PRIMARY AGENCIES:
State: Division of Emergency Management
Volunteer: Civil Air Patrol
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services

SUPPORT AGENCIES:
State: Game and Fish Department
National Guard
State Land Department
Department of Public Safety
Department of Transportation
Department of Water Resources
Volunteer: Military Amateur Radio Systems

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

1. Describe communications resources available to conduct statewide direction and control, and direct and coordinate emergency resources.

2. Establish responsibilities for communication operations.

3. Define operating procedures to support state/local government jurisdictions during disasters.

B. Scope

This ESF will coordinate the establishment of temporary communications in the areas affected by an emergency/disaster. Support will include state agency communications, commercially leased communications and communications services provided by volunteer groups such as Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES), Civil Air Patrol (CAP), etc.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. ADEM is responsible for developing, maintaining and operating emergency communications systems which collect and disseminate information, receive requests for assistance, and coordinate disaster response activities.
B. ADEM will assist local jurisdictions in developing, maintaining and operating emergency communications systems. Assistance will be provided for technical and program development guidance to assure a coordinated and integrated statewide emergency communications system.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. The state emergency communications system is a redundant system employing: HF, UHF and VHF radio in fixed and mobile configurations; RACES; CAP; computer technology and dedicated/common user wire, cellular and satellite telephone systems.

B. The State of Arizona Emergency Communications Center (SECC) is located in the SEOC. It is equipped to serve as a Net Control Station on selected radio nets. The SECC also interfaces and serves as an operating station on other state agency, law enforcement and National Guard communications nets.

C. The ADEM Communications Officer supervises the SEOC communications system.

D. Agencies will retain operational control of their communications systems and equipment during emergency operations.

E. The normal communications flow will be from the SEOC to county EOCs, FEMA Region IX Regional Operations Center (ROC) and interstate EOCs. The SEOC will serve as Net Control Station for ADEM controlled communications system. It is the primary interface for national, regional and interstate communications operations.

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. State Government

1. ADEM will:

   a. Develop and maintain primary and alternate communications systems for contact with local jurisdictions, other state agencies, interstate and national agencies required for mission support.

   b. Develop and supervise a comprehensive statewide emergency communications program and plan.

   c. Assist other state agencies and local jurisdictions in developing communications plans and systems which interface with and support the statewide emergency communications system.

   d. Conduct training and communications system exercises to insure reliable statewide emergency communications support.
2. During a declared Emergency, the following state agencies will assist ADEM in maintaining communications through primary or alternate systems.
   a. Game and Fish Department;
   b. National Guard;
   c. State Land Department;
   d. Department of Public Safety; and
   e. Department of Transportation.

3. State agencies and organizations involved in the state emergency communications system will:
   a. Develop emergency communications support plans which provide alternate or supplementary support to the state emergency communications system.
   b. Develop and implement internal security procedures.
   c. Conduct or participate in periodic tests or exercises to ensure responsive and reliable emergency communications support.
   d. Coordinate emergency communications support plans with the ADEM Communications Officer.

B. County Governments will develop and maintain a primary and alternate communications capability for coordinating vital emergency services.

C. Volunteer Agencies

The following volunteer agencies will provide primary or alternate emergency radio communications support:

1. CAP;
2. RACES;
3. Military Amateur Radio Systems (MARS); and
4. Amateur radio operators.

D. Federal Government will implement ESF #2 of the Federal Response Plan, to provide communications support to state/local jurisdictions. Assistance will be discontinued when state or local requirements no longer exist.
V. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

This ESF and the Arizona Emergency Communications Plan may be implemented to support national/state/local emergencies/disasters. Implementation may require full or partial activation of the SEOC.

VI. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

ADEM will maintain this ESF, Appendix and the State of Arizona Emergency Communications Plan.

Appendix

1. Alert and Warning