

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION (ESF) 11 AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Primary Agency: Chatham Emergency Management Agency

Support Agencies: Georgia Department of Agriculture
Department of Public Health
American Red Cross
Savannah Historical Foundation
Savannah Chatham Animal Control

Supporting information, documentation, activation instructions and checklists are contained in the Introduction to Emergency Support Functions Annex.

I. Introduction

A. Purpose:

This ESF implements Annex 11 to the Emergency Operations Plan. This ESF provides operational guidance to those who are assigned to work this ESF. This ESF has been established to support provision of nutrition assistance, management of diseases, food safety, and protect significant properties.

1. Actions undertaken through ESF #11 are coordinated with and conducted cooperatively with state and local incident management officials and with private entities.
2. Each supporting agency is responsible for managing its respective assets and resources after receiving direction from the primary agency for the incident.
3. Food Safety and Inspections are activated upon notification of the occurrence of a potential or actual Incident of Critical Significance by the Department of Public Health.
4. Actions undertaken are guided by and coordinated with County and local emergency preparedness and response officials and homeland security officials and existing USDA internal policies and procedures.
5. The Historic Savannah Foundation is the initial primary agency for National, Cultural, & Historic (NCH) resources and shall work cooperatively with the Department of Interior during incidents of critical significance.
6. Actions undertaken under ESF #11 to protect, conserve, rehabilitate, recover and restore NCH resources are guided by the existing internal policies and procedures of the primary agency for each incident.
7. The primary agency for each incident coordinates with appropriate ESFs and other annexes including the coordinating agency for the Worker Safety and Health Support Annex, to ensure appropriate use of

- volunteers and their health and safety and to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect the health and safety of all workers.
8. Control and eradication of an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation.
 9. Assurance of food safety and food security and
 10. Protection of natural and cultural resources and historic property resources before, during, and/or after an incident of Critical Significance.

B. Scope:

1. ESF #11 will coordinate the provision of nutrition assistance by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to include determining nutrition assistance needs, obtaining appropriate food supplies, arranging for delivery of supplies and authorizing disaster food stamps.
2. Management of animal and plant disease shall include implementing an integrated response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infective pest infestation. Ensures, in coordination with ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services, that animal/veterinary/wildlife issues in natural disasters are supported.
3. Assurance of the safety and security of the commercial food supply by the inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants, products in distribution and retail sites, and import facilities at ports of entry: laboratory analysis of food samples; control of products suspected to be adulterated; plant closures; food-borne disease surveillance; and field investigations.
4. Organize the protection of NCH resources by formalizing appropriate response actions to conserve, rehabilitate, recover and restore NCH resources.
 - a. Preparedness
 - (1) Maintain an accurate roster of personnel assigned to perform ESF #11 duties during a disaster.
 - (2) Identify and schedule disaster response training for ESF #11 personnel.
 - (3) Maintain current food resource directories to include maintaining points of contact.
 - (4) Identify likely transportation needs and coordinate with ESF #1.
 - (5) Participate in exercises and training to validate this annex and supporting SOPs.
 - (6) Ensure all ESF #11 personnel integrate NIMS principles in all planning. As a minimum, primary action officers for all ESF #11 agencies will complete ICS 200, 300, and 700 courses.

b. Response

- (1) Inventory food supplies and determine availability of food within the disaster area.
- (2) Coordinate with ESF #6 to identify the number of people in shelters and others in need of food.
- (3) Coordinate with ESF #6 to identify the locations of all mass feeding and distribution sites.
- (4) Coordinate with ESF #7 and ESF #11 to acquire food, equipment, and supplies required to support food service operations. Acquisitions include, but are not limited to, donated food, purchase of additional food, and refrigerated trailers.
- (5) Coordinate with ESF #1 for transportation of food supplies into the disaster area.
- (6) Assess warehouse space and needs for staging areas.
- (7) Coordinate flow of request and delivery of food into disaster area to ensure daily requirements are met.
- (8) Assess need and feasibility of issuing food stamps.
- (9) In coordination with ESF #6, monitor the number of mass feeding sites, soup kitchens, and pantries providing food to disaster victims.
- (10) Establish communications with State ESF #11 to coordinate food service assets beyond County capability.

c. Recovery

- (1) Continue to monitor food requirements.
- (2) Coordinate for the implementation of the Disaster Food Stamp Program.
- (3) In coordination with ESF #6, assess special food concerns of impacted residents.
- (4) Establish logistical links with local organizations involved in long-term congregate meal services.
- (5) Anticipate and plan for arrival of, and coordination with, GEMA ESF #11 personnel in the EOC and the Joint Field Office (JFO).
- (6) Ensure ESF #11 team members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

d. Mitigation

- (1) Support and plan for mitigation measures.
- (2) Support requests and directives resulting from the Governor and/or GEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
- (3) Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency, county, or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

II. Concept of Operations

- A. The Primary Coordinator for ESF #11, organizes the ESF staff and coordinates the capabilities and resources of the County Government to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for Incidents of Critical Significance that impact jurisdictions within the county.
- B. ESF #11 provides for an integrated response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic (i.e., transmitted between animals and people) disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease, or an economically devastating plant or animal pest infection in the county.
- C. ESF #11 ensures the safety and security of the County's commercial supply of food (e.g., meat, poultry, and egg products) following a potential or actual Incident of Critical Significance and mitigates the effect of the incident on all affected parts of the county population and environment.
- D. As a Federal responsibility, the primary agency for NCH resources, DOI organizes and coordinates the capabilities and resources of the Federal Government to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery and the restoration of NCH resources in prevention of, preparedness for, response to, and recovery from an Incident of Critical Significance.
- E. ESF 11 identifies, secures, and arranges for the transportation of food and/or food stamp benefits to affected areas.

III. Responsibilities

ESF Primary and Each Support Agencies shall:

- A. Attend at least quarterly meetings to ensure planning functions are carried out to support this ESF.
- B. Assess the need for and prioritize the deployment of services based on available resources and critical needs as they relate to your area of responsibility. Also to develop procedures to obtain telecommunications industry support as required.
- C. Assemble a list of assets available to support the recovery and coordinate this information with the EOC.
- D. Request volunteer agencies and industrial resources with communications assets to contribute assets to the response effort.

- E. Evaluate the availability, operational condition and duration of need as well as logistical requirements necessary to obtain critically needed equipment.
- F. Participate in drills and exercises to evaluate local communications capability. Maintain records of expenditures and document resources utilized during recovery in accordance with ESF #7 policies and procedures and report these records to the Primary Agency.