

NEWS RELEASE

Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe

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August 5, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHOALWATER BAY INDIAN TRIBE TO UPDATE PLAN TO PREPARE FOR IMPACTS OF NATURAL HAZARDS

The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe is embarking on a planning process to prepare for impacts of natural disasters.

Responding to federal mandates in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe will update its hazard mitigation plan and their mitigation strategies that can be consistently applied to the planning area in an effort to enhance resilience on the Reservation. This planning process is being led by Lee Shipman, Department of Emergency Management with support from Beverly O'Dea of Bridgeview Consulting, LLC, the hired technical consultant. This project is being funded by a planning grant from FEMA. The planning process will take approximately 9 to 12 months to complete.

During this process, Tribal Members and citizens will be asked to contribute by sharing local knowledge of an area's vulnerability to hazards based on past occurrences. Public involvement will be solicited via a multi-media campaign that will include public meetings, web-based information, questionnaires and updates on the plans progress via a website. This process will be overseen by a Planning Team made up of stakeholders from within the planning area. This team will meet as needed throughout the process. Notice of the date and time of these meetings will be posted on the Tribe's website. Meetings will typically be held on the Reservation, but may occur at other locations as determined by the planning team.

An informational website on the plan and purposes for planning has been established at:

www.shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov/home/shoalwater-services/public-safety/

This website will serve as the primary means for the public to gain information on the plan and ways that they can participate in the planning process. The public is highly encouraged to provide input on all phases of this plan's development.

Any questions or comments regarding this process are encouraged and should be directed to Lee Shipman, Shoalwater Bay Tribe Department of Emergency Management - phone: (360) 267-8120 or email: leshipman@shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov, or Beverly O'Dea, Bridgeview Consulting, LLC, - phone (253) 301-1330 or email: bevodea@bridgeviewconsulting.org

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