

Utilities Helping Utilities: Benefits of Mutual Aid

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WATER FINANCE
ASSISTANCE

Quick Pre-Quiz



Presenter



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Utilities can help each other
in times of **emergencies**



Wildfire



Wildfire Impacts

Storage
tanks
damaged



Wildfire Impacts



No
electricity

Wildfire Impacts

No
backhoe



Wildfire Impacts



Can't access
the well house

Wildfire Impacts

Groundwater
chemistry
changed



Wildfire Impacts



Hours away from
nearest bulk
bottled water
distributor

Wildfire Impacts

Several
employees lost
their homes



What does the utility need
to **recover**, short-term &
long-term?

Talk with your neighbors & then we'll make a list



Mutual Aid and Assistance Networks

- Groups of utilities that agree to consider offering help to each other during times of emergencies
- The most popular networks in the country like this are called Water and Wastewater Agency Response Networks, or WARN



WARN

- You are welcome to join the WARN in the state where your sovereign lands are located
- Tribal utilities could also form their own WARN-type organization
- Tribal utilities are currently members of the WARNs in Oregon, California, New Mexico, South Dakota, Connecticut, Florida, and other states



Benefits of a WARN

- Large number of utilities spread over a bigger geographic area
- No need for a disaster to be declared to receive assistance
- Details about compensation and liability are worked out *ahead of time*



Utilities can also help each other improve their **day-to-day operations**



Sharing Information & Expertise



Joint Purchasing Agreements



Shared Equipment



Shared Water Supply/Wastewater Treatment



Thank You!



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