

NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (NCEOP)
ANNEX A | APPENDIX 5 | TAB A
RESOURCE SUPPORT AND TRANSPORTATION (ESF-7)
2024 (Pre-Helene)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this appendix is to provide resources in support of local governmental entities, volunteer organizations and other emergency response organizations prior to, during, and following an emergency or disaster incident, including a catastrophic disaster. This plan also provides a platform for compatibility and interoperability among all agencies.

B. SCOPE

Resource support involves the provision of logistical support to state and local emergency organizations during the entire period of an incident. This includes the procurement of emergency relief supplies, space, office equipment, office supplies, telecommunications, contracting services, transportation services, and personnel required to support emergency operational activities. The provision of state transportation includes overall coordination of transportation assistance requests from local governments and state agencies, allocation of public and private transportation resources needed for the transportation of people, goods and services to and from the affected area, and assisting with recovery operations as necessary.

Resource support also provides logistical support for requirements not specifically identified in the other emergency support functions, especially resources unique to the emergency itself. Resource support involves the effort and activity necessary to evaluate, locate, procure, and provide essential material resources throughout the incident.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

Communities have been isolated due to problems with the transportation and communications infrastructure. County emergency operation centers are inundated with emergency telephone calls and resource capabilities become overwhelmed. State government has the capacity to meet most foreseeable logistical requirements. However, there will be shortages of a wide variety of supplies necessary for emergency population survival such as cots, sheets, blankets, pillows, pillowcases, tents for temporary shelter, and plastic and paper items for mass feeding.

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B. ASSUMPTIONS

1. Successful and sustained emergency operations are contingent upon an efficient and effective logistics effort.
2. Many local resources may be unavailable due to the level of damage to the transportation infrastructure or insufficient to handle the situation.
3. The state will provide transportation for resources requested by local government and may be required to provide transportation assets to assist local government in evacuation of citizens.
4. Clearing of access routes may be slow. Coordination between the local government and the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) Logistics Section and the SERT Infrastructure Branch may be required to organize emergency relief. Damage to the transportation infrastructure may require use of air and water transportation assets.
5. Transportation of resources may require staging areas. Counties must pre-designate staging areas to support their county operations and plan for integration of state provided assets. The state will designate Regional Staging Areas to support catastrophic disasters and survey them annually.
6. Supplies and equipment will be provided from current state stocks or from commercial sources.

III. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. LEAD STATE AGENCY

1. NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (NCDPS)

NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (NCEM)

- a. Direct and coordinate logistics operations.
- b. Provide resource support for the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), SERT, emergency management offices and other state supported field locations.
- c. Manage the emergency transportation function, coordinate with supporting agencies and prioritize the requests for transportation services in consultation with the SERT Leader and other SERT agencies.

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B. SUPPORTING STATE AGENCIES

1. NC DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION (NCDOA)

MOTOR FLEET MANAGEMENT

- a. Operate motor pools in support of response and recovery operations.

STATE PROPERTY OFFICE (SPO)

- a. Provide facilities needed by the SERT for response and recovery operations.
- b. Make available a tabulation of properties that may be available.
- c. Provide assistance in locating appropriate lodging, meals, or other support services for emergency workers.
- d. Provide janitorial, mail, courier, and other general administrative services as required.
- e. Through State Capitol Police, provide security services for the State EOC and other emergency management facilities.
- f. Provide surplus property listing for use during emergency situations.

2. NC DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES (NCDA&CS)

- a. Provide the SERT with information related to available emergency resources and supplies.

NORTH CAROLINA FOREST SERVICE (NCFS)

- a. Transport emergency food supplies through food distribution and state farms operations from NCDA&CS owned warehouses or other sources to distribution and/or mass feeding locations in disaster areas.
- b. Respond to requests for other available transportation assets in support of emergency/disaster resource requirements including use of hauling units, pick-up trucks, and helicopters. Needs will be prioritized as missions are received and by risk to life, property, and resources.

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- c. Provide equipment and personnel for road clearing of debris or earth, not including rights of way.

3. NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (NCDPS)

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL (SHP)

- a. Provide transportation, equipment, uniformed personnel, and related services as may be directed.

PURCHASE AND LOGISTICS (P&L)

- a. Provide personnel for the Purchasing Unit in the State EOC during disaster activations.
- b. Ensure personnel are trained and participate in exercises periodically.
- c. Coordinate procedures with NCEM Logistics Chief.

CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP)

- a. Provide ground support to include search and rescue and debris removal.
- b. Provide Point of Distribution (POD) Teams.
- c. Provide transportation for evacuees as needed.

NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD (NCNG)

- a. Provide ground transportation and logistical support as directed. (NCNG will not be a primary source for routine transportation requirements).

4. NC DEPARTMENT OF ADULT CORRECTION (NCDAC)

- a. Provide transportation, equipment, uniformed personnel, offender labor, and related services as may be directed.
- b. Provide a representative to the SERT Logistics Transportation Cell, when activated, who is able to coordinate use of buses and passenger vans to assist with evacuation operations.

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- c. Provide transportation to support evacuation missions, equipment, uniformed personnel and related services for the support of law enforcement personnel as may be directed.
- d. Provide transportation for the evacuation of offenders and other affected department personnel.
- e. Provide trucks and drivers as well as provisions (blankets, pillows, etc.) from Correction Enterprise Warehouses.

5. NC DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (NCDEQ)

- a. Provide the SERT with information related to available emergency resources and supplies.

6. NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NCDPI)

- a. Provide the SERT with information related to available or potential emergency facilities, resources, supplies, and/or personnel resources.
- b. Provide a representative to the SERT Logistics ESF-1 Transportation Cell who is able to coordinate use of school buses to assist with evacuation and re-entry operations.
- c. Coordinate with county school systems to provide buses for evacuation.

7. NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NCDOT)

- a. Provide a representative to the SERT Logistics ESF-1 Transportation Cell to provide assistance with communication between public transportation sub recipients.
- b. Provide a list of transportation agencies.
- c. Identify potential federal funding sources and identify other financial resources that may be available for public transportation grantees during an emergency.

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IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. GENERAL

All available state-owned resources may be used during emergency operations. Primarily, resource distribution will occur through the State EOC or area commands and from state warehouses. Resources that cannot be provided from state assets will be secured through direct procurement from federal or vendor resources.

Local governments will use their transportation assets and prearranged supporting resources to the extent necessary and available. If the extent of the disaster exceeds the transportation resources of the local government, state assistance will be provided upon request.

Contracted truck and charter bus transportation services, as well as state government transportation resources available to the SERT, will be used to assist local emergency operations and other state agencies in meeting the requirements of moving people, supplies and equipment. Resources will be allocated according to the following priorities: evacuation of persons from danger areas; transporting materials, equipment, and people required in support of local emergency response activities as requested through the State EOC; and maintenance of traffic movement for evacuation and re-entry.

The Logistics Section is responsible for transportation operations, and the Logistics Support Branch Manager serves as the State Transportation Coordinator. State Logistics employs a civilian transportation contractor to provide contract trucks and trailers to move most resources in response to a disaster. The transportation contractor will provide a representative in the State EOC to procure transportation assets as directed by the State Transportation Coordinator.

A Transportation Cell, consisting of transportation representatives from appropriate state agencies, will be established in the State EOC under the control of the State Transportation Coordinator whenever state assets are required to assist with evacuation operations. As a minimum for evacuation operations, the Cell will consist of representatives from the NC Department of Transportation, NC Department of Public Instruction, NC Department of Public Safety, and a representative from the civilian charter bus company currently under state contract. The Cell may also be established during other contingencies when significant, non-bus transportation assets are required from other state agencies for the disaster response.

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B. NOTIFICATION

NCEM will notify SERT members of an impending or occurring disaster situation. Emergency management standing operating procedures for SERT notification will be used.

C. RESPONSE ACTIONS

1. INITIAL

- a. Assess potential resource needs and evaluate the Disaster Buy List.
- b. Prepare the State EOC for operational activation.
- c. Maintain a resource tracking and accounting system for Logistics resources.
- d. Provide the SERT Leader with resource status reports.
- e. Identify procurement resources required in the impacted area.
- f. Identify potential facility locations in the impacted area.
- g. Notify the Transportation Contractor's EOC representative to report to the State EOC as needed.
- h. Notify Transportation Cell representatives if it is decided to activate the cell.
- i. Pre-stage transportation resources, if appropriate.
- j. Satisfy transportation request and requirements for delivery of resources to local government and requesting state agencies.

2. CONTINUING

- a. Continue to assess disaster reports to identify potential resource needs and satisfy requests.
- b. Continue operation of the State EOC as long as necessary.
- c. Continue to monitor and track resource requests and provide decision makers with accurate and concise information.

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- d. Continually reassess priorities to assure the most urgent transportation needs are being addressed appropriately.
- e. Continue to track committed resources, redeploy as necessary and provide the SERT Leader with resource status reports.
- f. Continue to support all state supported field locations and send resources to staging areas as applicable and appropriate.
- g. Provide for the full range of logistical requirements of the agencies participating in the disaster response and recovery efforts.
- h. Determine availability and provide supplies stocked in state distribution facilities.
- i. Provide security enforcement services to the State EOC.
- j. Coordinate with the SERT Fiscal Section to ensure proper accounting for all expenditures and purchases.
- k. Logistically support the occupation of the Joint Field Office (JFO) by state personnel, if applicable.
- l. Ensure that the state component to the JFO is operational within 12 to 24 hours of site selection and establishment decision, provided the pre-designated site and communications facilities are usable and operable.

V. DIRECTION, CONTROL AND COORDINATION

A. LOCAL

Local governments have transportation assets that are used to support normal functions within the community, and which may also be used during emergencies. These include administrative and utility vehicles (sedans, pick-ups, dump trucks), special purposes vehicles (water tankers, tractor-trailers), local school activity buses and public school buses (as prearranged between local government and local school boards).

All requests for state resources should be made through the county emergency management coordinators. Municipalities should coordinate their resource requests through the appropriate county EOC. County requests for resources should be directed to the State EOC for assignment by the Mission Assignment Coordinator (MAC).

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Each county will maintain one County Receiving and Distribution Point (CRDP) to ensure the county has the ability to receive state resources during a disaster. The CRDP should have at least 2,000 to 3,000 square feet of warehouse space to store pallets of emergency supplies, material handling equipment sufficient to unload supplies from tractor trailers, sufficient outside parking area to store at least 10, 53-foot cargo trailers, and designated personnel trained to operate the facility.

Counties must designate a sufficient number of POD to support distribution of disaster supplies (food, water) to 20 percent of their populations and report these locations to the Logistics Section so that they are available for use during disasters. Counties must also plan to provide staffing and equipment to operate these PODs or report to the Logistics Section the locations needing state support to operate.

B. STATE

The NCEM Logistics Section Chief is responsible for the management of SERT Logistics and coordinates the logistics operations of all state agencies. State logistics will be coordinated through the State EOC. NCEM staff will provide personnel augmentation to the Logistics Section so it can meet the increased personnel requirements of activation. Upon notification of implementation of the NCEOP, the Logistics Chief will determine which pre-designated augmentation personnel from other state agencies and within NCEM are required for the State EOC and the State Emergency Management Warehouses.

NCEM Logistics will provide transportation support as requests for assistance come through the State EOC. Most state requirements will be handled using contract transportation assets. If additional assets are required, or when it is prudent to use state agency assets for transportation requirements, the State Transportation Coordinator will coordinate directly with these support agencies. If significant assets are required from state agencies, the ESF-1 Cell will be established.

C. FEDERAL

When requested, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be the initial contact point for emergency operations. The Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) will be the single conduit for accessing federal resources during disaster events. FEMA Region 4 will provide a Logistics Liaison Officer to the Logistics Section of the SERT.

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The U.S. Department of Transportation is responsible for coordinating federal emergency transportation assistance to affected state and local governmental entities. If the transportation demands exceed the resources of North Carolina agencies, federal transportation resources will be requested. U.S. DOT is also responsible for coordinating transportation assistance for federal agencies with disaster mission assignments that lack sufficient transportation capabilities necessary to perform their emergency missions. The federal government maintains a contract with a civilian transportation company to handle most requirements.