

BROWN COUNTY EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 4 FIREFIGHTING

LEAD COORDINATING AGENCY: Responding Fire Department
MABAS DIVISION 112
(Structural)
WI Dept. of Natural Resources (Wildland Fire)

SUPPORT AGENCIES: Brown County Public Safety Communications
Brown County Emergency Management
Brown County Sheriff's Office
Brown County Public Works
Municipal Law Enforcement Agency
U.S. Park Service
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Coast Guard
American Red Cross
Salvation Army

STATE SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS: Wisconsin Emergency Management
Wisconsin State Patrol
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association
MABAS Executive Board of Directors

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

The purpose of this Emergency Support Function (ESF) is to:

1. Establish an organizational framework for all firefighting activities in Brown County
2. Establish effective coordination of local, county, state, and federal resources to respond to structural (urban, suburban or rural) or forest fires resulting from man-made, technological events, natural disasters, or other events requiring fire response utilizing principals identified in the National Incident Management System.

B. Scope

Firefighting involves the management and coordination of activities/actions and resources to prevent, detect, and suppress all hostile fires by the local authority having jurisdiction except for forest fires as defined by Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 26.01(2) occurring outside the limits of villages and

cities which are the responsibility of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The specific actions required by a local “on scene commander” at the scene of an emergency or disaster will be determined by the size and magnitude of the event.

II. POLICIES

- A. The policies, procedures and protocols established by local, state and federal guidelines shall be followed when responding to emergencies or disasters requiring fire department resources. The Incident Commander shall, at his/her discretion:
 - 1. Request use of automatic aid, mutual aid and/or the activation of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) once local resources are exhausted.
 - 2. Use of state or federal assets in coordination/consultation with the Chief Elected Official of the impacted community may occur in accordance with Wisconsin State Statutes. Coordination of said assets will be the responsibility of the Wisconsin Emergency Management, Fire Services Coordinator or his/her designee.
- B. Forest fire suppression activities shall be accomplished through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in cooperation with local fire departments (per contractual agreement or Memorandum of Understanding), and other appropriate state and federal or agencies as necessary. Dependent upon the size, scope and magnitude of the incident, private sector assets/resources may also be utilized per “Memorandum of Understanding(s)”.
- C. Per Wisconsin State Statute Chapter 26.11, the DNR Forestry Protection Division has the authority and responsibility to respond to forest fires and assume “Command” (responsibility) for suppression efforts on state and privately-owned forest land outside the limits of any city or village. Additionally, the DNR has the responsibility to respond to requests from other agencies for assistance for non-fire emergencies or disasters. Within a city or village, the local authority having jurisdiction has command and control of the situation and may request “mutual aid” from the DNR). See Attachment 1 of State ESF 4 for the plan for Forest/Wildland Forest Firefighting.
- D. The local authority having jurisdiction Incident Commander, at his/her discretion, may utilize “mutual aid” resources from existing “Mutual Aid” agreements, Memorandums of Understanding, or by activation of a MABAS alarm as needed dependent upon size, scope or magnitude of the incident.

The local authority having jurisdiction Incident Commander has the authority to mobilize mutual aid resources under Wisconsin Act 186 or to request assistance from the Wisconsin Emergency Management, Fire Services Coordinator in the activation of a MABAS “regional or statewide” level alarm in accordance with the guidance provided in Wisconsin Administrative Rule WEM-8.

- E. The Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation, Arson Bureau/State Fire Marshal's Office, at the request of local authority having jurisdiction, may assist with fire cause and origin determination/investigation.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

- 1. For all fires it shall be the responsibility of the local authority having jurisdiction to determine what resources may be needed to manage the incident based on the following considerations:
 - a. Life Safety
 - b. Incident Stabilization
 - c. Property Conservation (including environmental considerations)
- 2. The DNR will coordinate and manage forest firefighting as described in Attachment 1 of State ESF 4 (Firefighting).
- 3. The local Incident Commander will utilize their respective resources first then activate existing “mutual aid” or “automatic aid” agreements. Requests for “regional, statewide resources” from MABAS will require notification of Brown County Emergency Management, the WEM Duty Officer and the WEM-Fire Services Coordinator.

B. Organization

- 1. Emergency scene management shall be in accordance with the Incident Command System as described in the Brown County Basic Plan.

IV. GENERAL ACTIVITIES

A. Mitigation Activities (General)

- 1. Conduct public fire safety training programs to reduce or eliminate human causes of hostile fires.

2. Conduct building and fire detection/suppression plans reviews, fire safety inspections, and other programs to reduce or eliminate risks for hostile fires and fire spread.
3. Cooperates with DNR on forestry management practices to reduce or eliminate risks for hostile fires and fire spread.
4. Identify potential vulnerabilities and determine actions to reduce that vulnerability.
5. Identify mitigation support resources, such as program funding.
6. Identify areas where mutual aid agreements are needed to support activities.
7. Identify areas where public information activities may be necessary.
8. Identify sources of ESF 4 needs, resources and equipment.
9. Identify ESF 4 training requirements or potential needs.

B. Preparedness Activities (General)

1. Develop and maintain mutual aid agreements and/or enter into MABAS agreements needed to support activities.
2. Develop public education programs as necessary.
3. Develop and maintain information on and sources for ESF 4 needs, resources and equipment in a NIMS compliant database.
4. Develop and conduct ESF 4 training for senior command staff.
5. Develop and maintain a 24-hour alert and warning system.
6. Identify, develop and incorporate, as necessary
 - a. Private sector capabilities and resources
 - b. Backup response and recovery processes

C. Response Activities (General)

1. Respond to and suppress hostile fires.
2. Determine what assets are available and nearest to the affected area(s) and the time frame for deploying those assets.

3. Prioritize and coordinate the acquisition and deployment of ESF 4 resources for the suppression of rural and urban fires.
4. Coordinate the utilization of a common communications system for ESF 4 response utilizing ESF 2.
5. Assess the need for and obtain other support as required.
6. Maintain a 24-hour alert/notification system or other reporting system on continuous basis as the point-of-contact for ESF 4 emergency reporting.
7. Generate in a timely manner, information to be included in County and State EOC briefings, situation reports, and/or action plans.
8. Compile damage information for local/county emergency management director and other city/county/State agencies and report that information through ESF 5, Emergency Management.

D. Recovery Activities (General)

1. Conduct fire cause and origin investigations. Refer for prosecution persons found to have maliciously caused a fire. Conduct cost recovery for expenses related for fire suppression.
2. Inventory equipment used during response activities and repair/replace as needed.
3. Prepare and process reports using established procedures, focusing specific attention on after-action reports.
4. Generate in a timely manner, information to be included in County and State EOC briefings, situation reports, and/or action plans.
5. Assign and schedule sufficient personnel to cover an activation of the County Emergency Operations Center for an extended period of time.
6. Maintain appropriate records of work schedules and costs incurred by ESF 4 agencies during an event.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Primary Agencies

1. Local Authority Having Jurisdiction

- a. Manage and coordinate activities and resources to prevent, detect, and suppress all hostile fires.
 - 2. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Forest)
 - a. The DNR has the authority and responsibility to respond to forest fires and assume “Command” (responsibility) for suppression efforts on state and privately-owned forest land outside the limits of any city or village.
- B. Support Agencies
 - 1. State of Wisconsin
 - a. Wisconsin Emergency Management
 - 1) Provide ESF 4 liaison activities through Fire Services Coordinator
 - 2) Support ESF 4 activities as needed
 - 2. Federal
 - U. S. Parks Service
 - U.S. Forestry Service
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - 1) Provide ESF 4 support as needed
 - 3. Brown County Agencies
 - a. Public Safety Communications (ESF-2)
 - 1) Provide emergency notification and communication
 - 2) Provide radio frequency and system patching between responding agencies as needed
 - b. Emergency Management
 - 1) Activate and operate the Brown County EOC as a means of coordination for response and support organizations
 - c. Sheriff’s Office (and local law enforcement agencies)
 - 1) Provide traffic control and scene security
 - 2) Assist with evacuation as needed
 - 3) Provide Arson and Bomb Squad support as needed
 - d. Public Works
 - 1) Provide traffic control devices as needed
 - 2) Conduct damage assessment for affected public infrastructure (ESF-1 and ESF-3) and coordinate repairs

4. Voluntary Agencies
 - American Red Cross
 - Salvation Army
 - 1) Provide ESF 4 support as needed

VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Joint primary and support agencies will provide the required personnel, facilities, and equipment to support their activities utilizing the National Incident Management System Classification System.
- B. Local jurisdiction, regional, and national fire suppression resources may be required. The specific resources available are listed in the appropriate mobilization guides. Support organizations exist at each level of government to provide these assets.

VII. REFERENCES

MABAS Box cards for responding agencies available on the MABAS 112 website.

VIII. ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY

For Acronyms, see Brown County Emergency Response Plan, Basic Plan, Appendix 7.

For Glossary, see Brown County Emergency Response Plan, Basic Plan, Appendix 8

