Emergency Support Functions (ESF) Descriptions

Transportation (ESF#1)
- How will you assess, monitor, maintain, or restore transportation avenues in an emergency?

Communications (ESF#2)
- How will the responding agencies communicate and coordinate during a disaster?
- How does this plan fit with the regional and national communication systems?
- What has been done to protect existing emergency communications service?

Public Works and Engineering (ESF#3) Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources Restoration
- What are the critical locations that need to be cleared of debris immediately in order to respond to the emergency?
- How will you manage debris collection and removal?

Firefighting (ESF#4)
- What is the process for detecting and suppressing large scale fires resulting from or occurring coincidentally with an incident response?
- What cross-jurisdiction agreements exist for working on large fires?

Emergency Management (ESF#5)/ Direction, Control, and Coordination: Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Who is in charge of the EOC? (Provide at least two alternates)
- What equipment will be needed to manage the EOC?
- Where will the EOC be located? (Provide at least two alternative sites)

Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services (ESF #6)
- How, where, and under what circumstances will shelters be opened?
- What agencies will be responsible for providing essential care (food, water, etc.)?
- What arrangements are in place for household animals that are brought to the shelter?

Logistics Management and Resource Support (ESF #7)
- Who has access and control of response equipment? (Provide at least three alternates)
- How will supplies be staged prior to a disaster?
- How will unsolicited donations and volunteers be managed?

Public Health and Medical Services (ESF #8)
- What agencies and methods will be used to identify public health issues related to a disaster?
- How will potable water be provided?
- How will sewage be handled if systems are inoperable?
- How will food safety issues be addressed?
- How will the needs of vulnerable populations be assessed and addressed?
- What processes or agreements are in place to provide additional medical staff or supply assistance if needed?
- How will mass casualty/fatalities be handled?
- What facilities are available for use as emergency treatment centers? What agreements or processes are in place to access these facilities?
Search and Rescue (ESF #9)
- What are the actions for searching collapsed structures, water searches, and inland searches?
- Who will coordinate these searches?

Oil and Hazardous Materials Response (ESF#10)
- What has been done to prevent, minimize, or mitigate an oil or hazardous materials release?
- What methods are in place to detect contamination, stabilize a release, provide for cleanup and waste disposal?

Agriculture and Natural Resources (ESF #11)
- How will an outbreak of a harmful animal or plant disease be managed?
- How will the needs of farm animals be met during a disaster?

Energy (ESF #12)
- What is the process for addressing significant disruptions in energy supplies?
- What are the critical assets and infrastructures of the energy system? How are vulnerabilities to those systems monitored and mitigated?

Public Safety and Security (ESF #13)
- How will public safety and security resources be used in an emergency?

Long-Term Community Recovery (ESF #14)
- How will post-incident assessments, plans and activities be coordinated?
- How will special needs populations be incorporated into the recovery strategies?

External Affairs (ESF#15)/Emergency Public Information
- How will communication to the public be managed? What methods will be used to inform individuals with disabilities or limited English proficiency?
- Who will have responsibility for communicating to the public and to the media during an emergency?
- What methods will be used to help the public be informed and prepared for the identified hazards before an emergency occurs?