

Concept of Operations	Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 10 Hazardous Materials Response
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Lead Agency	<p>Franklin County United Firefighters Association (FCUFA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alligator Point Volunteer Fire Department (APVFD) • Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) • Carrabelle Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) • Dog Island Volunteer Fire Department (DIVFD) • Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) • St George Island Volunteer Fire Department (SGIVFD) • St James / Lanark Volunteer Fire Department (SJLVFD)
Support Agencies	<p>Apalachicola Police Department (APD) Apalachicola Streets Department (ASD) Carrabelle Police Department (CPD) Carrabelle Streets and Roads Department (CSRD) Franklin County Emergency Management Department (FCEMD) Franklin County Health Department (FCHD) Franklin County Road Department (FCRD) Franklin County Sheriff’s Office (FCSO) Geroge E Weems Memorial Hospital (Weems)</p>

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1.0 – Introduction

1.1 – Purpose

The purpose of this ESF is to provide guidance to agencies / organizations involved in hazardous materials response.

The terms hazardous materials, hazardous waste and hazardous substances are used to classify various chemicals depending on their use, type of hazard and degree of hazard. The use of the term "hazardous material" in this document refers generically to any substance that falls into one or more of the above categories. For the purposes of this document, a hazardous material is defined as any substance that, if improperly handled, is capable of harming people, animals, plants or the environment.

1.2 – Scope

The county has limited resources available to respond to incidents involving hazardous materials. This procedure outlines local agency / organization responsibilities, identifies locally available resources and provides guidance on when and where to obtain resources from outside the county to safely stabilize and clean-up a hazardous materials release.

1.3 – Assumptions

There are no career service fire departments in the county. The county relies completely on VFDs¹ for firefighting and hazardous materials response. Therefore, it is assumed that local personnel and equipment capabilities will quickly be exhausted responding to even a modest hazardous materials incident.

Additional response and clean-up personnel and equipment will be needed to supplement local resources. Outside assistance will be requested by the FCEMD through the SWO².

2.0 – Concept of Operations

2.1 – General

The storage, use and transportation of hazardous materials is an on-going activity, even in rural communities. There are eleven fixed facilities in the county that use extremely hazardous chemicals, the primary chemical being chlorine used in the county's water

¹ Volunteer Fire Department

² State Watch Office



treatment plants. In addition, there are several main highways that pass through the county over which these and other hazardous materials are transported daily. The most frequently transported hazardous materials through the county include gasoline, fuel oil and propane. Even a small spill of these commodities can require a significant response and mitigation effort.

Hazardous materials response is provided by VFDs located throughout the county. Some, but not all, volunteer firefighters have received Awareness Level Hazardous Materials training. Relatively few VFD personnel have received Operational Level Hazardous Materials training. Resources available for the VFDs to respond to hazardous materials incidents are extremely limited.

2.2 – Organization

This ESF is part of the Operations Section of the county's EOC³. The county's EOC utilizes the ICS⁴ structure during all activations.

2.3 – Primary Activities

2.3.1 – Equipment Resources

The county's VFDs have only limited equipment to respond to hazardous materials incidents. The county's focus for hazardous materials response involves responding to and containing small releases of petroleum products into the Apalachicola River and Bay system. Equipment available for this type of response includes boats, containment booms, absorbent pads and pumps.

The county does not have resources such as fully encapsulating suits, air-monitoring equipment and patching / plugging materials.

2.3.2 – Personnel Resources

The approximate number of firefighters active in the county's seven VFDs is contained in the FCEMD's Resource Directory.

The county does not have the ability to respond at the technician-level to hazardous materials incidents. However, as stated above, some firefighters have received Awareness and Operational Level Hazardous Materials training.

2.3.3 – Coordination

³ Emergency Operations Center

⁴ Incident Command System



The President of the FCUFA is responsible for day-to-day coordination with the county's seven VDFs.

The FCEMD will work with the President of the FCUFA to maintain a current inventory of personnel, equipment and vehicles available for use from the VFDs.

Each county's VFD chiefs will be notified when the county EOC is activated via the PSAP⁵ located at the FCSO.

When the county's EOC is activated the FCUFA will be represented by one of the VFD chiefs or designee on a 24-hour basis as needed to coordinate the responsibilities of this ESF.

The FCEMD retains the responsibility to authorize a request for firefighting mutual aid assistance from outside the county.

2.3.4 – Operations

The county's VFDs will assume the lead role in responding to hazardous materials incidents.

Response capabilities are limited to containing small petroleum spills on land and in the Apalachicola River and Bay system. Assistance from response and clean-up agencies outside the county will likely be required for all spills.

VFDs will assist, to the best of their capabilities, in the following tasks:

- Identification of the hazardous material(s) involved in the release.
- Notification of the FCEMD who in turn will be responsible for making the required notification to the SWO and requesting outside resources, if necessary.
- Coordination of defensive actions to contain the release, if this can be achieved in a safe manner.
- Coordination of protective actions for the general public.
- Support for outside agencies or response contractors, if they are called in to respond to the incident.

Sizable petroleum spills on land, spills of chemicals other than petroleum products on land and spills of any chemicals into water bodies will likely require response and mitigation resources from outside the county. These resources will be requested by FCEMD.

3.0 – Responsibilities – Lead and Support Agencies

3.1 – Lead Agency

⁵ Public Safety Access Point



Franklin County United Firefighters Association – Developing, maintaining and deploying firefighting / hazardous materials response resources.

3.2 – Support Agencies

Apalachicola Police Department – To assist in implementing protective actions regarding the general public and to assist with traffic control.

Apalachicola Streets Department – To assist with providing road barricades to aid with traffic control and for clearing road right of way within their jurisdiction.

Carrabelle Police Department – To assist in implementing protective actions regarding the general public and to assist with traffic control.

Carrabelle Streets and Roads Department – To assist with providing road barricades to aid with traffic control and for clearing road right of way within their jurisdiction.

Franklin County Emergency Management Department – Will assist by maintaining communications with the SWO and coordinating needed resource requests.

Franklin County Health Department – Will assist with determining potential health impacts associated with a hazardous materials incident and to provide health information to the general public during and following such an incident.

Franklin County Road Department – To assist with providing road barricades to aid with traffic control and for clearing road right of way within their jurisdiction.

Franklin County Sheriff's Office – To assist in implementing protective actions regarding the general public and to assist with traffic control.

George E Weems Memorial Hospital – Will assist providing medical assistance to injured survivors and emergency responders in addition to providing limited decontamination assistance of same.

