.00
Minimum Non-Federal Match	\$0.00	\$0.00
Limit on Public Services	\$833,660.40	\$0.00
Limit on Admin/Planning	\$1,111,547.20	\$0.00
Limit on State Admin	\$277,886.80	\$0.00

Progress Toward Activity Type Targets

Progress Toward National Objective Targets

Overall Progress Narrative:

For the 4th quarter of 2009, 15 applications were received, 4 were awarded funds, 5 were not eligible or did not score high enough to be competitive, and 6 are awaiting further action. Each application was reviewed by DED staff, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources staff, and Nebraska Emergency Management staff. Contracts for the 8 projects that received awards in the 3rd quarter of 2009 were finalized in the 4th quarter, as were contracts for the 4 projects awarded in the 4th quarter. Release of Funds was reached by 4 projects, with the remaining 8 projects to reach Release of Funds in the 1st quarter of 2010. \$1,800,458 remains to be awarded, and DED will continue to accept applications until all funds are expended.

*Due to formatting difficulty, the following text was not added to the Recovery Needs section of this Quarterly Progress Report. It will be included in the appropriate section of the next Quarterly Progress Report.

Disaster Recovery Funds Categorical Distribution

Funding is available in three categories: Public Infrastructure, Disaster Recovery Planning, and Housing Impact Assistance.

Public Infrastructure category Disaster Recovery Funding is allocated at a range of 70-85%, which equals \$3,890,415 to \$4,724,075. Application acceptance date is June 1, 2009 and ends when all funds are awarded. If the maximum level of 85% is awarded by October 1, 2009, Housing Impact Assistance category applications will not be accepted. Maximum grant amount is \$1,000,000. Funds will be used for the restoration of infrastructure in areas covered by the major disaster declaration. Funds may be used to reimburse the 12.5% local FEMA match requirement for various eligible public facilities activities pursuant to 24 CFR 570.201(c) and 24 CFR 507.201(f)(2). Funds may not be used for activities reimbursable by, or for which funds are made available to, FEMA or the Army Corps of Engineers. Eligible Disaster Recovery Public Infrastructure projects will include most activities eligible under FEMA Public Assistance Categories. Those items declared as non-emergency and eligible under the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, as amended will be a priority for funding with respect to long-term recovery.

Planning category Disaster Recovery Funding will not exceed 10% of the total base allocation, which equals \$555,775. Application acceptance date is June 1, 2009 and ends when all funds are awarded. Maximum grant amount is \$200,000. Funds will be used for disaster recovery planning, which includes floodplain mapping and flood studies in areas covered by the major disaster declaration, which have changed by virtue of the disaster. The evaluation of applications and selection will be coordinated with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency. Project-eligible activities will be determined by DED on a case-by-case basis during application review. Funds may not be used for activities reimbursable by, or for which funds are made available to, FEMA for Hazard Mitigation Planning grants. Disaster recovery planning includes floodplain management measures during long-term recovery, mapping, zoning/building code ordinance revisions, floodplain ordinances, drainage basin studies directly related to impacts of the disaster, infrastructure studies necessary to establish action plans for community disaster recovery, and building requirements. Funds may be used to develop new floodplain maps and to update and improve existing maps.

Housing Impact Assistance category Disaster Recovery Funding is allocated at a range of 0-15%, which equals \$0 to \$833,660. If less than the maximum level of 85% is awarded by October 1, 2009 for Public Infrastructure, the Housing Impact Assistance category applications will be accepted. Application acceptance date is November 1, 2009 and ends when all funds are awarded. Maximum grant amount is \$300,000. Funds will be used for assisting the clearance and removal of debris on low- and moderate-income residential properties and adjacent properties. These actions will complement and support the repair and restoration of surface and below surface drainage structures resulting in the reduction and restriction of future damages to private residential properties, which were damaged by the disaster located in areas covered by the major disaster declaration. Project-eligible activities will be determined by DED on a case-by-case basis during application review. Funds are available for disaster-damaged facilities or infrastructure that are non-FEMA eligible or for reimbursement of the non-federal local share required for a FEMA project.

State administration will not exceed 5% of the total base allocation, which equals \$277,886. State administration will include staff, equipment, consultant fees, and other operation costs involved in selection, funding, assisting, monitoring local projects, processing of local government disbursement requests, recordkeeping, detailed quarterly reporting to HUD, documentation of adherence to laws, and other allowable expenses.

The total amount of funding for Categorical Distribution (\$5,279,850 or 95% of the base allocation) includes local administration. The total for the local administration of all projects awarded will not exceed 5% (\$277,886) of the total base allocation. Local administration will include staff, equipment, consultant fees, and other operation costs involved in administering the local project.

The priority categories are Public Infrastructure and Disaster Recovery Planning. For both categories, the application acceptance date is June 1, 2009. The Housing Impact Assistance category funds will become available following awards made through October 1, 2009 for Public Infrastructure. The balance of Public Infrastructure category Disaster Recovery Funds available at the level of 15% or less will be considered for Housing Assistance activities. All Disaster Recovery Funds will be available for consideration and awards after October 1, 2009 for all categories: Public Infrastructure, Disaster Recovery Planning, and Housing Impact Assistance.

All project activities, excluding administration and management, must meet a CDBG national objective for either (a) benefit to low- and moderate-income persons or (b) prevention or elimination of slums or blight or (c) urgent

community development need. The aggregate use of Disaster Recovery Funds shall principally benefit low- and moderate-income families in a manner that ensures that at least 50 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

As of the submission date of this Action Plan in the DRGR system, DED has awarded \$2,825,642 in the Public Infrastructure category, \$540,975 in the Disaster Recovery Planning category, \$0 in the Housing Impact Assistance Category, and \$112,775 for Grantee Administration. The total awarded is \$3,479,392. The remaining balance available for award is \$1,800,458. DED is still accepting applications and will continue to do so until all funds are exhausted.

Project Summary

Project #, Project Title	This Report Period		To Date	
	Project Funds Budgeted	Program Funds Drawdown	Project Funds Budgeted	Program Funds Drawdown
08DADMIN1, State Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$277,886.00	\$0.00
08DADMIN2, Grantee Administration	\$251,003.00	\$0.00	\$251,003.00	\$0.00
08DPI, Public Infrastructure	(\$236,203.00)	\$0.00	\$4,487,872.00	\$0.00
08DRP, Disaster Recovery Planning	(\$14,800.00)	\$0.00	\$540,975.00	\$0.00
9999, Restricted Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Activities

Grantee Activity Number: 08DPR001

Activity Title: NDNR DRP

Activity Category:

Planning

Activity Status:

Under Way

Project Number:

08DRP

Project Title:

Disaster Recovery Planning

Projected Start Date:

12/07/2009

Projected End Date:

12/31/2011

National Objective:

Low/Mod

Responsible Organization:

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

Overall	Oct 1 thru Dec 31, 2009	To Date
Total Projected Budget from All Sources	N/A	\$221,375.00
Total CDBG Program Funds Budgeted	N/A	\$221,375.00
Program Funds Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00
Obligated CDBG DR Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expended CDBG DR Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Match Contributed	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Received	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00

Activity Description:

Through an inter-agency agreement with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources will complete floodplain studies for the Big Blue River and five counties that are included in the 1770 disaster. Each of these maps will be completed according to FEMA guidelines. LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data will be utilized for these maps. LiDAR is an active remote sensing technology that uses pulses of laser light to measure distances and to characterize features. It is the more modern way to receive accurate ground elevation data.

In order to truly recover from a flood disaster, a jurisdiction needs to have floodplain maps that are up-to-date, accurate, and dependable. In the aftermath of a flood disaster, local decisions for repair and redevelopment in the floodplain needs to be in compliance with the local floodplain management regulations. With more accurate floodplain maps, damaged properties and infrastructure can be precisely identified. In addition, a digital format (instead of paper) will enable the local floodplain administrators and emergency managers a much faster turnaround time for post-disaster recovery and redevelopment design and inquiries.

The detailed floodplain maps for the Big Blue River will be derived using the hydrologic analysis of gauged peak flow data and hydraulic modeling. The hydraulic model was developed with surveyed cross section and bridge structure data. With high-resolution LiDAR data and computed flood elevations, more accurate floodplain will be possible versus the existing flood maps. In addition to displaying the Big Blue River floodplain boundary, base flood elevations and a floodway will be

Location Description:

In March 2009, the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR) completed a reassessment of their county floodplain mapping priorities. The reassessment showed that the counties with existing floodplain maps most in need of updating are Hamilton County, Adams County, York County, Seward County, and Jefferson County. The current maps for these counties are quite outdated; many things, such as urbanization, new technology and engineering, better topography, and more knowledge of hydrology can render these maps inaccurate.

In addition to the five needed county floodplain maps, mapping also needs to be updated for the Big Blue River. The Big Blue River is a major flooding source in the counties of Butler, Seward, Saline, and Gage, all of which were declared counties in FEMA-1770.

Activity Progress Narrative:

During the 4th quarter of 2009, an interagency agreement was signed between the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR) and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) in December 2009. Environmental review is exempt

for NEPA requirements, and all Special Conditions for Release of Funds were met. NDNR began work on the floodplain mapping project. Work included digitizing existing floodplain data for each county, and creating an updated model of the Big Blue River.

Performance Measures

No Performance Measures found.

Activity Locations

No Activity Locations found.

Other Funding Sources Budgeted - Detail

No Other Match Funding Sources Found

Other Funding Sources

Amount

No Other Funding Sources Found

Total Other Funding Sources

Grantee Activity Number: 08DRP003

Activity Title: Platte Center DRP

Activity Category:

Planning

Activity Status:

Under Way

Project Number:

08DRP

Project Title:

Disaster Recovery Planning

Projected Start Date:

09/23/2009

Projected End Date:

09/23/2011

National Objective:

Low/Mod

Responsible Organization:

Village of Platte Center

Overall

Oct 1 thru Dec 31, 2009

To Date

Total Projected Budget from All Sources

N/A

\$80,200.00

Total CDBG Program Funds Budgeted

N/A

\$80,200.00

Program Funds Drawdown

\$0.00

\$0.00

Obligated CDBG DR Funds

\$0.00

\$0.00

Expended CDBG DR Funds

\$0.00

\$0.00

Match Contributed

\$0.00

\$0.00

Program Income Received

\$0.00

\$0.00

Program Income Drawdown

\$0.00

\$0.00

Activity Description:

The Elm Creek Evaluation Study and Report will involve a comprehensive hydrologic evaluation of the entire Elm Creek watershed to identify, analyze, and plan corrections to flood issues in a systematic way. The recent flooding of Elm Creek created the need for better flood management and associated infrastructure in the Village. For economically sustainable recovery efforts it is necessary for the Village to identify and analyze watershed issues and develop long-range plans for improvements, repairs, and maintenance of the Elm Creek Watershed.

Location Description:

On May 28, 2008, 8 inches of rain inundated the Elm Creek Watershed affecting the Village of Platte Center, which is located in Platte County. The resultant runoff flooded the watershed, carrying with it downed trees and storm-swept debris. Larger drift soon became lodged in an upstream bridge piling, pinning debris and impounding a large volume of water behind the jam. When the jam dislodged, waters rushed down Elm Creek overtopping the bridge and downstream creek banks. Over 50 homes sustained severe damage. 20 homeowners had to be evacuated.

Activity Progress Narrative:

During the 4th quarter of 2009, environmental review was found to be exempt for NEPA requirements, and all Special Conditions for Release of Funds were met.

Performance Measures

No Performance Measures found.

Activity Locations

No Activity Locations found.

Other Funding Sources Budgeted - Detail

No Other Match Funding Sources Found

Other Funding Sources

Amount

No Other Funding Sources Found

Total Other Funding Sources

Grantee Activity Number: 08DRP004

Activity Title: Beatrice DRP

Activity Category:

Planning

Activity Status:

Under Way

Project Number:

08DRP

Project Title:

Disaster Recovery Planning

Projected Start Date:

09/23/2009

Projected End Date:

09/23/2011

National Objective:

Low/Mod

Responsible Organization:

City of Beatrice

Overall

Oct 1 thru Dec 31, 2009

To Date

Total Projected Budget from All Sources	N/A	\$35,700.00
Total CDBG Program Funds Budgeted	N/A	\$35,700.00
Program Funds Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00
Obligated CDBG DR Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expended CDBG DR Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Match Contributed	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Received	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Income Drawdown	\$0.00	\$0.00

Activity Description:

Funding will provide a complete assessment of the storm sewer system using the latest video technology. The video analysis will allow the City of Beatrice to determine repairs needed immediately and for the long term.

Location Description:

The storm sewer system of the City of Beatrice, located in Gage County, serves to carry storm water runoff away from business and residential areas. Due to excessive rainfall in June 2008, portions of the storm sewer system failed, resulting in a collapse of nearly 20 feet of the system.

Activity Progress Narrative:

During the 4th quarter of 2009, environmental review was found to be exempt for NEPA requirements, and all Special Conditions for Release of Funds were met.

Performance Measures

No Performance Measures found.

Activity Locations

No Activity Locations found.

Other Funding Sources Budgeted - Detail

No Other Match Funding Sources Found

Other Funding Sources

Amount

No Other Funding Sources Found

Total Other Funding Sources

Grantee Activity Number: 08DRP005

Activity Title: Bennet DRP

Activity Category:

Planning

Activity Status:

Under Way

Project Number:

08DRP

Project Title:

Disaster Recovery Planning

Projected Start Date:

09/29/2009

Projected End Date:

09/29/2011

National Objective:

Low/Mod

Responsible Organization:

Village of Bennet

Overall

Oct 1 thru Dec 31, 2009

To Date

Total Projected Budget from All Sources

N/A

\$34,200.00

Total CDBG Program Funds Budgeted

N/A

\$34,200.00

Program Funds Drawdown

\$0.00

\$0.00

Obligated CDBG DR Funds

\$0.00

\$0.00

Expended CDBG DR Funds

\$0.00

\$0.00

Match Contributed

\$0.00

\$0.00

Program Income Received

\$0.00

\$0.00

Program Income Drawdown

\$0.00

\$0.00

Activity Description:

The Village of Bennet will undertake a comprehensive storm sewer study to identify, analyze, and plan corrections of storm water issues in a systematic way. The inability of the existing storm water drainage system to handle runoff emphasizes the need for better storm water management and associated infrastructure in the Village. Cleaning and digging deeper ditches and installing larger culverts alone cannot properly address storm water management. For economically sustainable recovery efforts it is necessary for the Village to identify and analyze drainage issues and develop long-range plans for improvements, repairs, and maintenance of a storm water system that meets current standards.

Location Description:

The Village of Bennet, located in southeastern Lancaster County, generally is situated higher and to the north of the Little Nemaha River. The natural topography is rolling hills that by and large slope to the south and southeast carrying urban storm water through a system of open ditch drainage ways, culverts, and small segments of enclosed storm sewer lines to the river.

The storms of June 2008 caused considerable private and public property damage with flooding of homes, streets, and public spaces in various parts of the community. The flooding created hazardous conditions for residents and the subsequent standing water softened street shoulders leading to premature deterioration and substandard conditions.

Activity Progress Narrative:

During the 4th quarter of 2009, environmental review was found to be exempt for NEPA requirements, and all Special Conditions for Release of Funds were met.

Performance Measures

No Performance Measures found.

Activity Locations

No Activity Locations found.

Other Funding Sources Budgeted - Detail

No Other Match Funding Sources Found

Other Funding Sources

Amount

No Other Funding Sources Found

Total Other Funding Sources
