Tribal Emergency Management

Principles of emergency management for Tribes

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What is an emergency?

- Any event that overwhelms local resources.
- Aspects of sovereignty
  - Cultural?
  - Traditional??
What Is Emergency Management?

▪ Assessment
▪ Planning
▪ Mitigation
▪ Preparedness
▪ Response
▪ Recovery
Which of the following are examples of emergencies your organization or tribe might create plans for: (check all that apply)

- Terrorist or extremist group attack: 71.4%
- Active shooter: 85.7%
- Natural disaster: 85.7%
- Pandemic: 100.0%
- Addiction: 85.7%
- Proximity to a fertilizer plant: 14.3%
- Low number of elders who are fluent in your indigenous language: 100.0%
Do you have a regular schedule to reassess potential threats?

- No: 85.7%
- Yes: 14.3%

Do you have a defined accounting system that will automatically start tracking and recording all emergency-related expenditures on day one following an incident?

- No: 85.7%
- Yes: 14.3%

Does your organization or tribe have an established emergency decision-making structure that all key leaders are aware of and know how to access?

- No: 42.9%
- Yes: 57.1%
Organization Command Structure
Emergency Management In A Nutshell

Command
- Defines the incident goals and operational period objectives
- Includes an Incident Commander, Safety Officer, Public Information Officer, Senior Liaison, and Senior Advisors

Operations
- Establishes strategy (approach methodology, etc.) and specific tactics (actions) to accomplish the goals and objectives set by Command
- Coordinates and executes strategy and tactics to achieve response objectives

Logistics
- Supports Command and Operations in their use of personnel, supplies, and equipment
- Performs technical activities required to maintain the function of operational facilities and processes

Planning
- Coordinates support activities for incident planning, as well as contingency, long-range, and demobilization planning
- Supports Command and Operations in processing incident information
- Coordinates information activities across the response system

Admin/Finance
- Supports Command and Operations with administrative issues as well as tracking and processing incident expenses
- Includes such issues as licensure requirements, regulatory compliance, and financial accounting
Who is responsible/For What?

Know in advance roles, responsibilities, expectations, have a plan, and have people in place that can operationalize that plan.
Assessment

What events have happened historically?
- Historical study
  - News reports
  - Engage Elders
- Environmental Scanning
  - What is new that might not be in the historical study
- Outside in perspective
  - Consultants
  - Professionals/FEMA
  - Schedule
How does sovereignty relate to emergency management?

• “Emergency Plans” were not a priority for our tribal government prior to this pandemic but it is now

• Sovereign nations have the power and responsibility to develop systems of emergency management that protect tribal citizens which may incorporate traditional practices and beliefs

• It is important to be able to create plans that work for each sovereign

• Our tribal government resources are limited and we must partner with local, state, and federal entities to manage large-scale emergencies.

• Plan for potential response complications: e.g., intergovernmental/jurisdictional complications
What is the difference between a hazard and a risk?

- I think hazards are accumulations of risks, or vice versa
- A hazard is an active threat and a risk has the potential to be an active threat
- A hazard is something that you should be aware of, while a risk is something that may happen depending on certain factors
- Hazard could be man-made or natural a risk is a man-made decision
- Hazards can cause harm and risk is the measurement of likelihood of hazard occurring
Identify hazards your tribe or organization might face:

- Natural disaster
- Gas line explosion
- Roads not maintained
- Loss of access to tribal lands
- Loss of access to traditional foods
- Earthquake
- Pandemic
- Terrorist
- Fire
- Tornado
- Active shooter
- Weather-related
- Contaminated water
- Lack of internet access
- Water shortages
- Active shooter
- Loss of cultural traditions
- Flooding
- Poor condition of tribal buildings
- Improper needle disposable
- Industrial accident
- Loss of language

PROJECT MOSAIC
CREATING CONNECTIONS
Planning

• Turn Assessment into actionable plan
• http://www.nwtemc.org/Plans_and_Documents.aspx
• https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/plan

• Establish scalable SOP’s, Protocols, Best Practices, MOU’s, MAA’s
  • You cannot anticipate everything, but have standards and practices that work for YOU in any situation
Mitigation Planning

- For every $1 spent in mitigation $5 is saved in recovery
- Address Hazards
- Address Risks
- Make a plan to address as many hazards and risks as possible- Example, Floods cannot be avoided so we build berms and raised structures
Your Turn!

Each group identify a Hazard to discuss:
• 4 teams
• 5 minutes
• Identify three risks associated with the hazard
• Identify a mitigation step for each risk

How does this exercise align with your current plan
• Is your current plan for the office sufficient?
Preparedness

- Assessment
- Establish emergency management plan
- Establish mitigation plan
- Establish structure
- Connect with Emergency Management cohort
- Establish emergency management accounting system-that works for you
- Stockpile goods
Response

- All emergencies are local!
- FEMA is not 911
- Immediately begin emergency accounting
- Utilize MOU’s MAA’s
- Initiate unified/joint command
Unified Command (Simplified)

- Tribal EM
  - County
    - Rescue
  - State
    - Fire
    - Police
Making A Declaration/Request

- Response happens before making a declaration
  - Accounting is crucial at the phase-the clock starts at the time of the event
- Be familiar with declaration process
- Know your FEMA Tribal Liaison
  - “After an event it’s too late to start switching business cards”
- BIA EM
- Know relevant agencies needed in response
- Make Friends
  - MOU’s & MOA’s
FEMA Declaration Form—Transition to Recovery

- [https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1512409550714-752b7004a7c74c67a485a36551d7c889/FEMAForm010-0-13PresidentialDeclarationRequest.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1512409550714-752b7004a7c74c67a485a36551d7c889/FEMAForm010-0-13PresidentialDeclarationRequest.pdf)

- [https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1523033284358-20b86875d12843441a521a6141c15099/Pilot_Guidance.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1523033284358-20b86875d12843441a521a6141c15099/Pilot_Guidance.pdf)
Does your organization or tribe have a current list of contacts in your regional offices in the following agencies?

- BIA: 85.7%
- FEMA: 57.1%
- Red Cross: 28.6%
- USDA: 42.9%
- IHS: 85.7%
- State Government-Led Agencies: 85.7%
Recovery

According to the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF), the recovery process is best described as a sequence of interdependent and often concurrent activities that progressively advance a community toward its planned recovery outcomes. “Decisions made and priorities set by a community pre-disaster and early in the recovery process have a cascading effect on the nature, speed, and inclusiveness of recovery.” The Recovery Continuum figure depicts the interconnectedness of recovery activities from pre-incident through the long-term recovery.

Note that the recovery process — including Appropriations, Obligations, and Outlays — are often measured in months and years.
Questions?

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