

WBR ARTICLE

Obama grants Wyo disaster request

By Business Report Staff

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CHEYENNE — President Obama today granted a disaster declaration requested by Gov. Dave Freudenthal after flooding damaged roads, bridges and other areas in Fremont County in June.

The declaration makes public assistance available, which partially compensates state and local governments and certain nonprofit organizations for emergency work and repair or replacement of flood-damaged areas in Fremont County and the Wind River Indian Reservation.

Property owners will not receive assistance because "we didn't hit the numbers in terms of damage to individual properties," Freudenthal explained during his weekly press conference.

"I am appreciative this was acted on quickly, so that repairs to the damaged infrastructure in Fremont County and on the reservation can get underway," said the governor, who submitted the request June 30 following flooding that occurred from June 4-18.

The declaration also includes Hazard Mitigation Grant Program assistance to state and local governments and certain nonprofit organizations for actions that were taken to prevent or reduce long-term risk to life and property from the flood.

All counties and Tribes in Wyoming are eligible to apply for assistance under the hazard program.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency said that additional designations might be made at a later date, following further damage evaluation.