

ESF 2. Communications

1. Purpose

This Emergency Support Function is to provide information about the communication capability for emergency operations in Coos County.

2. Concept of Operations

- Emergency calls from the public are received by the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). This PSAP, commonly referred to as the 911 center, also dispatches public safety agencies in response to the calls received. Coos County 911 Dispatch Center and North Coos 911 Dispatch Center are the two PSAP's for calls for service in Coos County. Coos County 911 Dispatch Center transfers all 911 calls for the Coos Bay and North Bend jurisdictions to the North Coos 911 Dispatch Center.
- Non-public safety agencies are usually self-dispatched, i.e., City Public Works, school buses, and Coos County Area Transit (CCAT). County Road department self-dispatches during normal business hours with Coos County 911 Dispatch Center assisting with afterhours and weekend dispatches.
- There are numerous public safety/service radios regularly operated by county and city personnel. In the event of telephone line failure, these daily operations radios will continue to be used, as much as possible, as the primary means of communication. The public safety radio system may be widely impacted due to its dependency on fiber connectivity.
- The Emergency Alert System (EAS) may be activated to disseminate emergency information via radio and television. The Everbridge system will also be used to disseminate emergency information via text message, phone call or email to the public as well as public safety personnel.
- Amateur radio operators maybe activated to transmit and receive emergency information. The Coos County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)/ Coos County Radio Amateur Communication Emergency Services (RACES), and other designated volunteers comprised of radio operators licensed by the Federal Communication Commission. These volunteers have registered their services and formed an organized pool of trained communication specialists to assist Coos County Emergency Management in providing alternate emergency and disaster communications including radio communications, and other services, such as Win link (e-mail using radios instead of telephone lines).
- Priority shall be given to the use and repair of emergency communication equipment.

- In the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the Communication Unit Leader will be responsible for coordinating the Incident Radio Communication plan (ICS 205)

3. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

3.1 Mitigation and Preparedness

3.1.1 County Emergency Management

- Direct the development and maintenance of adequate EOC communications capability, including training and communications drills and/or exercises of personnel for the EOC's Communication Unit, Communication Support Staff and Dispatch.
- Update and maintain a written agreement with the Coos County ARES/RACES unit and provide direction towards meeting the supplemental emergency communications needs of the county.
- Train staff in the use of the Incident Command System Communication Log 309.

3.1.2 Coos County Road Department, Operations Division

- The Operations Division is responsible for maintaining their communication equipment in good repair.
- Advises appropriate agencies, including County Emergency Management on necessary equipment and procedures.
- Participate in communication drills/exercises or other appropriate training that may be conducted by County Emergency Management.

3.1.3 PSAP/Coos County 911 Dispatch Center

- Develop and maintain a standard operating procedure to address emergency response needs.
- Participate in communication drills/exercises or other appropriate training that may be conducted by Federal, State or County Emergency Management.

3.1.4 Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)/Radio Amateur Communication Emergency Services (RACES) and other Designated Volunteers.

- The ARES/RACES unit, in support of emergency or disaster operations, will provide additional communication links to assist all echelons of local

government and volunteer emergency relief agencies in their efforts to minimize the effects of a disaster that is endangering life and property. The Coos County ARES/RACES unit will function where needed from the call up phase through recovery (termination of the disaster) or until normal communication circuits are restored. Other designated volunteers may be assigned similar duties (See Appendix A, ARES/RACES Response Plan).

- The Coos County ARES/RACES Emergency Communication Coordinator shall provide and maintain a current list of personnel and ensure sufficient training is provided to keep personnel current on equipment operation and communication procedures.
- Coos County Emergency Management will maintain a current list of Designated Volunteers that have sufficient training and are current on equipment operations and communication procedures.
- Under the direction of Coos County Emergency Manager members of the Coos County ARES/RACES unit or other designated volunteers will ensure that the EOC radio equipment is functioning properly and report any malfunctions to County Emergency Management.
- Participate in communication drills/exercises or other appropriate training that may be conducted by County Emergency Management.

3.1.5 Incident Management Communication Leader

3.1.5.1.1 Networks

- Ensures that indications and warnings, incident notifications and public communications, and critical information that constitute a common operating picture are disseminated through a combination of networks used by the EOC.
- Ensure that notifications are made through mechanisms defined in the emergency operations and Incident Action Plans. Update systems to include Everbridge, and social media.

3.2 Response

3.2.1 County Emergency Management

- The Emergency Management Office is responsible for activating the EOC, which will focus on communication and coordination for the county. (Refer to EOP Basic Plan for EOC activation.)
- The Emergency Management Office will activate the use of volunteer amateur radio operators if necessary.

- The Emergency Management Office will notify Oregon Emergency Response System(ORES).
- The EOC's Logistics Section Chief is responsible for staffing the Communication Unit Leader position, as needed, and ensuring that volunteers are fully utilized.

3.2.2 PSAP/Coos County 911 Dispatch Center

- Provide notification to all public officials including Board of Commissioners, County department heads, city officials, and emergency response personnel who need to be notified of emergency information or warnings.
- Dispatch the appropriate response.
- Will notify Oregon Emergency Responses System (ORES) if County Emergency Manager has not.

3.2.3 Coos County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)/Radio Amateur Communication Emergency Services (RACES) and Designated Volunteers.

- In addition to providing operators to staff the amateur radio equipment in the EOC and fixed unit equipment sites throughout the county, the Coos County ARES/RACES unit will provide personnel (if available) capable of assisting wherever needed during an emergency or disaster to ensure the continuous flow of information to the EOC.
- Mobile radio operators capable of portable field assignment to establish a communication link between the EOC and emergency shelters, mass care points, other agencies and departments, and other EOC's, as needed.

3.2.4 Incident Communication Center Manager(INCM)

- The INCM is responsible for managing the administrative documentation and inventory of the Communications unit and acts as a Radio Operator (RADO) in the absence of an operator. The INCM supervises RADOs in the Communications unit and reports to the Communications Unit Leader (COML). The INCM works in the Logistics functional area. An incident-based communications center established solely for use by the command, tactical, and support resources assigned to the incident.
- All entities involved in managing the incident will utilize plain language as prescribed by the NIMS Alert 023-06 (See Appendix B), for communications.
- Incident communications will follow the standards called for under the ICS.

3.3 Recovery

- Priority will continue to be given to emergency communication to further restoration efforts.
- County Emergency Management will phase out unnecessary communication resources as necessary.
- County Emergency Management will conduct after action debriefing to identify needed improvements in emergency communication plans and procedures.

4. Emergency Support Function Development and Maintenance

The Emergency Management Office will be responsible for maintaining this Emergency Support. Each agency and/or department will develop SOP's that address assigned tasks.

5. Appendices

- A. Coos County ARES/RACES Response Plan
- B. NIMS ALERT 023-06 Plain Language Policy
- C. Emergency Communication System Policy
- D. Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)
- E. Warning

Appendix A. ARES RACES Response Plan

1.1 Scope

This Appendix to ESF 2 Communications of the Coos County EOP describes the working relationship between the Coos County Emergency Management/ Sheriff's Office and the Coos County Amateur Radio Emergency Services/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (ARES/RACES) Group.

Coos County ARES/RACES is an organization of volunteer licensed amateur radio operators trained to operate communication equipment during emergency and non-emergency situations. Coos County ARES/RACES will provide support to Coos County Emergency Management and other local providers as directed by Coos County Emergency Management such as, local hospitals, Coos Health and Wellness, Fire Departments, Red Cross, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and any other agency or organization, in Coos County, identified as needing assistance with emergency communications. ARES/RACES members may operate from an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or may operate from their own home or in the field.

A Coos County ARES/RACES member must be registered with the County Emergency management office. Proof of this is a current County ID badge. This is written verification qualifying an individual is a registered as an Emergency Service Volunteer.

1.2 Purpose

This plan is intended to provide for emergency communications between Coos County government officials and other governmental and non-governmental agencies, such as Red Cross and Salvation Army, medical facilities, by the Coos County ARES/RACES Group.

Maximum benefits from Amateur Radio Communications can only be obtained through prior planning which identifies the agencies, organizations and individuals concerned, and assigns a definitive role to each. This plan enables agencies and organizations having emergency responsibility to include the Coos County ARES/RACES unit in local emergency plans and programs.

2. Implementation

This plan becomes official for implementation by Coos County when signed by the Coos County Emergency Director or Designee, the Coos County Emergency Manager, and the ARES/RACES Operation Officer. Under this plan, the Coos County Emergency Management is empowered to request the use of available volunteer amateur radio operators and communications facilities for call out, equipment installation, maintenance and testing, and drills and training.

3. Authority

Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations(CFR), Federal Communications Commission Rules and Regulations, for Amateur Radio Service.

4. Call Out, Notification Procedures

4.1 Procedures for County Official

In an emergency situation which poses a threat to life and /or property the County Emergency Management will contact one of the Coos County ARES/RACES leadership membership positions designated below. This call will usually come from the Coos County 911 Dispatch Center. After one of the designated Coos County ARES/RACES leadership members is contacted, that ARES/RACES member will initiate their call out system described in Coos County ARES/RACES Field Resource Manual. Or request a Everbridge notification be sent to Coos County ARES/RACES members. The County Office of Emergency Management maintains a list of all current Coos County ARES/RACES members that can be accessed through Everbridge.

The ARES/RACES Leadership positions are:

Emergency Coordinator
Operations Officer
Training Officer
Technical Officer
Secretary

4.2 Procedure for ARES/RACES Leadership

Call out directions, frequencies used are found in the ARES/RACES Field Resource Manuel. A copy of this is also found in the Coos County Office of Emergency Management on the N drive.

4.3 Non ARES/RACES Members

When in-person assistance is offered by radio amateurs that are not members of the ARES/RACES Group or other designated volunteers, they should be requested to connect with ARES/RACES leadership. The ARES/RACES leadership will give non ARES/RACES members assignments as needed based on their Federal Communication Commission licensure level. A photo of their ID and proof of their FCC status must be turned into the County Office of Emergency Management prior to using the individual. Emailing documentation will meet this requirement.

Radio Amateurs, being licensed and regulated by the Federal Communications Commission, shall at all times exercise sole and exclusive control over the operation of their radio stations. Such control cannot be surrendered or delegated, in accordance with Federal law.

4.4 Identification

The methods used to identify Coos County ARES/RACES members responding to an emergency communications support operation are the Coos County ARES/RACES ID Card. If member has no id County entities may vouch for the Member. A valid FCC Amateur Radio License and a photo ID, such as a Driver's License shall identify non-member radio amateurs.

4.5 Activation

Once a Coos County ARES/RACES member is activated they are required to maintain ICS 214's and 309 that are turned in to the County Emergency Management.

4.6 Termination

At the termination of an emergency, an announcement will be made on all assigned frequencies and repeaters. Acknowledgement should be made by all participants with their Supervisor following appropriate Chain of Command.

An After Action Report of activities and participants will be prepared by ARES/RACES Leadership for the County Emergency Manager. The report will include all original sign in sheets, ICS 309 and 214's. If mileage is authorized for the emergency, mileage Claim forms will need to be turned in and information must match the 214's.

5. Training

ARES/RACES members are required to do continuous training to maintain their skills and remain qualified emergency service volunteers. Training activities must be presented by or be preapproved by the County Office of Emergency Management to be covered by workmen's compensation. (ORS 656.039).

6. Approvals

This Coos County, Oregon, ARES/RACES Appendix is approved by:

Hahn 210
Coos County Emergency Director or Designee

9-20-22
Date

M. Gully #
Coos County Emergency Manager

9-20-22
Date

B. Black
Coos County ARES/RACES Operations Officer

9/21/2022
Date

Appendix B: NIMS Plan Language

NIMS *Alert*

NA: 023-06

December 19, 2006

NIMS Integration Center
202-646-3850**NIMS AND USE OF PLAIN LANGUAGE**

It is important that responders and incident managers use common terminology. There simply is little or no room for misunderstanding in an emergency situation.

The use of plain language in emergency response is a matter of public safety, especially the safety of first responders and those affected by the incident. It is critical that all local responders, as well as those coming into the impacted area from other jurisdictions and other states as well as the federal government, know and utilize commonly established operational structures, terminology, policies and procedures. This is what NIMS and the Incident Command System (ICS) are all about—achieving interoperability across agencies, jurisdictions and disciplines.

The use of common terminology is about the ability of area commanders, State and local EOC personnel, federal operational coordinators, and emergency responders to communicate clearly with each other and effectively coordinate response activities, no matter what the size, scope or complexity of the incident. The ability of responders from different jurisdictions and different disciplines to work together depends greatly on their ability to communicate with each other.

While the NIMS Integration Center does not require plain language for internal operations, it strongly encourages it, as it is important to practice every day terminology and procedures that will need to be used in emergency incidents and disasters. NIMS implementation is a long-term effort and it is probably not possible to persuade everyone to change ingrained habits overnight. But we do hope that over time, everyone will understand the importance of using common terminology, that is, plain language, every day.

It is required that plain language be used for multi-agency, multi-jurisdiction and multi-discipline events, such as major disasters and exercises. Beginning FY 2006, federal preparedness grant funding is contingent on the use of plain language in incidents requiring assistance from responders from other agencies, jurisdictions, and functional disciplines.

The FY 2006 NIMS Implementation requirement to use plain language does not abolish the use of 10-codes in everyday department communications. Accordingly, the use of 10-codes in daily operations will not result in the loss of federal preparedness funds.

This alert replaces the one on 10-Codes issued on February 8, 2006.

Appendix C. Coos County Emergency Communication System Policy

1. Order of Preference for Interagency and County Use

1.1 Telephone, both landline and cellular, will be considered the primary communication media for administrative support. Two-way radio systems, used on a daily basis, will be used for operations.

1.2 Cellular phone companies will be requested to bring in emergency cellular phone banks and have adequate cellular phone use dedicated exclusively to public sector use. Satellite telephone technology might also be requested.

1.3 If telephone service is out, and until telephone service can be restored, Coos County Emergency Management will communicate with cities, the state, and other emergency services providers using public safety radio. However, the public safety radio system may be widely impacted due to its dependency on fiber connection between states. Priority will be all existing emergency response agencies, including all Coos County Fire Districts, Police Departments, the Sheriff's Office, ODOT, OEM, cities, the 911 centers, and any other agency tasked with performing County Emergency Management functions.

1.4 For those who need to be in the emergency communication network, but who do not normally have a public safety radio in their possession, Coos County Emergency Management will attempt to provide a limited number of portable radios, chargers, and batteries. The Coos County ARES/RACES unit or other County Volunteers may be utilized for this purpose. Particularly to establish and maintain communication with shelters for the public and the Red Cross.

2. Order of Preference for Communication to the Public

2.1 Commercial radio, television, and newspaper – Coos County Emergency Management will be responsible for gathering status reports from utilities, emergency services providers, ODOT, and OEM and then providing that information to the Public Information Officer.

2.2 A telephone number will be publicized and dedicated to the public for reporting non-emergency damage to their homes and community for FEMA and other cost recovery reporting. This telephone will be staffed until no longer needed.

2.3 If power is out, the primary communication system with the public will be commercial radio/television Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) that are powered by generator and received on battery powered personal radio/TV's/mobile devices. Additionally, most cars have radios which are adequately powered for some time by car battery.

2.4 Fire stations will likely serve as area command post, providing and gathering, disseminating and transmitting information via direct contact with the public and via public safety radio with the Coos County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Coos County Dispatch.

2.5 As recovery occurs, we will eventually return to the use of telephones, both for public agencies and private citizens.

Appendix D. Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

1. County

Coos county partners will use all of the following alert systems and organizations as appropriate:

Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) is not subscription-based, but instead uses broadcast technology to distribute alerts via Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA), Emergency Alert System (EAS), and NOAA Weather Radio (NWR)

Emergency Alert System (EAS): The EAS participants broadcast on radio and television, cable systems, satellite radio and television providers, and wireline video providers. They deliver local alerts on a voluntary basis, but they are required to provide the capability for the President to address the public during a national emergency.

Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA): The WEA system delivers critical warnings and public safety information to the public on mobile devices. Participation by wireless service providers is voluntary, but most providers support WEAs. Those providers that participate adhere to technical and operational requirements established by the Federal Communication Commission(FCC}. WEA can support both English and Spanish messaging in a single alert.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Weather Radio) (NWR): Like EAS and WEA, NOAA, and the National Weather Service (NWS) Alerting Services also disseminate public alert messages. However, NOAA messages are transmitted over weather radios and have the added benefit of covering large rural areas using Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) codes. NOAA's Unique Alerting Services can also pull alerts from the IPAWS All-Hazards Information Feed, filtered by alert type and location.

National Warning System (NAWAS)

The National Warning System (NAWAS) is a nationwide automated communication system funded by FEMA. NAWAS mission is to disseminate warning information throughout the United States concerning enemy attacks as well as natural and technological disasters.

Internet-Based Services - IPAWS also supports Internet-based services to redistribute alerts via desktop alerting, mobile applications, digital signs, etc. IPAWS can be used to send alerts and warnings to the public via Internet-connected services and systems including; Digital signage; Cell phone apps; Assistive devices such as Braille readers; Smart home technology.

Unique and Emerging Systems

Unique Alert Services (UAS) are systems that have permission to retrieve alerts directly from IPAWS and deliver the alerts to their customer base. This system retrieves alerts from IPAWS and delivers appropriate alerts to various pathways such as digital signs, subscription based notifications, emails, reverse 911 systems, websites, or programs based on geographic location and/or type of alert.

Common Alerting Protocol (CAP):

Is a simple, flexible data interchange format for collecting and distributing “all-hazard” safety notifications and emergency warnings over information networks and public alerting system.

CAP systems provides compatibility with all types of information and public alerting systems, including those designed for multilingual and access and functional needs populations. They have the capability to include rich content, such as photographs, maps, streaming video and more.

○

Presidential System - Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Usage

IPAWS ensures that under all conditions the President of the United States warn the public in situations of war, terrorist attack, natural disaster, to public safety. However, most alerts and warnings are issued at the state local, tribal and territorial levels. IPAWS allows authorized users create geo-targeted alerts scaled to cover areas as big as the entire jurisdiction or a smaller area within their jurisdiction.

Authentication

EAS can only be activated by Coos County through the Sheriff’s Office or Emergency Management, therefore, upon request from other agency, an authentication process must be utilized. When being asked by other agencies to activate the EAS, the call will come either into the Coos County 911 Dispatch Center or the Emergency Management Office. At that time the name, agency, and return number will be taken. The person receiving the request will then place a call back to the requesting agency for verification of the request. Once verification has been received then the EAS will be activated

Oregon State Emergency Communications Committee:

The SECC is responsible for maintaining the state’s emergency alert system. The SECC supports ESF 2 through Administering the state’s Emergency Alert System plan.

Federal Partners

The state relies on a variety of federal partners to monitor and provide warning information for specific hazards. The following table identifies those partners.

Hazard	Federal Partner
Attack	North American Defense Command
Dam Failure	Bonneville Power Administration
Earthquake	United States Geological Survey
Energy Emergency	Bonneville Power Administration Radiological U.S. Department of Energy
Severe Weather	National Weather Service
Volcano	United States Geological Survey
Tsunami	National Weather Service Alaska and Pacific Tsunami Warning Center

FEMA and Federal Partners

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and the NOAA Weather Service (NWS) work collaboratively to maintain the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts, which are the two main components of the national public warning system and enable authorities at all levels of government to send urgent emergency information to the public.

FEMA is responsible for any national-level activation, tests, and exercises of the EAS.

The FCC's role includes establishing technical standards for EAS participants, procedures for EAS participants to follow in the event the system is activated, and testing protocols for EAS participants.

Alerts are created by authorized federal, state, and local authorities. Neither the FCC nor FEMA create or transmit EAS alerts.

Everbridge

Everbridge is a mass notification engine. Its system delivers messages through SMS, voice, email, sirens with over 100 modalities. It is backed with redundancies in SMS and other message delivery capabilities, with a very fast execution, to ensure messages are received without fail when life safety is at risk.

The State of Oregon contracts with Everbridge to provide critical alerts and warnings to all residents.

Appendix E. Warning

1. Purpose

The purpose of this appendix is to outline the process for the warning of key local officials and the public of an impending major emergency or disaster.

2. Situation and Assumptions

2.1 Situation

Key government officials and critical workers must be notified and the public warned, as soon as possible/appropriate, whenever a major emergency threatens or occurs. Warning capabilities and responsibilities need to be outlined to ensure that rapid alerting and accurate dissemination of emergency information is accomplished.

2.2 Assumptions

2.2.1 A warning period will be available for many emergency situations, although the amount of lead time will vary from hazard to hazard.

2.2.2 Warnings may be initiated by higher authority (state and federal government) through use of the National Warning System (NAWAS) or IPAWS, whenever a large area may be threatened by a major emergency, e.g., terrorist attack or severe weather conditions or from the occurrence of the event itself, e.g., earthquake or explosion. Other methods of notification are the Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS), teletypes, and Justice Information Network.

2.2.3 Telephone (voice and/or text), will be considered the primary system for notification of key officials and critical workers to the extent possible. Emails and fax is also used for notification when lead time is available.

2.2.4 Electronic media will be considered the primary way to provide warning and emergency information to large numbers of the affected population, both through news bulletins and the Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcasts. The EAS is activated through the Everbridge system.

2.2.5 The utilization of sirens, where applicable, will also be utilized for providing warning and emergency information to large numbers of the affected population more specifically for flood, fire and/or tsunami.

3. Concept of Operations

3.1 General

Existing communication systems available at the time of a major emergency shall be used for the dissemination of emergency information and warning. The warning function for Coos County requires a coordinated effort between the

various levels of government and numerous politically independent agencies as outlined below.

3.1.1 Communications Center/Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Coos County 911 Dispatch Center is one of two primary PSAP for the county. The second is North Coos 911 Dispatch Center. These two points serve as the warning points for Coos County by receiving and dispatching calls for service to all public safety agencies based in Coos County.

3.1.2 County

3.1.2.1 County Emergency Management

The Emergency Management Office, in coordination with both PSAP's, is responsible for outlining the inter-governmental warning process and once notified or aware of a major emergency or hazard for ensuring that the necessary dissemination of emergency information is occurring throughout the county to all levels of government and citizens that may be adversely affected by the hazard.

3.1.2.2 Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's Office, as a public safety emergency response agency, is responsible for development and implementing procedures to warn the public in the unincorporated areas of the county and any cities by agreement.

3.1.3 Incorporated Cities

3.1.3.1 Cities with EOPs

Cities maintaining their own Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) are responsible for developing, maintaining, and implementing a warning annex and procedures to implement the warning function for their jurisdiction once the message is received.

3.1.3.2 Cities without EOPs

Cities without an EOP will utilize the County Warning Function Appendix E as a guideline and work with local public safety agencies or the Sheriff's Office, by agreement, in developing, maintaining and implementing warning procedures for their jurisdiction.

3.1.4 Fire Protection District

As a public safety emergency response agency, fire personnel are constantly on the scene as first responders and may have to implement local warning procedures for municipalities without public safety capabilities or assist in the process with those that do.

3.1.5 Support Agencies

3.1.5.1 Support Agencies and Volunteer Groups

Support agencies and volunteer groups may provide assistance in the dissemination of warning information, especially to people access and function needs(i.e., seniors, disabled, non- English speaking, etc.).

3.1.5.2 Coos County ESD

The Coos County Education Service District (ESD) can provide direct assistance in warning Coos County School Districts, who in turn, would warn the schools within their districts.

3.1.6 State Government

3.1.6.1 State Issued Warnings

State officials may issue warning information as a result of severe weather warnings or watches, or any major incident which may affect a large area. Such information may be transmitted over the National Warning System (NAWAS), IPAWS or the Law Enforcement Data Systems (LEDS) or other means to local communication centers and police departments and may be broadcast over the EAS to the public.

3.1.6.2 OERS Notification

The Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS) will be notified of major incidents requiring public warning and will assure that appropriate state and federal agencies are notified.

3.1.7 Federal Government

Warning information may be initiated by federal officials and disseminated over NAWAS, or IPAWS, to the public. This information may include attack warnings, severe weather warnings, or other incidents which threaten a large area.

3.2 Dissemination of Emergency Information

The receipt and dissemination of warning information may utilize any or all of the following methods:

3.2.1 National Warning System (NAWAS)

The National Warning System (NAWAS) is a nationwide automated telephone communication system funded by FEMA. NAWAS mission is to disseminate warning information throughout the United States concerning enemy attacks as well as natural and technological disasters. Coos County's NAWAS line is located in the Coos County 911 Dispatch Center and is monitored in a 24/7 basis.

3.2.2 Media

Print and electronic media can provide an effective method of disseminating emergency information. Community newspapers are effective in providing detailed self-help information in slow-developing emergency situations, i.e., inclement weather, drought, etc. The electronic media can be helpful in issuing bulletins to inform the public of emergency conditions and information with or without formal activation of the EAS.

3.2.3 Sirens

Coos County has no county-wide siren warning system. However, some fire departments, cities, water treatment plants have installed sirens for specific warning devices to utilize during impending emergencies or disasters.

3.2.4 Public Address Systems

Most police and fire vehicles are equipped with public address systems which may be used for warning the public in localized emergencies. These would be effective as an alternative to door to door notification in small areas with limited populations. In most cases, the public should be instructed to tune into local television or radio for emergency information.

3.2.6 Door to Door Warning

In some emergencies, the most effective method of warning may be door to door contact. If time and emergency conditions allow, emergency service workers and volunteers can go door to door advising people of emergency instructions. This system would be effective only in those types of emergencies affecting limited areas and populations. Care must be given to keeping unprotected workers from entering hazardous areas to disseminate warning information.

3.2.7 Warning All People

Coos County is committed to protecting all citizens including those with access or functional needs, which includes any individual that may need assistance due to any condition (Permanent or temporary) that limits their ability to act

3.3 Direction and Control

3.3.1 Executive Actions

In emergency situations posing an immediate threat to life, any public safety official in the county serving as an Incident Commander or any other authorized public official may issue emergency information or warning by the most effective means. Such officials shall notify County Emergency Management as soon as possible to facilitate further notifications and actions, as required.

3.3.2 Coordination

Overall coordination of the emergency information and warning process will be exercised through Coos County emergency management or from the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) when it is activated.

4. Organization & Assignment of Responsibilities

4.1 Organization

4.1.1 Each county department shall respond in accordance with their role in the County Emergency Management Organization as identified in the County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

4.1.2 Other jurisdictions should work within the framework identified by their respective EOP's or the County's EOP, as appropriate.

4.2 Task Assignments

4.2.1 Mitigation and Preparedness

4.2.1.1 Coos County 911 Dispatch Communication Center

As one of two Coos County's P.S.A.P., Coos County 911 Dispatch Center has the following responsibilities:

- Establishing and maintaining procedures for implementing the warning function to notify those agencies and departments identified in Everbridge system.
- Assist in updating information in the Everbridge system
Monitor and receive tests on the National Warning System (NAWAS)
on a regular basis.
- Participating in annual drills and exercises to test the warning process.

4.2.1.2 County

Emergency Management -

- To update on an as needed bases information in the Everbridge system.
- To maintain equipment within the EOC/Coos County 911 Dispatch Communication Center for activation of the IPAWS and Everbridge system

Sheriff's Office

- The Sheriff's Office shall establish and maintain procedures for delivery of warning messages to the public and others, as necessary, in the unincorporated areas and any city by agreement.

Other County Departments

- Each county department head shall pre-identify workers critical to emergency operations and develop and disseminate procedures for notification and recall of them through the Human Resources Department.
- Each county department head shall develop policy and procedures, in conjunction with Emergency Management, for the diversion or release of workers not critical to their department emergency operations to assure the most effective use of the county personnel.

4.2.1.3 Incorporated cities

City officials are responsible for ensuring that agreements and procedures outlining the warning process are in place and that current notification information (names, telephone numbers, etc.) is provided and maintained. Procedures for warning the general public, schools, hospitals, etc. within each jurisdiction needs to be established and maintained.

4.2.1.4 Fire Districts

Each fire district is responsible for establishing and maintaining procedures for delivering warning messages to the public, schools, and hospitals within their jurisdiction or other overlapping jurisdictions by agreement.

4.2.2 Response

4.2.2.1 Coos County 911 Dispatch Center

Implements warnings through use of IPAWS and or LEDS as appropriate. As well as monitors Everbridge reports regarding messages confirmed or unconfirmed.

4.2.2.2 County

- Coos County Emergency Management Office is responsible to oversee distribution of warning/emergency information to county agencies once notified of the event to help ensure that the necessary flow of information is occurring throughout the county to include activation of the IPAWS.
- Coos County Sheriff's Office is responsible upon receipt of an emergency message from the Coos County 911 Dispatch Center, to use all available means to communicate warning messages to the public in the unincorporated areas and to any city by agreement, including, but not limited to, sirens, door to door notification, loudspeakers on vehicles, IPAWS and Everbridge as necessary.

- Other County Department heads shall notify and recall employees critical to emergency operations. A decision shall be made as soon as practical, in conjunction with the Board of County Commissioners and the Emergency Management Office for emergency assignment or release of employees not critical to departmental emergency operations if departments are not able to conduct route business. Such “non-critical” employees shall be notified as soon as possible of their need to report to work as normal, or of an emergency assignment, or of release until further notice. The notification may be done by an Everbridge announcement.

4.2.2.3 Incorporated Cities

Each jurisdiction is responsible for further distribution of emergency information once notified by the 911 center, unless there are pre-existing agreements for the 911 center to assist in notifying schools, hospitals, etc. Police and Fire Departments shall be utilized to notify the public, as per established procedures.

4.2.2.4 Fire Districts

Upon receipt of the emergency message from Coos County 911 Dispatch Center, use all available means to communicate warning messages to the public within their jurisdiction or other overlapping jurisdictions by agreement.

4.2.3 Recovery

4.2.3.1 County Emergency Management shall ensure that the public is informed of recovery operations in progress through the County Public Information Officer.

4.2.3.2 County Emergency Management shall conduct an After Action Review on the effectiveness of the warning function throughout the county.

5. Development and Maintenance

The Emergency Management Office in corporation with Coos County 911 Dispatch Center is responsible for coordinating the warning function and updating/revising the Everbridge system, with partnering agencies. Each agency will develop and maintain standard operating procedures that address assigned tasks.

Coos County Emergency Management and Coos County 911 Dispatch Center will establish guidelines for messaging and alerts to be issued through Everbridge

Things to be considered before sending messages

- Does the hazardous situation require the public to take action?
- Does the hazardous situation pose a serious threat to life or property?
- Is there a high degree of probability the hazard situation will occur?

To ensure that messages are effective, they must include and clearly address the following:

- Source
- Threat
- Location
- Guidance/Time
- Expiration Time