City of McMinnville

Introduction to Disaster Response

March 2024

Presentation Overview

Our purpose today is to familiarize attendees with how the McMinnville Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Policy Group are intended to operate in the event of a disaster.

- Emergency Plans
- The Incident Command System
- The EOC
- The Policy Group
- **A scenario walkthrough**

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Special Note

Although we will review these slides as a group, they will be made available to Council and Board Members as a reference. We will move quickly through the presentation. You may review the slides later, at your convenience.

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Policies, Guidelines, and Plans

Examples

- **Emergency operations plans (EOP)**
- **Continuity Of Operations Plans (COOP)**
- **Emergency Response Plans (ERP)**
- **Incident Action Plans (IAP)**
- **Standard operating procedures**

Strategic
Policy objectives
and overall
guidance

Operational
Roles and responsibilities, tasks,
integration, and actions

Tactical
Personnel, equipment, and resource management

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Emergency Operations Plans (EOP)

The ongoing plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards. It describes how people and property will be protected; details who is responsible for carrying out specific actions; identifies the personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available; and outlines how all actions will be coordinated.

This is the primary Operational Level plan. It contains annexes for each of the major threats.

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Continuity Of Operations Plans (COOP)

A COOP is an internal effort of an organization to assure that the capability exists to continue essential functions and services in response to a comprehensive array of potential emergencies or disasters.

Each department should have an individual COOP. The Emergency Management Coordinator will direct department heads to the appropriate training, specify a common format, and provide recommendations. However, the departments will write their own plans.

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Emergency Response Plans (ERP)

A short-term, department specific plan which establishes procedures for situations such as:

- Evacuating buildings
- Sheltering-in-place
- Inclement weather
- Fire
- Power outages
- Communications outages
- Active shooter
- Other security threat

The Emergency Management Coordinator will provide a template and general guidance, but departments will develop the plan.

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Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

SOPs are written guidelines that explain what is expected and required of fire service personnel in performing their jobs. A comprehensive set of SOPs defines in significant detail how the department intends to operate. Some examples are as follows.

- Firefighting (for any responder)
- Emergency Medical intervention (for any responder)
- Hazardous materials response
- Encountering individuals in a mental crisis

These are plans at the Tactical Level. They are primarily created by response agencies such as Fire, Police, and EMS. These plans should already exist. As the EOP is recreated, the SOPs should adapt.

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Incident Action Plan (IAP)

The IAP is a written plan that sets forth the incident objectives and reflects the tactics necessary to manage an incident during an operational period. It addresses many critical areas across the whole community. A new IAP is written every operational period and must be approved by the Incident Commander. It will:

- Cover a specified timeframe
- Be proactive
- Specify the incident objectives
- State the activities to be completed
- Assign responsibilities
- Identify needed resources
- Specify communication protocols

For smaller/less complex incidents, the IAP may be oral or written, except for hazardous materials incidents, which require a written IAP. FEMA has developed a series of ICS Forms for use in developing a written IAP.
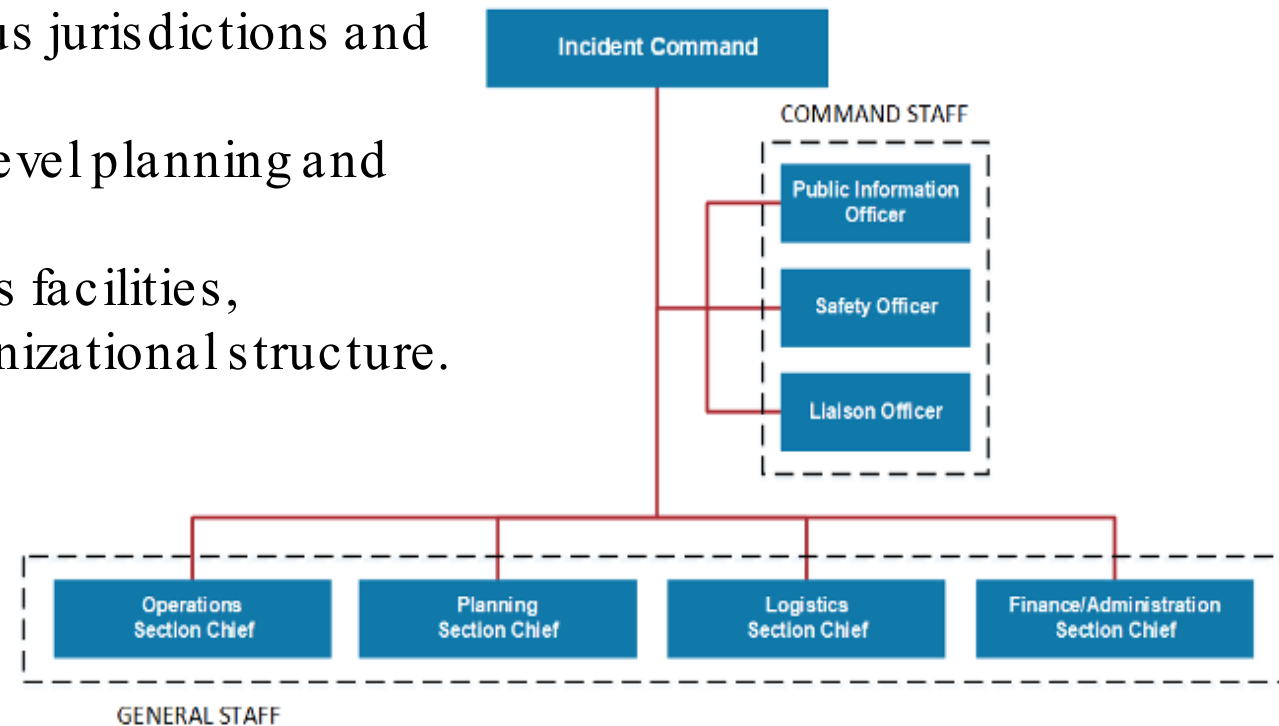
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The Incident Command System (ICS)

ICS Definition

The Incident Command System (ICS) is a standardized approach to incident management that:

- Is used for all kinds of incidents by all types of organizations and at all levels of government; ICS is applicable to small incidents as well as large and complex ones.
- Can be used not only for emergencies, but also for planned events.
- Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and agencies.
- Establishes common processes for incident-level planning and resource management.
- Allows for the integration of resources (such as facilities, equipment, personnel) within a common organizational structure.

Incident Command

COMMAND STAFF

Public Information Officer

Safety Officer

Liaison Officer

Operations Section Chief

Planning Section Chief

Logistics Section Chief

Finance/Administration Section Chief

GENERAL STAFF

Roles

The **policy group,** sometimes called a Multi-agency Coordination (MAC) Group, is made up of agency administrators, elected officials, or executives from organizations, or their designees, that provide policy guidance to incident personnel, supports resource prioritization and allocation, and enables decision making among elected and appointed officials and senior executives in other organizations.

Policy Group

EOC
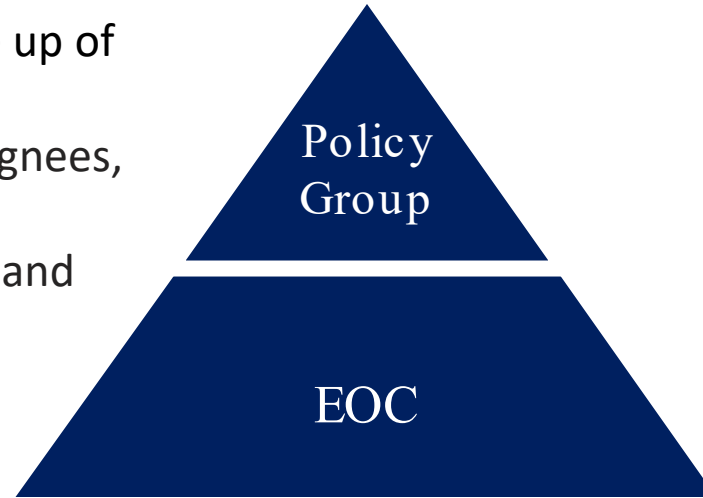
The **EOC** is the physical location where the coordination of information and resources to support incident management (on-scene operations) activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction.

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Roles

The **Incident Command Post (ICP)** is located wherever the Incident Commander is. The Incident Commander is responsible for:

- Having clear authority and knowing agency policy.
- Ensuring incident safety.
- Establishing an Incident Command Post.
- Setting priorities and determining incident objectives and strategies to be followed.
- Establishing the ICS organization needed to manage the incident.
- Approving the Incident Action Plan.
- Coordinating Command and General Staff activities.
- Approving resource requests and use of volunteers and auxiliary personnel.
- Ensuring after-action reports are completed.
- Authorizing information release to the media.
- Ordering demobilization as needed.
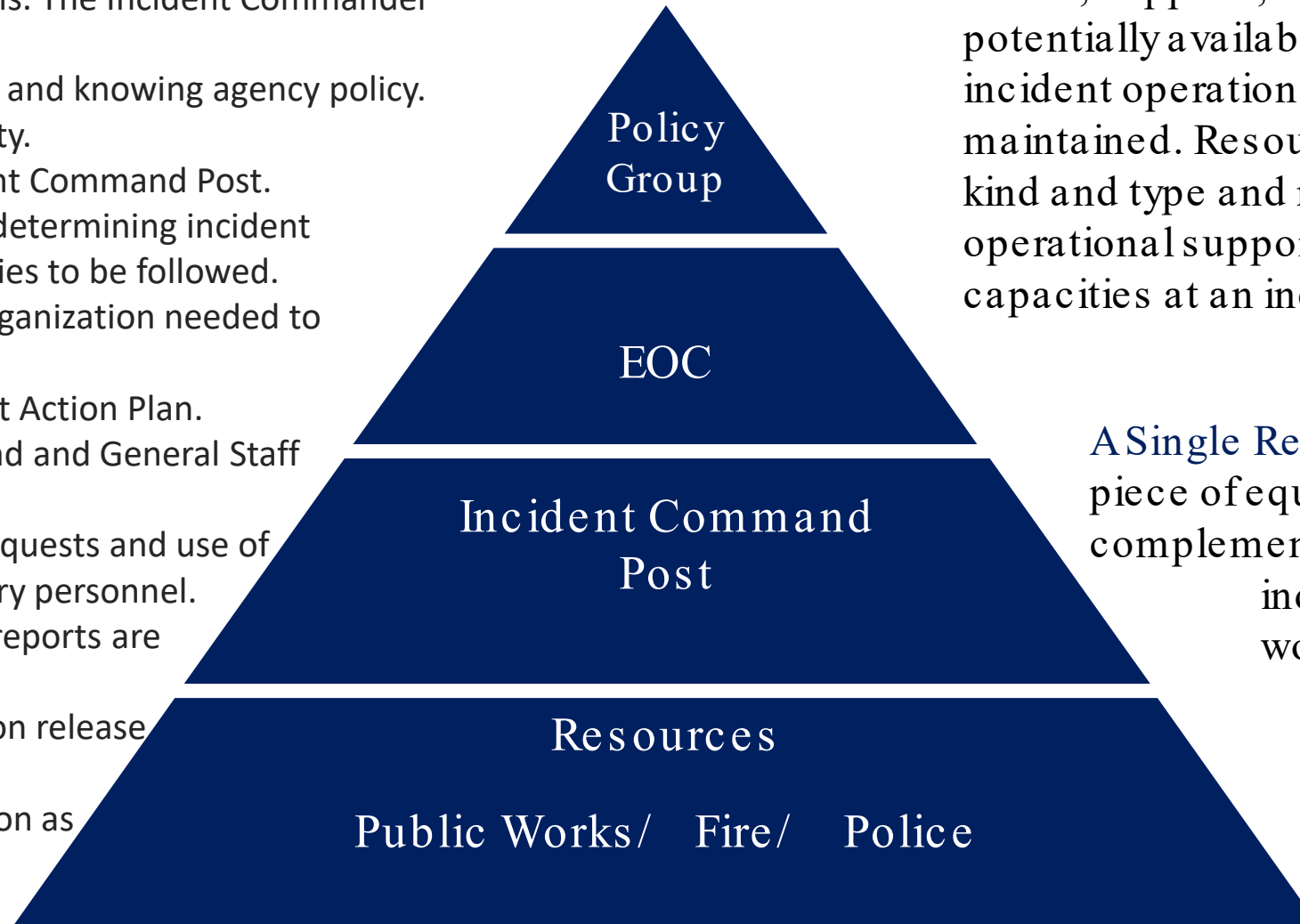
Resources are Personnel, equipment, teams, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

A Single Resource is an individual, a piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or a crew/team of individuals with an identified work supervisor that can be used on an incident.

Policy
Group

EOC

Incident Command
Post

Resources

Public Works/ Fire/   Police

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The Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Emergency Operations Center

The purpose of an EOC is to establish a central location where government at any level can provide coordinated support to Incident Command. Incidents are best managed at the lowest possible level.

EOCs coordinate with on-scene incident managers and other agencies and organizations to:

- Acquire, allocate, and track resources.
- Manage and share information.
- Liaison and coordinate with other jurisdictions and other levels of government.
- Provide legal, financial, and administrative support.

EOCs also coordinate with and support the Policy Group, consists of agency administrators, executives, or their representatives from stakeholder organizations. MAC groups may not be at a physical location. Policy Groups make multiagency decisions such as:

- Determining resource prioritization and allocation among incidents
- Enabling decision making among elected/appointed officials and the Incident Command

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EOC Functions

EOCs enable multiagency coordination by ensuring that response systems are interconnected and complementary. They reinforce interoperability among the various system components, and make response more efficient and effective by coordinating available resources.

EOCs serve several main functions within NIMS Command and Coordination:

- Information management—collecting, analyzing, and interpreting information from various sources and sharing essential information
- Resource Management—coordinating support for resource needs and requests
- Planning—coordinating plans and determining current and future needs
- EOCs can make decisions based on established policies and procedures within the authority given to them by their jurisdiction.
- Manage operations such as emergency shelters or points of distribution (used for distributing food, water, medication) to allow the Incident Command to focus on the incident.
- Direct tactical operations when an Incident Command is not established (such as in a snow emergency).
- Coordinate the efforts of several geographically separated incidents or activities.
- Provide coordination and policy direction.

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EOC Benefits

An effective EOC:

- Helps establish, maintain, and share situational awareness.
- Facilitates long-term operations.
- Improves continuity.
- Provides ready access to essential information.
- Simplifies information analysis and verification.
- Promotes resource identification and assignment.
- A single EOC (physical or virtual) functions more efficiently. With a single location for multiagency coordination, officials can more easily meet, make decisions, and coordinate activities.

An effective EOC helps the IC with:

- Situational awareness - Providing the "big picture" view of the incident.
- Policy direction - the EOC can identify policy issues and communicate policy decisions of the Policy Group to the Incident Command.
- Communication support - Providing communications and messaging support and managing public information issues and media requests
- Resources
- Strategic planning
- Legal and financial support. This frees on-scene resources to focus on the response.

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EOC Activation

EOCs are activated for various reasons based on the needs of a jurisdiction, organization, or Incident Commander. A jurisdiction normally defines circumstances and processes for EOC activation in policy. Listed below are possible circumstances that might trigger an EOC activation:

- More than one jurisdiction becomes involved in an incident or a Unified Command or Area Command is established.
- The Incident Commander indicates the incident could expand rapidly, involve cascading effects, or require additional resources.
- A similar incident led to EOC activation in the past.
- The EOC director or appointed/ elected official directs EOC activation.
- An incident is imminent, such as hurricane warnings, slow river flooding, predictions of hazardous weather, elevated threat levels.
- Threshold events describes in the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) occur.
- Significant impacts to the population are anticipated.
- There is an evolving threat such as a wildfire.

The level of staffing in the EOC during an emergency is determined by the following

- Established policy
- What must be done
- Anticipated response timeframe
- What members have the knowledge and expertise
- What members have the necessary authority

	Activation Level
3	Normal Operations/Steady State
2	Enhanced Steady-State/Partial Activation
1	Full Activation

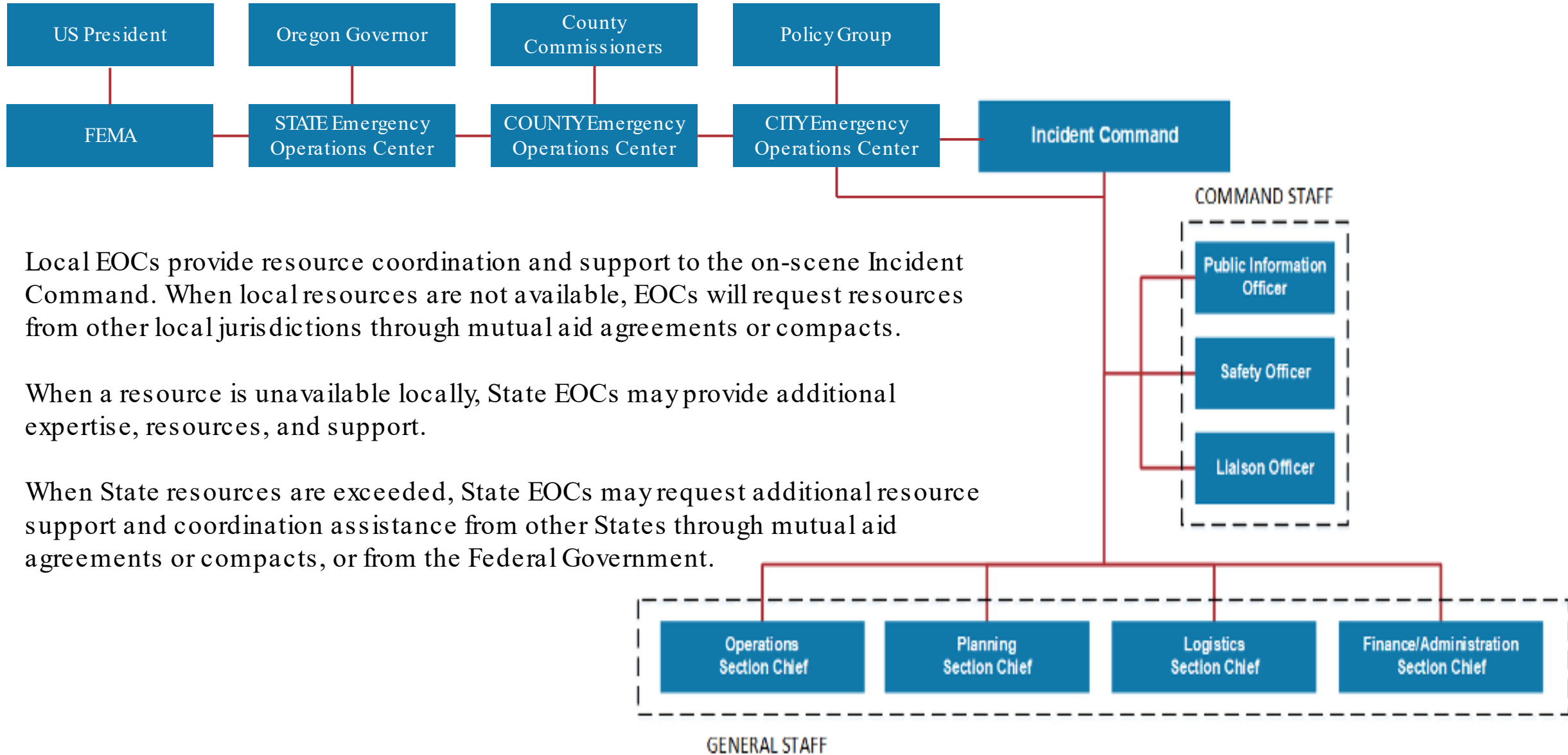National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017.

Staffing the EOC

EOCs must retain the ability to perform its function even with reduced staffing. Plan for training and cross-training of all EOC staff. There are a variety of reasons why staffing may be reduced:

- Some primary staff may be injured or may not be available.
- Transportation routes to the EOC may be disrupted, prohibiting primary staff from reaching the facility.
- In longer term activations, some primary staff may need to be replaced for a shift or longer.
- In longer term operations, staff may need to divided into two or more shifts to maintain 24/7 operations.

All personnel must be trained for their jobs in the EOC. As a contingency, specific staff should be cross-trained to ensure that EOC operations can continue with a smaller number of staff than originally planned.

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Resource Requests

US President	Oregon Governor	County Commissioners	Policy Group	
FEMA	STATE Emergency Operations Center	COUNTY Emergency Operations Center	CITY Emergency Operations Center	Incident Command

Local EOCs provide resource coordination and support to the on-scene Incident Command. When local resources are not available, EOCs will request resources from other local jurisdictions through mutual aid agreements or compacts.

When a resource is unavailable locally, State EOCs may provide additional expertise, resources, and support.

When State resources are exceeded, State EOCs may request additional resource support and coordination assistance from other States through mutual aid agreements or compacts, or from the Federal Government.

COMMAND STAFF

- Public Information Officer
- Safety Officer
- Liaison Officer

GENERAL STAFF

Operations Section Chief	Planning Section Chief	Logistics Section Chief	Finance/Administration Section Chief

The Policy Group

Purpose and Membership

Policy Groups typically consist of agency administrators or organizational executives or their designees who are authorized to commit agency resources and funds.

Their function is to support incident management through coordinating their collective resources, sharing incident information and, implementing coordinated strategic policies to prevent and/or combat a growing emergency(s).

Multi-agency coordination and policy direction is an essential element in support of jurisdictional Emergency Operations Centers (EOC). The local Policy Group provides jurisdictional or area-wide direction and/or policy.
- Establish priorities for extended/major incidents
- Allocate critical resources based on established priorities
- Establish and/or implement communication systems integration
- Ensure Information coordination both internally and externally
- Establish Intergovernmental decision coordination
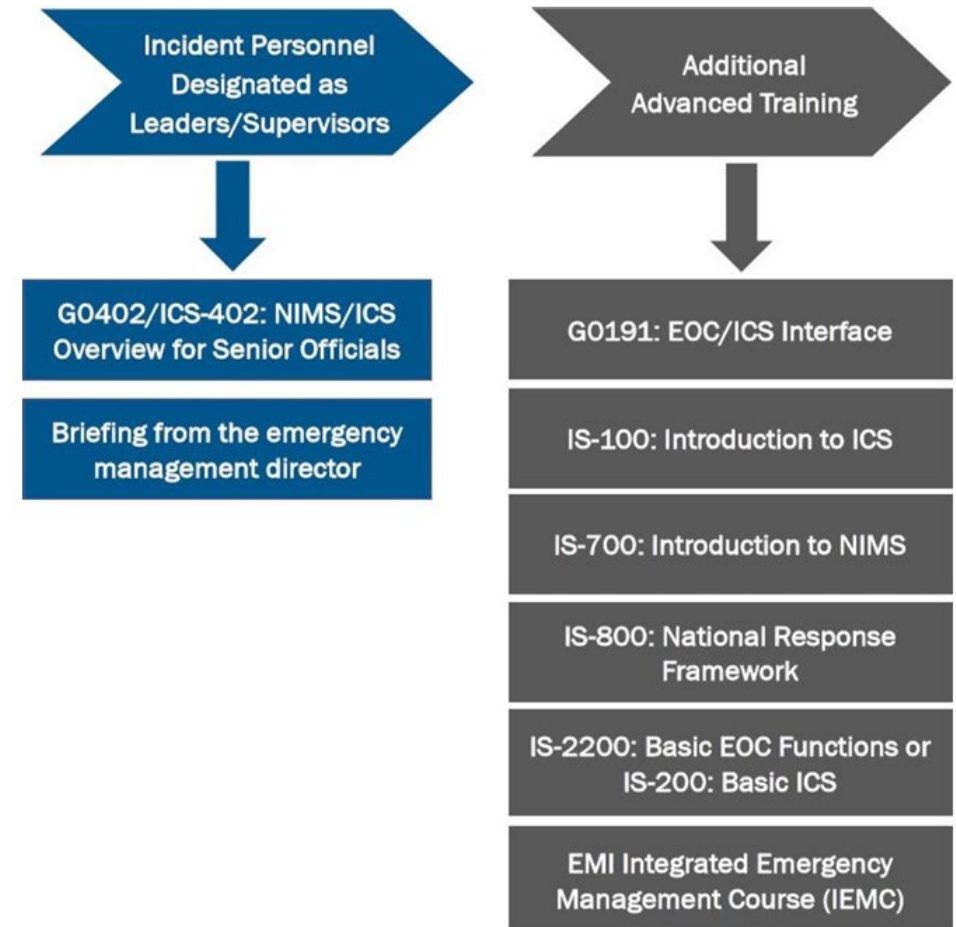- Develop strategies and contingency plans

Incident Personnel Designated as Leaders/Supervisors

G0402/ICS-402: NIMS/ICS Overview for Senior Officials

Briefing from the emergency management director

Additional Advanced Training

G0191: EOC/ICS Interface

IS-100: Introduction to ICS

IS-700: Introduction to NIMS

IS-800: National Response Framework

IS-2200: Basic EOC Functions or IS-200: Basic ICS

EMI Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC)

Figure 6: MAC Group Training Progression

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Purpose of this walkthrough

Tabletop exercises (TTX) are discussion-based sessions where team members meet in an informal, classroom setting to discuss their roles during an emergency and their responses to a particular emergency situation. A facilitator guides participants through a discussion of one or more scenarios. The objective of every exercise is to test capabilities and identify areas for improvement. TTX generally take 1-4 hours.

This is not a TTX. This is walkthrough the Emergency Management process with a focus on our response to a wildfire that threatens McMinnville and exceeds our current response capabilities.

Our purpose today is to familiarize ourselves with our roles in a disaster response.

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Setting the stage

These slides will guide us through a scenario. As we go, questions will be presented for players to answer.
- Stakeholders, players, and roles
- Explanation of the phases of any incident
- Review of scenario related data given to the players
- The scenario
  - Mitigation questions
  - Preparation questions
  - Response questions
  - Recovery questions
- Additional scenario information will be provided as we talk through each phase of the scenario

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Roles

Facilitator

Asks stakeholders questions to clarify procedures and explore areas of concern. Assigns roles for stakeholders to play.

Stakeholders

Answer questions about how their department would respond in a specific situation. Asks questions for clarification or to gain a greater understanding of their role or expected actions. The following roles are represented here today.

- Policy Group
- McMinnville Police
- Fire District
- McMinnville Emergency Operations Center
- Legal

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Phases of an Incident

Not to be confused with the Planning "P" which specifies how a plan is developed each operational period, the phases of an incident are:

- Mitigate
- Prepare
- Respond
- Recover

As we move chronologically through our scenario today, we will discuss general actions taken and actions considered in each phase.

History

Significant wildfires are nothing new in Oregon's history.

The largest wildfires in state history are actually believed to have taken place in the 1800s. But the era of giant fires started coming to an end with the creation of the Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry, which brought almost a century of aggressive suppression.

However, putting out every fire led to a buildup of fuels in the forest that, combined with rising temperatures, led to the return of megafires in Oregon beginning in 2002.

| Year	Fire Name	Acres Burned	Cause	Notes
2012	Long Draw	557,028	Lightning	Southeastern Oregon rangeland.
2002	Biscuit	500,000	Lightning	This was the largest fire in North America during the 2002 fire season
2021	Bootleg	400,000	Unknown	
2014	Buzzard Complex	395,747	Lightning	The complex was made of several fires that burned on rangeland southeast of Burns. Its name came from the nearby Buzzard Butte.
2012	Holloway	245,308	Lightning	Scorched more than 245,000 acres in Oregon and more than 215,000 acres in Nevada.
1933	Tillamook Burn	240,000	Human	Washington, Yahmill and Tillmaook counties.
1939	2nd Tillamook Burn	217,000	Human	Near the Wilson and Salmonberry rivers.
2020	Lionshead	204,586	Unknown	Warms Springs Reservation
2020	Beachie Creek	193,566	Unknown	Santiam Canyon

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Risk

Residential: Moderate Risk
6,922 out of 8,896 homes at risk

Critical Infrastructure: Moderate Risk
11 out of 22 facilities at risk

Commercial: Moderate Risk
330 out of 561 properties at risk

Social Facilities: Moderate Risk
The number of schools, houses of worship, museums, and government and/or historic buildings in Yamhill County that have some wildfire risk.
23 out of 37 facilities at risk
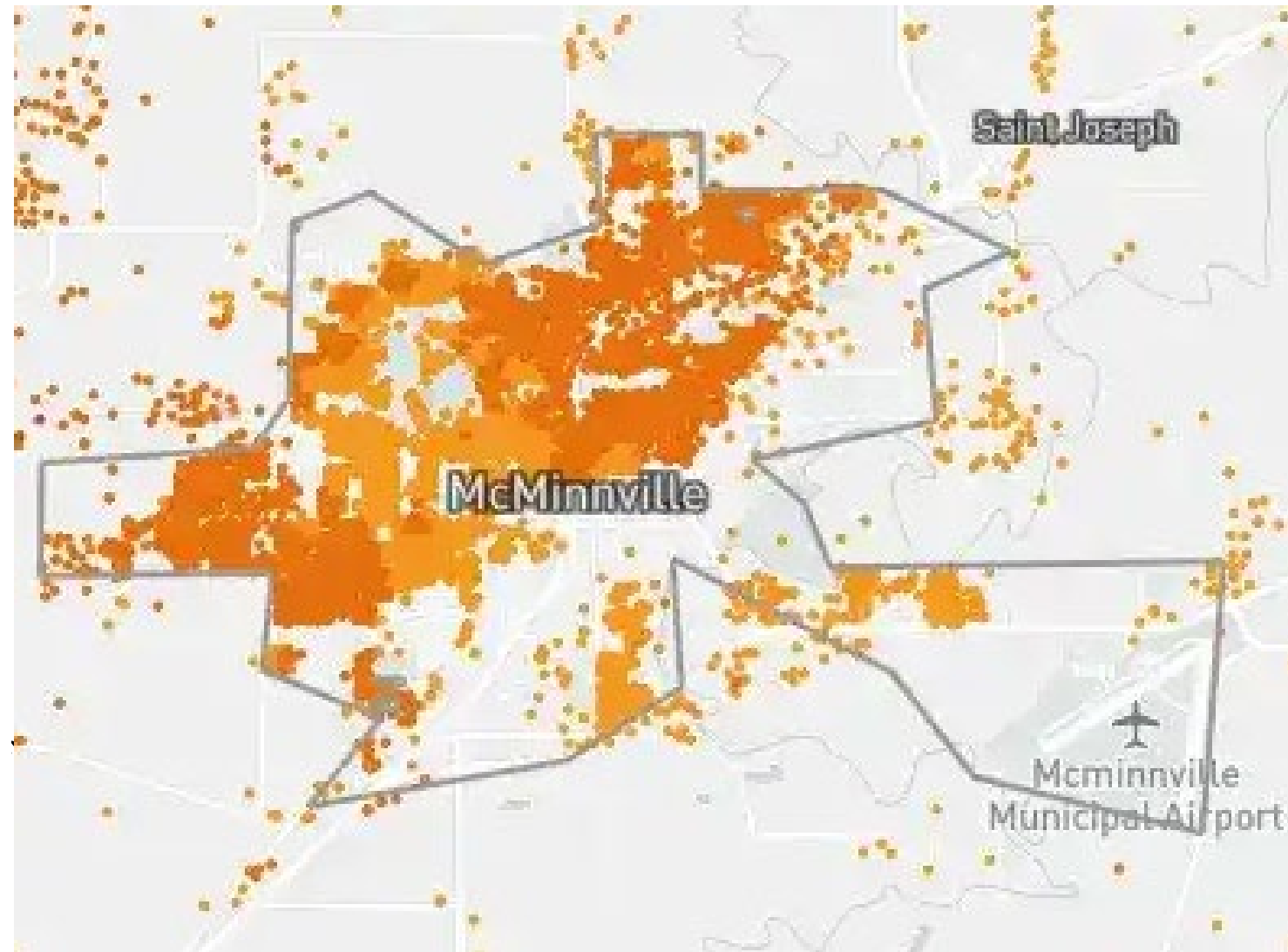
Properties at risk from fire

| Minimal | Minor | Moderate | Major | Severe | Extreme |

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Weather, Historical 2 Sep

Prevailing winds are FROM the South.
High temp = 92 F
Low temp = 61 F
Sea level pressure 29.84 in
Sunrise 6:37 AM
Sunset 7:48 PM

Time	Temp	Dew Pt	Humidity	Wind	Wind Spd	Gust	Pressure	Precip.	Condition
12:56 AM	68 °F	56 °F	65 %	NNW	3 mph	0 mph	29.80 in	0.0 in	Fair
1:56 AM	67 °F	57 °F	70 %	NNW	5 mph	0 mph	29.79 in	0.0 in	Fair
2:56 AM	64 °F	56 °F	75 %	CALM	0 mph	0 mph	29.79 in	0.0 in	Fair
3:56 AM	63 °F	55 °F	75 %	NW	3 mph	0 mph	29.79 in	0.0 in	Fair
4:56 AM	61 °F	55 °F	81 %	CALM	0 mph	0 mph	29.79 in	0.0 in	Fair
5:56 AM	61 °F	55 °F	81 %	NW	5 mph	0 mph	29.80 in	0.0 in	Fair
6:56 AM	62 °F	56 °F	80 %	NNW	5 mph	0 mph	29.82 in	0.0 in	Fair
7:56 AM	66 °F	57 °F	73 %	N	5 mph	0 mph	29.83 in	0.0 in	Fair
8:56 AM	71 °F	57 °F	61 %	NNE	7 mph	0 mph	29.84 in	0.0 in	Fair
9:56 AM	74 °F	57 °F	55 %	NNE	12 mph	0 mph	29.84 in	0.0 in	Fair
10:56 AM	79 °F	57 °F	47 %	N	8 mph	0 mph	29.84 in	0.0 in	Fair
11:56 AM	82 °F	58 °F	44 %	N	12 mph	0 mph	29.84 in	0.0 in	Fair
12:56 PM	86 °F	55 °F	35 %	N	9 mph	17 mph	29.82 in	0.0 in	Fair
1:56 PM	89 °F	54 °F	30 %	NE	12 mph	0 mph	29.81 in	0.0 in	Fair
2:56 PM	90 °F	50 °F	25 %	N	13 mph	0 mph	29.79 in	0.0 in	Fair
3:56 PM	91 °F	50 °F	24 %	NE	8 mph	17 mph	29.78 in	0.0 in	Fair
4:56 PM	92 °F	51 °F	25 %	NNE	10 mph	0 mph	29.77 in	0.0 in	Fair
5:56 PM	91 °F	52 °F	26 %	NE	10 mph	0 mph	29.76 in	0.0 in	Fair
6:56 PM	88 °F	55 °F	32 %	NNE	8 mph	0 mph	29.75 in	0.0 in	Fair
7:56 PM	84 °F	57 °F	40 %	NNE	9 mph	0 mph	29.76 in	0.0 in	Fair
8:56 PM	80 °F	58 °F	47 %	N	9 mph	0 mph	29.78 in	0.0 in	Fair
9:56 PM	77 °F	57 °F	50 %	N	9 mph	0 mph	29.79 in	0.0 in	Fair
10:56 PM	74 °F	58 °F	57 %	N	8 mph	0 mph	29.80 in	0.0 in	Fair
11:56 PM	71 °F	57 °F	61 %	N	8 mph	0 mph	29.80 in	0.0 in	Fair

National Weather Service Terms

Fire Weather Advisories

A Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning is and advisory issued when the combination of dry fuels and weather conditions support extreme fire danger. These critical elements are:

- sustained winds averaging 15 mph or greater
- relative humidity 25 percent or less
- temperature 75°F or greater

A Fire Weather Watch is issued up to 72 hours before the above conditions are expected to occur.

A Red Flag Warning is issued when the conditions above are expected to occur or are occurring within the next 24 hours.

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Scenario Day 0

Long-term forecast predicts increased forest fire activity in Oregon and Washington's dampest areas

By Brian Bull (KLCC)
March 4, 2024 10:38 a.m.

Comprehensive wildfire simulations for over a 23-million acre stretch of forest show that for a 30-year period beginning in 2035, Oregon's western Cascades and Washington's north Cascades —as well as the Puget Lowlands and Olympic Mountains —could see at least twice as much fire activity as seen in the last 30 years.

-Oregon Public Broadcasting

ODF Fire History 2000-2022
Fire occurrence points 2000-2022.

https://data.oregon.gov/stories/s/92y3-mdk3
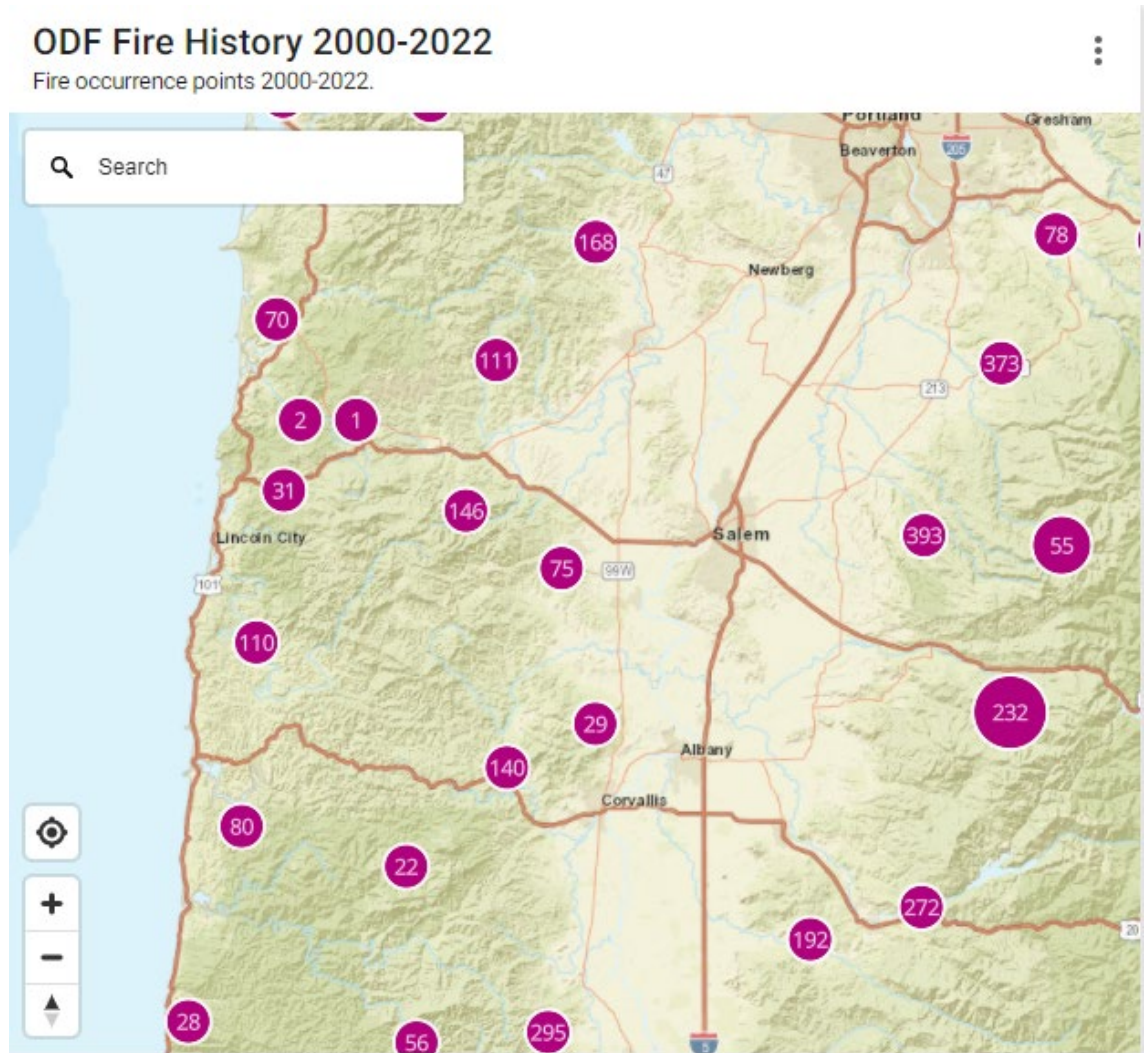
Mitigation Phase, Day 0

Mitigation is an action to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Mitigation takes place during EVERY PHASE of an incident. Here are some examples.

1. What could The City do to mitigate potential hazards and effects of wildfires?

2. Who should lead the mitigation effort?

3. Who is responsible for monitoring weather alerts for The City?

4. What Wildfire support agreements are in place?

5. Does The City make the public aware of potential fire hazards?

6. Does The City have codes relevant to wildfire safety or defense?

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Scenario, Day 1

2 Sep 2024, 9:00 am

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), the combination of dry fuels and weather conditions increased the risk of wildfire in the area. With a shortage of rainfall, temperatures rising, and humidity dropping, a "Fire Weather Watch" is issued. This alert warns residents and fire departments of weather events that could result in extreme fire behavior over the next 24–72 hours.

Outdoor burning bans are placed in effect to reduce wildfire potential. Local parks, campsites, trails, and forestlands mandated a zero tolerance burn policy and are working to deter any visitors from starting campfires or using open-flame grills.

Local news stations report that the U.S. Forest Service responded to several brush fires in the region. The threat for wildfire was extended to populated areas, including communities near wildfire-prone lands. Residents have also been encouraged to create 100 feet of defensible space around their domestic structures to establish a safety zone from airborne embers and low-lying vegetation.

The closest uncontained fires are located just Southwest of Willamina and near the Southeast corner of Tillamook County. Media reports that Polk county has declared a state of emergency. Wildland Firefighters have been dispatched throughout Oregon, including to the above-mentioned fires, but resources are stretched thin.

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Prepare Phase

This phase includes planning, training, and educational activities for events that cannot be mitigated.

- Does the Hospital monitor air quality or any other health alerts?
- Does the Fire Weather Watch trigger anything on the part of the City? Should it?
- Does The City or County have any pre-planned statements to make in the case of approaching disasters? If so, what triggers that messaging and how does it go out?
- Does The City or County have a Wildfire specific annex or portion of their EOP?
- Does the Hospital have a wildfire or air quality annex or portion of their EOP?

Prepare Phase

- What level of communication should the policy group have at this point in the scenario?

- Who fields calls from concerned citizens?

- Is there a wildfire annex in The City EOP?

- Is there a City evacuation plan?

- How might the Public Works Department assist at this time?

- When CAN we stand up the EOC in a full or partial status?

Scenario, Day 2

3 Sep 2024, around 11:00 a.m.
Several individuals report a small brush fire 35 miles South of town near a popular hiking and biking trail. With the shortage of rainfall in the past month, low vegetation and brush easily begin to catch fire near the origin point. Although several fire apparatuses are en route to the brush fire, they take over an hour to arrive because of the secluded area and difficult terrain.

Conditions quickly worsen, exacerbated by dry foliage and erratic wind gusts. The fire spreads to the north and east of the origin point, directly downhill and into town. Winds begin to carry embers over a quarter mile away and the fuel source shifts from vegetation to residential structures. As homes on SW Redmond Hill road and NW Horizon Drive catch on fire from surrounding brush and embers landing on rooflines, Fire District personnel become unable to contain the fire. Residents take note of the looming smoke and airborne embers. Panicking, several communities begin to self-evacuate.

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Response Phase

The response phase occurs in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. During the response phase, business and other operations do not function normally. Personal safety and wellbeing in an emergency and the duration of the response phase depend on the level of preparedness.

- What agency responds to brush fires within 1 mile of McMinnville city limits?

- What unit is first on scene?

- Who is the initial Incident Commander?

- What are the IC's initial objectives?

- What is the cordon size around buildings on fire?

- What additional resources are requested?

- PLEASE DRAW THE INITIAL ICS STRUCTURE (ICS-208)

Response Phase

- What is the trigger for the IC to request an evacuation?

- Who can authorize an evacuation of portions of The City?

- At what point does McMinnville PD send officers to assist with traffic control or evacuation?

- Where are directed or self-directed evacuees sent, if anywhere?

- How are evacuation notifications made and who makes them?

- What are some legal considerations with evacuating residents?

- At what point does the IC or other Department Director anticipate requesting activation of the EOC?

- To what extent, if any, would the EOC be activated for this response?

- How would the IC communicate with the EOC?

Response Phase

- Is the EOC capable of plotting hazard areas?

- How long would it take to fully staff the EOC?

- What are the initial objectives in the EOC?

- How are resource requests and costs tracked?

- Who is the Public Information Officer(s) and with whom would they liaise?

- What should trigger the activation of the Policy Group?

- What triggers the activation of the Hospital EOC?

SCENARIO DAY 2, UPDATE 1

The EOC or on-scene responders receive additional information about media attention to the incident.

Numerous first-hand reports of the incident are on social media. One local TV station was on-scene when the incident occurred but has not yet interrupted normally scheduled programming to report on the incident.

The incident has not yet been reported through online news sources, but the EOC is receiving initial media inquiries. It is anticipated that there will be reporting of this incident by the news media no later than the next news cycle at 6 pm.

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Response Phase

- What is our recommendation for The City messaging be at this time?

- What message does the Policy Group approve?

SCENARIO DAY 2, UPDATE 2

Mutual aid resources are dispatched to respond to several residential structure fires that started throughout the area. Police begin to aid with evacuation routes and are directing people to stay with family, friends, or at shelters out of town. Across the region, phone systems, including cellular communications and 911, become overloaded and unreliable.

As wind gusts remain constant, the fire spreads throughout town, and there are several reports of multiple major structures in the city on fire. Hospitals are overrun, and there are reports of multiple fatalities in the hardest hit areas, though exact casualty counts are not yet known. Over 10 residential structures and a local furniture warehouse are designated as working fires. Utility companies, medical personnel, and first responders are working around the clock to restore services, preserve property, and save lives. Operations continue throughout the night. Improvements in the weather and the additional resources allow for most fires to be extinguished.

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Response Phase

- How are Fire Related Mutual Aid Agreements activated?

- How are Law Enforcement Related Mutual Aid Agreements activated?

- What is the capability of the Hospital to treat large numbers of severe burn patients?

- What assistance would the Hospital request from The City and The County at this time?

- Are Hazardous Material locations known? If so, how does that play into response efforts?

- At what point should we recommend to the Policy Group to declare a state of emergency and what would that trigger?

Response Phase

- At what point would you recommend to the Policy Group to request through the County a Disaster Declaration and what would that trigger?

- How would the Policy Group decide whether or not to declare a disaster?

- How would the County EOC respond to a request from the McMinnville Policy Group to declare a disaster?

- Can the EOC operate for multiple Operational Periods?

- How often should the policy group meet?

Scenario Transition

Authorities state that the number of patients did not exceed the local hospital's bed count There are no unresolved cases of missing residents due to this disaster. Therefore, there is no expectation that casualty counts could rise.

All fires are extinguished, including residential homes and commercial properties. Dozens are reportedly uninhabitable from smoke and water damage. Local fire and police resources are depleted, and additional state-wide resources have been activated to aid in the recovery effort. The weather has become cooler, and rain has come. Air quality has returned to near normal levels.

Residents have not been allowed back into the town and are being asked to stay at local shelters, hotels, or with friends in the surrounding area. Businesses are still unable to physically operate.

6 Sep 2024 Residents are slowly moving back into town, but several families' homes were destroyed. Neighbors begin working together to aid in recovery efforts around the community by cooking meals and donating relief items, including clothing, linen, toiletries, and medical products.

Additionally, many businesses in town are still not open due to fire and water damage. As job availability opportunities decline, workers begin to look for temporary employment by relocating out of the area. Financial implications of rebuilding both homes and new business facilities leave many individuals wondering if they should move back into town.

City of McMinnville

Transition to Recovery: EOC Role

At some point the incident is over and the community must work to recover from the impacts. EOCs have a role in transitioning a community from response toward recovery. Some activities that an EOC may perform to support this transition include:

- Coordination of incident documentation (gathering and archiving all documents regarding the incident).
- Archiving of data and contact information (ensuring that data and information is available for use through the recovery process).
- Conducting after-action reviews.
- Advocating for State and Federal Assistance (documenting the incident for the purpose of obtaining Federal assistance).
- Managing Emergency Shelters.

- Establishing Disaster Recovery Centers (normally the responsibility of the impacted community).
- Working with FEMA, the State, and other Federal entities. (EOC staff liaison with State and Federal officials as the jurisdiction conducts joint damage assessments and seeks Federal assistance under the Stafford Act).
- Helping the community to manage expectations for recovery through Public Information.

Transition to Recovery: EOC Role

Recovery is defined as "those capabilities necessary to assist communities affected by an incident to recover effectively." Recovery is focused on a timely restoration, strengthening, and revitalization of communities affected by a catastrophic incident:
- Infrastructure Systems
- Housing
- Economic Recovery
- Health and Social Services
- Natural and Cultural Resources

Successful recovery ensures that we emerge from any threat or hazard stronger and positioned to meet the recovery needs of the future

Questions for our next scenario

- What triggers the transition to the recovery phase?

- Who becomes the IC during the recovery phase?

- How does EOC staffing change?

- How should public messaging change?

- When are response assets allowed to return to normal?

- How are response resources demobilized?

- How are maintenance or replacement needs determined?

- Does The City have the necessary resources to conduct cleanup operations?

- Have clean-up contractors been identified? How long do we foresee until work begins?

End of Walk-through, Mitigation Continues

The actual response is far from over. At this point, a new IC is appointed, and the Recovery Phase begins. Accounts must be settled. Assets must be replaced. People continue to need assistance. This could last months.

- What should the EOC look like during the Recovery Phase?

Sources

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207)
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