



Support Annex 4: Tribal Relations

County of Riverside Riverside County Operational Area (OA)



August 2024 Update

County of Riverside
Emergency Management Department

Portions of this document may contain sensitive information pertaining to the deployment, mobilization, and tactical operations of Riverside County in response to emergencies and disasters. Most of this annex is available for public review. Refer any request for a copy of this document to County of Riverside Emergency Management Department (EMD) at (951) 358-7100.



Riverside County EOP Support Annex 4:
Tribal Relations

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1. Introduction

1.1 Lead and Supporting Agencies

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Coordinating Agency | County of Riverside Emergency Management Department (EMD) |
| Supporting Agencies and Tribes | Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians; Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians; Cabazon Band of Mission Indians; Cahuilla Band of Indians; Colorado River Indian Tribes; Morongo Band of Mission Indians; Pechanga Band of Indians; Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians; Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians; Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians; Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians; Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians; FEMA Tribal Liaison; Cal OES Tribal Liaison; Riverside County Sheriff Tribal Liaison |

1.2 Emergency Support Function Responsibilities

| Department | Responsibilities |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Emergency Management Department | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Coordinate with support agencies and tribes for activities and operations to expedite the restoration of essential lifelines▪ Obtain system status updates▪ Activate necessary agency representatives to the OA Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to ensure seamless and timely communication and collaboration▪ Activate the OA EOC▪ Provide direction and oversight to all OA EOC sections, branches, and units▪ Establish OA EOC staffing requirements▪ Serve as EOC subject matter experts and advise departments on EOC operations |
| Supporting Agencies | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Conduct damage assessments for critical utility infrastructure and facilities, and report the findings to the OA EOC▪ Provide Agency Representatives in the Department Operations Center (DOC)/OA EOC▪ Provide restoration timeframe estimates and updates▪ Respond to requests for service from the OA EOC and provide public and private resources, as appropriate, to support response and recovery operations and activities as necessary▪ Coordinate with the OA EOC to prioritize restoring critical utility infrastructure and services |



1.3 Purpose

This annex describes the policies, responsibilities, and concept of operations for coordinating County of Riverside activities with those of tribal governments during incidents requiring a coordinated response. The processes and functions described in this annex help facilitate the delivery of incident management programs, resources, and support to tribal governments and individuals.

1.4 Scope

This annex applies to all county departments and agencies working under the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) response to incidents requiring coordination, including tribes recognized by the Federal Government.

The guidance provided in this annex complies with existing federal laws pertaining to federally recognized tribes, which are sovereign and self-governing. The United States continues to support tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

2. Concept of Operations (ConOps)

2.1 General Concepts

A Tribal Relations Annex is established to provide the operational capability for collecting and sharing relevant incident information, alerting, and deploying required tribal relations staff to or near affected areas, and ensuring compliance with federal laws relating to tribal relations and the United States government's responsibility to tribes.

Tribes have the authority to designate an individual to serve as a tribal liaison within the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). Should an impacted tribe not designate a tribal liaison, a support agency representative will ascertain the impacted tribe's authorization for a substitute EOC tribal liaison. Tribal liaison responsibility may include:

- Coordinating tribal resources needed to prevent, protect against, mitigate effects from, respond to, and recover from incidents of all types
- Communicating with the tribal community and help individuals, businesses, and organizations cope with the consequences of any type of incident or disaster
- Coordinating mutual aid and assistance agreements with other tribes or jurisdictions



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- Requesting for federal assistance under the Stafford Act if and when the designated tribe believes its capabilities and resources are insufficient, depleted, or overextended to deal with the incident or disaster
- Requesting for a Presidential Emergency or Major Disaster Declaration or Federal Aid for disaster recovery efforts and choose to deal directly with the federal government