

ESF 3: Public Works and Engineering

Primary Agency

Pacific County Department of Public Works (DPW)
Municipal Departments of Public Works
Pacific County Department of Community Development (DCD)

Support Agencies

Pacific County Emergency Management Agency (PCEMA)

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. To provide guidance for the emergency coordination of Public Works and Engineering services for Pacific County and the municipalities of the cities of Ilwaco, Long Beach, Raymond, and South Bend.
2. In the event that debris becomes a health and safety issue this ESF guides the governmental coordination, removal, recycling, and disposal of solid waste including debris, wreckage, and household hazardous materials following a disaster.

B. Scope

1. This ESF addresses necessary public works, engineering, building inspection, and environmental health activities including, but not limited to: demolition of unsafe structures, debris and wreckage clearance, temporary repair of essential facilities, inspection of facilities for structural condition and safety, and assisting in traffic control by providing barricades and signs as necessary, and other related activities in order to cope with an emergency/disaster.
2. This ESF addresses all emergency solid waste management activities including collection, transportation, disposal, and use of emergency workers in related work.

C. Policies

1. Pacific County and the municipalities within the county may collect for any costs incurred by the authorized representatives, contractors, and sub-contractors carrying out any necessary work on property needed to protect public health and safety, including debris removal, demolition of unsafe or abandoned structures,

removal of debris and wreckage, and administration costs. The collection of these costs and penalties may include billing the owner or placing a lien on the property and withholding further permits to the permittee or property until the costs and penalties are paid.

2. Permitting fees and normal inspection procedures may stay in effect following a disaster unless otherwise directed by the Board of County Commissioners or City Councils.
3. Debris from earthquake-damaged structures usually contains reclaimable property, valuables, and mementos of disaster victims. Victim reclamation of damaged property should be accommodated as a priority consistent with health and safety.
4. It is the policy of Pacific County and associated municipalities to provide public works services to lands and facilities within their respective jurisdictions. The City Councils or the Board of County Commissioners may offer other services, such as hazard related debris collection or fee adjustments, on a case-by-case basis.

II. Situations and Assumptions

A. Situations

1. A major emergency or disaster may cause extensive damage to property and infrastructure. Structures may be destroyed or severely weakened. Homes, public buildings, bridges, and other facilities may have to be reinforced or demolished to ensure safety. Debris may make streets and highways impassable. Public utilities may be damaged or be partially or fully inoperable.
2. In the aftermath of floods, fires, windstorms, or earthquakes, solid waste debris can impact emergency responders, delay repair and reconstruction, and pose a threat to the public health and safety and the environment.
3. Access to disaster areas may be dependent upon the re-establishment of ground routes. In many locations, debris clearance and emergency road repairs will be given top priority to support immediate lifesaving emergency response activities.
4. Damage assessment of the disaster area will be required to determine potential response strategy.

B. Assumptions

1. Assistance from the state and/or federal government may be needed to clear debris, perform damage assessments, structural evaluations, make emergency repairs to essential public facilities, reduce hazards by stabilizing or demolishing structures, and to provide emergency water for human health needs and

firefighting.

2. If Pacific County or a municipal jurisdiction removes solid waste resulting from a disaster, or orders it removed, it may be a FEMA reimbursable expense.
3. If private property owners remove solid waste debris, they are responsible for all costs, including tipping fees, which may be covered by insurance.
4. Debris removal may have environmental consequences including erosion or landslides, falling trees or structures, and the release of asbestos or other contaminants.
5. County, city, state, and federal environmental regulations (air quality, solid waste handling, etc.) may severely limit options in solid waste removal and disposal.
6. Emergency environmental waivers and legal clearances may be needed for disposal of materials from debris clearance and demolition activities for the protection of threatened public and private properties.
7. Significant numbers of personnel with engineering and construction skills along with construction equipment and materials may be required from outside the disaster area.
8. Earthquake aftershocks will require re-evaluation of previously assessed structures and damages.

III. Concept of Operations

A. Local

1. The Pacific County DPW Director and the DCD Director or their designees will serve as the primary coordinators of the public works, engineering, building inspection, and environmental health functions for Pacific County. Municipal jurisdiction(s) will appoint a primary coordinator for their respective city.
2. Communication to field personnel will be accomplished by the most efficient means.
3. Supplemental assistance may be requested through normal mutual aid channels or through the EOC.
4. The Pacific County DCD is the lead agency for coordinating the inspection of structures in unincorporated Pacific County after a disaster to determine building safety and health issues. The cities are responsible for the inspection of structures within their respective jurisdictions. This will be a cooperative effort between departments and jurisdictions. The Pacific County DCD is the lead agency for the Pacific County permitting system. Municipal jurisdictions will be responsible for

permitting within their respective boundaries.

5. Solid waste disposal permitting is a function of Environmental Health within the county, under the auspices of the DCD. Solid waste cleanup is an essential component to responding to and recovering from emergency conditions.
6. Coordination of emergency solid waste management is the responsibility of the county, cities, emergency management, environmental health, other related support departments, and the private sector.
7. Emergency solid waste management includes:
 - a. Solid waste debris removal from streets to provide access.
 - b. Removal of hazardous and/or moderate risk waste.
 - c. Solid waste debris removal of damaged public structures.
 - d. Salvaging or recycling of solid waste.
 - e. Acceleration of the permits and inspections required for repairing, rebuilding, or demolition of damaged structures.
8. Emergency workers and volunteers may need to be assigned to solid waste debris cleanup. They will be provided with appropriate personal protective equipment as available.
9. Sewage treatment plants are under the jurisdiction of each municipality. The majority of rural areas are serviced by on-site systems, either individual or community. Power outages may disrupt services.
10. State and local government may contract with available and suitable general contractors to provide inspection services, heavy equipment, and trained operators to supplement emergency engineering efforts.

B. State

1. Washington State Emergency Management Division alerts appropriate state agencies of the possible requirements for emergency engineering services, coordinates state assets and requests federal assistance to support local emergency engineering efforts.
2. State government will provide engineering services primarily to lands and facilities under its jurisdiction and will lend support to local government as requested and as circumstances allow. Supplemental assistance shall be requested through local and state emergency management channels.

C. Federal

1. The National Response Framework, ESF #3 - Public Works and Engineering provides for the federal response and support to assist state and local government. The primary federal agencies are the Department of Defense (DOD) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for planning, preparedness, and response with assistance to be provided by other branches as needed. In the event of federal activation, Pacific County will coordinate with other local, state, and federal agencies.
2. If direct federal assistance has been authorized by the President under an Emergency or Major Disaster Declaration, FEMA may issue a mission assignment to those federal agencies possessing the needed expertise or assets, only when it is verified to be beyond the capability of the affected state and local governments.

IV. Organization

When activities under ESF 3 are coordinated through the EOC Operations Section, all affected jurisdictions will send a representative to the EOC. Other departments may be contacted to provide manpower, equipment, or technical advice.

V. Actions

A. Initial

1. All jurisdictions respond to disasters in three phases.
 - a. Phase 1. Rapid Damage Assessment:
 - i. Utilize citizen and emergency services providers input and observations to provide scope of initial damage.
 - b. Phase 2. Emergency Permitting and Inspections
 - i. Expedite permitting for emergency operations to
 - Review damage and assist application process
 - Issue permits
 - Provide final inspections
 - c. Phase 3. Abandoned Building Disposition
 - i. Identification
 - ii. Inspection
 - iii. Demolition
 - iv. Legal process

B. Continuing

VI. Responsibilities

A. Primary Agency

1. Departments of Public Works
 - a. Provide available transportation and personnel resources as requested or directed.
 - b. Provide damage assessment of disaster area.
 - c. Coordinate demolition of unsafe and/or abandoned structures and removal of wreckage.
 - d. Manage contracts for private contractors to provide services.
 - e. Provide inspections of county/city roads and bridges to determine damage and safety.
 - f. Remove debris and wreckage from roads and bridges with a priority to disaster related requests from elected officials to clear debris from private property if necessary to allow response from emergency services personnel for the public good.
 - g. Designate usable county roads and bridges.
 - h. Provide temporary repair of damaged County/City roads and bridges, if possible.
 - i. Establish and/or maintain evacuation routes as directed by the EOC, Pacific County Sheriff's Office or Police Departments.
Provide roadblock barricades, signs, and flaggers as available and appropriate.
 - j. Provide updated information to the EOC Public Information Officer.
 - k. Provide fuel storage.
 - l. Provide sand and gravel.
 - m. Provide trucks and drivers to transport debris and wreckage.
 - n. Provide flood control support.
 - o. Coordinate drainage activities.

- p. Coordinate multi-jurisdictional disaster transportation needs.
 - q. Coordinate with other jurisdictions.
 - r. Coordinate with private contractors and suppliers.
 - s. Relocate Public Works assets if conditions warrant.
 - t. Document damages and costs.
2. Pacific County DCD and associated city and county departments
- a. Coordinate damage assessment and post-disaster safety inspections of public buildings and facilities. Coordinate post-earthquake inspections.
 - b. Coordinate damage assessment and post-disaster safety inspections of private businesses and residences.
 - c. Coordinate private assessment and inspection resources.
 - d. Expedite permitting and required inspections as appropriate and feasible.
 - e. Coordinate emergency permitting and inspection process for private cleanup work to ensure compliance with cleanup standards and procedures.
 - f. Provide permitting and monitoring of solid waste sites.
 - g. Monitor unpermitted dumping as resources allow.
 - h. Advise on collection and disposal of household hazardous waste.
 - i. Provide for the demolition of damaged and/or abandoned structures posing an imminent threat to human safety.
 - j. Coordinate expeditious removal of debris and other hazardous and non-hazardous materials.
 - k. Provide management of emergency solid waste removal, disposal, and recycling; coordinate with environmental health on the collection and disposition of household hazardous goods.
 - l. Coordinate emergency operations with available disposal services.
 - m. Coordinate with the EOC to formulate emergency policies and regulations regarding solid waste collection and disposal for private citizens.
 - n. Coordinate the disposal of hazardous materials with other agencies.

- o. Manage contracts for private company collection, salvage rights, and recycling of solid waste debris.
- p. Assess and make recommendations for environmental damage to streams, bluffs, shorelines, and riverbanks.
- q. Review repair, reconstruction, and replacement of structures for compliance with building, land use, and environmental regulations.
- r. Provide updated information to the EOC Public Information Officer.
- s. Inspectors may distribute public repair and recovery information.
- t. Document damages and costs, and provide necessary reports.

B. Support Agencies

- 1. Pacific County Emergency Management Agency

Upon request, activate the EOC to support the coordination of public works, engineering, building inspection, and environmental health activities.

VII. References

- A. *The National Response Framework - ESF #3*
- B. *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan - ESF #3*
- C. WAC 173-351 Regulations regarding Solid Waste Handling and Disposal

VIII. Attachments