NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (NCEOP)

FOREWORD

2026

The NCEOP establishes a comprehensive framework of policy and guidance for state and local disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation operations. The plan details capabilities, authorities and responsibilities. It establishes mutual understanding among federal, state, local and other public and private non-profit organizations. The NCEOP is designed for worst case scenarios – to include catastrophic events.

The NCEOP describes a system for effective use of federal, state, and local government resources as well as private sector resources necessary to preserve the health, safety and welfare of those persons affected during various emergencies. It is intended in all instances to be consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes establishes the authority and responsibilities of the Governor. The Governor delegates authority to the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety who will serve as the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) and will be responsible for direction and control of state operations. The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety delegates authority to the North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) Director who is granted the responsibility and authority to respond to emergencies and disasters as the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) Leader.

The NCEOP establishes responsibilities for state departments, private volunteer organizations, and private non-profit organizations that make up the SERT. The NCEOP incorporates a functional approach that groups the types of assistance to be provided under Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and responsibilities assigned to SERT sections for addressing needs at the state and county levels. NCEM is assigned as the lead state agency for each function to coordinate support from SERT partners.

The Basic Plan describes the concepts of response and recovery operations using an all-hazards approach. Annex A details functional responsibilities for state departments and agencies, private sector groups and volunteer organizations. Annex B contains hazard-specific emergency response plans that have been developed based on the frequency of regional occurrence, the potential impact of a hazard, and the need for abnormal response procedures. The Terrorism Annex, Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Plan, and Civil Disturbance Response Plan contain sensitive information and are not published to the public. This NCEOP serves as the foundation for standard operating procedures to efficiently and effectively implement state response and recovery activities.

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RECORD OF CHANGES

2026

Change Type	Number	Date Posted	Authorized By
Rev	1	July 2016	M. Sprayberry
Rev	2	December 2017	M. Sprayberry
Up	3	May 2018	W. Ray
Up	4	December 2018	W. Ray
Up	5	December 2019	W. Ray
Up	6	December 2020	W. Ray
Up	7	December 2021	W. Ray
Up	8	December 2022	K. Webster
Up	9	December 2023	K. Webster
Up	10	August 2024	K. Webster
Up	11	December 2025	K. Webster
Up	12	December 2026	K. Webster

Key: Change = Ch Update = Up Revision = Rev

Change – After annual plan review, a change constitutes the least invasive of the three plan management processes and is conducted annually. A change includes but is not limited to variations in phone numbers, office symbols, locations, etc. A change, despite the level of magnitude, requires a record of changes sheet within the plan to be completed. A change requires a formal signature by the NCEM Deputy Planning Chief.

Update – After annual plan review, if less than 25% of the content within the plan requires a change, an update is constituted. An update could be minor organizational, procedural, and/or situational changes. An update, despite the level of magnitude, requires a record of changes sheet within the plan to be completed. Also, an update requires a formal signature by the NCEM Planning Chief.

Revision – After annual plan review, if greater than 25% of the content within the plan requires a change, a revision occurs. A revision constitutes the most invasive level of change to organization, procedure, situation, overall format, and governing policy. A revision requires a formal signature by the NCEM Director.

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These plans have sensitive emergency response information and have been removed from the published NCEOP

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Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Plan

Civil Disturbance Response Plan

OTHER STATE PLANS

North Carolina Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan

Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan (REP)

North Carolina Emergency Management Continuity of Operations Plan

North Carolina State Disaster Recovery Framework

North Carolina Emergency Management Communication Plan

North Carolina Continuity of Government Plan