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ESF 4 – Firefighting

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ESF 4 Tasked Agencies	
Primary Agencies	Multnomah County Fire Defense Board (County Fire Agencies)
Supporting Agencies	Multnomah County Emergency Management (MCEM)
Cooperating Agencies	American Red Cross Portland Fire Bureau

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 4 coordinates and manages fire detection, control, and suppression efforts within the jurisdiction. This support function consists of two distinct components: urban/structural fires and rural and wildland fires.

1.2 Relationship to Other ESFs

ESF 4 often works closely with other County ESFs as a part of coordinated response and recovery activities. The following ESFs support firefighting activities:

- **ESF 1 – Transportation.** Ensures the viability of routes to enable movement of firefighting resources to an incident.
- **ESF6 – Mass Care.** Provides support for residents and other displaced by a fire related incident.
- **ESF 9 – Search and Rescue.** Coordinates and provides for the use of specialized equipment required for high risk rescue operations such as swift water, high angle, and building collapse.
- **ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials.** Guides the identification, containment, and decontamination of person and property exposed to hazardous substances and materials.
- **ESF 13- Military Support.** Coordinates support from the Oregon National Guard for incidents requiring resources beyond those available locally or through mutual aid agreements.
- **ESF 16 – Law Enforcement.** Assists in scene security and coordination of evacuation activities related to a fire event.

1.3 Policies and Agreements

The following policies and agreements are currently in place to guide and support firefighting activities during an emergency:

- Multnomah County Fire Defense Board Mutual Aid Agreement.

2 Situation and Assumptions

2.1 Situation

The Fire Chief (or designee) of each fire district/department within the County assumes the role of Incident Commander for fire incidents impacting his or her jurisdiction. If expansion from the Incident Command System (ICS) to a Unified Command structure is necessary, command is assigned to the next highest authority level. If hazardous material or other specialized response capabilities are needed, all resource requests and coordination of additional personnel, equipment, and services will be carried out first through the responding municipal jurisdiction and escalated to the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in situations beyond the capacity for the municipal jurisdiction to support.

2.2 Assumptions

- Urban, rural, and wildland fires will occur in the County. In the event of an earthquake or other significant event, large, damaging fires could be common.
- In a disaster, some firefighting resources may become scarce or damaged. Assistance from mutual aid agreements, neighboring jurisdictions, and State and Federal resources may be called upon.
- Wheeled-vehicle access may be hampered by road or bridge failures, landslides, etc., making conventional travel to the fire locations extremely difficult or impossible. Aerial attack by air tankers, helicopters, and smoke jumpers may be needed in these situations.
- Water pressure may be low, hampering firefighting.
- Efficient and effective mutual aid among the various local, County, State, and Federal fire agencies requires the use of the ICS together with compatible firefighting equipment and communications.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities for each agency in support of emergency services will vary depending on the type of resource, the length of the warning period, and the duration of the incident.

3.1 Primary Agency

The Multnomah County Fire Defense Board is the primary agency for coordination of ESF 4 support within the county. The MCFDB is responsible for:

- Routine review and updating of ESF 4 Annex.
- Providing a representative to the County Emergency Operations Center in support of ESF 4 activities.

3.2 Supporting Agencies

Supporting agencies for each ESF are those County entities that have substantial support roles during major incidents. Agencies that support ESF 4 include:

3.2.1 Office of Emergency Management

- Activate the EOC and coordinate emergency warning(s).
- Coordinate with appropriate agencies, including government, public service, and private and volunteer organizations.

3.3 Cooperating Agencies

The County is supported by a variety of cooperating agencies that provide support through coordination of emergency functions within their own authority/jurisdiction, or are able to provide additional resources to support County response activities. Cooperating agencies that support ESF 4 include:

3.3.1 American Red Cross

- Support victims and persons displaced by a fire incident with mass care and shelter support.

4 Concept of Operations

4.1 General

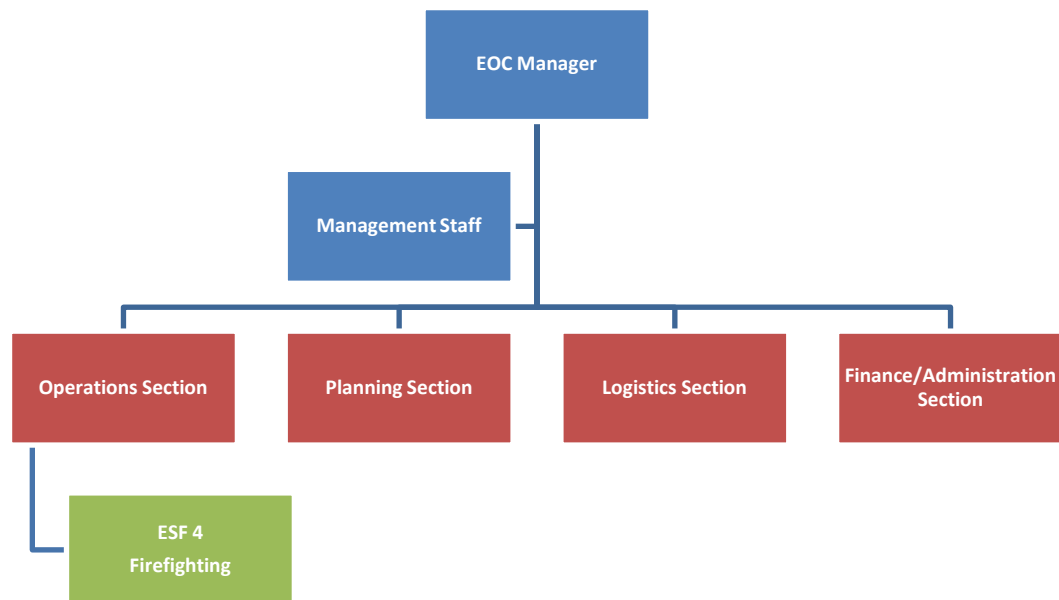
ESF 4 will be staffed upon activation of the EOC when incidents require firefighting coordination. The ESF 4 representative will be responsible for the following:

- Serve as the liaison to county based firefighting organizations as well as those in adjacent municipalities.
- Monitor firefighting activities and provide information necessary for building and maintaining an EOC common operating picture.

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- Participate in and provide ESF- specific reports for EOC briefings and for the development of Situation Reports.
- Assist in the development and communication of ESF 4 actions tasked to firefighting organizations.
- Share ESF 4 information with ESF 14, Public Information, to ensure consistent and timely public messaging.
- Coordinate ESF-4 staffing to ensure the function remains staffed across operational periods.
- Support the Incident Commander(s) in evacuation, communications, transportation, shelter, and any other resources required.
- Request activation of other local agency resources such as search and rescue units or law enforcement. These resources may be made available if not otherwise occupied.
- Coordinate with ESF 7 for firefighting support requirements which cannot be met at the local level nor through mutual aid agreements.

Table 1 Multnomah County ESF 4 Organization



4.2 Notifications

- The Duty Officer will notify the Multnomah County Fire Defense Board of EOC activations, as appropriate, as well as supporting

agencies and request that representatives report to the EOC to coordinate firefighting activities and staff the ESF 4, if activated.

- As additional EOC staffing needs become apparent, other support and partnering agency personnel may be asked to report to the EOC to assist with firefighting activities.

4.3 Actions by Phase of Emergency Management

4.3.1 Preparedness

- Review, revise, and develop plans, programs, and agreements on fire-related public safety protection activities, including region-wide mutual aid response protocols.
- Develop procedures and protocols for coordinating protective action communications with the at-risk population on scene.
- Develop plans, procedures, and protocols for resource management in accordance with NIMS resource typing, including pre-positioning of resources to efficiently and effectively respond to an event.
- Establish criteria for relocating fire operations in the event that present facilities must be evacuated.
- Establish communication links with law enforcement agencies for coordinating warning and evacuation confirmation functions.
- Appoint a representative to assist in the County EOC.

4.3.2 Response

- Activate emergency operating procedures.
- Respond to calls for fire, rescue/extrication, emergency medical assistance, hazardous material response, and evacuation.
- Assist in warning the public of evacuations, traffic routing, and/or traffic control, when possible.
- Initiate mutual aid contingency plans, when needed.
- Provide for personnel accountability. Relocate fire apparatus as conditions warrant.
- Support emergency operations as defined in agency emergency operations procedures or as requested by the EOC, such as damage assessment.

4.3.3 Recovery

- Return vehicles and equipment to regularly assigned locations.
- Assist the public in recovery operations as resources allow.
- Support other recovery efforts as requested by the EOC.
- Provide critical payroll and other financial information for cost recovery through appropriate channels.

4.3.4 Mitigation

- Conduct fire code inspections and coordinate with appropriate personnel for building inspections and compliance strategies.
- Conduct fire education and life safety training and education programs.
- Conduct building plan reviews to reduce or eliminate hazards.

4.4 Access and Functional Needs Populations

The Multnomah County Fire Defense Board and Office of Emergency Management will share guiding principles for planning considerations for the AFN population with firefighting organizations within the County.

5 ESF Annex Development and Maintenance

The Multnomah County Fire Defense Board will be responsible for coordinating regular review and maintenance of this ESF Annex. Each primary and supporting agency will be responsible for developing plans and procedures that address assigned tasks.

6 Supporting Documents

The following documents are currently in place:

Multnomah County

- Multnomah County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

State of Oregon

- State of Oregon Fire Mobilization Plan
- State of Oregon Emergency Operations Plan
 - ESF 4 – Firefighting

Federal

- National Response Framework

- ESF 4 – Firefighting

7 Appendices

Appendix 1: An Emergency Managers Role during Wildfire