



STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

October 24, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Through: Mr. Robert J. Fenton, Jr.
FEMA Region 9 Regional Administrator
Oakland, CA

Dear Mr. President,

Under the provisions of Section (401) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.208, I request federal assistance for the State of Arizona as a result of severe thunderstorms and catastrophic flooding that began on September 25, 2025 through September 27, 2025.

There are three (3) known deaths or missing individuals at this time.

A State of Emergency was declared by Governor Hobbs on September 27, 2025, covering the Counties of Gila and Mohave. The scale of the disaster caused local municipalities, counties, and contiguous tribes to declare states of emergency related to this event. The San Carlos Apache Tribe, the County of Gila, the County of Mohave, and the City of Globe, and Town of Miami all declared for this event.¹

Between September 25 and September 27, 2025, the State of Arizona experienced a prolonged period of torrential rainfall and flash flooding resulting from a stalled monsoonal moisture system that interacted with a low-pressure trough over central Arizona. The event produced approximately six to ten (6-10) inches of rainfall within forty-eight (48) hours, overwhelming local watersheds including Pinal Creek, Miami

¹ All jurisdictions that declared for this event are listed for context; however, the San Carlos Apache Tribe damages are not included in the estimated damages calculations as the tribe intends to request separately from the state.

Wash, Russell Gulch, and Kellner Canyon. Rapid runoff and saturated soils triggered flash floods, debris flows, and washouts across Gila and Mohave Counties. The event caused widespread destruction to homes. Entire neighborhoods in Globe, Miami, Claypool, Hayden, and Winkelman were inundated. Streets became impassable rivers, bridges were washed out, and culverts clogged with sediment. The flooding caused slope failures and undermined foundations, displacing families and damaging hundreds of homes and businesses.

Preliminary damage assessments identified three hundred and twelve (312) damaged homes, including sixty-four (64) destroyed, eighty-nine (89) with major damage, and one-hundred and fifty-nine (159) with minor to affected-level damage. More than one hundred and eighty (180) residents required emergency sheltering or temporary lodging, and approximately seventy-four (74) households lacked flood insurance coverage. Approximately 8,464 individuals received emergency alerting to take immediate action during the event.

Severe erosion and debris deposition damaged primary roadways and bridges, including portions of U.S. Highway 60, State Route 77, and numerous county or locally maintained roads. Public utilities and community lifelines were significantly disrupted: potable water and wastewater systems in Globe and Miami experienced contamination from sediment intrusion, and power and telecommunications were intermittently lost across multiple census blocks. Emergency protective measures were required to coordinate lifesaving efforts, rescue victims, recovery of deceased persons, stabilize slopes, clear debris, restore access for emergency services, and temporarily restore utilities until permanent repairs could be made.

Local jurisdictions in Gila County immediately declared emergencies and activated their Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). The Gila County Emergency Management Division coordinated evacuations and shelter operations with support from the American Red Cross and Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA). Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) crews conducted debris clearance on primary corridors while local public works prioritized restoration of local access roads, drainage systems, and low-water crossings. Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZDPS), county Sheriffs' Offices, Fire and Emergency Medical Services agencies conducted immediate water rescue and search and rescue activities. The City of Globe has lost use of their city owned and operated wastewater system requiring temporary emergency restoration measures to continue to provide minimal services to the community. Several impacted communities also lost use of their potable water system requiring supplemental water distribution and boil water notices to be issued. Despite these efforts, the magnitude of

damage, economically challenged rural community, and the extent of unmet community recovery needs exceed local and state capacity.

Mohave County activated their Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). The Mohave County Emergency Management Division coordinated evacuations. Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) crews conducted debris clearance on primary corridors while local public works prioritized restoration of local access roads, drainage systems, and low-water crossings. Despite these efforts, the magnitude of damage and the extent of unmet community recovery needs exceed local and state capacity.

The flood also had disproportionate impacts on socially vulnerable populations. The Social Vulnerability Index for Gila and Mohave Counties are Very High at 82.05% and 84.89% respectively, making the community very susceptible to the adverse effects of natural hazards. According to the National Risk Index, the Community Resilience for Gila and Mohave Counties is Very Low at 8.24% and 3.56% respectively. Communities in Gila and Mohave Counties have a very low ability to prepare for anticipated natural hazards, adapt to changing conditions, and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions.

Affected neighborhoods included low-income, elderly, and mobility-impaired residents, many residing in pre-1978 housing or mobile home units not built to current flood-resistant standards. Several essential service providers, including senior care facilities, small medical offices, and food distribution centers, experienced damage or prolonged closure, further straining local recovery.

In total, losses are preliminarily estimated at \$33,579,081, encompassing residential, infrastructure, debris removal, and emergency response costs. Continued instability of slopes and sediment-laden waterways poses ongoing threats to public safety and the environment.

Category	Estimate	Description
Residential	\$4,100,000.00	312 homes damaged (64 destroyed, 89 major, 159 minor).
Public Infrastructure	\$23,306,284.00	Major damage to roads, bridges, and utilities in Globe, Miami, and rural Gila and Mohave County.
Emergency Protective Measures	\$4,721,112.00	Search and rescue, debris clearance, sheltering, and EOC operations.
Debris Removal	\$1,451,685.00	175,000 tones of mixed debris requiring removal and disposal.

Category	Estimate	Description
Individual Assistance Needs		187 displaced households; 74 uninsured; 46 elderly; 23 with disabilities.

In light of the severe and lasting impact of this disaster, it is crucial that affected residents receive immediate federal assistance.

The following information is furnished on the nature and amount of State, local, or Indian tribal government resources that have been or will be used to alleviate the conditions of this disaster:

Prior to and after the State declaration on September 27, 2025, DEMA activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), deployed the Arizona State Incident Management Team, numerous state and local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, hazardous materials teams, paramedics / other medical personnel, and emergency management personnel to support affected jurisdictions. All Emergency Support Functions/Recovery Support Functions (ESF/RSFs) have been activated. State, Tribal, County, and local resources are operating at 100% capacity. The State surpassed the ability to respond with organic resources and requested additional personnel and resources from across the country through both State-to-State Mutual Aid Agreements and the Emergency Mutual Aid Compact (EMAC). Protective actions were implemented and an evacuation of residents from the affected disaster zone was ordered. Mass care services were set up with Evacuation Centers and emergency workers. Roadblocks in and around evacuated areas were established with law enforcement and transportation personnel. Disaster Assistance Centers have been established and are providing in person case management services for survivors.

Impacted counties and local jurisdictions will be eligible for State Public Assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund (GEF). Four (4) million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) is annually appropriated to the GEF. This disaster has already exceeded the remaining annual allocation. The State currently has conducted numerous Public Assistance recovery operations throughout the State and continues to conduct and fund recovery operations for thirty-two (32) open state disaster declarations. These continued Public Assistance recovery operations, as well as the current disasters from wildfires and flooding events, overwhelm the annually allocated funds for FY2026.

The GEF funds not only disasters within the current fiscal year, but also funds disaster recovery efforts from previous years with on-going work and active projects.

Based on the results of the Preliminary Damage Assessments conducted by FEMA, State of Arizona, and local officials, I request the following:

- Public Assistance (PA) Categories A–G, to include 406 mitigation funding, for Gila and Mohave Counties, to assist with debris removal, emergency protective measures, and repair of public infrastructure.
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for the State of Arizona to enable the development and implementation of long-term mitigation projects statewide.

*Additional counties may be added to the request for Public Assistance as damage assessments are completed and eligibility confirmed.

The State of Arizona commits to its non-federal cost share as required under the Stafford Act and will ensure compliance with all applicable federal laws and regulations. DEMA will serve as the grantee agency for all assistance provided under this declaration.

I have designated Gabriel Lavine, Director of the Division of Emergency Management, as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He can be reached at (602) 319-2330 or Gabriel.Lavine@azdema.gov. Director Lavine will work directly with FEMA and may provide further information or justification on my behalf. Pursuant to the provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, I hereby request that a Major Disaster Declaration be issued for the State of Arizona.

Sincerely,



Katie Hobbs
Governor
State of Arizona

Enclosures:

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13

Enclosure B – Public Assistance

Enclosure B1 – PDA Summaries and Field Reports

Enclosure C – Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs

Enclosure E - Community Vulnerability and Infrastructure Impacts

Impacted Area Mapping File

Link https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17TIY7aQG8kOka7XxCLssy12gBrKirzaX?usp=drive_link

Cc: Brigadier General John Conley, Director
Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs

Gabriel Lavine, Director
Arizona Division of Emergency Management