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Acronyms and Glossary

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Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Acronyms

AAR	After Action Report
ALS	Advanced Life Support
ARC	American Red Cross
ASA	Ambulance Service Area
BCC	Board of County Commissioners
BLS	Basic Life Support
CAD	Computer-Aided Dispatch
CARES	Clackamas Amateur Radio Emergency Services
CAT	Canby Area Transit
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive
CCEM	Clackamas County Emergency Management
CCENS	Clackamas County Emergency Notification System
C-COM	Clackamas County Communications (9-1-1)
CCSO	Clackamas County Sheriff's Office
CDC	Center for Disease Control
CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHEMTREC	Chemical Transportation Emergency Center
COAD	Community Organizations Active in Disaster
COOP	Continuity of Operations Plan
COP	Common Operating Picture
CST	Civil Support Team
DAU	Damage Assessment Unit
DEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DMAT	Disaster Medical Assistance Team
DMORT	Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team
DOC	Department Operations Center

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

DOE	Oregon Department of Energy
DOT	United States Department of Transportation
DPMU	Disaster Portable Morgue Units Team
DTD	Department of Transportation and Development
EAS	Emergency Alert System
ECC	Emergency Coordination Center
EG	Executive Group
EM	Emergency Management
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMO	Emergency Management Organization
EMP	Emergency Management Plan
EMP	Emergency Management Plan
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESF	Emergency Support Function
ETR	Emergency Transportation Route
FDB	Fire Defense Board
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FOUO	for official use only
FSA	Farm Services Agency
GIS	Geographical Information System
H3S	Health, Housing and Human Services
HAN	Health Alert Network
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HIVA	Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment
HSAS	Homeland Security Advisory System
HSPD	Homeland Security Presidential Directive
IA	Incident Annex
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Commander

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
IDA	Initial Damage Assessment
IGA	intergovernmental agreement
IMT	Incident Management Team
IP	Improvement Plan
IS	Clackamas County Information services
JIC	Joint Information Center
JIS	Joint Information System
LEDS	Law Enforcement Data System
LNO	Liaison Officer
LOCOM	Lake Oswego Communications (9-1-1)
MCI	mass casualty incident
ME	Medical Examiner
MEDU	Metro Explosive Disposal Unit
MHz	megahertz
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAWAS	National Warning System
NDMS	National Disaster Medical System
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPRT	National Pharmacy Response Team
NRF	National Response Framework
NWS	National Weather Service
OAR	Oregon Administrative Rules
ODA	Oregon Department of Agriculture
ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation
OEM	Oregon Emergency Management
OERS	Oregon Emergency Response System
OR DHS	Oregon Department of Human Services
ORS	Oregon Revised Statutes
ORVOAD	Oregon Voluntary Organizations Assisting in Disaster
ORWARN	Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

OSP	Oregon State Police
PDA	Preliminary Damage Assessment
PETS	2006 Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards
PGA	Public and Governmental Affairs
PIO	Public Information Officer
POC	Point of Contact
POD	Point of Dispensing
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point (9-1-1)
SAM	Sandy Area Metro
SAR	Search and Rescue
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SAT	Situation Assessment Team
SCTD	Molalla South Clackamas Transportation District
SITREP	Situation Report
SMART	Wilsonville South Metro Area Regional Transit
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SNS	Strategic National Stockpile
SOG	Standard Operating Guide
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWAT	Special Weapons and Tactics
TITAN	Terrorism Information and Threat Assessment Network
TriMet	Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon
TVF&R	Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue
UASI	Urban Area Security Initiative
UC	Unified Command
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geologic Survey
VMAT	Veterinary Medical Assistance Team
VOIP	voice-over internet protocol

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

WCCA	Washington County Consolidated Communications Agency
WHO	World Health Organization
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction

Glossary of Key Terms

Actual Event: A disaster (natural or man-made) that has warranted action to protect life, property, environment, public health or safety. Natural disasters include earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, etc.; man-made (either intentional or accidental) incidents can include chemical spills, terrorist attacks, explosives, biological attacks, etc.

After Action Report: The After Action Report documents the performance of exercise or event related tasks and makes recommendations for improvements. The Improvement Plan outlines the actions that the exercising jurisdiction(s) plans to take to address recommendations contained in the After Action Report.

Agency: A division of government with a specific function offering a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined either as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident management) or as assisting or cooperating (providing resources or other assistance).

Agency Representative: A person assigned by a primary, assisting or cooperating State, local or tribal government agency or private entity that has been delegated authority to make decisions affecting that agency's or organization's participation in incident management activities following appropriate consultation with the leadership of that agency.

All Hazards: Encompassing any kind of hazard, natural or human caused

Area Command (Unified Area Command): An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multi-jurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an incident command post.

Assessment: The evaluation and interpretation of measurements and other information to provide a basis for decision-making.

Assignments: Tasks given to resources to perform within a given operational period that are based on operational objectives defined in the IAP.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Assistant: Title for subordinates of principal Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions. Assistants may also be assigned to unit leaders.

Assisting Agency: An agency or organization providing personnel, services or other resources to the agency with direct responsibility for incident management. See also Supporting Agency.

Audit: Formal examination of an organization's or individual's accounts; a methodical examination and review.

Available Resources: Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.

Branch: The organizational level having functional or geographical responsibility for major aspects of incident operations. A branch is organizationally situated between the section and the division or group in the Operations Section, and between the section and units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional area.

Chain-of-Command: A series of command, control, executive or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.

Check-In: The process through which resources first report to an incident. Check-in locations include the Incident Command Post, Resources Unit, incident base, camps, staging areas, or directly on the site.

Chief: The ICS title for individuals responsible for management of functional sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration and Intelligence (if established as a separate section).

Command: The act of directing, ordering or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory or delegated authority.

Command Staff: In an incident management organization, the Command Staff consists of the Incident Command and the special staff positions of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer and Legal Officer, who report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an assistant or assistants as needed.

Common Operating Picture (COP): A broad view of the overall situation as reflected by situation reports, aerial photography and other information or intelligence.

Communications Unit: An organizational unit in the Logistics Section responsible for providing communication services at an incident or an EOC. A Communications Unit may also be a facility (e.g., a trailer or mobile van) used to support an Incident Communications Center.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Cooperating Agency: An agency supplying assistance other than direct operational or support functions or resources to the incident management effort.

Coordinate: To advance systematically an analysis and exchange of information among principals who have or may have a need to know certain information to carry out specific incident management responsibilities.

Corrective Action: Improved procedures that are based on lessons learned from actual incidents or from training and exercises.

Corrective Action Plan: A process implemented after incidents or exercises to assess, investigate, and identify and implement appropriate solutions to prevent repeating problems encountered.

Critical Infrastructure: Systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters. (Department of Homeland Security, National Response Plan (December 2004), 64.)

Deputy: A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, can be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a deputy can act as relief for a superior and therefore, must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the Incident Commander, General Staff and Branch Directors.

Dispatch: The ordered movement of a resource or resources to an assigned operational mission or an administrative move from one location to another.

Disciplines: A group of personnel with similar job roles and responsibilities. (e.g. law enforcement, firefighting, EMS, public works).

Division: The partition of an incident into geographical areas of operation. Divisions are established when the number of resources exceeds the manageable span of control of the Operations Chief. A division is located within the ICS organization between the branch and resources in the Operations Section.

Emergency: Absent a Presidential declared emergency, any incident(s), human-caused or natural, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.

Emergency Management Assistance Compact: The Emergency Management Assistance Compact is an interstate mutual aid agreement that allows States to assist one another in responding to all kinds of natural and man-made disasters. It is administered by the National Emergency Management Association.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Emergency Operations Center: The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Federal, State, regional, County, City, tribal), or some combination thereof.

Emergency Operations Plan: The ongoing plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards.

Emergency Public Information: Information that is disseminated primarily in anticipation of an emergency or during an emergency. In addition to providing situational information to the public, it also frequently provides directive actions required to be taken by the general public.

Emergency Response Provider: Includes State, local, and tribal emergency public safety, law enforcement, emergency response, emergency medical (including hospital emergency facilities), and related personnel, agencies, and authorities. See Section 2 (6), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002). Also known as Emergency Responder.

Evacuation: Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.

Evaluation: The process of observing and recording exercise activities, comparing the performance of the participants against the objectives, and identifying strengths and weaknesses.

Event: A planned, non-emergency activity. ICS can be used as the management system for a wide range of events, e.g., parades, concerts, or sporting events.

Exercise: Exercises are a planned and coordinated activity allowing emergency management personnel (from first responders to senior officials) to demonstrate training and exercise plans; and to practice prevention, protection, response, and recovery capabilities in a realistic but risk-free environment. Exercises are a valuable tool for assessing and improving performance while demonstrating community resolve to prepare for major incidents.

Federal: Of or pertaining to the Federal Government of the United States of America.

Federal Preparedness Funding: Funding designated for developing and/or enhancing State, Territorial, local, and tribal preparedness capabilities. This includes all funding streams that directly or indirectly support Homeland Security initiatives, e.g. Center for Disease Control and Health Resources and Services Administration preparedness funds.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Function: Function refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established if required, to meet incident management needs.

General Staff: A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.

Group: Established to divide the incident management structure into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. Groups, when activated, are located between branches and resources in the Operations Section.

Hazard: Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome.

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP): A capabilities and performance based exercise program that provides a standardized policy, methodology and language for designing, developing, conducting and evaluating all exercises. The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program also facilitates the creation of self-sustaining, capabilities-based exercise programs by providing tools and resources such as guidance, training, technology and direct support. For additional information the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program toolkit can be found at <http://www.hseep.dhs.gov>

Improvement Plan: The After Action Report documents the performance of exercise related tasks and makes recommendations for improvements. The Improvement Plan outlines the actions that the exercising jurisdiction(s) plans to take to address recommendations contained in the After Action Report.

Incident: An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Incident Action Plan: An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Incident Command Post: The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed. The ICP may be collocated with the incident base or other incident facilities and is normally identified by a green rotating or flashing light.

Incident Command System: A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.

Incident Commander: The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

Incident Management Team: Can refer to the IC and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident. An IMT is also referred to as a specialized, ICS typed team deployed to manage the logistical, fiscal, planning, operations, safety and community issues related to the incident.

Incident Objectives: Broad statements of guidance and direction necessary for selecting appropriate strategy(s) and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been effectively deployed. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.

Incident-Specific Hazards: Anticipated events that may or may not occur that require coordinated response to protect life or property, e.g., pandemic flu, avian flu, etc.

Initial Action: The actions taken by those responders first to arrive at an incident site.

Initial Response: Resources initially committed to an incident.

Intelligence Officer: The intelligence officer is responsible for managing internal information, intelligence and operational security requirements supporting incident management activities. These may include information security and operational security activities, as well as the complex task of ensuring that sensitive information of all types (e.g., classified information, law enforcement sensitive information, proprietary information, or export-controlled

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

information) is handled in a way that not only safeguards the information, but also ensures that it gets to those who need access to it to perform their missions effectively and safely.

Interagency: An organization or committee comprised of multiple agencies.

Interoperability: The ability of emergency management/response personnel to interact and work well together. In the context of technology, interoperability also refers to having an emergency communications system that is the same or is linked to the same system that a jurisdiction uses for nonemergency procedures, and that effectively interfaces with national standards as they are developed. The system should allow the sharing of data with other jurisdictions and levels of government during planning and deployment.

Inventory: An itemized list of current assets such as a catalog of the property or estate, or a list of goods on hand.

Joint Information Center: A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the Joint Information Center.

Joint Information System: Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the IC; advising the IC concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.

Jurisdiction: A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authority. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., City, County, tribal, State, or Federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).

Lessons Learned: Knowledge gained through operational experience (actual events or exercises) that improve performance of others in the same discipline. Additional information available at <https://www.llis.dhs.gov/>

Liaison: A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.

Liaison Officer: A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.

Local Government: A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or in Alaska a Native village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity. See Section 2 (10), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

Logistics: Providing resources and other services to support incident management.

Logistics Section: The section responsible for providing facilities, services and material support for the incident.

Major Disaster: As defined under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122), a major disaster is:

“any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, tribes, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.”

Management by Objective: A management approach that involves a four-step process for achieving the incident goal. The Management by Objectives approach includes the following: establishing overarching objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures and protocols; establishing specific, measurable objectives for various incident management functional activities and directing efforts to fulfill them in support of defined strategic objectives; and documenting results to measure performance and facilitate corrective action.

Mitigation: The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often informed by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard-related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Mobilization: The process and procedures used by all organizations: state, local, and tribal, for activating, assembling and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.

Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Entity: A multiagency coordination entity functions within a broader multiagency coordination system. It may establish the priorities among incidents and associated resource allocations, deconflict agency policies, and provide strategic guidance and direction to support incident management activities.

Multiagency Coordination Systems: Multiagency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operation centers (EOCs), specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications. These systems assist agencies and organizations to fully integrate the subsystems of the NIMS.

Multi-jurisdictional Incident: An incident requiring action from multiple agencies that each have jurisdiction to manage certain aspects of an incident. In ICS, these incidents will be managed under Unified Command.

Mutual-Aid Agreement: Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions to assist one another on request, by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.

National: Of a nationwide character, including the state, local, and tribal aspects of governance and policy.

National Disaster Medical System: A cooperative, asset-sharing partnership between the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Defense. National Disaster Medical System provides resources for meeting the continuity of care and mental health services requirements of the ESF 8 in the National Response Framework.

National Incident Management System: A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for State, local and tribal governments; the private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among State, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

National Response Framework: A guide to how the Nation conducts all-hazards incident management. It is built upon flexible, scalable, and adaptable coordinating structures to align key roles and responsibilities across the Nation. It is intended to capture specific authorities and best practices for managing incidents that range from the serious but purely local, to large-scale terrorist attacks or catastrophic natural disasters. The National Response Framework replaces the former National Response Plan.

Non-Governmental Organization: An entity with an association that is based on interests of its members, individuals or institutions; not created by a government but may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose not a private benefit. Examples of Non-Governmental Organizations include faith-based charity organizations and the American Red Cross.

No-Notice Events: An unanticipated occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, that requires an emergency response to protect life or property (e.g. terrorist attacks and threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accident, aircraft accident, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, public health and medical emergencies etc.)

Operational Period: The time scheduled for executing a given set of operation actions, as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually not over 24 hours. Clackamas County usually uses a 12-hour operational period.

Operations Section: The section responsible for all tactical incident operations. In ICS it normally includes subordinate branches, divisions, and/or groups.

Personnel Accountability: The ability to account for the location and welfare of incident personnel. It is accomplished when supervisors ensure that ICS principles and processes are functional and that personnel are working within established incident management guidelines.

Plain Language: Common terms and definitions that can be understood by individuals from all responder disciplines. The intent of plain language is to ensure the clear and accurate communication of information during an incident. For additional information, refer to http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/plain_lang.pdf.

Planning: A method for developing objectives to be accomplished and incorporated into an Incident Action Plan (IAP).

Planning Meeting: A meeting held as needed prior to and throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations and for service and support planning. For larger incidents, the planning meeting is a major element in the development of the IAP.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Planning Section: Responsible for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of operational information related to the incident and for the preparation and documentation of the IAP. This section also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation and on the status of resources assigned to the incident.

Preparedness: The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process. Preparedness involves efforts at all levels of government and between government and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities and identify required resources. Within the NIMS, preparedness is operationally focused on establishing guidelines, protocols and standards for planning, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment certification and publication management.

Preparedness Organizations: The groups that provide interagency coordination for domestic incident management activities in a non-emergency context. Preparedness organizations can include all agencies with a role in incident management for prevention, preparedness, response or recovery activities. They represent a wide variety of committees, planning groups and other organizations that meet and coordinate to ensure the proper level of planning, training, equipping and other preparedness requirements within a jurisdiction or area.

Preplanned Event: A preplanned event is a non-emergency activity. ICS can be used as the management system for events such as parades, concerts or sporting events, etc.

Prevention: Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Private Sector: Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. It includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce and industry, and private voluntary organizations.

Processes: Systems of operations that incorporate standardized procedures, methodologies and functions necessary to provide resources effectively and efficiently. These include resource typing, resource ordering and tracking, and coordination.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Public Information Officer (PIO): A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements.

Public Information Systems: The processes, procedures and systems for communicating timely and accurate information to the public during crisis or emergency situations.

Publications Management: The publications management subsystem includes materials development, publication control, publication supply and distribution. The development and distribution of NIMS materials is managed through this subsystem. Consistent documentation is critical to success because it ensures that all responders are familiar with the documentation used in a particular incident regardless of the location or the responding agencies involved.

Qualification and Certification: This subsystem provides recommended qualification and certification standards for emergency responder and incident management personnel. It also allows the development of minimum standards for resources expected to have an interstate application. Standards typically include training, currency, experience and physical and medical fitness.

Reception Area: A location separate from staging areas where resources report in for processing and out-processing. Reception Areas provide accountability, security, situational awareness briefings, safety awareness, distribution of IAPs, supplies and equipment, feeding, and bed down.

Recovery: The development, coordination and execution of service and site restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, nongovernmental and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post-incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

Recovery Plan: A plan developed by a state or local jurisdiction, possibly with assistance from responding Federal agencies, to restore the affected area.

Resources: Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is tracked or maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

Resource Management: Efficient incident management requires a system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual aid

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

agreements; the use of special state, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols.

Resource Typing: Resource typing is the categorization of resources that are commonly exchanged through mutual aid during disasters. Resource typing definitions help define resource capabilities for ease of ordering and mobilization during a disaster. Additional information is available at:

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/nims/ResourceMngmnt.shtm#item4>

Resource Typing Standard: Categorization and description of response resources that are commonly exchanged in disasters through mutual aid agreements. The FEMA/NIMS Integration Center Resource typing definitions provide emergency responders with the information and terminology they need to request and receive the appropriate resources during an emergency or disaster.

Resources Unit: Functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. This unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the effects additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.

Response: Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Safety Officer: A member of the Command Staff responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety.

Scalability: The ability of incident managers to adapt to incidents by either expanding or reducing the resources necessary to adequately manage the incident, including the ability to incorporate multiple jurisdictions and multiple responder disciplines.

Section: The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g. Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the branch and the Incident Command.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Span of Control: The number of individuals a supervisor is responsible for, usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals. (Under the NIMS, an appropriate span of control is between 1:3 and 1:7.)

Staging Area: Location established where resources can be placed while awaiting a tactical assignment. The Operations Section manages Staging Areas.

Standard Operating Procedures: A complete reference document that details the procedures for performing a single function or a number of independent functions.

Standardization: A principle of the NIMS that provides a set of standardized organizational structures (such as the ICS, multi-agency coordination systems, and public information systems) as well as requirements for processes, procedures and systems designed to improve interoperability among jurisdictions and disciplines in various areas including: training; resource management; personnel qualification and certification; equipment certification; communications and information management; technology support; and continuous system improvement. (Department of Homeland Security, National Incident Management System (March 2004), 2.)

State: When capitalized, refers to any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States. See Section 2 (14), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

Strategic: Strategic elements of incident management are characterized by continuous long-term, high-level planning by organizations headed by elected or other senior officials. These elements involve the adoption of long-range goals and objectives, the setting of priorities, the establishment of budgets and other fiscal decisions, policy development, and the application of measures of performance or effectiveness.

Strategy: The general direction selected to accomplish incident objectives set by the IC.

Strike Team: A set number of resources of the same kind and type that have an established minimum number of personnel.

Supporting Technologies: Any technology that may be used to support the NIMS is included in this subsystem. These technologies include orthophoto mapping, remote automatic weather stations, infrared technology, and communications, among various others.

Task Force: Any combination of resources assembled to support a specific mission or operational need. All resource elements within a Task Force must have common communications and a designated leader.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Technical Assistance: Support provided to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions when they have the resources but lack the complete knowledge and skills needed to perform a required activity (such as mobile home park design and hazardous material assessments).

Terrorism: Under the Homeland Security Act of 2002, terrorism is defined as activity that involves an act dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources and is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State or other subdivision of the United States in which it occurs and is intended to intimidate or coerce the civilian population or influence a government or affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. See Section 2 (15), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

Threat: An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger.

Tools: Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities and legislative authorities.

Training: Specialized instruction and practice to improve performance and lead to enhanced emergency management capabilities.

Tribal: Any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaskan Native Village as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act (85 stat. 688) [43 U.S.C.A. and 1601 et seq.], that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

Type: A classification of resources in the ICS that refers to capability. Type 1 is generally considered to be more capable than Types 2, 3, or 4, respectively, because of size, power, capacity or, in the case of incident management teams, experience and qualifications.

Unified Area Command: A Unified Area Command is established when incidents under an Area Command are multi-jurisdictional.

Unified Command: An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single IAP.

Unit: The organizational element having functional responsibility for a specific incident planning, logistics or finance/administration activity.

Unity of Command: The concept by which each person within an organization reports to one and only one designated person. The purpose of unity of command is to ensure unity of effort under one responsible commander for every objective.

Appendix E. Acronyms and Glossary

Volunteer: For purposes of the NIMS, a volunteer is any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency, which has authority to accept volunteer services, when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed. See, e.g., 16 U.S.C. 742f(c) and 29 CFR 553.101.

Source: <https://nimcast.fema.gov/nimscast/>

Emergency Support Function Annexes

