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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Chinle woman found in aftermath of flood, Navajo Police end search



*President Begaye and Vice President Nez encourage the public to remain safe during the rainstorm and not attempt to cross flooded washes, like this one located west of Gallup, N.M. (Photo by Rick Abasta)*

CHINLE, Ariz.—A person who was swept away during flooding in Chinle on August 2 was found.

Jesse Delmar, executive director of Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety, said a female individual was swept away while inside her vehicle during flash flooding last night. The body was recovered earlier today.

“The female individual was recovered. We are concluding

the search and rescue,” Delmar said. “Please be safe out there, don’t attempt to cross flooded areas.

He thanked division personnel, Arizona Department of Public Safety and community members who helped in the rescue and recovery efforts.

The helicopter crew from ADPS evacuated nine people from Canyon de Chelly, in addition to providing air support for the search and rescue.

More than two inches of hailstorm was reported. Canyon de Chelly and the main community were flooded, including schools and several public buildings.

Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye urged the public to be careful when traveling through flooded areas.

“The Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety is working with other resources to ensure Navajo residents are safe in the

aftermath of the storm,” said President Begaye.

He added, “The nation is being blessed with a lot of moisture, but that also comes with flash floods. The public needs to respect Mother Nature and not take any chances, especially with floods.

Vice President Nez said, “There is still rain in the forecast. Be careful out there, don’t cross flooded washes.”