

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION #17

MITIGATION ANNEX

PRIMARY AGENCY:

State: Division of Emergency Management
Disaster Prevention Council

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose:

Describe the purpose of the State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT), Disaster Prevention Council and mitigation activities.

B. Scope

1. Gather and document types, severity and location of damages.
2. Disseminate technical information to state/county/local agencies on mitigation measures that can be taken during the recovery stage to lessen the impact of future, emergencies/disasters.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

- A. The greatest period of public interest in taking actions to reduce hazard vulnerability is the first few weeks following an event. Mitigation opportunities are lost if there is a delay in providing information to state agencies, counties and local jurisdictions.
- B. Current policy implementing the Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974 - PL 93-288, as amended, requires hazard mitigation efforts to be undertaken as a condition of emergency/disaster aid. Section 409 requires that during a Presidentially Declared Disaster, state/local governments evaluate the hazards affecting their area, develop a plan and act to mitigate such hazards.
- C. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants to state and local governments, private nonprofit and Indian nations to implement hazard mitigation measures. Hazard mitigation means an action taken to reduce repetitive losses from emergencies/disasters.
- D. Mitigation planning and actions should be accomplished before an emergency/disaster. After an emergency/disaster, mitigation opportunities exist only for the next emergency/disaster.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. When the Governor has proclaimed a State of Emergency, the Director, ADEM, will activate the SHMT.
- B. The SHMT will visit emergency/disaster areas and, in coordination with local jurisdictions, begin documenting amounts, causes and types of damages, and develop ways to mitigate against future damages. Should the emergency/disaster become presidentially declared, the SHMT will assist local communities in applying for HMGP funding.
- C. The SHMT will coordinate all activities needed to write/update the state Hazard Mitigation Plan.

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Director, **ADEM** is responsible for coordinating the activities of state/federal/local agencies in the implementation of state mitigation programs.
- B. **ADEM** is responsible for directing, coordinating and administering the SHMT. Other state agencies, as selected by the Governor, will assign a representative to serve as a team member on the SHMT. Local officials, volunteer agencies and private companies will be named to the team as needed.
- C. The **Disaster Prevention Council** shall consist of the members of the State Emergency Council and other members as determined by the Director. The Disaster Prevention Council shall coordinate the disaster prevention expertise of representatives of federal, state and local business and industry and promote partnerships to substantially reduce property loss from natural and technological disasters.

V. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

ADEM is responsible for the development and maintenance of this ESF.