EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION (ESF) #4 ANNEX – FIREFIGHTING

State of Indiana

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

ESF Annex

March 2025

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PLANNING AGENCIES

Within each Emergency Support Function (ESF) annex, an agency or organization has been given the designation of primary, supporting, non-governmental, or local agency based on their authorities, resources and capabilities. The primary agency identifies the appropriate support agencies that fall under this annex. The primary agency collaborates with each entity to determine whether they have the necessary resources, information and capabilities to perform the required tasks and activities within each phase of emergency management. This includes activations in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and impacted areas. Though an agency may be listed as a primary agency, it does not control or manage those agencies identified as supporting agencies. The agencies listed below are members of the Whole Community Planning Team for this annex.

PRIMARY AGENCY

Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) – State Fire Marshal

PRIMARY SUPPORTING AGENCIES

Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH)	Indiana State Police (ISP)
Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)	Indiana Occupational Health and Safety Administration (IOSHA)
Indiana Department of Health (IDOH)	Indiana National Guard (INNG)
Indiana Department of Insurance (IDOI)	Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT)
Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA)	Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC)	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Red Cross of Indiana (ARC)	Indiana Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA)
Indiana Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (IN-VOAD)	Professional Fire Fighters Union of Indiana (PFFUI)
Indiana Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force One (IN-TF1)	Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association (IVFA)

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

County Emergency Management Agencies	Local Elected Officials

PURPOSE, SCOPE, SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

PURPOSE

The purpose of Emergency Support Function #4 (ESF-4) – Firefighting is to provide the resources and personnel to meet the overall firefighting and special operations needs of the state before, during and after emergency or disaster events. ESF-4 is critical for the detection and suppression of wildland, rural and urban fires resulting from, or occurring coincidentally with, an emergency incident in the state of Indiana. Additionally, ESF-4 is responsible for the support and coordination of special operations within the state.

SCOPE

The state of Indiana and the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) recognize fifteen (15) Emergency Support Functions (ESF). This annex focuses on ESF-4, Firefighting. The ESF-4 Annex is intended to be utilized in conjunction with the State of Indiana Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

State services provided under ESF-4 include actions taken through the application of equipment, manpower and technical expertise to control and suppress fires that have, or threaten to become, disasters. In addition to fire suppression, ESF-4 also supports special operations including hazardous materials response and technical rescue.

Provisions of such services will be in accordance with mutual aid compact agreements with local governments, private industry, other states, the federal government and established recognized standards of firefighting methods.

SITUATION

ESF-4 may be needed in any of the five (5) phases of emergency management (prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery). In the event IDHS determines the need for ESF-4 regarding any of the five (5) phases of emergency management, Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) will act as the primary agency. ESF-4 will be responsible for implementing internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and/or Standard Operating Guides (SOGs) and protocols to ensure adequate staffing and administrative support for field operations, as appropriate, and the support of efforts in the SEOC. ESF-4 personnel will coordinate the activation and deployment of firefighting and special operations assets, as needed, to fulfill specific mission assignments that support essential activities in prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery efforts.

Mission Areas and Core Capabilities

The National Preparedness Goal (NPG) identifies 32 core capabilities that are essential for the execution of the five (5) mission areas of prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. ESF-4 supports the three (3) overarching core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination and Public Information and Warning which apply to all mission areas. ESF-4 also supports the response

core capabilities of Fire Management and Suppression, Operational Communications, Infrastructure Systems and Situational Assessment. Table 1 describes the core capability actions that ESF-4 most directly supports.

Table 1. ESF-4 CORE CAPABILITY ACTIONS

CORE CAPABILITY	ESF #4 – FIREFIGHTING
PLANNING	Conduct a systematic process engaging the whole community, as appropriate, in the development of executable strategic, operational and/or community-based approaches to meet defined objectives.
OPERATIONAL COORDINATION	Establish and maintain a unified and coordinated operational structure and process that appropriately integrates all critical stakeholders and supports the execution of core capabilities.
PUBLIC INFORMATION AND WARNING	Deliver coordinated, prompt, reliable and actionable information to the whole community using clear, consistent, accessible and culturally and linguistically appropriate methods to effectively relay information regarding any threat or hazard and, as appropriate, the actions being taken and the assistance being made available.
FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPRESSION	• Provide wildland and structure firefighting resources to local, state, tribal, territorial, insular area and federal agencies in support of firefighting and emergency operations. • Provide command, control and coordination of resources (to include incident management teams, area command teams and multi-agency coordination group support personnel) to local, state, tribal, territorial, insular area and federal agencies in support of firefighting and emergency operations. • Provide a direct liaison with local, state, tribal, territorial, or insular area emergency operations centers (EOCs) and fire chiefs in the designated area, as appropriate. • Provide support to enhance the resilience of local, state, tribal, territorial and insular area firefighting agencies.
OPERATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS	Provide radio communications systems to support firefighters, law enforcement officers and incident response operations.
INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS	Provide expertise and personnel to assist with assessment of emergency services sector critical infrastructure.

SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENT	- Obtain an initial fire situation and damage assessment through established intelligence procedures; determine the appropriate management response to meet the request for assistance. - Analyze each request before committing people and other resources; ensure employees will be provided with appropriate vaccinations, credentials and personal protective equipment to operate in the all-hazard environment to which they are assigned; and ensure that all employees involved in all-hazard response will be supported and managed by an agency leader, agency liaison, or interagency incident management team. - Ensure that an all-hazard incident-specific briefing and training are accomplished prior to task implementation. This preparation will usually occur prior to mobilization where incident description, mission requirements and known hazards are addressed. Key protective equipment and associated needs for tasks that employees do not routinely encounter or perform will be identified.

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

- Local fire services, mutual aid agreements and other compacts will be activated, as appropriate. *Note that most fires are handled and suppressed by the local department of the affected area; however, this ESF would be activated when local resources and mutual aid agreements have been exhausted and state assistance is required.*
- All available local, private, semi-private and state resources will be deployed through the SEOC to the maximum extent possible to contain and suppress urban and wild land fires as needed.
- Should the above available resources become over-taxed for any reason, assistance from federal ESF-4 agencies will be requested.
- Some disasters may generate casualty loads beyond the treatment capabilities of local emergency medical services and healthcare systems.
- Damage to chemical and industrial plants, sewer lines and water systems, combined with secondary hazards such as fires, will result in toxic environmental and public health hazards to the surviving population and response personnel.
- The damage and destruction of a catastrophic event will produce urgent needs for mental health crisis counseling for disaster victims and response personnel.
- Communication systems post-event will most likely be limited or inoperable.
- Decisions to evacuate and whom to evacuate are local public health department decisions.
- All patient movements on the ground will be coordinated with local evacuation processes.
- Effective response, as well as ongoing recovery efforts, will be contingent upon the availability of resources and the extent/impact of the incident upon the state.
- Under the best of circumstances, the management of large firefighting operations is complex and involves numerous agencies and local jurisdictions. When fires result from or are independent of but coincide with another disaster, it will place extraordinary demands on available resources and logistics support systems.
- A significant natural or technological event may result in multiple urban, rural and wildland fires.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

GENERAL CONCEPT

The role of the state of Indiana during emergency response is to supplement local efforts before, during and after a disaster or emergency. Emergency Support Function #4 (ESF-4) shall coordinate the use of available firefighting and special operations resources and equipment in areas impacted by emergencies or disasters, to manage and support the immediate and long-term needs of the state and local jurisdictions.

ESF-4 shall ensure and promote a common operating picture (COP) through communicating with ESFs and the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Operations Section as applicable.

SEOC ACTIVATION

During an SEOC activation, ESFs may be activated depending on the incident and activation level. During a disaster response, each ESF representative in the SEOC will remain under the administrative control of their agency head; however, they will function under the supervision of the SEOC Manager. Notification of activation will be made via phone, email and/or text message.

The SEOC is always activated at a Level IV for Daily Operations; however, the activation level will be elevated for planned events, incidents, disasters, or other response operations as needed. A Joint Information Center may be established during a Level III activation and will be set up during Level I-II activations. Activation level details are outlined in the State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

DEMOBILIZATION OF THE SEOC

Emergency Support Functions will be demobilized from emergency response as objectives are accomplished and the need for their participation diminishes. During demobilization, it is the responsibility of the ESF primary agency to ensure all paperwork, such as equipment time records, personnel time records, accident reports and mechanical inspections have been completed, are accurate and are submitted to the appropriate SEOC personnel.

LOCAL COORDINATION

Firefighting is inherently a local responsibility. Firefighting activities lie primarily with the local fire officials and more importantly on-scene Incident Commanders (IC). The responsibility for a fire scene situation assessment lies primarily with local IC and their firefighting personnel. Local fire departments often receive assistance from other fire departments/agencies through established mechanisms identified in mutual aid agreements. Further assistance can be obtained through an established intrastate mutual aid system.

If an emergency or major disaster occurs that overwhelms local fire resources, ESF-4 will be activated to provide support to those jurisdictions affected. State fire suppression operations will be accomplished

by mobilizing state firefighting resources in support of local fire departments upon request by local government. A request is made through the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for state resources, if needed, in which the County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) will contact the SEOC for that assistance. ESF-4 will often coordinate directly with either the County EOC Manager, County EOC ESF-4 and/or the fire area IC.

RESOURCE SUPPORT

Emergency Management Assistance Compact

If state emergency fire resources have either been exhausted or are expected to be exhausted prior to meeting the demand, ESF-4 will recommend that assistance be requested from other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). When local firefighting resources are overwhelmed and official requests for assistance are made to the SEOC, ESF-4 will utilize both interstate and intrastate firefighting assistance and resources through statewide mutual aid agreements and the EMAC.

This is not intended to discourage local counties and municipal fire departments from entering into mutual aid agreements (MAA) before significant incidents and disasters occur. Incidents requiring firefighting resources are normally quickly changing situations involving life safety and property preservation operations that demand swift action. MAAs at the municipal or county level can often facilitate faster responses for requests for fire suppression resources in a more efficient and effective manner.

ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

ORGANIZATION

Emergency Support Function #4 (ESF-4) – Firefighting works under the Emergency Services Group in the Operations Section of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). In the event of a disaster or emergency event resulting in the need of significant firefighting or special operations response, the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) is the primary agency. However, assistance may be largely dependent on supporting agencies including local governments, the private sector and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Each primary and supporting agency shall maintain internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and/or Standard Operating Guides (SOGs) or other documents that detail the logistical and administrative priorities deemed necessary to assist in overall state prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery operations.

Specific roles and responsibilities of primary and supporting agencies during an incident or event are described below. Tasks include but are not limited to:

ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Agency Responsibilities

- Designate and train personnel to serve as the ESF-4 representative in the SEOC.
- In coordination with the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA), identify appropriate staffing in the SEOC and field settings.
- Coordinate personnel, equipment and other resources to assist in critical functions and tasks before, during and after emergency events and disaster situations.
- Work with other state, local, or municipal departments to provide hazard assessments in impacted areas and analyze this information to determine the impact of the incident and resource gaps that may exist.
- Coordinate and implement emergency-related response and recovery functions, as required, under statutory authority.
- Plan for short and long-term incident management and recovery operations.
- Coordinate tasks for all phases of emergency management within the scope of ESF-4.

Supporting Agency Responsibilities

- Identify improvements/projects needed in firefighting infrastructure to prepare for or respond to new or emerging threats and hazards.
- Provide information or intelligence regarding trends and challenges to the state of Indiana's firefighting capability.

SEOC ESF-4 Responsibilities

Please see primary agency responsibilities above and additional responsibilities below:

- Activate and staff the SEOC, as requested. An IDHS State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) representative or personnel from the IFCA may fill this role.
- Provide lifesaving and mission essential services related directly to fire suppression and special operations.
- Manage and direct task assignments that come through the SEOC.
- Assist with prioritizing assets and functions to manage and support the immediate and long-term emergency management viability of the state and local jurisdictions.
- Coordinate and request assistance from various supporting agencies.
- Provide situation reports through WebEOC as identified in the incident battle rhythm.
- Participate in briefings, as needed.
- Follow the ESF-4 SEOC Just-in-Time Training checklist when arriving at the SEOC.
- Manage the financial aspects of ESF-4.
- If the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) seat is not activated in the SEOC, ESF-4 will also be responsible for providing and coordinating lifesaving and mission essential services related directly to emergency medical services and emergency medical transportation.
- If ESF-9, Search and Rescue, is not activated in the SEOC, ESF-4 will also be responsible for providing and coordinating lifesaving and mission essential services related directly to inland, wilderness, waterborne and collapsed structure search and rescue operations.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION GENERAL TASKS

The following tables are comprised of essential tasks that may need to be completed by Emergency Support Function #4 (ESF-4) in all phases of emergency management. These tasks have been created as a guide to follow for the primary and support agencies of ESF-4. They have been developed as a tool to address potential challenges and unique risks that may be faced during times of emergency and disaster in the state of Indiana. It will be the responsibility of ESF-4 to ensure the tasks outlined here are accurate and reflect their overall ability to manage, support and deploy resources.

Table 2. ESF-4 PREVENTION TASKS

ESF #4 – PREVENTION TASKS	
TASK #	**TASK SUMMARY**
1	Anticipate and identify emerging and/or imminent threats through observation and situational awareness.
2	Share relevant, timely and actionable information and analysis with local authorities through a pre-established reporting system.
3	Develop a system for identifying and documenting suspicious fire activity.
4	Ensure the accountability of equipment, facilities and personnel through continual assessments of capabilities and vulnerabilities.
5	Continue to upgrade and improve prevention capability through planning, training and exercise.
6	Continue to monitor changing trends in activity and aggressive behavior at the local, state and national level and adjust prevention tasking as it applies to this Emergency Support Function.
7	Establish and maintain partnership structures among protection elements to support networking, planning and coordination.

Table 3. ESF-4 PROTECTION TASKS

ESF #4 – PROTECTION TASKS	
TASK #	**TASK SUMMARY**
1	Develop, validate and maintain SOPs or guidelines for both routine and emergency operations. Key operational concerns include, but are not limited to: • Identify and assess equipment, supplies, resources and critical infrastructure. • Alert, notify and activate personnel for work in the field or within the SEOC. • Provide assistance to support agencies in developing their plans and procedures. • Emergency communications and reporting procedures. • Develop and maintain a standardized format for information and intelligence gathering and reporting documents.
2	Develop and conduct training and education programs for ESF-4 personnel. Key training program considerations include, but are not limited to: • Assessing critical infrastructure which includes structures, buildings, equipment, supplies and resources. • Working in the field during emergency operations. • Working in an EOC during emergency activations. • WebEOC or other specialized computer applications. • Emergency communications and reporting procedures. • National Incident Management System / Incident Command System. • Continuity of Operations. • Mapping and GIS computer applications. • Emergency transportation and evacuation planning.
3	Develop and maintain a roster of essential primary and support agency contacts for ESF-4 to be used in the event of emergency operations. Ensure critical information (address, telephone, cell, facsimile, email, etc.) is provided.
4	Develop and maintain a database or system to collect information on essential resources and equipment.
5	Develop lists of resource needs and work toward eliminating these shortfalls by securing funding, identifying partnerships or taking other essential activities.
6	Coordinate mutual aid agreements, letters of understanding or contracts with departments, organizations or private entities that may offer rapid deployment of resources or services as they relate to short and long-term firefighting and special operations.
7	Train and if appropriate, certify ESF-4 personnel on routine and emergency safety standards.
8	Identify alternate resources for continuity of operations.

Table 4. ESF-4 MITIGATION TASKS

ESF #4 – MITIGATION TASKS	
TASK #	**TASK SUMMARY**
1	Identify areas that have been or are currently prone to significant and specific hazards and determine the impact on firefighting capabilities.
2	Identify new partnerships or funding sources to reduce or eliminate resource shortfalls or gaps for firefighting and special operations problems, issues and concerns.
3	Establish partnerships with other federal, state, local and municipal entities that share firefighting and special operations responsibilities.
4	Identify gaps in and coordinate mutual aid agreements, letters of understanding or contracts with departments, organizations or private entities that may offer rapid deployment of resources or services as they relate to short and long-term firefighting and special operations needs.
5	Identify, establish and maintain routine and emergency safety standards for all firefighting personnel that comply with federal and state requirements and policies.
6	Identify, establish and maintain alternate equipment and assets for continuity of operations to provide essential firefighting and special operations services statewide.
7	Assist in the development of legislation, policies and administrative rules that mitigate identified hazards that relate directly to firefighting during emergencies or disasters, this ESF and its ability to provide emergency resources or equipment.
8	Identify the cause of the emergency event and develop and implement activities relating to firefighting and emergency medical services during emergencies or disasters to mitigate the identified threats.
9	Identify training gaps and needs relating to firefighting and special operations during emergencies or disasters.
10	If appropriate, develop recommendations regarding pieces of legislation, policies and/or administrative rules that relate directly to firefighting and hinder ESF-4's ability to provide emergency response.
11	Work with ESF-15 (External Affairs) to develop and maintain public outreach programs aimed at eliminating or reducing the risks associated with fire.

Table 5. ESF-4 RESPONSE TASKS

ESF #4 – RESPONSE TASKS	
TASK #	**TASK SUMMARY**
1	Activate SOPs or guidelines for emergency operations that consider: • Staging, usage and status of equipment, supplies and resources. • Assessing critical infrastructure which includes structures, buildings, equipment, supplies and resources. • The alerting, notifying and activating personnel for work in the field or within the SEOC. • Activate call-down list. • Emergency communications and reporting procedures.
2	Activate ESF-4 personnel for such mission essential tasks as: • Assessing critical infrastructure which includes structures, equipment, supplies and resources following emergencies or disasters. • Assisting with or dispatching personnel to an identified emergency management situation, including the need for equipment. • Responding to the field for emergency operations. • Working in an EOC during emergency conditions. • Supporting local, district, or statewide Incident Command Structures. • Activating continuity of operations plans. • Collecting, gathering, verifying, analyzing and disseminating incident information. • Meeting the firefighting and special operations needs of state and local agencies and departments.
3	Monitor and process information reported by the Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT)/Incident Management Team (IMT), Mobile Command Center (MCC), or at remote sites.
4	Evaluate the ability to communicate with ESF-4 personnel and implement alternate communications if primary systems are down.
5	Work with ESF-1 (Transportation) to coordinate road clearing to expedite response to an emergency or disaster.
6	Work with ESF-13 (Public Safety) to coordinate traffic control for improved response to an emergency or disaster.
7	Develop and implement activities to prevent additional fire-related damage during response.
8	Post situation reports and critical information in WebEOC during SEOC activations, as needed.
9	Work with appropriate emergency management agencies and state and local agencies/departments to communicate and assist with persons of special needs.
10	Work with ESF counterparts at the local, state, regional and national levels, as well as NGOs and private businesses/industry, as needed.

Table 6. ESF-4 RECOVERY TASKS

ESF #4 – RECOVERY TASKS	
TASK #	TASK SUMMARY
1	Work with state and local entities to maintain situational awareness and monitor deployed personnel, equipment and resources.
2	Work to aggressively eliminate shortfalls or resource gaps that were identified in response to an emergency or disaster.
3	Establish partnerships and identify funding sources to address resource shortfalls or gaps for emergency/disaster issues and concerns.
4	Maintain open and ongoing communication with other federal, state, local and municipal entities that were impacted by the emergency or disaster and assist in their overall efforts for recovery operations.
5	Assess mutual aid agreements, letters of understanding, or contracts with departments, organizations, or private entities that may have been utilized during the response and determine if those agreements need to be updated or revised.
6	Assess the current level of training on emergency safety standards for firefighting and special operations personnel to determine the appropriate application and compliance with federal and state requirements and policies.
7	Develop recommendations, if appropriate, regarding pieces of legislation, policies and/or administrative rules that relate directly to firefighting and hinder ESF-4's ability to provide emergency response.

COMMUNITY LIFELINES

Indiana has adopted the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) eight (8) community lifelines into prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery activities. Lifelines are services that enable the continuous operation of critical government and business functions and are essential to human health and safety or economic security. The Safety and Security community lifeline corresponds with this Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annex:

Table 7. SAFETY AND SECURITY LIFELINE DEFINITION, COMPONENTS AND ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (EEI)

LIFELINE SAFETY AND SECURITY	DEFINITION
	Law enforcement and government services, as well as the associated assets that maintain communal security, provide search and rescue, evacuations and firefighting capabilities and promote responder safety.

COMPONENTS AND ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (EEIs)	
LAW ENFORCEMENT/SECURITY	**FIRE SERVICE**
• Evacuation routes • Force protection and security for staff • Security assessments at external facilities • Damaged law enforcement or correctional facilities	• Location of fire and percent contained • Fire's rate and direction of spread • Weather conditions • Availability and resources of fire services • Evacuation routes
SEARCH AND RESCUE	**GOVERNMENT SERVICE**
• Number and location of missing survivors • Life threatening hazards to responders and survivors • Availability and resources of search and rescue teams • Status of animal assists, structural assessments and shelter in place checks	• Status of government offices and schools • Status of continuity of government and continuity of operations • Curfew
COMMUNITY SAFETY	
• Safety hazards and security concerns • Requirements for personnel protective equipment	

LIFELINES AND ESF OBJECTIVES AND TASKS TIMELINE

Table 8. ESF-4 GENERAL TASKS

OBJECTIVE	SUPPORT NEEDED FROM	MISSION-ESSENTIAL TASKS
TIMELINE: 0 – 24 HOURS		
To maintain the common operating picture (COP) and contribute to the incident action plan (IAP)	— —	Activate the IFCA's information-collection network in coordination with IDHS.
— —	— —	Give technical assistance, coordination and protection to the state incident management assistance team (IMAT), if deployed.
TIMELINE: 24 – 72 HOURS		
To continue maintaining the COP and contributing to the IAP	— —	Communicate the status and capabilities of all ESF-4 agencies to prioritize needs.
	— —	Participate in developing the IAP with IDHS.
TIMELINE: BEYOND 72 HOURS		
To continue maintaining the COP and contributing to the IAP	— —	As information is gathered, advise all other ESFs of areas threatened by fire.
	— —	Continue prioritization of needs and begin to assess priorities for recovery.
	— —	Participate in developing the IAP.
— —	— —	Continue giving technical assistance and coordination to the state IMAT.

Table 9. ESF-4 TASKS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

LIFELINE OBJECTIVE	ESF OBJECTIVE	SUPPORT NEEDED FROM	MISSION-ESSENTIAL TASKS
TIMELINE: 0 – 24 HOURS			
To start calling for additional manpower and other resources within 4 hours or as need suggests	(Same as lifeline objective)	— —	When requested, send a liaison (ESF-4 representative) from the IFCA or SFMO to the SEOC.
		— —	Implement the IFCA statewide mutual-aid common operating picture, pending the receipt of information that identifies firefighting resources needed.

		— —	Begin to identify firefighting resources available for deployment.
		• ESF-5 • ESF-7	Determine forward mobilization sites and staging areas with ESF-5 (Information & Planning) and ESF-7 (Logistics Support & Resource Management).
		— —	Determine the status of fires, firefighting capabilities in place, status of water supply and any need for supplemental firefighting assistance.
		• ESF-1 • ESF-7 • INDOT • INNG	Coordinate with ESF-1 (Transportation) and ESF-7 (Logistics Support & Resource Management) for any heavy equipment required to suppress major fires. If INDOT resources are not available, use its list of contractors. Also use contractors available from ESF-7 and consider using the INNG.
To ensure life safety and security for population and responders	— —	— —	Respond to automobile accidents with personal injuries and other motor-vehicle accidents if resources permit.
To begin and continue rescue efforts until all missing people have been accounted for	— —	— —	Respond to collapsed homes and buildings to extricate people.
To provide effective firefighting capabilities	(Same as lifeline objectives)	ESF-2	Consider relocating or reallocating firefighting and special operations equipment and resources.
To provide effective firefighting capabilities (continued)	(Same as lifeline objective)	ESF-5	If communications with the affected area are limited, sporadic, or non-existent, participate in aerial damage assessments (coordinate with ESF-5). The focus of this assessment, from a firefighting perspective, should be to identify areas where fires appear to be burning out of control. This would include wildland, rural and urban fires, as well as fires involving possible hazardous materials storage locations.
		NWS	Ask the NWS about fire weather, including temperatures, wind speeds and directions and forecasts of smoke dispersion.
		DNR	Coordinate with the Indiana DNR, Division of Forestry, for information about wildland fires. Use the Division of Forestry's firefighting capabilities where available and as required.

		INNG	Consider using the INNG for incident response (aerial support).
		▪ ESF-3 ▪ IDEM	Coordinate with ESF-3 (Public Works) and IDEM about availability of water.
		— —	Answer incoming calls regarding fires, accidents with injuries and collapses.
		— —	Prioritize fires based on the availability of water and available personnel.
		▪ ESF-10 ▪ EPA	Assign resources to ongoing fires. Request air monitoring equipment, if needed.
	To dispatch tankers and use compressed air foam (CAF) systems to the extent they are available the first 24 hours	— —	Shuttle water as required.
		▪ ESF-10 ▪ ESF-12	Support ESF-10 and ESF-12 in determining the integrity of the numerous pipelines crossing the state carrying petroleum, natural gas and other hazardous materials. Pipeline companies will take immediate actions to shut down the flow of supply to lessen damage.
To set safety objectives immediately upon arrival at incident scene	— —	— —	Present safety briefing.
		— —	Emphasize safety throughout the entire process. Personnel will be placed in extremely hazardous conditions in an already extremely hazardous environment.
To replace staff for rehab after a maximum of 24 hours	— —	— —	Reconstitute staff to ensure proper rest and feeding are provided to responders.
TIMELINE: 24 – 72 HOURS			
To determine any need for EMAC and federal resources and request such assets in the first 30 hours	(Same as lifeline objective)	— —	Assess need for manpower through mutual aid, EMAC and federal support.
		ESF-7	Request firefighting resources through EMAC or the federal government, as necessary.
To extinguish fires	— —	▪ DNR ▪ ESF-3 ▪ ESF-10 ▪ County LEPC	Prioritize areas with fires that appear to be burning out of control, as well as fires involving possible hazardous materials storage locations. Emphasize firefighter safety.
		▪ ESF-1 ▪ ESF-7	Coordinate with ESF-1 (Transportation) and ESF-7 (Logistics Management & Resource Support) for any heavy equipment required to suppress major fires.
		▪ ESF-3 ▪ IDEM	Coordinate with ESF-3 and IDEM about availability of water.

		— —	Continually monitor status of fires.
		— —	*IDHS Division of Fire and Building Safety in coordination with the IFCA and ESF-9:* Assist with damage assessments.
		NWS	Ask the NWS about expected fire weather conditions.
TIMELINE: BEYOND 72 HOURS			
To finish extinguishing fires and begin clean-up	To extinguish all fires within 96 hours	ESF-7	Work with mutual aid departments and EMAC strike teams to put out fires. Request additional resources as necessary.
		— —	Continue to monitor status of fire(s).
		— —	Continue to assist with damage assessments.
		NWS	Ask the NWS about expected fire weather conditions.

APPENDIX A – REFERENCES, RELATED PLANS AND PROCEDURES

REFERENCES

- FEMA's ESF #4 – Firefighting and EMS Annex, 2016

RELATED PLANS

- State of Indiana Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), March 2025

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

- SEOC Just-in-Time Training Checklist- ESF #4

APPENDIX B – ACRONYMS

ACRONYM	FULL DESCRIPTION
ARC	American Red Cross
BOAH	Indiana State Board of Animal Health
CAF	Compressed Air Foam
COP	Common Operating Picture
DNR	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
EEI	Essential Element of Information
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GIS	Geographic Information System
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Command(er)
IDEM	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
IDHS	Indiana Department of Homeland Security
IDOA	Indiana Department of Administration
IDOC	Indiana Department of Correction
IDOH	Indiana Department of Health
IDOI	Indiana Department of Insurance
IFCA	Indiana Fire Chiefs Association
IMAT	Incident Management Assistance Team
IMT	Incident Management Team
IN-TF1	Indiana Task Force One

IN-VOAD	Indiana Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
INDOT	Indiana Department of Transportation
INNG	Indiana National Guard
IOSHA	Indiana Occupational Health and Safety Administration
ISP	Indiana State Police
IVFA	Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association
MAA	Mutual Aid Agreement
MCC	Mobile Command Center
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPG	National Preparedness Guide
PFFUI	Professional Fire Fighters Union of Indiana
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SFMO	State Fire Marshal's Office
SOG	Standard Operating Guide
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue
WebEOC	Web Emergency Operations Center