

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 4 Firefighting Annex

PRIMARY AGENCIES

Jurisdiction Fire Department/Fire District – Lead
Kingman Dispatch Center (Zone Dispatch Center under Mutual Aid Plan)
Mohave County Emergency Management (MCEM)

SUPPORT AGENCIES

Local Fire Departments/Districts
Bullhead City Dispatch Center
Lake Havasu City Dispatch Center
Mohave County Fire Officers Association (MCFOA)
Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA)
American Red Cross
Arizona Fire Chiefs Association
Arizona State Forestry and Fire Management
Bureau of Land Management
Salvation Army
Other volunteer agencies

Available through the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs

Arizona Department of Administration
Arizona Department of Public Safety
Arizona Department of Agriculture
Arizona Department of Transportation
Arizona Department of Contractors
Arizona Department of Corrections
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Arizona Bureau of Indian Affairs
Arizona Department of Game & Fish
Arizona State Land Department
Arizona Department of Health Services
Arizona National Park Service

I.Purpose, Scope, Situations, and Assumptions

Purpose

- Optimize the use of fire service resources, including emergency medical services, throughout the county for emergencies/disasters requiring county fire service response and/or assistance during a declared emergency/disaster.

Scope

- Provide personnel, equipment and supplies in support of county/local agencies involved in rural and urban firefighting operations during county or state declared emergencies/disasters.

Situation and Assumptions

- Alerting County Public Works of damage or impact to county roads or ROW's Fire control and suppression activities within an individual jurisdiction may exceed the jurisdiction's fire service resources or capabilities and require assistance from other jurisdictions within and/or outside the county.
- Fire service resources may be needed for response to other natural and technological emergencies/disasters.
- Fire service resources within the county will be obtained from fire service agencies that have signed mutual aid agreements under the aegis of the Mohave County Fire Officers Association (MCFOA) mutual aid resource requests.
- The Arizona Fire Chiefs Association has developed a statewide mutual aid plan that designates the use of local and zone dispatch centers to manage and coordinate mutual aid requests for incidents other than wildfires.

II. Concept of Operations

- When a fire or technical rescue incident, other than wildland fires, exceeds the resources of the local fire department (or district), additional resources will be requested from other county fire departments who have signed fire mutual aid agreements. The Incident Commander may request support in obtaining resources through the primary fire department's dispatch center.
 - Resource acquisition will be coordinated through the Lake Havasu City, Bullhead City, and Kingman dispatch centers acting as regional communication/coordination hubs. Kingman Dispatch is also a designated Zone Dispatch Center under the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association Mutual Aid Plan.
 - Resources will be ordered in accordance with NIMS resource typing guidelines.
 - When a fire incident, other than wildland fires, exceeds or is expected to exceed the resources within the county, the Zone Dispatch Center in Kingman will

coordinate the acquisition of mutual aid from neighboring zone dispatch centers, utilizing the Fire Service Mutual Aid System (except for wildland fires).

- Wildland fires will be managed by the Arizona State Forestry or the BLM, depending on fire location, including coordination of all assigned in-county fire resources and requests and acquisition of mutual aid resources from outside the county. (See Appendix 1 – Wildland Fire). The Mohave County Wildland Resource Group has been designated by Forestry to help coordinate mutual aid assistance under Forestry protocols.
- If the situation warrants, the County EM Coordinator, or his/her designee, will activate this Emergency Support Function (ESF) and recommend to the County Manager that the MCEOC be activated.
- County EM, once activated, will support the Incident Commander during natural and man caused emergencies/disasters, with the MCEOC serving as support center for the coordination of resources, including passing fire resource requests to DEMA.
- County EM may provide a liaison to the Incident Commander, or the Incident Commander may send a liaison to the MCEOC, if this is deemed practicable and beneficial.
- The Mohave County Emergency Management Coordinator will work with fire departments for pre-incident planning and during any actual event to provide incident status updates and coordinate resources allocation.
- The Fire Department/District with primary responsibility over the incident and/or the County Fire Officers Association (MCFOA) may provide a liaison to the Mohave County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for high county impact and/or long-term incidents, if deemed practicable and if requested by the Mohave County Emergency Management Coordinator or designee.
- The mutual aid agreements between the local fire department/districts, will dictate how fire service resources are accessed by Incident Commanders during county and local emergencies/disasters.
- In local mass casualty incidents, patients shall be transported to local medical facilities, first responder agencies will utilize local communication protocols regarding the sharing of incident information among regional partners.

- All responding agencies will develop internal procedures to include:
 - Identification of key personnel.
 - Alert notification.
 - Operational checklists; and
 - Expenditure documentation.

III. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

- **Fire Department/District** with primary jurisdictional responsibility will:
 - Evaluate incident and determine types and scopes of threats.
 - Assume initial incident command and establish command post.
 - Establish and maintain incident field communications network and coordination with other responding agencies.
 - Triage, stabilize, treat, transport, and decontaminate the injured as appropriate.
 - Direct public warnings and evacuations as needed and determined by ongoing evaluation of incident.
 - Determine needed resources and request resources from coordinating fire agency and/or MCEM.
 - Establish staging areas.
 - Develop Incident Action Plan, including an Incident Communications Plan.
 - Provide operational command and control unless and until it is determined that command should be passed to other agencies/departments.

- **Mohave County Emergency Management** is responsible for the coordination of county resources, other than fire service resources, and will:
 - Coordinate the county government planning for, and support to, natural and human caused fires, which exceed or are likely to exceed the capability of county and local government.
 - Coordinate and manage the use of non-fire service resources responding to emergencies/disasters.
 - Request fire service representatives to serve in the liaisons to the MCEOC, if deemed necessary.
 - Develop county government operational procedures, exclusive of Fire Service Mutual Aid procedures, to include:
 - Internal and external alert notification.
 - Expenditure documentation; and
 - Operational checklists.
 - Coordinate continuing actions and recovery operations.
- **The Local Dispatch Centers (Kingman, Bullhead City, Lake Havasu City)** will:
 - Coordinate the use and deployment of needed fire service resources within the individual center's area of responsibility.
 - Send resource requests to the other local dispatch centers when local resources are exhausted and coordinate the deployment of in-county mutual aid.
- **Kingman Zone Dispatch Center** will:
 - Coordinate resource requests to neighboring zone dispatch centers when county resources are exhausted and coordinate the deployment of aid from outside the county.

- **Mohave County Fire Officers Association (MCFOA) will:**
 - Maintain a list of current fire service resources within the county.
 - Maintain a Mutual Aid Agreement including all fire departments within the county.
 - Aid the MCEOC if requested during large fire incidents.
- **Mutual Aid Fire Departments/Districts will:**
 - Provide personnel and equipment, including emergency medical services, as requested by the primary agencies, unless such resources are needed within their jurisdiction.
 - Not dispatch personnel or equipment to a disaster/emergency unless requested by the affected local jurisdiction through direct mutual aid agreement, local dispatch centers, State Forestry and Fire Management Department, or, or Arizona Fire Service Mutual Aid System.
 - Assume their appropriate role in the Incident Command System (ICS) and/or provide incident command support as requested by the incident commander (IC); or, if ICS has not been established, initiate ICS.
 - Triage, stabilize, treat, transport, and decontaminate the injured as appropriate.
 - Establish and maintain field communications and coordination with other responding emergency teams and hospitals.
 - Direct the activities of private, volunteer, bystander volunteers, and other emergency medical units;
 - Assist in the evacuation of patients from affected hospitals and nursing homes.
 - Provide specialized teams to support disaster response or as pre-positioned assets to mitigate or respond to forecasted emergencies.

- Provide a wide range of support at the scene based on the needs of the incident, including improvisational tasking.
- Report into incidents as requested by Incident Commander.
- Remain as incident assets until released by the Incident Commander to return to their home jurisdiction.
- Report situation, needs, and mission status to the Incident Commander.
- **Mohave County Public Health Department will:**
 - Identify available emergency medical services.
 - Maintain an emergency health and medical resources list.
 - Identify special needs supervised care facilities in evacuation area.
 - Provide epidemiologist services; and
 - Provide public health alert advisories for smoke and other hazards.
- **Mohave County Sheriff's Office will:**
 - Provide security for county property and evacuated areas.
 - Provide roadblocks on county and state highways.
 - Direct evacuation of threatened population from county lands.
- **Mohave County Public Works will:**
 - Provide traffic control assistance on county roadways.
 - Provide ALERT system weather updates as requested.
 - Provide heavy equipment support if no similar equipment is immediately available from other sources, equipment operators will not be placed in

dangerous proximity to hazard, and immediate equipment usage is required to save lives or protect property.

- **State Registrar of Contractors will:**
 - Provide information on licensed contractors in Mohave County.
 - Provide construction inspectors to inspect structures for safety; and
 - Inform public on how to hire a contractor for repairs.
- **Department of Public Safety will:**
 - Provide roadblocks on county and state highways.
 - Provide rotary and fixed wing aircraft.
 - Provide crime laboratory support for evidence collection, body identification, and notification of next of kin.
- **Arizona State Forestry and Fire Management Department will:**
 - Provide fire suppression support on State Lands.
 - Provide communications, coordination, and resource dispatch services for wildland fires through the Arizona Dispatch Center.
- **Federal agencies**
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, is responsible for fire service activities in the national forests.
 - Department of Defense is responsible for fire service activities on federal military installations.
 - Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible for fire service activities on federal lands other than National Park Service and other areas as agreed upon and authorized.

- National Park Service is responsible for fire service activities on Park Service lands.
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs is responsible for fire service activities on Tribal Lands.
- **Volunteer agencies will:**
 - Provide trained personnel to the MCEOC as requested to coordinate their activities during the emergency/disaster.

IV. Direction, Control, and Coordination

- An Incident/Unified Command will be established by the primary fire department to exercise operational command and control of the incident; all mutual aid responders will report to and function under this command. The local primary fire department dispatch will serve as primary dispatch for the incident, except for wildfires where the Arizona Interagency Dispatch Center may coordinate resource requests and deployment.
- For wildland fires outside of fire district and/or municipal boundaries, Incident Command will be established by the fire department/district pre-designated by State Forestry and Fire Management as the initial attack agency for the response area within which the fire is burning. The Incident Commander will notify the Arizona Dispatch Center (ADC) of the fire immediately following dispatch of initial attack resources, and any resources beyond the initial attack response will be ordered through the ADC if the fire is not on federal land. For fires known to be on federal land, the IC will notify the BLM Dispatch Center, and additional resource requests will go to that dispatch center.
- The BLM may establish an Incident/Unified Command for fires on federal lands, with the BLM Dispatch Center serving as primary dispatch.
- A Type 1, 2, or 3 Incident Management Team may be requested to manage the incident at the request of the Incident/Unified Command.
- The Fire Incident/Unified Command will provide notification to the Mohave County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Risk and Emergency Management as early as possible of the potential need to evacuate homes and/or businesses threatened by the fire.

- The Mohave County Sheriff's Office will retain responsibility for evacuation decisions and implementation and may request assistance from fire departments and Emergency Management (MCEM).
- The Mohave County Emergency Operations Center may be activated at the recommendation of MCEM to provide logistical support and policy direction to the Incident/Unified Command, which will retain operational command of the incident.

V. Information Collection and Dissemination

- Incident Command will conduct initial incident assessment and provide this information to the primary dispatch center and/or, in the case of wildfires outside of districts and cities, the Arizona Dispatch Center or the BLM Dispatch Center.
- Incident Command will provide early notification and regular status updates to the County Fire Resources Coordinator of the potential or actual need for resources from outside the county.
- Incident Command will provide early notification to MCSO and Mohave County Emergency Management of threats to homes and businesses and the possible need for evacuations.
- For critical, large scale, or long-term events, MCSO, Mohave County Risk and EM, and the County Fire Resources Coordinator should be invited by the Incident Commander to establish liaison with the Incident Command and/or attend scheduled incident briefings, as well as receive regular incident status updates.

VI. Administration, Finance, and Logistics

Administrative

- Each agency should participate in current non-binding mutual aid agreements with other county agencies for incident response and cost recovery. These agreements could include some or all of the following:
 - Mohave County Fire Officers Association Mutual Aid Agreement
 - Arizona Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Plan
 - Arizona Mutual Aid Compact (AZMAC)

- State Forestry Cooperative Rate Agreement
- It is the responsibility of each fire department/district sending resources to wildland fires outside district boundaries to ensure that only those individuals that meet National Wildland Coordinating Group standards are dispatched.

Finance

- Each agency will be responsible for tracking its incident expenditures and, when applicable, sending reimbursement requests with all required documentation to the appropriate agencies.

Logistics

- Resource requests for smaller scale events within district or city boundaries will be forwarded from the Logistics Chief or Incident Commander of the Incident/Unified Command to the primary dispatch center.
- Resource requests for large scale, non-wildfire events requiring out of county fire resources will be forwarded from the Logistics Chief or Incident Commander of the Incident/Unified Command to the Kingman Zone Dispatch Center.
- Resource requests for large scale wildfire events will be forwarded from the Logistics Chief or Incident Commander of the Incident/Unified Command to the Arizona Dispatch Center or BLM Dispatch Center depending on location of the fire.
- Non-fire resource requests will be forwarded from the Logistics Chief or Incident Commander of the Incident/Unified Command to Mohave County Emergency Management, or if activated, the MCEOC.
- All resources will be tracked utilizing existing procedures under the Logistics Sections of the ICS/NIMS structures of the involved Incident Commands and EOC's.