

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 11 Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex

PRIMARY AGENCIES

Mohave County School Districts
Mohave County Public Health
Mohave County Food Banks
American Red Cross
Salvation Army
Mohave County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (MCCOAD)

SUPPORT AGENCIES

Mohave County Emergency Management
Mohave County Public Works

Available through the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs

Department of Emergency and Military Affairs
Arizona Department of Economic Security
Arizona Department of Health Services
Arizona Department of Agriculture
Arizona National Guard
Arizona Department of Transportation

I. Purpose, Scope, Situation, and Assumptions

Purpose

- To provide nutrition assistance and identify, secure, and arrange for the supply and transportation of food to affected areas following an emergency/disaster.
- To control and eradicate, as appropriate, any outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease or economically devastating plant pest or disease.
- To ensure the safety and security of the commercial food supply.
- To protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties.
- To provide for the safety and well-being of household pets during an emergency.

Scope

- Activities to provide nutrition assistance will be undertaken by the county to inspect food and food providers for safety and provide direction for safe food preparation, identify food assistance needs, obtain appropriate food supplies, arrange for transportation of food supplies to staging areas, and coordinate disaster food stamp assistance.
- The county will coordinate with and aid state agencies with primary responsibilities for identifying, containing, and eradicating animal and plant diseases.
- A pet protection plan for emergencies is developed and will be implemented.
- Natural, cultural, and historic resources in the impacted area will be identified to responding agencies to avoid potential damage whenever this is consistent with the overriding incident priorities of life safety, incident stabilization, and property protection.

Situation

- An emergency/disaster can deprive people of access to food by disrupting the commercial food supply/distribution network and destroying stored food.
- A contagious animal or plant disease could create a threat to public health or the county's economy or commercial food supply.

Assumptions

- The Environmental Health Division of Mohave County Department of Public Health will conduct a rapid evaluation of food supplies and providers in the impacted area to determine the adequacy and safety of supplies, potential health concerns, or nutritional shortfalls. MCEM will provide Environmental Health information on the areas and population numbers impacted by the event, utility outages, and expected duration of outages and mass care operations.
- This Emergency Support Function (ESF) will be implemented upon notification of occurrence of a potential or actual emergency/disaster affecting the food supply or creating the need for supplemental emergency food supplies. If the Mohave County EOC is activated, a Human Services Branch may be established in the EOC Operations or a Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Coordinator designated

with responsibility for assessing the need for and directing formation of a Food Supply Task Force. The Task Force will be formed with representatives from the primary and support agencies. The Environmental Health Division will participate in the Task Force and provide it with the results of the initial food supply assessment. The Task Force

will be directed by the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Coordinator or the Human Services Branch or to the Emergency Management Coordinator if the EOC is not activated and will coordinate with the Volunteer/Donations Management Coordinator or with NGO's to integrate and manage food donations.

- This ESF will be activated upon identification of an animal or plant disease with potential public health, food safety, or economic impact consequences.
- Actions will be coordinated with state/county/local disaster officials.
- Food supplies secured and delivered by this ESF will be suitable for either household distribution or mass feeding.
- Transportation and distribution of food supplies will be arranged by state/local/volunteer agencies, government agencies, or contractors as coordinated by the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Coordinator in cooperation with the Volunteer/ Donations Management Coordinator.
- Actions will be coordinated with agencies responsible for mass care (see ESF # 6).
- The use of mass feeding is identified as the primary outlet for disaster food supplies.
- Priority will be given to moving critical supplies of food into areas of acute need.
- When trade has been restored, disaster food stamp program procedures may be implemented.
- The following conditions may exist:
 - Significant disruption of food processing/distribution.

- Minimal access to unprocessed food and food grains (i.e., honey, wheat, corn, oats, rice, etc.).
 - Unusable water supplies; and
 - Disruption of energy sources (i.e., electricity and gas) needed for food storage and preparation.
- Food supplies and kitchen staff at schools may be utilized to help feed affected populations.
 - Affected populations will need a minimum of 1800 calories and one gallon of water per person per day.
 - Quarantine or destruction of affected or contaminated food or agricultural products may be necessary.
 - An animal or plant disease outbreak will exceed county response capabilities and require substantial state and federal assistance, direction, and resources.

II. Concept of Operations

- The Food Supply Task Force, if established, or the MCEOC Operations Human Services Branch will operate under existing state/federal authorities and regulations to provide food supplies to designated staging areas and distribution points. Requests for food (including types, amounts, and destination locations) shall be processed through the Task Force or Branch. The MCEOC Human Services Branch, or MCEM if an EOC is not open, will generate food assistance resource requests to the SEOC. The Task Force or Human Services Branch will coordinate efforts to obtain and transport foods and/or request federal assistance to implement the disaster food stamp program.
- The Environmental Division of the Mohave County Department of Public Health will provide initial evaluation of food supply adequacy and safety in the impacted area, continue to monitor the food supply and food providers to ensure safe public consumption during the emergency, and inspect and approve mass feeding facilities.
- For animal or plant disease outbreaks, the Mohave County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) will be the lead county agency. MCDPH's role will be

one of supplying information to and coordinating with Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona Department of Agriculture (ADA) for required incident direction, resources, and technical assistance. The state will follow its existing protocols to identify the disease and the source of the outbreak, recommend actions for quarantine, mitigation, or eradication of the disease, and provide direction and resources to implement the recommendations. The county will maintain coordination and supply assistance within its capabilities from various departments.

- The ADA will be lead agency for state response to animal and plant diseases with the primary points of contact being the State Veterinarian for animal disease and the State Plant Regulatory Official and Plant Health Director of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Program for plant disease. The County Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team (See Animal Disease Attachment) will provide initial county level coordination and contact with ADA for livestock diseases and for evacuation and sheltering of livestock.
- The direction of pet safety during emergencies will be initiated by Mohave County and the American Red Cross in coordination with Western Arizona Humane Society and local veterinarians with the designation of pet or pet friendly shelters concurrent with mass care shelter selection according to the circumstances of the event. The activation and operation of pet shelters will be under the direction of Mohave County and Western Arizona Humane Society and supported by the Care and Shelter Unit of the MCEOC Operations Section.
- ADA, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and State Forestry will provide scientific/technical advice, information, and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to or to restore or stabilize Natural, Cultural, and Historical (NCH) Resources within the county, including:
 - Terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.
 - Biological resources, including fish and wildlife.
 - Threatened and endangered species.
 - Migratory birds.
 - Historic and prehistoric resources.

- Mapping and geospatial data, geology, hydrology, earthquakes, and other hazards.
- Additional resources outside of those provided by individual state agencies as part of their response protocols will be requested from DEMA by MCEM, or from the SEOC by the MCEOC if activated.

Notification

- MCEM or the MCEOC will notify primary and support agencies when this ESF is activated.
- Upon notification, agency representatives will report to a location specified by MCEM or the MCEOC for an initial meeting of the FCT and be available for FCT support and operations for the duration of the response period.

Response Actions

- Initial Actions:
 - Determine the critical needs of the affected population in terms of numbers of people, their location, and usable food preparation facilities for feeding.
 - Identify and locate available resources of food, transportation, equipment, storage, and distribution facilities, including schools.
 - Evaluate the adequacy of available resources.
 - Ensure that foods are fit for human consumption (see ESF # 8).
 - Identify damaged, contaminated, or disease infected food and agricultural products and institute quarantine or destruction of those products.
 - Coordinate with local ALIRT team or ADHS for state response for contaminated or infected food or agricultural products.
 - Coordinate shipment of food to staging areas.
 - Staff and manage staging areas and distribution sites, and
 - Initiate direct market procurement of critical food supplies not available from existing inventories.

- Continuing Actions:
 - Expedite requests for emergency issuance of food stamps after access to commercial food channels have been restored; and
 - Establish communications and logistical links with organizations involved in mass feeding.

III. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

Organization

- The Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Coordinator and the Food Supply Task Force, if established, or otherwise the MCEOC Human Services Supply Branch, or MCEM is an EOC is not open, will assume primary responsibility for implementing this ESF for emergencies other than pet care, animal, and plant disease. The Task Force will be under the direct supervision and control of the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Coordinator, if established, or the Human Services Branch. Each food supply support agency will be represented on the Task Force. The Task Force will be located at either the Mohave County Fairgrounds or the Mohave County Administrative Building, 700 W. Beale Street, Kingman and will be co-located with the Donations Management Coordinator or Donations Coordination Task Force if one is established. Task Force personnel may be dispatched to staging or distribution site locations to support operations or provide liaison.
- For animal and plant diseases, the state retains a primary response role with MCDPH acting as lead county agency for information exchange, coordination, and county support. The county Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team (ALIRT) with MCDPH participation may provide initial coordination with state agencies for animal disease, but one on one communication between MCDPH, ADA, and ADHS may be necessary.
- If the MCEOC is activated, status updates and resource requests can be provided from the MCEOC to the SEOC.
- Pet care functions will be under the direction of the Care and Shelter Branch of the MCEOC. Mohave County and Western Arizona Humane Society will be lead agencies for organizing pet shelter activation and operation and provide liaison to the Care and Shelter Branch.

- Agency representatives will have thorough knowledge of their agency's capabilities and resources and the authority to commit resources.

Assignment of Responsibilities

- **The Environmental Health Division of Mohave County Department of Public Health will:**

- Provide initial assessment of the adequacy and safety of food supply in affected areas via surveys of food establishments/warehouses and associated damage.
- Determine which foods are fit for human consumption and identify potential problems of contaminated foods (i.e., radiation, chemical, bacterial, and viral) (see ESF # 8).
- Survey and evaluate impact on water supplies and wastewater services.
- Inspect and approve shelter feeding facilities.
- Inspect feeding facilities for hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities.
- Inspect impacted or damaged school feeding facilities as needed.
- Survey and inspect as necessary other feeding establishments in impacted area.
- Provide public information on safe preparation/storage of food in emergency conditions.

- **Primary Agencies:** Mohave County Public Health, School District Superintendents, Mohave County Food Banks, American Red Cross, Mohave County Volunteer Agencies Active in Disasters, and the Salvation Army will provide representatives to the FCT and will work together to:

- Determine the availability of food at local retailers, local storage, and regional distribution sites, including raw agricultural commodities (wheat, corn, oats, rice, etc.) that could be used for human consumption.

- Coordinate with the MCEOC to determine food needs of the population in the affected areas based on the following categories: acutely deficient, moderately deficient, self-sufficient, and surplus supplies.
- Identify and assess the requirements for food and distribution services for critical emergency needs and sustained needs after the emergency phase is over.
- Coordinate food distribution efforts of other volunteer organizations;
- Secure approval from the United States Secretary of Agriculture to issue food stamps for up to 30 days to qualifying households.
- Make emergency food supplies available to households for take-home consumption in lieu of food stamps.
- Provide damage information to the MCEOC.
- Develop a plan of operation that will ensure timely distribution of food in good condition to the proper location.
- Establish and maintain an information flow to State ESF # 11 representatives.
- Ensure that state and federal sources of food are included, logistical support is provided, and food is fit for human consumption.
- Assess the local availability of:
 - Storage facilities capable of storing dry, chilled, and frozen food.
 - Transport equipment, material handling equipment and support personnel.
- Coordinate with the Volunteer/Donations Management Coordinator and the Human Services Branch for contact with the State EOC to determine availability of and submit requests for:
 - US Department of Agriculture commodities.

- Donated foods.
- Storage facilities (including mobile) for dry, cold, or frozen foods.
- Personnel.
- Trucks, forklifts, pallet jacks, etc.
- Arrange for food delivery/distribution; and
- Assess damages to locally produced food supplies.
- **The County Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team (ALIRT)** will provide initial evaluation of animal disease reports, forward information to the State Veterinarian, and provide support to state efforts to isolate and eradicate the disease. ADA will act as lead agency with representation for MCDPH and MCEM.
- **Mohave County Emergency Management, or the MCEOC Logistics Section if activated,** will help the FCT coordinate the acquisition/procurement of commercial food, transportation, equipment, and services.
- **Mohave County Public Works** will assess the transportation routes needed for delivery of food, equipment, and personnel and provide any needed traffic control/rerouting or road maintenance to keep supplies moving.
- **State Agencies** will perform duties as designated in the State Emergency Response and Recovery Plan.

IV. Direction, Control, and Coordination

- The Food Supply Task Force will provide coordination with local and regional NGO's, food banks, food retailers and distribution centers, government agencies, school districts, and others to assess local food stocks and arrange for the acquisition, transport, and distribution of needed supplies.
- The Task Force will be under the direction of the Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Coordinator or MCEOC Operations Human Services Branch, which will provide an estimate of the population requiring emergency food and the expected duration of the food supply emergency.

- The Task Force will coordinate with the MCEOC Operations to determine locations of food distribution points or staging areas. The Task Force will designate local NGO's to provide personnel to staff distribution points or staging areas as needed.
- Staging or distribution point supervisors will coordinate with local Incident Commanders as necessary but will report directly to the Task Force liaison or a designee in the MCEOC Human Services Branch.
- Direction and control of plant and animal disease evaluation, quarantine, and eradication will be provided by ADA with assistance from the county ALIRT.

V. Information Collection and Dissemination

- Local agencies involved in food supply will provide information on needs and supplies to the Food Supply Task Force, if established, or to the MCEOC Human Services Branch.
- Information on requested and obtained food supplies, delivery and feeding schedules, staging and distribution points, and other items will be forwarded from the MCEOC Food Supply Branch to the Task Force.
- MCDPH and ALIRT will provide information on local plant and animal outbreaks to the appropriate ADA official and to ADHS for public health concerns. ADA will be responsible for disseminating information to the agricultural sector and public for control of plant and animal diseases while ADHS will coordinate information releases with MCDPH for public health concerns.

VI. Communications

- Communications from the Food Supply Task Force at the Fairgrounds or other location to the MCEOC and food supply agencies will be maintained by telephone, e-mails, and fax. Communications regarding the ordering and tracking of supplies, agreements for facility or equipment use, and other subjects requiring close accountability should be conducted or verified in written format (e-mails or faxes) whenever possible.

VII. Administration, Finance, and Logistics

- Personnel Support for the Food Supply Task Force location and staging/distribution points will be provided by individual agencies represented on

the Task Force. Administrative support will be provided by Mohave County Emergency Management and Mohave County Procurement.

- Financial support for emergency food supplies beyond donations, those supplied by NGO's as part of their missions, or those provided from state or federal emergency resources may be provided from local or county governments with the required approval from the responsible officials within their designated approval limits (in the county's case, the County Manager or Board of Supervisors);
- Individual agencies and government departments will track internal expenses and maintain written documentation for expended or purchased items for which they may wish reimbursement should disaster assistance funding become available.