

ATTACHMENT 3

Emergency Support Function 2 – Telecommunications and Warning

STATE AND FEDERAL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES

STATE

1. Communications

Washington State Emergency Management has overall responsibility for planning and coordinating the emergency communication program within the state as identified in the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan*.

2. Warning

- a. Washington State Emergency Management is responsible for ensuring the receipt and dissemination of warning information throughout the state. Identical equipment installed in both the State Emergency Management EOC and Washington State Patrol Dispatch make it possible for either facility to disseminate warning information depending on the time of day (the State EOC is manned on a 24 hour basis). Both locations use NAWAS and ACCESS to disseminate warning information to local governments.
- b. Warnings, watches, and advisories will be transmitted by the National Weather Service to the State Warning Point for
 - 1). Floods
 - 2). Tsunamis
 - 3). Avalanches, and
 - 4). Severe weather

Other warnings that may be issued by the State Warning Point include, but are not limited to

- 1). Volcanic eruptions
- 2). Nuclear incidents
- 3). Hazardous material incidents
- 4). Earthquakes, and
- 5). Warning information to localized areas at the request of the political subdivisions.

- c. Upon receipt of any warning, the primary or alternate State Warning Point will transmit the information, without delay, to those political subdivisions that may be affected.
- d. The Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan identifies other responsibilities.

FEDERAL

1. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Under a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration, emergency communication support may be provided in disaster areas where such facilities have been disrupted.

2. Federal Communication Commission (FCC)

In the event of an emergency disrupting normally available communication facilities in a widespread area, the Commission, in its discretion, may declare that a general state of communication emergency exists, designate the area concerned, and specify the amateur frequency bands, or segments of such bands, for use only by amateurs participating in emergency communication within or with such affected areas in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations, Section 97-107 - Emergency Operations.

3. National Warning System (NAWAS)

The NAWAS Warning Point terminal, lines, and equipment throughout the state are provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the purpose of rapid dissemination of warnings.

Operational direction and control of the NAWAS is exercised by the National Warning Center except when emergency situations exist only within the State of Washington. During such time, direction and control is exercised through the Washington State Emergency Management Division.

4. National Weather Service (NWS)

The National Weather Service is responsible for forecasts and weather warnings that may present a threat to life and/or property.

5. U.S.G.S Cascades Volcano Observatory

This combined effort of the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, FEMA, and the University of Washington is responsible for issuing volcanic activity or eruption advisories and warnings.