

## ESF 8. Public Health and Medical Services

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this annex is to outline the process for organizing and coordinating the medical and health services during a major emergency/disaster as well as identifying mitigation and preparedness activities.

### 2. Situation and Assumptions

#### 2.1 Situation

There are several emergency situations, both natural and human-caused, that could disrupt or overwhelm the normal delivery of medical and health services, contaminate drinking water, and create communicable disease problems for a sizeable portion of Coos County residents.

Multiple Casualty Incidents (MCIs) could occur with any major emergency/disaster. An MCI Plan is required within the county by Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 333, Division 28, "County Ambulance Service Area Plans;" and the County's Ambulance Service Area (ASA) Plan itself.

#### 2.2 Assumptions

- Medical and health services shall include the ongoing services necessary for the safety and survival of the population.
- The provision of emergency medical services (EMS), that is the immediate, on-scene treatment of life threatening injuries, will be provided by the Rural Fire Protection Districts and private ambulance operators in accordance with the County Ambulance Service Area Plan.
- Volunteer disaster relief organizations will be requested to provide assistance in the delivery of medical and health services consistent with their resource capability.
- The Public Health Administrator must expect severe shortages of health resources in any disaster situation.
- It may be necessary to mobilize and utilize all available physicians, dentists, veterinarians, nurses and aides, emergency medical technicians, physicians and assistants, medical investigators and morticians.
- Local hospitals may need to be expanded by whatever means possible to make room for a large influx of casualties.
- Local nursing homes or care facilities may be needed to handle clinic overflow.

- Clinic staff may need to resort to triage in order to admit only those patients who can be aided.
- It will be necessary to develop temporary morgues if there is a high death rate.
- The Public Health Administrator must be prepared to disseminate emergency information relating to health practices and sanitary measures in the event of a major emergency.

### **3. Concept of Operations**

#### **3.1 General**

##### **3.1.1 County**

- Coos County Public Health will be the primary agency responsible for ensuring adequate sanitation and controlling communicable disease associated with a disaster for all of Coos County, including the incorporated cities.
- The Coos County Emergency Management office oversees the delivery of emergency medical services by the County's fire districts and private ambulance operators and ensures that the County Ambulance Service Area Plan and ASA Ordinance are kept current. The ASA Committee under the supervision of the County Board of Commissioners, and with the assistance of the Emergency Management Program Manager and Public Health, is responsible for developing, maintaining and monitoring a Multiple Casualty Incident Plan for Coos County.
- Coos County Medical Examiner with the assistance of the Sheriff's Office is the primary agency for coordinating mortuary services and making necessary arrangements with the Deputy State Medical Examiner.
- Coos County Mental Health is responsible for coordinating the counseling of victims and disaster workers.
- Coos County Public Health shall work to ensure a single source of information dissemination and a cohesive system for providing health care.
- Coos County shall coordinate with other local and state agencies to include the State of Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and/or OSU Extension Service, as appropriate.

##### **3.1.2 Incorporated Cities**

- Cities may be requested to assist in the delivery of health and welfare services by assessing the needs of city residents, identifying facilities which can be used for mass care or as Disaster Recovery Centers, and providing personnel and resources, as available.

- Upon the declaration of an emergency, cities may request assistance from the federal government to restore public facilities and systems vital to the health and welfare of citizens, such as city owned water or sewer systems. Such requests will be made through County Emergency Management to Oregon Emergency Management (OEM).

### **3.1.3 Support Agencies**

#### **3.1.3.1 Emergency Medical Services:**

- Fire departments/districts provide first responder services under the overall direction of the Incident Commander.
- Ambulances operated by the Fire Service and private operators provide transportation of patients.
- The local hospitals within the area of Bandon, Coos Bay, and Coquille will coordinate the treatment of patients, according to the available capabilities and supplies of that hospital during an emergency or disaster.
- Coos County does not currently have one of the three hospitals within the county serving as a designated regional hospital, however, should one be determined, they would then coordinate the distribution of patients, according to the capabilities and supplies of the hospitals in the area.
- Life Flight or similar emergency helicopter services are based at nearby facilities (e.g., North Bend Municipal Airport, Emanuel Hospital in Portland) and available locally and regionally for transportation of patients to the appropriate hospital.
- Other rotary and fixed wing patient transportation may be available from military and/or private sources. These services can be accessed through Oregon OEM in Salem.

#### **3.1.3.2 Medical Examiner Program:**

- The ME accessed through Coos County Sheriff's Office, the Deputy Medical Examiner or designee is responsible for the care, identification, and disposition of the dead during and after disasters.
- The ME originates requests for state and federal assistance for expansion of mortuary services.
- The ME coordinates support for mortuary services.

### 3.1.3.3 American Red Cross (ARC)

- ARC provides disaster services, including, but not limited to, dissemination of replacement medication and provision of blood and blood products in coordination with Coos County Public Health.
- ARC establishes and operates emergency shelter care centers during an evacuation. This includes reception and care facilities which may provide first aid and coordination of welfare inquiries for disaster victims.
- ARC provides mental health services for victims as well as responders.

### 3.1.3.4 Volunteer Disaster Relief Organizations:

Volunteer disaster relief organizations will be requested to provide assistance consistent with their resources, manpower, and capabilities.

### 3.1.4 State Government

- The Oregon State Health Public Health Division will provide for the organization, coordination, and direction of medical and public health channels as referred to in the Basic Plan and Declaration Annex to the EOP.
- The Department of Environmental Quality will make field investigations and studies of water pollution controls, solid waste disposal, and subsurface sewage disposal.
- Reference ESF 11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources 3 regarding affect animals for illness or disease.

### 3.1.5 Federal Government

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) assists state and local communities in taking protective and remedial measures for ensuring sanitary food and potable water supplies; adequate sanitary systems; rodent, insect, and pest control; care of the sick and injured; and control of communicable disease.
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation provides victim identification services for mass casualty incidents.
- Local Military Commands can provide manpower, equipment, and facilities to support local processing, handling, and disposition of the dead. Assistance from military commands and other federal agencies is to be requested through Emergency Management channels, i.e., city to county to state.

### 3.2 Direction and Control

The Public Health Administrator will direct the county response to medical and health emergency issues, working under the policy direction of the County Board

of Commissioners. The Public Health Administrator may choose to work as a part of the EOC Staff within the structure of the County Emergency Management organization or may assign a liaison person to work at the EOC, while remaining at the County Public Health Department and directing response activities.

### **3.3 Phases of Emergency Management**

#### **3.3.1 Mitigation and Preparedness**

Coos County Public Health will:

- Assist the county Emergency Management office in the development and administration of the county Ambulance Service Area Plan in accordance with federal regulations, state laws, Coos County Ordinances, and the Coos County Ambulance Service Emergency Response Plan.
- Identify potential health hazards and prepare the response to such hazards.
- Provide public education on sanitation and disease control.
- Establish and maintain liaison with clinics, nursing homes/care centers, and mental health organizations.
- Identify hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and other facilities that could be expanded into emergency treatment centers for disaster victims.

#### **3.3.2 Response**

Coos County Public Health Department will:

- Coordinate the assessment of health hazards created by disasters, including those incurred from damage to water distribution and sewage collection systems.
- Coordinate health and sanitation operations to include: safe drinking water, sewage disposal, food preparation, solid waste disposal, sanitation and food preparation at mass shelters, and vector control.
- Establish quarantines if necessary.
- Provide clinical and immunization/inoculation services.
- Coordinate with the American Red Cross to provide distribution of replacement medications.
- Maintain and disseminate information of vital statistics in cooperation with the Red Cross.
- Coordinate through the EOC the emergency augmentation of health and medical personnel upon request by health agencies.

### **3.3.3 Recovery**

Coos County Public Health Department will coordinate with healthcare facilities and assist with procuring needed supplies and personnel to facilitate faster recovery.

## **4. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities**

### **4.1 Organization**

The county Emergency Management organization will respond in accordance with the direction provided in the county EOP.

Coos County Public Health Department will implement their own disaster plan and work within the framework of the county Emergency Management organization, coordinating with the EOC staff at all times.

### **4.2 Task Assignments**

#### **4.2.1 General**

Task assignments for health and welfare operations will be consistent with those outlined in the Basic Plan section of the EOP and ESF 5, Emergency Management, for EOC Operations.

#### **4.2.2 Specific**

##### **4.2.2.1 Coos County Public Health Department**

- Notify personnel to report to Public Health and assign a liaison to the EOC to support the delivery of medical and health services.
- Manage medical and health operation per disaster plan.
- Coordinate with State and Federal agencies and volunteer human services resource providers.
- Coordinate with county Public Information Officer (PIO) for the dissemination of emergency information to the public.

##### **4.2.2.2 County Emergency Management**

- Assess situation and make appropriate notifications to activate and staff EOC.
- Notify American Red Cross and begin resource inventory.
- Establish communications links with affected jurisdictions and volunteer agencies.
- Assist in the coordination of logistics to support health and welfare operations.

## **5. Annex Development and Maintenance**

The county Emergency Management office, in conjunction with the Public Health Administrator, is responsible for ensuring that this annex is updated and revised, as necessary. The Public Health Administrator is responsible for developing and maintaining Public Health's disaster plan and any related policies and procedures.

## **6. Supporting Plans and Procedures**

Support Annex 8, Multiple Casualty.

Support Annex 9, Mass Fatality.

Also see Section 7 below.

## **7. Appendices**

Appendix A, Coos County Public Health Emergency Supporting Plans and Procedures Chart, reflects all plans and procedures developed under the predecessor Emergency Support Function Annex #8, Health and Medical Plan (6/21/06). The appendices, attachments, and documents that support the Health and Medical Plan and this ESF 8 are not included herein. Copies are on file with the Coos County Public Health Department.]

**Coos County Public Health**  
 After Hours Emergency Calls  
 March 5 through March 11, 2010

	<b>Communicable Disease</b>	<b>Environmental Health</b>	<b>Administration</b>
<b>NB Annex Problems</b> Water, Fire, Break In, Injury			1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Communicable Disease</b> Anthrax, meningococcal disease, measles, foodborne illness, unusual occurrence of illness	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Drinking Water</b> Impure or inadequate domestic drinking water (small community water systems)		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Hazardous Wastes</b> Discharge of hazardous, contaminated, or putrefying waste or radioactive material		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Rabies</b> Human is bitten and rabies is suspected	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**Call the staff in the following order, based on the type of emergency:**

Communicable Disease	Environmental Health	Administration
<b>(Vacation Mar 4 -7)</b> <b>Kathy Cooley, RN</b> <i>CD Nurse</i> <b>(Home)</b>	<b>Rick Hallmark</b> <i>Environmental Health Program Manager</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>	<b>Frances Smith,</b> <i>Administrator</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>
<b>Lena Hawtin, RN</b> <i>CD Coordinator</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>		<b>Sherrill Lorenzo</b> <i>Business Manager</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>
<b>Patty Flett, RN</b> <i>CD Nurse</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>		<b>Cynthia Edwards</b> <i>Administrative Aide</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>
<b>Dr. Hugh Tyson</b> <i>Medical Director</i> <b>(Home)</b> <b>(Cell)</b>		

**Please have the following information available to relay to the Public Health Responder:**

- Name/Agency needing assistance
- Reason for Call
- Phone Number for a Return Call
- Location of the Incident

### Coos County Public Health EOP Flowchart

