

ESF 11: Agriculture and Natural Resources

Primary Agency

Pacific County Emergency Management Agency (PCEMA)

Support Agencies

Pacific County Public Health and Human Services
Pacific County Department of Community Development
WSU Long Beach Research and Extension Unit American Red Cross
Washington State Emergency Management Division
Washington State Department of Health

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

The purpose of this ESF is to coordinate efforts to provide safe handling of food, water and donated goods following a major emergency or disaster to persons unable to provide for themselves.

B. Scope

This ESF provides for the coordination and safe handling of food stocks, water, and donated goods for the needs in Pacific County during a major emergency or disaster.

C. Policies

None specific.

II. Situations and Assumptions

A. Situations

1. Under emergency/disaster conditions the Red Cross is the agency that has the ability to assist in the coordination of mass care.
2. PCEMA will work with all community, humanitarian, and social service organizations to assist in the coordination of this activity.

3. The Pacific County Department of Community Development will ensure the safety of food, water and donated goods to the public.
 4. The distribution of food, water and donated goods needs to be a community wide effort.
 5. Distribution of food, water and donated goods will tax government, humanitarian, and social service agencies.
 6. PCEMA has limited experience in coordinating the distribution of food, water, and donated goods in a catastrophic event.
- B. Assumptions
1. If not handled properly, food, water, and donated goods can become vehicles for illness and disease transmission that must be avoided.

III. Concept of Operations

A. General

1. PCEMA, through the Pacific County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will coordinate with local agencies, churches, institutions, commercial facilities, volunteer organizations, and appropriate purveyors for the management of relief supplies.
2. The Pacific County Department of Community Development, and the WSU Long Beach Research and Extension Unit (agricultural agent) will provide information on preventative measures to be taken to reduce contamination of food, water, crops, and livestock, as well as information/recommendations for the safe storage and distribution of emergency food. Information will be disseminated as described in ESF #15 External Affairs.

B. Food

1. In the event of a countywide disaster, the cooperation of the food sector is essential to execute emergency plans for allocation of food resources to meet emergency demands.
2. Food resources will be coordinated by PCEMA through the EOC logistics section.

3. Emergency food stocks will be purchased or procured under the provisions of RCW 38.52.070.

C. Water Systems

1. Pacific County receives its water from a multitude of systems. There are several public water systems and thousands of private wells in Pacific County.
2. Water supplies may be severely impacted during an emergency/disaster. Most water purveyors are not prepared to deal with severely impacted water systems after a major emergency/disaster.
3. During or following disasters, water may be considered contaminated and may require testing prior to consumption or use.

D. Donated Goods

1. During a disaster, the public becomes generous in both donating monies and goods to the disaster area. This includes major corporations. Often this generous outpouring of goodwill severely impacts and overwhelms local government and social agencies trying to manage the donated goods.
2. PCEMA, through the EOC logistics section will coordinate with donors and support agencies in regard to the distribution of donated goods.
3. In a disaster/emergency, the management of donated goods will not only overwhelm government and social agencies but the goodwill could be so generous, many donated goods may never be used and will require disposal.
4. Donated goods are categorized into two sections:
 - a. Solicited Goods - The impacted community has identified a specific need and requests specific items from either the general public and/or the community.
 - b. Unsolicited Goods - The public sees or hears of the disaster through the media and is motivated to donate to the impacted area whether it is needed or not.

IV. Organization

The Pacific County EOC operates under principles of the Incident Command System and the National Incident Management System. ESF 11, Agriculture and Natural Resources will be incorporated into the Logistics as well as the Operations Sections of the EOC upon activation, providing direction and support to emergency response field units upon request.

V. Actions

A. Initial

1. Coordinate ESF 11 within the Logistics and Operations Sections of the Pacific County EOC and/or at other locations as required.
2. Coordinate needs and response actions with each appropriate agency.
3. Establish and maintain of a system to support on-scene direction/control and coordination with the State EOC or other coordination entities as appropriate.
4. Utilize evacuation, deployment, or demobilization routes to the extent possible.
6. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel to ensure readiness for timely response.
7. Monitor and direct Agricultural and Natural resources and response activities to include pre-positioning for response/relocation due to the potential impact(s) of the emergency situation.
8. Participate in EOC briefings, development of Incident Action Plans, and Situation Reports, and meetings.
9. Coordinate with support agencies, as needed, to support emergency activities.
10. Obtain other resources through state or regional Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreements.
11. Upon request, coordinate all resources into the affected areas from designated staging areas.
12. Relay all emergency traffic conditions/regulations to all affected personnel.
13. Report to the EOC any traffic control signs/signals needed at locations for general navigation through and around the disaster area.

B. Continuing

1. Contact each appropriate agency for initial damage assessment of personnel, equipment, and supplies.
2. Maintain documentation of all reported damage by resource agencies.
3. Continue to provide support as required until response activities are concluded or until they can be managed and staffed by the primary incident agency or Jurisdictions.
4. Initiate financial reimbursement process for recovery activities when such support is available.
5. Assist in recovery operations of the EOC.
6. Coordinate with the All Hazards Mitigation Committee to identify potential hazards and their impacts, include in the All Hazards Mitigation Plan and seek funding.
7. Provide personnel with the appropriate expertise to participate in activities designed to reduce or minimize the impact of future disasters.
8. Provide rapid damage assessment reports per field surveys.
9. Prepare and maintain emergency operating procedures, resource inventories, personnel rosters, and resource mobilization information necessary for implementation of the responsibilities of the lead agency.
10. Maintain a list of ESF 11 assets that can be deployed during an emergency; refer to the NIMS Resource Typing in organizing these resources.
11. Assign and schedule sufficient personnel to implement ESF 11 tasks for an extended period of time.
12. Ensure lead agency personnel are trained in their responsibilities and duties.
13. Develop and implement emergency response and transportation strategies.
14. Maintain liaison with support agencies, conduct All Hazards training and exercises involving the Operations Section.

VI. Responsibilities

A. Primary Agency

1. The Pacific County Emergency Management Agency
 - a. Coordinates the activities of those local agencies charged in this plan for the provision of management of food, water, and donated goods.
 - b. Informs assigned agencies of the need to coordinate food, water, and donated goods.
 - c. Coordinates and maintains liaison with providers of mass care resources and services.
 - d. Coordinates with all appropriate departments/agencies to ensure operational readiness.
 - e. Maintains an operational EOC and the EOC emergency operating procedures.
 - f. Coordinates Emergency Public Information regarding food resources with the joint information system.
 - g. Coordinates with Washington State Emergency Management in the development of local programs that will manage the logistics of food, water and donated goods.

B. Support Agencies

1. Red Cross
 - a. The Red Cross may provide disaster victims with food, clothing, shelter, first aid, and supplementary medical/nursing care and meet other urgent immediate needs (reference ESF 6).
2. Pacific County Department of Health and Human Services
 - a. The Pacific County Health and Human Services Department will set up alternate care facilities as needed for supplementary sheltering and nursing care
3. The Pacific County Department of Community Development
 - a. Analyzes water samples from sources suspected of contamination and makes appropriate recommendations.
 - b. Develops procedures to notify the residents of Pacific County how to treat contaminated food and water.
 - c. Inspects (if available) donated goods with the appropriate state agency.

4. Public Information Officer
 - a. Coordinate all public information and instructions and media relations as defined in ESF #15 External Affairs.

5. Washington State Emergency Management Division
 - a. Requests the assistance of state agencies and private organizations having emergency mass care capabilities when requested by local government.
 - b. Provides overall logistical support of donated goods by managing the State Logistics Center upon full implementation of the Washington State CEMP.
 - c. Alerts those state and local agencies that have the expertise needed with managing food, water systems, and donated goods.

6. Washington State Department of Health
 - a. Supplements local health agencies in the regulation and inspection of consumable foods at the point of preparation.
 - b. If available, coordinates and inspects appropriate response with all water purveyors.

7. Other State Agencies

Responsibilities as identified in the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan*.

VII. References

- A. *The National Response Framework, ESF # 11*
- B. *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan*
- C. ESF 6 Mass Care
- D. ESF 15 External Affairs

VIII. Attachments

Attachment 1 Animal Welfare Appendix

