

# **ANNEX 4 (ESF-4) FIREFIGHTING TO GREENWOOD COUNTY'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

**Tasked Organizations: Greenwood County Fire Coordinator**

**Suggested Liaison: City of Greenwood Fire  
Ninety Six Fire  
Ware shoals Fire**

**Staff augmentation as directed by the County Manager**

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Purpose**

Directs and controls operations regarding fire prevention, fire detection, fire suppression, rescue, and hazardous materials incidents; as well as to assist with warning and alerting, communications, evacuation, and other operations as required during an emergency.

### **B. Scope:**

ESF #4 manages and coordinates firefighting activities including the detection and suppression of fires, and provides personnel, equipment, and supplies to support to the agencies involved in the firefighting operations.

### **C. Policies:**

1. Priority is given: to (in order).
  - a. the public,
  - b. community,
  - c. firefighter safety and
  - d. protecting property
2. For efficient and effective fire suppression mutual aid may be required from various local firefighting agencies to aid in the community's emergency response team.
3. This requires the use of the Incident Command System together with compatible equipment and communications.
4. Personnel will stay up to date with procedures through education and training.

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5. Review this annex and the EOP and develop Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) for each task established by this annex and the EOP. Each ESF will insure that the special needs community is factor into their SOPs. Annually review the State EOP & Department of Homeland Security Universal Task List and integrate tasks as appropriate.

### **II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

A. ESF-4 consists of two distinct components, structural fires and woodland fires, with a single County Department responsible for each component.

1. The County Fire Administrator is responsible for the coordination of all administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities pertaining to structural and woodland fires.

2. The County Fire Administrator is responsible for developing, coordinating, and maintaining the ESF-4 SOP.

3. All ESF-4 personnel will be trained on the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command and integrate those principles into all ESF-4 planning and response operations.

B. Coordination with all appropriate departments/agencies and organizations who may support ESF-4 will be performed to ensure operational readiness prior to, during or after an incident, emergency, or disaster.

C. Municipal fire districts are responsible for providing fire prevention and suppression services within their incorporated areas. ESF-4 will provide assistance to unincorporated area of Greenwood County and to Municipal fire districts when requested.

D. Municipal fire protection organizations are responsible for requesting County support through the county EOC when a fire hazard, fire incident, or disaster exceeds local capabilities.

E. Additional assistance may be other County agencies, private companies, and cooperating industries. Based on known or projected threats, imminent hazards or predicted disasters that may require additional resources, ESF-4 may mobilize resources and stage them at designated locations in a condition to respond if assistance is requested.

F. The Firefighter Mobilization Act of 2000 mobilizes fire and rescue services state wide to respond to any type of emergency that requires additional resources. ESF-4 will use the mobilization plan to obtain additional fire resources, as needed.

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G. In coordination with, and in support of, the County Damage Assessment Team (DAT), ESF-4 will assess the situation (both pre- and post-event) develop strategies to respond to the emergency.

### **III. ESF ACTIONS**

Actions necessary to insure readiness to respond are divided into the four cycles of emergency management. These are: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Each cycle requires actions to be planned for to insure total readiness. Considerations to be planned for are, but are not limited to:

#### **A. Preparedness:**

1. Maintain current inventories of fire service facilities, equipment, and qualified personnel throughout the County.
2. Coordinate training opportunities for fire service emergency teams to rapidly respond to requests for assistance.
3. Become familiar the provisions of the Firefighter Mobilization Plan and Southeastern States Forest Fire Compact and utilize these agreements in support of ESF 4 responsibilities.
4. Monitor weather and hazardous conditions that contribute to increased fire danger and advise fire services and county officials on the potential hazards from such conditions (Note: this element is normally performed by the Emergency Management Director).
5. Monitor and report to county officials the state of readiness of personnel and equipment to respond to existing and anticipated emergency conditions to include mobilization.
6. Based on hazardous conditions, coordinate fire prevention and education activities for the public.
7. Participate in County exercises and conduct, at least annually, an exercise to validate this annex and supporting SOPs.
8. Review this annex and the EOP and develop Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) for each task established by this annex and the EOP. Annually review the State EOP & Department of Homeland Security Universal Task List and integrate tasks as appropriate.
9. All sections to this plan will be reviewed and determination made as to the necessary actions required to support individuals classified as "special or

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functional needs". Actions regarding special and function needs personnel will be contained in the Standard Operations Procedures that implement this plan.

10. Determine staffing requirements for performing EOC duties at the three levels of EOC activation and coordinate needs with Emergency Management Director

### **B. Response**

1. Support the Incident Commander (IC) in the field with requested resources to include mobilizing and deploying firefighting teams and resources, as needed.
2. Identify and deploy a liaison (LNO) to support the IC. (See SOP for role)
3. Coordinate with State ESF 4 if additional firefighting personnel are required. (after exhausting mutual aid support)
4. Monitor status of firefighting resources committed to an incident.
5. Support the IC in maintaining and resourcing staging area locations.
6. Coordinate with IC for relief resources to replace or rotate committed firefighters for extended operations.
7. Support fire investigations and inspections, as requested.
8. Obtain and submit fire situation and damage assessment reports and provide information to County EOC.
9. When the situation dictates, coordinate with the State EOC for determination if invoking the Southeastern States Forest Fire Compact., as warranted.
10. Coordinate arrival information and communications needs with IC once resources are requested. If necessary request compatible communications resources for the arriving units from ESF 2.
11. Require supporting agencies maintain appropriate records of cost incurred during an event. If necessary provide necessary staffing to IC to insure this task is completed.
12. Monitor deployment units for any lost or damaged equipment and any personnel or equipment accidents. Document as necessary.

### **C. Recovery**

1. Maintain adequate resources to support local operations and plan for a reduction of resources.

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2. Conduct reviews of incident actions with teams involved to improve future operations.
3. Inventory any lost or damaged equipment and record any personnel injuries or equipment accidents.
4. Anticipate and plan for arrival of and coordination with State and Federal ESF-4 personnel from the State EOC and the Joint Field Office (JFO), if established.
5. Inform department/agencies that provided resources where to send records for costs incurred during an event.

### **D. Mitigation**

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures.
2. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in County EOC briefings, situation reports and action plans.

## **V. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **A. County Fire Administrator:**

1. Identify, train, and provide personnel to staff ESF-4 in the County EOC.
2. Maintain database inventories of fire service facilities, equipment, and qualified personnel throughout the County.
3. Coordinate the, alert, activation, and deployment of firefighting teams.
4. Monitor status of all fire service operations and provide updates to County EOC.
5. Provide fire weather and danger forecasts to all wildfire suppression forces.
6. Monitor weather and forest fuel hazardous conditions that contribute to increased fire danger.
7. Coordinate countywide wildfire prevention to include public wildfire information and education activities for the public.
8. If required, coordinate the evaluation of wildlife habitat and watershed damage and provide such information to the responsible agencies.
9. Coordinate arson investigations.

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10. Coordinate and assist with evacuations and highway closings resulting from fires.
11. Coordinate with Patrol highways as required.
12. Coordinate GIS mapping support, as required.
13. Coordinate with American Red Cross, Salvation Army and/or all volunteer agencies, as required

### **VI. STATE/FEDERAL INTERFACE**

- A. This Annex is supported by State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and National Response Plan ESF-4 (Firefighting).
- B. State and/or Federal firefighting response support is coordinated by the Regional Fire Administrator provided by the Forest Service Regional Office. The Regional Fire Administrator is responsible for establishing and maintaining coordination with the National Fire Suppression Liaison Officer, Forest Service Region, regional support agencies, and the Emergency Response Team (ERT). A Fire Suppression Support Coordinator at the Joint Field Office (JFO) represents ESF-4.
- C. Coordination with, and support of County and Municipal fire suppression organizations is accomplished through the State Forester, SCEMD, Deputy Director, LLR Fire and Life Safety, and other appropriate fire suppression organizations operating under NIMS and ICS.
- D. State ESF-4 will manage and coordinate federal firefighting activities. This will be accomplished by mobilizing firefighting resources in support of County woodland, rural, and urban firefighting agencies. State ESF-4 will use established firefighting and support organizations, processes, and procedures. Responsibility for situation assessment and determination of resource needs lies primarily with the local incident commanders in coordination with the ERT at the JFO.
- E. State ESF-4 will coordinate with Federal ESF-4 to obtain federal assistance as required.