EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2024 BASIC PLAN

FOR

FRIO COUNTY

Version 1.0 MMXXIV
01/23

APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION

FRIO COUNTY, TEXAS

Emergency Management Basic Plan

This emergency management plan is hereby approved. This plan is effective immediately and supersedes all previous editions.

Rochelle Camarillo
County Judge
Frio County

8/13/24
Date

Mary Ann Obregon
Mayor
City of Dilley

8/13/24
Date

Ben T. Bin
Mayor
City of Pearsall

AUG 11, 2024
Date

RECORD OF CHANGES

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BASIC PLAN

Change #	Date of Change	Change Entered By	Date Entered
1 (New Version)		R. Kallio	

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EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS (ESF) Distributed as Separate Documents

ESF # 1 Transportation
ESF # 2 Communications
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ESF # 8 Public Health & Medical Services
ESF # 9 Search & Rescue
ESF # 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response
ESF # 11 Agriculture & Natural Resources
ESF # 12 Energy
ESF # 13 Public Safety & Security
ESF # 14 Long Term Community Recovery & Mitigation
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BASIC PLAN

I. AUTHORITY

A. FEDERAL

1. The Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002) (codified predominantly at 6 U.S.C. §§ 101-557 and in other scattered sections of the U.S.C.), established the Department of Homeland Security with the mandate and legal authority to protect the American people from the continuing threat of terrorism.
2. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act, (as amended), 42 U.S.C. 5121
3. The Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002
4. The Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq
5. The National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. §§ 1601- 1651
6. Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 USC Chapter 116
7. Emergency Management and Assistance, 44 CFR
8. Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response, 29 CFR 1910.120
9. Homeland Security Presidential Directive, HSPD-3, Homeland Security Advisory System
10. Homeland Security Presidential Directive. HSPD-4: National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction
11. Homeland Security Presidential Directive. HSPD-5, Management of Domestic Incidents
12. Homeland Security Presidential Directive. HSPD-6: Integration and Use of Screening Information
13. Homeland Security Presidential Directive. HSPD-7: Critical Infrastructure Identification, Prioritization, and Protection
14. Presidential Policy Directive. PPD-8: National Preparedness
15. National Incident Management System (NIMS)
16. National Response Framework (NRF)
17. National Strategy for Homeland Security
18. Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex of the National Response Framework
19. Transportation of Hazardous Material, 49 U.S.C. §§ 5101-5127
20. The Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 631-651e

B. STATE

1. Government Code, Chapter 418 (Emergency Management)
2. Government Code, Chapter 421 (Homeland Security)
3. Government Code, Chapter 433 (State of Emergency)
4. Government Code, Chapter 791 (Inter-local Cooperation Contracts)
5. Health & Safety Code, Chapter 778 (Emergency Management Assistance Compact)
6. Executive Order of the Governor Relating to Emergency Management
7. Executive Order of the Governor Relating to the National Incident Management System
8. Administrative Code, Title 37, Part 1, Chapter 7 (Division of Emergency Management)
9. *The Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan,* Parts I and II, December 15, 2003
10. *The Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan*, Part III, February 2004

C. LOCAL

1. Frio County Commissioner's Court Order #177188, dated February 24, 2003.
2. Joint Resolution between the County of Frio and the Cities of Dilley and Pearsall.
3. Inter-Local (Mutual Aid) Agreements and Contracts, see the Summary in Attachment 6.

II. PURPOSE

This Emergency Management Basic Plan, hereafter referred to as the Basic Plan, outlines our approach to emergency operations and is applicable to Frio County and the Cities of Dilley and Pearsall Texas; hereafter referred to as the Frio County Emergency Management Basic Plan. It provides general guidance for emergency management activities and an overview of our methods of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The plan describes our emergency response organization and assigns responsibilities for various emergency tasks. This plan is intended to provide a framework for more specific Emergency Support Function (ESF) annexes that describe in more detail who does what, when, and how. This plan applies to all local officials, departments, and agencies. The primary audience for the document includes our chief elected official and other elected officials, the emergency management staff, department and agency heads and their senior staff members, leaders of local volunteer organizations that support emergency operations, and others who may participate in our mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts to include the whole of the community.

The goal of the Frio County Emergency Management Basic Plan is to bring together a dedicated and professional team of agency and department representatives whose early involvement in an event will expedite the coordination of Frio County assistance to an impacted area. This team's coordinated efforts will serve to supply and re-supply the resources required to meet the urgent needs arising from a natural, technological, or terrorist incident and the team will work to coordinate all crisis management functions essential to Frio County, Texas recovery and restoration.

The Emergency Management Basic Plan, Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), and corresponding appendices comprise the Frio County, Texas Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

III. EXPLANATION OF TERMS

A. Acronyms

AACOG	Alamo Area Council of Governments
AAR	After Action Report
ARC	American Red Cross
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DDC	Disaster District Committee
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency, an element of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
HazMat	Hazardous Material
HSPD-5	Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5
IC	Incident Commander
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
IP	Improvement Plan
JFO	Joint Field Office
JIC	Joint Information Center
JIS	Joint Information System
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NRF	National Response Framework
OSHA	Occupational Safety & Health Administration
PIO	Public Information Officer
SOGs	Standard Operating Guidelines
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SOC	State Operations Center
STAR	State of Texas Assistance Request
TBM	Texas Baptist Men
TDEM	Texas Division of Emergency Management
TRRN	Texas Regional Response Network
TSA	The Salvation Army

B. Definitions

1. Area Command (Unified Area Command). An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being managed by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which more than one Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Sets overall strategy and priorities, allocates critical resources according to priorities, ensures that incidents are effectively managed, and

ensures that objectives are met, and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional.

2. Disaster District. Disaster Districts are the state's regional emergency management boundaries. The boundaries of the districts coincide with the boundaries of state planning regions (Councils of Government/Regional Planning Commissions). Each Disaster District has a Disaster District Committee (DDC) and a TDEM Disaster District Chief.

   The 24 COGs are voluntary associations of local governments formed under Texas law. These associations deal with the problems and planning needs that cross boundaries of individual local governments or that require regional attention. There are 24 Disaster Districts, with the State Capitol District recognized as the 25th District.

3. Disaster District Committee (DDC). As prescribed by Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code, a DDC consists of representatives of the state agencies, boards, commissions and organized volunteer groups with membership on the Emergency Management Council. The DDC chair is assisted by Emergency Management Council representatives assigned to that district, who provide guidance, counsel and administrative support as required. If local and mutual aid resources prove inadequate for coping with a disaster, the local government may request assistance from the state by contacting the local DDC chairperson.

4. Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Specially equipped facilities from which government officials exercise direction and control and coordinate necessary resources during an emergency or disaster situation.

5. Public Information. Information which is disseminated to the public via the news media before, during, and/or after an emergency or disaster.

6. Emergency Situations. As used in this plan, this term is intended to describe a *range* of occurrences, from a minor incident to a catastrophic disaster. It includes the following:

   a. Incident. An incident is a situation that is limited in scope and potential effects. Characteristics of an incident include:

      1) Involves a limited area and/or limited population.
      2) Evacuation or in-place sheltering is typically limited to the immediate area of the incident.
      3) Warning and public instructions are provided in the immediate area, not community-wide/County-wide.
      4) One or two local response agencies or departments acting under an IC normally manage incidents. Requests for resource support are normally managed through agency and/or departmental channels.
      5) May require limited external assistance from other local response agencies or contractors.

6) For the purposes of the National Response Framework (NRF), incidents include the full range of occurrences that require an emergency response to protect life or property.

b. Emergency. An emergency is a situation that is larger in scope and more severe in terms of actual or potential effects than an incident. Characteristics include:

1) Involves a large area, significant population, or important facilities.
2) May require implementation of large-scale evacuation or in-place sheltering and implementation of temporary shelter and mass care operations.
3) May require community-wide warning and public instructions.
4) Requires a sizable multi-agency response operating under an Incident Commander (IC).
5) May require external assistance from other local response agencies, contractors, and limited assistance from state or federal agencies.
6) The EOC will be activated to provide general guidance and direction, coordinate external support, and provide resource support for the incident.
7) For the purposes of the NRF, an emergency (as defined by the Stafford Act) is "any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of catastrophe in any part of the United States."

c. Disaster. A disaster involves the occurrence or threat of significant casualties and/or widespread property damage that is beyond the capability of the local government to manage with its organic resources. Characteristics include:

1) Involves a large area, a sizable population, and/or important facilities.
2) May require implementation of large-scale evacuation or in-place sheltering and implementation of temporary shelter and mass care operations.
3) Requires community-wide warning and public instructions.
4) Requires a response by all local response agencies operating under one or more ICs.
5) Requires significant external assistance from other local response agencies, contractors, and extensive state or federal assistance.
6) The EOC will be activated to provide general guidance and direction, provide emergency information to the public, coordinate state and federal support, and coordinate resource support for emergency operations.
7) For the purposes of the NRF, a *major disaster* (as defined by the Stafford Act) is any catastrophe, regardless of the cause, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster federal assistance.

d. Catastrophic Incident. For the purposes of the NRF, this term is used to describe any natural or manmade occurrence that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, property damage, or disruptions that severely affect the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions. An occurrence of this magnitude would result in sustained national impacts over prolonged periods of time and would immediately overwhelm local and state capabilities. All catastrophic incidents are *Incidents of National Significance.*

7. Hazard Analysis. A document, published separately from this plan, which identifies the local hazards that have caused or possess the potential to adversely affect public health and safety, public or private property, or the environment.

8. Hazardous Material (HazMat). A substance in a quantity or form posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and/or property when manufactured, stored, or transported. The substance, by its nature, containment, and reactivity, has the capability for inflicting harm during an accidental occurrence. Is toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive, an irritant, or a strong sensitizer, and poses a threat to health and the environment when improperly managed. Includes toxic substances, certain infectious agents, radiological materials, and other related materials such as oil, used oil, petroleum products, and industrial solid waste substances.

9. Incident of National Significance. An actual or potential high-impact event that requires a coordinated and effective response by and appropriate combination of federal, state, local, tribal, nongovernmental, and/or private sector entities in order to save lives and minimize damage and provide the basis for long-term communication recovery and mitigation activities.

10. Inter-local agreements. Arrangements between governments or organizations, either public or private, for reciprocal aid and assistance during emergency situations where the resources of a single jurisdiction or organization are insufficient or inappropriate for the tasks that must be performed to control the situation. Commonly referred to as mutual aid agreements.

11. Stafford Act. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act authorizes federal agencies to undertake extraordinary measures designed to assist the efforts of states in expediting the rendering of aid, assistance, emergency services, and reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas devastated by disaster.

12. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Approved methods for accomplishing a task or set of tasks. SOPs are typically prepared at the department or agency level. May also be referred to as Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs).

IV. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

Our County and Cities are exposed to several hazards, all of which have the potential for disrupting the community, causing casualties, and damaging or destroying public or private property. A summary of our major hazards is provided in Figure 1. More detailed information is provided in our Hazard Analysis, published separately.

FIGURE 1

HAZARD SUMMARY [COMPLETE BASED ON THE JURISDICTION]

	LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE*	ESTIMATED IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY	ESTIMATED IMPACT ON PROPERTY
HAZARD TYPE:	(SEE BELOW)	LIMITED MODERATE MAJOR	LIMITED MODERATE MAJOR
NATURAL			
DROUGHT	Highly Likely	Moderate	Major
EARTHQUAKE	Unlikely	Limited	Limited
FLASH FLOODING	Likely	Moderate	Major
FLOODING (RIVER OR TIDAL)	Likely	Moderate	Major
HURRICANE	Occasional	Major	Major
SUBSIDENCE	Unlikely	Limited	Limited
TORNADO	Occasional	Major	Major
WILDFIRE	Likely	Moderate	Major
WINTER STORM	Likely	Moderate	Moderate
TECHNOLOGICAL			
DAM FAILURE	Unlikely	Limited	Limited
ENERGY/FUEL SHORTAGE	Occasional	Limited	Major
HAZMAT/OIL SPILL (FIXED SITE)	Likely	Major	Moderate
HAZMAT/OIL SPILL (TRANSPORT)	Likely	Major	Moderate
MAJOR STRUCTURAL FIRE	Likely	Moderate	Moderate
NUCLEAR FACILITY INCIDENT	Unlikely	Limited	Limited
WATER SYSTEM FAILURE	Occasional	Moderate	Major
SECURITY			
CIVIL DISORDER	Unlikely	Major	Major
ENEMY MILITARY ATTACK	Unlikely	Major	Major
TERRORISM	Unlikely	Major	Major
* **LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE**: UNLIKELY, OCCASIONAL, LIKELY, OR HIGHLY LIKELY			

B. Assumptions

1. Our County and Cities participating in this plan will continue to be exposed to and subject to the impact of those hazards described above and as well as lesser hazards and others that may develop in the future.

2. It is possible for a major disaster to occur at any time and at any place. In many cases, dissemination of warning to the public and implementation of increased readiness measures may be possible. However, some emergency situations occur with little or no warning and may:

   a. Require significant information-sharing across multiple agencies and jurisdictions, and between the public and private sectors.
   b. Involve single or multiple geographic areas.
   c. Span the spectrum of incident management to include prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.
   d. Involve multiple hazards or threats.
   e. Result in numerous casualties; fatalities; displaced people; property loss; disruption of normal life support systems, essential public services, and basic infrastructure; and significant damage to the environment.
   f. Impact critical infrastructures.
   g. Overwhelm capabilities of local and private-sector infrastructure owners and operators.
   h. Attract a sizeable influx of independent, spontaneous volunteers and supplies.
   i. Require extremely short-notice asset coordination and response timelines; and
   j. Require prolonged, sustained incident management operations and support activities.

3. Outside assistance will be available in most emergency situations, affecting Frio County, Texas. Since it takes time to summon external assistance, it is essential for us to be prepared to conduct the initial emergency response on an independent basis.

   a. Local departments and agencies provide support in accordance with national, state, and local authorities and guidance;
   b. Initial and/or ongoing response, when warranted, under their own authorities and funding;
   c. Alert, notification, pre-positioning, and timely delivery of resources to enable the management of potential and actual Incidents; and
   d. Proactive support for catastrophic or potentially catastrophic incidents using protocols for expedited delivery of resources.

4. Proper mitigation actions, such as floodplain management, and fire inspections, can prevent or reduce disaster-related losses. Detailed emergency planning, training of emergency responders and other personnel, and conducting periodic emergency drills and exercises can improve our readiness to deal with emergency situations.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. Objectives

The objectives of our emergency management program are to protect public health and safety and preserve public and private property. The primary responsibility for response to an incident rests with local government and measures taken by Frio County, Texas will be tailored to the given incident and will be dependent upon available resources.

B. General

1. It is our responsibility to protect public health and safety and preserve property from the effects of hazardous events. We have the primary role in identifying and mitigating hazards, preparing for and responding to, and managing the recovery from emergency situations that affect our community.

2. It is impossible for government to do everything that is required to protect the lives and property of our population. Our citizens have the responsibility to prepare themselves and their families to cope with emergency situations and manage their affairs and property in ways that will aid the government in managing emergencies. We will assist our citizens in fulfilling these responsibilities by providing public information and instructions prior to and during emergency situations.

3. Local government is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping local emergency responders and emergency management personnel, providing appropriate emergency facilities, providing suitable warning and communications systems, and for contracting for emergency services. The state and federal governments offer programs that provide some assistance with portions of these responsibilities.

4. To achieve our objectives, we have organized an emergency management program that is both integrated (employs the resources of government, organized volunteer groups, and businesses) and comprehensive (addresses mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery). This plan is one element of our preparedness activities.

5. This plan is based on an all-hazard approach to emergency planning. It addresses general functions that may need to be performed during **<u>any</u>** emergency and is not a collection of plans for specific types of incidents. For example, the warning annex addresses techniques that can be used to warn the public during any emergency, whatever the cause.

6. Departments and agencies tasked in this plan are expected to develop and keep current standard operating procedures that describe how emergency tasks will be performed. Departments and agencies are charged with ensuring the training and equipment necessary for an appropriate response are in place.

7. This plan is based upon the concept that the emergency functions that must be performed by many departments or agencies generally parallel some of their normal day-to-day functions. To the extent possible, the same personnel and material resources used for day-to-day activities will be employed during emergency situations. Because personnel and equipment resources are limited, some routine functions that do not contribute directly to the emergency may be suspended for the duration of an emergency. The personnel, equipment, and supplies that would normally be required for those functions will be redirected to accomplish emergency tasks.

8. We have adopted the National Incident Management System (NIMS) in accordance with the President's Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5. Our adoption of NIMS will provide a consistent approach to the effective management of situations involving natural or man-made disasters, or terrorism. NIMS allows us to integrate our response activities using a set of standardized organizational structures designed to improve interoperability between all levels of government, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations.

9. This plan, in accordance with the National Response Framework (NRF), is an integral part of the national effort to prevent, and reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism, major disasters, and other emergencies, minimize the damage and recover from attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies that occur. In the event of an Incident of National Significance, as defined in HSPD-5, we will integrate all operations with all levels of government, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations through the use of NRF coordinating structures, processes, and protocols.

C. Operational Guidance

We will employ the six components of NIMS in all operations, which will provide a standardized framework that facilitates our operations in all phases of emergency management. Attachment 7 provides further details on the NIMS.

1. Initial Response. Our emergency responders are likely to be the first on the scene of an emergency situation. They will normally take charge and remain in charge of the incident until it is resolved or others who have legal authority to do so assume responsibility. They will seek guidance and direction from our local officials and seek technical assistance from state and federal agencies and industry where appropriate.

2. Implementation of the Incident Command System (ICS)

   a. The first local emergency responder to arrive at the scene of an emergency will implement the incident command system and serve as the IC until relieved by a more senior or more qualified individual. The IC will establish an incident command post (ICP) and provide an assessment of the situation to

local officials, identify response resources required, and direct the on-scene response from the ICP.

b. For some types of emergency situations, a specific incident scene may not exist in the initial response phase and the EOC may accomplish initial response actions, such as mobilizing personnel and equipment and issuing precautionary warning to the public. As the potential threat becomes clearer and a specific impact site or sites identified, an incident command post may be established, and direction and control of the response transitioned to the IC.

3. Source and Use of Resources.

a. We will use our own resources, all of which meet the requirements for resource management in accordance with the NIMS, to respond to emergency situations, purchasing supplies and equipment if necessary, and request assistance if our resources are insufficient or inappropriate. §418.102 of the Government Code provides that the county should be the first channel through which a municipality requests assistance when its resources are exceeded. If additional resources are required, we will:

1) Summon those resources available to us pursuant to inter-local agreements. See Attachment 6 to this plan, which summarizes the inter-local agreements and identifies the officials authorized to request those resources.
2) Summon emergency service resources for which we have contracted. See Attachment 6.
3) Request assistance from volunteer groups active in disasters.
4) Request assistance from industry or individuals who have resources needed to deal with the emergency situation.

b. When external agencies respond to an emergency within our jurisdiction, we expect them to conform to the guidance and direction provided by our IC, which will be in accordance with NIMS.

D. Incident Command System (ICS)

1. We intend to employ ICS, an integral part of NIMS, in managing emergencies. ICS is both a strategy and a set of organizational arrangements for directing and controlling field operations. It is designed to effectively integrate resources from different agencies into a temporary emergency organization at an incident site that can expand and contract with the magnitude of the incident and resources on hand. A summary of ICS is provided in Attachment 7.

2. The Incident Commander (IC) is responsible for conducting the ICS function of command -- managing the incident. The four other major management activities that form the basis of ICS are operations, planning, logistics, and finance/administration. For small-scale incidents, the IC and one or two

individuals may perform all these functions. For larger incidents, several individuals from different departments or agencies may be assigned to separate staff sections charged with those functions.

3. An IC using response resources from one or two departments or agencies can manage the majority of emergency situations. Departments or agencies participating in this type of incident response will normally obtain support through their own department or agency.

4. In emergency situations where other jurisdictions or the state or federal government are providing significant response resources or technical assistance, it is generally desirable to transition from the normal ICS structure to a Unified or Area Command structure. This arrangement helps to ensure that all participating agencies are involved in developing objectives and strategies to deal with the emergency. Attachment 7 provides additional information on Unified and Area Commands.

E. ICS - EOC Interface

1. For major emergencies and disasters, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated. When the EOC is activated, it is essential to establish a division of responsibilities between the incident command post and the EOC. A general division of responsibilities is outlined below. It is essential that a precise division of responsibilities be determined for specific emergency operations.

2. The IC is generally responsible for field operations, including:

   a. Isolating the scene.
   b. Directing and controlling the on-scene response to the emergency and managing the emergency resources committed there.
   c. Warning the population in the area of the incident and providing emergency instructions to them.
   d. Determining and implementing protective measures (evacuation or in-place sheltering) for the population in the immediate area of the incident and for emergency responders at the scene.
   e. Implementing traffic control arrangements in and around the incident scene.
   f. Requesting additional resources from the EOC.

3. The EOC is generally responsible for:

   a. Providing resource support for the incident command operations.
   b. Issuing community-wide warning.
   c. Issuing instructions and providing information to the general public.
   d. Organizing and implementing large-scale evacuation.
   e. Organizing and implementing shelter and mass arrangements for evacuees.
   f. Coordinating traffic control for large-scale evacuations.
   g. Requesting assistance from the State and other external sources.

4. In some large-scale emergencies or disasters, emergency operations with different objectives may be conducted at geographically separated scenes. In such situations, more than one incident command operation may be established. If this situation occurs, a transition to an Area Command or a Unified Area Command is desirable, and the allocation of resources to specific field operations will be coordinated through the EOC.

F. Federal, State, & Other Assistance

1. Federal Assistance

   The Federal Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have the responsibility for the coordination of federal crisis/disaster operations and resources in support of state and local government capabilities, and for directing and coordinating the delivery of federal disaster relief assistance programs. Assistance efforts are organized and coordinated according to the policies and procedures detailed in the National Response Framework (NRF).

2. State Assistance

   The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) has the responsibility for the coordination of state crisis/disaster operations and resources in support of local government capabilities, and for directing and coordinating the delivery of state disaster relief assistance programs. Assistance efforts are organized and coordinated according to the policies and procedures detailed in the Texas Response Plan.

   a. If local resources are inadequate to deal with an emergency, we will request assistance from the State. State assistance furnished to local governments is intended to supplement local resources and not substitute for such resources, including mutual aid resources, equipment purchases or leases, or resources covered by emergency service contracts. As noted previously, cities must request assistance from their county before requesting state assistance.

   b. Requests for state assistance should be made to the TDEM District 18A Committee (DDC) Chairperson, who is located at the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Office in San Antonio, Texas. The State of Texas Assistance Request (STAR) Web Form (https://star.tdem.texas.gov) can be used to request state assistance. In essence, State emergency assistance to local governments begins at the DDC level and the key person to validate a request for, obtain, and provide that state assistance and support is the DDC Chairperson. A request for state assistance must be made by the chief elected official, the County Judge, and may be made by telephone, fax, or teletype. The DDC Chairperson has the authority to utilize all state resources within the district to respond to a request for assistance, with the exception of the National Guard. Use of National Guard resources requires approval of the Governor.

c. The Disaster District staff will forward requests for assistance that cannot be satisfied by state resources within the District to the State Operations Center (SOC) in Austin for action.

2. Other Assistance

a. If resources required to control an emergency are not available within the State, the Governor may request assistance from other states pursuant to a number of interstate compacts or from the federal government through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

b. For major emergencies and disasters for which a Presidential declaration has been issued, federal agencies may be mobilized to aid states and local governments. The *National Response Framework (NRF)* describes the policies, planning assumptions, concept of operations, and responsibilities of designated federal agencies for various response and recovery functions. The *Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex of the NRF* addresses the federal response to major incidents involving radioactive materials.

d. FEMA has the primary responsibility for coordinating federal disaster assistance. No direct federal disaster assistance is authorized prior to a Presidential emergency or disaster declaration, but FEMA has limited authority to stage initial response resources near the disaster site and activate command and control structures prior to a declaration and the Department of Defense has the authority to commit its resources to save lives prior to an emergency or disaster declaration. See the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), *Response and Recovery Guide*, May 2020, for additional information on the assistance that may be available during disaster recovery.

e. The NRF applies to Stafford and non-Stafford Act incidents and is designed to accommodate not only actual incidents, but also the threat of incidents. Therefore, NRF implementation is possible under a greater range of incidents.

G. Emergency Authorities

1. Key federal, state, and local legal authorities pertaining to emergency management are listed in Section I of this plan.

2. Texas statutes and the Executive Order of the Governor Relating to Emergency Management provide local government, principally the chief elected official, with a number of powers to control emergency situations. If necessary, we shall use these powers during emergency situations. These powers include:

a. Emergency Declaration. In the event of riot or civil disorder, the Medina County Judge may request the Governor to issue an emergency declaration for this jurisdiction and take action to control the situation.

b. Disaster Declaration. When an emergency situation has caused severe damage, injury, or loss of life or it appears likely to do so, the Medina County Judge may by executive order or proclamation declare a local state of disaster. The Frio County Judge may subsequently issue orders or proclamations referencing that declaration to invoke certain emergency powers granted the Governor in the Texas Disaster Act on an appropriate local scale in order to cope with the disaster. These powers include:

1. Suspending procedural laws and rules to facilitate a timely response.
2. Using all available resources of government and commandeering private property, subject to compensation, to cope with the disaster.
3. Restricting the movement of people and occupancy of premises.
4. Prohibiting the sale or transportation of certain substances.
5. Implementing price controls.

A local disaster declaration activates the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of this plan. **A local disaster declaration is required to obtain state and federal disaster recovery assistance.**

c. Authority for Evacuations. State law, in the Government Code, Chapter 418.185, provides a county judge or mayor with the authority to order the evacuation of all or part of the population from a stricken or threatened area within their respective jurisdictions.

H. Actions by Phases of Emergency Management

1. This plan addresses emergency actions that are conducted during all four phases of emergency management.

a. Prevention

We will conduct prevention activities as an integral part of our emergency management program. Prevention is intended to eliminate hazards, reduce the probability of hazards causing an emergency situation, or lessen the consequences of unavoidable hazards. Prevention should be a pre-disaster activity, although prevention may also occur in the aftermath of an emergency situation with the intent of avoiding repetition of the situation.

b. Preparedness

We will conduct preparedness activities to develop the response capabilities needed in the event an emergency. Among the preparedness activities included in our emergency management program are:

1) Providing emergency equipment and facilities.
2) Emergency planning, including maintaining this plan, its ESF annexes, and appropriate SOPs.
3) Conducting or arranging appropriate training for emergency responders, emergency management personnel, other local officials, and volunteer groups who assist us during emergencies.
4) Conducting periodic drills and exercises to test our plans and training.

c. Response

We will respond to emergency situations effectively and efficiently. The focus of most of this plan and its ESF annexes is on planning for the response to emergencies. Response operations are intended to resolve an emergency while minimizing casualties and property damage. Response activities include warning, emergency medical services, firefighting, law enforcement operations, evacuation, shelter and mass care, emergency public information, search and rescue, as well as other associated functions.

d. Recovery

If a disaster occurs, we will conduct a recovery program that involves both short-term and long-term efforts. Short-term operations seek to restore vital services to the community and provide for the basic needs of the public. Long-term recovery focuses on restoring the community to its normal state. The federal government, pursuant to the Stafford Act, provides the vast majority of disaster recovery assistance. The recovery process includes assistance to individuals, businesses, and to government and other public institutions. Examples of recovery programs include temporary housing, restoration of government services, debris removal, restoration of utilities, disaster mental health services, and reconstruction of damaged roads and bridges.

VI. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Organization

1. General

   Most departments and agencies of local government have emergency functions in addition to their normal day-to-day duties. During emergency situations, our normal organizational arrangements are modified to facilitate emergency operations. Our governmental organization for emergencies includes an executive group, emergency services, and support services. Attachment 3 depicts our Emergency Management Organization.

2. Executive Group

   The Executive Group provides guidance and direction for emergency management programs and for emergency response and recovery operations. The Executive Group includes the Frio County Judge, Dilley and Pearsall Mayors and Police Chiefs, City Managers, Frio County Sheriff, the Frio County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and the school superintendents in the area.

3. Emergency Services

   Emergency Services include the IC and those departments, agencies, and groups with primary emergency response actions. The IC is the person in charge at an incident site.

4. Emergency Support Services

   This group includes departments and agencies that support and sustain emergency responders and also coordinate emergency assistance provided by organized volunteer organizations, business and industry, and other sources.

5. Volunteer and Other Services

   This group includes organized volunteer groups and businesses that have agreed to provide certain support for emergency operations.

B. Assignment of Responsibilities

1. General

   For most emergency functions, successful operations require a coordinated effort from a number of departments, agencies, and groups. To facilitate a coordinated effort, elected and appointed officials, departments and agency heads, and other

personnel are assigned primary responsibility for planning and coordinating specific emergency functions. Generally, primary responsibility for an emergency function will be assigned to an individual from the department or agency that has legal responsibility for that function or possesses the most appropriate knowledge and skills. Other officials, departments, and agencies may be assigned support responsibilities for specific emergency functions. Attachment 4 summarizes the general emergency responsibilities of local officials, department and agency heads, and other personnel.

2. The individual having primary responsibility for an emergency function is normally responsible for coordinating preparation of and maintaining that portion of the emergency plan that addresses that function. Plan and ESF annex assignments are outlined in Attachment 5. Listed below are general responsibilities assigned to the Executive Group, Emergency Services, Support Services, and other Support Agencies. Additional specific responsibilities can be found the ESF annexes to this Basic Plan.

3. Executive Group Responsibilities

   a. The Frio County Judge will:

      1) Establish objectives and priorities for the emergency management program and provide general policy guidance on the conduct of that program.
      2) Monitor the emergency response during disaster situations and provides direction where appropriate.
      3) With the assistance of the Public Information Officer, keep the public informed during emergency situations.
      4) With the assistance of the legal staff, declare a local state of disaster, request the Governor declare a state of emergency, or invoke the emergency powers of government when necessary.
      5) Request assistance from other local governments or the State when necessary
      6) Direct activation of the EOC.

   b. The Frio County Sheriff will:
      1) Implement the policies and decisions of the governing body relating to emergency management.
      2) Organize the emergency management program and identifies personnel, equipment, and facility needs.
      3) Assign emergency management program tasks to departments and agencies.
      4) Ensure that departments and agencies participate in emergency planning, training, and exercise activities.
      5) Coordinate the operational response of local emergency services.
      6) Coordinate activation of the EOC and supervise its operation.

c. The Frio County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) will:

1) Serve as the staff advisor to the Frio County Judge on emergency management matters.
2) Keep the Frio County Judge and County Commissioners apprised of our preparedness status and emergency management needs.
3) Coordinate local planning and preparedness activities and the maintenance of this plan.
4) Prepare and maintain a resource inventory.
5) Arrange appropriate training for local emergency management personnel and emergency responders.
6) Coordinate periodic emergency exercises to test our plan and training.
7) Manage the EOC, develop procedures for its operation, and conduct training for those who staff it.
8) Activate the EOC when required.
9) Perform day-to-day liaison with the state emergency management staff and other local emergency management personnel.
10) Coordinate with organized volunteer groups and businesses regarding emergency operations.

d. The IC will:

1) Manage emergency response resources and operations at the incident site command post to resolve the emergency situation.
2) Determine and implement required protective actions for response personnel and the public at an incident site.

4. Common Responsibilities

All emergency services and support services will:

a. Provide personnel, equipment, and supplies to support emergency operations upon request.

b. Develop and maintain SOPs for emergency tasks.

c. Provide trained personnel to staff the incident command post and EOC and conduct emergency operations.

d. Provide current information on emergency resources for inclusion in the Resource List in ESF # 7 Logistics & Resource Support Annex.

e. Report information regarding emergency situations and damage to facilities and equipment to the IC or the EOC.

5. Emergency Support Function (ESF) Responsibilities

a. ESF # 1 Transportation Annex.

1) The primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the School Superintendent and the ISD Transportation Supervisor, who will prepare and maintain ESF # 1 Transportation Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Identifies local public and private transportation resources and coordinates their use in emergencies.
b) Coordinates deployment of transportation equipment to support emergency operations.
c) Establishes and maintains a reserve pool of drivers, maintenance personnel, parts, and tools.
d) Maintains records on use of transportation equipment and personnel for purpose of possible reimbursement.

b. ESF # 2 Communication Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County Sheriff, who will review and maintain ESF # 2 Communication Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Identify the communications systems available with the local area and determine the connectivity of those systems and ensure their interoperability.
b) Develop plans and procedures for coordinated use of the various communications systems available in this jurisdiction during emergencies.
c) Determine and implement means of augmenting communications during emergencies, including support by volunteer organizations.

c. Support Annex A Warning.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County Sheriff who will review and maintain ESF # 5 Emergency Management Annex, Appendix 1 Notification & Warning.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Receive information on emergency situations.
b) Alert key local officials of emergency situations.

d. ESF # 3 Public Works Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County Judge and Mayors of cities participating in this plan, who will review and maintain ESF # 3 Public Works Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Protect government facilities and vital equipment where possible.
b) Assess damage to streets, bridges, traffic control devices, and other public facilities.
c) Direct temporary repair of vital facilities.
d) Restore damaged roads and bridges.
e) Restore waste treatment and disposal systems.
f) Arrange for debris removal.
g) General damage assessment support.
h) Building inspection support.
i) Provide specialized equipment to support emergency operations.
j) Support traffic control and search and rescue operations.

e. ESF # 4 Firefighting Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC and Volunteer Fire Chiefs, who will review and maintain ESF # 4 Firefighting Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Fire prevention activities.
b) Fire detection and control.
c) Hazardous material and oil spill response.
d) Terrorist incident response.
e) Evacuation support.
f) Post-incident reconnaissance and damage assessment.
g) Fire safety inspection of temporary shelters.
h) Prepare and maintain fire resource inventory.

f. ESF # 5 Emergency Management Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC, who will prepare and maintain ESF # 5 Emergency Management Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Coordinate our local operating forces.
b) Maintain coordination with neighboring jurisdictions and the Disaster Chief 18 in San Antonio.
c) Maintain the EOC in an operating mode or be able to convert the designated facility space into an operable EOC rapidly.
d) Assigns representatives, by title, to report to the EOC and develops procedures for crisis training.
e) Develops and identifies the duties of the staff, use of displays and message forms, and procedures for EOC activation.
f) Coordinates the evacuation of areas at risk.

g. ESF # 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC and American Red Cross, who will prepare and maintain ESF # 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Perform emergency shelter and mass care planning.
b) Coordinate and conduct shelter and mass care operations with our other departments, relief agencies, and volunteer groups.

h. ESF # 7 Logistics Management & Resource Support Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County Judge and Mayors of cities participating in this plan, who will review and maintain ESF # 7 Logistics Management & Resource Support Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Maintain an inventory of emergency resources.
b) During emergency operations, locates supplies, equipment, and personnel to meet specific needs.
c) Maintain a list of suppliers for supplies and equipment needed immediately in the aftermath of an emergency.
d) Establish emergency purchasing procedures and coordinate emergency procurements.
e) Establish and maintain a manpower reserve and coordinate assignment of reserve personnel to departments and agencies that require augmentation.
f) Coordinate transportation, sorting, temporary storage, and distribution of resources during emergency situations.
g) Establish staging areas for resources, if required.
h) During emergency operations, identify to the Donations Management Coordinator those goods, services, and personnel that are needed.
i) Maintain records of emergency-related expenditures for purchases and personnel.

i. ESF # 8 Public Health & Medical Services Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC and DSHS Region 8 who will prepare and maintain ESF # 8 Public Health & Medical Services Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Coordinate health and medical care and EMS support during emergency situations.
b) Public health information and education.
c) Inspection of food and water supplies.
d) Develop emergency public health regulations and orders.
e) Coordinate collection, identification, and interment of deceased victims.

j. ESF # 9 Search & Rescue Annex.

1) The primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC and Volunteer Fire Chiefs, who will review and maintain ESF # 9 Search & Rescue Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Coordinate and conduct search and rescue activities.
b) Identify requirements for specialized resources to support rescue operations.
c) Coordinate external technical assistance and equipment support for search and rescue operations.

k. ESF # 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response Annex.

1) The primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC and Volunteer Fire Chiefs, who will review and maintain ESF # 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) In accordance with OSHA regulations, establish ICS to manage the response to hazardous materials incidents.
b) Establish the hazmat incident functional areas (e.g., Hot Zone, cool zone, Cold Zone, etc.)
c) Determine and implement requirements for personal protective equipment for emergency responders.
d) Initiate appropriate actions to control and eliminate the hazard in accordance with established hazmat response guidance and SOPs.
e) Determine areas at risk and which public protective actions, if any, should be implemented.
f) Apply appropriate firefighting techniques if the incident has, or may, result in a fire.
g) Determines when affected areas may be safely reentered.

l. ESF # 11 Animals, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Annex.

1) The primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC, who will prepare and maintain ESF # 11 Animals, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Determine nutrition assistance needs, obtain appropriate food supplies, and arrange for delivery of the supplies.
b) Plan to response to animal and plant diseases and pests, including an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease.
c) Describe methods to ensure safety and security of the food supply.
d) Describe the response actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore natural and cultural resources and historic properties.

m. ESF # 12 Energy Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County Judge and Mayors of cities participating in this plan, who will review and maintain ESF # 12 Energy Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Prioritize restoration of utility service to vital facilities and other facilities.
b) Arrange for the provision of emergency power sources where required.
c) Identify requirements for emergency drinking water and portable toilets to the department or agency responsible for mass care.
d) Assess damage to, repair, and restore public utilities.
e) Monitor recovery activities of privately owned utilities.

n. ESF # 13 Public Safety & Security Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County Sheriff, who will review and maintain ESF # 13 Public Safety & Security Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Maintenance of law and order.
b) Traffic control.
c) Terrorist incident response.
d) Provision of security for vital facilities, evacuated areas, and shelters.
e) Access control for damaged or contaminated areas.
f) Warning support.
g) Post-incident reconnaissance and damage assessment.
h) Prepare and maintain law enforcement resource inventory.

o. ESF # 14 Long Term Community Recovery Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC and the Frio County Tax Assessor, who will review and maintain ESF # 14 Long Term Community Recovery Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Establish and train a damage assessment team using local personnel. Coordinate the efforts of that team with state and federal damage assessment personnel who may be dispatched to assist us.
b) Assess and compile information on damage to public and private property and needs of disaster victims and formulate and carry out programs to fill those needs.
c) If damages are beyond our capability to deal with, compile information for use by our elected officials in requesting state or federal disaster assistance.
d) If we are determined to be eligible for state or federal disaster assistance, coordinate with state and federal agencies to carry out authorized recovery programs.

p. ESF # 15 External Affairs Annex.

1) Primary responsibility for this function is assigned to the Frio County EMC, who will review and maintain ESF # 15 External Affairs Annex.

2) Emergency tasks to be performed include:

a) Establish a Joint Information Center (JIC)
b) Conduct on-going hazard awareness and public education programs.
c) Pursuant to the Joint Information System (JIS), compile and release information and instructions for the public during emergency situations and respond to questions relating to emergency operations.
d) Provide information to the PIO for distribution to the media and the public during emergency situations.

e) Compiles print and photo documentation of emergency situations.

e) Department and agency heads not assigned a specific function in this plan will be prepared to make their resources available for emergency duty at the direction of our chief elected official.

6. Volunteer & Other Services

a. Volunteer Groups. The following are local volunteer agencies that can provide disaster relief services and traditionally have coordinated their efforts with our local government:

1) Greater San Antonio Chapter, American Red Cross, San Antonio, Texas.

   Provides shelter management, feeding at fixed facilities and through mobile units, first aid, replacement of eyeglasses and medications, provision of basic clothing, and limited financial assistance to those affected by emergency situations. The Red Cross also provides feeding for emergency workers.

2) San Antonio Chapter of The Salvation Army.

   Provides emergency assistance to include mass and mobile feeding, temporary shelter, counseling, missing person services, medical assistance, and the warehousing and distribution of donated good including food clothing, and household items. It also provides referrals to government and private agencies for special services.

3) Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief and Texas Baptist Men (TBM).

   Provides mobile feeding units staffed by volunteers. Active in providing disaster childcare, the agency has several mobile childcare units. Can also assist with clean-up activities, temporary repairs, reconstruction, counseling, and bilingual services.

4) RACES.

   The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service provides amateur radio support for emergency operations, including communications support in the EOC.

5) Saint Vincent DePaul Society

   Provides mobile feeding units staffed by volunteers.

b. Business Support.

1) Currently we have no agreements with businesses in the area to provide disaster support.

VII. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. General

1. The Frio County Judge or Mayor of a city participating in this plan is responsible for establishing objectives and policies for emergency management and providing general guidance for disaster response and recovery operations, all in compliance with the NIMS. During disasters, they may carry out those responsibilities from the EOC.

2. The Frio County Judge or Mayor of a city participating in this will provide overall direction of the response activities of all our departments. During major emergencies and disaster, he/she will normally carry out those responsibilities from the EOC.

3. The Frio County EMC or designee will manage the EOC.

4. The IC, assisted by a staff sufficient for the tasks to be performed, will manage the emergency response at an incident site.

5. During emergency operations, department heads retain administrative and policy control over their employees and equipment. However, personnel and equipment will carry out mission assignments directed by the IC. Each department and agency is responsible for having its own operating procedures to be followed during response operations, but interagency procedures, such a common communications protocol, may be adopted to facilitate coordinated effort.

6. If our own resources are insufficient or inappropriate to deal with an emergency situation, we may request assistance from other jurisdictions, organized volunteer groups, or the State. The State of Texas Assistance Request (STAR) Web Form (https://star.tdem.texas.gov) can be used to request state assistance. External agencies are expected to conform to the general guidance and directed provided by our senior decision-makers.

B. Emergency Facilities

1. Incident Command Post (ICP). Except when an emergency situation threatens, but has not yet occurred, and those situations for which there is no specific hazard impact site (such as a severe winter storm or area-wide utility outage), an incident command post or command posts will be established in the vicinity of the incident site(s). As noted previously, the IC will be responsible for directing the emergency response and managing the resources at the incident scene.

2. Emergency Operating Center (EOC). When major emergencies and disasters have occurred or appear imminent, we will activate our EOC, which is located at

500 E. San Antonio St., Pearsall. City EOC's are located at the respective City Hall.

3. The following individuals are authorized to activate the EOC:

   a. Frio County Judge or Mayor of a city participating in this plan
   b. Frio County Sheriff
   c. Frio County EMC

4. The general responsibilities of the EOC are to:

   a. Assemble accurate information on the emergency situation and current resource data to allow local officials to make informed decisions on courses of action.

   b. Working with representatives of emergency services, determine and prioritize required response actions and coordinate their implementation.

   c. Provide resource support for emergency operations.

   d. Suspend or curtail government services, recommend the closure of schools and businesses, and cancellation of public events.

   e. Organize and activate large-scale evacuation and mass care operations.

   f. Provide emergency information to the public.

5. Representatives of those departments and agencies assigned emergency functions in this plan will staff the EOC. EOC operations are addressed in the ESF # 5 Emergency Management Annex. The interface between the EOC and the incident command post is described in paragraph V.E above.

6. Our Alternate EOC is located at Frio County Courthouse. This facility will be used if our primary EOC becomes unusable.

7. We will have a mobile command and control vehicle, operated by the Frio County Sheriff, which may be used as an incident command post. This unit may be used if our primary EOC becomes unusable.

C. Line of Succession

1. The line of succession for the Frio County Judge is:

   a. Senior County Commissioner
   b. Second Senior County Commissioner

2. The line of succession for the City of Dilley Mayor is:

   a. Mayor Pro Tem
   b. City Councilman
   c. City Administrator

   The line of succession for the City of Pearsall Mayor is:

   d. Mayor Pro Tem
   e. City Councilman
   f. City Manager

3. The line of succession for the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) is:

   a. Frio County Judge's Appointee
   b. Commissioner's Court Appointee

4. The lines of succession for each of our department and agency heads shall be in accordance with the SOPs/SOGs established by those departments and agencies.

VIII. READINESS LEVELS

A. Many emergencies follow some recognizable build-up period during which actions can be taken to achieve a gradually increasing state of readiness. We use a four-tier system. Readiness Levels will be determined by the Frio County Judge or, for certain circumstances, the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC). General actions to be taken at each readiness level are outlined in the ESF annexes to this plan; more specific actions will be detailed in departmental or agency SOPs.

B. The following Readiness Levels will be used as a means of increasing our alert posture.

1. Level 4: Normal Conditions

   a. Emergency incidents occur and local officials are notified. One or more departments or agencies respond to handle the incident; an incident command post may be established. Limited assistance may be requested from other jurisdictions pursuant to established inter-local agreements.

   b. The normal operations of government are not affected.

2. Level 3: Increased Readiness

   a. Increased Readiness refers to a situation that presents a greater potential threat than “Level 4” but poses no immediate threat to life and/or property. Increased readiness actions may be appropriate when the situations similar to the following occur:

      1) Tropical Weather Threat. A tropical weather system has developed that has the potential to impact the local area. Readiness actions may include regular situation monitoring, a review of plans and resource status, determining staff availability and placing personnel on-call.

      2) Tornado Watch indicates possibility of tornado development. Readiness actions may include increased situation monitoring and placing selected staff on alert.

      3) Flash Flood Watch indicates flash flooding is possible due to heavy rains occurring or expected to occur. Readiness actions may include increased situation-monitoring, reconnaissance of known trouble spots, deploying warning signs.

      4) Wildfire Threat. During periods of extreme wildfire threat, readiness actions may include deploying additional resources to areas most at risk, arranging for standby commercial water tanker support, conducting daily aerial reconnaissance, or initiating burn bans.

5) Mass Gathering. For mass gatherings with previous history of problems, readiness actions may include reviewing security, traffic control, fire protection, and first aid planning with organizers and determining additional requirements.

b. Declaration of "Level 3" will generally require the initiation of the "Increased Readiness" activities identified in each ESF annex to this plan.

3. Level 2: High Readiness

a. High Readiness refers to a situation with a significant potential and probability of causing loss of life and/or property. This condition will normally require some degree of warning to the public. Actions could be triggered by severe weather warning information issued by the National Weather Service such as:

1) Tropical Weather Threat. A tropical weather system may impact the local area within 72 hours. Readiness actions may include continuous storm monitoring, identifying worst-case decision points, increasing preparedness of personnel and equipment, updating evacuation checklists, verifying evacuation route status, and providing the public information for techniques to protect homes and businesses on the evacuation routes.

2) Tornado Warning. Issued when a tornado has actually been sighted in the vicinity or indicted by radio and may strike in the local area. Readiness actions may include activating the EOC, continuous situation monitoring, and notifying the public about the warning.

3) Flash Flood Warning. Issued to alert persons that flash flooding is imminent or occurring on certain steams or designated areas, and immediate action should be taken. Readiness actions may include notifying the public about the warning, evacuating low-lying areas, open shelters to house evacuees, and continuous situation monitoring.

4) Winter Storm Warning. Issued when heavy snow, sleet, or freezing rain are forecast to occur separately or in a combination. Readiness actions may include preparing for possible power outages, putting road crews on stand-by to clear and/or sand the roads, and continuous situation monitoring.

5) Mass Gathering. Civil disorder with relatively large-scale localized violence is imminent. Readiness actions may include increased law enforcement presence, putting hospitals and fire departments on alert, and continuous situation monitoring.

b. Declaration of a "Level 2" will generally require the initiation of the "High Readiness" activities identified in each ESF annex to this plan.

4. Level 1: Maximum Readiness

   a. Maximum Readiness refers to situation that hazardous conditions are imminent. This condition denotes a greater sense of danger and urgency than associated with a “Level 2” event. Actions could also be generated by severe weather warning information issued by the National Weather Service combined with factors making the event more imminent.

      1) Tropical Weather Threat. The evacuation decision period is nearing for an approaching tropical weather system that may impact the local area. Readiness actions may include continuous situation monitoring, cull activation of the EOC, recommending precautionary actions for special facilities, placing emergency personnel and equipment into position for emergency operations, and preparing public transportation resources for evacuation support.

      2) Tornado Warning. Tornado has been sited especially close to a populated area or moving towards a populated area. Readiness actions may include taking immediate shelter and put damage assessment teams on stand-by.

      3) Flash Flood Warning. Flooding is imminent or occurring at specific locations. Readiness actions may include evacuations, rescue teams on alert, sheltering evacuees and/or others displaced by the flooding, and continuous monitoring of the situation.

      4) Civil Disorder. Civil disorder is about to erupt into large-scale and widespread violence. Readiness actions may include having all EMS units on stand-by, all law enforcement present for duty, notify the DDC that assistance may be needed and keep them apprised of the situation, and continuous situation monitoring is required.

   b. Declaration of “Level 1” will generally require the initiation of the “Maximum Readiness” activities identified in each ESF annex to this plan.

IX. ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

A. Agreements and Contracts

1. Should our local resources prove to be inadequate during an emergency, requests will be made for assistance from other local jurisdictions, other agencies, and industry in accordance with existing mutual-aid agreements and contracts and those agreements and contracts concluded during the emergency. Such assistance may include equipment, supplies, or personnel. All agreements will be entered into by authorized officials and should be in writing whenever possible. Agreements and contracts should identify the local officials authorized to request assistance pursuant to those documents.

2. In an effort to facilitate assistance pursuant to mutual aid agreements, our available resources are identified and are a part of the Texas Regional Response Network (TRRN).

3. The agreements and contracts pertinent to emergency management that we are a party to are summarized in Attachment 6.

B. Reports

1. Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Spill Reporting. If we are responsible for a release of hazardous materials of a type or quantity that must be reported to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the department or agency responsible for the spill shall make the required report. The plan covering HazMat spills is ESF # 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response Annex. If the party responsible for a reportable spill cannot be located, the IC shall ensure that the required report(s) are made.

2. Initial Emergency Report. A report should be prepared and transmitted by the EOC when an on-going emergency incident appears likely to worsen and we may need assistance from other local governments or the State.

3. Situation Report. A daily situation report should be prepared and distributed by the EOC during major emergencies or disasters.

4. Other Reports. Several other reports covering specific functions are described in the ESF annexes to this plan.

C. Preservation of Records

1. Record Keeping for Emergency Operations

   Frio County and Mayors of cities participating in this plan are responsible for establishing the administrative controls necessary to manage the expenditure of funds and to provide reasonable accountability and justification for expenditures

made to support emergency operations. This shall be done in accordance with the established local fiscal policies and standard cost accounting procedures.

a. Activity Logs. The Incident Command Post and the EOC shall maintain accurate logs recording key response activities, including:

1) Activation or deactivation of emergency facilities.
2) Emergency notifications to other local governments and to state and federal agencies.
3) Significant changes in the emergency situation.
4) Major commitments of resources or requests for additional resources from external sources.
5) Issuance of protective action recommendations to the public.
6) Evacuations.
7) Casualties.
8) Containment or termination of the incident.

b. Incident Costs. All department and agencies shall maintain records summarizing the use of personnel, equipment, and supplies during the response to day-to-day incidents to obtain a estimate of annual emergency response costs that can be used as in preparing future department or agency budgets.

c. Emergency or Disaster Costs. For major emergencies or disasters, all departments and agencies participating in the emergency response shall maintain detailed of costs for emergency operations to include:

1) Personnel costs, especially overtime costs
2) Equipment operations costs
3) Costs for leased or rented equipment
4) Costs for contract services to support emergency operations
5) Costs of specialized supplies expended for emergency operations

These records may be used to recover costs from the responsible party or insurers or as a basis for requesting financial assistance for certain allowable response and recovery costs from the state and/or federal government.

2. Preservation of Records

a. In order to continue normal government operations following an emergency situation disaster, vital records must be protected. These include legal documents as well as property and tax records. The principal causes of damage to records are fire and water; therefore, essential records should be protected accordingly. Each agency responsible for preparation of ESF annexes to this plan will include protection of vital records in its SOPs.

b. If records are damaged during an emergency situation, we will seek professional assistance to preserve and restore them.

D. Training

It will be the responsibility of each agency/department director to ensure that agency personnel, in accordance with the NIMS, possess the level of training, experience, credentialing, currency, physical and medical fitness, or capability for any positions they are tasked to fill.

E. Consumer Protection

Consumer complaints regarding alleged unfair or illegal business practices often occur in the aftermath of a disaster. Such complaints will be referred to the City Attorney, who will pass such complaints to the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General.

F. Post-Incident and Exercise Review

The Frio County Judge or Mayor of a city participating in this plan is responsible for organizing and conducting a critique following the conclusion of a significant emergency event/incident or exercise. The After-Action Report (AAR) will entail both written and verbal input from all appropriate participants. An Improvement Plan will be developed based on the deficiencies identified, and an individual, department, or agency will be assigned responsibility for correcting the deficiency and a due date shall be established for that action.

X. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Plan Development

The Frio County Judge and Mayors of cities participating in this plan are responsible for approving and promulgating this plan.

B. Distribution of Planning Documents

1. The Frio County EMC shall determine the distribution of this plan and its ESF Annexes. In general, copies of plans and ESF Annexes should be distributed to those individuals, departments, agencies, and organizations tasked in this document. Copies should also be set-aside for the EOC and other emergency facilities.

2. The Basic Plan should include a distribution list (See Attachment 1 to this plan) that indicates who receives copies of the Basic Plan and the various ESF Annexes to it. In general, individuals who receive ESF Annexes to the Basic Plan should also receive a copy of this plan, because the Basic Plan describes our emergency management organization and basic operational concepts. The Basic Plan and corresponding ESF Annexes will be electronically distributed to all participating Frio County departments. Hard copies will be maintained in the EOC.

C. Review

The Basic Emergency Plan and its ESF Annexes shall be reviewed annually by Frio County officials. The Frio County Judge will establish a schedule for annual review of planning documents by those tasked in them.

D. Update

1. This plan will be updated based upon deficiencies identified during actual emergency situations and exercises and when changes in threat hazards, resources and capabilities, or government structure occur.

2. The Basic Plan and its ESF Annexes must be revised or updated by a formal change at least every five (5) years. Responsibility for revising or updating the Basic Plan is assigned to the Frio County EMC. Responsibility for revising or updating the ESF annexes to this plan is outlined in Section VI.B, Assignment of Responsibilities, as well as in each ESF annex. For details on the methods of updating planning documents as well as more information on when changes should be made, refer to The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), Emergency Management Planner's Guide Project Plan, page 26 Review and Revise the Plan Document.

3. Revised or updated planning documents will be provided to all departments, agencies, and individuals tasked in those documents.

4. §418.043(4) of the Government Code provides that TDEM shall review local emergency management plans. The process for submitting new or updated planning documents to TDEM is described in Chapter 6 of the TDEM-10. The EMC is responsible for submitting copies of planning documents to our TDEM DC and/or Regional State Planner for review.

ATTACHMENTS:

Distribution List

References

Organization for Emergencies

Functional Responsibility Matrix

Annex Assignments

Summary of Agreements & Contracts

National Incident Management System

Glossary of Key Terms

ATTACHMENT 1
DISTRIBUTION LIST

JURISDICTION/AGENCY PLAN	BASIC PLAN	ESF ANNEXES
EOC Reference Library	1	ALL
Frio County Judge	1	ALL
Dilley City Administrator	1	ALL
Pearsall City Manager	1	ALL
Frio County EMC	1	ALL
Frio County Commissioners	1	ALL
Assistant to the Frio County Judge	1	ALL
Frio County Sheriff	2	ALL
Volunteer Fire Chiefs	4	4, 10, & 13
DSHS Region 8	1	6, 8, & 10
Frio County Tax Assessor/Collector	1	7 & 14
Cities of Dilley and Pearsall	2	ALL
EMS	3	1, 6, & 13
Frio County Attorney	1	ALL
RACES OFFICER	1	ALL
FRIO REGIONAL HOSPITAL	1	1, 6, & 13
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS	2	1, 6, & 13
FRIO COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE	1	ALL

ATTACHMENT 2
REFERENCES

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Preparedness Section, *Emergency Management Planner's Guide and Project Plan*, The Planner's Toolkit

Texas Division of Emergency Management, *Response and Recovery Guide*, May 2020

Texas Division of Emergency Management, State of Texas, *Hazard Mitigation Plan,* October 2018

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-29a: *Public Information Officer Awareness*

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-75: *Military Resources in Emergency Management*

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-230e: *Fundamentals of Emergency Management*

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-235c: *Emergency Planning*

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-288a: *The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emergency Management*

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-552: *The Public Works Role in Emergency Management*

FEMA, Independent Study Course, IS-2200: *Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions*

FEMA, *State and Local Guide (SLG) 101: Guide for All-Hazard Emergency Operations Planning*

U. S. Department of Homeland Security, *National Response Framework*

79th Texas Legislature*, House Bill 3111*

ATTACHMENT 3
ORGANIZATION FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A. Policy Group & EOC Organization

B. Incident Command System (ICS) Organization

ATTACHMENT 4
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

	ESF # 1 Transportation	ESF # 2 Communications	ESF # 3 Public Works	ESF # 4 Firefighting	ESF # 5 Emergency Management	ESF # 6 Mass Care	ESF # 7 Logistics Management & Resource Support	ESF # 8 Public Health & Medical Services	ESF # 9 Search & Rescue	ESF # 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials Response	ESF # 11 Agriculture & Natural Resources	ESF # 12 Energy	ESF # 13 Public Safety & Security	ESF # 14 Long Term Community Recovery & Mitigation	ESF # 15 Public Information
County Judge/Mayor	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Asst. to the Judge											S			S	P
EMC	C	C	C	C	P	C	C	C	C	C	S	C	S	C	S
County Sheriff		P		S		S			S	S	S		P		P
Fire Chiefs		S		P	S				S	P	S				S
DSHS Region 8	S					S		P	S		S		S		
County Commissioners					S					S	S		S		
Red Cross Representative					P					S	S		S		
Tax Appraiser										S	S			P	
ISD Transport	P				S					S	S		S		
County Attorney's Office										S	S		S		

P – Indicates primary responsibility

S – Indicates support responsibility

C – Indicates coordination responsibility

ATTACHMENT 5
ESF ASSIGNMENTS

ESF	Assigned To:
ESF # 1 Transportation	School Superintendent & ISD Transportation Supervisor
ESF # 2 Communications	Frio County Sheriff
ESF # 3 Public Works	Public Works Supervisor/R&B Admin
ESF # 4 Firefighting	Frio County EMC & Fire Chiefs
ESF # 5 Emergency Management	Frio County EMC
ESF # 6 Mass Care	Frio County EMC & Red Cross
ESF # 7 Logistics Management & Resource Support	Frio County Judge/Mayors
ESF # 8 Public Health & Medical Services	Frio County EMC & DSHS Region 8
ESF # 9 Search & Rescue	Frio County EMC & Fire Chiefs
ESF # 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response	Frio County EMC
ESF # 11 Agriculture & Natural Resources	Frio County EMC/Agri-Life
ESF # 12 Energy	Frio County Judge
ESF # 13 Public Safety & Security	Frio County Sheriff
ESF # 14 Long Term Community Recovery	Frio County EMC
ESF # 15 Public Information	Frio County Judge

ATTACHMENT 6
NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) SUMMARY

A. Background

1. NIMS is a comprehensive, national approach to incident management that is applicable to all jurisdictional levels and across functional disciplines. This system is suitable across a wide range of incidents and hazard scenarios, regardless of size or complexity. It provides a flexible framework for all phases of incident management, as well as requirements for processes, procedures, and systems designed to improve interoperability.

2. NIMS is a multifaceted system that provides a national framework for preparing for, preventing, responding to, and recovering from domestic incidents.

B. Components

1. Command and Management. The incident management structures employed by NIMS can be used to manage emergency incidents or non-emergency events such as celebrations. The system works equally well for small incidents and large-scale emergency situations. The system has built-in flexibility to grow or shrink depending on current needs. It is a standardized system, so personnel from a variety of agencies and geographic locations can be rapidly incorporated into a common management structure.

   a. Incident Management System. A system that can be used to manage emergency incidents or non-emergency events such as celebrations.

      1) Features of ICS

         ICS has a number of features that work together to make it a real management system. Among the primary attributes of ICS are:

         a) Common Terminology. ICS requires the use of common terminology, such as the use of standard titles for facilities and positions within an organization, to ensure efficient and clear communications.

         b) Organizational Resources. All resources including personnel, facilities, major equipment, and supply items used to support incident management activities must be “typed” with respect to capability. This typing will minimize confusion and enhance interoperability.

         c) Manageable Span of Control. Span of control should ideally vary from three to seven. Anything less or more requires expansion or consolidation of the organization.

d) Organizational Facilities. Common terminology is used to define incident facilities, the activities conducted at these facilities, and the organizational positions that can be found working there.

e) Use of Position Titles. All ICS positions have distinct titles.

f) Reliance on an Incident Action Plan. The incident action plan, which may be verbal or written, is intended to provide supervisory personnel a common understanding of the situation and direction for future action. The plan includes a statement of objectives, organizational description, assignments, and support material such as maps. Written plans are desirable when two or more jurisdictions are involved, when state and/or federal agencies are assisting local response personnel, or there has been significant turnover in the incident staff.

g) Integrated Communications. Integrated communications includes interfacing disparate communications as effectively as possible, planning for the use of all available systems and frequencies, and requiring the use of clear text in communications.

h) Accountability. ICS is based on an orderly chain of command, check-in for all responders, and only one supervisor for each responder.

2) Unified Command

a) Unified Command is a variant of ICS used when there is more than one agency or jurisdiction with responsibility for the incident or when personnel and equipment from a number of different agencies or jurisdictions are responding to it. This might occur when the incident site crosses jurisdictional boundaries or when an emergency situation involves matters for which state and/or federal agencies have regulatory responsibility or legal requirements.

b) ICS Unified Command is intended to integrate the efforts of multiple agencies and jurisdictions. The major change from a normal ICS structure is at the top. In a Unified command, senior representatives of each agency or jurisdiction responding to the incident collectively agree on objectives, priorities, and an overall strategy or strategies to accomplish objectives; approve a coordinated Incident Action Plan; and designate an Operations Section Chief. The Operations Section Chief is responsible for managing available resources to achieve objectives. Agency and jurisdictional resources remain under the administrative control of their agencies or jurisdictions but respond to mission assignments and direction provided by the Operations Section Chief based on the requirements of the Incident Action Plan.

3) AREA COMMAND

a) An Area Command is intended for situations where there are multiple incidents that are each being managed by an ICS organization or to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional.

b) The organization of an Area Command is different from a Unified Command in that there is no operations section, since all operations are conducted on-scene, at the separate ICPs.

b. Multiagency Coordination Systems. Multiagency coordination systems may be required for incidents that require higher level resource management or information management. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, EOCs, specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications; all of which are integrated into a common framework for coordinating and supporting incident management.

c. Public Information. The NIMS system fully integrates the ICS Joint Information System (JIS) and the Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC is a physical location where public information staff involved in incident management activities can collocate to perform critical emergency information, crisis communications, and public affairs functions. More information on JICs can be obtained in the DHS *National Incident Management System* Plan, dated March 2004.

2. Preparedness. Preparedness activities include planning, training, and exercises as well as certification of response personnel, and equipment acquisition and certification. Activities would also include the creation of mutual aid agreements and Emergency Management Assistance Compacts. Any public information activities such as publication management would also be preparedness activities.

3. Resource Management. All resources, such as equipment and personnel, must be identified and typed. Systems for describing, inventorying, requesting, and tracking resources must also be established.

4. Communications and Information Management. Adherence to NIMS specified standards by all agencies ensures interoperability and compatibility in communications and information management.

5. Supporting Technologies. This would include any technologies that enhance the capabilities essential to implementing the NIMS. For instance, voice and data communication systems, resource tracking systems, or data display systems

6. Ongoing Management and Maintenance. The NIMS Integration Center provides strategic direction and oversight in support of routine review and continual refinement of both the system and its components over the long term.

ATTACHMENT 7
GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

Accountable Property. Property that: 1) has an acquisition cost that is $15,000 or more; 2) has a unique, identifiable serial number (e.g., computer or telecommunications equipment) ; and 3) is considered "sensitive" (i.e., easily pilferable) , such as cellular phones, pagers, and laptop computers.

Agency. A division of government with a specific function offering a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined either as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident management) or as assisting or cooperating (providing resources or other assistance).

Agency Representative. A person assigned by a primary, assisting, or cooperating Federal, State, local, or tribal government agency or private entity that has been delegated authority to make decisions affecting that agencies or organization's participation in incident management activities following appropriate consultation with the leadership of that agency.

Area Command (Unified Area Command). An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met, and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an EOC facility or at some location other than an ICP.

Available Resources. Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for use, normally located in a Staging Area.

Awareness. The continual process of collecting, analyzing, and disseminating intelligence, information, and knowledge to allow organizations and individuals to anticipate requirements and to react effectively.

Casualty. Any person who is declared dead or is missing, ill, or injured.

Catastrophic Incident. Any natural or manmade incident, or combination of incidents, which results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions. A catastrophic event will result in sustained impacts over a prolonged period of time; immediately exceed resources normally available to State, local, tribal, and private-sector authorities in the impacted area; and significantly interrupt governmental operations and emergency services to such an extent that national security could be threatened.

Chain of Command. A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.

Civil Transportation Capacity. The total quantity of privately owned transportation services, equipment, facilities, and systems from all transportation modes nationally or in a prescribed area or region.

Command Staff. In an incident management organization, the Command Staff consists of the Incident Command and the special staff positions of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer, and other positions as required, who report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.

Common Operating Picture (COP). A broad view of the overall situation as reflected by situation reports, aerial photography, and other information or intelligence.

Community Recovery. In the context of the KC/COB OP and its annexes, the process of assessing the effects of an incident, defining resources, and developing and implementing a course of action to restore and revitalize the socioeconomic and physical structure of a community.

Consequence Management. Predominantly an emergency management function and included measures to protect public health and safety, restore essential government services, and provide emergency relief to governments, businesses, and individuals affected by the consequences of terrorism. The requirements of consequence management and crisis management are combined in the KC/COB OP. See also Crisis Management.

Credible Threat. A potential terrorist threat that, based on a threat assessment, is credible and likely to involve WMD.

Crisis Management. Predominantly a law enforcement function and included measures to identify, acquire, and plan the use of resources needed to anticipate, prevent, and/or resolve a threat or act of terrorism. The requirements of consequence management and crisis management are combined in the KC/COB OP. See also Consequence Management.

Critical Infrastructures. Systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.

Cultural Resources. Cultural resources include historic and prehistoric structures, archeological sites, cultural landscapes, and museum collections.

Cyber. Pertaining to computers and their support systems, such as servers, routers, and switches that support critical infrastructure.

Deputy. A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, could be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a deputy could act as relief for a superior and therefore must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the Incident Commander, General Staff, and Branch Directors.

Disaster. See Major Disaster.

Disaster Recovery Center (DRC). A facility established in a centralized location within or near the disaster area at which disaster victims (individuals, families, or businesses) apply for disaster aid.

Emergency. As defined by the Stafford Act, an emergency is "any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States."

Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Federal, State, regional, county, city), or by some combination thereof.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The "steady-state" plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for managing a wide variety of potential hazards.

Emergency Public Information. Information that is disseminated primarily in anticipation of an emergency or during an emergency. In addition to providing situational information to the public, it also frequently provides directive actions required to be taken by the public.

Emergency Response Provider. Includes Federal, State, and local emergency public safety, law enforcement, emergency response, emergency medical (including hospital emergency facilities), and related personnel, agencies, and authorities. (See section 2(6), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).) Also known as "emergency responder."

Emergency Support Function (ESF). A grouping of government and certain private-sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide the support, resources, program implementation, and services that are most likely to be needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal, when feasible, following domestic incidents. The ESFs serve as the primary operational-level mechanism to provide assistance to State, local, and tribal governments or to Federal departments and agencies conducting missions of primary Federal responsibility.

Emerging Infectious Diseases. New or recurring infectious diseases of people, domestic animals, and/or wildlife, including identification, etiology, pathogenesis, zoonotic potential, and ecological impact.

Environment. Natural and cultural resources and historic properties as those terms are defined in this glossary and in relevant laws.

Evacuation. Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.

Facility Management. Facility selection and acquisition, building services, information systems, communications, safety and health, and physical security.

Federal. Of or pertaining to the Federal Government of the United States of America.

First Responder. Local and nongovernmental law enforcement, fire, and emergency personnel who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment, including emergency response providers as defined in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101), as well as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and other skilled support personnel (such as equipment operators) who provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations. First responders may include personnel from Federal, State, local, tribal, or nongovernmental organizations.

Hazard. Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome.

Hazard Mitigation. Any cost-effective measure which will reduce the potential for damage to a facility from a disaster event.

Hazardous Material. For the purposes of ESF #1, hazardous material is a substance or material, including a hazardous substance, that has been determined by the Secretary of Transportation to be capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce, and which has been so designated (see 49 CFR 171.8). For the purposes of ESF #10 and the Hazardous Materials Incident Annex, the term is intended to mean hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants as defined by the NCP.

Historic Property. Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, including artifacts, records, and remains which are related to such district, site, building, structure, or object [16 U.S.C. § 470(w)(5)].

Incident. An occurrence or event, natural or human caused that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods,

hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Incident Action Plan (IAP). An oral or written plan containing general objective reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.

Incident Command Post (ICP). The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed. The ICP may be collocated with the incident base or other incident facilities and is normally identified by a green rotating or flashing light.

Incident Command System (ICS). A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating with a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. ICS is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, or organized field-level incident management operations.

Incident Commander (IC). The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site. (See page 10 for discussion on DOD forces.)

Incident Management Team (IMT). The Incident Commander and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.

Incident Mitigation. Actions taken during an incident designed to minimize impacts or contain the damages to property or the environment.

Information Officer. See Public Information Officer.

Infrastructure. The manmade physical systems, assets, projects, and structures, publicly and/or privately owned, that are used by or provide benefit to the public. Examples of infrastructure include utilities, bridges, levees, drinking water systems, electrical systems, communications systems, dams, sewage systems, and roads.

Initial Actions. The actions taken by those responders first to arrive at an incident site.

Initial Response. Resources initially committed to an incident.

Initial Response Resources (IRR). Disaster support commodities that may be pre-staged, in anticipation of a catastrophic event, at a facility close to a disaster area for immediate application through an ESF operation. The initial response resources are provided to victims and all levels of government responders immediately after a disaster occurs. They are designed to augment State and local capabilities. The initial response resources include supplies (baby food, baby formula, blankets, cots, diapers, meals ready-to-eat, plastic sheeting, tents, and water) and equipment (emergency generators, industrial ice- makers, mobile kitchen kits, portable potties with service, portable showers, and refrigerated vans).

In-Kind Donations (IKD). Donations other than cash (usually materials or professional services) for disaster survivors.
Joint Field Office (JFO). A temporary Federal facility established locally to provide a central point for Federal, State, local, and tribal executives with responsibility for incident oversight, direction, and/or assistance to effectively coordinate protection, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery actions. The JFO will combine the traditional functions of the JOC, the FEMA DFO, and the JIC within a single Federal facility.

Joint Information Center (JIC). A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. . Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the JIC.

Joint Information System (JIS). Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during a crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the IC; advising the IC concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.

Jurisdiction. A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authorities. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., city, county, tribal, State, or Federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).

Liaison Officer (LOFR). A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.

Local Government. A county, municipality, city, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization (As defined in section 2(10) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135, et seq. (2002).)

Major Disaster. As defined by the Stafford Act, any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought) or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

Materiel Management. Requisitioning and sourcing (requirements processing); acquisition, asset visibility (resource tracking), receipt, storage, and handling; security and accountability; inventory, deployment, issue, and distribution; and recovery, reuse, and disposition.

Mitigation. Activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often developed in accordance with lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard- related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.
Mobilization. The process and procedures used by all organizations—Federal, State, local, and tribal—for activating, assembling, and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.

Mobilization Center. An off-site temporary facility at which response personnel and equipment are received from the Point of Arrival and are pre-positioned for deployment to an incident logistics base, to a local Staging Area, or directly to an incident site, as required. A mobilization center also provides temporary support services, such as food and billeting, for response personnel prior to their assignment, release, or reassignment and serves as a place to out-process following demobilization while awaiting transportation.

Multi-agency Coordination Entity. Functions within a broader multiagency coordination system. It may establish priorities among incidents and associated resource allocations, deconflict agency policies, and provide strategic guidance and direction to support incident management activities.

Multi-agency Coordination System (MACS). Provides the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, EOCs, specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications. The systems assist agencies and organizations to fully integrate the subsystems of NIMS.

Multi-jurisdictional Incident. An incident requiring action from multiple agencies that each have jurisdiction to manage certain aspects of an incident. In ICS, these incidents will be managed under Unified Command.

Mutual Aid Agreement. Written agreement between agencies, organizations, and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.

National. Of a nationwide character, including the Federal, State, local, and tribal aspects of governance and policy.

National Incident Management System (NIMS). A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent, nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments; the private sector; and NGOs to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

Natural Resources. Natural resources include land, fish, wildlife, domesticated animals, plants, biota, and water. Water means salt and fresh water, surface, and ground water, including water used for drinking, irrigation, aquaculture, and recreational purposes, as well as in its capacity as fish and wildlife habitat, as defined in 16 U.S.C. 64501. Land means soil, surface and subsurface minerals, and other terrestrial features.

Nongovernmental Organization (NGO). A nonprofit entity that is based on interests of its members, individuals, or institutions and that is not created by a government but may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations and the American Red Cross.

Pollutant or Contaminant. As defined in the NCP, includes, but is not limited to, any element, substance, compound, or mixture, including disease-causing agents, which after release into the environment and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains, will or may reasonably be anticipated to cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutation, physiological malfunctions, or physical deformations in such organisms or their offspring.

Preparedness. The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process involving efforts at all levels of government and between government and private sector and

nongovernmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources.

Prevention. Actions taken to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions taken to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Private Sector. Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. Includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce and industry, private emergency response organizations, and private voluntary organizations.

Public Assistance (PA) Program. The program administered by FEMA that provides supplemental Federal disaster grant assistance for debris removal and disposal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain private nonprofit organizations.

Public Health. Protection, safety, improvement, and interconnections of health and disease prevention among people, domestic animals, and wildlife.

Public Information Officer (PIO). A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident related information requirements.

Public Works. Work, construction, physical facilities, and services provided by governments for the benefit and use of the public.

Regional Emergency Response Teams (RERTs). Teams provided by the Texas Division of Emergency Management or other organization to support and respond to hazardous materials or WMD incidents.

Recovery. The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans for impacted communities and the reconstitution of government operations and services through individual, private-sector, nongovernmental, and public assistance programs that: identify needs and define resources; provide housing and promote restoration; address long-term care and treatment of affected persons; implement additional measures for community restoration; incorporate mitigation measures and techniques, as feasible; evaluate the incident to identify lessons learned; and develop initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

Regional Response Teams (RRTs). Regional counterparts to the National Response Team, the RRTs comprise regional representatives of the Federal agencies on the NRT and representatives of each State within the region. The RRTs serve as planning and preparedness bodies before a response and provide coordination and advice to the Federal OSC during response actions.

Resources. Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described b by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

Response. Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of incident mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include: applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into the nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Situation Assessment. The evaluation and interpretation of information gathered from a variety of sources (including weather information and forecasts, computerized models, GIS data mapping, remote sensing sources, ground surveys, etc.) that, when communicated to emergency managers and decision makers, can provide a basis for incident management decision-making.

State. Any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States. (As defined in section 2(14) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135, et seq. (2002).)

Strategic. Strategic elements of incident management are characterized by continuous, long-term, high- level planning by organizations headed by elected or other senior officials. These elements involve the adoption of long-range goals and objectives, the setting of priorities, the establishment of budgets and other fiscal decisions, policy development, and the application of measures of performance or effectiveness.

Strategic Plan. A plan that addresses long-term issues such as impact of weather forecasts, time-phased resource requirements, and problems such as permanent housing for displaced disaster victims, environmental pollution, and infrastructure restoration.

Subject-Matter Expert (SME). An individual who is a technical expert in a specific area or in performing a specialized job, task, or skill.

Telecommunications. The transmission, emission, or reception of voice and/or data through any medium by wire, radio, other electrical electromagnetic, or optical means. Telecommunications includes all aspects of transmitting information.

Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) Program. The NS/EP TSP Program is the regulatory, administrative, and operational program authorizing and providing for priority treatment (i.e., provisioning and restoration) of NS/EP telecommunications services. As such, it establishes the framework for NS/EP telecommunications service vendors to provide, restore, or otherwise act on a priority basis to ensure effective NS/EP telecommunications services.

Terrorism. Any activity that (1) involves an act that (a) is dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources; and (b) is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State or other subdivision of the United States; and (2) appears to be intended (a) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (b) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (c) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.

Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). The State of Texas Division of Emergency Management serves the State of Texas by managing the all-hazards emergency management plan for the state. TDEM works closely with local jurisdictions, state agencies, and federal partners in ensuring Texas become more resilient for future disasters.

Threat. An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger.

Transportation Management. Transportation prioritizing, ordering, sourcing, and acquisition; time phasing plans; fleet management; and movement coordination and tracking.

Unaffiliated Volunteer. An individual who is not formally associated with a recognized voluntary disaster relief organization; also known as a “spontaneous” or “emergent” volunteer.

Unified Command. An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the Unified Command to establish their designated Incident Commanders at a single ICP and to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single Incident Action Plan.

United States. The term “United States,” when used in a geographic sense, means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, any possession of the United States, and any waters within the jurisdiction of the United States. (As defined in section 2(16) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135, et seq. (2002).)

Unsolicited Goods. Donated items offered by and/or sent to the incident area by the public, the private sector, or other source, that have not been requested by government or nonprofit disaster relief coordinators.

Urban Search and Rescue (USAR). Operational activities that include locating, extricating, and providing on-site medical treatment to victims trapped in collapsed structures.

Volunteer. Any individual accepted to perform services by an agency that has authority to accept volunteer r services when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed. (See, for example, 16 U.S.C. § 742f(c) and 29 CFR § 553.101.)

Volunteer and Donations Coordination Center. Facility from which the Volunteer and Donations Coordination Team operates. It is best situated in or close by the State EOC for coordination purposes. Requirements may include space for a phone bank, meeting space, and space for a team of specialists to review and process offers.

Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD). As defined in Title 18, U.S.C. § 2332a: (1) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, or missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, or mine or similar device; (2) any weapon that is designed or intended to cause death or serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals or their precursors; (3) any weapon involving a disease organism; or (4) any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life.

Wireless Priority Service (WPS). WPS allows authorized NS/EP personnel to gain priority access to the next available wireless radio channel to initiate calls during an emergency when carrier channels may be congested.