

March 2012



National Preparedness and Response Efforts

ACTIVATION

ESF 11 Mission Assignment (MA) was received in requesting Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) assistance with stream restoration projects and to ensure compliance with relevant environmental laws. FWS HQ is working with their Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region V and NY Field Office staff to provide staffing to the MA, with four individuals having already been deployed in support of the MA. The projected end date will be in June 2012, but it is possible that it may be extended through the summer months.

TRAINING

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA R VI presented information on USDA and DOI drought programs during a drought panel at the FEMA Regional Interagency Steering Committee to educate members on potential assistance to producers, individuals, and communities in response to a drought. Talking points for USDA were developed in coordination with the USDA Farm Service Agency Texas State Office and Rural Development and submitted to FEMA for inclusion of applicable USDA programs into the FEMA R VI Drought Annex. Dallas, TX, March 20-21.

TRAINING

ESF 11 **All-Hazard Resource Advisor (AH-READ) Training.** Work continues on developing the departmental AH-READs training curriculum. AH-READs are deployed to affected areas and perform rapid assessments for natural and cultural resources to identify damage and minimize further risk to those resources, prevent their loss, and begin restoration. The training curriculum will be divided into three on-line modules; basic, intermediate and advanced. Workshops are being held to draft, refine and finalize the modules. Webinars are also being held to discuss the revisions. The final course development workshop will be held June 10-15, 2012, where work will commence on the drafting of the advanced module. Once all modules are drafted and completed, they will be submitted to a peer review group made up of representatives from all DOI Bureaus for comment before being finalized.

ESF 11 **ESF-11 Desk Officer Training –** ESF 11 Coordinators provide training to USDA and stakeholder agencies to ensure preparedness for ESF-11 Activation:

- Boise, ID 3/19 (12 students from USDA APHIS, FNS, FSA)
- Guam 3/20 (17 students from USDA, State agriculture, homeland security, and education, Custom Border Protection)

EXERCISES

ESF 11 The Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) welcomed three new members to the FNS ESF-11 team: Vanessa Head, Mary Rose Conroy, and Matthew Martin. The FNS ESF-11 Coordinator conducted orientation training for the new desk officers, which included the roles and responsibilities of ESF-11 Desk Officers, scheduling and access to the FEMA National Response Coordination Center (NRCC), and the resources and training programs available on the FNS intranet and on AgLearn and through FEMA.

ESF 11 Headquarters and Regional Staff participated in USDA's Initial Planning Conference for the 2012 National Level Exercise / Eagle Horizon Exercise. The 2012 exercises will emphasize the shared responsibility among Homeland Security and Cyber Community, along with all levels of government, the private sector, and the international community to secure cyberspace and respond together to a significant cyber incident.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region X represented the department at the WA Department of Agriculture and state Homeland Security Foot-and-Mouth Disease Tabletop Exercise. Moses Lake, WA March 1.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region X presented on animal decontamination to the Pacific Northwest Radiation Workgroup in improvised nuclear device exercise scenario planning. Richland, WA March 1.

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EXERCISE

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region IX coordinated with the Nevada ESF-11 coordinator in the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Tabletop Exercise. Carson City, NV March 1-2.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region I participated in the FEMA Regional Interagency Steering Committee I Radiological Response Team Workshop and Table Top Exercise (TTX) Planning Conference March 2, 2012.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region VI developed master scenario events list (MSEL) for USDA APHIS and OIG (31 injects) and reviewed State injects for the upcoming Region VI Food Security Exercise 2012. Reviewed controller/evaluator handbook for FEMA. Participated Federal MSEL sync and participated in final planning conference with states. Denton, TX March 5-6.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region V participated in the Braidwood Nuclear Power Plant plume exercise at the Will County, IL Emergency Operations Center, March 7.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region X participated in the WA Department of Agriculture and APHIS Veterinary Services Avian Emergency Response Exercise to include a poultry depopulation equipment demonstration. Lacey, WA March 12.

ESF 11 Exercise – Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Denver Regional Environmental Officer Robert Stewart is working with USDA and State planners to ensure appropriate consideration of environmental issues, including protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties, during the upcoming full-scale exercise. The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region II participated in the FEMA Region II All Hazards Plan TTX March 14, 2012.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinators and HQ Staff participated in the USDA NLE 2012 Initial Planning Conference March 15.

EXERCISE

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region I participated in the New England Dairy Exercise Initial Planning Conference March 19.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region VI coordinated with Rural Development and Farm Service Agency in the Drought Tabletop Exercise. San Angelo, TX March 22.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region VII participated in the Mid-Planning Conference for Amber Waves, Dept. of Energy 2012 Exercise. Kansas City, MO March 27-29 and participated in the USDA-hosted Radiological Emergency Advisory Team conference call regarding the Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC) March 19, along with HQ ESF-11 Staff.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region I participated in the FEMA HQ MSEL Workshop March 22.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region I participated in the FEMA RISC/RRT1 Workshop and TTX Final Planning Conference March 23.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region II participated in the FEMA Region II USVI Earthquake and Tsunami Plan Table Top exercise March 27-29, 2012.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region IX developed agricultural injects for the FEMA Region IX and Nevada 3-day functional Anthrax Exercise, trained desk officers from APHIS Investigative Enforcement Service to serve during the exercise and helped identify shortfalls in the Bioterrorism and Regional Support Plans, Oakland, CA March 27-29.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region X developed contingency plans with Oregon Department of Agriculture, state veterinarian, and APHIS Veterinary Services on March 29 and participated in the Agro-terrorism Exercise. Corvallis, OR March 30.

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EXERCISE

ESF 11 Upcoming Utah Shake Out Exercise: Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Denver Regional Environmental Officer Robert Stewart is working with USDA and State planners to ensure appropriate consideration of environmental issues, including protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties, during the upcoming full-scale exercise. FNS' Mountain Plains Regional Office (MPRO) will participate in a disaster response exercise in Utah planned for April 17-19th sponsored by FEMA, Region VIII. The exercise will involve a number of federal agencies exercising their ESFs in response to a mock earthquake scenario that hits the Salt Lake City area of Utah. FNS' MPRO plans to provide desk officer support in the RRCC and will exercise FNS' mission efforts in coordinating needs for USDA Foods and the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

ESF 11 Idaho State Emergency Board Meeting – ESF-11 Coordinators provide an update to Board members on ESF-11 preparedness activities.

ESF 11 Evacuee Support Planning Workgroup Meeting and Document Review: FNS participated in the first of several meetings with FEMA that will be held on reviewing and revising, "The Evacuee Support Planning Guide and Concept of Operations Template 2012". The Guide and Template were published in 2009, and updates are needed due to changes introduced by the promulgation of the National Preparedness Goal, Presidential Policy Directive-8, and FEMA doctrine which introduced changes in the way the Federal government prepares for and responds to disasters.

PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinators participated in NAASAEF conference call March 14.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region I participated in the National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) Capabilities Webinar on March 15.

PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

ESF 11 FNS Support to FEMA ESF- 6: FNS collaborated with its ESF- 11 partners to provide comprehensive responses and materials to FEMA ESF- 6, Mass Care, on FNS' disaster response mass care assets and capabilities, history of providing assistance to ESF- 6, and ESF- 11 Standard Operating Procedures. FNS also responded directly to a short suspense request from a FEMA ESF- 6 representative on the total value and types of USDA Foods used in the National School Lunch Program, by State, in Fiscal Year 2011. All this information was requested as a follow-up to a briefing that FNS participated in on February 24, 2012, to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on the functions and coordination efforts among ESF- 6 partnering agencies.

ESF 11 FEMA Logistics Meeting: FNS participated in a two-day FEMA Logistics Meeting and provided a presentation on FNS' role as a partner to ESF- 7 – Logistics Management and Resource Support. Topics covered during the Meeting included disaster logistics lessons learned, whole community planning, status of the National Response Framework re-write, and National Level Exercise preparation. Meeting attendees included those from the Federal, State, Tribal, and public and private sectors.

ESF 11 FEMA Region VIII RISC Meeting: Representatives from FNS' Mountain Plains Regional Office participated in the FEMA Region VIII Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RISC) quarterly meeting in Denver, March 13-14. The meeting centered on coordinating efforts for the upcoming mock-earthquake exercise in Utah, on April 17-19. In addition, information was shared on implementing the Region's Catastrophic Event Mutual Aid Plan and on National Guard response teams for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear incidents.



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PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

ESF 11 FNS Participates in FEMA Region X RISC Meeting: Representatives from FNS' Western Region participated in a March 8th conference call with representatives from FEMA Region X, the Emergency Support Function- 11 Coordinator from USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and staff from the Idaho Food Bank to plan the Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RISC) meeting on "Food For Families During Disasters". Topics included communications and capabilities during disasters in Idaho and how each entity responds during a disaster. The Assistant Director of Field Operations from FNS' Western Regional Office participated on a panel addressing "Food Sources During Emergencies" at the FEMA Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RISC) meeting in Boise, Idaho on March 21st. The panel also included the Region X ESF- 11 APHIS Coordinator, representatives from the Idaho Food Bank and Idaho Department of Education, and staff from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. Each participant talked about their programs and services to feed hungry people throughout Idaho. The discussion lasted 90 minutes and panelists fielded many questions from the audience, which was primarily comprised of disaster first responders.

ESF 11 FEMA Evacuee Support Planning Guide Template 2012: FNS participated in a FEMA-led Mass Care meeting to revise and adjudicate comments received to date on the Guide. The Guide will be used by States and localities to plan for disaster evacuations and to receive and provide services to evacuees from disaster areas.

ESF 11 FEMA Public and Private Services Interagency Operations Plan (IOP): FNS participated in a FEMA-led meeting to coordinate the development of an IOP that includes provision of USDA Foods.

PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

ESF 11 2011 Disaster SNAP Lessons Learned Video Teleconference: FNS conducted a video teleconference for FNS Headquarters and the regional offices to understand the issues and lessons learned related to Disaster SNAP operations in 2011.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region IV will participate in the Food Contamination/Private Sector Pilot Project exercise on May 7.

ESF 11 ESF-11 National Meeting, on May 9-10.

ESF 11 The ESF-11 Coordinator in FEMA Region III will attend the Regional Interagency Steering Committee (RISC) conference, on May 16-17.

