

**EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 4:  
FIREFIGHTING**

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**Responsibility Summary**

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Primary Agencies: Columbia County Fire Districts 1, 2 & 3

Support Agencies: WA Department of Natural Resources  
US Forest Service  
Columbia County Fire Marshall  
WSP Office of the Fire Marshall  
Emergency Medical Services  
Columbia County Health System  
Columbia County Public Safety Communications  
Columbia County Emergency Management  
Columbia County Sheriff’s Office  
Blue Mountain Chapter of the American Red Cross

**I. INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose**

To establish policies for the effective coordination of the detection and suppression of wild land, rural, and urban fires resulting from natural, human caused or catastrophic events requiring a fire response.

**Scope**

Firefighting involves managing and coordinating firefighting activities, including:

- Detecting and suppressing fires on federal, tribal, state and private lands;
- Providing resources including but not limited to personnel, aircraft, equipment, crews and supplies in support of federal, tribal, state and local jurisdictions involved in wildland, rural, and urban firefighting operations.

**Policies**

**Title 52 RCW – Fire Protection Districts**

The legislature intends for fire protection districts and regional fire protection service authorities to set standards for addressing the reporting and accountability of fire departments, and to specify performance measures applicable to response time objectives for certain major services.

The legislature acknowledges the efforts of the international city/county management association, the international association of fire chiefs, and the national fire protection

association for the organization and deployment of resources for fire departments. The arrival of first responders with adequate fire suppression resources before flash-over is a critical event during the mitigation of an emergency is in the public's best interest. For these reasons, this chapter contains performance measures, comparable to that research, relating to the organization and deployment of fire suppression operations, emergency medical operations, and special operations by fire departments.

### **Chapter 296.305 WAC- Safety Standards for Firefighters**

Priority is given to responder and public safety. Chapter 296.305 outlines the regulations regarding safety standards for firefighters and the responsibilities of management to establish, supervise, maintain, and enforce, in a manner which is effective in practice:

- A safe and healthful working environment, as it applies to both nonemergency and emergency conditions.
- An accident prevention program as required by this chapter.
- Programs for training employees in the fundamentals of accident prevention.
- Procedures to be used by the fire department health and safety officer and incident commander to ensure that emergency medical care is provided for members on duty.
- An accident investigation program as required by this chapter.
- Policies that clarify "rules of engagement" or parameters when personnel should commit to work activities within a hot zone; and
- Policies clarifying the right of every employee to notify the employer of potential life-threatening situations during emergency operations and processes clarifying how this notification is to occur.

The purpose of this chapter is to assist firefighters in the reduction of work related injuries and illnesses. In addition to providing an enforceable set of safety and health standards for the fire protection services, it is intended, the provisions of this chapter be used to assist firefighters in achieving the safest workplace reasonably attainable under the conditions to which they are or will be exposed to for both themselves and the general public they protect.

### **Columbia County Community Wildfire Protection Plan**

Wildland fires are fires caused by nature or humans that result in the uncontrolled destruction of forests, brush, field crops, grasslands, and real and personal property. This plan outlines a community based risk assessment, mitigation planning and implementation processes focused on disaster prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. The plan also outlines development responsibilities at the local level to produce a wide range of appropriate, innovative and achievable mitigation solutions focused on creating a fire-resilient community.

## **Chapter 43.43.962 RCW- WSP State Fire Mobilization Plan**

The Washington state fire services mobilization plan includes the procedures to be used during fire and other emergencies for coordinating local, regional, and state fire jurisdiction resources. In carrying out this duty, the director of fire protection consults with and solicits recommendations from representatives of state and local fire and emergency management organizations, regional fire defense boards, and the department of natural resources. The Washington state fire services mobilization plan is consistent with, and made part of, the Washington state comprehensive emergency management plan.

It is the responsibility of the chief to mobilize jurisdictions under the Washington state fire services mobilization plan. The state fire marshal shall serve as the state fire resources coordinator when the Washington state fire services mobilization plan is mobilized.

### **Northwest Interagency Coordination Center**

National support for forest fires shall be accomplished through the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center (NWCC), in Portland, Oregon. This is a federal, multi-coordinating agency comprised of the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington Department of Natural Resources and the National Park Service. NWCC coordinates with the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) located in Boise, Idaho.

## **II. SITUATION**

### **Hazard and Threat Analysis**

The management of a large firefighting operation is complex, often involving large numbers of personnel, departments, agencies, and jurisdictions. Fires resulting from, or independent of but coinciding with a man-made or natural disaster, will place extraordinary demands on available resources and support systems.

The City of Dayton has a low risk of wildfire threatening the city center; however, structure fires within the city have some potential to spread from one structure to another either carried by radiant heat or spread through common vegetation between structures. The risk is lessened by the presence of an active fire protection district housed in Dayton.

The risk from structure loss due to a wildfire in the Starbuck area is moderate. Rangeland fires have the potential to spread rapidly through the grasses, orbs, and sagebrush of the region. When fanned by high winds, these fires can move rapidly and exhibit large flame lengths. Columbia County Fire District #1 provides structural and wildland protection to a large coverage area surrounding Starbuck. All of the private lands within the fire protection district have joint jurisdiction with DNR. Columbia County Fire District #1, due to resource limitations also has

mutual aid agreements in place for structural and wildland protection, as well as emergency medical services.

Columbia County has a wide variety of roads and highways; private, public and government buildings; schools; a hospital and clinic campus; as well as city and county temporary holding facilities. There are rivers and streams of various sizes and flow, and a wide variety of geographical features including the Blue Mountains and associated recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, camping, skiing, and hiking. Columbia County is vulnerable to wildfires, high winds, dust storms, winter storms, extreme heat, significant thunderstorms, and power outages. There are areas that are vulnerable to flooding, and there are fault lines that pass through the county.

## **Planning Assumptions**

Urban, rural, and wildland fires may result from, or occur with another significant emergency or disaster. Large, damaging fires could occur.

Landline communications may be interrupted. Radio communications may be relied on heavily, necessitating the early requesting of radio systems from local agencies, other sources such as Amateur Radio Emergency Services, and/or the state EOC.

Wheeled-vehicle access may be hampered by bridge failures, landslides, and debris on the roadways, making conventional travel to the emergency location extremely difficult or impossible. Aerial attack by air tankers and assistance from smoke jumpers and helicopters may be essential. Aircraft, especially helicopters, will be scarce, and airports may be damaged and/or congested.

Agencies that commonly support large fire suppression operations, including the Department of Natural Resources and Forest Service, may receive urgent requests from other, nearby jurisdictions or from non-fire-related agencies for personnel, equipment, and supplies. Many of the resources commonly available for fighting large wildfires may be scarce or unavailable.

Wildland firefighting forces may be diverted to assist in rural and urban areas because of more urgent threats to life, property, and the environment due to shortages of urban firefighters. Urban firefighters may be performing EMS and Urban Search and Rescue in addition to fighting large and numerous fires.

All of the fire districts within Columbia County have signed mutual aid agreements with each other. It is understood that emergencies and disasters can overwhelm local resources, or in other ways prevent agencies and jurisdictions from fulfilling all their roles and responses to requests for assistance.

Fire service mutual aid will be exhausted prior to requesting regional or state fire mobilization resources or when requested by the fire district or incident commander.

Efficient and effective mutual aid among the various local agencies and jurisdictions, state and federal agencies requires the use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) together with compatible equipment and communications.

Emergency Medical Services will be overwhelmed with many requests for assistance and/or large numbers of patients, and will face the same communication and transportation problems as fire services. Additional EMS personnel, equipment, and alternate methods of transporting patients may be needed.

The majority of firefighters and basic life support EMS providers within Columbia County are volunteers. Most of these people are both firefighters and EMTs or First Responders. Resources being used for EMS are not available for firefighting, and resources being used for firefighting are not available for providing EMS, so shortages of either or both services would rapidly occur.

### **III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

#### **General**

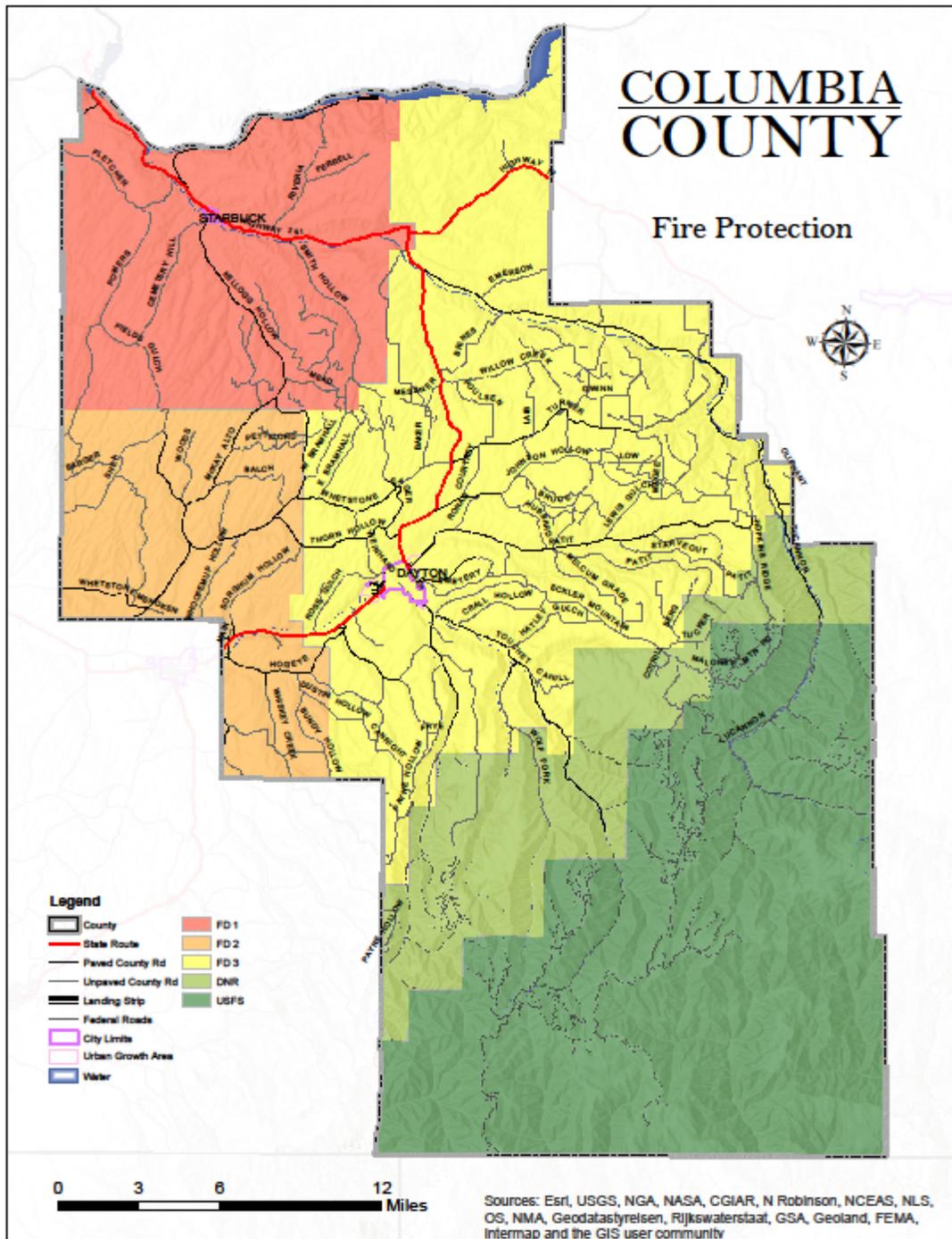
During emergencies or disasters, local fire services will mobilize all available apparatus and personnel available to manage the incident. Mutual aid agreements are activated when initial resources are inadequate. When mutual aid and local resources are exhausted, the provisions for regional and state fire mobilization applies.

Responsibility for situation assessment and determination of resource needs lies primarily with the incident commanders in coordination with the state and Columbia County ECC, if activated. DNR will manage and coordinate state-owned wildland firefighting activities. The State Fire Marshal shall serve as the state fire resources coordinator when the Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan is invoked.

Situation and damage assessment information will be transmitted through established fire suppression intelligence channels, between county ECC and state EOC and directly between the national-level and regional-level Emergency Coordination Centers.

Depending on resource availability, fire agencies may have a representative at the county ECC. At minimum they will be in direct contact with this coordination resource.

## Organization



Fire protection within Columbia County is provided by Fire Districts 1, 2 and 3. In Columbia County, the fire districts provide the majority of EMS personnel and equipment.

**Columbia County Fire District 1 Summary:**

**Chief: Thomas Hawks**

Fire District 1 serving the Town of Starbuck and surrounding areas is equipped with the following resources:

<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Tank Capacity</b>	<b>Pump Capacity</b>
Equipment	1968 Fire Engine (Type II) (Pumper)	1000 Gal	1500 GPM
Equipment	Brush Patrol Firefighting (Type VI Engine)	400 Gal	100 GPM
Equipment	1992 Brush Patrol Firefighting (Type VI Eng.)	350 Gal	100GPM
Equipment	Brush Patrol Firefighting (Type VI Engine)	350 Gal	100 GPM
Equipment	1987 Water Tender (Tanker)	1300 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	1979 Water Tender (Tanker)	3800 Gal	375 GPM
Equipment	Aid Vehicle (Limited - No transport capability)		
Personnel	Fire Chief	1	
Personnel	Volunteer Firefighters	16	
Personnel	Volunteer EMT	1	
Personnel	Volunteer EMR	1	

**Columbia Walla Walla County Fire District 2 Summary:**

**Fire Chief: Jim Callahan**  
**Telephone: 509-337-8351 (station)**  
**Address: PO Box 925**  
**Waitsburg, WA 99361**

Fire District 2 located in Waitsburg, Washington provides fire and ems services to both Walla Walla and Columbia County. This area is mostly rural farmlands. The current resources of Fire District 2 include:

<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Tank Capacity</b>	<b>Pump Capacity</b>
Equipment	Fire Engine (Type II) (Pumper)	1000 Gal	1500 GPM
Equipment	Fire Engine (Type II) (Pumper)	750 Gal	1250 GPM
Equipment	2002 Fire Engine (Type III)	1275 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	1994 Fire Engine (Type III)	1050 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	2005 Fire Engine (Type V)	400 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	2001 Fire Engine (Type V)	550 Gal	150 GPM
Equipment	Water Tender (Type II) (Tanker)	3280 Gal	850 GPM
Equipment	Water Tender (Type II) (Tanker)	2500 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	Water Tender (Type III) (Tanker)	1800 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	Water Tender (Type III) (Tanker)	1600 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	1994 Aid Vehicle (Limited – Rescue Vehicle)	AID	
Equipment	Ambulance (Type IV) (Ground)	BLS	
Equipment	Ambulance (Type IV) (Ground)	BLS	
Personnel	Fire Chief	1	
Personnel	Assistant Fire Chief	2	
Personnel	Captain	2	
Personnel	Lieutenant	2	
Personnel	Volunteer Firefighters	24	
Personnel	Volunteer EMT	7	

**Columbia County Fire District 3 District Summary:**

**Fire Chief:** Jeromy Phinney  
**Telephone:** (509) 382-4281 (station)  
**E-mail:** [jphinney@ccfiredistrict3.org](mailto:jphinney@ccfiredistrict3.org)  
**Address:** 111 Patit Rd.  
Dayton, WA 99328

Columbia County Fire District 3 located in the City of Dayton covers approximately 290 square miles and is responsible for calls within and surrounding the City of Dayton including response activities within the Blue Mountains as needed by request from WA DNR and the USFS. The district provides wildland and structure fire service for the District 3 area and BLS Ambulance service at the request of the Sheriff’s Office, for District 3 area and the Starbuck areas. Current resources for the district include:

Type	Description	Tank Capacity	Pump Capacity
			1500
Equipment	2004 Fire Engine (Type I) (Pumper)	500 Gal	GPM
			1250
Equipment	1993 Fire Engine (Type I) (Pumper)	750 Gal	GPM
Equipment	1995 Wildland Brush (Type IV) (Pumper)	800 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	2001 Wildland Brush (Type IV) (Pumper)	800 Gal	300 GPM
	2001 Bush Patrol Firefighting (Type IV) (Pumper)		
Equipment		300 Gal	120 GPM
Equipment	1992 Wildland Brush (Type III)	800 Gal	300 GPM
Equipment	2001 Bush Patrol Firefighting (Other)	300 Gal	120 GPM
Equipment	2001 Bush Patrol Firefighting (Other)	300 Gal	120 GPM
			1000
Equipment	1988 Water Tender (Type I) (Tanker)	2500 Gal	GPM
Equipment	1990 Water Tender (Type II) (Tanker)	1500 Gal	150 GPM
Equipment	1997 Fire Rescue (Light Rescue)		
Equipment	2015 Ambulance (Ground)	BLS	
Equipment	2001 Ambulance (Ground)	BLS	
Equipment	2007 Command Vehicle		
Equipment	1997 Command Vehicle		
Equipment	1993 Command Vehicle		
Personnel	Fire Chief	1	
Personnel	Deputy Fire Chief	1	
Personnel	Volunteer Firefighters*	38	
Personnel	Volunteer EMR*	5	
Personnel	Volunteer EMT*	15	

### Cooperative Agreements:

The District has agreements in place with Columbia County Fire districts, Walla Walla FPO4, WA Department of Natural Resources, US Forest Service-Pomeroy District, Columbia County Sheriff and the City of Walla Walla Fire Department. The district is also a signatory of the Columbia County Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

### Columbia County Public Works

The Columbia County Public Works department assists in firefighting efforts within the County as needed. The resources of this agency include:

Type	Description	Tank Capacity	Pump Capacity
Equipment	Non-Tactical Type 1 Tender	4,000 Gal	
Equipment	Non-Tactical Type 1 Tender	4,000 Gal	
Equipment	Non-Tactical Type 1 Tender	8,000 Gal	

## State Department of Natural Resources

The four Blue Mountain Counties are managed as part of the Blue Mountain Unit. This ranges throughout the counties of the southern tier in the State of Washington and includes Asotin, Garfield, Columbia and Walla Walla Counties. Fire resources are spread throughout this area due to normal workloads and traditional fire risk occurrence. In the case of additional needs, the DNR has the flexibility to move additional resources into the area. These can be regional resources as well as outside resources brought in for short periods of time.

Fire management or more commonly referred to as fire overhead assigned to the Blue Mountain Unit comes from the Clarkston or Dayton areas. If needed, additional overhead can be ordered from available sources during an emergency or natural disaster. These resources can come from anywhere within the state:

Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Blue Mountain Unit			
Fire Operations District Manager	Ken McNamee	509-856-8475	<a href="mailto:ken.mcnamee@dnr.wa.gov">ken.mcnamee@dnr.wa.gov</a>
Blue Mountain Unit FMO	Tom Schoenfelder	509-607-6204	<a href="mailto:thomas.schoenfelder@dnr.wa.gov">thomas.schoenfelder@dnr.wa.gov</a>
Blue Mountain Unit AFMO	Devin Parvinen	509-859-6703	<a href="mailto:devin.parvinen@dnr.wa.gov">devin.parvinen@dnr.wa.gov</a>

4 Type 5 Engines w/1 engine leader and 3 firefighters each

## US Forest Service

The Pomeroy Ranger District and parts of the Walla Walla Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest extend into portions of Asotin, Columbia, and Garfield Counties. Each district provides for and manages wildland firefighting resources that are available for not only fire on the local district, but anywhere within the broader interagency dispatching system. Each district fire organization is managed by a district Fire Management Officer and a staff of assistants and suppression leaders. The districts are each funded to provide suppression resources from June 1 through October 15.

Numbers of Forest Service vehicles and personnel may vary according to variations in annual funding allocations.

**Pomeroy Ranger District, 71 West Main, Pomeroy WA 99347**

District			
Ranger	Monte Fujishin	509-843-4620	<a href="mailto:mfujishin@fs.fed.us">mfujishin@fs.fed.us</a>
FMO	Tyson Albrecht	509-843-4630	<a href="mailto:talbrecht@fs.fed.us">talbrecht@fs.fed.us</a>
AFMO	Renee Kuehner (Suppression)	509-843-4632	<a href="mailto:rkuehner@fs.fed.us">rkuehner@fs.fed.us</a>
AFMO	Tara Macklert (Fuels)	509-843-4633	<a href="mailto:thanger@fs.fed.us">thanger@fs.fed.us</a>

3 Type 6 Engines w/3 firefighters each  
1 Type 7 Engine w/2 firefighters each  
1 Initial Attack Hand crew Module with 10 firefighters  
1 Lookout

**Walla Walla Ranger District, 1415 W Rose, Walla Walla WA 99362**

District			
Ranger	Mike Rassbach	509-522-6293	<a href="mailto:mrassbach@fs.fed.us">mrassbach@fs.fed.us</a>
FMO	Brett Thomas	509-522-6284	<a href="mailto:bthomas@fs.fed.us">bthomas@fs.fed.us</a>
AFMO	Matt James (Suppression)	509-522-6281	<a href="mailto:mjames01@fs.fed.us">mjames01@fs.fed.us</a>
AFMO	Joseph Sciarrino (Fuels)	509-522-6283	<a href="mailto:jbsciarrino@fs.fed.us">jbsciarrino@fs.fed.us</a>

3 Type 6 Engines w/3 firefighters each  
1 Initial Attack Hand crew Module with 10 firefighters  
2 Lookouts

The Umatilla National Forest has a Cooperative Fire Suppression Agreement with the fire protection districts in Asotin, Columbia, and Garfield counties. These agreements provide an outline of responsibilities of each agency in relation to the other, methods of assisting each other, and an administrative vehicle for payments and reimbursements to occur. These agreements were institutionalized in the summer of 2007 and are subject to periodic review and updates.

The WA DNR and the Forest Service operate under two broad agreements called the Master Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement and a Local Annual Operating Plan. Each of these agreements spell out a variety of details that guide how each agency works with each other.

## **Columbia County Emergency Management**

Columbia County Emergency Management is responsible for supporting and assisting fire agencies in this ESF. This department consists of a Director and an Administrative Assistant.

## **Quad-County Fire Chief's Association**

The Quad-County Fire Chief's Association represents certain fire departments and districts in Benton County, Columbia County, Franklin County and Walla Walla County and serves to unite their respective firefighting resources under the Quad-County Mutual Aid Plan.

## **Dispatch Centers**

The Columbia County Public Safety Communications Center (CCPSC) provides primary dispatch services for fire responders within Columbia County. Blue Mountain Interagency Communications Center (BMIDC) provides primary dispatch services for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the US Forest Services. When authorized, air resources would likely also be dispatched by BMIDC. During multi-agency fire response the coordination between these two agencies is critical.

## **Procedures**

Local agencies and jurisdictions will be managed under the Incident Command System (ICS) while performing firefighting, rescue, and EMS activities as outlined in state and local regulations, SOPs, and this plan. The incident commander, regardless of rank, has the authority to request support and assistance from Columbia County ECC or emergency management staff. The incident commander/unified command will coordinate with county ECC or emergency management staff for requests for assistance and resources from outside of the county.

Comprehensive resource management may be accomplished using three methods, depending on the needs of the incident.

- **Resources:** All personnel and equipment necessary to fight the fires or respond to other disasters and support the efforts of firefighters.
- **TASK Force:** Any combination of single resources within the span of control, assembled for a particular tactical need, with common communications and a leader.
- **Strike Team:** Five of the same kind of resources with common communications and a leader.

Requests for mutual aid will be made in conformance with procedures established in the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, Quad-County Fire Mutual Aid Plan, the Southeast Region Fire Mobilization Plan, and the Washington State Fire Resource Mobilization Plan.

Emergency services provided by fire districts will be requested on a mission basis to allow for continuity of operations consistent with their procedures, standard of operating guides and policies.

Response by fire district personnel shall be directed by the host agency Incident Commander or Authority to manage the incident(s). Command control may be delegated to another agency or Incident Management Team (IMT) when the complexity exceeds a local jurisdiction's incident command capabilities.

## **Mitigation Activities**

Mitigation and action items are supported by both the local and national plans outlining recommendations and expectations needed to meet firefighting and wildfire policies and guidelines. Mitigation goals of this ESF include:

- Making Efficient and Effective Risk Management Decisions in Firefighting/Wildfire Response;
- Restore and Maintain Landscapes; and
- Creating Fire-adapted Communities.

Strategies and action items include:

- Addressing the importance of promoting community and homeowner involvement in planning and implementing actions to mitigate the risk posed by wildfires;
- Pursuing municipal, county, and state building and zoning codes/ordinances that mitigate fire risk to protect life and property;
- Use mitigation strategies that ensure protection of infrastructure and values such as: watersheds, cultural, recreational sites, transportation, utilities, communities, etc.
- Connecting with local experts to sustain mitigation efforts;
- Integrating structural and wildland urban interface mitigation principles into fire training opportunities. Review current level of training for personnel and identify additional or refresher training requirements;
- Promote common wildfire mitigation language and culture;
- Promote and present public education programs such as Firewise, Ready-Set-Go, and Living with Fire promoting fire-adapted communities;
- Assess current fire protection codes and determine if they are adequate and properly enforced. Ensure all new construction conforms to fire codes.
- Assess and determine if fire protection methods and procedures are adequate and unilaterally understood.
- Identify standard operating procedures, policies, guides, and plans used by your agency during an activation of the ECC.

- Engage in community efforts to remove debris, grass and brush by the edges of roads and highways.

## **Preparedness Activities**

- Develop and maintain SOPs and other plans and procedures necessary for primary and support agencies to operate efficiently.
- Develop and maintain notification lists that include emergency contact information. Columbia County Emergency Management Department has taken the lead with this using the Code Red notification system.
- Develop and maintain equipment lists.
- Maintain and update personnel and equipment certifications.
- Obtain detailed maps of county jurisdictions, to include detailed maps of large-scale business operations such as the wind farms.
- Obtain mutual aid agreements and memorandums of understanding with support agencies, ancillary or contract support services and resources.
- Provide opportunities to obtain guidance on state and federal regulations regarding fire issues.
- Develop and conduct awareness training and exercise programs for personnel.
- Ensure working communication networks among personnel, with Columbia County Public Safety Communications, and the county ECC.
- Train with other emergency response agencies on the Incident Command System.
- Participate in periodic exercises of the comprehensive emergency management plan.
- Establish a consistent method of receiving and sending situation reports to the ECC during an incident.
- Discuss among all primary and support agencies how fire resources will be allocated in an emergency.

## **A. Response Activities**

- Response activities for fire services will be dependent on the type and severity of the disaster. Response functions could range from small scale fire suppression and control to incidents affecting large sections of the population. Priority for first responders is life safety.
- Quickly assess the incident to gain situational awareness for effective decision making. Assess scope, magnitude, extent, and potential duration of incident, collect information concerning fire service field activities.
- Provide initial fire suppression services. Deploy equipment and personnel to sites in greatest need during an emergency.
- Record response activities taken, noting improvements or corrective actions required, modify plans, perform briefings and execute plans as required;
- In the event the ECC is activated, EMD will activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS), CodeRED or other mass communication system as required. Assist in dissemination of

warning to public. Identify personnel and resource requirements to perform assigned missions in excess of the support agencies' capabilities

- In escalated response activities, establish on-going radio communications between ECC and site of emergency. Provide appropriate representation to the ECC.
- Establish a staging area and a staging area officer, as needed
- Coordinate with the Communications functions (ESF-2) to provide emergency communications as needed.
- Provide technical assistance as required. Attend meetings for periodic situational updates/briefings.
- Coordinate with the Public Safety, Law Enforcement & Public Safety functions (ESF-13) to provide assistance in evacuations as well as traffic enforcement and safety during the incident, as needed.
- Maintain communications with support agencies to ensure resource procurement.
- Continually reassess and address the most critical fire service needs and the development of strategies to meet them.
- If it appears that existing resources are inadequate (including mutual aid), EMD will assist, as requested in procuring necessary resources through the Southeast Region and Washington State Fire Mobilization Plans.

## Recovery Activities

During the recovery phase maintain communication and coordination with the EMD or ECC, as needed.

- Provide guidance on local, state, and federal fire code regulations.
- Support cleanup and recovery operations.
- Monitor demolition operations.
- Make recommendations to landowners regarding recovery activities.

Support for the fire/EMS personnel is also part of recovery and returning to normal operations. This support may include counseling/debriefings, or Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM).

Each department, agency and individual shall maintain accurate records of the incident. They will be responsible for maintaining disaster and recovery expense records for future possible reimbursement. Financial expenditures such as supplies used, equipment lost or damaged, wages for hours worked including overtime, and other cost require supporting documentation before reimbursement is issued if available.

- Collect and inventory all equipment used during an incident;
- Coordinate with EMD or ECC on resource accountability;
- Repair/replace damaged and expended equipment;
- Submit costs to State and/or FMAG if available.
- Conduct fire investigation to determine cause/origin. Compile a record of events;
- Prepare appropriate after-action reports;

- Revise, update, change or create policies and SOPs or guidelines as necessary;
- Conduct training on new or revised policies and procedures. Conduct multi-agency exercises to evaluate policies, procedures and plans to ensure they meet goals and objectives.

#### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Fire/EMS may be the primary command agency involved in the emergency or disaster, or they may be the support agency. The designated primary command agency may change during the incident as the situation changes, and some incidents may have a shared designated command. The incident commanders are responsible for assuring a smooth transfer or sharing of the incident command authority.
- When fire/EMS is designated as the primary or command agency, the incident commander will typically be from the jurisdiction involved. The IC is responsible for coordinating all the fire/EMS agencies involved as well as coordinating with all the support agencies.
- When fire/EMS is designated as a support agency, the fire/EMS commander(s) will coordinate with and provide assistance to the designated command agency.
- Volunteer organizations such as the American Red Cross may be called upon to assist in damage assessment and provide shelter and food for displaced residents.
- Columbia County EMD will provide support by activating and staffing the ECC when necessary, coordinating resource ordering and logistical support, acting as liaison to and assisting with IMT/ECC interface when required.
- Law Enforcement will assist with any evacuations necessary, crowd control, security and when road closures are required.
- During state mobilization typically, the Deputy State Fire Marshal assigned to fire mobilization incident would represent the state within the ECC. The Columbia County Emergency Manger provides the coordination link between the state representative(s) and with the local fire chief, fire commissioners, incident commander and incident management team.

#### **V. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**

- Whether working in a primary or a support role, fire/EMS districts will provide their own internal support such as vehicles and equipment for their staff.
- Support agencies, departments, and districts will provide workers, officers or other leaders, vehicles, and equipment as requested and if available.

## **VI. REFERENCES**

- Columbia County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2017
- Chapter 43.43.962 RCW, WSP State Fire Mobilization Plan
- Chapter 296.305 WAC, Safety Standards for Firefighters
- Title 52 RCW, Fire Protection Districts
- Southeast Regional Fire Mobilization Plan