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**(S.D.)-Gov. Dugaard Says Storm Damage Assessments Have Been Slated**



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/21/2013 08:18 AM

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - Gov. Dennis Dugaard says damage assessments will begin next week for counties and tribal land impacted from an early October storm that dumped 4 feet or more of snow in some areas.

Dugaard says the assessment by state, local and federal officials will begin on Oct. 28. The assessment will cover 15 storm-impacted counties and Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe reservations.

The governor uses the results of the assessments to determine whether a request for a presidential disaster declaration is warranted.

The storm knocked out power to about 30,000 people, closed roads and killed tens of thousands of cattle.