



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

EDWARD D. MANUEL
CHAIRMAN

VERLON M. JOSE
VICE CHAIRMAN

O'ODHAM HA-WE:HEJED

"For the People"



PRESS RELEASE

October 6, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Smith, (520) 321-1111

UPDATE ON FLOODING RECOVERY EFFORTS ON TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

SELLS, Ariz. – The Tohono O'odham Nation is in the process of assessing damage from the flooding earlier this week which impacted multiple communities. Evacuees from impacted communities have been sheltered in the Sells area since evacuations earlier this week. The Emergency Shelter is being managed by tribal department personnel, local volunteers, and the American Red Cross.

Structural engineers have completed an inspection of Meneger's Dam. It is holding and they will continue to review the dam twice a day for the time being, particularly given forecasts for a 50% chance of rain on Sunday. The Tohono O'odham Nation is in communication with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in addressing the response efforts for Meneger's Dam as this earthen embankment is on the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Safety of Dams (SOD) inventory.

The Tohono O'odham Nation's Office of Emergency Management is working in coordination with a number of Nation Departments and stakeholders on an assessment of the damage to the Nation including structural, roadways, infrastructure systems, environmental degradation, and other impacts and will be submitting the assessment to FEMA for review and potential assistance in the upcoming days.

Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel said *"The changing weather and the incredible dedication of the Nation's personnel from multiple departments has helped us dodge a bullet. But with more rain expected over the weekend, there continues to be imminent danger in the Meneger's Dam area. The Nation is taking steps to assess the situation and we are thankful to the many other agencies, organizations and individuals who have offered assistance."*

For the safety of our community members and the general public, the Tohono O'odham Nation continues to advise everyone to stay out of the area of Ali Chugk.

Those wishing to provide assistance for the emergency shelter or recovery efforts are asked to contact Donna Estrada at (520) 993-1079 or (520) 383-6600 ext. 2279.

Items needed for evacuee shelters include:

- Water (40 cases)
- Snacks in boxes (20 boxes)

P.O. BOX 837, SELLS, ARIZONA 85634

PHONE: 520.383.2028

FAX: 520.383.3379

Items needed for evacuee shelters continued:

- Boxed juices (20 boxes)
- Detergent (20)
- Diapers (40, all sizes)
- Formula (40 packs)
- Baby wipes (10 boxes)
- Feminine hygiene products (20 boxes)
- Board games (20)
- 50-pound flour bags (20)

Items needed for recovery efforts include:

- Muck out kits (50, incl. buckets, brooms, brushes, bleach, rags, m95 masks, mops, sponges)
- Clean up kits (50)
- Ply board (80)
- Buckets (40)
- Tarps and Plastic sheeting (40)
- Drywall (80)
- Lumber 2x4x8 (100)
- AC Wall units (40)
- Roofing material (20 Felt and Roll roofing)

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References:

- Image 1 shows flooding on Federal Route 42 on the Tohono O'odham Nation
- Image 2 shows flood damage on Federal Route 42 on the Nation
- Video of the flood damage to Federal Route 42 on the Nation can be seen here:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4uuqturct937hba/AACdQZo4CIK31BT3sZkZ6Nq8a?dl=0>
- Indian Dams Safety Act of 1994, Public Law No. 103-302 (25 U.S.C. § 3801 et seq.)
<https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/dwp/safety-dams>
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-108/pdf/STATUTE-108-Pg1560.pdf>



