

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION
4: FIREFIGHTING

Coordinating:

Yakima Valley Emergency Management (YVEM)

Primary(s):

Fire Services (Fire Districts and Municipal Departments)

Supporting:

- Ambulance Services
- Dispatch Centers
 - SunComm 9-1-1
 - Lower Valley (FD #5)
 - Yakima Sheriff's Office
- Law Enforcement
- National Weather Service
 - NWS Pendleton
 - NWS Spokane
- Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency
- Yakima County Medical Director

Other Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) or Recovery Functions exist that coordinate with or support this ESF:

- On the ESF Core Capabilities Matrix, find Primary core capabilities (P) within this ESF and then move vertically and add all Supporting (S) core capabilities and equate them to ESFs.
- Next find all Supporting (S) ESFs in the column and then move horizontally along each row of a Supporting (S) core capability to find all Primary (P) ESFs.

ESF 2	ESF 3	ESF 5	ESF 7	ESF 8	ESF 9	ESF 12	ESF 13
Response							
Supports							
ESF 4							

1. Purpose

- 1.1. Emergency Support Function #4 – Firefighting – provides county support for the detection and suppression of fires resulting from, or occurring coincidentally with, an incident requiring a coordinated county response for assistance.
- 1.2. Urban commercial and residential fire incidents typically can be managed by municipalities and will not require extensive County support or involvement; however, management support and resources are available for those instances in which either is necessary.

Primary Core Capabilities
Response Mission Area

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Primary Core Capabilities	
Planning	Conduct a systematic process engaging the whole community as appropriate in the development of executable strategic, operational, and/or tactical-level approaches to meet defined objectives.
Operational Coordination	Establish and maintain a unified and coordinated operational structure and process that appropriately integrates all critical stakeholders and supports the execution of Core Capabilities.
Fire Management & Suppression	Provide structural, wildland, and specialized firefighting capabilities to manage and suppress fires of all types, kinds, and complexities while protecting the lives, property, and environment in the affected area.

Support Core Capabilities	
Infrastructure Systems	Stabilize critical infrastructure functions, minimize health and safety threats, and efficiently restore and revitalize systems and services to support a viable, resilient community.
Logistics & Supply Chain Management	Deliver essential commodities, equipment, and services in support of impacted communities and survivors, to include emergency power and fuel support, as well as the coordination of access to community staples. Synchronize logistics capabilities and enable the restoration of impacted supply chains.
Mass Search & Rescue	Deliver traditional and atypical search and rescue capabilities, including personnel, services, animals, and assets to survivors in need, with the goal of saving the greatest number of endangered lives in the shortest time possible.
On-scene Security, Protection, & Law Enforcement	Ensure a safe and secure environment through law enforcement and related security and protection operations for people and communities located within affected areas and also for response personnel engaged in lifesaving and life-sustaining operations.
Operational Communications	Ensure the capacity for timely communications in support of security, situational awareness, and operations, by any and all means available, among and between affected communities in the impact area and all response forces.
Public Health, Healthcare, & EMS	Provide lifesaving medical treatment via Emergency Medical Services and related operations and avoid additional disease and injury by providing targeted public health, medical, and behavioral health support and products to all affected populations.
Situational Assessment	Provide all decision makers with decision-relevant information regarding the nature and extent of the hazard, any cascading effects, and the status of the response.

2. Authorities and Policies List & Briefly Describe

2.1. The Northwest Coordination Center (NWCC), in Portland, Oregon, shall accomplish national support for wildfires (i.e. Federal multi-coordinating agency comprised of Forest Service, Bureau of Land

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Management (BLM), Fish & Wildlife, Indian Affairs, etc.) and will coordinate with the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) located in Boise, Idaho.

- 2.2. [Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\) Chapter 43.43.961](#) – The Chief of the Washington State Patrol is the authority to authorize a state declared mobilization and the Washington State Patrol Fire Protection Bureau of the State Fire Marshal coordinates statewide fire service resources,
- 2.3. Per [RCW Chapter 76.04](#), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has the responsibility for wildland fire suppression on 12.4 million acres of state and privately-owned forestland. The DNR, Resource Protection Division, has the authority to respond to wildland fire suppression efforts, as well as the responsibility to respond to requests from other agencies for assistance for non-fire emergencies or disasters.
- 2.4. Local fire departments and districts also function under the applicable portions of [Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\) Chapter 38.52](#), [RCW Chapter 52.02](#), [RCW Chapter 70.136](#), [Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\) Chapter 212](#), other State and local ordinances, and their own Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

3. Situation Overview

- 3.1. Under the best of circumstances, the management of a large firefighting operation is complex, often involving multiple agencies and local jurisdictions. Fires resulting from major emergencies and disasters will place extraordinary demands on available resources and logistics support systems.
- 3.2. A significant natural or technological event may result in many urban, rural, and wildland fires. Urban fire departments not incapacitated by an earthquake or other disaster may be totally committed to fires and other emergencies in their jurisdictions. Numerous fires are anticipated in rural and wildland settings as well. These fires have the potential to spread rapidly, cause extensive damage, and pose a serious threat to life, property and the environment. Firefighting resources that are normally available will be difficult to obtain and utilize during and after a disaster because of massive disruption of communication, transportation, utilities and water systems.
- 3.3. Although the forested higher elevations across the western portion of the county can pose a significant wildfire threat to life and property, the eastern Cascade slopes are less populated than the valley regions of Yakima County. The eastern portion of the county has vast expanses of shrub-steppe, shrubland, and grasslands that can burn at much higher rates of spread than forested land. Infrastructure and population within the wildland-urban interface communities are inherently vulnerable due to the proximity of the shrub and grass vegetation, especially during summer and early fall.

4. Concept of Operations

- 4.1. The public fire and life safety services in Yakima County include city fire departments, fire protection districts, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Department of Natural Resources and the military bases.

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4.2. Fire services within Yakima County are signatory to a county wide mutual aid agreement. The fire services also cooperate in a county-wide mutual aid disaster plan with predetermined strike team and task force identification and coordination.

4.3. ESF #4 is supported by established firefighting and support organizations, processes, and procedures as listed in the Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan (WSFSRMP). State and Federal Mobilization Guides will be used in support of firefighting activities. Responsibility for situation assessment and determination of resource needs lies primarily with local jurisdiction Incident Commanders in coordination with the State and Yakima County Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), if activated. The State DNR will manage and coordinate state owned wildland firefighting activities. The WSP representative shall serve as the state fire resources coordinator when the WSFSRMP are invoked. This will be accomplished by mobilizing firefighting resources in support of state and local jurisdiction firefighting agencies.

4.4. Requests for firefighting assistance and resources will be coordinated through Lower Valley Fire and SunComm Dispatch Centers. Once local resources are exhausted, then resource requests will go through State Mobilization and transmitted to the appropriate regional-level fire coordination center, Central Washington Interagency Communication Center (CWICC), and then on to the NICC for national response and logistics support when regional resources are inadequate.

4.5. **Whole Community Involvement** Description

4.5.1. Jurisdictional fire departments reach out to their whole communities in various forums, including fire code inspection programs, to educate the public regarding fire safety, injury prevention and other safety issues. Presentations are made throughout the community on a variety of safety issues including: home and workplace fire safety, proper use of fire extinguishers, bicycle safety, wildland interface fire prevention (Firewise), and juvenile fire setting.

4.5.2. The Whole Community includes populations with individuals with disabilities and Access and Functional Needs (AFN). Any agency or organization that receives federal funding is required to have a plan or policy for addressing the needs of individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), pursuant to Title VI, the Civil Rights Act. The Washington State Emergency Management Division and this ESF expects all agencies and organizations to comply with federal law. For more information on how each agency or organization complies with federal law, please contact the individual agency or organization.

4.6. **Critical Tasks**

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Planning		
Response	1	Develop operational plans that adequately identify critical objectives based on the planning requirement, provide a complete and integrated picture of the sequence and scope of the tasks to achieve the objectives, and are implementable within the timeframe contemplated in the plan using available resources.

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Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Operational Coordination		
Response	1	Mobilize all critical resources and establish command, control, and coordination structures within the affected community, in other coordinating bodies in surrounding communities and neighboring counties and maintain as needed throughout the duration of an incident.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Fire Management & Suppression		
Response	1	Provide traditional first response or initial attack firefighting services.
	2	Conduct expanded or extended attack firefighting and support operations through coordinated response of fire management and specialized fire suppression resources.
	3	Ensure the coordinated deployment of appropriate local and regional fire management and fire suppression resources to reinforce firefighting efforts and maintain an appropriate level of protection for subsequent fires.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Infrastructure Systems		
Response	1	Decrease and stabilize immediate infrastructure threats to the affected population, to include survivors in the heavily damaged zone, nearby communities that may be affected by cascading effects, and mass care support facilities and evacuation processing centers with a focus on life sustainment and congregate care services.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Logistics & Supply Chain Management		
Response	1	Mobilize and deliver governmental, nongovernmental, and private sector resources to save lives, sustain lives, meet basic human needs, stabilize the incident, and transition to recovery, to include moving and delivering resources and services to meet the needs of disaster survivors.
	2	Enhance public and private resource and services support for an affected area.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Mass Search & Rescue Operations		
Response	1	Conduct search and rescue operations to locate and rescue persons in distress.
	2	Initiate community-based search and rescue support operations across a wide, geographically dispersed area.

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Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
On-scene Security, Protection, & Law Enforcement		
Response	1	Establish a safe and secure environment in an affected area.
	2	Provide and maintain on-scene security and meet the protection needs of the affected population over a geographically dispersed area while eliminating or mitigating the risk of further damage to persons, property, and the environment.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Operational Communications		
Response	1	Ensure the capacity to communicate with both the emergency response community and the affected populations and establish interoperable voice and data communications.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Public Health, Healthcare, & EMS		
Response	2	Complete triage and initial stabilization of casualties and begin definitive care for those likely to survive their injuries and illnesses.

Mission Area	Critical Task I.D.	Critical Tasks
Situational Assessment		
Response	1	Deliver information sufficient to inform decision making regarding immediate lifesaving and life-sustaining activities, and engage governmental, private, and civic sector resources within and outside of the affected area to meet basic human needs and stabilize the incident.
	2	Deliver enhanced information to reinforce ongoing lifesaving and life-sustaining activities, and engage governmental, private, and civic sector resources within and outside of the affected area to meet basic human needs, stabilize the incident, and transition to recovery.

5. Organization

- 5.1. Each Fire District or municipal Fire Chief is the lead representative for emergency planning with the fire services in the development of this Emergency Support Function.

- 5.2. The ESF #4 position is staffed by a Fire Department/District representative. Personnel assigned to this position are recommended by the local jurisdiction or fire district and coordinated through the Director of Emergency Services or designee. The ESF #4 position, when activated, operates in the Yakima County EOC and is a member of the Operations Section reporting to the Operations Section Coordination Chief. This position is the link to the fire service operating in the field.

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- 5.3. Yakima County EOC emergency management staff and mutual aid coordinators locate and mobilize resources requested by local government. Emergency management staff and mutual aid coordinators generally operate from normal departmental locations for handling limited resource requests, and the Yakima County EOC is not activated. Emergency management staff and mutual aid coordinators will communicate with each other as needed to coordinate resource mobilization. If requested by the affected local jurisdiction, emergency management staff will activate the Yakima County EOC. Emergency Management Staff activates Yakima County EOC and assesses situation and reports information to the Washington State EMD (WEMD)/State EOC (SEOC).
- 5.4. The ESF #4 position provides subject-matter expertise to other EOC positions. Based on potential need, this ESF may operate on a 24-hour basis. Supporting agencies have representatives available at the county EOC, or by telephone or email on a 24-hour basis while ESF #4 is operational.

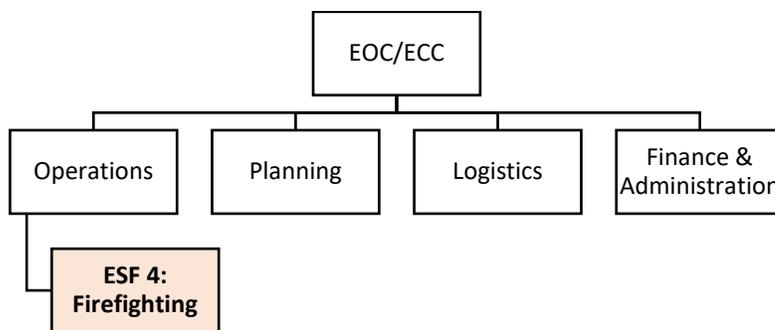


Figure 1: YCEOC, ESF #4, Organizational Chart Example

6. Direction, Control, & Coordination

- 6.1. ESF #4 is organized in accordance with the National Response Framework (NRF).
- 6.2. Horizontal Integration – This annex is concerned with the Response Mission Area. It is an interagency plan that provides direction to county government entities concerned with responding to fire-related issues following a disaster.
- 6.2.1. The emergency management staff and mutual aid coordinators mobilize available resources within the Yakima County operational area, request additional resources through the State EOC, and provide overall situation information to local jurisdictions.
- 6.3. Vertical Integration - This ESF Annex should integrate vertically to state and federal response plans at the regional and national level, as well as city/town plans at the local level. It may be common for relevant federal, state and local plans to be similarly titled around ESF #4; however, this annex should remain flexible to coordinate with other plans or bodies that align with the Core Capabilities and Critical Tasks listed in this annex.
- 6.3.1. Integration with local (City/Town) Response plans includes: The County recommends local governments develop and maintain fire-related response plans to assist with response integration efforts.

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6.3.2. Integration with State and Federal Response plans includes: Appendix 9 to Annex C of the Response Federal Interagency Operational Plan (FIOP), and the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

7. Information Collection, Analysis, & Dissemination

- 7.1. Information collection regarding firefighting services status will be coordinated through ESF #4 and the YCEOC or other designated point as appropriate to the incident.
- 7.2. The local Incident Commander (IC) or designee is responsible for providing situation reports and periodic updates to keep the YCEOC informed. YCEOC or designee shall provide situation reports to local support agencies/jurisdiction ECCs and the Washington State Emergency Management Division (WAEMD) – State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) as appropriate.
- 7.3. Jurisdiction, agency, private-sector, non-governmental, and volunteer organization representatives within the YCEOC will assist with meeting the information collection, analysis, and dissemination needs/methods of the JIC and YCEOC. This will include maintaining contact with their local PIOs for reports and updates.
- 7.4. Some incoming firefighting services information/requests into the YCEOC may require a vetting process through the Policy Group and/or the YCEOC Manager due to legal, policy, ethical, or other concerns.
- 7.5. The YCEOC will be responsible for collection, analysis, and dissemination of the latest incident information and resources as depicted in Figure 2: YCEOC Information Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination process.

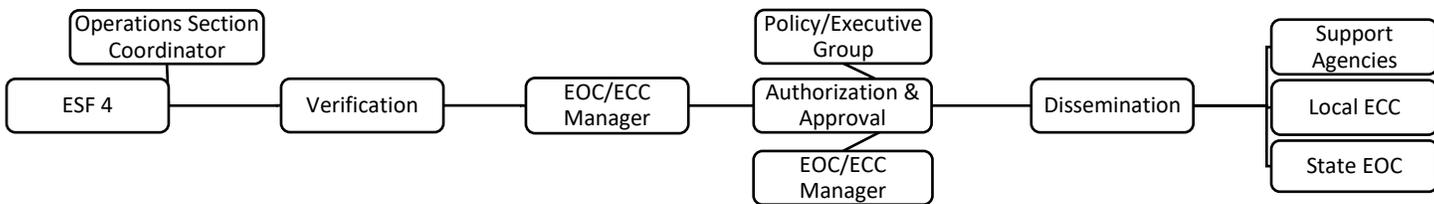


Figure 2: YCEOC Information Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination Process

8. Responsibilities

Response Mission Area			
Core Capability	Critical Task I.D.	Activity/Action	Organization(s) Name
Planning	1	Act as lead agencies in the provision of fire suppression and control, and immediate life safety services within their respective fire jurisdictions and support other fire protection agencies if they are signatories to a mutual aid agreement.	Primary Organization - Fire Services

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Response Mission Area			
Core Capability	Critical Task I.D.	Activity/Action	Organization(s) Name
Operational Coordination	1	Cross-reach to the dispatch centers to determine if an EOC needs to be established.	Primary Organization - Fire Services
Fire Management & Suppression	2	Provides technical assistance and advice in the event of fires involving hazardous materials.	Primary Organization - Fire Services
Fire Management & Suppression	2, 3	Provides resources to support firefighting capabilities as requested under the terms of existing agreements.	Primary Organization - Fire Services
Fire Management & Suppression	3	May request Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) declaration from the USFS FMAG Representative.	YVEM
Infrastructure Systems	1	Decrease and stabilize immediate infrastructure threats to the affected population.	Fire Services Law Enforcement
Logistics & Supply Chain Management	1, 2	Coordinate resource needs, and determines and resolves, as necessary, issues regarding resource shortages and resource ordering issues. Shortages of critical resources are adjudicated at the lowest jurisdictional level. If needed, resolution would begin at the municipal ECC, then progress to the county EOC.	Dispatch Centers
Mass Search & Rescue	1, 2	Support rescue operations as needed	Yakima Sheriff's Office – Search and Rescue
On-scene Security, Protection & Law Enforcement	1, 2	Assist in route, traffic and crowd control.	Law Enforcement
On-scene Security, Protection & Law Enforcement	1	Assist with evacuation of affected citizens, especially those who are institutionalized, immobilized or injured.	Law Enforcement VOADs
On-scene Security, Protection & Law Enforcement	1	Assist in route alerting of the public.	Dispatch Centers YVEM
Operational Communications	1	Establish communication links with support agencies and field fire units.	Primary Organization - Fire Services
Operational Communications	1	Maintains 24-hour alert and warning system.	Dispatch Centers YVEM
Operational Communications	1	Obtain and distribute, through appropriate channels, incident contact information to emergency responders mobilized through ESF #4.	Primary Organization - Fire Services

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Response Mission Area			
Core Capability	Critical Task I.D.	Activity/Action	Organization(s) Name
Public Health, Healthcare, & EMS	1, 2	Provide lifesaving medical treatment	Fire Services
			Yakima County Medical Director
			NGO – Ambulance Services
Situational Assessment	1, 2	Obtain an initial fire situation and damage assessment through established intelligence procedures and determines the appropriate management response to meet the request for assistance.	Primary Organization - Fire Services
Situational Assessment	1	Provides fire/weather forecasting as needed from National Weather Service (NWS), including spot weather forecasts.	NWS Pendleton
			NWS Spokane
Situational Assessment	2	Provides forecasts on the dispersion of smoke in support of planning and response activities.	NWS Pendleton
			NWS Spokane
			Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency

9. Resource Requirements

Resources	Providers
Desktop or Laptop	Yakima County EOC (may bring home agency laptop)
WebEOC login (Guest account)	Primary Agency/Organization
Contact list (phone & email) of organizations (master list)	Yakima County EOC or Home Agency/Organization
Internet and folder drive access	Yakima County EOC
Appropriate Home Agency/Org SOPs (hard & soft copies)	Primary Agency/Organization
WA State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan	Primary Agency/Organization
Desk Phone	Yakima County EOC
Tiered communication structure with Incident Management Teams (IMT)	Yakima County EOC
Two-way Radio	Yakima County EOC or Home Organization
Training	Providers
E/G0191 (Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface)	Various locations (in-residence)
IS 100, 200, 700, 800	FEMA Emergency Management Institute (online)
ICS 300, 400	Various locations (in-residence)
Position training	Yakima Valley Emergency Management (YVEM)

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10. References and Supporting Plans

- 10.1. ESF 2 – Communications, Information Systems, & Warning Infrastructure, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.1. ESF 3 – Public Works and Engineering, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.2. ESF 5 – Emergency Management, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.3. ESF 7 – Resource Support, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.4. ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.5. ESF 9 – Search and Rescue, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.6. ESF 13 – Public Safety, Law Enforcement, and Security, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.7. ESF 15 – Public Affairs, Yakima County CEMP
- 10.8. [Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, ESF #4 - Firefighting](#)

11. Terms and Definitions

- 11.1. National Response Framework (NRF) – The National Response Framework is a guide to how the Nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. It is built on scalable, flexible, and adaptable concepts identified in the National Incident Management System to align key roles and responsibilities across the Nation.
- 11.2. Response Federal Interagency Operational Plan (FIOP) – This FIOP describes how the Federal Government delivers core capabilities for the Response mission area.
- 11.3. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) – These organizations respond to disasters as part of their overall mission.