Gila County

2019

Emergency Operations Plan

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LETTER OF PROMULGATION

This 2019 Gila County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is designed as the foundation for disaster response and recovery operations for Gila County and the political subdivisions within the county. This EOP supersedes all previous emergency management plans; and may serve as a reference and guidance document during natural, technological, and human-caused emergencies and disasters.

This plan establishes the emergency organization for the County, assigns tasks, specifies policies and general procedures, and provides for coordination of the duties of Gila County in both response and recovery procedures. This plan builds upon previous efforts to enhance the County's emergency and disaster preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities and includes the critical elements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the National Response Framework (NRF), and the Incident Command System (ICS).

This EOP is an extension of the State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.), Title 26, Chapter 2. Its concepts may be used to coordinate localized emergencies as well as catastrophic disasters to ensure the safety and survival of the population and protection of property and the environment. County departments will prepare and maintain procedures and guidelines that align with this plan and carry out the training and exercises needed to support this plan. The plan will be reviewed and exercised periodically and revised as necessary to meet changing conditions.

The Board of Supervisors for Gila County gives its full support to this plan and urges all officials, employees, and residents, individually and collectively, to do their share in the total emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts of Gila County.

This EOP is effective upon approval and resolution of the Board of Supervisors of Gila County. Concurrence with this promulgation letter constitutes the adoption of the Emergency Operations Plan by Gila County officials. A copy of this plan has been filed in the Board of Supervisors Office of Clerk; of Gila County, under the provisions of A.R.S. §26-307 B.

Sincerely,

_____   _____
Gila County Board of Supervisors   Date
Woody Cline, Chairman

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INTRODUCTION

The Gila County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is developed for use by Gila County Government Officials to ensure mitigation and preparedness, appropriate response, and timely recovery from hazards that may affect Gila County. This plan is designed to include the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) identified in the Arizona State Emergency Response and Recovery Plan. The Gila County Emergency Management Division (GCEM) will guide the execution of this plan under the direction and control of the Gila County governing authorities.

The EOP serves as a guide to facilitate the County's response to all disasters within its jurisdiction, and to coordinate resources of state, federal, city, town, tribal, non-governmental organizations, and private sector relief organizations in the response and recovery process. The EOP also establishes a comprehensive, countywide, all-hazards approach to providing effective and efficient incident management in all phases of an emergency including preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. This plan specifies the roles and responsibilities of local governments in times disaster.

Plan Format

The EOP is modeled after the National Response Framework and consists of a basic plan, three types of annexes: Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes, Incident Annexes and Support Annexes, which are activated as needed to support emergency response operations.

- **Basic Plan:** This section of the plan includes the introduction and administrative features; the hazards and threats to the County which provide the rationale for prioritizing emergency preparedness actions for specific hazards; and the concept of operations including the principles and methods used to carry out emergency operations.

- **Emergency Support Function Annexes:** Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to support Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff in performing their functions. The annexes represent a set of specific plans that are complementary to the EOP and used during specific, significant emergency situations that require unique planning beyond the all hazards approach within the Basic Plan (see attached Gila County Emergency Support Function Annexes).

- **Incident Annexes:** These annexes address contingency or hazard situations requiring specialized application of the EOP. They describe the missions, policies, responsibilities, and coordination processes that govern the interaction of public and private entities engaged in incident management and emergency response operations across a spectrum of potential hazards. These annexes are typically augmented by a variety of supporting plans and operational supplements (see attached Gila County Incident Annexes).

- **Support Annexes:** These annexes provide guidance and develop specific information and direction for the functional processes and administrative requirements necessary to ensure efficient and effective implementation of incident management objectives (see attached Gila County Support Annexes).

- **Recovery Operations:** Recovery refers to the measures undertaken by an entity following a disaster that will return existence back to normal, or at least as normal as possible within a given time-

period. Effective recovery consists of a complex array of interdependent and coordinated actions. This section includes short term and long-term recovery, damage assessment, recovery activities, disaster assistance, public assistance, and hazard mitigation programs.

Plan Development and Maintenance

The GCEM is responsible for the development of the County emergency plans. The EOP provides for the effective mobilization of all the resources of the County, both public and private, to meet any condition constituting a local emergency, state of emergency or state of war emergency, and shall provide for the organization, powers and duties, services and staff of the emergency organization.

The mission GCEM is to centralize the direction and control of the planning, coordination and management of disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery.

The GCEM is responsible for reviewing and maintaining the EOP. Individual County departments are responsible for updating and revising their departmental information regularly and submitting any relevant updates to the GCEM. These updates should include new or revised information, and changes to relevant standard operational procedures or positions. All changes to the EOP will be made by the GCEM and documented in the record of revisions table. Changes to the EOP will be distributed to each County department and the stakeholders shown on the Plan Distribution List. Major revisions to the EOP will be submitted to the County Manager for approval or recommendation for review by the Board of Supervisors.

Gila County EOP Activation

Activation of the EOP occurs as a result of one of the following conditions:

- On the order of the Board of Supervisors, based upon recommendation from the County Manager or the County Emergency Management Director.
- Upon the recommendation of the County Sheriff, a city, town, or district Fire Chief, the County Public Health Officer or the County Emergency Management Director because of exigent circumstances due to an emergency or hazard or based on current assessment of a situation.
- When the Governor has declared a State of Emergency in an area including this jurisdiction.
- A Presidential Declaration of a National Emergency.
- Automatically on receipt of an attack warning or the observation of a nuclear detonation.
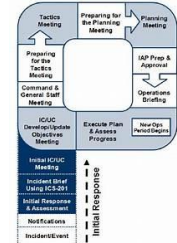
Legal Authorities and References

This section refers to Federal, State and County legal authorities, references, and planning guides that will be referenced in the Gila County Emergency Operations and all supporting annexes/plans.

Federal

- 29 CFR Parts 1910 – Occupational Safety and Health Standards; 1926 – Safety and Health Regulations for Construction; 1928 - Safety and Health Regulations for Agriculture
- 40 CFR Parts 61- National Emission Standards, 68 - Chemical Accident Prevention, 300 - National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, 355 - Emergency Planning and Notification, 370 -

Hazardous Chemical Report: Community Right-to-Know, 372 - Toxic Chemical Release Reporting.

- ADA Amendment Act (ADAAA) of 2008, Public Law 110-325.
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 1990, Public Law 101-336.
- Centers for Disease Control Point of Dispensing (POD) Standards, April 2008
- Centers for Disease Control Medical Countermeasure Distribution and Dispensing Composite Measure Guide, Version 3, September 2011.
- Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended in 1977 and 1990, 42 USC, Sections 7401-7671
- Clean Water Act of 1948, as amended in 1972, 1977, and 1987, 33 USC Section 1251 et seq.
- Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law 110-161.
- Disaster Assistance Program, Federal Emergency Management Agency-Eligible Costs Related to Pet Evacuations and Sheltering, Federal Emergency Management Agency (DAP 9523.19)
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Public Law 106-390
- Disaster Relief Appropriation Act of 2013
- Fair Housing Act as amended in 1988, 42 USC 3601
- Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950 (Public Law 920), as amended
- Federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended in 1996, 42 USC Sections 300j-9(i)
- Homeland Security Act of 2002, 6 USC Section 101, et seq., as amended
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD 5), February 28, 2003

  - National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7 (HSPD 7), December 17, 2003
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8, *National Preparedness*, March 30, 2011
- Homeland Security Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex to the Response and Recovery Federal Interagency Operational Plans, October 2016
- The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006, Public Law 109-308
- NRT-1, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide and NRT-1A Plan Review Guide (Environmental Protection Agency's National Response Team)
- Post-Katrina Emergency Reform Act of 2006, Public Law 109-295
- Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8, March 30, 2011, National Preparedness.
  - National Preparedness Goal and National Preparedness System
  - National Response Framework (NRF)
  - National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF)
- Public Law 84-99 (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Flood Control Act)
- Public Law 81-920 and Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 205 and 205.16, Federal Disaster Assistance
- Public Law 920, Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950, as amended
- Public Law 93-288, Disaster Relief Act of 1974
- Public Law 99-499, Title III, Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA)

- Receiving, Distributing, and Dispensing Strategic National Stockpile Assets: A Guide for Preparedness, Version 11
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, Public Law 93 288, as amended
- Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013
- Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986, Public Law 99-499, Title III, Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA)
- U.S. Code: Title 42, Chapter 116, Section 11003a-g - Comprehensive Emergency Response Plans
- Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, Public Law 105-19

State

- A.R.S. § 11-952 Intergovernmental agreements and contracts
- A.R.S. § 13-3872, Mutual Aid Agreements
- A.R.S. § 23-1022 Compensation as exclusive remedy for employees
- A.R.S. § 26-301 Emergency Management, et seq.
- A.R.S. § 26-308(B) Powers of local government.
- A.R.S. § 26-401 Emergency Management Assistance Compact, et seq.
- A.R.S. Title 26-341 to 26-353 Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act
- Chapter 1, Title 35, A.R.S., as amended
- Chapter 2, Title 26, A.R.S., as amended

County

- Gila County Resolution; September 5, 1972
- Resolutions relating to the Towns of Hayden and Winkelman Civil Defense

and Emergency Services, dated July 18, 1988 and December 12, 1988
- Resolution adopting the National Incident Management System, September 27, 2005, No. 05-09-12
- Resolution adopting the Gila County Emergency Operations Plan; (pending approval)

Additional References

- Mutual Aid Agreements
- Memorandums of Agreements/Understanding

Relationship to Other Plans/References

The EOP is the primary document used by the County to describe the conduct of emergency management activities. The EOP describes how emergency response and recovery activities will be conducted, and how support will be requested and coordinated, in the form of mutual aid and other resources. When emergencies or disasters necessitate resource support from regional, state, federal, international, non-governmental or non-profit sources outside the immediate control of County departments, then this EOP will serve as the primary guide to coordinating those resources at the next jurisdictional level.

This EOP is not a stand-alone document. Its purpose is to support the emergency plans and procedures of County departments. This plan is designed to adapt in a changing response environment and to the needs of primary/supporting agencies. The plans and guidelines that will frequently support the EOP, may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Arizona Department of Health Services Emergency Response Plan; 2016
- Arizona Department of Health Services Volunteer Coordination Plan, 2018

- Arizona Mutual Aid Compact, October 1, 2014
- Arizona Statewide Fire Service Mutual Aid Plan, July 2011
- Arizona State Emergency Response and Recovery Plan, February 2017
    - Onsite / Offsite Emergency Response Plans for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)
- Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG), Current Edition
- FEMA Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101, Version 2.0, November 2010

- Gila County Courthouse Evacuation Plan, November 2017
- Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement between the San Carlos Apache Tribe, Gila County Sheriff, and Gila County Attorney.
- National Disaster Recovery Framework, 2011
- National Preparedness Guidelines, 2007
- National Preparedness System, 2011
- National Response Framework, 2013
- Northern Gila County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Southern Gila County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- U.S. Department of Transportation ICS Incident Management Guide

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BASIC PLAN

Purpose

This Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) addresses Gila County's planned response to extraordinary situations associated with natural disasters and/or technological incidents including both peacetime and national security operations. The plan provides an overview of the operational concepts relating to various emergency situations, identifies components of the emergency response organization, and describes the overall responsibilities of the County departments in protecting life and property and assuring the overall well-being of the population.

Scope

The EOP was prepared for Gila County, Arizona, which include incorporated and unincorporated communities.

- **Incorporated:** City of Globe; towns of Hayden, Miami, Payson, Star Valley, and Winkelman.
- **Unincorporated:** Strawberry, Pine, Christopher Creek, Young, Tonto Basin, and Roosevelt. Gila County is also home to the Tonto Apache Reservation and a portion of the San Carlos Apache and White Mountain Apache Reservations.

The provisions of this plan are applicable to all disasters of such magnitude as to require a response above the normal role of County and local government agencies.

Goals and Objectives

This EOP was developed to ensure effective and coordinated planning and response efforts at all levels of government, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector to minimize injuries, hardship and suffering to the affected population of the County, and alleviate damage to property and the environment.

The EOP serves as the foundation for the development of supplementary plans and procedures to enable efficient, cost effective implementation of response activities. The EOP is applicable to all County departments that may be tasked to provide resources, whether personnel, equipment, supplies or material, or to conduct operations in the context of actual or potential declared disasters or emergencies. These incidents may require a coordinated response by an appropriate combination of local, county, state, tribal, private-sector, NGO, and Federal entities.

Goals

- Provide effective life safety measures and reduce property loss and damage to the environment.
- Provide for the rapid resumption of impacted businesses and community services.
- Provide accurate documentation and records required for cost recovery efforts.

Objectives

- Maintain overall coordination of emergency response and recovery operations, including on-scene incident management as required.
- Coordinate and liaise with appropriate federal, state and other local government agencies, as well as applicable segments of private sector entities, volunteer agencies and faith-based organizations.
- Establish priorities and resolve conflicting demands for support
- Prepare and disseminate emergency public information to alert, warn, and inform the public.

- Record and maintain damage information, time and cost records, and other essential data.

Situation Overview

Hazard Analysis Summary

A detailed analysis of the hazards facing Gila County and its political subdivisions was conducted as part of the Gila County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, approved by FEMA in November 2011. Refer to the Gila County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2011 for more detailed hazard information. The hazards determined to be the greatest risk within Gila County are:

- Extreme (Hazardous Weather Conditions)
  - Extreme cold/freeze (Winter Storms)
  - Extreme heat/drought
  - Flooding/Thunderstorms/Lightning
- Hazardous Materials
- Transportation Accidents with Multiple Casualties
- Wildfires

At the time of this plan revision, stakeholders concurred with the hazards identified above from the 2011 Gila County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and proposed that the next revision of the Gila County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan consider pandemic influenza and earthquake as potential hazards.

Capabilities Assessment

Gila County has implemented many capabilities to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of an emergency or disaster. In addition, the County, cities and towns within the county and tribal governments maintain local response capabilities and regional mutual aid agreements to assist when resources are exhausted. In developing the EOP, the following capabilities should be taken into consideration:

- Regulatory tools; ordinances, plans, and codes.
- Provide accurate documentation and records required for cost recovery efforts.
- Personnel resources; emergency response personnel including law, fire, public works, emergency medical, health care, environmental safety, emergency management staff, public information officers, GIS and information system technicians, risk management, animal care and control, medical examiner, and other personnel as needed.
- Financial resources; general funds, facilities maintenance funds, equipment replacement funds, grant program funding.
- Hazard information systems.
- Stocking of emergency supplies; food and water, equipment, materials.
  - Vehicles; accessible transportation
  - Medical surge, medical countermeasures, and treatment capability.
  - General and medical supplies, durable medical equipment, and disability-related assistance.
  - Emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs.
- Communications equipment.
- Shelter facilities and supplies, and animal sheltering needs.

Mitigation Overview

The 2011 Gila County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed with input from the cities and towns in the county. Mitigation is defined as sustained actions that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. The intent of mitigation is to focus on actions that produce repetitive benefits over time, not on those actions that might be considered emergency planning or emergency services.

Hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce the effects of the hazard. Emergency preparedness is preparing for the effects of the hazard should the mitigation efforts fail. Hazard mitigation is the only phase of emergency management that can break the cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.

Hazard identification and a risk assessment is the foundation of the mitigation plan. The risk assessment also provides information on the potential vulnerability of the county to natural and technological hazards. Hazard mitigation planning helps the County and jurisdictions within the county sustain fewer losses and recover more quickly when faced with the next disaster.

Assumptions

- An emergency or disaster may occur in the County at any time and with no warning.
- Incidents are typically managed at the lowest possible geographic, organizational, and jurisdictional level.
- Municipalities within the county may participate in the Gila County response.
- Gila County is primarily responsible for emergency response and will commit available resources to save lives, minimize injury to persons, and minimize damage to property and the environment.

- Gila County and the municipalities will utilize the National Incident Management System in emergency response and management operations.
- The GCEM Director will coordinate the County's disaster response in conformance with its emergency organization and functions.
- The resources of Gila County will be made available to local agencies and residents to cop e with disasters affecting this area to the broadest extent possible.
- Gila County will commit its resources to a reasonable degree before requesting mutual aid assistance from other jurisdictions and the State of Arizona.
- Mutual aid assistance may be requested when disaster relief requirements exceed Gila County's ability to meet them.
- Emergency incidents involving federal agencies, military personnel, and mutual aid, such as an aircraft accident or act of terrorism, will be managed through multi-agency coordination, established unified command, and by delegation of authority.
- Gila County will designate authorized and trained personnel to perform public information and media outreach as appropriate.

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CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

The GCEM has developed plans and procedures to protect life, property and the environment from potential threats. These plans and procedures direct emergency response and recovery activities in order to maintain a robust emergency management organization with strong collaborative ties among local government, community- based organizations and volunteers, public service agencies, and the private sector under NIMS. Emergency management activities during peacetime and national security emergencies are often associated with the four federal emergency management phases indicated below, however, not every disaster necessarily includes all phases. All departments of Gila
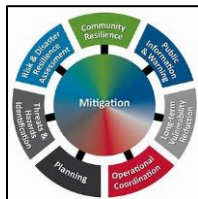
County have responsibilities in one or more of the emergency phases: 1) Preparedness; 2) Response; 3) Recovery; and 4) Mitigation.

Preparedness Phase

The preparedness phase involves activities that are undertaken in advance of an emergency or disaster to develop operational capabilities and effective responses to a disaster. Disaster plans are developed and revised to guide disaster response and increase available resources.

Planning activities include developing hazard analyses, training response personnel, and improving public information and communications systems, all aimed toward a position of increased readiness for a disaster.

Increased readiness actions will be initiated by the receipt of a warning or the observation that an emergency situation is imminent or likely to occur soon. Actions to be accomplished include, but are not necessarily limited to the points listed below:

- Review and update of emergency plans, Standard Operating Procedures, and resource listings.
- Pre-incident and post-incident public awareness information and education programs regarding disaster preparedness.
- Inspection of critical facilities.
- Recruitment of additional staff.
- Mobilization of resources.
- Testing warning and communications systems.

Public Education and Outreach

Public education and outreach promote preparedness and hazard mitigation concepts and techniques through the community's participation in planning, education, training and coordination with public and private sectors. This is accomplished through a variety of outreach activities including hosting community meetings and workshops, coordinating educating seminars, providing disaster handouts, and training through social media, community-based presentations, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs, representation at community, business, faith based and civic organizational meetings, and literature.

Training and Exercise

The GCEM will provide appropriate training or coordinate with DEMA for the training of members of the County

emergency response organization and other emergency response personnel. All employees with responsibilities in emergency response or a position in the EOC will receive NIMS training. Additionally, the appropriate NIMS training will be provided to all public safety and first responder personnel. Each County department is responsible for coordinating NIMS training(s) for

those employees that have a role in emergency management.

The core courses of training will be selected from the following list, commensurate with individual and supervisory responsibilities:

- IS-700.a: National Incident Management System; an Introduction
- IS-800.b: National Response Framework, an Introduction
- IS-100.b: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS 100
- IS-200.b: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents, ICS 200
- ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents
- ICS-400: Advanced ICS Command and General Staff - Complex Incidents

Additional courses designed to enhance skills development and fulfill NIMS credentialing tracks are available. County departments will document the training provided to emergency response personnel to document compliance with NIMS.

In addition to training, exercises are the best method of ensuring emergency responders understand their roles and responsibilities. Exercises allow emergency responders to become familiar with the procedures, facilities and systems that they will actually use in emergency situations. Exercises will be conducted on a regular basis to maintain readiness. Exercises will include stakeholders that have potential roles and responsibilities based on the exercise scenario and objectives. Not all exercises require every agency or department to partake in them.

The GCEM will document each exercise in accordance with current U.S. Department of Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation

Program (HSEEP) guidelines. The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program provides a set of guiding principles for exercise programs, as well as a common approach to exercise program management, design and development.

Response Phase

Pre-Emergency

When a disaster is imminent, actions are precautionary and emphasize protection of life. Typical responses may be:

- Alerting necessary agencies, placing critical resources and personnel on stand-by.
- Evacuation of threatened populations to safe areas, and protection of their safety.
- Advising threatened populations of the emergency and apprising them of safety measures they should take to protect themselves.
- Activating appropriate EOC and staff.
- Identifying the need for mutual aid.
- Declaration of a Local Emergency by local authorities.

Emergency Response

During this phase, emphasis is placed on saving lives and property, isolation and control of the situation, and minimizing effects of the disaster. Immediate response is accomplished within the affected area by local government agencies and segments of the private sector. One of the following conditions will apply to the County during this phase:

- The situation can be controlled without mutual aid.
- Evacuation of portions of the County is required due to uncontrollable immediate and ensuing threats.
- Mutual aid from outside the County is required.

- The County is either minimally impacted or not impacted at all and is requested to provide mutual aid to other jurisdictions.

Gila County will give priority to the following operations:
- Dissemination of accurate and timely emergency information and warning to the public.
- Situation analysis and information sharing with stakeholders and response partners.
- Resource allocation and control
- Evacuation and rescue operations
- Medical care operations
- Care and shelter operations
- Access and perimeter control
- Public health operations
- Restoration of vital services and utilities.

When local resources are overwhelmed, and/or additional resources are required, the impacted jurisdiction may request assistance through their respective mutual aid agreements. Mutual aid is a formal agreement among emergency responders to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries when required. Gila County is a signatory of the Arizona Mutual Aid Compact (AZMAC) as of August 2015. Local jurisdictions will request county and state resources through the county's emergency management office. Depending on the severity of the emergency, incorporated jurisdictions and/or the county may activate their respective emergency operations centers.

A local emergency may be declared by the County, or an incorporated jurisdiction. The Governor may declare a State of Emergency. Should a State of Emergency be declared, state agencies will, to the extent possible, respond to requests for assistance. These activities will be coordinated with DEMA and/or the Governor. DEMA may also activate the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Phoenix to support

state agencies and other entities in the affected areas and to ensure the effectiveness of the state's emergency response.

The Governor may request a Presidential Declaration of an Emergency through the Regional Director, Region IX, of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to meet specific needs to save lives, protect property, health and safety or avert or lessen the threat of a disaster. This is specialized direct assistance to meet a specific need which must be stipulated by the State in a Federal-State Agreement for Emergencies.

Sustained Emergency

In addition to continuing life and property protection operations, the following operations may be implemented in a sustained emergency:
- Mass care
- Relocation
- Public information
- Situation analysis
- Damage assessment

Recovery Phase

At the onset of an emergency, actions are taken to enhance the effectiveness of recovery operations. Recovery consists of both short-term activities intended to return vital life-support systems to operation, and long-term activities designed to return infrastructure systems to pre-disaster conditions. Recovery also includes cost recovery activities. The recovery period has major objectives which may overlap, including:
- Reinstatement of family and individual's autonomy
- Provision of essential public services
- Permanent restoration of private and public property
- Identification of residual hazards
- Plans to mitigate future hazards

- Recovery of costs associated with response and recovery efforts
- Coordination of state and federal, private and public assistance

As the immediate threat to life, property and the environment subsides, the rebuilding of affected areas of Gila County will begin through various recovery activities. Recovery activities involve the restoration of services to the public and rebuilding the affected area(s). Examples of recovery activities include:

- Restoring all utilities, life support systems, and critical infrastructure.
- Establishing and staffing Local Assistance Centers and Disaster Assistance Centers.
- Applying for state and federal assistance programs.
- Conducting hazard mitigation analysis
- Identifying residual hazards
- Determining recovery costs associated with response and recovery

Prevention / Mitigation Phase

Preventing damage and losses from disasters includes those efforts known as mitigation activities. Mitigation efforts occur both before and following disaster incidents. Post-disaster mitigation is part of the recovery process. Preventing, eliminating or reducing the impact of hazards that exist within the county and are a threat to life and property are part of the mitigation efforts. Mitigation tools include:

- 2011 Gila County Multi-Jurisdiction Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Local ordinances and statutes (zoning ordinance, building codes and enforcement, etc.)
- Structural measures
- Tax levy or abatements
- Public outreach and community relations

- Land use planning

Presidential Policy Directive 8 and the National Preparedness Goal

Together, Gila County, its emergency response departments, and the Nation strive to meet the approach to preparing for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the United States as described in Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD8), September 2011, and the National Preparedness Goal, October 2011. This directive is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, cyber-attacks, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters.

National preparedness is the shared responsibility of all levels of government, the private and nonprofit sectors, and individual citizens. Everyone can contribute to safeguarding the Nation from harm. While these directives are intended to galvanize action by the Federal Government, they are also aimed at facilitating an integrated, capabilities-based approach to preparedness. Key elements of the National Preparedness Goal include:

- The Five Mission Areas
- The Core Capabilities
- The Strategic National Risk Assessment Scenarios
- The concept of the "whole community"

PPD-8 encompasses the full spectrum of prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts to prepare the Nation for all hazards – whether terrorist attack or natural disaster – and define what it means for the Nation to be prepared for all hazards.

National Incident Management System

Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5) established the National Incident Management System (NIMS), integrating best practices into a consistent, flexible and adjustable nationwide approach for emergency management.

Using NIMS, federal, state, local and tribal governments, and private sector and non-governmental organizations work together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity. Federal and state government agencies are required to use NIMS, while local government agencies and special districts must use NIMS to be eligible for federal funding for emergency and disaster preparedness activities. Gila County has incorporated the use of NIMS into their regular and emergency operations. The NIMS includes the following components:

- Command and Management, including the Incident Command System
- Communications and Information Management
- Preparedness
- Resource Management
- Supporting Technologies
- Joint Information System (JIS)
- NIMS Management and Maintenance

The development of NIMS is a cooperative effort of all departments and offices with an emergency response role in Gila County. The Emergency Management Division has the lead responsibility for NIMS development and planning with responsibilities for:

- Communicating information within the County departments on NIMS requirements and guidelines.
- Coordinating NIMS development among division, departments, and offices.
- Identification of all departments and agencies involved in field level response.

- Coordinating with other local governments within the county on development of NIMS.
- Ensuring NIMS is incorporated into the Gila County Emergency Operations Plan and departmental procedures.
- Ensuring NIMS is incorporated into Gila County emergency ordinances agreements, memoranda of understanding, etc.
- Identification of non-governmental organizations that operate or provide services within the boundaries of Gila County. The emergency response role of these organizations should be determined, and provisions made for coordination during emergencies.
- Identification of local volunteer and private agencies that have an emergency response role. Contacts should be made to develop arrangements for coordination in emergencies.

Incident Command System

The NIMS requires emergency response departments and agencies to use the Incident Command System (ICS) for multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional incidents. The ICS is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management approach that:

- Allows for the integration of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure.
- Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private.
- Establishes common processes for planning and managing resources.

ICS is used by all levels of government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. ICS is also applicable across disciplines.

It is structured to facilitate activities in five major functional areas: Command, Operations, Planning/Intelligence, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. All functional areas may or may not be used depending on the needs of the incident. The Gila County Sheriff's Office, local law enforcement, and local fire departments/districts across the county utilize the ICS during day-to-day responses, multi-agency response incidents, and emergencies or disasters.

Direction, Control, and Coordination

Field Response Level

The field response level is where emergency response personnel and resources, under the command of an appropriate authority, carry out tactical decisions and activities in direct response to an incident or threat.

The Gila County Sheriff's Office conducts law enforcement within the County. The Constables (Globe and Payson Regional Offices) of Gila County provide services of mandated civil and criminal processes within the county. Numerous city and town police departments and fire districts throughout the county conduct law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency medical services within their jurisdictions.

Additional departments assist the Sheriff's Office, law enforcement, and fire departments/districts in emergency response including the Public Works Division, Division of Health and Emergency Management, the Medical Examiner, and numerous other supporting departments and offices. Utility companies, non-governmental organizations, private sector, and volunteers also support emergency response and operations. Use of ICS at the field level of a multi-agency or multi-jurisdictional incident is required by NIMS.

Local Government Level

The county and incorporated cities and towns are defined as local governments in emergency management. There are also three tribal governments within Gila County. The basic role of a local government is to manage and coordinate the overall emergency response and recovery activities within its jurisdiction. Gila County is responsible for coordinating with the field response level and other local governments, and for providing mutual aid and assistance within their capabilities. Gila County will conduct the following activities during emergencies:

- Use NIMS when a local emergency is declared, or the County EOC is activated.
- Establish coordination and communications with Incident Commander(s) to the EOC, when activated.
- Use existing mutual aid systems for coordinating fire and law enforcement resources.
- Establish coordination and communications between the Gila County EOC when activated, and any state or local emergency response agency having jurisdiction at an incident within the County's boundaries.
- Use multi-agency or inter-agency coordination to facilitate decisions for

Federal Level

State Level

Local Government

Field Level
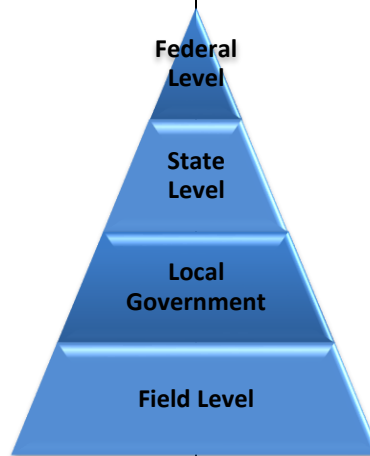
overall local government level emergency response activities

Multi/Inter-Agency Coordination

Multi-agency or Inter-agency coordination is defined as the participation of agencies and disciplines working together in a coordinated effort to facilitate decisions for overall emergency response activities, including the sharing of critical resources and the prioritization of incidents.

Unified Command

Unified command allows agencies with responsibility for an incident, either geographical or functional, to manage an incident by establishing a common set of incident objectives and strategies. This is accomplished without losing or abdicating agency authority, autonomy, responsibility, or accountability. The Gila County Sheriff's Office, local law enforcement, and fire departments/districts will implement or represent Gila County field operations in the Unified Command when the situation requires a Unified Command.

State Level

The State is responsible for providing support and coordination of adjoining jurisdictions to include cities and towns, counties, tribal nations, the State of Arizona, adjoining states, and federal resources in the event of an emergency or disaster that has overwhelmed the response capabilities of the local or county level resources.

Emergency response operations are under the command of local jurisdictions. If an incident exceeds the response capabilities of the field level Incident Command (IC), a city, town, or the County level Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may be activated to support the on-scene

IC. If the emergency exceeds the capabilities of the County EOC, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) may be activated to assist the County. The State of Arizona's response to state and federal level disasters are managed in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).

The Governor of Arizona may declare a disaster in a specific area of the state or across the entire state and may request the President of the United States to declare a disaster on behalf of the state. The SEOC provides state-level support of County EOCs and the command functions of on-scene Incident Management Teams (IMT), if activated. Furthermore, the SEOC provides an environment wherein the Governor will direct State policy in a disaster response. The state level also serves as the coordination and communication link between the state and the federal disaster response system.

DEMA is located at 5636 E McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85008. Phone: (602) 244-0504 or 1-800-411-2336.

Federal Level

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has designated the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to serve as the main federal government agency during disasters and national security emergencies. In a disaster, different federal agencies may be involved in the response and recovery operations.

Federal disaster assistance is organized under the concept of ESF's as defined in the NRF. All contact with FEMA and other federal agencies is made through the Counties to the State during the response phase. During the recovery phase, cities, or towns may have direct contact with FEMA and other federal agencies.

Non-governmental, Volunteer, and Private Sector Organizations

The Gila County EOC will establish communication with non-governmental, private sector, and volunteer organizations that provide emergency assistance and disaster services within the County. The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, North Gila County CERT volunteers, Amateur Radio volunteers, and civic organizations may play key roles assisting in the emergency response. The Chamber of Commerce and local businesses may also provide assistance during an emergency or disaster. These organizations, if significantly involved in an incident, may assign a representative to the Gila County EOC as an Agency Representative. Some agencies may have several personnel participating in functional elements in the EOC, such as, Red Cross personnel may be part of the staffing for the Care and Shelter Unit of the EOC.

Volunteer agencies mobilize volunteers and other resources through their own systems. They also may identify resource needs that are not met within their own systems that would be requested through the mutual aid system. Volunteer agencies with extensive involvement in the emergency response should be represented in emergency operations centers.

Some private organizations have established mutual aid arrangements to assist other private organizations within their functional area. For example, electric and gas utilities have mutual aid agreements within their industry and established procedures for coordinating with governmental emergency operations centers.

In some functional areas, services are provided by a mix of municipal and private agencies. Mutual aid arrangements may include governmental, non-governmental, and private organizations. A liaison should be established between activated EOC's and private agencies involved in a response. Where there is a need for extensive coordination and information exchange, private agencies should be represented in activated EOC's.

Emergency Operations Center

This plan provides the framework for operations in the EOC during incidents that require the activation and use of the EOC. When an emergency or disaster exceeds the response capabilities of the on-scene Incident Command, the EOC may be activated. An EOC is the central physical location where key County staff will gather to coordinate and support the response to an emergency. The EOC is responsible for multi- agency/ multi-jurisdictional coordination, policy implementation, information management and resource coordination to support Incident Commanders in the field.

The following are priorities when conducting and coordinating disaster operations:

- Addressing rescue, evacuation, medical care, food, shelter, and the immediate public health and safety needs of the residents of Gila County.
- Restoring the infrastructure including sanitation, water, electricity, gas, streets, or highways, essential to the health, safety, and welfare of residents.
- Meeting the recovery needs of people including temporary housing, food stamps, employment, etc.

⬥ Providing for the recovery of the community to its pre-disaster state to the greatest extent possible.

The EOC does not directly manage or command incidents. Field level emergency responders, such as local Police, Fire, and Public Works departments are managed by on-scene Incident Commander(s). The role of the EOC is to collect, validate and organize emergency information and to provide for the overall coordination of resources required during response and recovery operations.

The EOC may serve as a Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) from which local governments can provide interagency coordination and executive decision making in support of incident response and recovery operations.

The EOC is staffed by County personnel that are specially trained to perform the centralized coordination of emergency activities (e.g., emergency management, public information and warning, communications, and resource coordination). The EOC facility has specialized equipment, information systems, and various tools that aid in restoring critical functions.

The EOC has three primary functions during an emergency:
1. Develop and maintain a Common Operating Picture of the incident.
2. Identifying and securing additional resources for emergency operations.
3. Performing accounting and recordkeeping to track disaster costs.

The EOC performs these tasks by communicating across departments, agencies and jurisdictions to relieve on-scene command of the burden of external coordination, resource allocation, and information collection, verification, and dissemination. The decisions made through the EOC are designed to be broad in scope and offer guidance on overall priorities. Information is disseminated through the EOC Director or designee and tactical decisions are coordinated by field response personnel.

Day-to-day operations are conducted from departments and agencies dispersed throughout Gila County. When a major event or disaster occurs, centralized management is needed to facilitate a coordinated response by the GCEM Director or designee. Field Incident Command Posts (ICPs) must establish communications with the EOC.

Additionally, the EOC must be capable of communicating appropriately with other EOCs during incidents, including city/town, tribal, state, federal, military, and private organizations. The effective coordination between EOC's and ICP's is a key enabler in the successful execution of emergency response operations.

The following additional tasks are also performed in the Gila County EOC:

⬥ Preparing situation reports and other reports as required; developing emergency policies and procedures; continuing analysis and evaluation of all data pertaining to emergency operations to maintain a common operating picture of the emergency or disaster situation.
⬥ Collecting intelligence from and disseminating information to the various EOC representatives, and as appropriate, to city/town and tribal EOCs, and state agencies; receiving and disseminating warning information.
⬥ Controlling and coordinating, within established policy, the operational and logistical support of department resources

committed to the emergency; coordinating resource allocation priorities.

- Coordination of emergency management activities for Gila County.
- Providing emergency information and instructions to the public, making official releases to the news media and scheduling press conferences as necessary.

On behalf of Gila County, the GCEM has overall responsibility for the following:

- Developing response and recovery plans for the County and the unincorporated areas of the county.
- Organizing, determining staff for the EOC, and operating the Emergency Operations Center.
- Operating communications and warning systems.
- Providing information and guidance to the public and elected and appointed officials.
- Maintaining information on the status of resources, services, and operations.
- Directing overall operations.
- Obtaining support for Gila County and providing support to other jurisdictions as needed.
- Identifying and analyzing potential hazards and recommending appropriate counter-measures.
- Collecting, evaluating and disseminating damage assessment and other essential information.

The Gila County Emergency Management Division and County EOC is located at 5515 South Apache Avenue, Suite 400, Globe, AZ 85501 Office: 928-402-8767

Mutual Aid

In the event of a disaster that overwhelms County resources and capabilities, mechanisms to mobilize and employ resources from surrounding jurisdictions to support the incident command. Jurisdictions in the State of Arizona will provide

mutual aid in accordance with ARS 13-3872 Mutual Aid. This statute empowers municipalities (counties and cities) to establish policies regarding the rendering of aid to other jurisdictions. There are also mutual aid agreements established between tribal governments and municipalities within Gila County. The State of Arizona is signatory to various mutual aid agreements at several levels.

Arizona Emergency Management Master Mutual Aid Agreement

The Arizona Emergency Management Master Mutual Aid Agreement was signed on March 16, 2004 between the state and all 15 counties. This agreement provides terms and procedures for the participating parties to execute mutual aid in times of emergencies. This mutual aid agreement has been implemented on numerous occasions in the years since its inception.

Arizona Mutual Aid Compact (AZMAC)

As of August 2015, Gila County is a signatory of the AZMAC. This compact is a statewide mutual aid assistance agreement to provide resources amongst its signatory jurisdictions along with provisions for payment, reimbursement, insurance and liability clauses.

Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)

EMAC, a congressionally ratified organization that provides form, structure, and procedures for rendering emergency assistance between states, was established in 1996, and serves as the nation's mutual aid system. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have enacted legislation to become EMAC members. EMAC offers assistance during governor-declared states

of emergency allowing unaffected states to send personnel, equipment, and commodities to help disaster relief efforts in other states. Once the conditions for providing assistance to a requesting state have been set, EMAC establishes a legally binding contractual agreement that makes affected states responsible for reimbursement. The EMAC legislation solves the problems of liability and responsibilities of cost and allows for credentials, licenses, and certifications to be honored across state lines.

Emergency Facilities used for Mutual Aid

Incoming mutual aid resources may be received and processed at several types of facilities including marshaling areas, mobilization centers and incident facilities. Each type of facility is described briefly below.

- ◆ Marshaling Area - Defined in the National Response Framework as an area used for the complete assemblage of personnel and other resources prior to their being sent directly to the disaster affected area.
- ◆ Mobilization Center - Off-incident location at which emergency service personnel and equipment are temporarily located pending assignment, release or reassignment. For major area-wide disasters, mobilization centers may be located in or on the periphery of the disaster area.
- ◆ Incident Facilities/Staging Areas - Incoming resources may be sent to staging areas, other incident facilities or directly to an incident, depending on the circumstances. Staging areas are temporary locations at an incident where personnel and equipment are kept while awaiting tactical assignments.

Emergency Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

The A.R.S. §26-308 require Gila County to manage and coordinate the overall emergency response and recovery activities within its

jurisdiction. All departments and agencies will use the NIMS and ICS for emergency response and provide emergency related information to the County EOC. The Emergency Organization Chart (Appendix B-6) shows the EOC organization for Gila County within the NIMS and ICS concept.

Continuity of Government

In an emergency, governmental response is an extraordinary extension of responsibility and action coupled with normal day-to-day activities. Normal governmental duties must be maintained, with emergency operations carried out by those agencies assigned specific emergency functions. A major disaster or national security emergency could result in the death or injury of key government officials, or the partial or complete destruction of established seats of government and public and private records essential to continued operations of government. Government at all levels is responsible for providing continuity of effective leadership, authority, and adequate direction of emergency and recovery operations. Gila County is in the process of building a continuity of operations program to carry out essential functions and maintain government operations within the County during an emergency or disaster.

Emergency Activation Levels

The magnitude of the emergency will dictate Gila County's response level. Response levels are used to describe the type of event, extent of coordination or assistance needed, and degree of participation from County departments.

- ◆ **Level I – Minor Emergency – No EOC Activation Required**
  This is a minor incident that can be managed by first responders and resources from within the County. The EOC typically
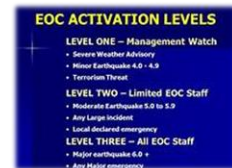
will not be activated. Off-duty personnel may be recalled to back fill personnel assigned to the incident. County and/or mutual aid law enforcement, fire, public works, or medical responders use ICS procedures.

- **Level II – Moderate Emergency – Potential EOC Activation**

  This is a moderate to severe emergency in which Gila County resources are not adequate and mutual aid is required. Key management personnel from the involved departments will co- locate to provide jurisdiction coordination. The Gila County EOC may be partially or fully activated based on the severity of the situation. Off-duty personnel will likely be recalled. A local emergency may be declared by the Board of Supervisors.

- **Level III – Major Emergency - Full EOC Activation**

  This is a major local or regional disaster wherein resources in or near the impacted area are overwhelmed and extensive county, state and/or federal resources are required. A proclamation of emergency will be made and communications and coordination with the State DEMA or SEOC will be maintained. The overall response and early recovery activities will be managed from the County EOC. Off-duty personnel will be recalled and long-term planning for human resources will be conducted.

EOC Activations

The EOC will be activated when one of the following individuals (or designee) notifies the GCEM Director (or designee) to implement EOC activation:

- County Manager (or designee)
- County Sheriff (or designee)
- Local Fire Chief (or designee)
- Health Director (or designee)
- Deputy Town Manager, Town of Payson

Indications that the EOC should be activated include:

- If the incident has escalated due to the number of County departments or offices involved, or personnel and resources required where the coordination of the incident is not efficiently accomplished at the scene or at another location.
- Any of the persons authorized to activate the Gila County EOC determines that coordination of the response/recovery would be enhanced by multi-department or multiagency coordination in the EOC.
- When the level of request for varied resources from the County are received from adjacent cities, towns, or tribal governments, or the state to respond outside the city and coordination of these requests are better facilitated at one central point.
- If incidents are of such magnitude that coordination of the response to the incident is not possible (e.g., regional flooding, major fire, HAZMAT incident requiring presenting evacuation or rescue problems, or other mass casualty incident).
- When the resources of Gila County to respond or recover from a disaster or other emergency are overwhelmed.

EOC Information Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination

One of the most important functions is to collect, analyze, and properly disseminate situational

information to general staff and ESF leaders in the EOC to achieve situational awareness. Development of a common operating picture facilitates collaborative planning and assists all levels of the emergency organization to make policy decisions, develop the EOC Action Plan, prioritize use of resources, approve purchase requests, etc., all of which are vital to the effective coordination of support for responders in the field.

To obtain true and accurate situational information, all agencies and ESF's operating within the EOC must submit updates, damage assessments and resource status reports to the EOC Planning Section. An information management system called WebEOC is used as a tool to collect the information and disseminate the situation status across the EOC. Critical incident information can

also be communicated through formal reporting channels within the ICS structure.

Each representative in the EOC must be able to reach out to personnel operating within the ESF at the field level and other participating agencies when necessary to obtain the most accurate incident status.

The collection and organization of the incident situation and status information and the evaluation, analysis, dissemination, and display of that information is critical for use by all sections in the EOC. The Situation Status Unit in the Planning / Intelligence Section is the lead for collecting, validating and consolidating the situation analysis, but each section is responsible for contributing to this task (see table below):

EOC Section	Roles and Responsibilities
Management Staff	Provides overall guidance, coordination and direction for intelligence collection; provides Status Reports to the EOC and other agencies on the status of the overall emergency operations.
Operations Section	Provides information on the status of field operations, updates on the nature and scope of the disaster, and requests for resources from on-scene command.
Planning/ Intelligence Section	Collects, verifies and combines input from other sections and agencies into the situation status; Develops GIS products when possible and disseminates Situation Reports via networked digital systems or hard copy as required.
Logistics Section	Provides information on the status of available, committed and ordered resources; Relays status of support facilities and communications systems.
Finance/Administration Section	Provides information on costs, claims and damage assessments related to the emergency.

- ◆ The Planning & Intelligence Section's Situation Status and Resource Status Units are the primary EOC positions tasked with

collecting, validating, and consolidating emergency- related information into the common operating picture.

- The Situation Status/Analysis Unit is the lead for compiling information regarding incident-related events and current emergency response operations in the EOC. The Situation Status/Analysis Unit will work with the Operations Section to capture and present field operations to the EOC.
- The Resource Status Unit is the lead for compiling information regarding resource requests, allocation, and status in the EOC. The Resource Status Unit will work with the Logistics Section to capture and present resource allocation activities for the EOC.
- If GIS is available, the production of maps and imagery of the incident will assist in identifying locations suitable for staging areas and incident command posts and analyzing critical infrastructure (facilities essential for the operation and sustainability of health services, food services, and government operations) to help decision makers understand the scope of the damage.

All EOC staff should be aware of the proper procedures for relaying information for inclusion in the common operating picture. The Planning/Intelligence Section will also post procedures for developing the common operating picture for reference during the process.

Communications

Radio Systems

Gila County Emergency Responder Radio Systems

During emergencies, law enforcement officers, fire fighters and other emergency response personnel use portable radios to communicate. The County and numerous cities, towns and tribal governments have separate radio systems for the emergency responders to communicate on. Along with the radio system, there are communications centers with dispatchers that take calls for service, dispatch the calls, and support field emergency responders. Other departments, such as public works, building and safety, etc. may have radios for their personnel to communicate with management and between field level employees.

Gila County has communications plans and participates in interoperability of radio systems and available shared frequencies for multi-agency response. There are interoperable communications radio channels for use by public safety emergency responders. Refer to the Gila County Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan for specific information on systems and frequencies.

Radio communications systems are serviced by individual contracts with private providers through Gila County. The Sheriff's Office has a Communications Center to receive calls to assist citizens and people in need, serving as the vital link between the community and the emergency responders. Local cities and towns also have these capabilities for radio communications. The State of Arizona provides various communications systems, shared frequencies, and planning to assist the counties and cities in the state with their emergency communications needs.

Alerting and Warning Systems

Alert and warning are the process of alerting governmental forces and the general public to the threat of imminent extraordinary danger. Dependent upon the nature of the threat and the

population group at risk, warning can originate at any level of government.

Emergency Alert System (EAS)

Success in saving lives and property is dependent upon timely dissemination of warning and emergency information to persons in threatened areas. Local government is responsible for warning the population within their jurisdiction. Government officials accomplish this through broadcast stations, cable and wireless cable systems. The EAS capabilities include:

- Broadcast stations, cable systems, participating satellite companies, and other services are able to send and receive emergency information quickly and automatically, even when these facilities are unattended.
- EAS is designed so that if one link in the dissemination of alert information is broken, the entire system does not fail.
- The message automatically converts to any language used by the broadcast station or cable system.
- Specially equipped consumer products, such as televisions, radios, pagers and other devices, can decode EAS messages.

National Weather Service (NWS)

The National Weather Service Weather Radio All Hazards transmitters broadcast on one of seven VHF frequencies from 162.400 MHz to 162.550 MHz frequencies. The Weather Service can also access NAWAS to announce severe weather information. The Zone Area Forecast for Northwest and North Central Gila County are issued out of Phoenix.

Phoenix Weather Forecast Office is located at 2727 E Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034 Phone: (602) 275-0073.

The Zone Area Forecast for South Central and Southeast Gila County are issued out of Tucson.

Tucson Weather Forecast Office is located at 520 North Park Ave, Suite 304, Tucson, AZ 85719 Phone: (520) 670-6526.

Amateur Radio

During emergencies or disasters where communications systems may be degraded, volunteer amateur radio operators bring communications relief to local governments and the state. Amateur radio, often called Ham radio, utilizes non-public safety radio frequencies and networks that inherently operate well during emergencies. Gila County has amateur radio volunteers associated with in two groups:

- **Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES):** The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. The Gila County Emergency Communications Group is currently inactive and undergoing a reorganization.
- **Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES):** RACES is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and operate according to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules (Part 97 Amateur Radio Service). It is a volunteer organization of licensed amateur radio operators who donate time, energy, skills, and use of personal equipment for public service.

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

Established by Presidential Executive Order 13407, IPAWS brings together existing and new public alert and warning systems and technologies in order to provide all levels of government to alert and warn the public through a range of messaging options and communications pathways. IPAWS facilitates timely emergency alerts and warning information over more media to more people before, during, and after a disaster. IPAWS also provides a means for messaging people with disabilities and access and functional needs. Using IPAWS, Federal, State, local, tribal and territorial governments have the capability to integrate their alert and warning systems with the national alert and warning infrastructure. Through this, the IPAWS will increase resilience of local systems and provide additional means by which life-saving information is distributed during a crisis.

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)

WEA are emergency messages sent by authorized government alerting authorities through your mobile carrier. Registered users will receive alerts about extreme weather, and other threatening emergencies in your area, AMBER alerts, and Presidential alerts during a national emergency.

The National Weather Service (NWS) will send messages about tsunami warnings, tornado and flash flood warnings, and hurricane, typhoon, dust storm and extreme wind warnings. The WEA message looks like a text message and will show any actions you should take, and the agency issuing the alert. When sent it uses a special tone and vibration, both repeated twice. WEA messages are not affected by network congestion and the system will still function during disasters.

The Arizona Emergency Operations Center Network

In 2004, Emergency Management partnered with the Arizona Public Service (APS) in an effort to build the Arizona EOC Network. The network uses APS's 800 MHZ statewide system. Currently, DEMA has installed radios in 14 of the 15 county EOC's, along with the State EOC, the Alternate State EOC, and six (6) communications vehicles. Emergency Management also maintains a cache of portable radios on the Arizona EOC Network.

Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS)

AIRS is a means of improving radio coverage in all counties by upgrading and providing inter-connectivity of VHF, UHF and 800MHz repeaters. AIRS suites repeaters are installed in ten regions throughout Arizona and in all counties. The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs and the Department of Public Safety were entrusted to establish the Statewide Interoperability Project Study to support the Governor's 2003 Homeland Security Plan: Securing Arizona, to address the short and long-term strategy issues of radio system interoperability. AIRS was designed to use the statewide and nationwide mutual aid channels throughout the State to help improve communications between all agencies. Additional information is included in the Gila County Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan.

Administration and Finance

During a disaster, prompt implementation of a disaster accounting system is vital to supporting the response activities, vital record retention, and documentation of the emergency or disaster. The finance function is critical to the successful and efficient emergency response and recovery. All County principles, policies, procedures and

regulations must be adhered to for the proper control and use of public funds, and to ensure there is no waste or abuse of County funds. The EOC Finance and Administration Section's primary responsibility is to maintain to the greatest extent possible the financial systems necessary to keep the County functioning during a disaster. These systems include:

- Payroll Payments Revenue collection
- Claim processing
- Cost analysis and recovery documentation
- Revenue Collection
- Documentation, timekeeping and tracking

The Finance and Administration Section also supervises the negotiation and administration of vendor and supply contracts and procedures. The extent of the disaster/emergency will determine the extent to which the EOC Finance/Administration Section will mobilize.

The Finance and Administration Section performs the following tasks during a disaster:

- Keeping the EOC Director informed about funding needs to carry out ESF, support or incident annex operations.
- Maintain accounting of costs associated with response and recovery from emergencies and disasters.
- Recommending long-term economic recovery strategies to the Board of Supervisors and County Manager in concert with the Finance Department.
- As soon as possible, re-establish payroll for County employees.
- Establish account numbers and tracking for emergency expenditures in conjunction with Finance/Accounting.
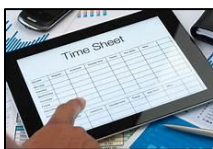
Documentation

An important administrative function is the documentation used to create a legal and historical

record of the response to and recovery from a disaster. Documentation is primarily conducted by the Documentation Unit in the Planning Section, but all positions, both in the field level and EOC are responsible for recording and documenting their actions and expenses using timecards, forms, purchase orders, messages, and cost receipts. Additional items such as incident command logs, cost recovery, damage assessment, personnel and resource logs, etc., provide vital information to record to record all actions of a jurisdiction during an emergency or disaster. Each ESF lead, section chief, or manager shall assure the following tasks are completed:

- Ensure the implementation of a record keeping system to document all related costs, actions, decisions, and communications.
- Track equipment purchases, rentals, and usage, and personnel hours, including overtime or backfill.
- Develop estimates of monetary loss and identify possible funding sources for future needs.
- Maintain central database of County government damages/expenses.
- Authorize emergency spending when necessary.
- Ensure that all the records are properly maintained for the Finance and Administration Section.

Vital Records Preservation

The preservation of vital records is critical to the County's recovery from a disaster. In addition to the documentation and collection of information requirements of response and EOC positions, each response function has a record-keeping component. Although the principal focus of vital records preservation is to support recovery through reimbursement of disaster- related costs,

vital records also have a broader and arguably more important function. Vital records become vital because they help to describe a reasonably complete compilation of damage, death, physical or mental trauma, and allocation of public and private resources, making it possible to learn from the disaster experience. In Gila County, the Clerk of the Board is responsible for the preservation of vital records. The Clerk of the Board stores hardcopy minutes, resolutions, deeds, and contracts regularly. In a disaster, these records create a legal and historical record of the County's actions to respond and recover from the disaster.

Requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act

Access to emergency services shall not be denied on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. To ensure that this goal is met, Title II of the ADA requires state and local governments to make their programs and services accessible to persons with disabilities.

This requirement extends to physical access at government facilities, programs, events. and policy changes that governmental entities must make to ensure that all people with disabilities can take part in, and benefit from, the programs and services of state and local governments. Additionally, governmental entities must ensure effective communication, including the provision of necessary auxiliary aids and services so individuals with disabilities can participate in civic life.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) signed into law on July 26, 1990, by President George H. W. Bush, is a broad civil

rights law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities, including but are not limited to mobility, vision, hearing, cognitive

disorders, mental illnesses, and language barriers. In 2008, President George W. Bush signed an updated version of the ADA, which is known as the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA). The revised law broadens the scope of the definition of what it means to have a disability. These changes went into effect January 1, 2009. These amendments make it easier for people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs to seek protection under the law.

People with Disabilities and Others with Access and Functional Needs

Populations may have members with additional needs before, during, and after an incident in functional areas which include but are not limited to maintaining independence, communication, transportation, supervision, and medical care. Individuals in need of additional response assistance may include those who have disabilities; who live in institutionalized settings; who are older adults; who are children; who are from diverse cultures; who have limited English proficiency or are non-English speaking; or who are transportation disadvantaged.

In 2017, approximately 12.8% of the population (all age groups) in Arizona has disabilities (Cornell University, 2018). Lessons documented in recent disasters concerning the integration of people with disabilities into community living and the growing aging population has shown that the existing model of emergency planning and implementation is not meeting the needs of people with disabilities or access and functional needs. These lessons learned show three areas that are repeatedly identified as most important to people with disabilities and older adults: communications (alert, warning, and notification), evacuation (transportation), and sheltering.

Gila County Division of Health and Emergency Management has the lead role in conducting planning and preparedness for people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. There may also be Community Development Block Grants available for persons with disabilities who require special accommodations.

Gila County will make every effort to address the needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. The priorities will be on alerting and warning, lifesaving operations, evacuations and sheltering to address the issues related to communications, mobility, and accessibility. Included in the County's planning efforts for those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs are:

- Staff trained in Functional Assessment Service Teams (FAST).
- ADA compliant access to County programs, services, and facilities and Red Cross shelter facilities.
- Assistance with animal services for evacuation of service dogs and sheltering.
- Identified transportation assistance for those requiring physical assistance.
- Reverse telephone system for specific geographic areas.
- Notification and warning procedures

- Interpretive services and translation of warnings, notifications, and directions.
- Evacuation considerations
- Emergency transportation issues
- Sheltering requirements
- Accessibility to medications, refrigeration and back-up power.

Animal Care Considerations

The PETS Act ([Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006](#)) directs that state and local emergency preparedness plans address the needs of people with pets and service animals after a major disaster, including the rescue, care and sheltering of animals.

The PETS Act amended the Stafford Act, and requires evacuation plans to consider the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals, prior to, during, and after a major disaster or emergency.

Gila County Animal Care and Control (GCACC) will lead the effort to comply with the PETS Act in conjunction with the GCSO and fire districts that are responsible for evacuations and rescue of trapped persons. GCACC will provide for the coordination of evacuation and sheltering of household and service dogs in the event of a disaster.

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RECOVERY OPERATIONS

Post-disaster recovery planning can be considered as the blueprint for the restoration of a community after a disaster occurs. The recovery defines a community's vision of how it would like to rebuild in the aftermath of a disaster. This can be done through long and short-term strategies, which may include planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities such as business continuity planning. Post-disaster recovery planning is a shared responsibility between individuals, private businesses and industries, state and local governments, and the federal government.

Local jurisdictions have primary response and recovery obligations. The counties and the State provide supplemental support when requested. A county may determine that additional supplemental resources are needed and may request assistance from the State and Federal Government.

If a community engages in post-disaster recovery planning prior to an event, it can more effectively direct outside redevelopment resources from federal, state or other regional authorities once a disaster occurs. As a result, community redevelopment and recovery can take place in a manner that is consistent with community values.

The first phase of recovery planning is short term, which involves restoring the infrastructure in the affected area to meet immediate needs. Coordination from the response phase into the recovery phase is necessary to identify high priority areas such as resumption of utilities, liability concerns, financing, and recovery ordinances. Checklists for short-term recovery should be developed to ensure officials and governing boards are kept up-to-date, to identify potential areas of mitigation, and to improve preparedness and response planning.

Long-term recovery consists of actions that will return the county back to pre-disaster levels of service. It is critical that the documentation function continues as response operations transfer to recovery. Checklists should be developed for recovery operations to ensure accountability. Failure to strictly account for damage documentation and personnel costs can result in loss of possible reimbursement.

Recovery Organization

Gila County will play a different role in recovery than in response. The County may act as an information and coordination point for its constituent jurisdictions. However, each local government is responsible for their community, and will work directly with state and federal recovery programs.

The Gila County Board of Supervisors may convene to implement a Long-Term Recovery Plan, and make recommendations on priorities, objectives, and issues to be addressed in the recovery plan. The recovery emergency organization will provide significant resources and information to support disaster recovery efforts.

Damage Assessment

During the early phase of a disaster, the initial damage from the disaster is estimated due to time constraints related to the response. Procedures for conducting more detailed surveys should be developed to be used in disaster project applications once the recovery process begins. The procedures should include the following:

Concerns for Public Safety

Safety precautions that will contribute to recovery operations include:

- Ensuring infrastructure such as gas, water, and sewer system are assessed.
- Confirm utilities are turned off in unsafe or damaged structures.
- Secure hazardous materials sites and develop a plan to clean up and remove contamination.
- Conduct safety assessment to evaluate damaged buildings and tag buildings with appropriate placards.
- Identify safety precautions to be undertaken by emergency workers.

Structural Damage

Checklists and procedures for survey teams should include the following terms when describing damages, which are limited to the structure and not contents:

- Destroyed - Cost of repair is more than 75% of value.
- Major Damage - Cost of repair is greater than 10% of value.
- Minor Damage - Cost of repair is less than 10% of value.

Recovery Activities

Common terms for recovery activities are listed below:

- **Category A:** Debris Clearance - Clearance of debris, wreckage, demolition, and removal of buildings damaged beyond repair.
- **Category B:** Protective Measures - Measures to eliminate or lessen immediate threats to life, public health, and safety.
- **Category C:** Roads and Bridges - All non-emergency work and any that may require more time for decision-making, preparation of detailed design, construction plans, cost estimates, and schedules.
- **Category D:** Water Control Facilities - Includes flood control, drainage, levees,

dams, dikes, irrigation works, and bulkheads.
- **Category E:** Public Buildings and Equipment - Buildings, vehicles or other equipment, transportation systems, fire stations, supplies or inventory, higher education facilities, libraries, and schools.
- **Category F:** Utilities - Water supply systems, sanitary sewerage treatment plants, storm drainage, and light/power.
- **Category G:** Other - Park facilities, public and private non-profit facilities, recreational facilities, and playground equipment.

List of Damages

Once a Presidential Disaster Declaration has been made, a complete and comprehensive list of all the damage that has occurred needs to be completed by each jurisdiction and transmitted to the State (DEMA). The State will coordinate the damage information to determine if a declaration of emergency is warranted and will in turn send the information to FEMA. Information should include:

- Locations of action/damage - geographical location of damaged facility or emergency work.
- Description of action/damage - narrative description explaining the nature of the disaster related problem (engineering details are not needed).
- Estimates of cost - a separate estimate for each facility or system affected.

The Damage Assessment Unit, typically within the Public Works Branch of the Operations Section, is responsible for conducting damage and safety assessments during the operations phase and the recovery phase.

Recovery Reporting and Documentation

Recovery documentation and reporting is the key to recovering eligible emergency response and recovery costs. Timely safety and damage assessments, documentation of all incident activities, and accurate reporting are critical in establishing the basis for eligibility of disaster assistance programs. The Documentation Unit of the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section is responsible for documenting recovery activities.

Recovery Documentation

The recovery documentation information should include the location and extent of damage, and estimates of costs for debris removal, emergency work, and repairing or replacing damaged facilities to a non-vulnerable and mitigated condition.

The cost of compliance with building codes for new construction, repair, and restoration will also be documented. The cost of improving facilities may be provided under federal hazard mitigation grant programs. Documentation is the key to recovering expenditures related to emergency response and recovery operations. Documentation must begin at the field response level and continue as the disaster unfolds. Included in the EOC Planning/Intelligence Section is a Documentation Branch that will coordinate the collection of all incident documentation for dissemination and filing.

After-Action Reporting

FEMA and state regulations require jurisdictions to complete an After-Action Report (AAR) within a specific time period after each emergency proclamation. Any federal, state, or local jurisdiction proclaiming or responding to a local emergency for which the governor has declared a State of Emergency or State of War Emergency shall complete and transmit an AAR to the state within 90 days of the close of the

emergency period. FEMA requires the AAR to be completed prior to the closing of the Disaster Field Office to transition federal personnel to their normal duties.

Upon completion of the AAR, corrective actions are identified to make recommendations for correcting problems noted in the response/recovery effort, or during exercises and training. Depending on the level of the AAR, corrective action may encompass anything from detailed recommendations for improving individual agency plans and procedures to broader system- wide improvements. Priority corrective actions are assigned to relevant stakeholders and tracked to ensure the identified problem has been addressed. The GCEM is responsible for preparing the AAR for any emergency or disaster that has been declared.

Disaster Assistance

There are two forms of disaster assistance: Individual and Public Assistance. Recovery plans should address both types of assistance, methods of acquiring help, restrictions, and other pertinent information. Individual assistance consists of services provided to individuals and private sector businesses, while public assistance consists of services provided to state and local governments and private non-profit organizations.

Government Assistance to Individuals

Individual assistance consists of services provided to individuals and private sector businesses.

Federal Programs

FEMA History
- Disaster Relief Act of 1970.
  - Temporary housing program and other individual assistance programs.
- Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-288).
  - Individual and Family Grant Program.
    - 75% federal and 25% state.

- Disaster Housing Assistance Program - This is a federal program administered by FEMA that provides temporary housing to disaster victims during presidentially declared disasters.
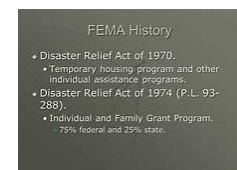
- Disaster Mortgage and Rental Assistance Program - This program provides grants for home related mortgage or rent payments to disaster victims, who as a result of a disaster have lost their job or business and face foreclosure or eviction from their homes. It is a federal program available under a presidentially declared disaster.
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Program - This program is offered to families that meet certain income guidelines and may provide a percentage of the rental cost for a limited period of time to disaster victims. It is also available under a presidentially declared disaster.
- Small Business Administration (SBA) - This program is automatically implemented following a presidential disaster declaration for Individual Assistance; or may be implemented at the request of the governor. It provides low interest loans to businesses and individuals who have suffered disaster losses.
- Individual and Family Grant Program (IFGP) - This is authorized only by a federal disaster declaration. It provides grants to disaster victims who are not eligible for SBA loans.
- Cora Brown Fund - This is authorized only by a federal disaster declaration. The fund provides disaster victims with assistance provided they are not eligible for any other disaster assistance award from the government or other organizations.

These are only a few federal programs that can be activated under a presidentially declared disaster. Disaster assistance may also be altered by legislation passed at the time of the event. Other types of assistance may also be made available depending on the disaster.

Non-Profit Volunteer Charitable Organizations

Volunteer charitable organizations, including the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, United Way, and others may provide assistance to individuals outside the scope of the Gila County Recovery Organization.

Public Assistance

Public assistance consists of various programs of disaster relief to the public and private non- profit sectors. Public sector includes state and local government (cities and counties). Private non-profit includes certain eligible Private Nonprofits (PNP) or an Intermediary PNP applicant to receive state assistance for extraordinary costs incurred while providing assistance at the request of local agencies during a state disaster event.

Federal – Robert T Stafford Disaster Relief Act of 1974

The following is a brief overview of this program:

A Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster or Emergency is required to activate the provisions of this law. Eligible Applicants Eligible applicants include the following:

- State agencies
- Counties
- Cities
- Special districts
- Schools K-12
- Colleges and institutions of higher education.
- Private non-profit organizations organized under § 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Utilities
- Emergency agencies
- Medical agencies
- Custodial care organization
- Government services such as: community centers, libraries, homeless shelters, senior citizen centers, and similar facilities open to the general public.

Joint Field Office

Following a Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster or Emergency, a Joint Field Office (JFO) will be established in the proximity of the disaster area. The JFO is a temporary Federal facility established locally where Federal, State, Tribal, and local executives with responsibility for incident management coordinate, oversee, and direct prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

A JFO is established within an affected state following the presidential declaration of a disaster. The JFO is a temporary federal/state multiagency coordination center (as defined by the NIMS) established locally to facilitate field-level domestic incident management activities related to prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. The JFO provides a central location for coordination of federal, state, local, tribal, nongovernmental, and private sector organizations.

The JFO works to establish joint priorities and allocate resources, resolve agency policy issues, and provide strategic guidance to support federal incident management activities. The exact composition of the JFO is dependent on the nature and magnitude of the incident.

Disaster Declaration Process

When a county or city has suffered an emergency that has overwhelmed the capabilities of the government and is above and beyond their capability to recover without assistance from the State, the Governor may proclaim a state of emergency. A resolution stating that an emergency exists within their jurisdiction(s) must be passed prior to the State declaring an emergency on behalf of the county or city. The Governor may provide Public Assistance to the affected political subdivision(s) of the state

(counties, cities, towns, state agencies). The Governor's Emergency Fund is allocated $4 million dollars annually to cover the costs of emergencies and disasters. The DEMA Recovery Section administers this fund:

- Emergency occurs
- County/City/Town declares the incident is above and beyond their capability to recover from without outside assistance.
- County/City/Town requests state assistance.
- State (Recovery Branch) performs joint damage assessments with County/City/Town:
    - The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) is the first step performed to document the impact and magnitude of the disaster on individuals, families, businesses and public property and to gather information for disaster management purposes. The PDA is required to substantiate the disaster assistance requests, such as a declaration of emergency.
    - The PDA process begins at the local level where the disaster has occurred with the local government assessing their impacts. If the impacts document that assistance is needed, then the local government should request assistance from their county. The assistance request escalates one-level of government at a time. (City/town to county to state to federal)
- Recovery Branch reviews damage assessment findings and advises the GCEM Director.
- GCEM Director advises the Director, DEMA of damage assessment findings.
- Recommendation from the Director, DEMA is made to the Governor to declare or not to declare.

- If Governor declares, maximum of $200,000 can be allocated for Public Assistance; the State does not have a disaster survivor assistance fund at this time.
  - A.R.S. § 35-192 (F)(2)
- Recovery Branch administers the Public Assistance process for recovery
  - State obligation is 75% of eligible costs for political subdivisions and 100% for state agencies.
- If emergency requires more than $200,000, then the State Emergency Council is convened to allocate the additional funds.
  - A.R.S. § 35-192 (F)(2)
- If the emergency warrants a federal Presidential Emergency or Major Disaster declaration for either Public Assistance or Individual Assistance, Emergency Management prepares the letter of request for the Governor.
  - There is no pre-defined threshold for Public or Individual Assistance; rather, a jurisdiction must demonstrate severity of the impact through several criteria.
- Emergency Management manages the Public Assistance process for recovery under Presidential Major Disaster declarations.
  - Federal obligation for Public Assistance is not less than 75%, state obligation is 15% and 10% for political subdivisions. The obligation for state agencies is 25%.
  - Individual Assistance under a Federal Declaration is determined through the Case Management process.

The recovery process for a single event is not complete until all project work has been completed, inspected, documentation audited, and final payment disbursed. Once the recovery process for a single event is complete the declared disaster is terminated.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) activities are aimed at reducing or eliminating future damages. Activities include hazard mitigation plans approvable by FEMA and cost-effective hazard mitigation projects. HMGP grants are provided on a cost-share of 75% federal share and 25% non-federal share.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2000) states that each jurisdiction (counties, cities, towns, and special districts) must have an approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to be eligible for FEMA pre and post disaster mitigation funds. The objective of the LHMP is "to save lives, preserve property and protect the environment, during times of disaster."

Federal funding is provided under the Robert T. Stafford Emergency Assistance and Disaster relief Act (The Stafford Act) through FEMA and DEMA. DEMA is responsible for identifying program priorities, reviewing applications and forwarding recommendations for funding to FEMA. FEMA has final approval for activity eligibility and funding. The federal regulations governing the HMGP are found in Title 44 of Code of Federal Regulations (44CFR) Part 206 and Part 13.

Federal obligation for Public Assistance is not less than 75%, state obligation is 15% and 10% for political subdivisions. The obligation for state agencies is 25%

Mitigation

This aspect of recovery operations is critical in reducing or eliminating disaster-related property damage and loss of lives from reoccurring. The immediate post-disaster period presents a rare opportunity for mitigation. During this time, officials and citizens are more responsive to mitigation recommendations, and unique opportunities to rebuild or redirect development; coordination of federal, state, local, tribal, nongovernmental, and private sector organizations may be available. Recovery plans would benefit from addressing mitigation planning as part of the recovery process. The following issues represent some information that would be useful in recovery sections of emergency plans:

Forms of Mitigation

- Changes in building codes
- Variances or impediments in construction
- Zoning, to reduce types of construction in high hazard areas
- Relocation or removal of structures from high hazard zones

Reference Information

FEMA procedures over the last few years have evolved, and mitigation of disasters is becoming a key component of disaster recovery. The Internet provides the optimum method of obtaining up to date information relating to disaster response and Public Assistance Programs. FEMA procedures over the last few years have evolved, and mitigation of disasters is becoming a key component of disaster recovery. The Internet provides the optimum method of obtaining current information relating to disaster response and Public Assistance Programs. Public Assistance Program Publications can be downloaded from the FEMA website at: www.fema.gov/ coordination of federal, state, local, tribal, nongovernmental, and private sector organizations.

End of Basic Plan