

Resource F: FEMA Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

ESF Number, Name Description, Lead Agency

ESF #1 TRANSPORTATION: Assists federal agencies, State and local governmental entities, and voluntary organizations requiring transportation capacity to perform response missions following a major disaster or emergency. Also serves as a coordination point between response operations and restoration of the transportation infrastructure. Department of Transportation

ESF #2 COMMUNICATIONS: Ensures the provision of federal telecommunications support to federal, state, and local response efforts following a presidential declared major disaster, emergency, or extraordinary situation under the Federal Response Plan (FRP). This ESF supplements the provisions of the National Plan for Telecommunications Support in Non-Wartime Emergencies. National Communications System

ESF #3 PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING: Provides technical advice and evaluation, engineering services, contracting for construction management and inspection, contracting for the emergency repair of water and wastewater treatment facilities, potable water and ice, emergency power, and real estate support to assist the state(s) in meeting goals related to lifesaving and life-sustaining actions, damage mitigation, and recovery activities following a major disaster or emergency. Department of Defense, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

ESF #4 FIREFIGHTING: Detects and suppresses wild land, rural, and urban fires resulting from, or occurring coincidentally with, a major disaster or emergency requiring federal response assistance. Department of Agriculture

ESF #5 INFORMATION & PLANNING: Collects, analyzes, processes, and disseminates information about a potential or actual disaster or emergency to facilitate the overall activities of the federal government in providing assistance to one or more affected states. Fulfilling this mission supports planning and decision making at both the field/regional operations and headquarters levels. Federal Emergency Management Agency.

ESF #6 MASS CARE: Coordinates federal assistance in support of state and local efforts to meet the mass care needs of victims of a disaster. This federal

assistance will support the delivery of mass care services of shelter, feeding, and emergency first aid to disaster victims; the establishment of systems to provide bulk distribution of emergency relief supplies to disaster victims; and the collection of information to operate a Disaster Welfare Information (DWI) system for the purpose of reporting victim status and assisting in family reunification. American Red Cross.

ESF #7 RESOURCE SUPPORT: Provides logistical and resource support to other organizations through purchasing, contract, renting and leasing equipment and supplies in a potential or actual Presidential declared major disaster or emergency. General Services Administration.

ESF #8 HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES: Provides coordinated federal assistance to supplement state and local resources in response to public health and medical care needs following a major disaster or emergency, or during a developing potential medical situation. Resources will be furnished when state and local resources are overwhelmed and public health and/or medical assistance is requested from the federal government. Department of Health and Human Services.

ESF #9 URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE: Rapidly deploys components of the National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System to provide specialized lifesaving assistance to state and local authorities in the event of a major disaster or emergency. US&R operational activities include locating, extricating, and providing on-site medical treatment to victims trapped in collapsed structures. Federal Emergency Management Agency.

ESF #10 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS / ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: Provides federal support to state and local governments in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or release of hazardous materials following a major disaster or emergency. Environmental Protection Agency.

ESF #11 FOOD AND WATER: Identifies, secures, and arranges for the transportation of bulk food, water, and ice to affected areas following a major disaster or emergency or other event requiring federal response. Department of Agriculture.

ESF #12 ENERGY: Helps restore the Nation's energy systems following a major disaster, emergency, or other significant event requiring federal response assistance. Department of Energy.

Source: www.fema.gov/rrr/

In addition to these twelve ESFs enforced in all states, some state governors have elected to add three additional functions, and some have elected to add the five. These include:

- Military Support;
- Public Information;
- Volunteer Donations;
- Law Enforcement and Security; and
- Animal Protection and Agriculture.