

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION - FOUR FIRE PROTECTION

PRIMARY AGENCIES: Kittitas County Fire Protection Districts
Municipal Fire Departments

SUPPORT AGENCIES: Kittitas County Emergency Management
Law Enforcement agencies
Public Works departments

PURPOSE:

To provide an organized local capability for effective fire management which utilizes all available fire fighting resources.

SCOPE:

Fire suppression and support functions required for multi agency and major wildland fire operations.

POLICIES

1. The process and procedures established in state and federal mobilization guides shall be followed in responding to an emergency or disaster.
2. Direction and control of a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional incident will follow the concepts of the Incident Command System (ICS).
3. Individual fire protection districts must ensure that their home district is adequately protected before responding to mutual aid or fire mobilization requests.

SITUATION

A. Emergency/Disaster Hazards and Condition

Fire Service could be affected by all hazards that could occur within the Kittitas County area. The affects include inability of resource movement due to impassable roadways, damage to resources injuries or death of fire responders or not enough local resources to accomplish the mission.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. A fire of unprecedented size will require more resources than local fire agencies can provide.

2. Additional fire resources can be obtained through activation of the state fire mobilization plan.
3. Fire agencies will ensure fire protection to their home districts prior to committing resources to mutual aid.
4. Fires (urban, rural, wildland) may result from or occur coincidentally with a significant event, such as an earthquake or thunder storm.
5. Communications with out of the area agencies, especially those communications that are 800 MHz will be limited, at best.
6. Wheeled vehicle access will be hampered by occurrences such as bridge failures, debris in roadway, etc. Conventional travel to fire area will be extremely difficult.

CONCEPTS OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. On-scene fire related operations within Kittitas County are managed by concepts of the Incident Command System.
2. Fire Service mutual-aid agreements provide for additional local personnel and resources in the event individual Kittitas County jurisdictions are unable to contain a given situation with existing resources and personnel.
3. Each agency assisting under the mutual-aid agreement retains its own autonomy, with overall direction provided by the Chief (Incident Commander) of the affected jurisdiction. In the event of a multi-agency fire response, direction, control and coordination may be established from the county Emergency Operations Center, or a Command Post at the scene. Incoming units may receive assignments from either location or from designated staging areas.
4. Requests for additional outside resources by activation of the fire mobilization plan will be coordinated through the Kittitas County Emergency Management.
5. Fire Services provide limited emergency medical services, based individual departments ability and training. Emergency medical response is not a requirement of local Fire Services. However those agencies that do provide emergency medical services, do so under the direction of the local Medical Program Director (MPD).

6. Law Enforcement agencies and Public Works departments can support Fire Service agencies by performing their normal functions of traffic control, area security and heavy equipment, as appropriate.
7. Fire Service agencies personnel can be used for the dissemination of information and warnings, as prescribed in the Warning appendix.
8. Fire Service agencies provided limited response to hazardous materials incidents. Their response is in a defensive manner, commensurate with their level of training.

B. Organization

Each fire agency is an independent agency reporting to elected representatives. Within each agency is an identified chain of command which oversees the operational portion of the agency.

In the event of a multi-agency response, the concepts of the Incident Command System (ICS) is used, in where the "host" district is the lead command agency.

C. Procedures

When fire agency's assistance is needed from the public or another agency, the appropriate fire dispatch center will be contacted. The fire dispatch agency will "tone" out the appropriate agency for response.

In the event an incident is beyond the capabilities of the responding agency, then the fire dispatch center will be requested to send more fire resources. This request can be by a specific request for particular equipment or by an alarm request. Both multiple structural and wildland fire alarms have been predetermined by all fire agencies in cooperation with the North Central Washington Chief's Association.

In the event an unprecedented disaster situation occurs which exhausts mutual aid resources, the State Fire Mobilization plan can be activated to provide additional resources. Activation will follow the Fire Mob. Plan.

On scene command of an incident will follow the concepts of the Incident Command System (ICS).

D. Mitigation Activities

1. All Fire Service agencies:
 - a. Keep response equipment in good condition.

- b. May conduct fire safety inspections and educate property owners on how to reduce their fire potential.
- c. May work to ensure compliance with the Uniform Fire Code and the Uniform Building Code.
- d. Support or help establish local codes and ordinances that help reduce the threats of major conflagrations, such as restrictions on combustible roofing materials.

E. Preparedness Activities

- 1. All Fire Service agencies and support agencies:
 - a. Develop, maintain and continue to refine the local Incident Command System and other operational procedures to effect full utilization of resources.
 - b. Maintain current inventories of resources.
 - c. Provide ongoing training to personnel on their roles and responsibilities in fire operations.
 - d. Participate in local mutual aid agreements.
 - e. Participate in the state Fire Mobilization Plan.
 - f. Provide trained personnel and resources for assignment to the Emergency Operations Center, as appropriate.
 - g. Support the efforts of the state regional Fire Service Training Council.
 - h. Maintain interagency disaster response training.
 - i. Maintain activation and alerting procedures and ensure that all personnel are trained.
 - j. Provide fire prevention and mitigation activities and enforce ordinances that relate to life safety and hazardous materials.

F. Response Activities

- 1. Fire Service Agencies:
 - a. provide suppression and control of fires and support other fire protection agencies if signatory to mutual aid agreement.
 - b. Assist with the dissemination of warnings.
 - c. Provide Urban Search & Rescue support.
 - d. Establish Incident Command System and supporting elements of ICS.
 - e. Coordinate request for outside resources with Emergency Management.
 - f. Provide traffic control and evacuation support.
 - g. Provide defensive support for Hazardous Materials incidents.
 - h. Provides emergency medical and transportation services in response to injured persons
 - i. Conduct damage assessments and report them accordingly.
- 2. Emergency Management:

- a. Obtains a state mission number.
 - b. Provides communications and other support assistance to the fire operation, such as the mobile command post, as appropriate.
 - c. Activate EOC in support of fire operations, as appropriate.
 - d. Request Fire Mobilization activation, as appropriate.
 - e. Coordinate Fire Mobilization resources, as appropriate.
3. Law Enforcement agencies:
 - a. Provide for scene security.
 - b. Provide traffic control.
 - c. Assist in Urban Search & Rescue.
 4. Public Works agencies:
 - a. Provide traffic control support.
 - b. Provide heavy equipment, as appropriate.

G. Recovery Activities

1. Fire Service agencies:
 - a. Provide information concerning hazardous areas, or other encountered problems.
 - b. Continue fire prevention, suppression, rescue or other operations as required.
 - c. Assist in damage assessment data collection.
 - d. Document agency cost.
 - e. Provide for fire investigation, as appropriate.
2. Emergency Management:
 - a. Act as liaison between local fire agencies and state or federal damage assessment teams, as appropriate.
 - b. Coordinates information with state Emergency Management.
3. Law Enforcement agencies:
 - a. Assist with fire investigations.

RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Primary Agencies

1. Fire Chiefs and heads of Fire Service agencies are responsible for:
 - a. Development and review of agency Suggested Operating Procedures, resources inventories, and other operational plans.
 - b. Assuring that all personnel are trained in fire suppression and other fire related activities within their jurisdictions.

- c. Ensuring the ability to mobilize personnel and equipment for fire protection and other related services (such as medical support) as provided in the departments SOP's and by use of the toning capabilities of the dispatch center.
- d. Directing emergency operations within their respective political subdivisions, as appropriate.
- e. Work within the guidelines of the Kittitas County fire mutual aid agreement.
- f. Have the overall responsibility and authority to coordinate emergency fire operations within their respective jurisdictions.
- g. On scene fire management will follow the concepts of the Incident Command System.
- h. If the fire originates on unprotected lands, the initial attack (first arrival) agency will assume command until threatened, protected lands can be determined. Once determined, the responsible protection agency will assume command.
- i. Area Law Enforcement will assist Fire Service operations with crowd and traffic control and evacuation of endangered population areas as necessary.
- j. Participating in the Regional and State Fire Mobilization Plan, if able.
- k. Documenting expenditures for auditing and reimbursement purpose.
- l. Providing specialized support functions, resources, or emergency personnel as agreed upon, contracted for, or provided for in mutual assistance agreements.
- m. Reporting to designated staging areas as directed for assignment.
- n. Provide fire prevention and suppression activities within their respective jurisdictions.
- o. Provide for light duty search and rescue operations within department capabilities.
- p. Provide emergency medical treatment to victims at the scene, within levels of training.
- q. Provide a limited defensive capability for hazardous materials incidents.
- r. Assist in warning in areas affected by a major emergency.
- s. Assist in evacuation of areas affected by a major emergency.
- t. Provide assistance in damage assessment and reporting.

B. Support Agencies

1. Kittitas County Management is responsible for:

- a. Updating local mutual aid agreement
 - b. Being the Point of contact for Kittitas County activation of the Regional and State Fire Mobilization Plan
 - c. Acting as the contact point for U.S. Forest Service request for fire fighting personnel and equipment for suppression on U.S. Forest Service lands.
 - d. Requesting appropriate Fire Service staffing for the EOC, as appropriate.
2. Law Enforcement agencies:
 - a. Provide traffic control.
 - b. Provide area security.
 - c. Be part of the Incident Command System.
 - d. Evacuation support.
 - e. Search & Rescue command authority.
 3. Public Works agencies:
 - a. Traffic control support.
 - b. Assistance with identifying evacuation routes.
 - c. Heavy equipment support.
 4. The President of the North Central Washington Chief's Association, or designee, acts as the county Fire Services coordinator, who is responsible for:
 - a. Coordination of Fire Service training.
 - b. Assisting in the implementation of the local mutual aid agreement.
 - c. Ensuring that Fire Service related information is disseminated to the local Fire Service agencies.

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

Fire fighting and special equipment for the Kittitas County area is listed in the Fire Resources Inventory.