



Why This Matters

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides public assistance to state, tribal, and local government, and certain types of private nonprofit organizations so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. We perform audits of FEMA grantees and subgrantees to determine whether costs claimed under the awards are eligible and allowable under Federal regulations and FEMA guidelines. Palm Beach County, Florida, (County) received an award of 5.1 million for emergency work resulting from Tropical Storm Fay, which occurred in August 2008.

DHS Response

FEMA's written response is due within 90 days.

Palm Beach County, Florida, Appropriately Expended \$4.8 Million of FEMA Public Assistance Funds Awarded for Beach Renourishment Activities Under Tropical Storm Fay

What We Determined

The County generally expended \$4.8 million of Public Assistance grant funds awarded for beach renourishment activities according to Federal regulations and FEMA guidelines for the three projects included in our review. However, it did not account for the project expenditures on a project-by-project basis as required.

What We Recommend

We recommend that the Regional Administrator, FEMA Region IV, instruct the State to reemphasize to the County its need to account for FEMA project expenditures on a project-by-project basis as required by Federal regulations.

For Further Information:

Contact our Office of Public Affairs at (202)254-4100, or email us at DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@oig.dhs.gov