

**NATIONAL MUTUAL AID STAKEHOLDERS MEETING  
FEMA REGION WORK GROUP MINUTES  
JUNE 3, 2009**

**FEMA Region 1 & 2**

**PARTICIPANTS**

T. J. Lyon – IMAS Technical Expert, Florida  
Kingman Schuldt - IMAS Technical Expert, Florida  
Harrell French – United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc. Representative  
Darrel Fournier - Maine Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Kingman Schuldt  
Don Fischer - New York State Representative TE- T.J. Lyon  
Stuart Pearson – Rhode Island State Representative TE- Brian Kelly  
Bill Higgins – Connecticut State Representative TE- Rick Talbert  
Chris Herrick – Vermont State Representative TE- T.J. Lyon  
Roy Jones - Massachusetts State Representative TE T.J. Lyon  
Michael Varney – EMC Representative

**STATE REPORTS**

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Status Report

The state has had a plan in place since 1982 however the IMAS project has allowed for a detailed review of existing operations with the changes to reflect the recommendations from the IMAS committee. The plan is currently being utilized (in concept) under the authority of Executive Order including legislation. A Power Point presentation has been developed to be available to almost every chief in the state through their districts as well as a professional development seminar. At the same time binders were created and issued to the Task Force Leaders and alternates which included basic operational information and guidelines. Others received handouts outlining use of the system and activation procedures and district coordinators were provided a copy of the Power Point for continued training. An article was published by the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts detailing the plan and related operations, a marketing and training plan has also been implemented for all agencies and we have established a "Opt In or Out" at the District level. Currently, there isn't a cost recovery mechanism associated within the plan, but the resource data base has been developed and incorporated into the communications systems. There still is a need to develop a model mutual aid language in order to streamline the intra and inter state deployment processes, EMAC deployments, workers compensation, and reimbursement issues.

Deployments

Massachusetts has experienced five activations and participated in two functional exercises.

### Key Issues

Complete the legislative process  
Administrative support for daily maintenance

### Financial Needs

Funding to support the administrative duties and management of the plan  
Funding for large scale functional exercise

### FEMA Needs

Commitment to on-going funding streams for the Mobilization Committee

## **CONNECTICUT**

Status Report - Opt Out legislation was developed and implemented in 2007, to date there haven't been any agencies who have selected to Opt Out. But the state currently does not have a process for addressing EMAC responses. A marketing strategy has been recently developed and they have delivered the presentations to the fire service and emergency management organizations throughout the state. Currently, the state is in the planning stages for creating a FOG and it will be developed in order to assist the operational assets for the functionality of the plan. A resource typed database has been developed to be used with WebEOC and training has been conducted statewide. Two Incident Management Teams have been established and three additional teams will be formed. Currently, we are updating the Regional Coordinator job description to define their roles and responsibilities within the plan and an automated coordinator notification system has been developed for statewide use. Statewide staging locations have been established and entered into the database for responses. The state plan is supported by all participating agencies and parties of interest, and the confirmation of formal legislative adoption needs to be confirmed.

### Deployments

Colchester - Large recycling center fire, involved assets and Coordinators from three Counties and 2 regions utilizing 3 regional Foam Trailers, 3 taskforces, a tanker strike team, a regional IMT, and statewide radio communications.  
Weston - Large Brush Fire with high winds that involved 2 homes and one structure, with assets and Coordinators from 2 counties and 2 regions, and Interstate Mutual aid from Westchester County, NY utilizing a taskforce, a tanker strike team and a brush strike team.

### Key Issues

Anticipated funding needs – Where will it come from?  
Dispatch center resource information and training  
Completion of the FOG in a timely manner

### Financial Needs

Continued funding to support regional and county coordinators

Printing and training of the FOG manuals statewide  
Large scale exercise funding  
On-going regional coordinator and IMT training

#### FEMA Needs

Committed funding for a fire service administrator assigned to each state for intra/inter-state mutual aid program

### **RHODE ISLAND**

Status Report – A state plan has been in place for many years and is very similar to Connecticut's plan, the state's intent is to utilize the IMAS process to enhance and update the existing plan. Their process for regular state updates occurs about every four years. The Rhode Island State legislation supports the plan and every fire service agency has signed a statewide agreement to participate. The system utilizes a pre-determined run card process that identifies resource inventories and is updated every three years. However, there isn't a formal training program for the existing plan and processes.

#### Deployments

Ship Fire  
Station Night Club Fire with multiple fatalities  
Pawtucket Mill Fires

#### Key Issues

Funding for future projects  
Dispatching guide and future training

#### Financial Needs

Funding for large scale exercise  
Funding for local coordination of program administration  
Printing of FOG and supporting documents

#### FEMA Needs

Committed funding for a fire service administrator assigned to each state for intra/inter-state mutual aid program

### **VERMONT**

Status Report – The draft plan has been developed and written in coordination with the legislative language, and there is a major need to achieve formal adoption at the state level. The intention of the plan is to respond to large-scale events not day to day mutual aid requests. The plan utilizes FEMA typing however of the 250 departments only about 50 will be capable of responding due to limitations on qualifications. Currently, there is no reimbursement process included in the plan. Planning is now in place to market and train coordinators and the plan will include an Opt Out option only. There isn't a resource database

System developed to date but resources will be managed manually by regional coordinators.

#### Deployments

Railroad incident  
Frequent state-wide HAZMAT requests

#### Key Issues

Want to learn how to collect the information and create a useable database  
Maintenance of resource lists, information, etc  
Education for various stakeholders and agencies

#### Financial Needs

Printing for FOG  
On going plan exercise  
Establish funding source for New England regional interface training and coordination efforts

#### FEMA Needs

Support to establish standardized resource typing with the input of the fire service  
Facilitate the development of a standard typing document

### **UNITED SOUTH & EASTERN TRIBES, INC.**

Status Report – A draft plan has been completed with an expectation to conduct a tabletop exercise in October of this year. A website is also under development utilizing Microsoft Share Point that will be utilized to coordinate resource inventories among the various tribes to help work through inter-tribal agreements as well as to share information.

#### Deployments

None to report

#### Key Issues

Establishing a valid resource inventory list and sharing the information with other stakeholders.

#### Financial Needs

Currently utilizing grant funding through 2010, but will need to identify future funding for program sustainment and coordination within the tribes.

#### FEMA Needs

None at this time

## **MAINE**

Status Report – The plan has been completed and supporting legislation has been approved and is currently in place and operating. The current plan was developed last September and comprised of approximately 90% Ohio plan and 10% Florida plan. The plan is reviewed annually for updates and changes. The FOG is currently under development and the tabletop exercise is tentatively planned for late 2009. Common communications and typing resource plans are currently under development and the plan includes specific language detailing financial responsibility of the state for all reimbursement issues; the plan also has the Opt Out language. Training of the plan will be coordinating the planning of the FOG and training of personnel in each county.

### Deployments

Five day warehouse fire in Paris, ME

Aroostook County flooding incident utilized an international response

Patriots Day coastal Northeastern storm utilizing intra-state resources over three days.

### Key Issues

Training and implementation of the FOG

Lack of fire service coordinated effort (representation) at the State emergency management level

### Financial Needs

FOG training and implementation

Statewide tabletop exercise needs

Establishment of a funding source for a full time fire service coordinator

### FEMA Needs

Committed funding for a fire service administrator assigned to each state for intra/inter-state mutual aid program

Funding for plan maintenance at the local level

## **NEW YORK**

### Status Report

The current language that exists requires the State Fire Marshal to provide state wide mutual aid and the existing plan is currently under review by the State Fire Marshal's Office due to the IMAS process. The state plan is largely based on the local plans philosophy, building upon the basic mutual aid process and the current plan is an Opt In program. Historically all agencies opted in years prior and there wasn't a concern for agencies ever taking the option to not participate in the program. The county coordinators are employed positions and utilized to help manage the plan. Currently there is a resource database process which allows for reimbursement of resource and training on the plan is on-going and there is an existing FOG manual in place.

### Deployments

A four day wildland fire event in Sullivan County the majority of resources were for manpower including 200 firefighters from southern New York and Pennsylvania.

Commercial plane crash in Buffalo – Plan was utilized to identify and mobilize anticipated resources. State resources were also utilized to coordinate specialized resources and needs.

### Key Issues

Maintain current resource inventories and quality control

### Financial Needs

Printing costs for FOG and other supporting materials

Establish funding for a FEMA Region 1 and 2 coordination meeting

### FEMA Needs

Support to establish standardized resource typing with the input of the fire service

Facilitate the development of a standard typing document

## **FEMA Region 3& 4**

### **Participants**

Gary West and Kevin Lauer- Tennessee Chiefs Representative TE- Mike Warren  
Tim Dunkle- Pennsylvania Fire Commissioner's Office TE- TJ Lyon/Nat Ippolito  
Bob Hendricks Kentucky Chiefs Representative TE- Terry Lipinski  
Ed Elliott Virginia Chiefs Representative TE- Mitch Ross  
Tucker Dempsey Delaware Chiefs Representative TE- John Preuer  
Frank Burns North Carolina Chiefs Representative TE- Kingman Schuldt  
Charlie Johnson Alabama Chiefs Representative TE- Nat Ippolito  
Rob Martin Mississippi Chiefs Representative TE- Kingman Schuldt  
Bill Lewis Georgia Chiefs Representative TE- Mark Nolan

### **State Reports**

## **TENNESSEE**

### Status Report

The plan is about 95% complete and we are currently working on CAT Planning. Currently our regional incident management teams are developing class and team development to work on the state plan. To market the plan we have produced 2 DVDs and a booth to help promote mutual aid within the state and we also have a very strong dedicated staff to help with our marketing efforts for the fire service as well as all hazards.

## Deployments

Intrastate: Tornado in Jackson County

Wildland Deployments

Interstate: Ice storms- Fire stand by; Emergency management deployed

## Key Issues

A lot of resistance initially from the state board within emergency management is probably the most resistant their director of planning was on board but the "older men" opposed, but we gave our TN presentation to show what we can do, when the tornados came through it helped our cause to have the IMAS plan.

At the local level a lot of fire chiefs don't work well together

Data management is our biggest issue right now and we need to finish that soon

Interoperability issues and communication issues within the state is very difficult need to work on it and bring it together

## Financial Needs

Support with data management- we need software, as well as providing something portable, such as a thumb drive. The thumb drive would serve as a back up system for: data, templates, and the FROG so that each fire chief can carry it.

Assistance with printing the FROG

Help with marketing

Have not conducted an IMAS sponsored exercise yet because we are waiting on our data system management

Would like to do a regional all state wide exercise as well

## FEMA Needs

Don't know who our FEMA contact is but we need more interaction and outreach before an event strikes

## Law Enforcement

At the University of Tennessee we have worked with the local police chiefs and sheriffs, but when they go out to bring in more law enforcement representatives it is not very successful; we would like more outreach.

They know about mutual aid- but there is not much of a presence within the chiefs and sheriffs

## Tribes

Have quite a few tribes in TN but no real interaction yet. Spoke with Harrell French will try to build a relationship to incorporate the tribes within TN.

## **VIRGINIA**

### Status Report

The plan is not completed yet; it is probably 80% finished. The IMAS mutual aid plan is an annex of the Virginia Fire Chiefs statewide plan and we are working

with the state emergency management. However, our working group members have a lot of other commitments so the workload is too much and the plan might get pushed to the side, so it has been a slower process. We have developed some partnerships with private organizations to utilize their outside experience and expertise with our plan development.

### Deployments

Intrastate: Tornado- Suffolk VA

Wildland fires

Interstate: wildland event with North Carolina deployed fire resources

Wildland event federal wildlife refuge

VA Tech shooting- multiple agency event mostly EMS and law enforcement

Queen of England visit to Williamsburg, Jamestown for the 400 Year anniversary

### Key Issues

Conflicts with existing state plans: State EMS, OEMS

TURF/territory issues as well as a lot of state issues

Lack of IT expertise

VA Fire Chiefs is a sub group to help with data management

Interoperability issues and communication issues within the state is very difficult need to work on it and bring it together

### Financial Needs

Assistance with producing DVDs for marketing

IT/database assistance-

Help to develop a marketing plan

### FEMA Needs

The biggest challenge is that we are adjacent to North Carolina so we work very closely with them. The Outer Banks is on the expressway in our state but there are times when there is not a lot of open communication between the two FEMA regions. Recently had lunch with the director from FEMA Region 3 to try to keep an open line of communication; response overall has been okay though.

### Law Enforcement

Not a player at all- we did try reach out in the beginning stages but it took too much time to get a response, so now we have no contact

## **DELEWARE**

### Status Report

The plan is about 80% complete and we dispatch resources often. We will have a meeting with John Preuer and the stakeholders to work on the plan soon.

### Deployments

Intrastate: Flood deployments but there was poor communication

Interstate: multiple alarm fire in 3 counties and 2 Maryland counties

### Key Issues

Participation of stakeholders, the workload is not spread evenly at this point  
State wide radios works well

### Financial Needs

Marketing plan strategy for exercises (funding available?)

### FEMA Needs

We have good open communication with FEMA but could be helped with more funding.

### Law Enforcement

ALS support- for air assets

Tech rescues- for air assets

But no real participation within the plan, but we will invite them to the stakeholders meeting.

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

### Status Report

Plan is 95% completed and we had a successful tabletop exercise in November 2008 to validate the plan. We also worked with career departments to help develop the plan and we established the plan to have a "opt in versus opt out" program. The Fire Commissioner Office just received funding last month to hire a full time program manager to work on the state plan. Also have a statewide incident management teams within the 9 regions in the state.

### Deployments

Intrastate: major fires, industrial, and apartment fires

### Key Issues

The state of Pennsylvania is a Commonwealth so there are a lot of government issues

We need the PA fire service to understand why we need mutual aid- need to educate stakeholders

Need resource typing and credentialing definitions because we don't have minimum standards for training to be a fire fighter

Data management- if we had all departments to opt in it would be over 100,000 pieces of apparatus so it will be difficult to type within tier 1 and 2.

Develop a marketing program for the IMAS project to help promote around the state and to try to receive funding from PA. Have ideas such as stickers, baseball caps, etc

### Financial Needs

Marketing help

Funding to sustain the credentialing process and to staff a 4 person team to help maintain and validate the process

Need help with exercises and education

#### FEMA Needs

Not a lot of interaction with FEMA right now but regional office for Region 3 is in PA but not a lot interaction with the mutual aid plan.

#### Law Enforcement

Very little law enforcement involved in the plan

We have a statewide incident management team with 16 chiefs for all hazards; they do play a part but not specifically in the planning process for IMAS

### **WEST VIRGINIA**

Chief Ippolito mentioned it is very difficult to bring them all together in their state. So, their state Emergency manager is writing the state plan for them, since there is a lot of division in the state between career and volunteer fire fighters.

#### **Region 4:**

### **KENTUCKY**

#### Status Report

The plan is about 80% complete and we had a successful tabletop exercise in April 2009. Also developed a resource list and in the process of marketing the program.

#### Deployments

Intrastate: Gustav power outage winds

Intrastate: In 2009- Ice storms

#### Key Issues

Tried to form partnerships with other agencies but there isn't any other involvement from the state or local level within law enforcement.

EMS has not been involved currently so it is difficult to have communication.

There have been very little synergy amongst the fire marshal office and the state board.

Emergency management side is very active within the state plan though. Will have a major biological statewide exercise in August 2009

#### Financial Needs:

IAFC to develop a common software program for data management to help each state with resource tracking

Help with data collection and fire standard statewide templates

Marketing and exercises- have done a little bit of marketing will look into DVD production

### FEMA Needs

Been more interested in helping than in times past

### Law Enforcement

There isn't any law enforcement presence at this moment

## **GEORGIA**

### Status Report

State Plan is 100% complete checked and capable to deploy had a mobilization drill in February 2009. Currently building a statewide dispatch deployment system with a mutual aid communication center, but we need to build a resource software system.

### Deployments

Intrastate: Atlanta Tornado

Interstate: Wildfire

### Key Issues

EMA resistance trying to educate them to get them on board

Continue to have funneling of federal money trying to unify all fire agencies in the state

Radio interoperability is an issue and we don't have a resource typing list or mobile communication

Legislative monitoring

Fire Fighter qualifications/credentialing system

### Financial Needs

Recommend exercises and regional exercises soon

Need to be aware when scheduling tabletop exercises because of the economy, such as fuel, budgets, etc

Radio Interoperability problem- no real typing or credentialing system

Legislative input

### FEMA Needs

Need a home base for Region IV we have very little communication

### Law Enforcement

Partnered with them using NIMS and they are very active participants in GMAG

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

### Status Report

Plan is 90% complete just recently had a successful exercise in April 2009. Still tweaking the plan and we are now working with state forestry as well. Law enforcement is also integrated into our state plan. Currently have 8 regional coordinators in place.

### Deployments

Intrastate: Wildfires large fire with fatalities

Interstate: Wildfire in South Carolina

### Key Issues:

Getting local emergency management involved, EMS, and law enforcement stakeholders

Develop a resource inventory & typing system, this will be very challenging for us.

### Financial Needs

Marketing tools

Resource typing software

Funding for printing the plan and & FOG

### FEMA Needs

State and local coordination within the community

### Law Enforcement

They are familiar with the plan and we have had joint training/exercises together on the plan.

## **ALABAMA**

### **"AMAS State:"**

### Status Report

The plan is 90% complete had a successful tabletop exercise in May 2007.

Currently, training on EM Tracker, and we annually update the Annex from the plan before hurricane season for regional coordination.

### Deployments

Intrastate: Deployed for Hurricane Gustav and moved and Incident Management Team to Birmingham.

### Key Issues

More training and coordination needed between emergency management and fire chiefs regionally and statewide.

### Financial Needs

Training on the concept, how it works, and the function

Marketing

Refinement of the FOG

Identify best practices within the state

### FEMA Needs

State and local level coordination & communication- they don't really know their role or how "robust" the system is.

## Law Enforcement

Other than at the State EOC there is minimal coordination

## **Poarch Band of Creek Indians (Alabama Tribe)**

USET is trying to develop TEMAC which would be a binding document similar to EMAC. Each tribe already has a verbal agreement and desire to help each other in time of need, but TEMAC will make it a more formalized agreement. We currently do not have local or state mutual aid within Alabama, but legislation is needed. If we join with the AMAS it would have to go through our legal department very closely to make sure we don't give up our sovereignty as a recognized nation, but we do have a good working relationship with the National Guard and FEMA.

## **MISSISSIPPI**

### Status Report

The plan is about 80% complete. There is a new contact in place and we met with MEMA and Homeland Security and realized there isn't a huge fire input in the state plan. We are trying to merge all hazards within the fire component.

### Deployments

Intrastate: Assembled for Gustav and Ike but didn't deploy

If Florida needed a taskforce Mississippi could send it, we are more prepared than you believe or think.

### Financial Needs

Easy definitions to type our equipment

Software data typing inventory for apparatus'

Terminology issues

Marketing of the plan to local, city, and county elected officials

### FEMA Needs

State and local level education on regional coordination from FEMA would help tremendously.

Communication and forms

### Law Enforcement

Local law enforcement and public works are involved at the local level we have a good relationship, but state law enforcement we do not work well at all.

## **FEMA Region 5& 6**

### **Participants**

No representative from Louisiana (see handout) TE-

Brian Satula- Wisconsin MABAS Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Mark Nolan

George Glenn- Arkansas Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Randy Justus

Bill Nelson- Michigan MABAS Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Randy Jusuts  
Brain Lott- Indiana Fire Chiefs Representative TE- John Preuer  
Dennis Beyer- Oklahoma Department of Homeland Security TE- Steve Pollock  
Ulle Seal- Minnesota Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Terry Lipinski

## **State Reports**

### **LOUISIANA**

#### Status Report

Not Available

#### Deployments

Hurricane Ike and Hurricane Gustav

#### Key Issues

Recent employee have now been assigned for a full-time position for plan maintenance and sustainment  
Engage all disciplines for All Hazards including PD and Sheriff's office and others  
No funding for training  
Continue the outreach to all stakeholders

#### Financial Needs

Not Available

#### FEMA Needs

Not Available

#### Law Enforcement

Not Available

### **WISCONSIN**

#### Status Report

N/A

#### Deployments

January 2008 Two tornados in Kenosha area  
June 2008 31 Counties had severe flooding  
July 2008 Major fire  
September 2008 Chemical fire  
March 2009 Chemical fire

#### Key Issues

We do not have a full time staff member to progress the IMAS development and implementation. We have a lot of part time, full time, and volunteer fire chiefs to help but everyone is just spread to thin and busy.

Need funding for a NIMS coordinator  
Marketing is a problem and right now we haven't market the plan yet  
Buy-in at top levels of Emergency Management  
Communications of responders and addressing interoperability  
Day-to-day operations that cross state lines

#### Financial Needs

Funding of NIMS coordinator  
Need to develop a program to market the plan

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

N/A

### **ARKANSAS**

#### Status Report

The state plan is complete but we are seeking final approval of the plan. We have viewed the Ohio database system and we are considering it right now since we do not have a database.

#### Deployments

Interstate: 0

Intrastate: February 2008 Tornado

#### Key Issues

In the rural areas of the state there is little to no funding for responders  
All of our volunteers are poorly equipped  
Issues with State Emergency Management  
Need to do a lot of education on the plan

#### Financial Needs

Funding for education and training  
Funding for plan development and support  
Education and marketing of the plan

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

N/A

## MICHIGAN

### Status Report

The Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs established a fire mutual aid task force in the fall of 2005. The task force consisted of fire service, state emergency management, public safety communications, and other interested parties. The members examined mutual aid systems utilized in other states and formulated a plan for Michigan based on the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System model initially created in Illinois. Over the past three years, with the assistance of the IAFC contractors, the task force has accomplished the following:

- Created a written plan for fire service mutual aid in Michigan,
- Created a mutual aid agreement consistent with Michigan laws and the intent of MABAS
- Created an orientation program for the fire service within Michigan
- Evaluated the Ohio fire mutual aid software program
- Established and maintained relationships with the state Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division and the Bureau of Fire Services
- Secured grant funding to implement the Ohio software program when it is released in the client/server format
- Identified the state point of contact dispatch center and 7 regional dispatch centers
- Created a MABAS-MI Coordination Center to coordinate regional, intrastate and interstate mutual aid requests
- Created draft implementation and field operation guides
- Secured limited funding from the MAFC and SMAFC to assist with start up costs
- Conducted MABAS orientation workshops for various county fire chiefs' organizations, the state homeland security conference, and the state 911 conference.
- Published several articles in the Michigan Fire Service News
- In the final stages of revising the final state plan and we now have a scheduled a tabletop exercise for September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009.

### Deployments

Interstate: 0

Intrastate: Major fire in 2008

### Key Issues

Limited resources to market plan

Haven't identified a funding source to continue the plan

Resource database: we need more guidance and training of the database system.

Right now we don't have a consistent format or guidance on how to use it, but we do have funding to operate the Ohio system.

Challenges with state attorney general personnel over MABAS agreement  
Michigan regional homeland security grant process requires that all regions allocate funds for a statewide project, so we need the ability for a statewide grant program

Interstate responses without declaration, need agreements with other states addressing CDL waivers, FF training requirements, EMS Licensing and liability. Communications accountability: need funding or incentive for all participating departments to add/change capabilities

Reimbursement for extended responses state indicates that there is no funding available unless there is a federal declaration.

There is no standardized resource inventory we require that all fire apparatus are entered in E-Team without any guidance or template for entry. Entries vary greatly in format etc. We need a standardized system for resource inventory and deployment.

### Financial Needs

Funding to help market the plan

Funding source for continued education on the plan

Develop funding stream for regional and statewide training

Funding for standardized resource inventory application

### FEMA Needs

Consistent reimbursement policy for all State plans

Require state governments to provide level of support for intrastate mutual aid, possibly through HSGP

Evaluate the possibility of using Lexipol SOPs for member agencies.

### Law Enforcement

N/A

## **INDIANA**

### Status Report

N/A

### Deployments

Interstate: IMT form EMAC request

Intrastate: June 2008 floods, utilized the plan within 13 counties

### Key Issues

Data resource collection is about 60% complete currently using the Ohio system but there are some issues within the southern part of state. Marketing in progress we hand out magnets with the 1-800 number, and marketing brochures, and give presentations at the Fire Chiefs, Emergency Management, and LEPC conferences  
We would like to schedule a TTX in the future

Need to build relationships with the City Managers, Mayors, and County

Commissioners

Cooperative effort with regional Point of Contacts

Financial Needs

Funds to market plan

Part time staff to collect data for resource management

Portable devices such as thumb drives for the state plan and FOGs

FEMA Needs

N/A

Law Enforcement

N/A

**OKLAHOMA**

Status Report

The final draft of the plan is complete and the job aid is in draft format. We also have a tabletop exercise scheduled for November 2009.

Deployments

May 2008 tornado Picher, Oklahoma

May 2009 EMAC request for Type 1 Water Rescue team to Florida

Key Issues

Need more funding

In the process of developing the resource database system

Financial Needs

Marketing funds

On-going training and education

Funds to assist with data collection for resource management

FEMA Needs

N/A

Law Enforcement

N/A

**MINNESOTA**

Status Report

Currently have a draft plan created.

Deployments

3 Zone EMAC: Floods

### Key Issues

Would like to create specific job description for regional coordinators and define regions

State Fire Marshal's office has recently purchased software for NFIRS reporting, in hopes to utilize it for resource tracking

Need help with marketing currently developing a tri-fold handout

### Financial Needs

Funding for data base system

Funding for marketing

### FEMA Needs

N/A

### Law Enforcement

N/A

## **TEXAS**

### Deployments

Interstate-0

Intrastate: Hurricane Ike

Winter 2009 wild fires

### FEMA Regional Response Improvements/Support

1. DHS must tell States that development and support of IMAS is a high priority. The message needs to be consistent to each state.
2. Dedicate percentage of DHS State grant funds to the implementation and sustainment of each IMAS state

### KEY Overarching Points in each State

1. Simple common data base system for all states
2. Best practice marketing and ideas list
3. Networking capabilities for stakeholders with a point of contact on IAFC web site for each state plan.

## **FEMA Region 7 & 8**

### Participants

George Teixeira II- Nebraska Forest Service Representative TE- Mitch Ross

Mike Flermoen and Becky Ault– North Dakota Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Mitch Ross

Kevin Ward- Utah State Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Mike Warren

Dan Qualman- Colorado State Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Mike Warren

Rich Lehmann – Missouri Fire Chiefs Representative- TE Mark Nolan

## **State Reports**

### **NEBRASKA**

#### Status Report

Just getting started to work on their state plan

#### Deployments

There hasn't been any large scale mutual aid activity in 2008-2009

#### Key Issues

Lack of support or buy in from State EMA

Volunteer firefighters have no job protection for longer deployments.

Local governments are losing their protection when resources leave the area

State EMA is biggest roadblock. The EMA leadership is connected to the National Guard.

#### Solutions

Have stakeholder's meeting and ensure invitation is sent to State EMA.

Have IAFC and NVFC address at the federal level.

#### Financial Needs

Funding for a stakeholder's meeting

#### FEMA Needs

See FEMA needs for all states at the end of FEMA 7 & 8

#### Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is not very involved in the state plan

### **COLORADO**

#### Status Report

The resource working group is currently reviewing and revising the plan. They evaluated the states IMAS during the planning and operational phases of the Democratic National Convention which was held in August 2008. During this large scale event weaknesses from the plan were identified and changes are under review, also plan to update the reimbursement portion of the plan.

#### Deployments

Structural strike teams were sent to a forest fire event, but we did not work well with State Forestry; also used the plan for the DNC, water supply contamination event, and tornado.

#### Key Issues

Need to exercise the plan more with the fire service.

ROSS does not provide availability. No checkbox for State Response only.  
Advertising and marketing to stakeholders  
Dedicated paid plan coordinator

#### Solutions

Conduct tabletop or functional exercise  
Trying to work with ROSS  
Need financial assistance from IAFC

#### Financial Needs

N/A

#### FEMA Needs

See FEMA needs for all states at the end of FEMA 7 & 8

#### Law Enforcement

Involved with the planning process and currently loading their information into the system

### **NORTH DAKOTA**

#### Status Report

We are just getting started to work on the plan in June 2008; the state hired four CBRNE coordinators and included mutual aid in their job responsibilities. The state has been divided into four regions where we have a designated anchor community and sub-anchor community in each region. Anchor communities have paid fire departments and sub-anchor communities have part-time departments. Looking for good templates to model our plan after and we will visit the IAFC website to review other state plans. Legislation was proposed to allow opt out of mutual aid but the bill did not make it to the floor.

#### Deployments

Flooding event where we received mutual aid from Minnesota and South Dakota. Supported federal resources at border incident with Fire, Haz-Mat, and Dept. of Health assets

#### Key Issues

The stakeholders wear too many hats, plates are too full  
Funding for personnel  
Turfism: Big city vs. Small city  
Political: justify the need of mutual aid to legislation  
Need a paid plan coordinator

#### Solutions

Legislation or work with Governor's office  
Education, Training, Exercises – Build relationships

#### Financial Needs

N/A

### FEMA Needs

See FEMA needs for all states at the end of FEMA 7 & 8

### Law Enforcement

Law enforcement has plan for specialized teams but nothing at the local level.

## **UTAH**

### Status Report

Launched the plan in 2008 working group was formed utilizing 7 counties that account for 96% of the population. Utah Emergency Managers Association initially was upset that they were not consulted in the beginning, but this issue has been resolved now. Legislation was allowed to opt out and it was passed in 2007 and the plan was distributed to the membership in January 2009. In the process of getting the plan to all of the local fire chiefs to market the plan and we conducted a tabletop exercise in May 2009. All of the resource data information has been loaded into IRIS. Recently presented the plan at the Governor's Public Safety Summit and we are now waiting to receive the AAR from the tabletop exercise.

### Deployments

In 2008 there were no major interface fires in the state, but we did deploy a strike team to California for 21 days.

### Key Issues

How to use the plan particularly in the smaller communities

Lack of depth in regional and county coordinators

Need to merge the fire state plan with other regional plans such as Haz-mat and the State Wildland plan

Need to do a better job of getting the plan to local fire chiefs

Need a dedicated plan coordinator

### Solutions

Education and Training

Joining sparsely populated counties

Ongoing discussion and education

### Financial Needs

Functional Exercises –90/90.

Brochures/DVD/ Thumb drives to assist with marketing

### FEMA Needs

See FEMA needs for all states at the end of FEMA 7 & 8

### Law Enforcement

Have not been involved but the fire service has offered their plan as a template.

## **MISSOURI**

### Status Report

Has had mutual aid since 1992 and we started the IMAS project in 2007. All stakeholders have all signed on and the plan was approved in August 2007 by IAFC. Successfully conducted a tabletop exercise in October 2008 and have reviewed and commented on the draft AAR. Other disciplines are working on their plans using the fire plan as a model.

### Deployments

7 Intra-state deployments: Ice storms; flooding; tornado; and wildland fires. Flooding incident sent swift water rescue resources to Iowa. Also sent to and received from Illinois resources for water rescue. Deployed two EMS strike teams to Louisiana and Texas

### Key Issues

County Emergency Managers feel they can override the plan  
Dispatch systems  
Dedicated paid coordinator

### Solutions

Education and training  
Try to mirror the Ohio plan

### Financial Needs

Funding for a database resource system

### FEMA Needs

See FEMA needs for all states at the end of FEMA 7 & 8

### **FEMA Needs for Region 7&8**

Fix EMAC

Legislation at State level to mirror neighboring states

Need a better way to overlap regional approach – can not always stick to the region for resources

Resource database is needed

Communications – Method for pre-notification

Model information sharing after National Situational Report

### Law Enforcement

Law enforcement not active in this area

### **FEMA Region 9 & 10**

### **Participants**

Kirk Hale & Mariana Ruiz-Temple- Oregon Fire Chiefs Representative TE- Brian Kelly

Bridget Bushue- Alaska Fire Chiefs Representative- TE Brian Kelly  
Darryl Oliviera- Hawaii Fire Chiefs Representative- TE Mike Warren  
Mark Wendelsdorf- Idaho Fire Chiefs Representative- TE Mike Warren  
Mike Brown- Nevada Fire Chiefs Representative- TE Mike Warren  
We asked for a list of all contact information of the tribal nations in each state.

## **State Reports**

### **OREGON**

#### Status Report

The mobilization plan rewrite has been completed and we are currently developing the FOG.

#### Deployments

In 2008 deployed an IST for a bombing line of duty death of two police officers and a firefighter

One major fire deployment

#### Key Issues

EMA office does not connect with the Office of the State Fire Marshals and this will continue to be a problem until it is corrected. Since, EMAC does not work so well, we believe that the State EMA is afraid to lose control and lacks confidence in the reimbursement process of EMAC.

#### Financial Needs

Will use the \$7,000 grant to print and distribute copies of the FOG to each fire agency in Oregon

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

State fire marshal is part of the State Police, but there is not much participation by the law enforcement agencies in Oregon. However, in a recent line of duty death the SFM activated an IST, and those officers who participated in the investigation, finally understood the benefit of the ICS to manage incidents.

### **IDAHO**

#### Status Report

In 1995 the governor mandated a development of a state wide mutual aid plan, however there hasn't been a state agency willing to take on the responsibility for the development of a mutual aid plan. Finally, the Bureau of Land, which has managed wildland resources in the past, has agreed to include the structural fire world in the plan. Hope to have version 1.1 of the mutual aid plan ready for final review in the fall of this year. The emergency managers are not involved and law

enforcement isn't involved either. Boise is not much of a player, however, they are slowly moving into the game. Hopefully, they will embrace the concept of give and take because they are the big city within the state.

#### Deployments

N/A

#### Key Issues

The former DHS director was supportive, but he has since retired, but DHS has hired someone to go throughout the state and type all fire resources. We will use ROSSS to manage all resources.

#### Financial Needs

Help with FOG development

Could use funds to hire a person to assist in plan development

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

Not involved at all

### **ALASKA**

#### Status Report

Alaska Fire Chiefs are very active association with a lot of support from DHS. The state is divided into regions based upon the time of the year and they have many current incident specific agreements for earthquakes and volcanic ash, etc. Also have agreements with Canada for wildland and with the military bases. DHS, EMA and other agencies are all key stakeholders within our plan development. We have 275 fire departments in the state and it is a challenge with education because of the geographic regions. The Indian nations have also been receptive to inclusion in the mutual aid plan.

#### Deployments

N/A

#### Key Issues

N/A

### **NEVADA**

#### Status Report

The original state mutual aid plan was signed in 1994, but the state did not actually use it. Currently, the state is divided into three regions and Clark County does not participate with any agencies in the state. However, the local fire

agencies in Clark County were not prepared to respond to the wildland fires in 2007 during Firestorm in southern California because they could not respond due to lack of training and equipment. As of last week we received funding for a fire mutual aid position to coordinate the plan, also Nevada ROSS is being used and is very useful for resource tracking.

#### Deployments

N/A

#### Key Issues

N/A

#### Financial Needs

Would like to see a pre loaded funding source for deployments each year. And have a funding source to pay responding agencies who deploy for disasters, then reimburse the funding source instead of having the fire agency wait for the funds to be reimbursed back to them.

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

N/A

### **HAWAII**

#### Status Report

We have received a lot of support for the recent annex to the state emergency response plan. The annex does not require legislative approval but the plan will greatly aid the fire chiefs within the state. Local, state, federal, and military contracted civilian fire departments and private fire departments are all involved in the plan development. Law enforcement is not involved as of yet, however, we are meeting with the state EMA in July and with each of the county (Island) emergency managers. Chief Warren mentioned that as Hawaii comes up to speed, it may become a great source of support for contacting the US territories in the future.

#### Deployments

N/A

#### Key Issues

N/A

#### Financial Needs

N/A

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

N/A

### **ARIZONA**

#### Status Report

We recently conducted a tabletop exercise to test the new plan using a wildland fire incident. Also rewriting the FOG to reflect the needs of Arizona and each county has been appointed a Fire Resource Coordinator to manage the plan. Currently, meeting the second week in June to roll out the changes of the state plan and we have a scheduled IMAS tabletop exercise planned for October 2009 and it will not be a wildland drill. We also are conducting a survey of our fire resources within the state.

#### Deployments

Would like to establish an interstate agreement with California and Nevada

#### Key Issues

Problems include lack of a 24/7/365 dispatch center for wildland fires because the state forest service only staff around the clock 8 months during the year.

Lack a systemized deployment procedure

Need a resource database system, currently using IRIS to track resources

#### Financial Needs

N/A

#### FEMA Needs

N/A

#### Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is not included within the plan