

# U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY HAZARD RESPONSE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Committee Charter

Drafted: May 01, 2007, Revised: September, 2008

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This charter outlines the goals and structure of the U.S. Geological Survey Hazard Response Executive Committee (HREC).

## MISSION STATEMENT

The USGS Hazard Response Executive Committee provides executive direction, oversight, and support to USGS managers in responding to major hazard events, and facilitates actions across the Bureau on an as needed basis, without interfering with the activities of programmatic or ad hoc response teams.

## BACKGROUND

In responding to natural disasters, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has a responsibility to ensure effective coordination across the bureau in order to eliminate redundancies, share resources, provide consistent and timely communications, and ensure that response teams receive timely support from bureau leadership. The USGS Hazard Response Executive Committee (HREC) was established in April 2007 to perform this function. In this context, a hazard may be natural or human-caused in origin and threatens the people and resources of the Nation.

## MEETINGS AND GOALS

The HREC meets when deemed necessary by any HREC committee member, program coordinator, or response team lead.

The goals of the HREC are:

- Provide executive direction and oversight of USGS mission activities at the national level to effectively manage hazard response resources, communications, and information, without interfering with the activities of the programs or response teams.
- Provide mechanism for coordination of activities with the National Response Framework (NRF) and Emergency Support Functions (ESF), when activated by the White House.
- Provide coordination of timely and effective communications with Bureau, Departmental, and other agencies that are involved in hazard response.
- Facilitate documentation and justification of USGS expenses requested through the Federal Appropriations process, when necessary.
- Discuss, vet, and develop policies related to mission response to hazardous events.
- Provide timely access to Bureau leaders and a single decision authority, when needed, in the event of a disaster.

## MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Membership of the HREC consists of the following positions:

- Deputy Director, Chair of HREC
- Regional Director(s) for the impacted area
- Associate Director for the program associated with the hazard event (as needed)

- Emergency Management Coordinator
- Associate Director for Geospatial Information
- Associate Director for Administrative Policy and Services
- Senior Science Advisor for Earthquakes and Geologic Hazards
- Science Response Lead
- Office Director, Budget and Performance
- Office Director, Communications
- Chair of the Geospatial Information Response Team (GIRT)
- HREC Coordinator

The HREC includes other positions, depending upon the type of hazard and response required to fulfill mission requirements. These positions are:

- Earthquake Hazards Program Coordinator
- Volcano Hazards Program Coordinator
- Landslide Hazards Program Coordinator
- Flood Lead
- Wildland Fire Lead
- Biological Threat Lead
- Coastal Storm Lead

The HREC Coordinator is responsible for making sure that institutional memory and notes are retained within the committee.

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*(Signed)*

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Robert E. Doyle  
Deputy Director, U.S. Geological Survey  
HREC Chair

# Hazard Response Executive Committee

Deputy Director, Chair of HREC  
Regional Director(s) for Impacted Area  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
Associate Director for Geospatial Information  
Associate Director, Administrative Policy/Services  
Senior Science Advisor for Earthquakes and Geologic Hazards  
Science Response Lead  
Office Director, Budget and Performance  
Office Director, Communications  
Chair of the Geospatial Information Response Team (GIRT)  
HREC Coordinator

