EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN 2025

Lake County Operational Area

APRIL 2025

LAKESHERIFF.COM/ABOUT/OES/**PLANS**

This Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and all annexes are available online (link). To submit comments and suggestions contact:

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Record of Changes

Number	Element	Description	Date of Change	Changed By
1	Overall	Complete revision of the EOP	2023-2025	OES
2				
3				
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12				

Plan Development, Approval & Maintenance

This plan was presented to and approved by the Lake County Board of Supervisors following a thorough updated process that involved County Departments, Operational Area entities and the general public. Approval of this plan remains in effect until a revision is presented to and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Maintenance of this plan is assigned to the Lake County Office of Emergency Services (OES) under the general direction of the Lake County Disaster Council. Lake County OES may update this plan as necessary, and not less than every two years, to better prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.

Changes within the two-year cycle are independently acted upon and brought to the Board of Supervisors as necessary. The Emergency Services Manager is responsible for revising the EOP and ensuring conformance to SEMS/NIMS requirements. Departments/agencies must coordinate with OES to update their portions based on drills, exercises, or actual occurrences.

Changes not requiring formal adoption by the Board of Supervisors, including the Annexes are published and distributed to all involved agencies and organizations.

This plan is adopted with Board of Supervisors approval of Resolution number XXXX on XX/XX/XXXX.

Activation of the EOP

The EOP can be activated under the following conditions:

- By order of the Sheriff (or designee) as specified by County Ordinance No. 3035.
- Upon the Governor's proclamation of a State of Emergency.
- Automatically upon the proclamation of a State of War Emergency as defined in the California Emergency Services Act.
- Following a Presidential declaration of a National Emergency.

Automatically upon receipt of an attack warning or observation of a nuclear detonation.

Promulgation Letter

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Resolution Adopting EOP

To be inserted post-approval and execution of signatures.

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I. Introduction

The Lake County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is the primary guide for the Operational Area's (OA) response to large-scale emergencies. It does not address day-to-day emergencies but is a preparedness document designed for pre-emergency understanding and exercise. The County of Lake follows the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

The EOP consists of two parts: the Base Plan and the Annexes.

Base Plan

The Base Plan outlines Lake County's approach to emergency management, including policies, concepts, and procedures for preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. It defines the roles, responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms of involved agencies to protect life, property, and the environment.

Annexes

The Annexes address specific jurisdictions[1], specific functions, threats, and hazards, providing specialized procedures and responsibilities to ensure a coordinated response to various emergencies.

Purpose

The EOP facilitates coordination between the Lake County Op Area, State, and Federal agencies, emphasizing emergency management principles.

The EOP:

1. Establishes an emergency management organization for significant events.
2. Outlines procedures to protect residents, property, and the environment, integrating mutual aid.
3. Defines communication systems for alerting, dispatching, and requesting aid.
4. Provides a flexible platform for responding to all hazards, including mutual aid coordination.
5. Describes logistical support for emergency response and recovery efforts.

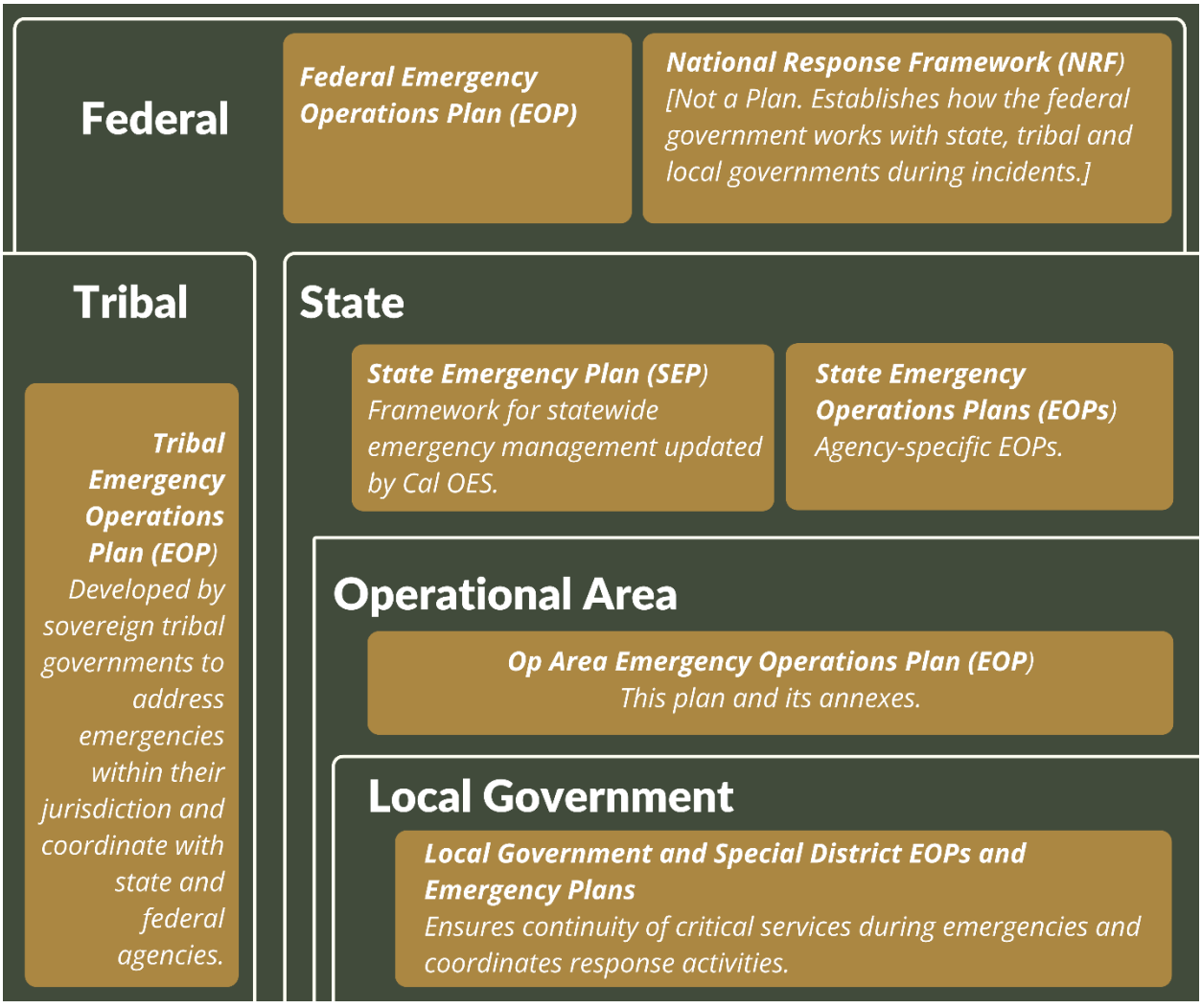
[1] When a local jurisdiction elects to adopt this EOP, the jurisdiction will develop and maintain an Jurisdiction-Specific Annex.

Relationship to Other Plans

The 2025 Lake County EOP supersedes all previous versions and is designed to align with and support the California State Emergency Operations Plan. It also serves as a reference for local jurisdictions in developing their own EOPs, standard operating procedures (SOPs), or department operations centers (DOCs).

The EOP will improve the capability of Lake County, its Cities and other Op Area entities to understand and respond effectively to a disaster.

Figure 1 Interrelationship of Emergency Plans



Scope

The Operational Area (Op Area) coordinates emergency activities within the County's geographical boundaries. Managed by the Office of Emergency Services (OES) under the Sheriff's Office, the County's emergency organization includes employees, city workers, volunteers, and others legally required to assist. Each element has responsibilities outlined in the EOP, enhancing community resilience. All relevant agencies must adopt, maintain, and exercise plans to protect lives and assets.

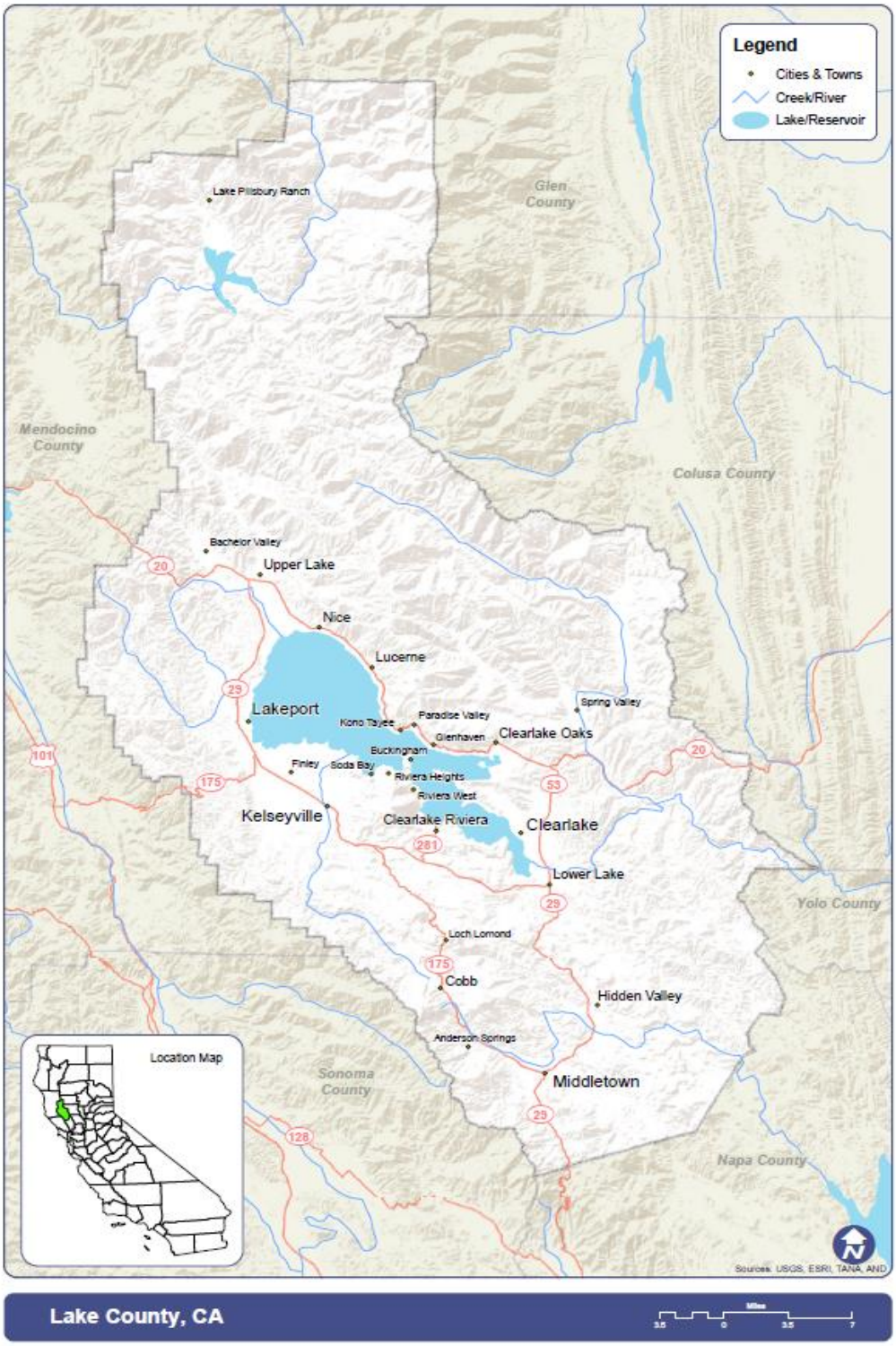
Planning Assumptions

The emergency organization operates under the following assumptions:

1. Lake County is responsible for emergency actions within its boundaries, using all available resources to save lives, protect the environment, and minimize property damage.
2. Emergencies may occur without warning, potentially overwhelming local resources and escalating into disasters.
3. Disasters can pose long-term threats to public health, property, the environment, and the economy, with disproportionate impacts on certain communities.
4. Emergency management must address language, equity, and accessibility needs.
5. Disasters may cause injuries, fatalities, displacement, property loss, infrastructure damage, and environmental harm.
6. Multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional responses are required, with immediate implementation of NIMS, SEMS, and ICS.
7. The Sheriff, as Director of Emergency Services, coordinates disaster response, with the Office of Emergency Services leading coordination in the Operational Area.
8. Local governments, tribal entities, NGOs, businesses, and individuals will participate in disaster response efforts.
9. Large-scale emergencies may require mutual aid from neighboring jurisdictions, with additional assistance from the State and federal governments as needed.
10. Long-term environmental impacts must be considered in strategic decision-making.
11. Public information during disasters must be accurate and timely, with the media aiding in dissemination.

II. Situation and Assumptions

Figure 2 Location: Lake County and Major Highways



Situation Overview

Lake County, located in northern California, spans 1,320 square miles, featuring Clear Lake—the state's largest natural freshwater lake. The county's terrain includes mountains, hills, and valleys, with elevations from 640 to 7,046 feet. Public lands managed by the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management cover over half of the county. Governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors, Lake County's economy relies on agriculture and tourism. The population varies significantly during the peak tourist season. Communities are concentrated around Clear Lake, affecting transportation.

Transportation:

- **Ingress and Egress Routes:** State Roads 20, 29, and 175. Responsible for the movement of critical resources including food, fuel and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) patients in need of higher level of medical care than is available in county. Additionally, many residents rely on these routes to get to and from work. State Route 53, while not extending beyond county borders, functions as a vital connector between these main corridors and supports both emergency and daily traffic flow within the county.
- **Lampson Field** is a local general aviation airport and the sole public use facility in Lake County. The Public Works Department oversees the operation, maintenance, and improvements to the Airport.

Demographics:

The demographics will be considered in all planning, response and recovery actions including communication strategies, resource planning for evacuation and shelter.

- **Racial and Ethnic Composition:** White (62%), Hispanic or Latino (25%), Native American (2%), Other (Black, Asian & Islander) (4%) and 7% identified as two or more.
- **Housing and Infrastructure:** Many rural residents in housing vulnerable to disasters, with a mix of owner-occupied and rental properties, including mobile homes.

Figure 3 Demographics of the entire Operational Area compared to the State of California

	County[2]	State of California
Population	68,163	
Under 18	21.6%	21.7%
Over 65	26.1%	16.2%
Median Age	43.2	38.2
Veterans	7.7%	4.1%
Employment Rate	48.8%	60.2%
Median Household Income	$59,444	$95,521
Poverty	17%	12%
Education (Bachelor's Degree or Higher)	16.8%	37.5%
Housing Units	34,220	14,392,140
Vacant	19%	8.5%
Homeownership Rate	76.3%	55.9%
People Who Speak Only Spanish	8.2%	28.8%
Disabled	22.2%	11.7%
Household with No Vehicle Available	4.6%	7.3%

[2] Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Lake_County,_California?g=050XX00US06033

Incorporated Cities:

Figure 4 Demographic comparison between both incorporated cities and the entire County

	City of Clearlake[3]	City of Lakeport[4]	County
Population	16,685	5,026	68,163
Under 18	29.2%	20.8%	21.6%
Over 65	17.2%	25.1%	26.1%
Median Age	35.8	42.6	43.2
Veterans	7.8%	10.7%	7.7%
Employment Rate	40%	37.7%	48.8%
Median Household Income	$41,580	$59,294	$59,444
Poverty	25.4%	15.7%	17%
Education (Bachelor's Degree or Higher)	6.9%	25.8%	16.8%
Housing Units	7,665	2,439	34,220
Vacant	17%	10%	19%
Homeownership Rate	58.4%	71%	76.3%
People Who Speak Only Spanish	22.2%	9.6%	8.2%
Disabled	21.3%	20.4%	22.2%
Household with No Vehicle Available	9.6%	6.3%	4.6%

Tribal Governments:

- **Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians** (Lakeport)
- **Elem Indian Colony** (Clearlake Oaks)
- **Habemetolel Pomo of Upper Lake** (Upper Lake)
- **Koi Nation** (Lower Lake)
- **Middletown Rancheria** (Middletown)
- **Robinson Rancheria** (Upper Lake)
- **Scotts Valley Rancheria** (Lakeport/Kelseyville)

[3] Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Clearlake_city,_California?g=160XX00US0613945
[4] Source: https://data.census.gov/profile/Lakeport_city,_California?g=160XX00US0639710

Unincorporated communities include:
Lake County features several unincorporated communities, each contributing to the region's character:

- **Clearlake Oaks**: A 1920s lakeside subdivision on Clear Lake's east shore. Population 2,194.
- **Kelseyville Riviera**: A growing community east of Kelseyville. Population 4,408.
- **Cobb Mountain**: Rural, forested, and known for resorts and hot springs. Heavily impacted by the 2015 Valley Fire. Population 1,628.
- **Hidden Valley Lake**: A planned gated community northeast of Middletown. Population 7,500.
- **Kelseyville**: A historic agricultural hub near Mt. Konocti. Population 3,657.
- **Lower Lake**: A small community near Clear Lake's southern shore. Population 1,065.
- **Lucerne**: A planned community on Clear Lake's north shore, developed during the Great Depression. Population 2,674.
- **Middletown**: Located midway between Lower Lake and Calistoga. Population 725.
- **Nice**: A lakeside community on Clear Lake's north shore. Population 2,407.
- **Upper Lake**: Established in the 1860s along Clear Lake's upper arm. Population 1,250.

Other Smaller Communities:

- **Blue Lakes**: A resort and residential area in a narrow valley along Highway 20.
- **Glenhaven**: A small lakeside community with summer resorts.
- **Lake Pillsbury Area**: A remote recreational area with limited access in the Mendocino National Forest.
- **Soda Bay**: Home to small resorts and campgrounds near Clear Lake State Park.
- **Spring Valley**: A residential subdivision east of Clearlake Oaks

Other:
Although the hospital commonly associated with Lakeport is located just outside the city limits in the unincorporated area, both the City of Clearlake and the Lakeport area are served by hospitals with emergency departments and skilled nursing facilities. The Healthcare Coalition (HCC) is facilitated by County of Lake Health Services and includes members from both hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and other related clinics or facilities.

A thorough risk analysis with maps is included in the Hazard Mitigation Plan (Link).

Capability Assessment

Lake County maintains a robust emergency management framework supported by local, state, and federal resources. Key capabilities include:

1. **Emergency Plans**:
    - Lake County Hazard Mitigation Plan, THIRA, the County General Plan and Standard Operating Procedures ensure comprehensive readiness.
2. **Resources**:
    - **Personnel**: Trained first responders, EOC staff, and Disaster Service Workers (DSWs).
    - **Equipment**: Mobile Emergency Operations Center (EOC), firefighting apparatus, and backup generators.
3. **Collaboration**:
    - Partnerships with special districts, NGOs, and private sector entities enhance resource availability.
    - Mutual aid agreements provide access to regional assets during emergencies.
4. **Training and Exercises**:
    - Annual exercises ensure readiness for disasters, while after-action reviews identify areas for improvement.

Hazard Analysis Summary

Previously, the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) was included directly within the EOP. In the 2024 update, the THIRA has been developed as a standalone document, enabling a more detailed and comprehensive hazard analysis. Access to the THIRA is provided to authorized personnel as needed and referenced appropriately within the EOP.

Purpose of the New THIRA

The standalone THIRA serves several critical functions:

1. **Detailed Risk Assessment**: It provides a thorough risk assessment process to identify potential threats, hazards, and risks affecting Lake County.
2. **Enhanced Preparedness**: By focusing on a detailed analysis, the THIRA enhances the county's ability to prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potential hazards.
3. **Frequent Updates**: This separation allows for more frequent updates and

revisions to the hazard analysis without requiring modification of the entire EOP.

SUMMARY OF PRIORITIZED THREATS AND HAZARDS

The THIRA identifies and prioritizes threats and hazards based on their likelihood and potential impact. The top prioritized threats and hazards for Lake County include:

Hazard | Frequency	Risk |Impacts
Wildfire **Annual** wildfire threats due to dry conditions and forested terrain.	Threats to populated areas with significant economic and environmental damage. Wildfire hazard severity zones are viewable with the County GIS Portal (Link). Communities with elderly residents and limited transportation access are at greater risk.
Earthquake **Occasional (major earthquake); Likely (minor earthquake)**	Moderate risk, with the county located near significant fault lines. Earthquake losses will vary depending on the magnitude of the event with potential impacts on infrastructure, emergency services, and community resilience.
Severe Weather| Extreme Heat & Heavy Rains, Storms, High Winds **Highly Likely**	Severe weather, including heavy rain, snow, and wind, can impact the entire Operational Area simultaneously. Heavy rain can cause a range of issues, from saturated ground and localized flooding to lake-level floods. Other storm impacts may include power outages (often caused by trees hitting power lines), downed trees, road closures, washouts, and property damage, ranging from minor issues like damaged fencing to the complete destruction of homes. When snow accumulates at lower elevations, road conditions may be affected. When combined with strong winds, these storms can uproot trees and cause additional power outages.

Cyber-attacks Likelihood: While generally lower than in urban areas, the likelihood of a cyber-attack against data or infrastructure is of **significant concern.**	Significant concern of emerging risk as reliance on digital infrastructure grows. The potential consequences of a cyber-attack against data or infrastructure can be significant and extensive with impacts to daily life, economic stability and public safety. Cyber-attacks can lead to power outages, disrupt fuel supplies, and cause significant economic losses.
Utility Disruptions Likelihood: Loss of power is highly likely at any point in time. The likelihood of a worst case scenario type of loss that includes extended outages combined with severe weather is medium during fire weather and winter weather.	Including electricity shortages, planned outages, and other disruptions that can severely impact daily life and emergency operations. Vulnerable populations are at risk due to exposure to extreme temperatures, lack of heating, and limited access to clean water for drinking and sanitation.
Drought and Water Shortages **Likely every 3-5 years**	Agriculture, wildfire protection, municipal usage, commerce, tourism, recreation, and wildlife preservation. The vulnerability of Lake County to drought is countywide, but impacts may vary and include reduction in water supply, agricultural losses, and an increase in dry fuels. Adequate water is the most critical issue for ecological, agricultural, manufacturing, tourism, recreation, and commercial and domestic use.

III. Concept of Operations

The Lake County Operational Area (OA) will manage emergencies through a phased, scalable approach, focusing on collaboration, resource sharing, and community engagement. The OA integrates local, regional, state, and federal resources to ensure a coordinated and efficient response.

Lake County Op Area members will develop plans and procedures to protect assets and lives within their own jurisdictions. The emergency management organization will maintain a strong collaboration between local, regional, state and tribal governments, community members, and private sectors capable of maintaining, stabilizing or restoring **Community Lifelines** in the face of disaster.

The whole community shall be considered throughout all emergency management phases ensuring response and recovery activities are responsive to the Op Area.

Incidents begin at the local level and local governments have the primary responsibility for preparedness and response activities within their jurisdiction. As an incident escalates in complexity and exceeds the capabilities of local field responders, the Operational Area EOC will coordinate with regional and state SEMS levels to facilitate mutual aid and ensure resource allocation. In cases of large-scale events, such as wildfires or earthquakes, the County may request state and federal assistance through the California Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) system.

Emergency Management Goals:

a) Protect lives, property and the environment.
b) Stabilize community lifelines, including safety/security, health and medical, food/water and communications.
c) Facilitate the rapid resumption of essential services and economic activities.
d) Provide effective documentation and records required for cost recovery efforts.

The overall objective of emergency management is to ensure the effective management of response forces and resources in preparing for and responding to situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents and national security emergencies. These objectives are operationalized through four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. To carry out its responsibilities, the emergency management organization will

accomplish the following objectives during an emergency and/or disaster:

a. Overall management and coordination of emergency response and recovery operations.
b. Coordination with appropriate federal, state, tribal and other local government agencies, as well as applicable segments of private industry and volunteer organizations.
c. Establish priorities and resolve any conflicting demands for support or resources.
d. Prepare and disseminate emergency public information to alert, warn, and inform the public.

Community Lifelines & Emergency Management Phases

A lifeline ensures the uninterrupted operation of essential government and business functions, crucial for human health, safety, and economic security. The following **Community Lifelines** are prioritized for rapid stabilization after a disaster, as developed by FEMA:

- Safety and Security: Law Enforcement, Fire Service, Search and Rescue, Government Service, Community Safety
- Food, Hydration, Shelter: Food, Hydration, Shelter, Agriculture
- Health and Medical: Medical Care, Public Health, Patient Movement, Medical Supply Chain, Fatality Management
- Energy: Power Grid, Fuel
- Communications: Infrastructure, Responder Communications, Alerts and Warnings, Finance, 911 and Dispatch
- Transportation: Highway/Roadway/Motor Vehicle, Mass Transit, Aviation
- Hazardous Materials: Facilities, HAZMAT, Pollutants, Contaminants
- Water Systems: Potable Water Infrastructure, Wastewater Management

Integrating these lifelines into all phases of emergency management is essential.

The Lake Op Area's framework for core capabilities is aligned with FEMA's National Preparedness Goal, emphasizing the phases of emergency management: Preparedness, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. This framework supports efforts to enhance capabilities in key areas such as operational coordination, public information, community resilience, and critical infrastructure protection. Each core capability is integrated into plans, training, and exercises to ensure a comprehensive and effective approach to emergency management.

Mitigation

In accordance with state and federal regulations, Lake County OES maintains the Lake Op Area Hazard Mitigation Plan which identifies actions to reduce the short and long-term disaster impacts across Lake County. In 2024, Lake County OES coordinated with the City of Lakeport and the City of Clearlake to complete the 2025 Lake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP). The primary goal of this analysis was to identify and evaluate the natural threats facing communities within Lake County and to discuss the mitigation efforts that have been implemented or are planned to address these threats. County departments and all entities within the Lake Operational Area should participate in hazard mitigation planning and activities, such as land use planning and adopting disaster-resistant building codes. Refer to the Hazard Mitigation Plan (Link) for additional details.

The County's Climate Resiliency Office is charged with building long term strategies to enhance resilience and collaborates with multiple stakeholders across the Op Area.

Preparedness

Preparedness is a community-wide function requiring public engagement and coordination among citizens, organizations, and agencies. It is critical that the Op Area, including the community in general, work together to achieve preparedness goals. It is the local government's responsibility to lead preparedness, response and recovery operations for its community. It is critical that the Op Area in its entirety assume responsibility for community survival prior to, during and following a disaster. Key activities include:

- Education and Outreach: Enhance awareness of preparedness and emergency plans.
- Training and Exercise: Ensure personnel are trained and conduct regular exercises.
- Development and Maintenance of Procedures and Resources: Develop and update standard operating procedures and acquire necessary resources.
- Identify and acquire resources to support the core capabilities.

TRAINING AND EXERCISE

Lake County OES conducts regular exercises of the EOP and annexes. These exercises vary and may be multi-jurisdictional involving county departments, cities,

special districts and other key stakeholders. Exercises simulate scenarios requiring coordination across jurisdictions, such as wildfire, severe storms or major infrastructure failures and may focus on one or multiple coordination roles and may incorporate public preparedness such as community evacuation drills.

County Departments and other Op Area members with responsibilities under this plan must ensure their personnel are properly trained to carry out these responsibilities with adequate training and exercise. The Lake County Office of Emergency Services will inform County departments and Op Area members of training and exercise opportunities, and such events will be advertised during Op Area and Disaster Council meetings.

Response

Response actions aim to save lives, protect property, and the environment. This phase includes monitoring emergencies, EOC activation, public information dissemination, resource requests, mutual aid, and emergency declarations.

Lake County uses a phased approach to emergency management:

1. Pre-Emergency Response: Precautionary actions such as flood preparation or evacuation warnings.
2. Emergency Response: Immediate actions to save lives and stabilize incidents, including EOC activation and resource deployment.
3. Sustained Response: Continued coordination of resources, situational analysis, and public information dissemination.
4. Recovery: Facilitating short- and long-term recovery while incorporating lessons learned into future preparedness efforts.

PRE-EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Some disasters have advance warning and time is available to take precautionary actions that protect life, property and the environment. An example of this is flood which may be known to be imminent for hours or days before it occurs.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Occurs after the pre-emergency response phase or when no advance warning is available (i.e. fire). Immediate actions to establish and maintain control of the situation, save life, property and environment while minimizing the effects of the disaster.

- Emergencies that occur within the Op Area are monitored to determine the

need for:
    - EOC Activation
    - Emergency Public Information
    - Resources to supplement what is available locally
    - Mutual aid requests
    - Proclamation of a Local emergency
    - Evacuation order, evacuation warning or shelter in place.
    - Activation of alert and warning including LakeCoAlerts, community warning sirens (where applicable)
- Additional actions when an emergency is sustained may include:
    - Activation of mass care and shelter
    - Ongoing public information
    - Situation analysis
    - Damage assessment operations

Additional details are available in the Emergency Public Information Annex, EOC Functional Annex and Mutual Aid Annex.

Recovery

Recovery involves restoring the community to pre-disaster conditions, considering long-term environmental threats and facilitating effective recovery operations. This includes restoring services, property, and public assistance coordination. Recovery should be considered at the onset of an emergency and continuing to enhance the effectiveness of recovery operations and returning systems to pre-disaster status.

Continuity and Recovery Integration

Continuity of operations (COOP) and recovery planning are integrated into all phases of emergency management:

- Continuity of Essential Functions: County departments are responsible for the establishment of COOP plans to maintain critical operations during disruptions.
- Transition from Response to Recovery: Recovery efforts begin during response, emphasizing restoration of critical infrastructure, housing, and public services.

The recovery phase objectives may overlap and include:

- Reinstatement of family autonomy.
- Restoration and provision of essential public services.

- Permanent restoration of private and public property.
- Identification of residual hazards.
- Plans to mitigate future hazards.
- Recovery of costs associated with response and recovery efforts.
- Coordination with local, state and federal entities offering private and public assistance.

After-Action Reports

Following all major exercises, drills and actual incidents, the Lake County Op Area requires that an After-Action Report ("AAR") and Corrective Action Plan ("CAP") be developed outlining areas for improvement of plans and systems. The Lake County Op Area will utilize the CAP process when implementing critical improvement process. This system is a best practice and is in accordance with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program ("HSEEP") and NIMS requirements.

Additional Recovery detail is provided in the Recovery Plan Annex.

SEMS/NIMS Integration

The Lake County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is fully aligned with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

These systems provide the framework for multijurisdictional coordination by:

- **SEMS**[5]: Facilitating resource and information sharing across the five levels of response: Field, Local, Operational Area, Regional, and State. Incorporates the Incident Command System (ICS), mutual aid agreements, the Op Area concept, the Operational Area Satellite Information System (OASIS), and multi-agency coordination.

- **NIMS**[6]: Establishing nationwide standards for command and management

[5] SEMS, established by Senate Bill 1841 in response to the 1991 East Bay Hills Fire, became law on January 1, 1993 (California Government Code §8607). SEMS improves coordination of state and local emergency responses and is required for local governments to receive state disaster assistance reimbursement.

[6]Following the 2001 terrorist attacks, Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5) directed the development of NIMS, implemented in 2004, making it mandatory for states and political subdivisions to receive federal preparedness assistance.

(including ICS), Communications and Information Management, Preparedness, Resource Management, Supporting Technologies, Joint Information System (JIS), and NIMS Management and Maintenance.

Both systems ensure consistent terminology, common operating procedures, and scalable structures for managing emergencies that involve multiple jurisdictions and agencies.

Incident Command System (ICS)

The Incident Command System (ICS) is a standardized approach to incident management that provides for scalable coordination among various jurisdictions and agencies.

INCIDENT RESPONSE

In a major emergency, the Incident Commander, typically the senior officer of the first responding agency, is responsible for field coordination at the Incident Command Post (ICP).

Unified Command, a key ICS/NIMS concept, may be used when multiple agencies are involved or incidents cross jurisdictional boundaries. It allows agencies to coordinate under a single Incident Action Plan (IAP), maintaining control of their resources while working towards common objectives. Lake County Sheriff's Office joins the Unified Command or is represented by an Agency Representative to collaborate, execute evacuations and coordinate with the EOC.

OPERATIONAL AREA

Lake County employs ICS at the Op Area EOC for its scalability and operational focus. ICS supports resource coordination with a flexible structure that can expand as needed. Both California and FEMA utilize Essential Support Functions (ESFs) to organize resources during emergencies. Both ICS and ESFs are components of NIMS and are designed to complement each other, ensuring seamless integration with state and federal assistance when required.

Figure 5 Relationship between ICS Positions and State ESFs

ICS Section	California ESFs
Management	ESF 15: External Affairs ESF 5: Emergency Management ESF 17: Volunteers and Donation Management
Operations	ESF 1: Transportation ESF 4: Fire and Rescue ESF 8: Public Health and Medical ESF 9: Search and Rescue ESF 10: Hazardous Materials ESF 13: Law Enforcement ESF 16: Evacuation ESF 18: Cyber Security
Planning	ESF 5: Emergency Management
Logistics	ESF 2: Communications ESF 6: Care and Shelter ESF 7: Resources and Logistics ESF 12: Utilities ESF 14: Recovery
Finance	Several ESFs include financial responsibilities as part of their broader functions, such as: ESF 7: Resources and Logistics ESF 11: Food and Agriculture ESF 14: Recovery

OPERATIONAL AREA AGREEMENT

Lake County has an Operational Area Agreement in place that defines the responsibilities of local governments, special districts, and the County in managing multi-agency coordination during incidents. The agreement ensures that local and state resources are integrated through SEMS and are in compliance with state disaster reimbursement requirements.

COORDINATION AND RESPONSIBILITES

Lake County employs ICS within its Operational Area (OA) EOC, ensuring seamless resource coordination and operational scalability. Key responsibilities include:

1. Coordinating with local government, tribal, and private sector partners.
2. Managing mutual aid requests through the California Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) system.
3. Maintaining communication with Incident Command Posts (ICPs), Department Operations Centers (DOCs), and regional/state EOCs.

The EOP integrates FEMA's **Community Lifelines** concept, prioritizing stabilization of critical functions, including:

- Safety and Security: Law enforcement, fire services, search and rescue.
- Health and Medical: Medical care, public health, and fatality management.
- Communications: Emergency alerts and responder communication systems.

The Op Area serves as the coordination link between local and regional emergency services. Lake County Office of Emergency Services (OES) leads SEMS and NIMS implementation, responsible for:

- Disseminating SEMS & NIMS requirements.
- Coordinating SEMS & NIMS training.
- Integrating ICS into the EOP and response plans.
- Completing and maintaining the NIMS Data Collection Tool.
- Incorporating NIMS into the EOP and County Code as needed.
- Identifying and coordinating with response agencies, DOCs, special districts, volunteers, and private industry.

To ensure the effective application of SEMS principles, all personnel involved in emergency management must be trained on the roles and responsibilities outlined in the Figure 6 SEMS Coordination Responsibilities & Actions on page 34. New County employees receiving awareness training during orientation. Local governments will develop an exercise program to validate preparedness efforts. Each agency is responsible for NIMS training and self-certification.

Lake County's emergency organization is informed by the following components:

- Management by Objectives – for each operational period, each level of SEMS establishes measurable objectives that may have one or more strategies or performance actions in order to achieve the objective.
- Operational Period – the length of time set by command at the Field Response level and by management at other levels to achieve a given set of

objectives.

- Action Plans
    - Incident Action Plans (IAP) are used at the Field Response Level and includes objectives for the overall incident strategy, specifical tactical actions and supporting information for the next operational period.
    - EOC Action Plans are used at the local government, op area, region and state EOC levels. EOC Action Plans provide direction for objectives and steps required to achieve the objectives as well as a basis for measuring achievement of objectives and overall performance.
- Common Terminology – applied to functional elements, position titles, facility designations and resources to help rapidly enable multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional collaborative efforts.

IV. Direction, Control and Coordination

Chapter 6, Section 3.1 of the Lake County Municipal Code outlines the emergency organization structure, detailing the roles of officials, employees, and volunteers in protecting life and property during emergencies to enhance community resilience.

The County Board of Supervisors is the governing authority acting as the policy group for all emergency management activities in the Lake County Op Area. As the governing authority, they have established specific ordinances and agreements to conduct effective emergency management in the Op Area, in both disaster and non-disaster circumstances.

The Lake County Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates disaster management for unincorporated areas, with an EOC structure that remains flexible to adapt to changing situations. Roles and responsibilities may vary based on the incident's size and complexity, and ongoing personnel development is essential. Disaster planning involves collaboration with other departments, jurisdictions, and entities.

Each County department is responsible for developing procedures for their emergency functions. As Disaster Service Workers (DSWs), County employees may have altered duties during emergencies. Each department must communicate with the EOC for situational awareness and coordination.

Local government agencies, special districts, and organizations that do not have designated responsibilities still play important roles in serving their communities during emergencies.

Key roles and responsibilities to accomplish emergency management activities are identified in:

- Chapter 6, Article 1 of the Lake County Code
- The Operational Area Agreement
- This EOP
- Other operational plans and annexes.

Emergencies and Incidents

Coordination during emergencies is managed through a combination of field-level Incident Command Posts (ICPs), Department Operations Centers (DOCs), and the Operational Area EOC:

- **Field Operations**: ICPs provide real-time updates to the EOC, facilitating resource allocation and incident prioritization.
- **Department Operations Centers**: DOCs serve as intermediaries between field operations and the EOC, ensuring that departmental needs and resources are integrated into broader operational plans.
- **City Emergency Operations Centers (City EOCs)**: The City of Lakeport and the City of Clearlake operate their own EOCs to coordinate responses within their jurisdictions. City EOCs:
    - Manage city-specific operations and resources.
    - Communicate situational updates to the Operational Area EOC to ensure regional situational awareness.
    - Request mutual aid or county-level assistance when local resources are insufficient.
- **Operational Area EOC**: The EOC functions as the central hub for multijurisdictional coordination, utilizing SEMS and NIMS principles to integrate local, regional, state, and federal responses.

City's may activate their own EOC or DOC while City Managers or their designees oversee emergency management for their jurisdictions. County departments maintain emergency functions aligned with their regular duties.

During incidents requiring **multi-agency coordination**:

1. Field ICPs coordinate suppression activities, provide situational updates, and manage local evacuations.
2. City EOCs facilitate resource requests, coordinate shelter operations and liaises with the Operational Area EOC when an incident impacts life, property or environment within city limits.
3. The Operational Area EOC facilitates resource requests, coordinates shelter operations, and liaises with Cal OES Coastal Region EOC.
4. Mutual aid agreements are activated to bring additional firefighting, law enforcement or emergency management resources to the impacted areas.

This collaborative approach ensures timely decision-making, efficient resource use, and unified public messaging.

Figure 6 SEMS Coordination Responsibilities & Actions

SEMS Level	Primary Responsibilities	Key Actions	Coordination Entities
Field Level	- Initial response to incidents - Command and tactical operations	- Establish Incident Command Post (ICP) - Develop and implement Incident Action Plans (IAPs) - Communicate with EOCs	Incident Commander, Field Responders
Local Level	- Provide resources and support for field operations - Oversee jurisdictional emergency management efforts	- Activate Local EOC if needed - Manage public information - Request mutual aid if resources are insufficient	City EOCs, Local Government Agencies
Operational Area	- Coordinate resources and information among local jurisdictions - Interface with regional and state levels	- Activate Operational Area EOC - Consolidate and prioritize resource requests - Provide situation reports to Cal OES	County EOC, City EOCs, Special Districts
State Level	- Support Operational Areas with resource allocation and coordination - Provide state-level resources and mutual aid - Coordinate with federal agencies	- Deploy regional mutual aid - Consolidate Operational Area resource needs; Mobilize resources from unaffected regions - Activate State Operations Center (SOC) - Facilitate federal assistance	Cal OES Coastal Region EOC
Federal Level	- Provide federal resources, technical assistance, and disaster relief programs - Support state and local efforts	- Activate federal disaster relief programs - Coordinate FEMA resources - Support long-term recovery efforts	FEMA, Federal Agencies

V. Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The EOC is a central coordination point to support Incident response by bringing together representatives from various agencies and organizations to facilitate decision-making, resource allocation, communication, and overall incident management. While the Incident Command handles on-the-ground operations, the EOC ensures that they have the logistical, informational, and strategic support needed to manage the incident effectively.

The following are primary roles and responsibilities of the EOC:

- Serve as a central information collection and dissemination center
- Maintain a common operating picture of response activities and situational awareness across the Op Area
- Prepare Op Area situation reports
- Coordinate and communicate Policy Group priorities
- Implement event management-by-objective
- Coordinate resource allocation priorities
- Maintain communication with local DOCs and city/special district/tribal EOCs, and Regional and State operations.
- Serve as a coordination and communication center for all County stakeholders, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The primary EOC is located at 1375 Hoyt Drive Lakeport, California. A mobile EOC is available to transport to an alternative location as needed.

Based on SEMS and ICS structure, the Lake County EOC is organized into five EOC sections:

1. **Management** – Includes EOC Director, EOC Coordinator, Public Information, Liaison and Safety. Sets or implements priorities, facilitates multiagency coordination and executive decision making in support of incident response.
2. **Planning** – Responsible for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of operational information required for the EOC Action Plan. Also maintains current and forecast situational information, prepares situation reports, conducts advance planning and coordinates demobilization.
3. **Operations** – Supports tactical response assets including law, fire, care and shelter and medical health. Implements the EOC Action Plan, evaluates the incident and potential impacts to the Op Area to manage and coordinate response support.

4. **Logistics** – Supports other EOC sections with the acquisition and mobilization of resources including personnel, supplies and equipment procurement.
5. **Finance/Administration** – Responsible for all financial aspects of the EOC including procurement activities, cost and personnel tracking.

Greater details can be found in the EOC Functional Annex and the Emergency Public Information Annex.

EOC Activation

WHO CAN ACTIVATE THE EOC

The following individuals are authorized per Chapter 6, Article 1, Section 6-4 and 6-5 of the Lake County Code to activate the EOC and serve as the EOC Director:

a. County Sheriff/OES Director
b. Deputy OES Director
c. Emergency Services Manager

HOW THE EOC IS ACTIVATED

When activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is necessary, staff are notified by the Sheriff's alert system (LakeCoAlerts). The notification includes the reason for activation, as well as specific instructions on who needs to report, when to report, and where to report.

WHEN IS THE EOC ACTIVATED

The EOC is activated in response to specific situations that exceed the capacity of routine incident management. Triggers for EOC activation include:

- **Large-Scale Emergencies or Disasters**: When an incident (e.g., wildfire, earthquake, flood) overwhelms local resources and requires coordination of multiple agencies.
- **Multiple Incident Coordination**: When there are simultaneous incidents requiring centralized coordination for resource allocation and communication.
- **Escalating or Complex Incidents**: When an incident's complexity increases and it requires strategic oversight, multi-agency coordination, or resource support (e.g., hazardous material spills, major traffic accidents).
- **Mutual Aid Requests**: When local resources are insufficient, and support from regional, state, or federal agencies is needed.

- **State or Federal Emergency Declarations**: When the state or federal government declares an emergency that involves or impacts the local jurisdiction.
- **Planned Events**: The EOC may also be activated for large-scale public events (e.g., festivals, political events) where coordination among multiple agencies is required, even if no immediate emergency exists.
- **Severe Weather Events**: When extreme weather (e.g., hurricanes, winter storms) is forecasted and may cause significant damage or require large-scale response.

The EOC serves as the central hub for emergency management, providing coordination, resource allocation, and situational awareness.

EOC activation occurs based on the scale and complexity of the incident:

Duty Officer | Enhanced Monitoring

Maintains situational awareness of emerging all-hazards incidents across the Op Area, receives and disseminates information as necessary and may start the EOC activation process if needed.

Level Three EOC Partial Activation

Minimum level of activation used for small-scale incidents including severe weather events, minor earthquake (limited damage), large hazardous material spill. (May include the EOC Director with or without additional Management, Section Chiefs)

Level Two EOC Activation

Mid-level of activation used for moderate-scale incidents including flooding, earthquakes with damages and/or potential aftershocks, severe weather with moderate damages, wildfire, etc. (May include the Management Section, General Staff Sections and supportive personnel)

Level One EOC Activation

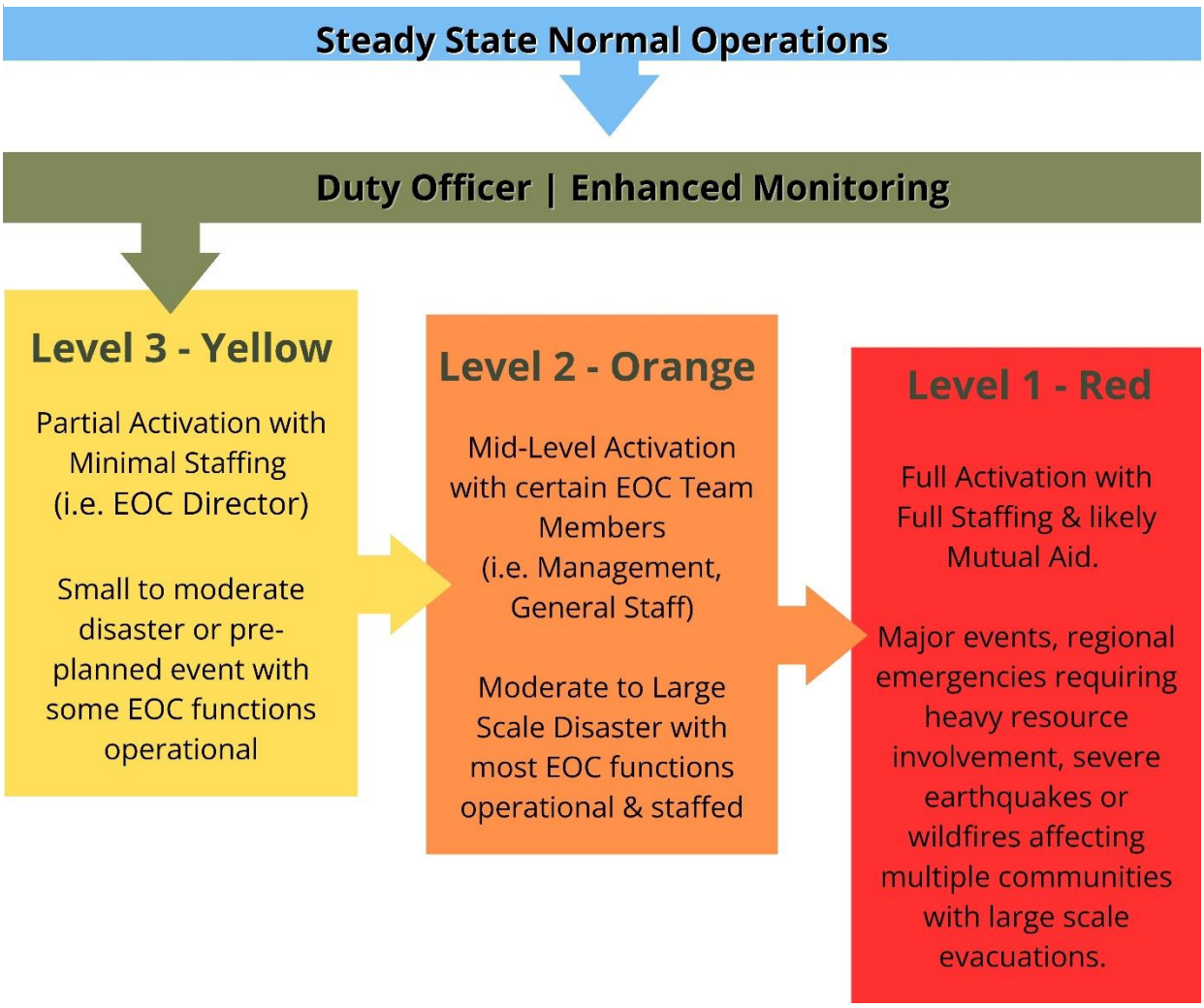
Highest level of activation used for major events, regional emergencies requiring heavy resource involvement, severe earthquakes or wildfires affecting multiple communities with large scale evacuations. (May include the Management Section, General Staff Sections with supportive personnel, Mutual Aid.)

The level of activation can vary based on the scale of the incident, from partial activation involving key personnel to full activation involving multiple agencies and full staffing of the EOC. Deactivation occurs when the situation has stabilized or deescalated and objectives are met.

Refer to Figure 6 SEMS Coordination Responsibilities & Actions for additional detail on how the EOC is interrelated to the other SEMS levels.

ACTIVATION LEVELS

Figure 7 EOC Activation Levels



EMERGENCY PROCLAMATIONS

When extreme peril threatens safety beyond local control, an emergency may be declared to access varying levels of assistance—Local, Op Area, State, or Federal.

Proclamation of a Local Emergency

Cities and special districts within the Op Area may proclaim a local emergency and must notify the Lake County OES. The County's Director of Emergency Services can proclaim[7] a Local Emergency, subject to ratification by the Board of Supervisors within seven days, with a review every 60 days until termination. This declaration provides legal immunity for emergency actions and enables measures like curfews and property reassessment for tax relief.

Proclamation of a Local Health Emergency

A Local Health Emergency can be declared by the Local Health Officer when public health is threatened by hazardous or medical waste, or when there is an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease, chemical agent, noncommunicable biologic agent, toxin, or radioactive agent, subject to ratification by the Board of Supervisors within seven days and review every 30 days until termination.

Concurrence of Existence of Local Emergency

After declaring a Local Emergency, the County may request Cal OES to concur with and provide assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act for restoring public property damaged by natural disasters.

Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency

The Board of Supervisors may request the Governor to proclaim a State of Emergency if local resources are inadequate. This allows for mutual aid, suspension of state regulations, and the commandeering of private property if necessary. The Governor may also request federal assistance.

State of War Emergency

In a State of War Emergency, all provisions of a State of Emergency apply, with additional requirements for compliance with the Governor's orders.

Presidential Declaration

The President may declare an emergency when state resources are inadequate, allowing for federal assistance, including essential aid, public assistance, individual

[7] Proclamation should be issued within 10 days of the incident.

assistance, federal mutual aid, and mitigation funds.

RECOVERY DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Lake County OES monitors the Operational Area during disasters and gathers preliminary data to assess the need for proclamations and assistance requests from all Operational Area entities. It supports jurisdictions in conducting preliminary damage assessments by facilitating coordination and communication, entering data into the Cal OES system on behalf of all Op Area entities, and serving as a liaison with Cal OES. **Eligibility for state or federal assistance may depend on the collective data from all Op Area entities, making accurate and timely reporting critical to securing aid.**

Types of assistance include:

- **California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA)**: Provides financial aid for emergency response efforts, repairs and restoration of public infrastructure damaged by disasters.
- **Individual Assistance (IA)**: Offers direct financial and housing support to individuals and households affected by federally declared disasters. It helps disaster survivors without sufficient insurance coverage recover from personal and household losses while addressing unmet needs.
- **Public Assistance (PA):** Provides financial assistance to local, tribal, and state governments, as well as eligible nonprofits, for disaster response and recovery. Its primary goal is to restore public infrastructure and essential community services.
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP):** Funds projects that reduce the risk of future disasters by implementing long-term, cost-effective mitigation projects. Its aim is to enhance community resilience and break the cycle of disaster damage and repair.

When estimating damages for disaster response and recovery funding, FEMA's categories of work are used to classify eligible damages and repairs under the Public Assistance program.
These categories are divided into two main types:

1. Emergency Work: Focused on immediate response needs, such as debris removal and emergency protective measures.
2. Permanent Work: Involves the repair, replacement, or restoration of damaged public infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, utilities, and buildings.

FEMA's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) serves as the comprehensive manual outlining the policies, regulations, and procedures for

managing the Public Assistance program.

VI. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

Federal

NATIONAL DISASTER RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

The National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) outlines how the nation builds, maintains, and coordinates disaster recovery capabilities. The NDRF aims to help communities expedite the recovery process, starting with pre-disaster preparedness. This includes coordinating with community partners, mitigating risks, incorporating continuity planning, identifying recovery resources, and developing the capacity to manage recovery effectively through collaborative and inclusive planning. By fostering collaboration across the whole community, the NDRF integrates emergency response, hazard mitigation, resilience, and sustainability into both the short- and long-term disaster recovery goals of the community.

State

CAL OES MUTUAL AID REGION II AND COASTAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

The Lake County Op Area is part of the Cal OES Coastal Administrative Region, which supports emergency management and response operations. The primary mission of the Coastal Region is to assist with Op Area response and recovery, coordinating non-law, non-fire, and non-public health/medical mutual aid operations.

Cal OES Coastal Region regularly meets with local emergency management agencies, including hosting the Mutual Aid Regional Assistance Committee (MARAC). The Lake County Office of Emergency Services represents the Lake County Op Area in these meetings. The Governor has delegated Cal OES to manage statewide emergency operations, coordinating efforts from the State Operations Center (SOC), and liaising with federal and other state agencies when necessary.

Cal OES plays a critical role in resource mobilization, mutual aid, and the integration of state and federal emergency response systems. The Coastal Region's emergency management organization continues to evolve, focusing on technological advancements and community resilience (Cal OES State Emergency Plan (Link)).

Tribal

Lake County tribal governments and Indian Health Service entities are not tasked under this EOP. During a disaster or emergency, they coordinate directly with FEMA or Cal OES and are included in the Lake Op Area Emergency Coordinator's group for situational awareness and collaboration for preparedness, training and public information. Some have their own emergency management programs, and all share a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

County Emergency Organization

The County of Lake has an Operational Area-wide responsibility for coordination of response and recovery operations to stabilize Community Lifelines & Emergency Management Phases. All County of Lake departments and personnel[8] have basic responsibilities in the phases of disaster cycle including mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. The roles and responsibilities in each of these areas are outlined in this EOP, its annexes, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) where specific strategies for accomplishing these tasks can be found.

These general responsibilities include:

MITIGATION

- Participate in hazard mitigation planning, including identification and risk assessments to identify vulnerabilities; identification and implementation of projects to reduce hazards.
- Develop and enforce building codes and zoning regulations to reduce risks.
- Develop public awareness campaigns to educate the community about hazard mitigation.
- Secure funding and grants for mitigation projects.
- Collaborate with local, state, and federal agencies for comprehensive mitigation planning.

PREPAREDNESS

- Development and maintenance of emergency plans including this EOP and Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).

[8] County of Lake personnel are declared Disaster Service Workers, per California Government Code Section 3100-3109. During an emergency many Department Directors serve as Section Chiefs in the EOC. All personnel are subject work response tasks outside of their routine duties.

- Participate in regular training exercises, drills, and simulations for government personnel and community members.
- Maintain and stockpile essential resources, supplies, and equipment.
- Develop public education programs to promote individual and family preparedness.
- Coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions for mutual aid agreements.

RESPONSE

- Keep complete records of costs, expenditures, overtime, repairs, and other disaster related expenditures.
- Assess the impact of the event on departmental personnel, clients, facilities, equipment, and capabilities. This includes inspecting, monitoring, and reporting the status of disaster-caused damage in Lake County, including private property, infrastructure, and public facilities.
- Report relevant assessment information through the respective department's chain of command to OES or the EOC on a continuing basis, as appropriate.
- Provide personnel, equipment, and resources to adequately support OES and ensure the efficient support of the Lake County EOC.
- Make staff available, when requested by OES, for emergency assignments, such as EOC activities, damage assessment, and liaisons with other agencies and organizations.
- Share only accurate and vetted information to the public.
- Coordinate and prioritize requests for equipment, personnel, and other support needs in support of department operations center (DOC) or EOC operations. Provide department resources (supplies, equipment, services, and personnel), as coordinated through the DOC or EOC.
- Ensure accessibility and reach of members of the community with access and functional needs.
- Use a Whole Community approach to engage the full capacity of the private and nonprofit sectors, including businesses, faith-based and disability organizations, and the general public, in conjunction with the participation of local, tribal, state, and federal governmental partners.

RECOVERY

- Coordinate other unmet ongoing needs that remain from the response phase. These efforts may include providing for continuity and/or restoration of basic services, providing physical safety and security, as well as a sense of stability necessary for recovery and resumption of normal or new normal levels of functioning.
- Maximize funding opportunities.
- Manage an inclusive, culturally competent recovery process.
- Provide and/or restore basic services needed to sustain the community. These services will include social and human services, public safety, and health services.
- Maintain and enhance Lake County's economic base.
- Participate in AAR/IP processes with recommendations for plan or procedure improvements.

Some departments have additional, specific response and/or recovery roles tied to specific Community Lifelines. These departments should maintain standard operating procedures (SOPs) and may establish a Department Operations Center (DOC). Responsibilities are outlined below.

Department-Specific Responsibilities

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Lake County Office of Emergency Services (OES), a division of the Sheriff's Office, is the lead agency for local emergency management, with the OES Manager overseeing daily operations, including staff and volunteers, under the guidance of the Director and Deputy Director of Emergency Services.

The Director of Emergency Services is empowered to request the Board of Supervisors and/or Governor proclaim the existence of a local or state of emergency, control and direct the effort of the emergency organization of the County and to direct cooperation between and coordination of services and staff of the emergency organization. In the event of a local or state proclamation, the Director's powers expand to allow for the reasonable protection of life and property.

The County Sheriff is the Director of Emergency Services. In the Sheriff's absence the Deputy Director of Emergency Services will fulfill this function. In the absence of

the Deputy Director of Emergency Services, the OES Manager may also serve as the Director of Emergency Services.

Key OES Responsibilities:

- OES maintains the Lake County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in a constant state of readiness, coordinates planning and training across the Op Area, conducts public outreach and education, and participates in regional activities with other Op Areas and Cal OES.
- OES monitors incidents 24/7, operates the EOC, ensuring adequate level of staffing, ensures emergency public information, alert and warning and other public information is disseminated.
- Considers recovery needs during response and initiates short-term recovery in collaboration with County Admin, to ensure a seamless transition to County Admin and other necessary Departments or agencies for long-term recovery.

Lake County Disaster Council

The Lake County Disaster Council meets state requirements regarding the establishment of a local disaster council. Pursuant to Chapter 6, Section 6-7 of the Lake County Code, the Lake County Disaster Council is empowered to develop and recommend for adoption by the Board of Supervisors, emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements and such ordinances and resolutions and rules and regulations as are necessary to implement such plans and agreements. The Disaster Council meets biannually.

Lake Op Area Emergency Coordinators

The Lake County Op Area's Emergency Coordinators, established by the Office of Emergency Services, include representatives from cities, county departments, state agencies, special districts, utilities, and disaster response and recovery agencies. This working group meets as needed to discuss and coordinate emergency management, preparedness, training, and disaster recovery activities. During disasters, the group plays a critical role in coordinating response efforts, ensuring effective communication, and facilitating resource allocation and recovery operations.

COUNTY OF LAKE

Some departments have additional roles tied to specific Community Lifelines. These responsibilities are outlined below:

Department/ Entity	Primary Role	Aligned Lifelines	Key Lifeline Stabilization Actions
ADMINISTRATION	Provides administrative support, coordinates resource allocation, and oversees recovery.	All Lifelines	- Facilitate interdepartmental communication. - Manage public information. - Management and administration of funding and recovery coordination.
ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL	Ensuring human treatment and protection of animals while minimizing animal-related risk to the community.	Safety & Security; Food, Water & Shelter; Health & Medical; Transportation	-Coordinate animal evacuation assistance, - -Sheltering operations -Preventing animal-related hazards -Animal search and rescue -Reunification.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT	Conducts damage assessments, manages private rebuild/ recovery, and coordinates redevelopment projects.	Housing, Economic Security	- Assess damage to homes and buildings. - Ensure reconstruction complies with safety standards. - Support economic revitalization.
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES	Coordinates mass care and shelter operations in collaboration with the American Red Cross and OES.	Food, Water, Shelter	- Deploy shelter staff and equipment. - Ensure safe, accessible shelter operations. - Coordinate care for vulnerable populations.
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES	Protects public health through food safety, water quality, waste disposal, and disease prevention.	Health and Medical	- Monitor water and food safety. - Mitigate public health risks. - Prevent disease outbreaks.

MEDICAL HEALTH OPERATIONAL AREA COORDINATOR (MHOAC)	Coordinates medical and health resources across the Operational Area.	Health and Medical	- Allocate medical resources. - Coordinate with local and state health agencies. - Support EMS and hospital surge efforts.
PUBLIC SERVICES	Ensures continuity of waste management, maintains public spaces, and supports community recovery efforts.	Food, Water, Shelter; Safety and Security	- Manage waste collection during emergencies. - Prepare public spaces for sheltering or supply distribution. - Support recovery efforts.
PUBLIC WORKS	Maintains and restores critical infrastructure, including roads and debris management.	Transportation, Energy	- Clear evacuation routes and staff evacuation points. - Restore infrastructure. - Coordinate debris removal. - Provide heavy equipment and technical expertise in support of response and recovery. - Conduct preliminary damage assessments.
SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	Restores critical services normally provided and collaborates with the EOC Liaison Section.	Energy, Food, Water, Shelter	- Restore utility services. - Provide food and water distribution. - Support community sheltering efforts.

City

In California, incorporated cities are required to maintain an EOP or adopt and annex to the Operational Area EOP*. It is the role of each jurisdiction in Lake County to support emergency operations as defined in their local Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) or Annex to the Op Area EOP, to ensure comprehensive coverage tailored to their unique needs and resources. Local jurisdictions are trained to manage emergencies at their level first, following their Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Each city and entity has core responsibilities in the phases of emergency management: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. Additionally, jurisdictions engage actively with the Lake County Operational Area emergency management organization to serve their communities effectively.

***The City of Lakeport has elected to adopt this EOP and develop and maintain an Annex for their specific jurisdiction.**

Mitigation

- Reduce disruption to operations through planning, equipment and supply acquisition, technology improvement, removal of barriers to restoration, and other mitigation projects.
- Support mitigation efforts to minimize disruption to systems caused by hazards within their jurisdiction.
- Inspect equipment, infrastructure, and facilities for deterioration, making necessary repairs and upgrades to reduce risks and enhance capabilities.

Preparedness

- Coordinate public and staff all-hazards preparedness resources and capabilities within their jurisdiction and collaborate with the Lake County Operational Area and other entities as needed.
- Develop and maintain an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) or annex to the Operational Area EOP, ensuring it reflects the district's roles and responsibilities during emergencies.

- Promote coordination of plans, implementation of core capabilities, and engagement with private sector entities, infrastructure owners, operators, and other jurisdictions.
- Develop Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), including:
    - Procedures to reestablish department operations.
    - Notification of critical personnel.
    - Assessment of damages and resources.
    - Relocation of critical functions.
    - Estimated timelines for resuming operations.
- Develop mutual support agreements with other jurisdictions where appropriate.
- Keep personnel informed, trained, and prepared by maintaining detailed emergency plans, resources, and participating in relevant training and exercises.

Response

- Deploy all available resources to protect lives, reduce injuries, and mitigate property and environmental damage, ensuring the well-being of their jurisdictions.
- Apply SEMS and NIMS protocols in emergency response and management activities to ensure effective coordination with the broader response system.
- Notify Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff of incidents and activate local EOCs as needed, focusing on:
    - Protection of lives.
    - Stabilization of the incident.
    - Conservation of property and infrastructure.
- Provide liaisons and coordination elements to the Lake County EOC if requested.
- Seek support from the Lake County Operational Area when local resources are clearly insufficient, following proper protocols, including written requests.
- Ensure local resources are thoroughly assessed and utilized before requesting mutual aid, with mutual aid requests made only when response and recovery needs surpass local capabilities.

Recovery

- Manage recovery efforts within their jurisdiction, focusing on restoring normalcy and rebuilding resilience.
- Complete their own and support the Lake County Operational Area's Post-Response Recovery and Mitigation (PRRM) efforts as needed.
- Maintain detailed records of disaster-related costs, expenditures, and repairs to support funding and aid requests.
- Assess the impact of the event on personnel, clients, facilities, and operations, conducting inspections and reporting status updates to the Lake County EOC.

In California, incorporated cities are required to maintain an EOP or adopt and annex to the Operational Area EOP. While optional for tribal governments and special districts, having an EOP is strongly encouraged to enhance their readiness and response capabilities. This collaborative and systematic approach ensures a resilient and well-coordinated response to emergencies across Lake County.

Special Districts

Mitigation

- Assess and report disaster impacts on district infrastructure and services to the Operational Area EOC.
- Support long-term recovery and mitigation projects within the district's jurisdiction, in alignment with Operational Area priorities.

Preparedness

- Actively participate in the Operational Area emergency management structure, including joining the Operational Area Agreement and attending relevant planning meetings and exercises.
- Designate a representative to serve as a liaison to the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and ensure coordination during emergencies.
- Share relevant operational information with the Operational Area EOC, such as the status of critical infrastructure, service disruptions, or resource needs.
- Develop and maintain an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), ensuring it reflects the district's roles and responsibilities during emergencies.

- Train staff on Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) protocols to enhance coordination with other entities in the Operational Area.
- Participate in Operational Area training, exercises, and drills to test interoperability and readiness.
- Maintain an inventory of district-specific resources (e.g., water supply, firefighting equipment) and make them available for mutual aid or Operational Area response efforts when appropriate.
- Develop agreements for mutual aid and resource sharing with neighboring districts and jurisdictions.
- Communicate with residents and businesses in the district regarding service updates, safety measures, and emergency instructions.
- Coordinate messaging with the Operational Area to ensure consistency.

Response

- Provide critical services and infrastructure support as defined in the Operational Area EOP (e.g., maintaining water supply, wastewater systems, or fire suppression capabilities).
- Activate internal emergency operations centers (if applicable) and coordinate response efforts with the Operational Area EOC.
- Support life safety, incident stabilization, and protection of critical infrastructure within the district's jurisdiction.
- Ensure communication with the Operational Area EOC regarding resource needs, service disruptions, and operational capabilities.

Recovery

- Pursue cost recovery for disaster-related expenses by submitting documentation to local, state, and federal agencies, as applicable.
- Participate in post-disaster reviews to identify lessons learned and improve future preparedness.
- Support long-term recovery efforts to restore district services and infrastructure.

Private Sector

Mitigation

- Implement protective measures to secure facilities, equipment, and assets against hazards.
- Conduct risk assessments and implement mitigation strategies to reduce vulnerabilities to hazards.

Preparedness

- Actively participate in emergency management planning and preparedness activities, including coordination with the Operational Area EOC, OES Emergency Coordinators Group, and other governmental agencies.
    - Designate representatives or liaisons to engage with the Operational Area EOC during disasters, ensuring timely communication and collaboration.
- Develop and maintain business continuity plans to ensure operational resilience and rapid recovery following a disaster.
    - Train employees on emergency procedures and coordination with local emergency management organizations.
- Partner with local agencies to educate the community on preparedness and resilience strategies.

Response

- Share operational information, such as the status of supply chains, infrastructure, or available resources, to support situational awareness and coordinated response efforts.
- Ensure continuity of services critical to public safety and well-being, such as fuel, food, and medical supplies, during and after emergencies.
- Facilitate the transportation, storage, and distribution of emergency supplies, including food, water, and medical goods.
- Collaborate with public agencies to disseminate accurate and timely information to employees, customers, and the community.
- Offer voluntary support through donations of goods, services, or expertise to aid response and recovery efforts, if appropriate.

Recovery:

- Support community recovery efforts by reestablishing business operations as quickly as possible.
- Partner with public agencies to provide economic support, such as temporary jobs or donations, to affected communities.
- Assist with damage assessments of private properties and critical infrastructure to aid in recovery planning.

Residents

Lake County residents play a key role in emergency management by taking proactive steps to protect their households and communities. Actions include:

Mitigation

- Prepare home and property for seasonal risks including maintaining defensible space (pre-fire) and ensuring property drainage system is clear (winter).
- Provide input and participate in the hazard mitigation planning process with the County and Cities.

Preparedness

- **Stay Informed**
  - Register for alerts to receive timely emergency information during incidents.
  - Know their zone
- **Plan for Emergencies**:
  - Pack and maintain a go-bag for each member of the household. Include basic necessities (clothing, medications, non-perishable food, water and supplies) to sustain each household member for 72 hours.
  - Identify potential evacuation routes. Actual evacuation routes will depend on the unique circumstances of the incident. Knowing how to get from your home/work to a main road/highway will help.
- **Strengthen Community Connections**:
  - Communicate with neighbors to establish a communication plan and identify unmet needs or unique situations (i.e. children home alone, transportation challenges, pets, work out of county, etc.) that would need to be addressed if an evacuation is ordered.
  - Join or establish a local Firewise Community and/or Fire Safe Council. Attend local area Town Halls or other community groups.

Response

- During an emergency, residents should rely on their preparation to act swiftly and effectively:
    - Follow evacuation orders and use the routes identified during planning.
    - Utilize emergency go-bags to sustain household members during the initial stages of a disaster.
    - Maintain communication with neighbors and emergency services to address immediate needs and share information.

Recovery

- After a disaster, residents contribute to the recovery process by:
    - Reporting damage impacts in a timely manner
    - Reconnecting with community groups, such as Firewise Communities or Fire Safe Councils, to assess impacts and improve future preparedness.
    - Sharing lessons learned with neighbors and local officials to strengthen resilience and enhance planning for future incidents.

Visit https://Ready.LakeCountyCA.gov for more details on preparedness, response and recovery. The County of Lake is limited in its ability to provide services and support during times of disaster, therefore personal preparedness is essential for ensuring individual and organizational safety and protection.

VII. Mutual Aid

When local personnel are insufficient to respond to an incident, mutual aid may be activated. California's emergency planning is based on a statewide mutual aid system to ensure adequate resources are available when local resources are inadequate. This system was founded on the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement, adopted by the state, all counties, and most cities. Under this Agreement, each jurisdiction retains control of its own resources while also providing or receiving assistance as needed. The state government must provide available resources to assist local jurisdictions during emergencies, and it is the local jurisdiction's responsibility to negotiate mutual aid agreements.

Mutual Aid Systems

Mutual aid coordinated by Cal OES includes three sectors: fire and rescue, law enforcement and emergency management. California Emergency Medical Services Authority (Cal EMSA) coordinates mutual aid for medical and health.
Emergency management mutual aid includes Emergency management Mutual Aid (EMMA), Public Utilities Mutual Aid, water/Wastewater Agency and Response Network (WARN).

The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (1950) serves as the foundation for Lake County's mutual aid operations. This agreement:

- Enables seamless sharing of personnel, equipment, and other resources between jurisdictions when local capacities are exceeded.
- Ensures that each jurisdiction retains control of its resources while providing assistance when needed.
- Supports multijurisdictional responses by defining responsibilities, processes, and reimbursement mechanisms for participating entities.

Resource requests are made at the local level to County to region to state. The OES Manager is the EMMA coordinator for the Op Area. When activated, Operations and Logistics Sections of the Lake County EOC track requests for resources and personnel. All Requests should specify personnel, equipment, reporting details, access routes, and estimated duration, among other key information.

For detailed mutual aid protocols, refer to the Mutual Aid Annex and resource request templates outlined in the EOC Functional Annex.

VIII. Continuity of Government

A major disaster may incapacitate government officials, damage facilities, or destroy records, threatening the County's ability to govern. Continuity of Government (COG) ensures leadership succession, preserves decision-making authority, and maintains public services under such conditions.

COG is established under:

- California Emergency Services Act (CESA)
- California Government Code Sections 8635-8642, 8621, and 23600
- Lake County Code, Chapter 6, Article 1, Section 6-5

Temporary County Seats

The temporary seat of government in the vent the primary location is not available due to emergency conditions are:

Primary	1st Alternate	2nd Alternate
Lake County Courthouse	Lake County Fire Protection District	Kelseyville Fire Protection District
255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453	14815 Olympic Drive Clearlake, CA 95422	4020 Main Street Kelseyville, CA 95451

The Board of Supervisors may identify other alternatives as necessary. This ensures that the Lake County government remains functional and able to serve its residents effectively during emergencies.

Governance & Leadership

The Board of Supervisors is the governing body of Lake County and several special districts. Within state law and county code limits, the Board adopts ordinances, establishes programs, levies taxes, appropriates funds, appoints officials, and manages zoning in unincorporated areas. Its five members are elected non-partisan from five supervisorial districts, serving four-year terms.

The County Administrative Officer (CAO) is appointed by the Board and administers county government in accordance with Board policies and applicable laws. The CAO manages the county budget, prepares Board agendas, provides essential information for decision-making, represents the county in intergovernmental relationships, coordinates county departments, resolves interdepartmental issues, and oversees the overall administration of county government.

The Sheriff serves as the Director of Emergency Services, and during emergencies is responsible for coordinating emergency functions, implementing emergency policies, and managing overall response and recovery efforts. This ensures clear leadership, timely decision-making, and effective coordination in crisis situations.

Suspension and Appointment

Section 8621 of the California Government Code specifies that during a State of War Emergency, in the event that any officer, of a political subdivision or employee of a state agency refuses or willfully neglects to obey an order or emergency regulation, the Governor may suspend that person and designate a replacement.

Lines of Succession

The CESA establishes procedures for the line of succession for government officers, ensuring the continuity of operations if the governing body, including standby officers, becomes unavailable. Standby officers[9] or successors retain the same authority and powers as regular officials, ensuring seamless decision-making and operational continuity.

The established lines of succession essential to emergency management are:

Department	Primary Seat	Secondary Alternate	Tertiary Alternate
Animal Care and Control	Director	Deputy Director	Facility Supervisor
Board of Supervisors*[10]	Chair	Vice Chair	Most Senior Member of the

[9] An "officer" is any member of an elected governing body, department head, or individual with public responsibilities requiring discretion and decision-making authority, including roles like the Emergency Services Manager and law enforcement officials responsible for public safety and enforcing emergency orders.

[10] California Government Code Section 8635 et seq. provides a process for reconstituting the governing body during emergencies. If all members, including standby officers, are unavailable, temporary officers can be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors in the county where the political subdivision is located, or by the Chair of a neighboring county within 150 miles.

Section 8642 allows local governing bodies to meet as soon as possible during a state or local emergency, even if the meeting location is outside their jurisdiction. Their key responsibilities in such situations include assessing damage to the community, re-establishing government operations, maintaining law and order, and continuing essential public services.

			Board of Supervisors
County Counsel	County Counsel	Senior Deputy County Counsel	Deputy County Counsel
Department of Social Services	Director	Deputy Director	Deputy Director
Health Services Department	Director of Health Services	Division Director	Division Director
Office of Emergency Services	Director (Sheriff*)	Deputy Director	Emergency Services Manager
Sheriff*	Sheriff	Undersheriff	Captain
Auditor-Controller	Auditor-Controller	Assistant Auditor-Controller	Supervising Accountant-Auditor
County Administrative Office	County Administrative Officer	Assistant County Administrative Officer	Chief Deputy County Administrative Officer

***Denotes Elected Official.** The Board of Supervisors will determine whether the line of succession are “stand-by” or “interim” until a permanent successor is appointed.

For more detailed information on continuity planning, including both Continuity of Government (COG), refer to the COG Annex.

IX. Annexes

Annexes to the Base Plan address specific functions, threats, and hazards, providing specialized procedures and responsibilities to ensure a coordinated response to various emergencies. These are maintained at https://www.lakesheriff.com/about/oes/plans.

X. Glossary of Terms

1. **After-Action Report (AAR)**:
   A document that captures observations, identifies strengths and areas for improvement, and outlines corrective actions following an exercise or actual emergency.
2. **Community Lifelines**:
   Fundamental services, such as safety/security, food/water, health, energy, transportation, and communications, essential to survival and recovery during a disaster.
3. **Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)**:
   A comprehensive plan to ensure that critical government functions continue during emergencies or disruptions.
4. **Critical Infrastructure**:
   Physical and virtual systems vital to national security, economic stability, and public safety, including utilities, transportation networks, and healthcare facilities.
5. **Disaster Service Worker (DSW)**:
   Any public employee or volunteer who is required to perform emergency duties as assigned by local, state, or federal government during an emergency.
6. **Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**:
   A central location where agencies and organizations coordinate resources, information, and decision-making during emergencies.
7. **Essential Support Functions (ESFs)**:
   State utilized organizational structures that group key capabilities and resources needed to support disaster response and recovery, such as transportation, communications, and public health.
8. **Hazard Mitigation**:
   Actions taken to reduce or eliminate risks to life, property, and the environment from natural and human-caused hazards.
9. **Incident Command System (ICS)**:
   A standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management approach that enables coordinated response among agencies and jurisdictions.
10. **Mutual Aid**:
    A pre-arranged system in which jurisdictions or organizations agree to provide resources and assistance to one another during emergencies when local resources are insufficient.
11. **National Incident Management System (NIMS)**:

A framework established by FEMA to ensure a consistent nationwide approach to emergency management, enabling seamless collaboration among all levels of government, private sector, and NGOs.

12. **Operational Area (OA)**:
    A geographical area, typically a county, designated to manage and coordinate emergency activities across jurisdictions, including cities, special districts, and tribes.
13. **Public Information Officer (PIO)**:
    An official responsible for developing and releasing timely, accurate, and accessible information to the public and media during an emergency.
14. **Resource Request**:
    A formal request submitted through established channels to obtain personnel, equipment, or other resources needed for emergency response or recovery.
15. **Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)**:
    California's legally mandated system for emergency response coordination, integrating multiple levels of government and emphasizing the Incident Command System.
16. **State of War Emergency:**
    A condition proclaimed by the Governor of California when the state or nation is at war, or an imminent threat of attack exists. This designation activates special powers and authorities under the California Emergency Services Act, enabling the Governor and state agencies to take necessary actions to preserve public safety, maintain order, and ensure continuity of government operations.
17. **Unified Command**:
    A management structure that brings together agencies and jurisdictions involved in an incident to collaborate under a shared set of objectives while maintaining individual authority.

XI. Authorities and References

This Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) complies with federal, state, and local laws and policies that establish requirements for emergency operations and planning. Key authorities include:

Federal

- Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 (Public Law 93-288)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (2003) – Established NIMS
- Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8 (2011) – National Preparedness
- National Response Framework (2013)
- ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Government (DOJ, 2007)
- Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101 (FEMA, 2010)

State

- California Emergency Services Act (Gov. Code § 8550 et seq.)
- Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Regulations (Title 19 CCR § 2400)
- California Natural Disaster Assistance Act
- Various Government Code sections, including: § 8593.3, § 8593.9, § 8610 (Plan content and access considerations) and § 23600 (Temporary County Seats)
- California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (1950)
- California Emergency Plan (2009)

Local

- Lake County Code Chapter 6 – Emergency Organization and Function
- Ordinance No. 3035 (2015) – Establishes the County Emergency Organization
- Resolution Adopting the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (1950)

Additional References

- **Cal OES Guidance on County Emergency Plans** – Outlines legislative updates from 2016–2023, addressing:
    - Access and functional needs (e.g., AB 2311, AB 477)
    - Cultural competencies (SB 160)
    - Community resilience centers (AB 2645)
    - Wildfire, extreme heat, and power outage considerations (AB 2238, SB 52)
    - Animal evacuation planning (AB 1648)
    - Emergency response language access (AB 1638)

APPENDIX I: Plan Concurrence and Distribution