



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION
OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

EDWARD D. MANUEL
CHAIRMAN

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VICE CHAIRMAN

O'ODHAM HA-WE:HEJED

"For the People"



PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATEMENT FROM TOHONO O'ODHAM DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
ON FLOODING EMERGENCY**

SELLS, Ariz. – Rainfall from the remnants of Hurricane Rosa has produced unprecedented levels of flooding on the Tohono O'odham Nation, particularly in the vicinity of the Menagers Dam Community. The floodwaters have rendered road access to the community impassable and air access has been limited due to weather conditions.

Menagers Dam residents need to move as far to the north end of the community as possible due to rising floodwaters and uncertainty over the integrity of the dam. Community members are asked to avoid the area for the next 24 hours. The Nation's Office of Emergency Management is working to evacuate residents and is coordinating with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Pima County Swift Water Rescue teams for assistance. The Nation's Executive Office is preparing an emergency declaration for the affected areas.

Tohono O'odham Nation emergency services are also evacuating the more than 30 members of the Nation's Kohatk Village in Pinal County. The water in the adjacent wash was running extremely high and continuing to overflow the berms to flood the community.

The Nation asks that media refrain from coming to the flooded areas. Any media that does travel to the area will be asked to leave, as the Nation's Department of Public Safety needs to dedicate all resources for emergency management. Photos of the flooding are attached.

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Near Menagers Dam Community



Near Menagers Dam Community



Near Menagers Dam Community



Near Kohatk Community