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Natural Disasters and Hazards: CRS Experts

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The following table provides access to names and contact information for CRS experts on policy and legal issues relating to natural disasters and hazards in the United States. Policy areas identified include federal authorities related to natural disasters, specific consequences, federal disaster assistance, funding and financing, preparedness, and science.

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	Email
Federal Authorities Related to Natural Disasters			
Stafford Act Declarations	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
	Bruce R. Lindsay Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-3752	blindsay@crs.loc.gov
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)	David Bearden Specialist in Environmental Policy	7-2390	dbearden@crs.loc.gov
Defense Production Act of 1950 (DPA)	Jared T. Brown Analyst in Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy	7-4918	jbrown@crs.loc.gov
Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)	David Bearden Specialist in Environmental Policy	7-2390	dbearden@crs.loc.gov
Federal Crop Insurance Act	Megan Stubbs Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy	7-8707	mstubbs@crs.loc.gov
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Linda Luther Analyst in Environmental Policy	7-6852	lluther@crs.loc.gov
National Flood Insurance Act	Rawle O. King Specialist in Financial Economics and Risk Assessment	7-5975	rking@crs.loc.gov
Oil Pollution Act of 1990	Jonathan L. Ramseur Specialist in Environmental Policy	7-7919	jramseur@crs.loc.gov
Posse Comitatus Act	Jennifer K. Elsea Legislative Attorney	7-5466	jelsea@crs.loc.gov
Public Health Service Act, other public health authorities	Sarah A. Lister Specialist in Public Health and Epidemiology	7-7320	slister@crs.loc.gov
Specific Consequences of Natural Hazards and Disasters			
Debris Removal and Disposal	Linda Luther Analyst in Environmental Policy	7-6852	lluther@crs.loc.gov
Evacuations and Sheltering	Bruce R. Lindsay Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-3752	blindsay@crs.loc.gov
Public Health	Sarah Lister Specialist in Public Health and Epidemiology	7-7320	slister@crs.loc.gov
Temporary Housing and Public Facilities	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
Communications			
First Responder	Linda K. Moore Specialist in Telecommunications Policy	7-5853	lmoore@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	Email
Social Media	Bruce R. Lindsay Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-3752	blindsay@crs.loc.gov
Warning Systems	Peter Folger Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources Policy	7-1517	pfolger@crs.loc.gov
Environmental Consequences			
Agriculture	Megan Stubbs Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy	7-8707	mstubbs@crs.loc.gov
Drinking Water Quality	Mary Tiemann Specialist in Environmental Policy	7-5937	mtiemann@crs.loc.gov
Ecosystems and Coastal Wetlands	Pervaze A. Sheikh Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-6070	psheikh@crs.loc.gov
Environmental Review/NEPA	Linda Luther Analyst in Environmental Policy	7-6852	lluther@crs.loc.gov
Fisheries	Harold F. Upton Analyst in Natural Resources Policy	7-2264	hupton@crs.loc.gov
Water Availability	Betsy Cody Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-7229	bcody@crs.loc.gov
Wildlife	Lynne Corn Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-7267	lcorn@crs.loc.gov
Infrastructure			
Electric Power Production	Richard Campbell Specialist in Energy Policy	7-7905	rcampbell@crs.loc.gov
Fuel Supply Interruptions	Paul Parfomak Specialist in Energy and Infrastructure Policy	7-0030	pparfomak@crs.loc.gov
River Barges, Railroads	John Frittelli Specialist in Transportation Policy	7-7033	jfrittelli@crs.loc.gov
Roads, Highways, and Transit	Robert S. Kirk Specialist in Transportation Policy	7-7769	rkirk@crs.loc.gov
Flood Control Systems			
Flood Control, Dams and Levees—Legal Issues	Cynthia Brown Legislative Attorney	7-9121	cmbrown@crs.loc.gov
Floodplain Mapping	Rawle O. King Specialist in Financial Economics and Risk Assessment	7-5975	rking@crs.loc.gov
Levee Certification	Rawle O. King Specialist in Financial Economics and Risk Assessment	7-5975	rking@crs.loc.gov
Levees, Dams, and Shore Protection	Nicole Carter Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-0854	ncarter@crs.loc.gov
Federal Disaster Assistance			
Stafford Act Assistance			

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	Email
Community Disaster Loan Program (CDL)	Jared Brown Analyst in Homeland Security and Emergency Management Policy	7-4918	jbrown@crs.loc.gov
Crisis Counseling	Sarah Lister Specialist in Public Health and Epidemiology	7-7320	slister@crs.loc.gov
Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)	Julie M. Whittaker Specialist in Income Security	7-2857	jwhittaker@crs.loc.gov
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Emergency Response	David M. Bearden Specialist in Environmental Policy	7-2390	dbearden@crs.loc.gov
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
Individual and Household Program (IHP)—Housing/Other Needs Assistance	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
Public Assistance (PA)	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
Non-Stafford Act Assistance			
U.S. Department of Agriculture Land Rehabilitation	Megan Stubbs Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy	7-8707	mstubbs@crs.loc.gov
Bureau of Reclamation Assistance	Betsy Cody Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-7229	bcody@crs.loc.gov
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-DR)	Eugene Boyd Analyst in Federalism and Economic Development Policy	7-8689	eboyd@crs.loc.gov
Department of Defense and National Guard Support	Lawrence Kapp Specialist in Military Manpower Policy	7-7609	lkapp@crs.loc.gov
Federal Highway and Transit	Robert S. Kirk Specialist in Transportation Policy	7-7769	rkirk@crs.loc.gov
International Response to Domestic U.S. Disasters	Rhoda Margesson Specialist in International Humanitarian Policy	7-0425	rmargesson@crs.loc.gov
Liability for Damages	Cynthia Brown Legislative Attorney	7-9121	cmbrown@crs.loc.gov
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development	Tadlock Cowan Analyst in Agricultural Policy	7-7600	tcowan@crs.loc.gov
Small Business Administration (SBA)	Bruce R. Lindsay Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-3752	blindsay@crs.loc.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Nicole Carter Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-0854	ncarter@crs.loc.gov
U.S. Department of Agriculture Conservation Programs	Megan Stubbs Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy	7-8707	mstubbs@crs.loc.gov
U.S. Department of Agriculture Disaster Assistance	Megan Stubbs Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy	7-8707	mstubbs@crs.loc.gov

Legislative Issues	Name/Title	Phone	Email
Funding and Financing			
Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)	Bruce R. Lindsay Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-3752	blindsay@crs.loc.gov
	William L. Painter Analyst in Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy	7-3335	wpainter@crs.loc.gov
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Rawle O. King Specialist in Financial Economics and Risk Assessment	7-5975	rking@crs.loc.gov
	Jared T. Brown Analyst in Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy	7-4918	jbrown@crs.loc.gov
Crop Insurance	Megan Stubbs Specialist in Agricultural Conservation and Natural Resources Policy	7-8707	mstubbs@crs.loc.gov
Tax Relief	Erika Lunder Legislative Attorney	7-4538	elunder@crs.loc.gov
Catastrophic Risk Financing	Rawle O. King Specialist in Financial Economics and Risk Assessment	7-5975	rking@crs.loc.gov
Preparedness			
National Strategies and Policies	Jared T. Brown Analyst in Emergency Management and Homeland Security Policy	7-4918	jbrown@crs.loc.gov
	Bruce R. Lindsay Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-3752	blindsay@crs.loc.gov
Preparedness Grant Programs	Natalie Keegan Analyst in American Federalism and Emergency Management Policy	7-9569	nkeegan@crs.loc.gov
Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)	Francis X. McCarthy Analyst in Emergency Management Policy	7-9533	fmccarthy@crs.loc.gov
National Exercise Program	Eric Petersen Specialist in American National Government	7-0643	epetersen@crs.loc.gov
Science of Natural Hazards			
Climate Variability	Jane Leggett Specialist in Energy and Environmental Policy	7-9525	jaleggett@crs.loc.gov
Drought	Betsy A. Cody Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-7229	bcody@crs.loc.gov
Earthquakes	Peter Folger Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources	7-1517	pfolger@crs.loc.gov
Flooding	Nicole T. Carter Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-0854	ncarter@crs.loc.gov
Hurricane Science	Peter Folger Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources	7-1517	pfolger@crs.loc.gov

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Satellite Technology and Observations	Peter Folger Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources Policy	7-1517	pfolger@crs.loc.gov
Tornadoes	Peter Folger Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources	7-1517	pfolger@crs.loc.gov
U.S. Drought Monitor	Peter Folger Specialist in Energy and Natural Resources Policy	7-1517	pfolger@crs.loc.gov
Wildfires	Katie Hoover Specialist in Natural Resources Policy	7-9008	khoover@crs.loc.gov

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